



Stories

from past times



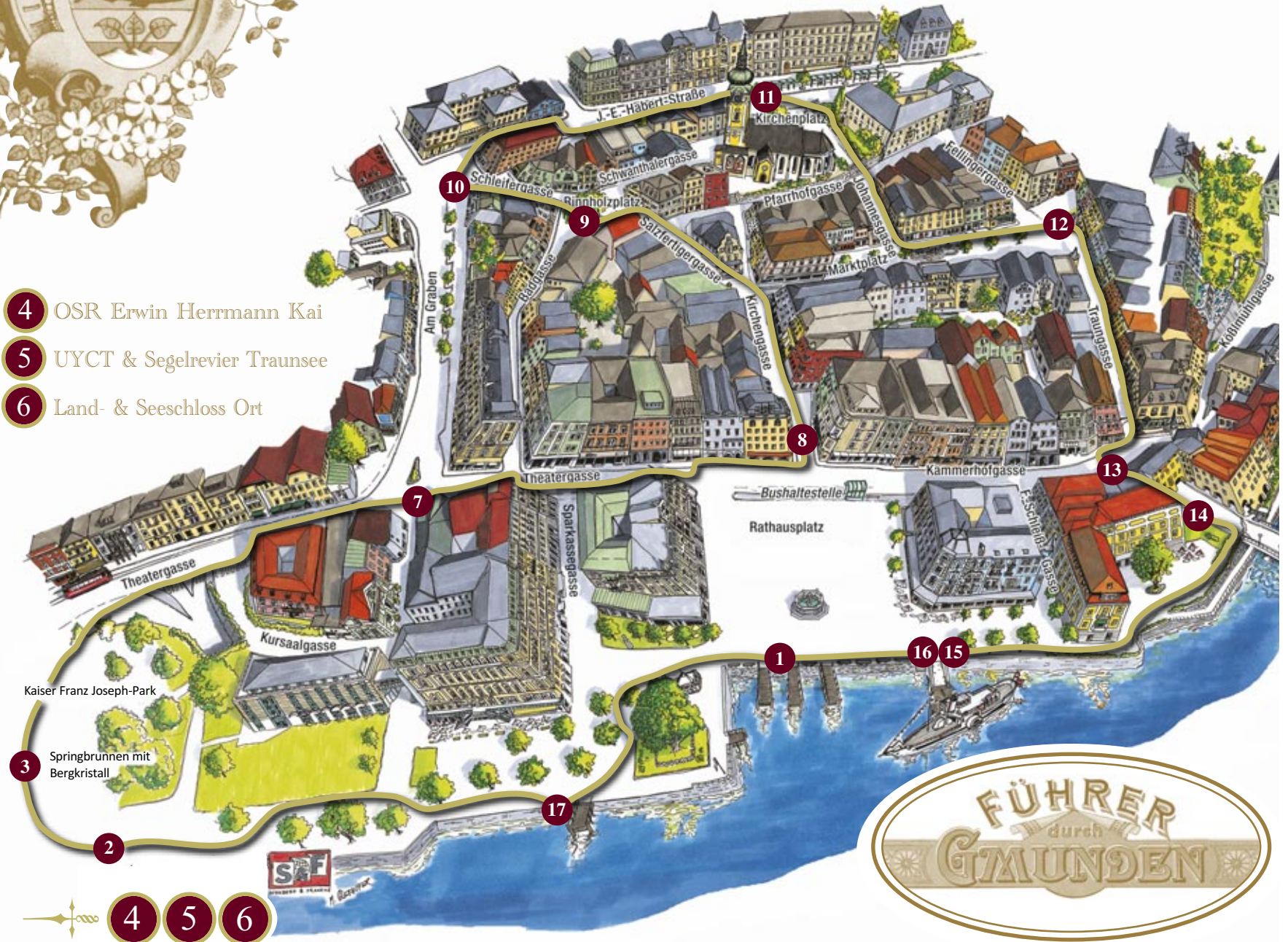
A historical guide
through Gmunden
Old Town





k.k. plan sketch coloured by hand
 Old town themed walk with extended trails nos. 4, 5 and 6

- 4 OSR Erwin Herrmann Kai
- 5 UYCT & Segelrevier Traunsee
- 6 Land- & Seeschloss Ort



17 excellent Informations Boards for your kind attention!

Dear guests and those interested in the history of Gmunden!

The town of Gmunden and the Traunsee Almtal tourism association provide you with a guide that invites you to take a walk through our enchanting old town.

Starting from the Seeschloss Ort, this architecture is steeped in history. Years of history. The brochure is full of old engravings, photos and stories from history. Many traditional buildings and sights, Gmunden's landmarks and notice boards are threaded along this route. Signs are threaded along this route.

If you would like to dive even deeper into the historical roots, you take more time to visit the K-Hof Museums. The entrance to the K-Hof Museums is right next to the station sign No. 13 Kammerhofgasse near the Traun gates.

We wish you interesting and enjoyable hours on the traces of Gmunden's history!



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salzkammergut

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- 1 The "Rathausplatz"
- 2 The "Esplanade"
- 3 Kaiser Franz-Joseph-Park
- 4 OSR Erwin Herrmann Kai
- 5 UYCT Yacht Club Traunsee
- 6 The castles Ort, land and lake
- 7 Theatergasse
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- 15 Paddle Steamer "Gisela"
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① The “Rathausplatz” A square steeped in history of trade and power



The “Rathausplatz” (Town Hall Square), Carl Ritter, about 1865.



The “Rathausplatz” today, Mediterranean lifestyle in Gmunden town centre.

