



EUROPEAN KINSHIP MEETING AUSTRIA SEPTEMBER 6-10, 2018

WELCOME to VIENNA – YOU are INVITED!

I am very happy to invite you to come to „my“ beautiful City!

For our EKM 2018 we will stay at “Don Bosco Haus”, a Center of Continuing Education, located in the 13th district of Vienna. This place is owned and operated by the “Salesians of Don Bosco”, an international religious (catholic) community of consecrated men and women which is active in over 131 countries worldwide.

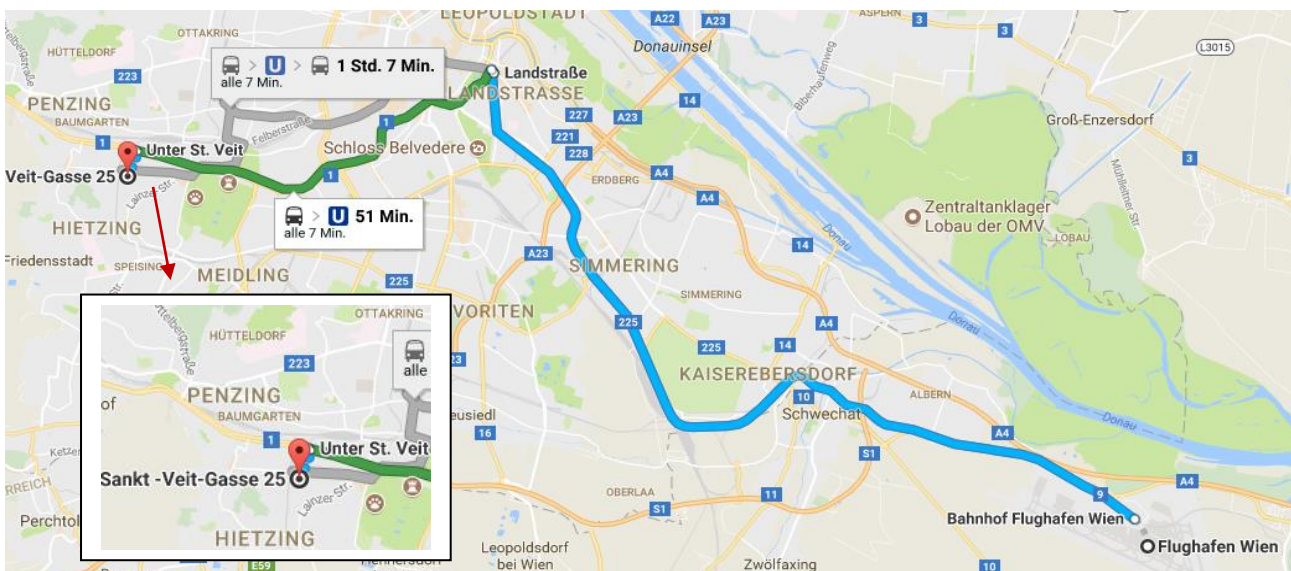
The center provides a nice meeting room for our group, a comfy place to sleep, food for vegetarians and meat eaters and very calm surroundings, which promise a very pleasant and relaxing stay (<http://www.donboscohaus.at/>).

Due to an excellent system of public transportation in Vienna, our quarters are only 25 minutes from the center of town.

Vienna is huge (not so much in expansion as in historical sites) and has a lot to offer. I would recommend a chat with Prof. Google to find out the most interesting things you definitely want to see or do, as we plan a sightseeing trip on Sunday. I will also pick up some special offers for you which I will explain in detail when we get there.

But first of all – how to get to “Don Bosco Haus” ...

... from Vienna International Airport (VIE) via public transportation:



“Wiener Linien” is the name of the local public transport system. See their homepage (tab for English): <https://www.wienerlinien.at/eportal3/ep/tab.do?tabId=0>. I will provide detailed information on ticketing and which lines to take (bus + subway) as we get closer to the date.

... from Airport Bratislava (BTS) via public transportation:

Vienna and Bratislava (Slovakia) are “Twin Cities”. Both capitals are only about 65 kilometers apart. There are good connections by train, bus or boat on a regular schedule.

The Bratislava Airport (<https://www.bts.aero/en/>) is located in some distance from Vienna, but many cheap flights go there. This might be an alternative to travel to Vienna. Bratislava is one of the smaller capitals of Europe, but a nice city worth visiting. If you want to stop over, plan on half a day or one day maximum. You might enjoy an inexpensive meal and a walk around town.

