
KAISERLICHE
WAGENBURG
WIEN



Sisi's 'Mystery Dress'
The mysterious wedding dress of Empress Elisabeth of Austria
A presentation at the Imperial Carriage Museum Vienna
12 May 2023 to 25 February 2024

The Imperial Carriage Museum is on the trail of one of the most mysterious garments in our history – and presents the first exciting results.

In 1989 the Kunsthistorisches Museum in Vienna acquired a splendid train, preserved by the descendants of Empress Elisabeth for over a century as part of her bridal clothes. Since 2008 it has been on permanent exhibition in the Imperial Carriage Museum as part of the *Sisi Trail*.

A portrait of the empress from 1857 was rediscovered in 2021, and shows the associated dress, which made it possible to reconstruct the ensemble, with the help of the latest technology. The spectacular result is revealed to the public for the first time here, together with the painting.

The portrait, which was largely unknown, is a loan to Vienna by the Silesian National Museum in Opava (Czech Republic) and will be on show at the Imperial Carriage Museum until 25 February 2024. Only during this time, it will be possible to directly compare the historical presentation with the preserved train. However, the reconstructed dress, together with the train,

KAISERLICHE WAGENBURG WIEN

will in the future be on permanent exhibition at the Imperial Carriage Museum, as a new highlight of the *Sisi Trail*.

The presentation is accompanied by a video documenting the exciting story of the search for clues about the mysterious wedding dress. As its appearance has not yet been documented by a reliable source, it is impossible at this point in time to definitively prove or disprove whether Sisi actually wore the dress shown in the portrait for her wedding in the Church of the Augustinian Friars, on 24 April 1854. The search for reliable sources will continue in the coming months. If successful, the truth about Sisi's wedding dress will finally be known, otherwise it will remain a 'mystery dress'.

Exhibition website:

[kaiserliche-wagenburg.at/en/visit/exhibitions/empress-elisabeth-of-austria/](https://www.kaiserliche-wagenburg.at/en/visit/exhibitions/empress-elisabeth-of-austria/)

EMPRESS ELISABETH COMBINED TICKET

Experience Sisi in the Imperial Carriage Museum & in the Imperial Treasury

The myth of Empress Elisabeth continues unabated to this day. Her beauty, and especially her character and ambitions continue to fascinate us. With the *Empress Elisabeth Combined Ticket*, you can discover the empress in her private world and experience the court of the Habsburgs, the imperial family Sisi joined when she married Emperor Franz Joseph.

All information and online ticket purchase at:

<https://www.kaiserliche-wagenburg.at/en/visit/experience-the-empress-elisabeth/>



KAISERLICHE WAGENBURG WIEN

PRESS PHOTOGRAPHS

Press photos for current reporting are available free of charge for download in the press section of our website: press.khm.at/en



Joseph Neugebauer
Empress Elisabeth of Austria
Vienna, 1857
© Slezské zemské muzeum, Opava



**Original court train and reconstruction of the gala gown
from the trousseau of Duchess Elisabeth in Bavaria,
the future Empress of Austria**
Train: Munich, 1854 / Reconstruction: Vienna, 2023
Imperial Carriage Museum Vienna, Department of Court Uniforms
© KHM-Museumsverband



**Original court train and reconstruction of the gala gown
from the trousseau of Duchess Elisabeth in Bavaria,
the future Empress of Austria**
Train: Munich, 1854 / Reconstruction: Vienna, 2023
Imperial Carriage Museum Vienna, Department of Court Uniforms
© KHM-Museumsverband

KAISERLICHE
WAGENBURG
WIEN



**Original court train and reconstruction of the gala gown
from the trousseau of Duchess Elisabeth in Bavaria,
the future Empress of Austria**

Train: Munich, 1854 / Reconstruction: Vienna, 2023

Imperial Carriage Museum Vienna, Department of Court Uniforms

© KHM-Museumsverband



**Original court train and reconstruction of the gala gown
from the trousseau of Duchess Elisabeth in Bavaria,
the future Empress of Austria**

Train: Munich, 1854 / Reconstruction: Vienna, 2023

Imperial Carriage Museum Vienna, Department of Court Uniforms

© KHM-Museumsverband

KAISERLICHE WAGENBURG WIEN

VISITOR INFORMATION

All information on **admission prices** and **opening hours** of the Imperial Carriage Museum:
<https://www.kaiserliche-wagenburg.at/en/visit/besucherinformation/hours-admission/>

Online tickets are available at the following link:

<https://shop.khm.at/en/tickets>

MEDIA ACCREDITATION

Journalists visiting the KHM-Museumsverband for professional purposes are entitled to free admission to its exhibitions and locations. For this purpose, you need to register via presse@khm.at at least two working days in advance.

We request that, in addition to mentioning your medium, you also specify the date of your visit and attach a scan of your valid press pass. Many thanks for your understanding!

PRESS CONTACT

Nina Auinger-Sutterlüty, MAS
Head of Communications

KHM-Museumsverband
Burgring 5, 1010 Wien
T +43 1 525 24 – 4021
presse@khm.at
www.khm.at / www.kaiserliche-wagenburg.at