The “Rathausplatz”, formerly known as the “Lower Square” or the “Lower Market Square”, once covered the area from the “Trauntor” (Traun Gate), now the Kammerhofgasse, to the “Christophstor” (Christopher’s Gate), now known as Stadttheater/Theatergasse. Since 1st May 1839 it has been the dock for the Traunsee fleet which takes numerous people to the places of interest along the banks of the Traunsee, the neighbouring towns and the most southern end of the Traunsee. From 1835 to 1871 the “Rathausplatz” was the terminal for the freight cars of the horse-drawn railway, Budweis - Linz - Gmunden, which transported the salt. The longboats carrying the salt were unloaded here, and the blocks of salt were temporarily stored in the salt cellar



Pic. An early salt carrying boat



of the Gmunden Town Hall and subsequently loaded onto the freight cars of the horse-drawn railway. The present Gmunden Town Hall was built in 1574 and extended in 1676. There is a chime made of Meissen China decorated with the typical Gmunden “Green Stripes”, dating back to 1959. In 1874, the waters of the lake still reached as far as a few metres from the Town Hall. It was not until that year that the banking up of the lake bed was started, in order to extend the “Rathausplatz”. The construction of the Schubert Square and the erection of the stone lake wall were completed in 1884.

Quiz Question

Which building known since imperial times houses the porcelain carillon? - Tip: If you are standing in front of the board, turn sharply to the right.



The “Rathausplatz” in the direction of Kammerhofgasse about 1910.



The “Rathausplatz” and the freight cars of the horse-drawn railway, about 1867.

 To the next information board no. 2

Go lakeside about 200 m along the Esplanade to the next information board no. 2 “The Esplanade”.

② The “Esplanade” An impressive lakeside promenade since imperial times



Casino or Spa, Carl Ritter, about 1868.



The Esplanade today, meeting place for young and old, for a walk by the Traunsee.

The building of the Gmunden Esplanade by banking up the lake bed was started during the winter months of 1850/51 and was not completed until 1862. Since then, this unique lake promenade has been a popular walk for guests and local people who can enjoy the magnificent views from here. From 1867 to 1868 the Gmunden Casino was built on the site of the former “Fasslhaus” (Barrel House) from plans by the engineer Franz Schuppler.

This served as a meeting place for the international Gmunden spa society and as a venue for public functions. In 1898, a 50 meter long extension with a small tower was built onto the “Cursalon”. On the ground floor there was a large concert hall,



and a dining room. Unfortunately, in 24th March 1941, the Gmunden Kurhaus burnt down and was never re-erected. In 1874 also designed by Franz Schuppler, the Hotel Austria, was opened next to the casino. It offered its guests 100 rooms appointed to the highest standards as well as salt water and pine essence baths.



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Quiz Question

Turn towards Lake Traunsee, let your gaze glide across the lake from left to right - which famous moated castle catches your eye?



Hotel Austria, on the left the Casino about 1880.

Casino or Spa about 1900.

 To the next information board no. 3

Go lakeside about 60 m along the Esplanade to the next information board no. 3 “Kaiser Franz-Joseph-Park”.

③ Kaiser Franz-Joseph-Park ≈ “The Gnome with the Mountain Crystal”



„Seestadt“ in Gmunden, Carl Ritter, about 1868.



The “Kaiser Franz-Joseph-Park” today, pause and relax as in Imperial times.

Up until 1850, the waters of the Traunsee reached as far as where the houses along “Franz-Joseph-Platz” and Café Grellinger are now standing. The banking up of the lake bed began in 1851. During the winter months of 1888/89 the square was considerably extended and a double row of chestnut trees was planted.



It was named “Kaiser Franz-Joseph-Platz” with the permission of the monarch in 1890. In the winter months of 1893 this square was extended out towards the lake, and this work was further continued in the winter months of 1893/94, linking the Schubert Square to the Town Hall Square.

Pic. Bust of Emperor Franz-Joseph I. by Heinrich Natter.

This reclaimed land was used to create a magnificent park with a fountain, but it was not until 1953 with the much photographed and admired sculpture “The Gnome with the Mountain Crystal”, by the sculptor Heinrich Natter of the emperor, Archduke Franz official inauguration of the monument (designed by Heinrich



that the fountain was adorned with the much photographed and admired sculpture “The Gnome with the Mountain Crystal”, by the sculptor Heinrich Natter of the emperor, Archduke Franz official inauguration of the monument (designed by Heinrich

Quiz



Question

What is the name of the sculpture which is to be found on the fountain in Emperor Franz-Joseph-Park?



Official inauguration of the Kaiser Franz-Joseph-Monument on 16th June 1894.



Fountain in the “Kaiser Franz-Joseph-Park” about 1895.

To the next information board no. 7 or 4, 5, 6

Walk through the park towards the city theater. At the entrance on the left, you will find the next information board no. 7 “Stadttheater-Theatergasse”. Or alternately continue along the Esplanade on the extended trail to information board no. 4 OSR Erwin Herrmann Kai, no. 5 UYCT & Traunsee - Yacht Club & no. 6 Castle Ort.

④ OSR Erwin Herrmann Quay ≈ The extension of the Esplanade in Gmunden



Gmunden Esplanade around 1904 with water taxis.



OSR Erwin Herrmann Quay with attached sailing school.

After having been completed in 1867 the Esplanade was first lit up with petroleum lamps after 5 years. An extension and widening was realised in the winter months 1890/91. In 1893 a band stand was built for the spa guests of the town (today coffee shop Baumgarnter) and directly opposite a café pavilion was erected. A



Pic. Gmudens boats hirers badge.

further extension of 9.5 m was realised in the winter months 1896/97 and a widening with an ashlar construction and Iron Gate completed.

