



fly away...
fly away...



...to Rust ...to Rust am Neusiedler See





discover in Rust...



...the churches ...the historical town centre ...the storks



Every spring, more than 30 white storks land in Rust on Lake Neusiedl, where they spend their summers and bring a new generation into the world in this town, a model of monument conservation. In the summer months, up to 80 storks wheel through the air above the town.

With a population of just under 1,900, Rust is the smallest Austrian town with its own charter. Nestled between the vineyard hills in the Rust countryside and Lake Neusiedl, the historical city centre of the "town of storks and noble wines" is proud of its scenic group of lovingly tended townhouses dating from the 16th to the 19th centuries. Protected under the Hague Convention and often chosen the most beautiful town in Burgenland province, Rust was elected a Model of

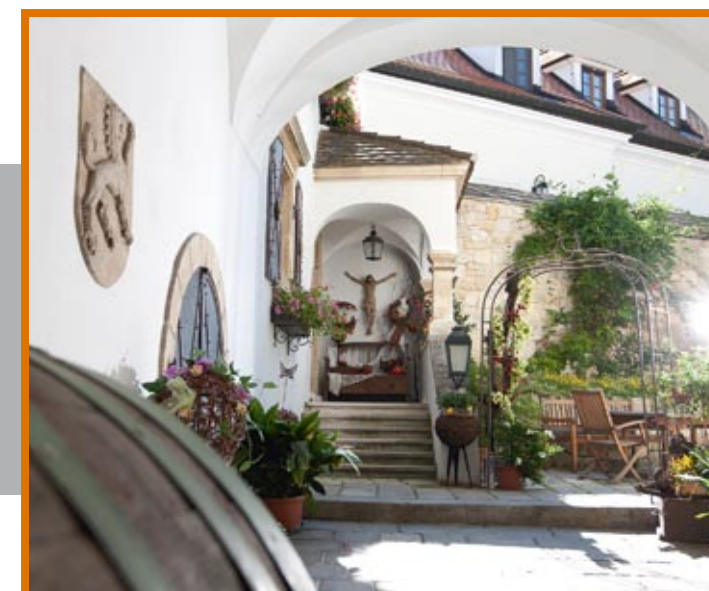
Monument Conservation in 1975, the year of European architectural heritage, along with Krems and Salzburg.

Numerous striking edifices, including the three churches, the old Town Hall, the Seehof, the Powder Tower and the Old Gate Guardhouse lend inimitable flair to the townscape, along with the many stork nests in the housetop chimneys. This atmosphere is one of the reasons why Rust and its environs were chosen as the backdrop for the Winzerkönig ["Vintner King"] television series; Lake Neusiedl was certainly another factor in the choice. At one time, it was Europe's largest steppe lake; now it still influences Rust's vineyards in a very special way, as well as providing many sports and leisure activities for the free town and its visitors.



The free town of Rust offers a widely-varying programme throughout the entire year. Experience the history of the town (a UNESCO World Heritage) by taking a walking tour; these sights include the impressive Fishermen's Church with its frescos and stained glass, the historical town centre, the townhouses and the Seehof with its Powder Tower. Be sure to visit the Kremayr House; it features gems of Rust's history and changing exhibitions. Join a guided tour of the vineyards and delve into the life of Rust's top vintners, who will give you a close look into their daily work.

Culture lovers will not be shortchanged in Rust, either. Thousands of visitors attend opera and operetta festivals in the immediate vicinity, while high-quality cultural events on a smaller scale are firmly established in the town itself. In the vineyards, the hostelries, the churches – culture thrives everywhere, throughout the year. Seasonal events beckon from spring into the winter. Acoustic and literary pleasures are not the only centerpieces; wine and culinary experiences are also yours to enjoy.



...the culture
...the history
...the events

experience in Rust...



enjoy in Rust...



...the wine
...the conviviality
...the food and drink

Rust has been known for centuries as “the town of storks and noble wines.” Vineyards are still cultivated here in the richly traditional, original way. The unique micro-climate of Lake Neusiedl, the various soil textures and altitudes of the vineyard hills all contribute to make an environment perfect for cultivating both white and red grapes. Combined with the vintners’ skill, the result is a diversity of wine scarcely to be found elsewhere.

As it imbues some of the vineyard areas, the moisture from Lake Neusiedl is definitely the basis of Rust’s wine specialty, the sweet Ruster Ausbruch. The moisture fosters the growth of the botrytis fungus, which makes pressing the wine possible at all.

The variety of Rust wines is best enjoyed directly in one of over 40 gastronomic locales, ranging from rustic Heurigen hostleries serving new wines to tastefully appointed restaurants. You are certain to find the perfect place, whether you wish the accompaniment for your Rust wine to be light, hearty, large or small.

Rust’s epicures create their menus taking advantage of the great assortment of regional ingredients; superb fish, meat, vegetables and fruit prosper in the Lake Neusiedl vicinity, turned into high-quality dishes in Rust’s kitchens. If your taste extends beyond merely enjoying wine to experiencing it in its totality, we recommend a seminar given by the Austrian Wine Academy in Rust’s Seehof.



...at the lake ...in the countryside ...in nature

Along with culture and culinary enjoyment, Rust and its environs offer untouched, intact nature; the abundance of flora and fauna species surrounding Rust will surprise you. Amidst it all, Rust also abounds in leisure activities. Hikers, Nordic walkers and runners will find a well-signposted pathway network extending more than 50 km over the Rust hillsides, ranging from the vineyards to the stork meadow down to the lake, passing through all the rural scenic routes.

