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TULLN/DONAU

Т

### Bahnhof Tulln Birthplace or Egon and the old steam engines



Main train station and Egon's birthplace, ca. 1900

Here you find out what Egon rebelled against and why he stood on the platform hissing and whistling; how his early drawings went up in flames and why his parents' parlor became part of a railway line.

Egon Leo Adolf Schiele was born at Tulln station in the summer of 1890. His father Adolf, the station master, was an imposing man in his uniform. His mother Marie ran a lordly household, yet Egon was a little rebel. He began drawing when he was barely out of diapers. His favorite spot was the window ledge. His favorite subject was the station. Egon drew everything he saw and imitated whatever he heard. He hissed like the steam engines or whistled like the conductors. Soon, his drawing pad was too small for



him. He drew tracks from one end of the apartment to the other, decorating the walls with his pictures. Then his parents stepped in and Egon's sketches ended up in the fire.

### Heisselgarten Paternal love or Egon and the mysterious visitor



Adolf Schiele, station master and Egon's father

Here you find out about Egon's encounters with death and his talks with an imaginary guest; why valuable railroad stock was thrown in the fire and why the family had to leave the station in Tulln.

Death paid a visit to Egon's family early on. His older sister Elvira died in 1893 when he was three. He sensed his parents' sadness and felt abandoned. Other calamities soon followed. His beloved father was diagnosed with syphilis. The punctilious station master suddenly began neglecting his duties and became confused. He played host to an imaginary friend and had the family entertain him. Then the disease broke out in full force. In a moment of delirium, Adolf Schiele burned his railroad stock and, with it, the family



fortune. His employer dismissed him and ordered him to move out of the apartment at Tulln station. He died four months later. Egon was just fourteen years of age.

# Learning the hard way or Egon's fiasco with grades



Egon and his fellow pupils, ca. 1898

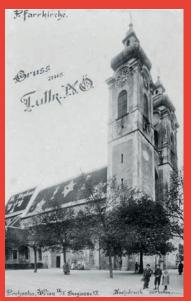
Here you find out why Egon had a hard time in school and who recognized his artistic gifts; why he flunked out without flunking out and why he was too talented for the School of Arts and Crafts.

Why study math when your head is full of pictures? School was awful for Egon. He had bad grades in primary and secondary school. He painted instead of doing arithmetic and almost ended up a dropout. His mother made a deal with the headmistress: a report card with passing grades in exchange for him leaving the school. Two teachers encouraged him to apply to the Vienna School of Arts and Crafts. Then the inconceivable occurred. They said he had too much talent and refused to admit him. They recommended that he attend the Academy of Fine



Arts in Vienna instead. It was the very best of schools for young painters. For Egon, it was the first step toward something he had so longed for: a life as an artist.

### **Stadtpfarrkirche** A matter of faith or Egon and the Apostles' Portal



Here you find out what dominated the townscape of **Tulln and why** twelve bishops came to be known as apostles in common parlance: what upset the local priest and what Egon was up to after school.

© Fotoarchiv Tulln

St. Stephen's parish church, ca. 1900

The two mighty towers of the parish church rise high above the houses of Tulln. Egon's father was Roman Catholic and an important man in the community. Attending church on Sunday was part of that role. Anyone entering St. Stephen's through the west portal back then felt – and still feels today – the gaze of twelve pairs of stone eyes. Imposing busts of a dozen Passau bishops grace the jambs. The square in front of the church was a playground for the children. If the priest scolded them, they all just ran away with coattails flying and satchels flapping.



Egon was rarely with them. He preferred roaming the area around the station, drawing trains and automobiles, dreaming of the big wide world.

### **V** Karner Remembering the dead or Egon's mythical creatures



Here you find out why the people of Tulln exhumed bones and what Egon saw in the charnel house; how death and mortality found their way onto Egon's canvases and what role death played in his life.

Late Romanesque charnel house, ca. 1875

Cemeteries have an eerie quality to them. Even eerier are ossuaries, depositories of bones, like the one in the charnel in Tulln. The exhumed skeletons of the dead were put in the lower story there for storage until the end of the 18th century. The upper story of the charnel was actually a funeral chapel. Egon was captivated by the dragons, demons, and mythical creatures on the walls. Death was all-present here, just as it was in Egon's life. He had been three when his



older sister died. At fourteen, he lost his beloved father. Death and mortality therefore figured large in many of his works and became a central subject early on.