As from 12th October 1904 the esplanade was electrically lighted. Across from the Franz Joseph Park the water taxis had their main stand and had to pay a quarterly rent of 2 guilders to the council.

Gmunden's spa guests were able to take short boat trips to the surrounding villages and restaurants on the lake. The attraction of the esplanade enticed the town council to plan a further extension towards the But it wasn't until 1991 severance and vision of Erwin Herrmann, that, extension of this focal completed. For this on 12th December 2013 unanimously ruled, that this section of the esplanade be called "OSR Erwin Herrmann Quay".



Pic. OSR Erwin Herrmann

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Quiz Question

Under the reign of which Mayor was the extension of the Esplanade finally completed?

To the next information board no. 5



View esplanade Gmunden around 1867.



View of the café pavilion on the esplanade around 1900.

Continue along the esplanade for approx. 40 m to the so called painter's corner. Here you will find information board no. 5 Yacht Club & sailing area Lake Traunsee.

⑤ UYCT Yacht Club Traunsee Sailing Area Lake Traunsee



Official post card with image of the club house around 1921.



Today's club house with modern piers and slip ways.

Lake Traunsee is the easternmost of the four larger Salzkammergut lakes, which are now used as sailing areas, and the most scenic of them all. In fair weather, the low wind should pick up from the north around midday and reach the entire lake with even consistency. The counterpart is the upper wind, which provides a sometimes strong southerly wind at night until the morning hours. Westerly winds occur relatively rarely and only in bad weather. Dangerous thunderstorm winds are the Viechtauer, which suddenly blows in from the south-west, and the Moargodern, which blows from the north-east, although the latter can also be a strong fair-weather wind from the same direction that lasts for days.



Pic.: Sketch UYCT Racing Class 1924..



Prize giving photo of the 6er "wind game XVIII" by Viktor Thausing sen. 1932.



The founders of the club in front of a boat house in the bay of Gmunden 1890.

The yacht club in Gmunden was founded in 1888 by the Englishman Edward Drory, and the club's first regatta was held on August 11th 1889. In 1905, Emperor Franz Josef authorized the Union Yacht Club to use the red-white-red shield with the Habsburg crown above it on background. The club-completed in 1914 but could not be inaugurated due to the start of the war, is located in one of the most beautiful places in Gmunden at the end of the Esplanade at the so-called. Malerwinkel. In its 3rd century, the club represents the spectrum of sailing sports from from top-class sport to intensive youth work and disabled sport.



Pic.: Standard UYCT

Quiz Question

What is the name of the wind around lunch time which is very challenging for sailors?

 To the next information board no. 6

Turn right, walk along the esplanade on the lake side for approx. 150 m and turn left onto the access road to the Ort castles. Continue towards the Seeschloss Ort bridge, you will find information board no. 6 at the beginning of the bridge on the left.

⑥ The castles Ort, land and lake The history of its rulers



Carl Ritter, land and lake castles ort 1865.



Today's view of the castle shows one of the most important landmarks in the region.

The castles Ort have had many owners in the cause of its long history (see information board no. 6). A 130 m long wooden bridge brings you into the renaissance inner courtyard of the lake castle, which is owned by the town council of Gmunden since 1995 (In 1915 the castles were given to the Austrian Forestry Commission).

On the left hand side of the inner courtyard you will find flood markings (formerly Göß Höh) meaning that the flood in 1594 reached a height of 2,97m in the courtyard of the castle, thus reaching the upper step of the stairway.

The chapel is devoted to the Holy Jacob. The castle tower, which more or less hides the chapel tower, is dated 1092.

A clue to the construction of the Lake Castle and its chapel. The altar picture shows Maria ascension with Jacob the elder, the church patron participating. Whilst the form of the lake castle remained unchanged over the years, the land castle was rebuilt by Archduke Johann Nepomuk Salvator giving it, its current form.

He had the coat of arms of the rulers of Ort painted onto the left walls in the court yard of the castle and had an ornate iron fountain erected in its centre as well as various reconstructions within the castle. He set sail for South America with his ship "St. Margaret" and was lost at sea; the last message home was on 12th July 1890.

Quiz Question

How many towers does Lake Castle Ort have?

To the next information board no. 7

Walk back along the esplanade towards the city center to the Stadttheater/intersection Theatergasse/Am Graben. At the entrance to the Stadttheater, you will find information board no. 7 on the history of the Stadttheater and Theatergasse on the left.



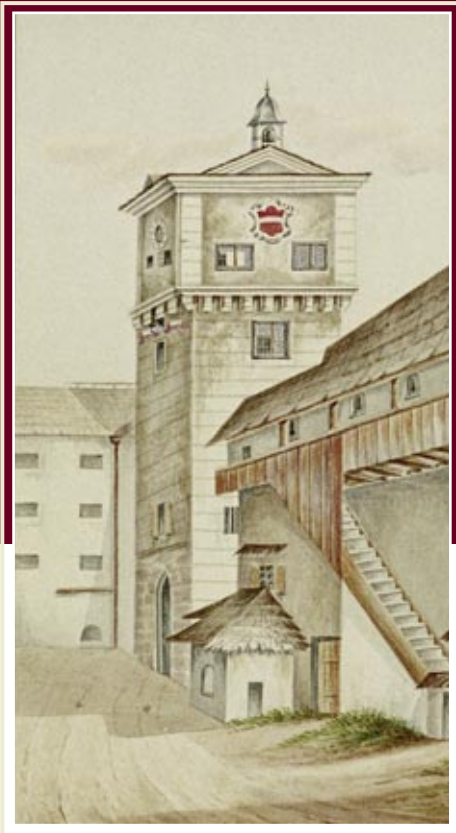
Lake Castle Ort with wooden bridge 130m, view from the land castle around 1900.



