

IAGA 2009 EXCURSION PROGRAMMES
(organized by Escort Tourist, Sopron)

SUMMARY
with departure times

Departure/Arrival: from/to the Conference Centre

Excursions	23 SUN	24 MON	25 TUE	26 WED	27 THU	28 FRI	29 SAT	30 SUN
No 1 (Fertő)	x	x	8:30	8:30	x	x	x	x
No 2 (Hungarian Versailles)	x	8:30	x	x	8:30	x	x	8:30
No 3 (Széchenyi, Nagycenk)	x	x	13:30	13:30	x	x	x	x
No 4 (Liszt, Austria)	x	13:30	x	x	13:30	x	x	x
No 5 (Budapest)	x	x	x	x	x	x	8:30	x
No 6 (Vienna)	x	x	x	x	x	8:30	x	x
No 7 (Balaton)	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	8:30
Shuttle to Budapest								
Shuttle to Vienna								
Sopron walking sightseeing	17:00	17:00	17:00	17:00	17:00	17:00	17:00	x
Haydn concert in Eszterháza	18:30	x	x	x	x	18:30	x	x

Reservation: either in advance (via email, mail, or fax), or on-site (depending on availability)

Requested data:

Full name:

Citizenship:

Age:

Name of excursion, date and departure time:

In case of shuttles, the departure time is flexible. Give us your preference.

Payment: on site (Conference Centre, or Escort Tourist office, just 100 m northward from the Conference Centre); either in cash or by card.

Minimum number of participants to No 1-7 excursions: 10

You find the programme descriptions in the following pages.

See you in Sopron!

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Programme 1: Fertő (Neusiedlersee) lake shore
25 and 26 August 2009, 08.30-13.00 h

Meeting the guide at the Conference Centre. Trip to the *Pan-European Picnic Memorial*. Almost twenty years ago on both sides of the then standing Iron Curtain at the Hungarian-Austrian border Austrian and Hungarian inhabitants and local residents were celebrating a common barbecue party. The sudden appearance of East-German refugees who then had already been staying for a longer time in Hungary and the humanity of the border guards initiated the breakthrough on August 19 1989 into a historic event, triggering the reunification of Germany. After the visit to the site also having a great impact on the *political changes of Eastern-Europe* we continue our trip to *Fertőrákos*. In Fertőrákos we can enjoy the limestone quarry reminding on the mystic world of the Egyptian temples, and also admire the beautiful nature panorama of the near Lake Fertő. *Lake Fertő* (Lake Neusiedl, Neusiedlersee) is a shallow water body, located on the Austro-Hungarian border, with an average depth of less than 1 m and it has had large water fluctuations over the historical period. More than one half of its total surface (of appr. 317 km²) is now overgrown with water and marshy plants. The lake bordered partly by the Fertő-Neusiedler See hills, that consisting of 12 million year old Lajta (Leitha) limestone from the Miocene Age. The limestone quarry at Fertőrákos (opened about two thousand years ago in a near-shore, calcareous deposit, abundant in fossils skeletal remains of red algae (Lithothamnium genus), associated with the bryozoans, large foraminifers, molluscan and crustaceans fauna, and shark-teeth) does not work nowadays anymore. The limestone ceiling along with the remaining pillars serves as natural scenery to the summer opera performances. After this rare sight we can participate a goulash-party and a Sopron-wines' tasting on a boat-trip at Lake Fertő both on the Hungarian and on the Austrian side of the border. After the closing of the programme we trip back to Conference Centre.

