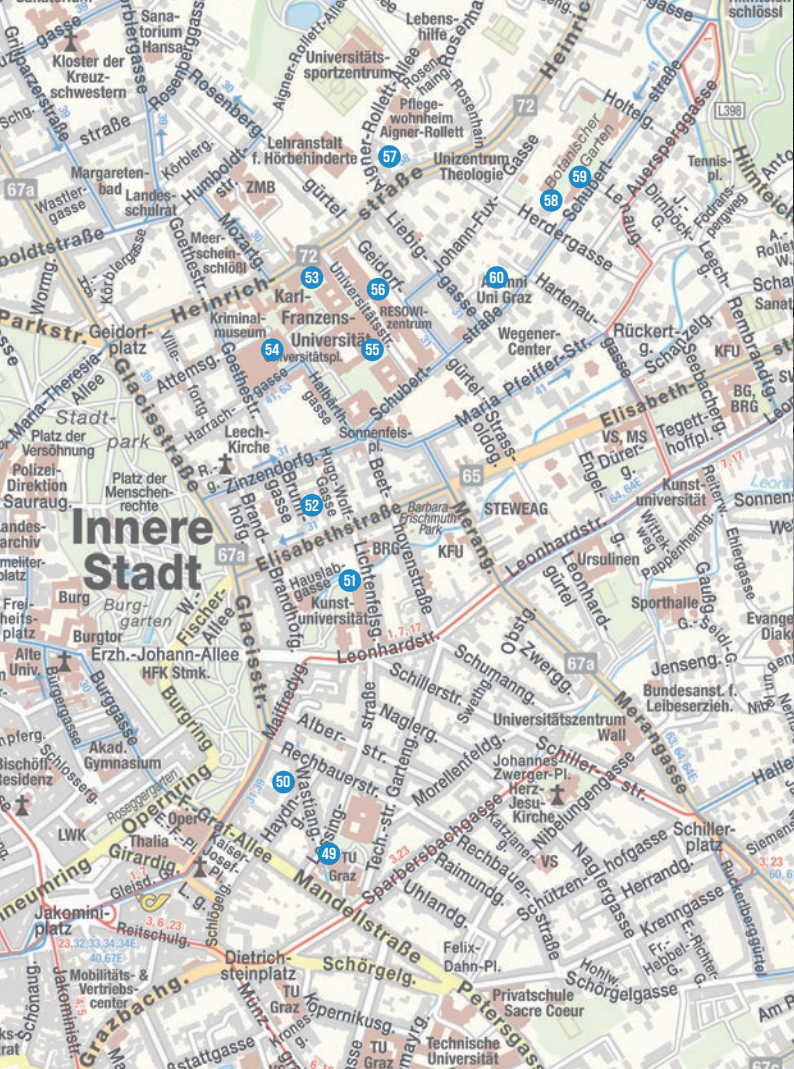




TOUR 5: ST. LEONHARD & GEIDORF Lines 1, 7, 17

A walk through the city's most beautiful *Gründerzeit* and mansion districts

Starting at the Oper, our third tour takes us through the “Univiertel” and ends at the green oasis of *Hilmteich*. You can stop for refreshments at *Kaiser-Josef-Platz* along the way. It has linked the city centre, the *Stadtspark*, and the *Gründerzeit* districts since 1879. On Saturdays in particular, the country's oldest farmers' market bustles with visitors and regulars. Here, bourgeois chic meets urban youth culture, Aperol meets antipasti, and in the afternoon skateboard aficionados gather on the hot asphalt.



49 CAMPUS BUILDING LESSINGSTRASSE I TUG (not shown)

Lessingstraße 25 | Günther Domenig, Hermann Eisenköck (1993), Gerhard Wallner (2016)

 1, 7, 17 – Maiffredygasse

In the courtyard of the Alte Technik campus, Professor Günther Domenig won the competition to design a new building for the Faculty of Architecture. Above a base housing workshops, the institute and office levels intersect and overlap at acute angles. A lecture hall sits like a beetle attached to the stairwell, with a long ramp that once led into the park, before being ruthlessly dismantled by one of Domenig's students and successors.

