

The Salzburg Museum

Salzburg's Memory. The Present in Focus.

For nearly 200 years, the Salzburg Museum has preserved, researched, and shared the art and cultural history of the city and state of Salzburg. Today, it is far more than a repository of historical memory: as a research institution, a place of learning, and a forum for public dialogue, it connects Salzburg's cultural heritage with the questions and issues of the present.

Founded in 1834, the Salzburg Museum is one of Austria's most historic museums. Its approximately 750,000 objects span the period from prehistory to the present day. The collections include architecture documentation, archaeology, visual arts, graphics, photography, applied arts and everyday culture, folklore, toys, musical instruments, coins, manuscripts, and printed works. A steadily growing portion of the collections is publicly accessible through the museum's online collection ("Sammlung Online")

One Museum – Many Perspectives

The Salzburg Museum is a network of specialized museums located in some of Salzburg's most beautiful settings. Its main building, the Neue Residenz on Mozartplatz, is currently undergoing extensive renovation. The Orangery Salzburg – Panorama | World Heritage combines the famous Sattler Panorama with the history and significance of Salzburg's UNESCO World Heritage Site.

The Toy Museum brings the culture of play and everyday life to life, while the Fortress Museum, Cathedral Excavation Museum, and Folklore Museum explore key chapters in Salzburg's history and cultural life. The Museum of the Celts Hallein focuses on the archaeology of the Dürrnberg and the history of Hallein, while the Silent Night Museum Hallein explores the origins and legacy of the world-famous song. Since September 2026, Sound of Music Salzburg has added another location to the museum network.

Creating Knowledge — Expanding Access

At the Salzburg Museum, research, collecting, preservation, and education are closely interconnected. The collections are academically researched, conserved, restored, and digitized. Research projects and collaborations with regional, national, and international partners generate new knowledge that informs exhibitions, publications, and digital resources.

At the same time, the museum considers innovation an essential part of its work. Innovative exhibition concepts, digital applications, participatory approaches, and a wide range of educational and interpretive formats offer new perspectives on historical objects and topics. Guided tours, workshops, and educational programs are designed for schools and preschools as well as families, adults, and a wide range of community groups.

The Museum as a Space for Society

As a public cultural and educational institution, the Salzburg Museum seeks to foster participation, highlight diverse perspectives, and encourage public dialogue. Accessibility, diversity, sustainability, and digital access are central areas of focus.

The museum does not view history as a closed chapter of the past, but as a resource for the present: What does Salzburg say about itself? What has been preserved — and what has been overlooked? Which stories need to be viewed from new perspectives today?

The Salzburg Museum connects historical experiences with contemporary questions, brings different perspectives into view, and creates space for exchange. In this way, Salzburg's cultural heritage is not only preserved, but continually reinterpreted and made relevant for the future.

Key Facts

Founded: 1834

Collection: approx. 750,000 objects

Period covered: Prehistory to the present

Core activities: Collecting · Preserving · Researching · Educating

Locations: Salzburg und Hallein

Online: Online collection with more than 220,000 digitally accessible objects

Public sponsors: City and State of Salzburg, with equal participation

Operations and management: Salzburg Museum GmbH

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