



the Gate to the Danube Wetlands

Schloss Orth –
Donau-Auen
National Park's
Visitor Centre 2011



schloss **ORTH** —
nationalpark
zentrum

Welcome to the Donau-Auen National Park's Visitor Centre!

Only 15 km from Vienna city limits!

Built in the 12th century as a medieval moated castle, Schloss Orth was once Crown Prince Rudolph's hunting lodge. It was converted to a museum in 1950, and its grand reopening took place in 2005 after extensive refurbishment and renovation.

Since 2005 the castle has been home to the National Park's visitor centre. The „DonAUräume“ exhibit, the Donau-Auen National Park wetlands grounds on the Schlossinsel, and the municipality of Orth on the Danube's museum ORTH are all located here.

We look forward to welcoming you here!

The National Park Team



Orth Castle looks back on a long and rich history.



The „DonAUräume“ exhibit will whet your appetite for exploring nature in the National Park.



A miniature version of the wetlands can be visited on the Schlossinsel.



The National Park Centre is the place to find out more about book excursions as well as guided tours.



The lookout point is the ideal place to get to know Orth's storks.



The Schloss Café has a variety of delicious treats on its menu.

National Park Exhibit DonAuräume

The Donau-Auen National Park's visitor centre is the first stop on the journey of discovery for the fascinating world of the Danube wetlands. On a hands-on guided tour through the „DonAuräume“ exhibit, National Park rangers

explain how both the wetlands forest and the National Park have come about.

In the Baroque „Au-Theatre“, or wetlands theatre, visitors can shape their own wetlands landscapes. A multimedia journey through time illuminates the history of the Donau-Auen National Park. Finally, walk on an aerial view map as big as a room which provides a unique overview of the National Park and sights in the surrounding region.



DonAuräume Guided Tours & Schlossinsel Tours

The „DonAuräume“ exhibit may only be visited as a guided tour with National Park rangers.

Tours may be taken on the hour during regular opening hours: at 10:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 1:00 p.m., 2:00 p.m., 3:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m.

The Schlossinsel and exhibitions in the castle's tower can be visited without a guide.

Prior reservations are not required.

- T** schlossORTH National Park Centre foyer
- ⏱** approx. 2,5 hours
- €** Adults € 9,90
Children and teens up to 19 years,
students (up to 27 years) and apprentices € 5,50
Seniors € 8,90
Family Pass (2 adults, 2 children) € 20,-
Season Pass € 19,-; Family Season Pass € 39,-
Ticket Partner of the 2011 Lower Austrian Provincial
Exhibition

Discounts for:



Styrian Family Pass, Neusiedlersee Card, Bratislava Card, VIP Club Philatelie



Schlossinsel Wetlands Grounds

Tour the grounds and discover up close flora and fauna characteristic of the wetlands, including the European Pond Turtle, snakes, frogs, insects and European ground squirrels. The walk-in underwater observatory makes it possible to glimpse the huge variety of aquatic life in a



Danube backwater. There are many places to sit, relax and relish the idyllic atmosphere. Take time to explore and enjoy this compact version of a wetlands landscape – the experience is sure to whet your appetite for more.

For children, the Schlossinsel features a suspension bridge, a short nature path, and an oversized bird's nest to play in.

On the Schlossinsel (without a guide)

- ⏱ approx. 1 hour
- € Adults € 4,-
Children and teens up to 19 years, students (up to 27 years) and apprentices € 3,-
Group (10 or more), € 3,- per person
Family Pass € 8,-
Season Pass € 9,-
Family Season Pass € 18,-



The Austrian National Forests, or ÖBf, have put the Schlossinsel grounds at our disposal at no cost.

Schlossinsel „Wetlands Experience“ Guided Tour

Explore the Schlossinsel with National Park rangers. Learn lots of interesting things about the plant and animal habitats of the wetlands. Sundays and holidays starting at 1:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m., respectively. Prior reservations are not required.