### Wiener Straße Riding about town or Egon and the carriage



Wiener Straße, ca. 1902

Here you find out where people strolled in fin de siècle Tulln and where Egon's father drove the family; why people secretly whispered about them and why the station master was a town dignitary.

Ladies in their Sunday best and gentlemen in greatcoats: Wiener Straße with its fine shops was a favorite street for strolling in fin de siècle Tulln. The Schiele family also made an appearance there, but in their carriage, not on foot. Adolf Schiele was a fine sight in full uniform, his beard always trimmed to perfection. The townspeople eyed the Schieles with curiosity, whispering about the family behind its back. The station master was arrogant, they said, and his wife came from a wealthy family and put on



airs. The locals greeted the Schieles nonetheless. After all, the Franz-Josefs-Bahn, the railroad for which Adolf Schiele worked, had put Tulln in connection with the modern world.

# Open-air market or Egon and the stallkeepers



Lively market at main square

Here you find out where people in Tulln went to shop and what the maids took with them to market; where Gothic met Baroque and what the Trinity Column on the main square is meant to commemorate.

The winding side streets in the heart of Tulln were quiet but the main square was as lively as could be. Around 1900 every day was market day. The market stalls were set up at dawn. The first to arrive were the maids of the better families, the Schieles' maid among them. She arrived with a milk can in her hand and a large shopping basket on her arm. The housewives appeared later. Men passed the time of day at the cattle and pig market. Suddenly the school bell rang. The pupils came running out and began playing



tag around the Trinity Column in the main square. This column commemorates the many victims who died of the plague in Tulln in the 17th century.

### **VIII** Minoritenkirche Display of splendor or Egon and the martyrs



Here you find out who angered the Bohemian King and why a tight-lipped confessor died a martyr; what secrets the burial niches in the lower church held and what bonds Egon had to Český Krumlov.

Late Baroque Church of the Friars Minor

The whole world is a source of inspiration for an artist, even a child artist. At Tulln station, the iron steam engines captured Egon's imagination, black monsters puffing thick clouds of smoke. In the Church of the Friars Minor the sumptuous opulence caught his attention, as did the mysterious images. John of Nepomuk, for instance, a saint thrown into the river because he remained silent rather than betray his queen. Or the painting of a Black Madonna hidden behind Baroque bars. And the "soul hole" in the lower church through which the soul could



escape after death and burial niches for monks from the monastery. There were enough mysteries to make even high mass in Latin fly by in no time.

Fotoarchiv Tulln

### Egon Schiele Museum Childhood or Egon's rocking horse



Danube landing, ca. 1900

Here you find out why Egon played with dolls and what his mother brought back for him from Vienna; how he came to draw steam engines and which books his father gave him to read.

The concept of childhood was not really "invented" until the 19th century. Before that, children were considered small adults. And cheap labor. Egon was fortunate. His family was well-off. He and his sisters shared their own room in the spacious station master's apartment the family occupied. He drew to his heart's content. And he received toys as gifts: a big rocking horse, a teddy bear with black buttons for eyes. Not even his three sisters' dolls were safe from him. Best of all were his colorfully painted tin toy cars and



the train sets his mother gave him. He had 40 in all. More than any other child in town. Yet when Egon drew railroads he did so directly in the station hall where his father was in charge.

### X Wasserkreuz Floods or Egon and the wooden crucifix



Baroque water cross

Here you find out why the people of Tulln loved and hated the Danube and when Egon saw the river flood; why a water chapel was built and where Danube drowning victims were commemorated.

The Danube is a lifeline and a fateful current. It has allowed Tulln to flourish for centuries: Roman fort, base for a fleet, residence of the ruling Babenberg dynasty, center of trade. Yet floods have also repeatedly destroyed river-side roads and fields, inundating the town and destroying valuable property. Egon witnessed two: in 1897 and in 1899. At times like these, the townspeople pilgrimaged to their water crucifix. It was revered by fishermen and boatmen alike and protected by a small chapel. On All Saints' Day, people



gathered there to commemorate the dead taken out of the Danube. And they prayed to the water saint, John of Nepomuk, for intercession, asking that Tulln be spared the next ice floes.

### **X** Römerturm Town history or Egon and the ancient Romans



Here you find out why the ancient Romans settled in Tulln and where medieval cargo vessels anchored; what Egon's family owed the emperor and how a flanking tower became a salt warehouse.