Price: 58,- €/person

Services provided: bus, guide, wine-tasting and gulyás soup, Fertőrákos cave admission

Programme 2: Hungarian Versailles and Haydn
24, 27 and 30 August 2009 08.30-13.00 h

Meeting the guide at the Conference Centre. Trip to *Fertőd*, to the “Hungarian Versailles”, a marvellous palace built from 1720 to 1766 by the *Esterházy*s, one of the richest aristocratic families of the country. The palace restored and rebuilt in the splendour of its period is an important cultural site and the *centre of the Hungarian Haydn research works*. Joseph Haydn, the world famous Austrian composer lived and composed here almost half of his prolific period from 1766 to 1790. There has been here an exhibition remembering him – and one can also enjoy concerts during the summer. The main idea behind the Haydn-centre is to re-create the spirit of his glorious historical period. The marvellous palace buildings – except the baroque theatre – survived the centuries safe and sound. The exhibition mentioned above, recalls mainly *the glorious period of the building i.e. the era of Miklós Esterházy (The Glorious, from 1762 to 1790)*. Rich gold covered rooms, frescos of the period, original shellacked wooden boards brought here from China, 18th century gobelin ornamented furniture and china show and present the glamour of the period, the baroque-rococo ducal court. After having visited the Esterházy palace the “Hungarian Versailles”, the trip continues to *Fertőszéplak*, where we visit the open-air village museum showing everyday lives of people around Lake Fertő during the last centuries. A short visit at the Railway Lamp Museum showing 300 railway lamps collected from all over the world closes the museum visits of the day. The programme ends with a wine-tasting near Sopron and we return to Conference Centre.

Price: 52,- €/person

Services provided: admission Fertőd, bus, guide, admission Railway Lamp Museum, and admission Fertőszéplak open air village, wine-tasting

Programme 3: The Greatest Hungarian (Széchenyi and Nagycenk)

25 and 26 August 2009 13.30-18.00 h

Meeting the guide at the Conference Centre, then a bus-tour and later a walking sightseeing tour in Sopron follows. Trip to Nagycenk, visiting the Széchenyi Palace. The baroque palace is also of architectural interest. It is of stressed importance because István Széchenyi who has been honoured as the greatest Hungarian lived here. The main building and the western wing of the palace host the István Széchenyi Memorial Museum, the eastern farm-building provide place for the stud-farm and for the Carriage Museum. The Red Palace has been functioning as a hotel, restaurant and a café. The Memorial Museum is of two parts. The rooms on the ground floor show the lives of the Széchenyi family members and that of István Széchenyi. The second part of the exhibition is about Széchenyi's political and economic activities. A great number of original documents, objects, models show the period's traffic, horse breeding, agriculture and industry. The exhibition ends with a numismatic presentation from King Saint Stephen I. until nowadays. A short visit to the museum park, close to the palace garden, where lots of old locomotives are shown. Almost 2 miles we can travel with the narrow-gauge railway. A folklore dinner with gipsy music near Sopron will close down the day after which we travel back to the Conference Centre.

Price: 55,- €/person

Services provided: guide, bus, admission Nagycenk palace, narrow-gauge railway, dinner with gipsy music

Programme 4: Liszt and excursion to Austria

24 and 27 August 2009, 13.30-18.00

Meeting the guide at the Conference Centre. Trip to Raiding (Doborján), where Ferenc Liszt was born on 22nd October 1811 in a building being part of the former palace's eastern wing. He was a versatile personality of the 19th century's Romantic music, a spiritual leader of his period, greatest piano artist of all times. He was a performer, a virtuoso piano player and writer, a most educated person. Most of his almost 400 original written pieces of work are virtuoso piano plays, symphonies, symphonic poems, masses. His main concern was to make people understand his works. Liszt's nationality has been debated by many. His confessions, correspondence and further documents are evidence enough always declaring himself a Hungarian. He was a devoted patriot. After visiting the Liszt Memorial House we travel to Forchtenstein (Fraknó) Castle. At the peak of the Rosalia Mountains the huge fortress Forchtenstein (Fraknó) Castle can be found. It was the only of its kind in the region during the Turkish Wars that was never taken by the Ottomans. It was the top "safety box" to the Esterházy dukes' expensive and valuable jewellery. Nowadays the century's old family collections can be visited, too. The castle has been in the Esterházy family's property since 1626. Based on the plans by Italian master builders it was turned into a fortress during the 17th century. Parallel to this, the unique collection of arts was also born. Goldsmith works, ivory carvings, curiosities, textiles and valuable weapons filled the baroque treasury. Rare, interesting printed material came into the archives. The halls were decorated with portraits and paintings. In our days the ancient gallery of the Esterházys' has been the largest baroque painting gallery of Central- Europe. The more than 300 pieces of art shown at the ancient gallery introduce the historic roots of the ducal dynasty rising around those times. The Esterházy family's weapon collection has been the largest private collection in Central-Europe. During the guided tour weapons from the period of the 30 years war, alabasters further Turkish, Prussian and French spoils of war. Among the most excellent pieces there are the Ottoman gem-tent and the Prussian tent. These are among the most important and best surviving pieces of spoils of war in Central-Europe. After this a tour to Eisenstadt (Kismarton), the capital of the province Burgenland follows. Here we take a short walk through the historic town of Eisenstadt and finally travel back to the Conference Centre.