- ⏱ approx. 1,5 hours
- € Adults € 6,-
Children and teens up to 19 years, students (up to 27 years) and apprentices € 4,-, with NÖ-Card € 2,-

Guided Tours on Specific Themes:

- Sunday 27 March 2011: **Blackbird, Thrush, Finch and Starling**
- Sunday 10 April 2011: **The Wetlands Chemist's Mother's Day in the Animal Kingdom** (free for moms!)
- Sunday 8 May 2011: **Follow Your Nose!**
- Sunday 12 June 2011: **Follow Your Nose!**

Please keep in mind that dogs are not allowed on the Schlossinsel or in the exhibit „DonAuräume“.

Sunday 10 July 2011:

Aquatic Hunters and Tree Climbers: A Look at Native Snakes

Sunday 7 August 2011:

The European Pond Turtle: Once a Fasting Food, Now an Endangered Species

Sunday 18 Sep 2011:

The Mythology and Magic of Trees

Sunday 16 Oct 2011:

In the Realm of Danubius



1 May: Family Celebration „Discovering and Exploring the Donau-Auen National Park“

There is so much to discover in the Donau-Auen National Park: from the tiniest of aquatic creatures to the tracks of the beaver. On 1 May, the castle courtyard of the



schlossORTH National Park Centre is turned into a research laboratory.

Equipped with nets, guidebooks, binoculars, magnifying glasses and microscopes, visitors embark on a treasure hunt for living organisms of the wetlands forest.

There are many colourful arts & crafts stations along the way – everyone can take part!

- 🕒 from 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
- € Adults € 4,-, children under 12 free

4 September: Danube Festival

DANUBEPARKS – Danube river network of protected areas – was founded in order to enhance cooperation and exchange among the various conservation areas along the Danube.

At this big Danube Festival partners from eight different Danube countries are on hand to present their natural treasures, traditions, culture, music and dances. Danube region specialities such as different kinds of fish soups in kettles will be a culinary highlight.

To round out the programme there will be many activities for kids, including stations where they can learn more about each different country along the Danube.

- 🕒 from 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
- € Adults € 4,-, children under 12 free



Special Exhibition 2011 – Photographs of the Rumanian Danube Delta

After flowing for over 2,800 kilometres, the Danube finally reaches the Black Sea. The mouth of the river in this region forms Europe's largest wetlands area. Precious natural



habitats are being protected: the Danube Delta is a centre of biodiversity, with over 30 different types of habitats and any number of endangered species. For example, the delta is home to Europe's largest pelican colony. This exhibition features magnificent photographs of this impressive and moving landscape.

Admission included as part of a visit to the National Park Centre.

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museumORTH – Life on the River

The museumORTH is a gateway to the past. Its memorable exhibits present the cultural history of the region with a focus on life on the Danube.

Facilities in the museum's west wing may be booked throughout the year for various types of events.

museumORTH

21 March to 30 Sep 2011: daily from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
1 October to 1 Nov 2011: daily from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.



- ⌚ Approx. 1 hour
- € Adults € 5,-
Children and teens up to 19 years, students (up to 27 years) and apprentices € 4,-
Family Pass (2 adults, 2 children) € 12,-
Tour Contribution € 2,-, Fischer Chapel € 1,-
Ticket Partner of the 2011 Lower Austrian Provincial Exhibition



9 and 10 April 2011: Orth Wild Garlic Days
9 October 2011: Fairy-tale Castle and Magic Isle

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Opening Hours schlossORTH National Park Centre:

21 March – 30 September 2011:
daily from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
1 October – 1 November 2011:
daily from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Closed for winter from 2 November
2011 to 20 March 2012.
For enquiries and bookings by
phone: Monday to Friday from 8:00
a.m. to 1:00 p.m.



Directions:

- By car: take the B3
- By public transportation: take the Post Bus from Vienna/Kagran (Tel. +43(0)1/71101)
- By shared taxi from Gross-Enzersdorf („Sammeltaxi AST“, Tel. +43(0)810 810278; or „Sammeltaxi Orth“, Tel. +43(0)676/70424408)
- On Bicycle: take the „Donauradweg“ (Danube Cycling Path); junction only 5 minutes away

schlossORTH National Park Centre

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MIT UNTERSTÜTZUNG VON BUND UND EUROPÄISCHER UNION



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für die Entwicklung des ländlichen
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den ländlichen Raum.