As there are so many connections, nearly every company has different options and offers to get to Vienna. Have a look yourself, and see if it’s worthwhile considering costs and time. Some helpful websites on traveling from Bratislava to Vienna:

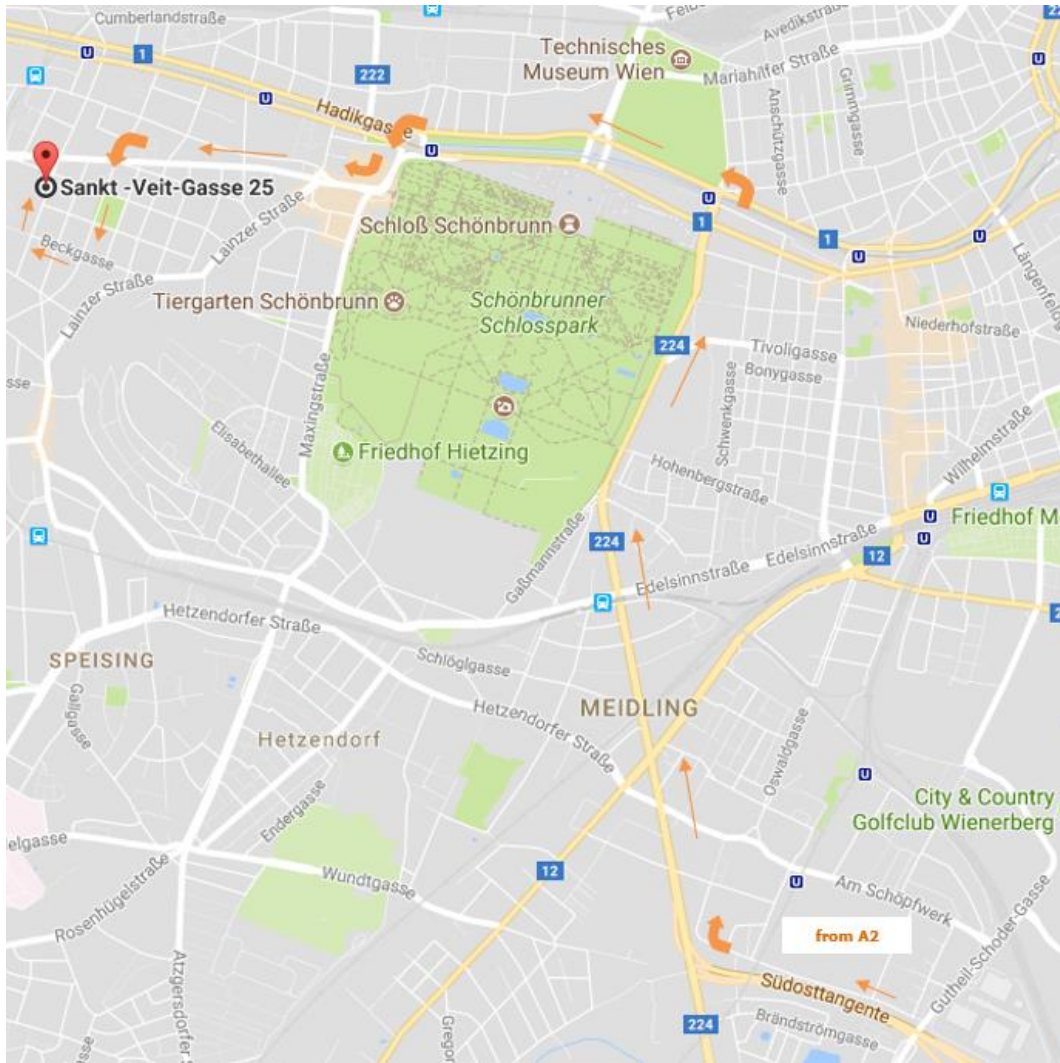
- Bus search engine: <https://www.busradar.com/?currency=EUR>
- Railway Slovakia: http://www.zsr.sk/anglicky.html?page_id=124
- Railway Austria: <https://www.oebb.at/en/>
- Boat connection: <https://twincityliner.com/en>

... by car:

