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# DomQuartier Salzburg

## Press conference:

### The DomQuartier celebrates its 10th anniversary

It is with great pleasure that we invite you to a press conference: the DomQuartier, an exceptional museum complex in the Town of Salzburg, celebrates its 10th anniversary on 17 May 2024. As the junction of ecclesiastical and secular power, the DomQuartier offers a unique insight into Salzburg's fascinating history and its cultural legacy. The anniversary year is full of highlights that take visitors on a journey through Salzburg's history.

#### Main themes:

- The significance of the DomQuartier for Salzburg
- The DomQuartier's vision for 2034
- Status of the visitor centre
- Events in the anniversary year

**17 May 2024, 10 am**

**DomQuartier, Residenzplatz 1, 5020 Salzburg**

Press conference in the antechamber of the state-rooms

#### Our discussion partners

Archabbot Dr. Korbinian Birnbacher

Prelate Dr. Johann Reissmeier

Provincial Governor Dr. Wilfried Haslauer

Dr. Andrea Stockhammer, Director, DomQuartier Salzburg

available for information:

Dr. Reinhard Gratz, Director, Cathedral Museum

Mag. Wolfgang Wanko, Director, St. Peter's Museum, curator of the art collections

#### Press contacts & questions:

Helena Stiller, presse@domquartier.at Tel.: +43 662 80 42 2108

Mick Weinberger, domquartier@ikp.at Tel.: +43 699 10 66 32 58



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### The DomQuartier celebrates its 10th anniversary

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### Haslauer: "DomQuartier unites art and history"

"In the DomQuartier, Salzburg's history and its art are united into a highlight for local residents and visitors alike. After many years of preparation and ten years of exhibitions, it may be counted a huge success. Salzburg has 'its' Domquartier and a first-class attraction for all", says Provincial Governor Wilfried Haslauer. Some 120.000 visitors are counted annually. Special exhibitions were held on the Rossacher collection (2014), Rembrandt's production process (2016), the Liechtenstein Princely collections (2016), Wolf Dietrich von Raitenau (2017), select items from the Würth Kunstkammer (2018), co-operation with the Vienna Belvedere on the exhibition *Nature in Image* (2021), *Music Everywhere* (2020, 2021), 400th anniversary of the Paris Lodron University (2022) and the reformer Archbishop Colloredo (2023).

### DomQuartier as centre

Ten years have passed: the founding of the DomQuartier brought back to life the historic centre of political and ecclesiastical power in Salzburg in a way which enables the visitor to see it through the eyes of the prince-archbishops. Over centuries, Residenz, Cathedral and St Peter's Archabbey shaped the Town and the Province of Salzburg, forming an emblematic unity reflected in its architecture. **Andrea Stockhammer**, director of the DomQuartier: *"Today, visitors – as once only the prince-archbishop and the favoured few – can move freely between the domains: from the secular splendour of the Residenz with the narrative paintings showing deeds of Alexander the Great, to the ecclesiastical sphere of the Cathedral and the Archabbey. With the end of the ecclesiastical principality in 1803, the unity formed by Residenz, Cathedral and Archabbey became obsolete. More than 200 years later, the structural barriers that had appeared in the meantime were, in both senses, broken open, and a unique museum tour created."*



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The combination of the secular Residenz with a metropolitan church and an abbey is exceptional in this form. Viewed in synthesis, the three elements of the DomQuartier form a comprehensive picture that is more than the sum of its parts.

*"The joint consent to re-opening the circuit around the Cathedral Square generated the idea of the DomQuartier – recognition of the wonderful opportunity not only to present Salzburg's history and art in the original settings, but to bring them to life. This has been demonstrated in the impressive exhibitions and art projects in recent years", says*  
**Archabbot Dr. Korbinian Birnbacher OSB.**

### **In the DomQuartier – experience what shaped Salzburg over centuries**

Since the DomQuartier still retains its ecclesiastical and secular character, it is the ideal place to understand how Salzburg was shaped over the centuries. Its work rests in the continuity of Residenz, Cathedral and Archabbey as ecclesiastical centre and prestigious reception venue for the government since the Middle Ages. The DomQuartier is indispensable for the cultural identity of Town and Province, bringing to life their historical roots. The result is a comprehensive picture that is more than the sum of its parts. Visitors are always encouraged to take an active part, to question and discuss the present and the future. This is an essential element of the social relevance of the DomQuartier."

*"The 10th anniversary of the DomQuartier will be celebrated in various ways. Taking Salzburg as the hub of a network of the prince-archbishops' international relations, we narrate the underlying (hi)stories of success, failure and adventure", continues* **Andrea Stockhammer.** In a lecture series, experts talk about trading relations and cultural exchanges, about innovations and traditions in music, about the network around St Peter's Abbey, and much more. The 10th anniversary will be celebrated with themed special exhibitions each month, focusing on personalities such as Wolf Dietrich von Raitenau or Wolfgang Amadé Mozart, as well as on recurring motifs linking the spiritual and the secular spheres.