View of the castle's Ort from the Kalvarienberg hill, painter Andreas Roth 1916.

7 Theatergasse

Summer holiday, Opera, Operetta in Imperial times



"Christophsturm" tower, Carl Ritter, 1867.



In the year 1871/72, the theatre director, Josef M. Kotsky, had a prestigious theatre built

at his own cost, designed by Franz Schuppler, on the former site of the salt cellar near the Christopher Tower. Here he could offer his sophisticated international spa guests, who often spent many weeks in Gmunden,

a varied programme of opera, operetta, theatre and comedy, from June to September each year. Many famous actors and singers from the imperial court theatre and opera and other Viennese theatres made guest appearances.



The "Theatergasse" today, the main business centre of Gmunden.

One outstanding occasion in the eventful history of the Gmunden Theatre was the Austrian premier of Schnitzler's play "Freiwild (Fair Game)", on 22nd July 1897, in the presence of the author.

Saisontheater in Gmunden.

Direktion: Hans Glar.

Quiz  Question

What is the name of the famous Austrian author, who was present as a spectator by the premiere of his play "Freiwild".

To the next information board no. 8

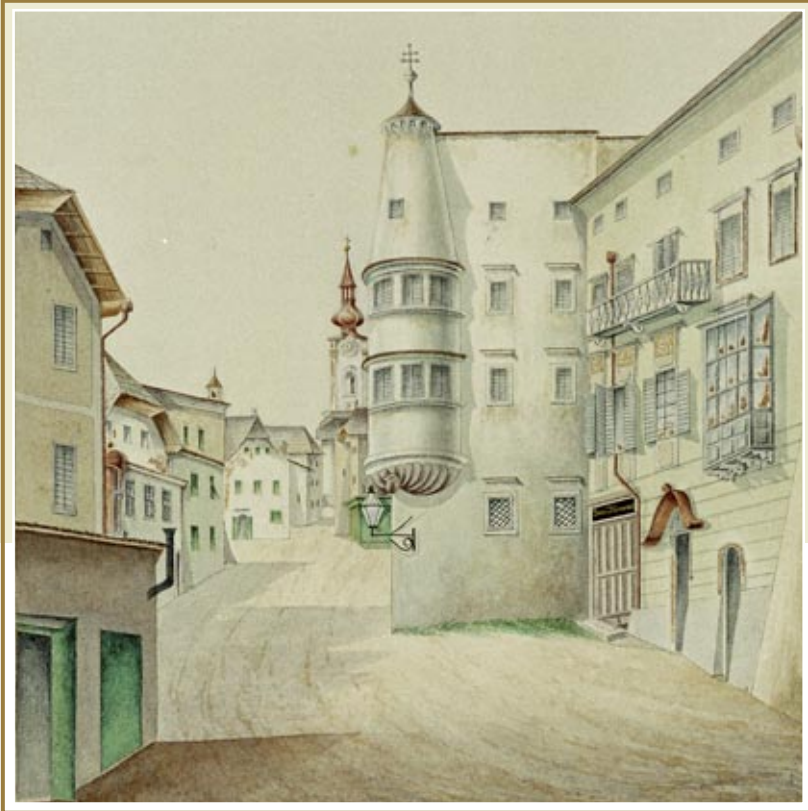
Stay on this side of the street and continue to Rathausplatz. Once there, cross the street to the left in the direction of Kirchgasse to the next information board no. 8 "Kirchgasse".



The Gmunden Theatre which was opened on 22nd June 1872.

View of the "Theatergasse" in the direction of "Rathausplatz" and "Kammerhofgasse", about 1900.

⑧ Kirchengasse The oldest and most venerable street since the Middle Ages



Kirchengasse (Churchstreet), Carl Ritter, 1867.

The Kirchengasse stretches from the Town Hall Square to the Parish Church, and it is one of the oldest streets in Gmunden dating back to the Middle Ages. The picturesque view of the Kirchengasse from the Town Hall Square, with its old “salt traders” houses, has always been a popular motif for artists and photographers.



Kirchengasse today, a colourful mix of gastronomy, fashion, art and handicrafts.

The corner house, Kirchengasse 2, was the Town Hall in the second half of the 16th century. On the wall of this house in the Kirchengasse are two units of measurement, the “Gmundner Klafter” as high water marks. The (Wine Bar Spiesberger) was already documented in 1602 as a Salt Trade Administration building. After the great fire in Church Street in 1896, the building was given its present appearance. The outside wall is adorned with the ceramic relief “The Grape Carriers” by Emilie Schleiss.



“Gmundner Elle” and the well as some interesting building, 3 Kirchengasse, was already documented in 1602 as a Salt Trade Administration building. After the great fire in Church Street in 1896, the building was given its present appearance. The outside wall is adorned with the ceramic relief “The Grape Carriers” by Emilie Schleiss.

Quiz Question

Which flood caused the most damage to the town of Gmunden and its citizens - the storm of 1897 or 1899?
Tip: look at the high water marks!



To the next information board no. 9

Go straight on uphill about 100 m. At the fork in the road keep left to the next information board no. 9 “Rinnholzplatz”.



Kirchengasse with a view of the parish church about 1900.



Kirchengasse with a view to the “Rathausplatz” and the “Traunsee”, about 1897.

