



SCHWECHAT



The city of Schwechat, which was mentioned as the Roman fortification "Ala Nova" about 98 after Christ, developed to an industrial area over the centuries. The water of the river Schwechat became the propulsive power for the mills that changed into industries in the 19th century.

Because of the Vienna International Airport Schwechat nowadays is considered as a "door to the world" and a cultural centre. Part of the cultural heritage of the city is the remembrance of the famous guest Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart.



MOZART'S STAY

The family of the musician visited Schwechat two times. The first time Mozart and his father came to Schwechat on September 22nd 1773 for visiting the castle Rothmühle which belonged to the nature-cure practitioner Dr. Franz Anton Mesmer. His sensational methods of curing caused envy and enemies among the medical men so that Mesmer had to leave Austria in 1779. In his exile in Paris he became a famous doctor for the imperial society. The castle where Mozart lived was first mentioned in 1244 as a mill and was built up in the present form by the Italian nobleman Ambrossy di Ferrari. Since 1769 Franz Anton Mesmer was the owner of the castle. In the 19th century the director of the brewery, Anton Dreher, bought the castle.

Today the castle is a hotel and a centre for seminars and festivals. Here "Schwechat's cultural summer" takes place.

During his stay in Schwechat the young Mozart visited the church of St. Jacob, which is situated in the heart of the city. In May 1790 Mozart came to Schwechat a second time for visiting the composer Joseph Eybler who had studied by Albrechtsberger in Vienna between 1777 and 1779. The house in which Eybler was born is situated on the right side of the church of St. Jacob. Between Mozart and Eybler a close friendship developed. As a result of this friendship Eybler, who at this time was still unknown, directed Mozart's opera "Così fan tutte" at the first performance on January 26th 1790.

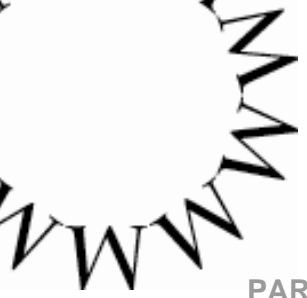
PLACES OF INTEREST

Schloss Rothmühle

Rothmühle, the rural 17th century castle of Dr.med.et phil. Franz Anton Messmer, situated close to the town. First mentioned 1244 as a mill, completed to its actual appearance in 1593 by the Italian honourable Ambrossy di Ferrari. From 1769 on it was in the possession of the above Franz Anton Mesmer, who became a promoter of the young Mozart.

St. Jakobskirche

Mozart joined a holy mass during his visit on September 22 1773



PARTNER ACTIVITIES

Detailed information you find on the local websites of our partners or <http://www.mozartways.com>

CONTACT & INFORMATION

Stadtgemeinde Schwechat

Rathausplatz 9

2320 Schwechat

AUSTRIA

Tel: +43 (0)1 701 08 - 0

Fax: +43 (0)1 707 32 23

<http://www.schwechat.gv.at>

E-mail: stadtgemeinde@schwechat.gv.at