### **Special exhibition: *The Colours of la Serenissima* Venetian masterworks from Titian to Canaletto**

In the Residenzgalerie, from 21 June 2024 until 6 January 2025, the DomQuartier welcomes the first guest presentation by the Vienna Kunsthistorisches Museum in Salzburg. *The*



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*Colours of la Serenissima* is the first exhibition under the management Andrea Stockhammer, the new director of the DomQuartier. The comprehensive exhibition entitled *The Colours of la Serenissima* Venetian masterworks from Titian to Canaletto tells the incredible success story of Renaissance painting in Venice. In the accompanying programme, experts on Venetian art give talks to complement the exhibition.

2024 sees the 450th anniversary of the birth of Prince-Archbishop Marcus Sitticus, who brought Italian theatre and Venetian-style public festivities to Salzburg. In this tradition, the DomQuartier will hold a Venetian celebration in the Residenz on 31 August. As in the days of Marcus Sitticus, there will be a masked procession accompanied by music, stilt-walkers and jugglers, leading over the squares around the Cathedral and the Residenz, ending in the inner courtyard. Visitors will be encouraged to come in costume, to make this an unforgettable festivity.

### **The DomQuartier – heart of Salzburg's World Heritage Site**

In 1996, the historic centre of the town was officially awarded the status of UNESCO World Heritage site, as representing outstanding universal value. Such sites bear special testimony to past cultures, material traces of encounter and exchange, artistic masterworks or unique natural landscapes.

**Andrea Stockhammer:** *"Today's DomQuartier was and is vital in meeting criteria for World Heritage status: here was the centre of the ecclesiastical city state, which combined spiritual and secular power. The DomQuartier is the authentic place to experience the prestige demonstrated by the ecclesiastical principality in the Baroque age."*

### **50th anniversary of the Cathedral Museum**

This year sees not only the 10th anniversary of the DomQuartier, but also the 50th anniversary of the Cathedral Museum. Since its founding, the Museum has become an important place for presenting ecclesiastical art and history, and has been part of the DomQuartier for ten years. **Reinhard Gratz, director of the Cathedral Museum:** *"The Cathedral Museum with its collections forms an important part of the museum tour narrative. With reference to the former twofold function of the prince-archbishop, it*



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*represents the episcopal, ecclesiastical side, particularly the Cathedral treasure as a reminder of Salzburg's incomparable history and influence as a metropolitan seat since 798."*

**Dr. Johann J. Reissmeier**, archiepiscopal official, Cathedral chapter, KR Prelate lic.iur.can. on the DomQuartier: *"Mankind lives from beauty. The DomQuartier is an experience place of beauty. For this reason, it is also a unique abode."* Over centuries, Residenz, Cathedral and St Peter's Archabbey shaped the Town and the Province of Salzburg, forming an emblematic unity reflected in its architecture. The magnificent state-rooms were the scene of a distinguished cultural life, still perceptible to visitors. Salzburg is an important example of an ecclesiastical European principality distinguished by a considerable number of outstanding and very well preserved secular and church building from various epochs. Today's DomQuartier comprises the centre of this secular and ecclesiastical domain.

### **The DomQuartier's vision for 2034**

The DomQuartier is set to see some exciting developments over the coming years. A series of initiatives is planned, to take a modern approach to the historical legacy.

#### A must-see for all Salzburgers

Every Salzburger resident should explore the history of Salzburg. In the DomQuartier, the history of the town can be experienced with unique immediacy.

#### Future plans for young people

There will be a special focus on including young people, through digital information, social media and special events, to encourage interest in cultural content.

#### Digital exploration

The vision includes the extensive digitalisation of the DomQuartier's information. New multi-media educational tools using AI, a multi-media guide and detailed online content enable visitors to explore the DomQuartier interactively, as well as to access the information from home.



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### The Mozart experience

The aim is to achieve stronger public perception here, since Mozart composed works for the Residenz and the Cathedral, and himself performed there. Increased inclusion of Mozart in the DomQuartier programme through concerts and co-operation with the International Mozarteum Foundation is designed to bring to life Salzburg's musical legacy. In addition, digital tools will make Mozart's presence felt in the rooms.

### Joint exhibitions by all partners

In future, every three or four years, the DomQuartier will hold exhibitions jointly with all partners, to present the stories of this centre of power shaped the cultural and spiritual life of Salzburg. These exhibitions will be geared to questions that reflect our current perspectives and everyday reality.

### New opening hours

In order to increase the appeal to Salzburg residents, longer opening hours are planned on specific days to enable working people to visit the DomQuartier and take part in guided tours.

### Rediscovering a treasure

The state-rooms, the most sumptuous rooms in the whole Province, will be enhanced in public perception. Over the coming years, their historical furnishings will be more closely researched, and various educational tools installed to narrate the fascinating events that took place there.

### World Heritage

World Heritage is an important issue for the future, and the DomQuartier in Salzburg is the place to experience it to the full. Here the qualities that merit inclusion in the World Heritage list are literally within our reach. Collaboration with the World Heritage visitor centre in Mirabell is planned for the future.