⑨ Rinnholzplatz Prof. Kubiena and the salt carrier at the Rinnholz fountain



Rinnholzplatz (Rinnholz Square), Carl Ritter, about 1865.



“Rinnholzplatz” today, a square which invites you to linger for a while.

The name of this square, formerly call “Rinderholz” or “Rinnerholz” comes from the cattle for trading or slaughter which were bound to stakes to await their fate. Up there were still two butcher’s shops in this square. Until the “Neutorturm” (new known as the Rinnholz- exit to the Rinnholzplatz until a few years ago year 1868, the gate tower), also butcher’s shops in year 1868, the turn, stood at the (Schleiffergasse).



Pic. Guild crest of the salt carriers.

As legend would have it, the camp in the Rinnholzplatz from Ebensee, over the the Christ Child, in fountain was adorned salt carrier made by the manufaktur” from a Prof. Kubiena as a me- important status of the salt



Holy Three Kings made as they broke their journey Traunsee, in search of Gmunden. In 1948, the with the figure of a “Gmundner Keramik- design by the sculptor memorial to the once so trading town of Gmunden.



The ceramic “salt Carrier Fountain”.



This house was documented in the 16th century.

Quiz Question

Which spring supplies the Salt Carrier Fountain on the Rinnholzplatz?

 To the next information board no. 10

Walk approx. 60 m to the left through Schleiffergasse to the next information board no. 10 “Am Graben”.

10 “Am Graben” — The fortification trench of the old salt trading centre



Coffee house & post office, (today corner “Bahnhofstraße” / Habertstraße), Carl Ritter, 1865.



“Am Graben” today. Gmunden main Post Office is still there.

The name of this uphill street comes from the 15 – 22 m wide trench which used to run along here. This trench started at the Christoph Tower near the present theatre and continued uphill. It changed direction to the right along the present Habertstrasse to which is now house. As Gmunden lost its importance as a salt trading town around 1840, the fortification was no longer necessary. The filling in of the trench started in 1841, the chestnut trees were planted in 1847, and in 1853 the fortification trench was completely filled in.



On the site of the building 1 Graben, which is now the “Citizens Information Office”, was once the dungeon and the town grain store. Next to this, the Badgasse or smithy tower was erected, completed in 1896, which contained the prison for the simple peasants and criminals. Today an apartment building belonging to Gmunden council stands there, containing various business premises on the ground floor.



Pic. Imperial and Royal postage stamps about 1900.

Quiz Question

When did the peasant war start, causing heavy casualties around the city of Gmunden?


Tip: look at the memorial pillar!



Hotel Post am Graben about 1900, since 1929 the location of the Gmunden main post office.



View from the Upper Graben down to the Gmunden town theatre about 1897.

 To the next information board no. 11

Walk towards the post office building and then turn right into Habertstraße towards the parish church to the next information board no. 11 “The church square”.

11 The “Kirchenplatz” The parish church and Thomas Schwanthaler



Parish church, Gmunden, Carl Ritter about 1867.



The “Kirchenplatz” (Church Square) today, a place for both reflection and activity.

The parish church, which was erected towards the end of the 13th century, is consecrated to the Holy Virgin Mary and the Holy Three Kings. The High Altar, created in 1678 by the sculptor Thomas Schwanthaler from Ried, depicts the worship of the Holy Three Kings. Numerous gravestones and walled in plaques are to be found outside the church, reminding one that the church was once surrounded by a graveyard, and the church square was once called ‘am Freythof’. The town wall and fortification trench ran parallel alongside.

In 1553 the graveyard was moved to an area outside the town wall towards the north (where various schools and the tax office are now situated), where it stayed until 1873.

The ‘Sternsinger (Holy Three Kings) Fountain’ which stands in the “Kirchenplatz” was cast in iron by the sculptor Sepp Moser from Neukirchen. The presbytery next to the church dates back to the 14th century, and in 1588 it was extended to the magnificent building it is today. In 1965, the Gmunden Riding Club erected a monument depicting Saint George and the Dragon which you will find on the garden wall of the presbytery.



Quiz Question

In which year was the Saint George monument erected?



The fortification trench having just been filled in with the partly demolished town wall. On the left, the graveyard wall which stood between 1553 and 1873.



The Habertstrasse with the school building about 1905.



To the next information board no. 12

Walk approx. 140 m past the parish church on the left, down the steps straight ahead to the market square. Then keep left, up the market square to the next information board no. 12 “The market square”.

⑫ The “Marktplatz” Location of the first Townhall



Marktplatz (Market square) in Gmunden, Carl Ritter 1865.



The “Marktplatz” today, still a small trading area for farm produce.

The “Marktplatz” is one of the oldest squares in Gmunden and used to be called the “Upper Square” or the “Upper Market”. Since the 13th century, a weekly market has been held there every Tuesday.

The “Marktplatz” was paved by order of Archduke Ferdinand as early as 1524. In 1844 a fountain was built with pipes and a pool. In



1952, the fountain was adorned with a figure of a boy with a fish in his arms, out of the mouth of which water flows. This is by the sculptor Prof. Kubiena.

On the corner of Marktplatz 5 and Johannesgasse 2 is the first Gmunden Town Hall which was used well into the 14th century.

The “Salzkammergut Apotheke” (chemist) which was founded in 1604 has been situated in the Eckhaus (corner

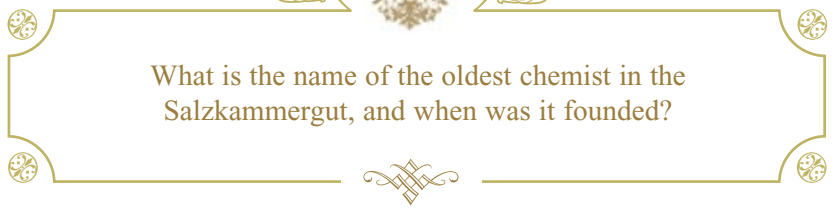
house) Marktplatz/ 1669. This served of the Kammer- therefore came diction of the Im- Salt Trade Mana- Gmunden Kammerhof.