Fully preserved Roman tower, ca. 1918

Iron clanking, men shouting, horses whinnying. The Roman soldiers stationed at Fort Comagenis were ready at all times. They protected the Noric Limes from barbarian attacks. Its exposed location at a Danube ford made Tulln a strategic transport junction in the first century AD for the Roman legions and in the Middle Ages for merchants from the north. The tower next to the fort was used to keep the landing stage safe for trading vessels. The Kaiser-Franz-Josefs-Bahn was already operating in Egon's school years. An iron railroad bridge was built



across the river. As station master of a district seat, Egon's father was a town dignitary. The old Roman tower became an arsenal and salt warehouse.

### **XII** Römermuseum Roman Latin or Egon and the imperial convent



Former sanatorium, now the Roman Museum

Here you find out why the local Dominican nuns had no worries about money and where the insane resided in Tulln; why Egon's father was dismissed and how the old convent became a Roman museum.

They had good connections, the noble nuns at the Imperial Convent at Tulln, first established in 1280. Later Friedrich III granted it numerous privileges. It had no money worries to be sure. When new members took the veil, they contributed their dowry to the convent. Then a fire destroyed the convent and the church. The nuns went into debt rebuilding them. No money, no convent life. In Egon's days a sanatorium was housed there. Many patients suffered from hallucinations. Egon's father certainly did in the late stages of his battle with syphilis. The con-



vent would be repurposed decades after Egon's death. In 2001, the Roman Museum opened its doors with objects found at the former Roman cavalry fort.

# Schiele family grave



Sammlung Gradisch (Photo: Christoph Fuchs) / Photographer: Josef Mülle

Schiele family, ca. 1893

Some of Egon Schiele's family is buried here. The famous artist was born in Tulln on June



12, 1890. The Schiele family grave contains the mortal remains of Egon's parents Adolf (1850-1905) and Marie (1862-1935) and of his older sister Elvira (1883-1893).

### Egon-Schiele-Garten Lebensbrüche oder: Egon und die zerbrochene Kette



Egon Schiele 1914

Was Egons Kindheit prägte. Weshalb er erst mit 8 Jahren in die Schule kam. Und wie er sich später selbst aus den Ketten der Konventionen befreite.

In vielen Künstlerbiografien gibt es dramatische Lebensbrüche. So auch bei Egon Schiele. Nach der wohlbehüteten Kindheit mit Privatlehrer kommt er im dritten Schuljahr in die Volksschule. Er ist der Außenseiter. Hat ihn diese Erfahrung verändert? Sein Lebensweg ist jedenfalls geprägt vom Bruch mit den geltenden Konventionen. Das zeigt sich in seinen Bildern und seinem Lebensstil. Spiegelungen faszinieren ihn. Später wird er ganze Städte auf die Leinwand bannen, untrennbar verbunden mit ihren Reflexionen im Wasser. Wer heute durch die GARTEN



TULLN mit ihren Teichen schlendert, kann sich der Frage nicht entziehen: Was hätte Schiele hier wohl gesehen? Welche Spiegelungen hätten ihn wohl innehalten lassen?

### Egon Schiele in Tulln Other Worthwhile Sights:

#### Egon Schiele Museum

Donaulände 28 A-3430 Tulln an der Donau, Austria Phone: +43 (0)2272/64 570 E-mail: info@egon-schiele.eu www.egon-schiele.eu

#### Hours

April - October Wed to Sun & holidays 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

#### Egon Schiele's Birthplace

Tulln Train Station Bahnhofstrasse 69 A-3430 Tulln an der Donau, Austria Phone: +43 (0)2272/690 135 E-mail: stadtamt@tulln.gv.at www.tulln.at/erleben

#### Hours

April - October daily 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., November - March daily 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

#### Egon Schiele Garten – Garten Tulln

Am Wasserpark 1 A-3430 Tulln an der Donau, Austria Phone: +43 (0)2272/68 188 E-mail: office@diegartentulln.at www.diegartentulln.at

#### Hours

April - October daily 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

### Egon Schiele...

#### ... Interesting Book:

#### Egon Schiele – Der Anfang

(Hirmerverlag) bilingual German & English, available at the Egon Schiele Museum

### ... His World:

#### **Schiele Town Tour**

Info & Booking: Tulln Tourist Information Office Phone: +43 (0)2272/67 566-0

#### **Schiele Garden Tour**

Info & Booking: Garten Tulln Phone: +43 (0)2272/68 188

### ... Delectables:

#### **Schiele Torte**

Konditorei Wagner, Hauptplatz 23, A-3430 Tulln, Austria

#### **Schiele Chocolate**

Weltladen Tulln Minoritenplatz 6, A-3430 Tulln, Austria

#### ... Items to Take Home with You:

#### Souvenirs

Tulln Tourist Information Office Minoritenplatz 2, A-3430 Tulln, Austria

Egon Schiele Museum Donaulände 28, A-3430 Tulln, Austria

### Encountering Young Egon

Scan the QR code off the sign (www.i-nigma. mobi) with your smartphone or tablet. You can interact with Tulln and its history at every station along the trail. You listen to original texts, look at pictures from Schiele's time or even make a drawing yourself. The trail is routed in a way that lets you come into direct contact with the town and its inhabitants. Feel free to take a break at one of the sidewalk cafés along the way. Who knows, you may even meet the artist Gert Linke at some point!