50 KIOSK WOHNUNGSSERVICE (not shown) 1, 7, 17 – Maiffredygasse

Rechbauerstraße 4a | Friedrich Moser (1957)

51 MUMUTH – HOUSE OF MUSIC AND MUSIC THEATRE

Lichtenfelsgasse 14 | UNStudio (2008)

 1, 7, 17 – Lichtenfelsgasse/Kunstuniversität

A renowned architectural critic once remarked that Ben van Berkel's spectacular *Mercedes-Museum* in Stuttgart recalls Baroque theatrical architecture. At that time, buildings were designed primarily with the interior in mind, with their external appearance being comparatively simple. The same applies to MUMUTH, the long-awaited new venue for rehearsals and performances at the *Kunstuniversität Graz*. Its casing, a monochrome mesh of metal fabric, but the interior – wow! The light-filled main foyer in front of the large hall on the upper floor is dominated by the so-called “Twist”, a solid concrete core with an intricate shape that runs through both main levels. It supports the star-shaped ceiling beams and the winding staircase, and – makes you dizzy!

52 ELISABETH HOCHHAUS

Hugo-Wolf-Gasse 10 | Friedrich Zotter, Karl Raimund Lorenz (1966)

KARL-FRANZENS-UNIVERSITÄT

Walking along the vibrant Zinzendorfsgasse and across Sonnenfelsplatz, a “shared space”, you arrive at the imposing entrance of the *Karl-Franzens-Universität*, a pavilion complex for which a design competition was held in 1871. After years of construction delays, the imposing main building, designed in the Neo-Renaissance style, was finally completed in 1895. The spacious, green campus for teaching and sport allowed room for new buildings and extensions, which became necessary from the mid-1980s due to the rapidly growing number of students. The first of many was the ...

53 G.A.Ma

Heinrichstraße 36 | Kapfhammer, Wegan, Kossdorff m. Adolph-Herbert Kelz (1991)

The *Institutsgebäude für Geografie, Anglistik und Mathematik* is situated at the edge of the campus, and its layout addresses the heavily trafficked street through a clear organisation of functions. Three specialist libraries, standing as isolated, seemingly closed buildings, provide shelter from the noise, while research and teaching activities (in part) are housed in a fragmented wing facing the park. The connecting element is an atrium open across all floors, with a staircase that extends the perspective of the room. Experience the Finesse!

54 CENTER OF PHYSICS

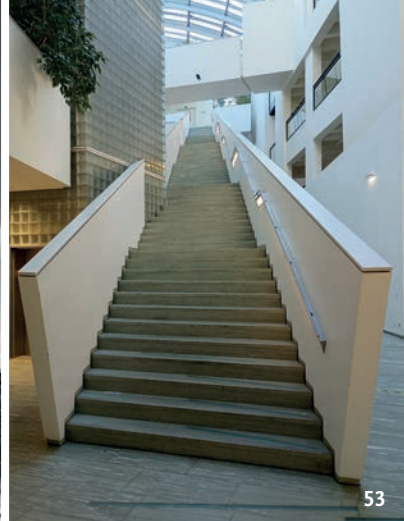
Harrachgasse 21 | faschöfuchs (bis 2030), Wettbewerb 2021

The *Graz Center of Physics* is one of Austria's largest university construction projects. It will unite the physics institutes of the *Uni Graz* and *TU Graz* – both teaching and research – in six upper and two underground storeys at a single location. Above a uniform building housing laboratories, there will be an open-plan floor with a city terrace and cafe, linking the building to the city. At the same time, this urban space creates a separation from the structure above it, which is set back and breaks up the vast expanse of the *Center of Physics*.

