



PALAIS
LIECHTENSTEIN

THE PRINCELY PALACES

LIECHTENSTEIN CITY PALACE

Princely gem & event highlight

After around five years of extensive renovation work the Liechtenstein CITY PALACE has appeared in all its former glory since April 2013. The advantageous situation in Vienna's city center, the exceptional staterooms and selected masterpieces from the Princely Collections dating from the Neoclassicism and Biedermeier era combine to make the Liechtenstein CITY PALACE a new highlight and top address for prestigious events. Guided tours give those interested in art an opportunity to view this architectural gem.

Since 2020, the Liechtenstein CITY PALACE has been part of *Liechtenstein Real Estate Vienna*, which is part of the Liechtenstein Group.

THE RENOVATION. PRESERVATION OF MONUMENTS AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL

The revitalisation of the CITY PALACE was the most comprehensive restoration following scientific principles for the preservation of monuments to be undertaken in Vienna in recent years. The highly demanding nature of the restoration explains the high number of staff employed during the renovation works: "On average there were 200 to 250 people on the site per day, and on peak days up to 500. In general, when it comes to restoration work, about two-thirds of the costs are to cover labour, and only one third is spent on materials or machinery. At a total cost of around 100 million Euro, this project has made a definite contribution to the safeguarding of employment in Austria," architect Prof. Manfred Wehdorn explains 2013 the economic significance of the project.

Before the renovation work began in 2008, subsidence and war damage had left the CITY PALACE in such a bad state that had only been superficially remedied, that the first thing that was necessary was to introduce a steel skeleton to support the structure. The building was further strengthened by the construction of a three-storey underground storage vault. Only then could the restoration work finally begin, relying heavily on the use of authentic materials and the building techniques of the original period. Thus, for example, any damage to the world-famous Thonet flooring was repaired through painstaking handcrafted intarsia work. In order to replicate individual silk wallhangings, a loom was specially adapted, which was capable of weaving more than 20,000 warp threads.

Furthermore, the restoration should be seen as an important example of the preservation of monuments in Vienna, where particular emphasis is placed on Alterswert (the value of aging and the importance of marks of usage). For that reason the gilding was only replaced where replenishment was necessary, otherwise the approximately 170-year-old gilding was merely cleaned. A total of 1.5 kilograms (approx. 150,000 pieces) of gold leaf were used, taking around 54,000 working hours to apply.

THE TECHNOLOGY. HISTORIC REFINEMENTS CONTINUE TO IMPRESS

Even back in the Biedermeier era, the Liechtenstein CITY PALACE impressed with its furnishings and technical refinements: among other things, the doors to the large Ballroom could be either raised or rotated vertically. One side of the door was decorated in white and gold, the other with mirrored glass, so that, in a matter of seconds, the room could be transformed into a hall of mirrors. This historic technology has been restored as part of the restoration work. In addition to this, the palace now meets the highest modern technological standards: the whole house is fully air conditioned, all rooms offer



disabled access, approximately 1,200 LED lights have replaced the historic candlelight, and even the security arrangements meet the most demanding requirements.

THE CONCEPT. PRESTIGIOUS EVENTS & BOOKED GUIDED TOURS

To ensure long-term public access to both the Liechtenstein CITY PALACE and the GARDEN PALACE under an economically sustainable concept, the Palais Liechtenstein Team of *Liechtenstein Real Estate Vienna* has been entrusted with the marketing of both palaces.

Around 250 m² of magnificent historic rooms on the first (upper) floor and around 320 m² on the second floor are available in the CITY PALACE for prestigious events. The luxurious ambience of the palace ensures moments to remember – at elegant cocktail receptions, weddings, gala dinners, seminars, congresses, award ceremonies, fashion shows and concerts.

Baroque stucco ceilings combine with opulent Rococo Revival interiors, original furniture, massive chandeliers and colourful silk wallhangings to create a harmonious whole. The elegant entrance area occupies around 100m² and is an ideal welcome area for guests. Additionally, the extensive Vestibule and the adjoining inner courtyard offer an attractive outdoor space for events. A goods lift and dedicated catering area on each floor ensure that your event runs smoothly and professionally.

THE THONET FLOORING - PROTECTING A RARITY

The second floor of the CITY PALACE features the original wooden floors by Michael Thonet, which date back to the 19th century. They constitute a rarity which - following completed restoration - is now to be permanently preserved. For this reason, the area of the floor in the event areas has been covered with an imitation flooring, a costly and time-consuming undertaking whereby photographs were taken of each square metre of magnificent patterning, the colours harmonized and the end result then printed on wooden panels. Ventilation grilles and doors have been adjusted accordingly and, between the original flooring and the imitation overlay, sensors constantly measure humidity and temperature in order to avoid damage to the original floor. Through making an impression of Thonet's original designs, the historical appearance of the room has been preserved, and in the neighbouring gallery rooms, the original flooring can still be admired.

THE ART. FROM AMERLING TO WALDMÜLLER

Members of the public with an interest in art have the opportunity to view the unique splendour of the CITY PALACE as part of booked guided tours. As in the GARDEN PALACE, guided tours are available twice a month on selected Fridays - revealing insights into aristocratic life and a tradition of collecting that spans 400 years (advance booking required!).

Individual appointments for private group tours can also be arranged. In addition, the Liechtenstein Palaces as well as the Liechtenstein Park can be explored in detail as part of the guided tours KUNST.MOMENTE which focuses on annually changing themes.

On view in the CITY PALACE are paintings and furniture from one of the most productive and independent periods in the history of Viennese art, the, in the case of Vienna, almost inseparable Neoclassicism and Biedermeier era, including masterpieces from the works of Friedrich von Amerling, Friedrich Gauermann and Ferdinand Georg Waldmüller. They will create an interesting dialogue with the original interior of the building, the first Rococo Revival building in the world.