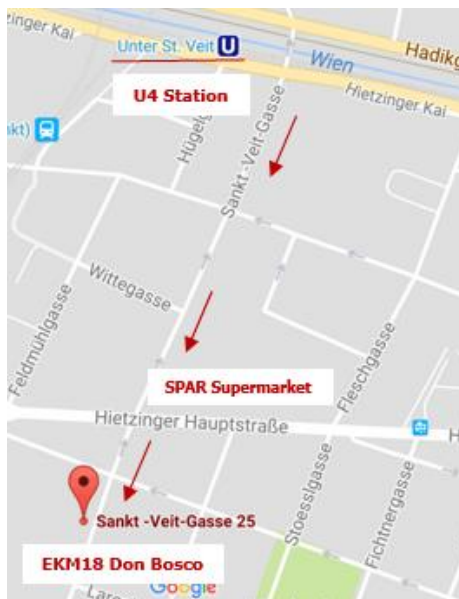
You could take freeway A1 “Westautobahn”:



... or you could take freeway A2 “Südbahn”:



... by walking from the subway station:



Don Bosco Haus | Sankt-Veit-Gasse 25 | 1130 Vienna | Austria

From the U4 subway station “Unter St. Veit” it is a 10 min walk along “Sankt-Veit-Gasse” up to No. 25.

Some more information about Vienna and Don Bosco Haus: Vienna is a very safe city. Don Bosco Haus is located in a nice well-to-do neighborhood in the district called “Hietzing”, only about a 10-min. train-ride away from the world-famous castle “Schönbrunn”.

During our breaks you might enjoy a walk in the nearby park or the surrounding area.

Arrival: Rooms are available at 3 pm. If you get there earlier, you may drop your luggage and meet others for a cup of coffee or go for a walk

Supper: Our first meal is supper at 6 pm – 7 pm. Please let us know, if you will be arriving later, so we can speak to the kitchen personal about saving food for you.

Bedrooms: All rooms are 3-bed rooms. They can be booked as single- or double rooms, or even for three people, if you wish. So, if you book a single room you have three beds to choose from... great, isn't it? 😊

Meeting room: From Thursday through Saturday we have our own meeting room. For Sunday and Monday morning we might have to move to a different room, as we plan on having only short meetings then.

WIFI: Free WIFI (WLAN) in all bedrooms as well as in the meeting rooms.

Cafeteria: The Don Bosco Cafeteria provides coffee, tea, cake and other beverages. During breaks this might just be your place to be (you order at your own expense).

...Enjoy EKM in Vienna 😊

We hope to welcome you in Vienna for an enjoyable and blessed time together

Thomas

Some additional information:

Speaker (update): Due to unforeseen, annoying circumstances, very much to Jean-Luc Rolland's regret, he had to revoke his commitment to be our speaker at this year's EKM. That's the bad news – in more than one way...!

The good news is that Reinder Bruinsma was able and agreed on short notice to fill in for Jean-Luc Rolland. Reinder Bruinsma was our speaker at our EKM in Holland in 2010 and has been a strong supporter of the KINSHIP community ever since:

"I am Dutch, born in 1942 and living with my wife Aafje in Zeewolde, the Netherlands. For more than forty years I worked for the Seventh-day Adventist Church in various assignments and several countries. The main areas of my denominational activities were: publishing, education and church administration. I served as the executive secretary of the Trans-European Division and as the president of the Netherlands Union.

I retired the first time in January 2008. From September 2011 to early 2013 I went back to work and served as the interim-president of the Adventist Church in Belgium and Luxembourg.

Over the years I have authored more than twenty books and hundreds of articles, in Dutch as well as in English. I continue to be active in writing, preaching and teaching seminars in The Netherlands and elsewhere.

My mostly weekly blog can be found at <http://reinderbruinsma.com/>."

We are happy to have the privilege to welcome Reinder Bruinsma with his wife in Vienna in September!

Program: We are working on a nice program for you. Details will be announced in time.

Questions: If you have questions, please contact Thomas, Frieder or Ingrid at sda-kinship-ekm-2018@online.de
Registered persons will be added to the EKM 2018 WhatsApp group – if they wish – to receive updated news whenever there is more to share.

Holidays:

At this point we cannot give you any information about the holiday location yet. Most likely it will be close to Vienna.

We are very much looking forward to welcoming you and your friends in Vienna. Since this might be a once-in-a-lifetime chance, we are expecting many attendees! So, don't wait too long to register!