55 UNIVERSITY LIBRARY OF THE KFU

Universitätsplatz 3a | Wilhelm von Rezori (1895), Atelier Thomas Pucher (2019)

In the era of digitalisation and AI, libraries also have to reinvent themselves. Following the relocation of the book storage facility to the Andritz district, the new building of the *Universitätsbibliothek Graz* is now entirely dedicated to computer-based work, study and collaboration. The extension from the 1960s, which had concealed the historic façade from 1885, has been removed. This created a new campus square, shaped by the new building's spectacular cantilever and its central location. Like a glass bridge, a new foyer now connects the main building to the library. Its heart has been preserved: the listed reading room with its surrounding gallery and historic interior in the Neo-Renaissance style. Above it, separated by a glass luminous ceiling, is the two-storey Add-On. Generous stepped seating in the atrium, a reading room with gallery, as well as study furniture and bookable group rooms make studying a varied spatial experience.





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56 CAMPUS BUILDING RESOWI OF THE KFU

Universitätsstraße 15 | Günther Domenig, Hermann Eisenköck (1996)

The University as a machine. A prime example is how the great master of the Grazer Schule, together with his partner, managed to create the vast campus facilities required to accommodate the 14,000 students of the faculties of law, social sciences and economics. The magnitude calls for clear principles – a 300 m long, orthogonal block was planned as the backbone for this reason. In contrast, variation creates excitement – here, with lecture halls, the refectory and the library as formally independent elements with great flexibility. Connected or – snap!, inserted into the overall form. Refreshingly unacademic.

ROSENHAIN

The extensive park at Rosenhain is situated on a south-facing slope and is therefore a lovely place to stroll and relax at any time of the year. The network of paths is extensive and for pedestrians only. A stroll through the beautiful beech forest can be combined perfectly with a visit to *Café Rosenhain* or the playground.

57 HOUSING COMPLEX AIGNER-ROLLETT-ALLEE

Aigner-Rollett-Allee 6 | Nussmüller Architekten (2018)

The geometry of the site and its unique location on the green slope of the Rosenhain led to the distinctive design of this social housing development. You arrive at a lower level and climb up to the atmospheric inner courtyard, from which the apartments are accessed. There are 38 in total, all with dual aspect, oriented inwards towards the social hub with communal area and outwards towards the bright open space with views of greenery. The cross-wall construction with axial spacings of up to six metres provides an optimal span for the load-bearing system in solid timber construction.



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58 INSTITUTES OF PLANT PHYSIOLOGY OF THE KFU

Schubertstraße 51 | Wilhelm von Rezori (1899), Klaus Kada (1998)

When the stately *Gründerzeit*-style villa, which had been used for teaching and research, showed signs of bursting at the seams, Klaus Kada was commissioned to design an extension. He ensured that the protected botanical garden was treated with the utmost care and also created the exceptional architecture. His ingenious solution was the division of the building into an extension and a finely detailed new build for the research laboratories. The curved bridge connecting the two is multi-functional. It offers an unobstructed view of the garden at ground level, curves elegantly around the sequoia and ginkgo trees, and is a structural masterpiece – 36.4 metres without any supports.



59



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59 BOTANICAL GARDENS OF THE KFU

Schubertstraße 59 | Volker Giencke (1995)

H 1–Hilmteich/Botanischer Garten

The architect's keen interest in innovative technologies coincided with the realisation that the history of glass buildings is characterised by structural bravery, the pursuit of dematerialisation and a deliberate engagement with nature. Giencke used both technical know-how and creativity: in the supporting structure, a highly economical parabolic arch made of aluminium, in the curved acrylic glass elements with optimal light penetration and in the layout of the paths, which offers a variety of views and creates an experience from a simple stroll amongst the plants. Remarkably ingenious: the organic-looking shape, which "is in fact based on strict geometry" according to Friedrich Achleitner. It is no surprise that this building has been featured in all major architecture magazines worldwide.

60 WERKBUNDHAUS (not shown)

Schubertstraße 31 | Hans Hönel (1928)

Tip: Take a break at the *Hilmteichschlössl*, where there is a cafe amongst the flowers and lush greenery. From plants to garden shears, everything is available to buy here. Those who wish to enjoy the pleasures of nature can stroll around the pond or continue walking through the Leechwald, perhaps even as far as the *Wallfahrtskirche Mariatrost*.