Traungasse since the requirements gut workers and under the juris- perial and Royal gement in the

Quiz Question

What is the name of the oldest chemist in the Salzkammergut, and when was it founded?



 To the next information board no. 13

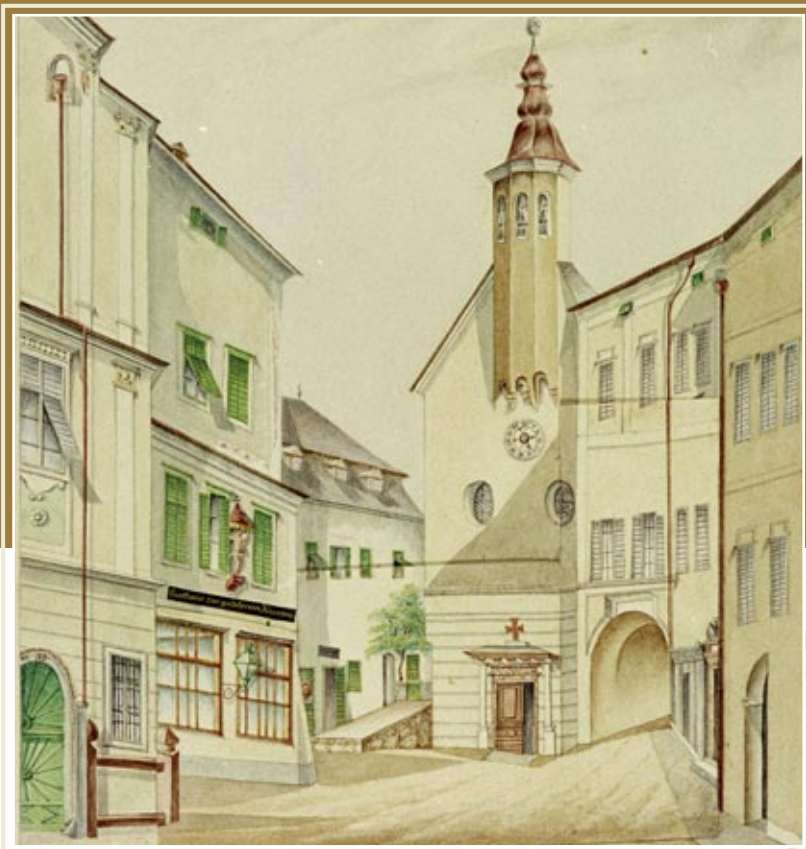


View from the “Marktplatz” down the Traungasse. The “Salzkammergut Apotheke”, founded in 1604 is on the right.

View of the “Marktplatz” in the direction of Kirchengasse about 1870. On the left the so-called “Querstrasse” (side street) which connected the Kirchengasse and the “Marktplatz” until 1881.

Walk approx. 140 m down Traungasse and across the street towards the entrance to the Kammerhof-Museum (K-Hof) to the next information board no. 13 “Kammerhofgasse”.

13 Kammerhofgasse The seat of the powerful Salt Trade Chamber Administrators



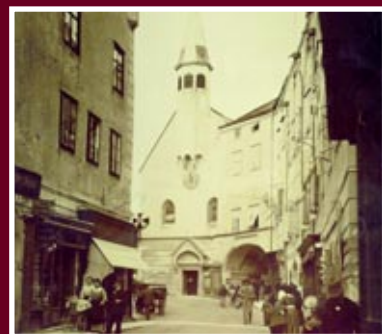
Kammerhofgasse with the Bürgerspitalkirche, and the Trauntor, Carl Ritter 1865.

The Bürgerspitalkirche (citizens hospital church) was built in 1343 and was connected to the Kammerhof building, the former seat of the Salt Trade Chamber administration, by the Trauntor (Traun Gate).

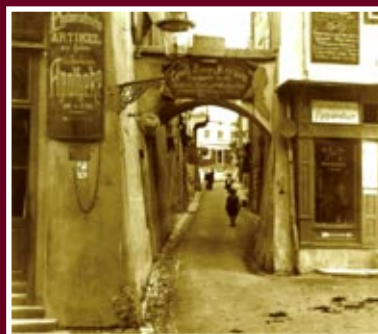


The "Kammerhof" today, popular meeting place for young and old in shops and bars.

It therefore also served as the local church and burial ground for the senior civil servants and their families. This church, which had often been rebuilt, now in the neogothic style, has been part of the new Kammerhof Museums of Gmunden since 2008 and can be seen within the framework of a guided tour of the museums. The building Traungasse 2/Kösslmühlgasse served as the local barracks until 1822. Situated in the building Kammerhofgasse 7, from the 2nd half of the 18th century, was a small theatre, in which the court actor Josef Lang, the brother-in-law of W. A. Mozart, performed. If you follow the "Kammerhofgasse" in the direction of the Town Hall Square, you will come to the building 3 Kammerhofgasse, which has an arcade, accessible to the public, which is really worth seeing.




Kammerhofgasse with the Bürgerspitalkirche
30 (citizens' hospital church) about 1940.



View from the Kammerhofgasse into the
Traungasse and the upper market square.

Quiz Question

How many arches had the Traun Gate earlier?

