

Vienna in context – World timeline 1850–1939

1851	Australian gold rush Great Exhibition held in London
1853	Admiral Perry opens Japan to the West
1854	The scientist John Snow demonstrates that cholera is transmitted by bacteria in polluted water
1856	Tsar Nicholas I of Russia dies Louis Pasteur invents pasteurisation
1857	Emperor Franz Josef orders the destruction of Vienna's old city walls and lays out plans for a new Boulevard – the Ringstrasse
1859	Charles Darwin's <i>The Origin of Species</i> is published
1861	Abraham Lincoln takes office as President of the United States The American Civil War begins (1861–1865)
1862	Gustav Klimt is born
1863	In London, the first underground passenger system opens
1867	In Sweden, Alfred Nobel patents dynamite Karl Marx's <i>Das Kapital</i> , a critical analysis of capitalism is published In Vienna, <i>The Blue Danube Waltz</i>, by Johann Strauss, premiers
1870	Franco-Prussian War; Napoleon III abdicates; Third French Republic established Germany is united as an empire
1874	First Impressionist exhibition held in Paris
1875	The light bulb is invented in Canada. Thomas Edison buys the patent Morris and Co established in England

1876	Alexander Graham Bell invents the telephone Klimt enrolls in State School of Applied Arts in Vienna
1877	Thomas Edison develops the gramophone and phonograph
1880	Ned Kelly is hanged in Australia
1883	Karl Marx dies Gustav and Ernst Klimt and Franz Matsch open the Kunstler-Compagnie studio
1884	The first underground railway opens in London
1885	In Germany Karl Benz develops an internal combustion engine The first steel-frame skyscraper, the Home Insurance Building, is built in Chicago, Illinois
1888	In London, five murders are attributed to Jack the Ripper Wilhelm II becomes Emperor in Germany
1889	Adolf Hitler is born La Grande Exposition Universelle is held in Paris; buildings include the Eiffel Tower
1890	Vincent Van Gogh dies
1892	<i>The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes</i> , a collection of twelve stories by Arthur Conan Doyle, is published Gustav Klimt's brother and father die
1893	New Zealand becomes the first country to give women the vote in national elections Klimt and Matsch are commissioned to paint the University Murals

1895	The Lumiere brothers hold the world's first public film screening Karl Lueger is elected mayor of Vienna
1897	The Vienna Secession is founded
1898	The Spanish-American war begins The Vienna Secession building opens The Vienna Metro (Stadtbahn) opens
1899	Johann Strauss jnr. dies Josef Hoffmann begins teaching at the University of Applied Arts, Vienna
1900	Sigmund Freud publishes <i>The Interpretation of Dreams</i> The Sixth Vienna Secession Exhibition is devoted to Japanese Art Charles Rennie Mackintosh exhibits at the Eighth Vienna Secession Exhibition
1901	Queen Victoria dies. Edward VII is crowned The Commonwealth of Australia is proclaimed
1902	The Secession launches its Beethoven exhibition
1903	The Wright brothers make their first engine-powered air flight The Wiener Werkstätte is founded The Sixteenth Vienna Secession Exhibition is devoted to Impressionism The Seventeenth Vienna Secession Exhibition is devoted to Wiener Werkstätte The Eighteenth Vienna Secession Exhibition is devoted to a Gustav Klimt retrospective
1904	Josef Hoffmann and Wiener Werkstätte build the Purkersdorf Sanatorium Emilie Flöge, along with her sisters Helene and Pauline, found fashion salon Schwestern Flöge
1905	Expressionism is featured at the 'Fauve' exhibition in Paris, which includes paintings by Derain, Rouault, Matisse Einstein develops his Theory of Relativity Gustav Klimt leaves the Secession Hoffmann designs and begins to build the Palais Stoclet with Wiener Werkstätte. Klimt designs Stoclet Frieze
1907	Picasso paints <i>Les Femmes d'Alger (O. J. R. M.)</i> (The Young Ladies of Avignon) which heralds the development of Cubism by Braque and Picasso Cabaret Fledermaus opens

1908	Henry Ford produces his Model T automobile Architect Adolph Loos writes pamphlet called <i>Ornament and Crime</i> decrying the excessive use of ornament in architecture and design Klimt and Wiener Werkstätte colleagues organise the Kunstschau art exhibition to celebrate the sixty-year reign of Emperor Franz Joseph
1909	Poet F.T. Marinetti produces his Futurist Manifesto, celebrating the modern age and asking for the violent destruction of all institutions that enshrine the past The first true plastic (Phenol-Formaldehyde, trade-named Bakelite) is invented by Leo Hendrik Baekeland The second Kunstschau introduces the work of Egon Schiele
1910	Gustav Klimt has a dedicated room at the Venice Biennale, where Renoir also has a one-man show Karl Lueger dies
1913	Mary Phelps Jacob invents the bra Josef Hoffmann designs rooms for the Gallia apartment
1914	First World War begins Archduke Ferdinand is assassinated in Sarajevo.
1917	Russian Revolution begins
1918	First World War ends Egon Schiele participates in the Forty-Ninth Vienna Secession Exhibition Gustav Klimt, Egon Schiele, Koloman Moser, Otto Wagner die
1919	Bauhaus School of art and design opens in Germany
1922	Mussolini is appointed Prime Minister of Italy
1924	Vladimir Lenin dies. Gandhi is released from prison The Surrealist Manifesto is published in Paris
1927	Charles Lindbergh makes the first non-stop solo transatlantic flight from the USA to France First complete talking film is shown
1928	Scotsman Alexander Fleming discovers penicillin
1929	The New York Stock market crashes Edwin Hubble discovers that the universe is expanding. This leads to the 'Big Bang' theory, which states that the universe originated at a single point
1932	Wiener Werkstätte closes
1933	Nazi revolution in Germany
1939	The Second World War begins