

Nasushiobara & Linz

Learn more about Summer Music Festivals in this YouTube video.



Music in the Middle of the Town



Donauinselfest
© Alexander Müller

In Austria, there are many opportunities to enjoy music for free in Summer. The most famous ones are the open air music festival “Donauinselfest” or the classical “Summer Night Concert” of the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra at the Schönbrunn Castle in the capital Vienna. There are concerts in Linz too, like the “Musikpavillon” (Wednesday through Sunday from the beginning of June to the middle of August) or the “Linzer Klangwolke” which takes place at the International Brucknerfest Linz. At the festival “Pflasterspektakel”, you can enjoy music and many other kinds of street performances in the old city center. You can really feel the “connecting power” of music in the public space through the project “Open Piano for

Refugees”, which started in 2016.

The most famous ones

Refugees”, which started in 2016.

The Austrians Nico Schwendinger and Udo Felizeter started the project after they were inspired by a street piano they saw during a visit to Ukraine in 2015. For the “Open Piano for Refugees” they provide a piano at different cities in Europe. Anyone is allowed to play. At that time, they put up a collection box. They use the money that is collected to give music classes to refugees and other people who don’t have the money to pay for music classes.



Open Piano for Refugees
© Nico Schwendinger

Nasushiobara City is also planning to

use the power of the piano for a project to connect us to our sister city Linz in the future.

Sustainable Development Goals = 17 sustainable development goals in the 2030 Agenda of the United Nations



SDGs Corner: BOKU University & Japan



Japanese Ambassador (left), Rector of BOKU University (Center) © BOKU Medienstelle/Christoph Gruber

The Austrian BOKU University (Universität für **B**oden**k**ultur Wien/ University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna) has an exchange with Japan in many areas such as natural disasters or chemistry. They have had a partnership with Kyoto University’s Faculty for Agriculture for 30 years. They also work together with Kyoto Prefectural University and Shinshu University. Shinshu University is doing a lot of research in life sciences, sustainability and renewable resources just like BOKU University. They have a program with mutual visits between the universities. There is also a joint research with Tokyo University and Kobe University which has continued for 10 years.

In their research they compare the sustainable development and other topics in the rural areas of both countries. Both countries are similar in points like geography or economical history and are working towards the SDGs. BOKU University wants to develop a deeper relationship with Japan.



Here, you can watch the lecture meeting “BOKU and Japan – Cooperation in Past and Future” which took place on April 14, 2022.

The activities of Advantage Austria (Austrian Embassy – Commercial Section) are introduced on their homepage.



People: Ingomar Lochschmidt



“In order to advance the friendship [...], we want to promote new commercial projects.”

About Advantage Austria

Advantage Austria is Austria’s official TPO (Trade Promotion Organization). We have around 100 offices around the world and help Austrian businesses with their foreign trade. In Japan, we look after nearly 1000 Austrian companies with individual consultation about



Meeting with Mayor Watanabe (March 2022)

market entry, marketing, sourcing products and services as well as media relations. We introduce technology in both directions, host trade fairs and exhibitions, and much more. Personally, I have been working as the Head of our Tokyo office for 6 years now, but I have experience working at many different posts in Asia, Europe and South America since the 1980s.

Relations to Nasushiobara

I first learned about Nasushiobara right after arriving in Japan. Its sister city Linz in Upper Austria is something like to a second home town for me, because I grew up close to Linz. My friendship with the Austrian great-grandson of Foreign Minister Aoki further increased my interest in Nasushiobara. I was not only impressed by the beautiful landscape, but much more than that, by the open and friendly temper of the city’s people. When I invited the Paralympic swimmer Mr. Andreas Onea to Japan for an Advantage Austria event, he was looking for a place for his swimming training, and the City of Nasushiobara was so kind to immediately invite our top athlete. This was the foundation for a deep friendship

between Andreas and many people in Nasushiobara, especially young people.

A look into the future

In Austria it is often said that a prospering economy is an important foundation for the well-being of the whole population. In order to advance the friendship between Nasushiobara and Linz, the friendship between Japan and Austria, we want to promote new commercial projects. Austria is known worldwide not only for brands like Red Bull and Swarovski, but also for our high tech industries, environmental technologies, sustainable energy usage, our tourism schools, promotion of rural development... all of which are areas in which we are collaborating more and more.



Austria’s President Van der Bellen (center), Mr. Lochschmidt (right), Mr. Onea (2nd from the right) and other Austrian athletes

Nasushiobara & Linz

Panel Exhibition
(Homepage of
Nasushiobara City)



Lively Exchange

Sat, April 9, 2022 Opening Ceremony /Aoki Shūzō

Panel Exhibition

The “Aoki Shūzō Panel Exhibition” was held at the Old Aoki Family’s Nasu Villa from April 9 to May 8, 2022. The Panel Exhibition was a celebratory event of the anniversary “160 Years of German-Japanese Friendship”. During the exhibition, 1727 people visited the villa.