 To the next information board no. 14

Go through the "Trauntor", keeping to right side for about 50 m to the next information board no. 14 "Museumsplatz und Trauntor".

14 Museumsplatz



Once the garden of the royal salt trade offices



Kammerhof building with Trauntor (Traun Gate), unsigned, about 1865.



Pic. Historic seal of the town 1301.

The present Museumsplatz was once the garden of the Kammerhof, which was erected in around 1450 as the

headquarters of the royal salt trade. It was from here that the extraction, the processing and the marketing of the salt from the whole of the imperial “Kammergut”, stretching from Hallstatt to Gmunden

was managed. The residential buildings of the civil servants were the social centre of Gmunden. Apart from numerous members of the royal House of Habsburg, many artists were invited, for example, the composer Franz Schubert in 1825. After the salt trade management was changed to the imperial and royal salt and forest management in 1850 and was given a new headquarters in Klosterplatz (Monastery Square),



The “Museumsplatz” (Museum Square) today, home of the newly laid out K-Hof Museum.

the Kammerhof building experienced many changes. As well as apartments and a bed and breakfast restaurant, cold water baths, shops and, since 1942, the Gmunden Museum were located here. After the erection of the new Traunbrücke (Traun Bridge) the part of the Kammerhof which belonged to the Town Council was converted to a town museum and a gallery during a period of nine years (1962 - 1971) concurrent with the building of a second arch to the Trauntor. The Kammerhof was again extensively renovated in 2008 and now serves exclusively as a museum with an exhibition area of over 2.000 m² which includes 14 showrooms documenting local history.

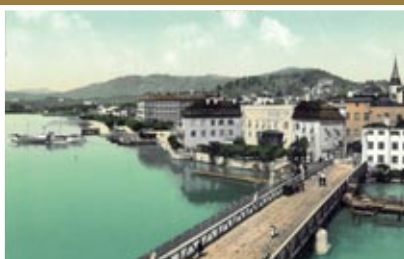
Quiz Question

When was the Town Charter bestowed upon the Town Council of Gmunden?

Tip: take a closer look at the Traun Gate!



The Kammerhof building, in front of which lies the garden which is now the Museumsplatz, about 1930.



The Traun Bridge with the Kammerhof building and the Traun Gate, about 1910.



To the next information board no. 15

Walk along the museum place to the town square, the starting point of your trail. Opposite the hotel Schwan you will find the paddle steamer GISELA pier, at the beginning of which you will find information board no. 15 “Paddle Steamer GISELA”.

⑮ Paddle Steamer Gisela Gisela and the Lake Traunsee Shipping Company



Paddle Steamer Gisela in front of the town hall 1920.

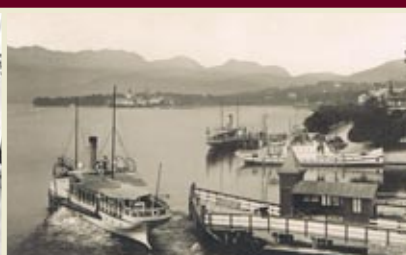


The renovated Gisela stills lays in front of the town square today and awaits its guests.

Lake Traunsee and the river Traun have always been important waterways and were the only form of transport between Gmunden and Ebensee and thus the inner Salzkammergut region until the road was built in 1839. An Englishman, John Andrews (1787 – 1847) gained the rights for operating a steam boat on Lake Traunsee in 1837. His English Engineer, Joseph John Ruston I, (1809 – 1895) planned and built the first paddle steamer “Sophie” in Ebensee in 1838. On the 15th May 1839 the maiden journey took place. Further steam boats named after imperial Ladies were built. The Gmunden weekly newspaper no. 26 dated 30th June 1897 wrote:



GISELA is the last boat operating an oscillating connected twin cylinder steam engine built in 1870.



GISELA steams from the town square on her round trips of the various villages around Lake Traunsee, 1920.

„On the afternoon of Sunday 27th June, their imperial majesties Archduchess Maria Immaculata and Princess Maria Raineria and guests did a trip in Lake Traunsee on board the paddle steamer GISELA with Owner and Capatain John Ruston“.



Pic. Josef John Ruston on board the GISELA 1934.

Unfortunately the authorities revoked Gisela’s sailing permission after a revision in 1981. However, after 6 years of renovation, GISELA was able to sail again on 5th July 1986. The “Grand Old Lady” as she is often named, is the only historically protected (national heritage) boat in Austria, still sailing the waves of Lake Traunsee.

Quiz Question

When did the maiden journey of the paddle steamer SOPHIE take place on Lake Traunsee?

To the next information board no. 16

Right next to information board no. 15 “Dampfschiff Gisela” you will find information board no. 16 “Die Pferdeisenbahn”, “The horse-drawn railroad”.

16 The horse-drawn railroad

Salt and horse transportation with horses on rails



The terminus of the horse-drawn railroad at Rathausplatz was used to transport salt.



The town hall square today, still a small trading center for peasant goods.

The last section of the Lambach-Gmunden line was opened in May 1836. The station building for passenger traffic was erected in the suburb of Traundorf (Annastrasse 1). From there, passengers reached the town either on foot or by carriage over the Traun bridge.

The track leading to the town hall square which branched off into several lines, was used exclusively for the transportation of salt, which was particularly important for Gmunden (see right picture below, Gmunden town hall square).

