

Roaming about the
VIA SANCTI MARTINI
Austria – Czech Republic - Slovakia - Hungary



DAY 1

Arrival in **Vienna**, meet the guide, then transfer to the hotel. Lunch in restaurant.

In the afternoon: city tour in Vienna, including a visit at the **church of Saint Martin in Aspern** (Aspern had an independent parish church already in the XIV. century, but the medieval church was demolished, the today's one has been consecrated in 1671. On the high altar we can see Saint Martin, who shares his cloak.) Dinner in hotel, overnight in Vienna.



Vienna (UNESCO site)

DAY 2

Depart from Vienna towards Brno, with a stop at **Kralice nad Oslavou** (**church of Saint Martin**). The oldest building of Kralice is Saint Martin's Church. It is mentioned in written documents only from 1345, but its vestry - originally a smaller pre-romanesque church - had been presumably built in the late 11th century. The interior space of the church was decorated with frescoes around 1300 portraying the crowning of the Holy Virgin, as well as the one picturing Saint Martin sharing his cloak with the pauper, whereas a detail from the scene from Jesus' Passion can be seen. Lunch in the region. Stop near **Blansko**, for a boating on an underground river, then continue to **Brno**. Check in hotel.

Short walk to discover the historic center, then dinner in hotel.

Overnight in Brno.



Kralice Nad Oslavou

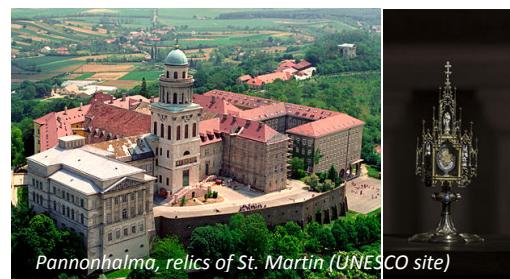
DAY 3

Departure for **Bratislava**. City tour in the Slovakian capital city (the one time capital of Hungary), with its funny retro-like coaches, lunch in restaurant, then check in hotel. Walking tour in the downtown. The **St Martin Cathedral** is one of the city's most dominant buildings. It's been the scene of important religious, cultural and social events since times immemorial. Hungarian kings were crowned here between 1563 and 1830. It got its present form between 1863 and 1878. The southern aisle contains a masterpiece of Baroque art: Georg Raphael Doner's equestrian statue of St Martin and the beggar. A symbolic footprint of St Martin is placed on the pedestal of the statue. The crypt under the cathedral contains sepulchers of several important historical characters. Hungary's great Baroque orator and writer, one-time archbishop of Esztergom, Péter Pázmány is resting there, too.



Bratislava

After the visit free time per individual discoveries and shopping. Dinner in hotel. Overnight in Bratislava.



Pannonhalma, reliquies of St. Martin (UNESCO site)

DAY 4

We leave Bohemia and our journey leads to the **Abbey of Pannonhalma** in Hungary. It was erected in the 10th century dedicated to Saint Martin. Lunch on arrival, then possibility to partake in the prayers of the benedictine monks, then visit at the remarkable complex (including a relique from the saint: his finger). After that we continue to **Győr**, and visit that beautiful baroque town, established by the Romans in the confluence of 3 rivers. Walking tour in the rich historic center including the episcopal cathedral (Saint Ladislaus' reliquary, The Tearing Madonna). In the evening transfer to **Budapest**, check in and dinner in hotel. Overnight in Budapest.

DAY 5

A day dedicated to the discovery of the Hungarian capital city. Lunch in restaurant, then visit at the **National Gallery**. We also visit the Matthias



Hungarian National Gallery

Church (holy mass?) then walking tour in the Castle District. Dinner in hotel. Overnight in Budapest.



DAY 6

In the morning we visit the second largest Parliament in the world, and then the Saint Stephen's Cathedral (holy mass?). Lunch in restaurant, then walking tour in the downtown: the Central Market Hall, Váci Shopping Street, free time, shopping.

In the evening candlelit dinnercruise with buffet dinner in the beautiful lights of the city. Overnight in Budapest.

DAY 7

In the morning we leave Budapest, and travel to **Szombathely**, the antic Savaria, **birthplace of Saint Martin**. We visit the chapel with a sign: HIC NATUS EST SANCTUS MARTINUS (Saint Marton was born here), and the rich historic memories in the city.

After lunch in restaurant transfer to **Vienna**, and departure by the evening train *.



POSSIBLE EXTENSIONS (DAYS 1-6 remain the same)

DAY 7

Journey from Budapest towards **Pécs** (the antic Sopiane), a mediterranean-like city in Hungary, rich in history, religion, arts, wine and thermal water. Lunch then walking tour in the historic center. After that we visit the underground paleochristian crypts with frescos from the II-IV centuries (UNESCO World Heritage). Check in and dinner in hotel. Overnight in Pécs. It is possible to make an evening walk in the lively promenade of the downtown.



DAY 8

The tour continues to **Tihany**, the beautiful peninsula on the Lake Balaton. There stands the famous abbey founded in 1055. After the visit (movie, undercroft, museum), short walk to the museum houses of local hadicraftsmen, then we pass through a nearby volcanic hill, where in the Saint Martin's Cellar we have our lunch accompanied by excellent local wines. From Somló we continue to Szombathely, check in and dinner in hotel. Overnight in Szombathely.



DAY 9

Walking tour in **Szombathely** (the Roman Savaria), a city where Saint Martino was born 1700 years ago.

We visit the most important monuments, then our tour continues towards **Kőszeg**, a historic fortress at the Austrian border. Visit of the city center (the Church of Heart of Jesus with amazing facade, and the fortress of the fifteenth century), then we continue to **Sopron**, the "Civitas fidelissima", ("Most Loyal City") with a gothic pulley-shaped downtown, situated on the rests of the Amber Road. Walking tour, then continue to Vienna, arrival to the Wien Bahnhof, and departure *.



*Should the group arrive/depart by airplane, an extra night is recommended in Szombathely or Sopron.

Contact us for details, prices or modified itineraries.

Prices depend on number of passengers and the dates of the journey.