At the opening ceremony, the Minister, Deputy Chief of Mission of the German Embassy Dr. Vietze gave an opening speech. He was happy that the exhibition introduced Aoki Shūzō, who was a pioneer in the friendship of both countries. Nasushiobara city’s Mayor and Mr. Salm-Reifferscheidt also held speeches. The performances of Aoki Elementary School’s fife and drum corps and Ms. Yuri Esashi’s violin performance made the opening ceremony especially festive.



Minister, Deputy Chief of Mission Dr. Vietze



Panel Exhibition



Aoki ES students



Violin performance

Mr. Niklas Salm-Reifferscheidt’s Visit



Mr. Salm-Reifferscheidt provided materials from the Aoki Family Collection in Steyregg Castle for the Aoki Shūzō Panel Exhibition. He was one of the organizers and has visited Nasushiobara again after a long time. Other than the opening ceremony, he visited the mayor of Nasushiobara and Aoki Elementary School. He met with people involved in the Exchange Program for Junior High School Students which started in 2005 after his visit in Nasushiobara, as well as with members of the Nasushiobara International Association and talked about the past and the future.

I met Mr. Salm during his visit at Aoki Elementary School three years ago, at Austria Festa and now for the third time. I was deeply moved by his heartfelt respect for his ancestor Aoki Shūzo and by his feeling of kinship for Aoki’s homeland Japan and Nasushiobara, which Aoki had loved and developed.

Thank you, Mr. Niklas Salm!

(Chairman of the Nasushiobara International Association)



Meeting with the Nasushiobara International Association

CANCELLED

Event Information ☆ Austria Booth at the Summer Festival

Visit the Austria Booth at the Summer Festival

- ◆Time: Sat, August 27, 2022 11 AM to 7 PM
- ◆Place: In front of Nishinasuno Station ◆Anyone can participate
- ◆Organizer: Nishinasuno Chamber of Commerce and Industry

At the Austria Booth we will introduce the taste, tourism spots and our exchange activities with Austria!

The Austrian goods were introduced to us by Advantage Austria



The photos are for illustration purposes only.

Nasushiobara & Linz

You can change the amount and kinds of herbs as you like!

Let's make ☆ Herbal Lemonade

In Austria, carbonated drinks are popular. For example, there is lemonade made from herbs from the Alps. We made a lemonade inspired by this!

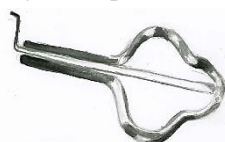
Ingredients (for two): 300ml apple juice, fresh herbs (2 twigs /3g of mint, 2 twigs/3 g of lemon balm, 2 twigs/2g of thyme), ginger (approx. 1cm), 150ml sparkling water, 1/4th lemon

Preparation: (1) Rinse and drain the herbs. Put them on a chopping board and slightly crush with a rolling pin. (2) Put the apple juice, the herbs and the peeled ginger in a pot and bring it to a boil over medium heat. (3) Remove the pot from the stove and let it cool, then put it in the refrigerator for 12 hours. (4) Strain the herbs and mix the lemonade with the sparkling water in a 2:1 ratio.



Q Which instrument is not used in Austrian folk music?

A: jaw harp



B: zither



C: harmonica



D: bansuri



See Answer below

Culture Corner: Swimming Badges



The Levels 1-4 of Austrian swimming badges

Have you ever gotten a swimming badge before? When you learn swimming in Austria, you can take an exam and get a “Swimmer’s badge”. There are four levels (you can see them on the left). Many people take the first and second level tests after practicing in their swimming lessons in elementary school. Every level has a required age limit and skills you need to pass. The skills could be something like “swimming for 15 minutes without break”, “swimming backstroke without using your arms” or “knowing the 10 rules for swimming”. If you pass the exam, you get a pin badge and a fabric badge that you can fasten to your swimming clothes. These badges are used everywhere in Austria. The “Working Committee of the Austrian Water Rescue Sector” is in charge of the badges. The goal is for each person to improve their skill level and to improve safety in general. Austria doesn’t have an ocean, but in summer time many people go swimming in the lakes. People who are 13 years or older can try to get the “Life Guard Badges”. There are 5 life guard levels (3 levels for life saving and 2 levels for teachers).

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Homepage (Past issues D/E/J):

<https://www.city.nasushiobara.lg.jp/soshikikarasagasu/shiminkyodosuishinka/shiminsankaku/kokusaikouryuu/3/4240.html>



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Answer: D. The bansuri is an Indian instrument.