



A hotel like no other Climate smart, social, and inclusive.

Since 2015, *magdas* HOTEL has been demonstrating how to run an innovative and social hotel. From its pop-up location at Vienna Prater the hotel moved into a climate smart building in the city center. This is where *magdas* HOTEL proves day by day, that combining social and economic action leads to long term success.

Vienna — a story that went around the globe. When *magdas* HOTEL opened its doors for the first time in 2015, the innovative social business by Caritas der Erzdiözese Wien made headlines worldwide. In the US, in Europe, and even in parts of Asia, numerous media outlets reported about a hotel whose hosts have a refugee background. Since autumn 2022, after hosting more than 220.000 guests, the hotel welcomes people from all around the world at its new address. Located in a former priest's residence in the 3rd district, at Ungargasse 38, the focus lays on social and ecological sustainability.

A SOCIAL MISSION

magdas is convinced that everyone can do a good job and therefore consciously provides opportunities for those who often experience difficulties when trying to find a job or apprenticeship position. Since 2017, *magdas* HOTEL has been offering three apprenticeship programs, primarily to young people with a refugee background.

The following success story shows that sometimes all it takes is an opportunity. During his voluntary integration year in 2016, the present Front Office Manager took the opportunity to get to know the business and learn German. This experience led him to complete the hotel manager apprenticeship program and take the accountant exam. Today, he manages the front office with around ten employees and apprentices. More than 100 people with a refugee background have started their careers at *magdas* HOTEL — people who now enrich the job market in many different areas.

FROM PAST TO PRESENT, SUSTAINABLY

Where once nuns and priests lived, today guests from all over the world are welcome to spend the night. In just two years, the building was transformed into a cosmopolitan and climate smart hotel with 85 rooms, three conference rooms, a restaurant, a sidewalk café, and a garden.

The Viennese BWM architects made sure that the calm design of each room reflects the spirit of the former Stephanushaus. At the same time, they have found new ways to continue the idea of encounter and community. For instance, they decided to preserve the architecturally stunning chapel on the 6th floor. And opened the building's ground floor to its surroundings, where large windows invite people strolling by into the restaurant, which is also a great place for celebrations.

Loved furniture, lamps, tables, chairs, and closets were brought from past to present. The suites and apartments on the 6th floor are a particular highlight, thanks to designer Daniel Büchel who kept many of the building's original furniture pieces. He also had tables and bed heads in numerous rooms crafted from the former built-in cabinets of the Stephanushaus.

Water-saving toilets and faucets, a photovoltaic system, and geothermal probes have been installed to ensure ecological sustainability. A garden with over 400 plants, flowers, and four trees was planted to replace a parking lot, making the neighborhood greener. The team of *magdas* LOKAL, the hotel's restaurant, offers many vegetarian and vegan dishes and attaches great importance to cooking with organic and locally sourced products. In 2023, the hotel was awarded the Austrian Eco Label for its efforts.

About *magdas*

Caritas der Erzdiözese Wien founded *magdas* in 2012 with the intention of resolving social issues wherever possible in an economic way. The social business is convinced that everyone can do a good job and therefore creates prospects for people who do not even receive a chance with many other employers. *magdas* HOTEL, *magdas* ESSEN, *magdas* RECYCLING and *magdas* REINIGUNG are the company's four business segments. They all provide high-quality products and services with social value. More than 200 people work at *magdas*, of whom the majority have experienced difficulties accessing the job market. For further details, visit www.magdas.at and www.magdas-hotel.at.