### **The visitor centre creates new worlds of experience**

From summer 2028, the narrative of the roots in the DomQuartier will begin in ancient times: new museum information and the planned visitor centre will enable DomQuartier visitors to explore 2,000 years of Salzburg's history in a single location.



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The new visitor centre will be integrated into the south wing of the Residenz, and will offer visitors a better experience through numerous innovations such as the improved entrance and shop area. Digital information will also enhance understanding of this special place at the centre of the UNESCO World Heritage site in the town of Salzburg.

The basement of the east wing will house the new IUVAVUM Roman Museum, with archaeological collections of Salzburg Museum. Connected to the Cathedral Excavations Museum, it will be a direct extension of the present DomQuartier narrative.

The Roman Iuvavum, an important, prosperous town in the Province of Noricum, was situated over the entire area of today's Old Town. Significant finds such as the mosaic on the Mozartplatz, the fragment of the dial of a water-clock and numerous small objects are evidence of prosperity and bustling life. The ancient remains have been examined intensively since the 19th century, and collected and preserved in Salzburg Museum. Since it opened 50 years ago, the Cathedral Excavations Museum has enabled comparison with original architectural remains from both the time of imperial Rome and the Middle Ages. The representative detail of a Roman town villa with high-quality mosaics shows one aspect of the lifestyle in the ancient town of Iuvavum. The mighty remains of the mediaeval cathedral buildings are evidence of Salzburg's importance under the rule of the (prince-)archbishops from the early Middle Ages to the Baroque. On the basis of original objects (and in addition to the cathedral excavation finds), the Iuvavum Roman museum narrates the story of the Roman town.

In order to ensure year-round opening, the Cathedral Excavations Museum is to undergo complete restoration. The climatic conditions in the Residenzgalerie will also be improved. Thus the unique and detailed representation of Salzburg's 2,000-year history will be presented in the DomQuartier.

Construction work for the new visitor centre will begin in spring 2026 and should be completed by summer 2028. During the renovation work, part of the DomQuartier will be closed, but everything apart from the Residenz will remain open. A temporary entrance will be set up in the Wallis wing, by the Cathedral arcade. The University's office premises in the north wing will also be converted, and further rooms in the upper storey of the Residenz will be renovated and repurposed.



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### All events in May:

- **10th anniversary of the DomQuartier – themed tour: Baroque splendour – Baroque power – Prince-Archbishop Guidobald von Thun**  
*Sat, 18.05.2024 at 11 am*
- **Curators' tour: Sacred places – views by Hubert Sattler (1817–1904)**  
*Wed, 22.05.2024 at 3 pm*
- **KreativKids Club: Experimenting with art, for small children**  
*Thurs, 23.05.2024 at 3 pm*
- **Apropos stone: Experts' discussion**  
*Fri, 24.05.2024 at 3 pm*
- **Guided tour through the DomQuartier (EN)**  
*Fri, 24.05.2024 at 3 pm*
- **Salzburg Museum Weekend with special programme: free of charge**  
*Sat, 25.05.2024*
- **KreativKids Club: Experimenting with art, for small children**  
*Thurs, 30.05.2024 at 3 pm*
- **Guided tour through the DomQuartier (EN)**  
*Fri, 31.05.2024 at 3 pm*

### Further event highlights in the anniversary year:

- **June**  
From 21 June 2024: Special exhibition *The Colours of la Serenissima. Venetian masterworks from Titian to Canaletto* (21.6.2024 – 6.1.2025) Guest presentation by the Kunsthistorisches Museums Vienna
- **July**  
20 July 2024: Festivity for the Festival opening. A musical journey of discovery north and south of the Alps, curator- guided tours, open art lab and more
- **August**  
31 August 2024: Venetian festivity to mark the exhibition *The Colours of la Serenissima* and the 10th anniversary of the DomQuartier – held not only in the Residenz and the inner courtyard, but inviting the entire town to join in. It is also a tribute to Prince-Archbishop Marcus Sitticus, who brought from the south Venetian-





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style festivities and new forms of musical and theatrical entertainment to his court. As in Sitticus' times, there will be a masked procession with music, stilt-walkers and jugglers.

- **November**

7 and 8 November 2024: Public convention devoted to the relations between Salzburg and Venice, in connection with the exhibition *The Colours of La Serenissima* (with a discussion-concert – chamber music performed by the Camerata Salzburg – on 7 November 2024).

### **Visitor numbers: constant growth in the anniversary year**

The DomQuartier has largely recovered from the Corona years, with almost 120,000 visitors in 2023. 2024 shows an increase of some 10 % in comparison with the same period in the previous year. The aim for the coming years is to increase this number by means of attractions and exhibitions. Visitors come mainly from Germany and Austria, followed by Italy and France. The field of art and culture education also shows a positive increase: while in 2023, 907 school pupils visited the DomQuartier, during the same period in 2024 they already numbered 1,545.

### **Press contacts & questions:**

Helena Stiller, [presse@domquartier.at](mailto:presse@domquartier.at) Tel.: +43 662 80 42 2108

Mick Weinberger, [domquartier@ikp.at](mailto:domquartier@ikp.at) Tel.: [+43 699 10 66 32 58](tel:+4369910663258)