

**Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> December:** Meeting at Malta International Airport at 05:05hrs in time for Air Malta direct flight KM512 to Vienna departure 07:05hrs. Arrival 09:25hrs and coach transfer to our hotel in the centre. After settling in our rooms orientation visit followed by **Vienna city sightseeing...** St. Stephen's Cathedral, State Opera House, Museums of Fine Arts/Natural History, Town hall, Hofburg Imperial Residence, **Schonbrunn** and **Belvedere Palace**, Karlskirche and Music Verein... Evening at leisure to enjoy our surroundings or to visit a typical Keller.

**Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> December:** Morning optional excursion to the beautiful **Vienna Woods** and historical surroundings: Liechtenstein castle, Cistercian Abbey of Heiligenkreuz (1133), Hodrichsmuhle where Franz Schubert composed the Linden tree and the spa resort town **Baden** where Beethoven once lived. Afternoon free at leisure for shopping or personal sightseeing...

**Friday 28<sup>th</sup> December:** Full day optional excursion to **SALZBURG**, world-renowned for music festivals, **the Sound of Music** and birthplace of **Mozart**. Sights in this beautiful city include Mirabell Palace, the Cathedral, Festival House, Mozart Memorial, St. Peter's Abbey, Fortress etc. Time at leisure before return to Vienna

**Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> December:** Day at leisure – besides shopping there is so much more to do ... opportunity to visit the Hofburg Imperial Apartments; Schonbrunn Summer Palace; the 'Museums Quartier'; StaatsOper Wien etc...

**Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> December:** After breakfast optional excursion to the pilgrimage town of **Maria Zell** set amidst the snow-capped mountains. We tour through picturesque Austrian Alpine landscape, typical villages and beautiful valleys with dramatic and restful scenery.

**Monday 31<sup>st</sup> December:** The **Spanish Riding School** is the oldest in the world. Opportunity for the morning exercise training session held in the baroque riding school hall. Afternoon at leisure with time to enjoy one of the famous Viennese coffee houses. Evening **New Year's Eve Imperial Kaiserball** at the Hofburg Palace including an extensive cabaret show. (Dinner jackets and evening gowns)... The Elegant beginning of the grand ball season, the Imperial Ball takes place each year on the 31<sup>st</sup> December in the Vienna Hofburg Palace. Visitors come from all over the world to spend New Year's Eve in the former winter residence of the Austrian Emperors. In the entrance hall Imperial Guards perform the historic changing of the guards. The 'Imperial Couple' greet guests on the grand staircase and ladies receive a gift as a token of the evening. Visit beautifully decorated state apartments. Internationally known orchestras & bands invite you to enjoy and dance the night away in the grand palatial halls.

**Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> January: HAPPY NEW YEAR 2008!** Morning at leisure... After lunch we return to the Hofburg Palace Grand Festival Hall for the traditional Viennese **New Year's Day Concert**. Evening optional farewell dinner in the village of Grinzing. Try the new wine and original 'Heurigen' lively music/dancing.

**Wednesday 02<sup>nd</sup> January:** Breakfast and transfer to Airport in time for return flight KM513 departure Vienna 10:30hrs and arrival Malta 12:55hrs