The lake itself has many resources for those seeking relaxation – you can enjoy the sound of the waves, the abundance of birds, explore the lakeshore in an electric boat or take a round-trip tour on one of the excursion boats. The wind conditions are perfect for sailing for novices, pros and everyone in between; you can absorb the far-off landscape or thrill to boating at top speed.



recuperate in Rust...





be active in Rust...

Rust has a large selection of leisure activities to satisfy every active vacationer. Its bay has become a Mecca for wind-surfers; the wind conditions are favourable and yet the bay is also sheltered in the surrounding reeds. When the wind is strong, the experienced are out in full force while the novices are daring their first attempts at the surfing school in the sheltered area.

The swimming area is also directly in Rust Bay. It combines the experience of swimming in Europe's largest steppe lake with the comfort of a heated open-air pool, suitable for even the youngest visitors, along with a children's pool, exciting slides and a beach-volleyball court.

Geographically, Rust's location is ideal as the starting point for extended bicycle tours. Innumerable, signposted bicycle paths crisscross the Rust Basin, where you can plan your rounds just as you wish, to the north, south, east or west – a short jaunt through the hills and vineyards or a challenging circumnavigation of Lake Neusiedl.

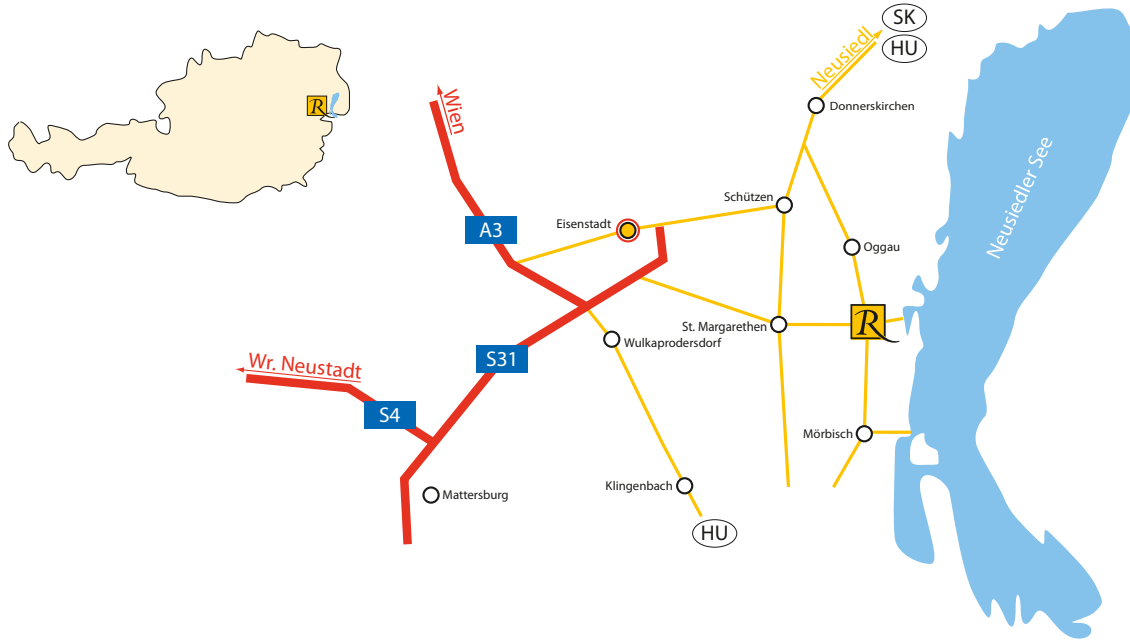
Rust's attractions continue throughout the winter. Come and skate on Lake Neusiedl as soon as the temperature drops – gliding pleasantly in the bay or making extensive rounds far from the shore – anything is possible.



...in the water
...on the beach
...playing sports



FREISTADT RUST • NEUSIEDLER SEE



Gäste-Information • A-7071 Rust • Rathaus - Conradplatz 1 • Tel.: +43 (0)2685/502 • Fax.: 502-10
Web: www.rust.at • E-Mail: info@rust.at



Páneurópai Piknik Sopron



Historical background

The year was 1989, the location was a borderless Austrian-Hungarian location (where the Pan-European Picnic is held today), the date was 19 August – at 3:00 p.m. the first Pan-European Picnic was organised, called up as a holiday common to all European countries. Prior to that official opening on that date, refugees from East Germany had appeared at the scene of the event, breaking through the boundary in waves. The Hungarian border police, abandoned by their superiors and “condemned to freedom,” did not hinder

the refugees; thus the first, truly spectacular action of the German reunification transpired. The border breakthrough, the exodus of the East German citizens, entailed a softening in the East German dictatorship's attitude toward the reunification of Germany and thus the reunification of Europe. Chancellor Helmut Kohl expressed his gratitude with the words, “Hungary has broken the first stone away from the Wall.”

The memorial site

The memorial site is accessible at any time; the greenery includes native plants, and visitors can admire various monuments ensuing from the breakthrough. The sights include Kopjafa (wooden spears), the bells of freedom, the memorial path at the border area, the watchtower of the border police and remnants of the Iron Curtain. Centrally placed on the memorial site is a group of sculptures by Melocco Miklós, erected to honour the 20th anniversary of the breakthrough and setting a monument to the Pan-European Picnic and

the Wende, the reunification of Germany. The work consists of a collapsed Classicistic building, with human forms striving toward freedom under its façade.

The memorial site and its vicinity are excellent for recreation and relaxation; whether by bicycle, in a car or even on foot, the site is easy to reach. It is located right on the former border, neighbouring Fertőrákos and between St. Margarethen and Sopronköhida.

Admission to the memorial site is free.