It took one and a half days to transport goods from Gmunden to Linz. In 1871, the tracks were removed from the town area after

the construction of the lake station. Tourism also benefited from the horse-drawn railroad. By 1836, 74,000 people were already traveling on the Linz-Gmunden line and the number of passengers had risen to 170,000 by 1852. **(QR Code „Weg des Salzes“)**



People traveled in so-called “Stellwägen”, I. and II. Class in which 6, 12 or 24 people could be accommodated. The route was used twice a day in summer and once a day in winter. The journey took 5-6 ½ hours. **(QR Code „Salzzeit.at“)**

Quiz Question

Where was the terminus of the horse-drawn railroad where the salt was loaded for onward transportation?



To the next information board no. 17

Walk across the Rathausplatz in the direction of the Traunsee-Schiffahrt-Steg to the next information board no. 17 “Salzschiffahrt und Trauner”. In summer you can visit a replica of the Trauner there.



The horse-drawn railroad carriages at the steam jetty at the town hall square.



The horse-drawn railroad carriages in front of the Gmunden town hall.

17 Salzschiiffahrt & Trauner Zillen, Trauner and the way of salt



Ride of a Salz-Trauner on the Traun at the Kurzmühle.



With the Stadl boatmen on the Traun, as the boatmen once did with their horses.

The salt rock extracted from the mines in Hallstatt and Ischl was processed into table salt in the Hallstatt, Ischl and Ebensee salt works, which was known as "Füderlsalz" and transported to the town hall square in Gmunden in covered barges (Kobelzillen). With a favorable southerly wind (upper wind), the loaded salt ships could reach Gmunden from Ebensee with a square sail.

When wind conditions were unfavorable or calm, the salt ships could only travel as far as the so-called landing station on the eastern shore of Lake Traunsee, from where they were pulled by horses along a wooden planked towpath to the village of Weyer at the foot of the Grünberg. The "Seereiterweg" below Roith Castle is still a reminder of this today. From Weyer, the boatmen had to row their

barges back to the town square in Gmunden themselves. The "Füderlsalz", which was crushed in the cellars of the Gmunden salt makers, was filled into wooden containers known as "Küfel". It was then transported down the Traun via the Traun Falls to Stadl - Paura on ships specially built in Gmunden- Weyer, the "Trauner", and from there on to the Danube.



Pic.: Sketch Gmundner 12er Trauner

The last Trauner was built in 1914 in the shipbuilding workshop of Johann Kagerer in Weyer. A Salz-Trauner on the Traun at the Kurzmühle.

Quiz Question

What was the name given to the wooden containers in which the salt was transported over long distances?



Kobelzille with square sails on Lake Traunsee.



Construction of a Trauner in the shipyard of Captain Johann Kagerer in Gmunden-Weyer.

To the Host Center Gmunden, Toscanapark 1

The old town theme trail ends here. We hope that you enjoyed the enjoyed the tour. As soon as you have answered the quiz questions, you can take the guide to the host center at the Toscanaparkplatz where a little surprise awaits visitors of all ages a little surprise awaits!

Supplementary page of Quiz Questions to be given up at the Host Center Gmunden, Toscanapark 1 nearby.



If you complete the enclosed quiz questions and deposit these in the Host Center Gmunden, Toscanapark 1, a small gift awaits you. The opening hours are listed back page of this brochure.

1

Which building known since imperial times houses the porcelain carillon? - Tip: If you are standing in front of the board, turn sharply to the right.



2

Turn towards Lake Traunsee, let your gaze glide across the lake from left to right - which famous moated castle catches your eye?



3

What is the name of the sculpture which is to be found on the fountain in Emperor Franz Joseph Park?



4

Under the reign of which Mayor was the extension of the Esplanade finally completed?



5

What is the name of the wind around lunch time which is very challenging for sailors?



6

How many towers does Lake Castle Ort have?



7

What is the name of the famous Austrian author, who was present as a spectator by the premiere of his play 'Freiwild'.



8

Which flood caused the most damage to the town of Gmunden and its citizens - the storm of 1897 or 1899? Tip: look at the high water marks!



9

Which spring supplies the Salt Carrier Fountain in the Rinnholzplatz?



10 When did the peasant war start, causing heavy casualties around the city of Gmunden?
Tip: look at the memorial pillar!



11 In which year was the Saint George monument erected?



12 What is the name of the oldest chemist in the Salzkammergut, and when was it founded?



13 How many arches had the Traun Gate earlier?



14 When was the Town Charter bestowed upon the Town Council of Gmunden? Tip: take a closer look at the Traun Gate!



15 When did the maiden journey of the paddle steamer SOPHIE take place on Lake Traunsee?



16 Where was the terminus of the horse-drawn railroad where the salt was loaded for onward transportation?



17 What was the name of the wooden containers in which the salt was transported over long distances?



OPENING HOURS HOST CENTRE GMUNDEN

Toscanapark 1, 4810 Gmunden

Monday to Friday: 8.30 a.m. - 5.00 p.m.

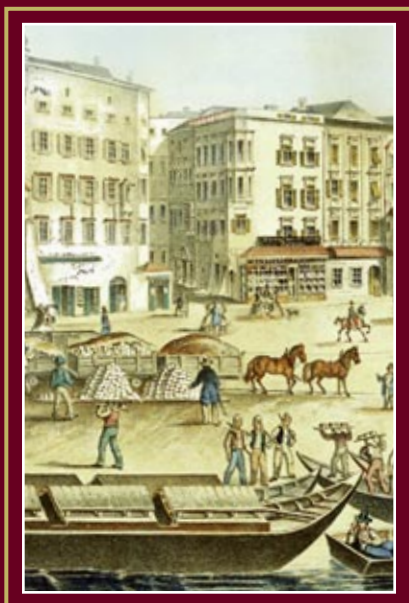
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Stories from past times



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TRAUNSEE-ALMTAL
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