
ZUM SCHWARZEN KAMEEL

GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT THIS QUINTESSENTIALLY VIENNESE INSTITUTION

PRESS RELEASE

In 1618, Johan Baptist Cameel acquired the building at Bognergasse 5 in Vienna's city center—a property already steeped in tradition—and opened a spice shop, naming the business „Zum Schwarzen Kameel“ (The Black Camel) as a play on his surname. Two centuries later, a certain Joseph Stiebitz took over this realm of fine wines and aromatic spices; he expanded the shop into an exquisite delicatessen and, in 1825, was appointed Purveyor to the Imperial Court.

The establishment has always been a magnet for a clientele drawn from all walks of life. Young aristocrats and wealthy merchants would escape stiff etiquette here, sipping their wine alongside Fiaker (carriage) drivers enjoying a quick glass and servants stopping by to gossip. The painter Georg Ferdinand Waldmüller would reach first for his wine and then for his sketchbook; Friedrich August Kanne retreated to the upper floor to compose music and write poetry; and a certain Ludwig van Beethoven indulged his culinary tastes here.

When a new building was constructed

on the site in 1901, it received the elegant Art Nouveau interior that distinguishes it to this day. Today, this historic venue has risen to become a true culinary institution. With an intuitive sense of what guests truly desire, the last two generations of the Frieze family have created a microcosm of indulgence that could not be more Viennese: a delicatessen for walk-in customers; a well-stocked sandwich counter for takeout or on-site dining; an all-day coffee house; a wine bar; a brasserie serving Viennese cuisine; and, not least, an upscale restaurant named „Beletage Zum Schwarzen Kameel“ on the upper floor. Its spacious—yet invariably bustling—terrace has become an essential part of the city center's streetscape. To this day, that accessible, open atmosphere remains a key part of its charm: top executives and stage stars stand alongside suburban workers—suits and ties mingling with jeans and T-shirts—without a hint of pretension on either side. Tucked away far from public view, three levels underground, lies a wine cellar whose treasures are a discovery in their own right: it showcases the

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diversity of Austrian regions across an impressive range of vintages, alongside the world's great wine-producing nations—from France, Italy, and Spain to California and beyond. Amidst this

multifaceted setting, a vibrant, unique atmosphere prevails; that is why Das Schwarze Kameel remains a haven for all the fine things life has to offer, enjoyed with true style.



ZUM SCHWARZEN KAMEEL – BAR, CAFÉ, BRASSERIE – RESTAURANT – PATISSERIE – DELIKATESSEN – WEINKELLER

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