Price: 34,- €/person

Services provided: bus, admission Forchtenstein, guide

Programme 5: Budapest

29 August 2009, 08.30 h

Meeting the guide at the Conference Centre. Trip to *Budapest*. A bus-tour and later a walking sightseeing tour in the Hungarian capital follows. Short free-time in the afternoon, then travelling back to Sopron.

Price: 50,- €/person

Services provided: bus, guide

Programme 6: Vienna

28 August 2009, 08.30 h

Meeting the guide at the Conference Centre. Trip to the Austrian capital *Vienna*. A bus-tour in the capital follows. Short free-time in the afternoon, visit to the Schönbrunn Royal Palace then travelling back to Sopron.

Price: 35,- €/person

Services provided: bus, guide

Programme 7: Balaton Highlands

30 August 2009, 8:30 (whole day)

Meeting the guide at the Conference Centre. Situated near Balaton, the largest lake in Central Europe, close to the Bakony hills is *Herend*, Hungary's "porcelain city" with the biggest porcelain manufactory in Europe - the largest collection of porcelain treasures on the globe – where visitors see the magic of technology unfolding behind the scenes. -Veszprém The historic centre of *Veszprém* is the castle, which - together with the surrounding town – was one of the significant centre of our country until the Turkish occupation: it was the King's and Queen's seat and an episcopal seat. The medieval castle and town suffered large-scale destruction in the Turkish period. The present-day historic town evolved during the town development constructions of the 18–19th and the early 20th century. World War II and the following period caused relatively little damage to the old centre. *Hegyesű* ("Sharp Needle"): columnar basaltic lava lake rocks and spectacular view to the Balaton and to the basaltic volcanoes of Balaton Highlands. Tihany is a jewel of not only the Balaton but also Hungary. Since the nineteen sixties masses of tourists, both Hungarians and foreigners, have been visiting the place. Its main assets are the historical and cultural relics related to the monastery, the unique landscape and the recreational possibilities of Balaton. *Badacsony* is a famous wine region. Back to Sopron.

Price: 60,- €/person

Services provided: bus, guide, admission Herend, admission Hegyesű, lunch

Shuttle

Vienna Airport–Sopron or Sopron–Vienna Airport 30,- € (in one direction)

Budapest Airport–Sopron or Sopron–Budapest Airport 80,- € (in one direction)

Walking sightseeing tours in Sopron

23-29 August 2009 (from Sunday to Saturday): Meeting the guide at the Conference Centre every day at 17.00. **Price:** Free of charge

„HAYDN 200” concerts in Fertőd castle (Eszterháza) Transfer and First Class Ticket

Departure time from Conference Centre: 18:30

1. 23 August 2009 (Sunday), concert at 19:30 (All the Symphonies by Joseph Haydn composed in Eszterháza)

2. 28 August 2009 (Friday), concert at 19:30 (HAYDN IN ESZTERHÁZA - 12th Festival of the Hungarian Haydn Society)

Price: 54,- Euro/person/concert