Listen to the stories and immerse yourself in the days of young Egon.



There are pictures showing you what the streets of Tulln looked like when young Egon lived here.



Feel free to make a drawing yourself.



Or bake the way Marie Schiele once did.



Play as kids did in Egon's days.



Relax and enjoy a cup of coffee and a piece of Schiele Torte, for example.



Let these moving pictures captivate you.



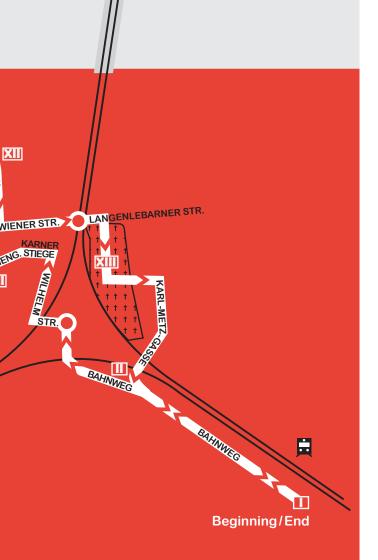


Special theme circular trail Begins & ends at: Tulln train station Distance: 3.6 km Walking time: About 90 min. Difficulty: Easy – handicapped accessible

### Egon Schiele and Tulln.

The artist – as much admired as he was controversial – spent about a third of his short life here.

Many Tulln pictures attest to how closely connected he was to his home town. This special theme trail guides you to some of little Egon's favorite local haunts, giving you insights into his



childhood in fin de siècle Tulln, a town caught between the traditional and the modern. Immerse yourself in this setting and in the works at the Schiele Museum. They show how masterful Egon was even as a young boy.

# Emulate young Egon and let your creativity flow free:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date

Please submit your drawing at Tourimusinformation Tulln or drop it in a postbox. The best works will be exhibited or rewarded with a gift!

My Details
Please send me news about the latest happenings in Tulln.
Please inform me about new offers and events pretaining to Egon Schiele, the most famous son of the city.
First/Last Name
e-mail
Phone
Date
I consent to my data being further used electronically. Employees of the involved companies and their families are not eligible for participation. The winner will be notified. Any recourse to courts of law is excluded.



### **Gert Linke**



Gert Linke is the artist who fashioned the objects along the Schiele Trail. He was born in Tulln in 1948 and completed studies at the University

<u>Katr</u>in Werzinger

for Applied Arts in Vienna. He has worked as an independent sculptor in Tulln since 1973. He also taught at the university from 1981 to 1984.

Linke creates clever and witty sculptures out of wood, iron or stone, superbly crafted works of high formal quality.



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www.tulln.at/erleben/en/schiele

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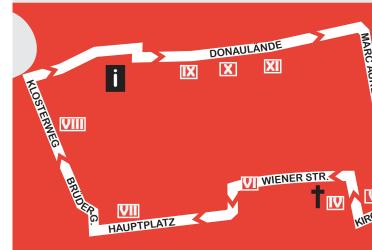
□ Please send me news about the latest happenings in Tulln.

How I found out about the Egon Schiele Trail:

I consent to my data being further used electronically. Employees of the involved companies and their families are not eligible for participation. The winner will be notified. Any recourse to courts of law is excluded. **Tourismusinformation Tulln** Minoritenplatz 2 A-3430 Tulln/Donau







### Tips and ideas for further

**Tulln experiences:** 

Tulln Tourist Information Office Minoritenplatz 2, A-3430 Tulln, Austria Phone: +43 (0) 2272/675 66 E-mail: tullner-donauraum@donau.com www.tullnerdonauraum.com www.tulln.at/erleben

#### Hours

May - September Mon - Fri 9a.m. - 7 p.m. Sat, Sun and holidays 10a.m. - 7 p.m. October - April Mon - Fri 9a.m. - 3 p.m.

