

Napoleon at Hollabrunn

- Victory to the cavalry

2. to 6. August 2006

Austria's biggest historical re-enactment



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Invitation to take part

Following the great success of the previous year's "Napoleon at Hollabrunn", we have **developed our concept even further**: not content with 230 re-enactors, around 8,000 visitors, 35 historical market stalls and a 40,000 m² re-enactment field.

This time, before the big public event, there will be a **separate programme exclusively for active re-enactors**.

The high point will be the first Hollabrunn Re-enacter Cup. The rules of the competition are unique – a tremendous challenge for experimental archaeologists!



The historical background

On 16 November 1805, an engagement takes place. The approach of winter is heralded to the French, Russian and Austrian troops in the form of night-time frosts and drizzle. The engagement is – in retrospect – decisive to the outcome of the battle. And brings suffering not only to the population in and around Hollabrunn.

Murat versus Bagration

The focus of the historical action revolves around the story of Prince Murat, Napoleon's brother-in-law and commander-in-chief of the cavalry, as well as the confrontation with Prince Bagration and the Austrian-Russian army.

"A furious letter dated 16 November 1805 written by Napoleon in Vienna to his brother-in-law Murat, who was waiting before Hollabrunn, urges haste: *"I find it impossible to find the words to convey to you my dissatisfaction. You only command my vanguard and have no right to conclude a cease-fire without my orders ... In crossing the bridge at Vienna, the Austrians made a fatal error – you were duped by an*



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adjutant of the Tsar; I don't understand how such a thing could happen to you." The very same day, at around 5 p.m., with darkness falling, Marshall Murat, with around 30,000 troops, attacks Bagration's positions (defended by approx. 8000 men) between Schönggrabern and Grund in order to prevent the withdrawal of the Russians towards Znaim and Brünn and the main force of the army....."

Hollabrunn 2006 – World history relived

This event will be brought to life again in August 2006. This time with better weather and in the presence of a large crowd of fascinated onlookers. An impressive spectacle with **more than 40 cavalry and over 300 re-enactors – the biggest re-enactment event in Austria.**



A first within Austria

Our presentation of living history doesn't end with the re-enactment of historical events for the public. Let's be honest: what a re-enactor enjoys best is to be able to show what they can do, without staged manoeuvres, without restrictions in space and time:

An open field battle according to historically authentic rules, but with an uncertain outcome!

New game – new rules: the open field battle

On the open terrain there are various points which have to be reached and various tactical exercises which need to be dealt with: for example taking the bridge, which is defended by chasseurs, defending an artillery position, scattering a line of skirmishers etc..... it can (and should) happen, time and again, that the paths of the French and Austrian-Russian troops cross: the outcome of these confrontations is a matter of strategic skill, historical knowledge – and ultimately also the decision of a referee. The important thing is to act correctly, with tactical consideration. And the commanders can, for the first time, prove their military skill. We provide referees who – on the basis of historically correct knowledge – evaluate the action/the losses/the successes. The exercises reflect the reality. They demand that each re-enactor reacts in a historically correct way.



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Programm
ausschließlich
für aktive
Reenacter!
Einzigartig in Österreich!

The terrain

In Hollabrunn, a large area of terrain of around 3 km² in size is available to us. The terrain could be tailor-made for our purposes: meadows, hills, woodland.



The challenge: the first Hollabrunn Re-enactors Cup

The victorious unit in the strategic game wins the first Hollabrunn Re-enactors Cup. As a bonus, there is an additional cash prize. This cup has to be defended the following year in Hollabrunn.

Another highlight of the programme: Cavalry re-enactment with international participants

Numerous potential re-enactors have registered their interest, and we have a chance of bringing Europe's best cavalry re-enactors to Hollabrunn. We will be able to provide horses in individual cases.



The programme for re-enactors in detail (not open to the public)

Wednesday 2 August 2006:

Arrival of the cavalry by 18:00 hrs.

Thursday 3 August 2006:

Arrival of the cavalry by 09:00 hrs

09.00 hrs. Training, individual riding, riding-in, division into units, familiarisation with the horse, drill in formations, forming up in twos, canter, gallop, charge.

Arrival of the infantry by: open end.

Freitag, 4. August 2006:

06.30 hrs. Reveille, breakfast,

08.30 hrs. Troops march off to the "open battle". Tactical exercises such as: • Battle for the bridge • Civilian population have to be protected • Fight with enemy skirmishers • Cavalry provide reconnaissance support • March into position following a map of the terrain, during the course of which historical/tactical battlefield problems have to be solved, e.g. a skirmish between out posts, scattering a line of skirmishers, taking an enemy position etc.) with support from a referee.



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App. 15.00 hrs. arrival in camp
(award of the 1st Hollabrunn Re-enacter
Cup for best performance, most points,
etc. at general meeting held at approx.
20:00 hrs)

Programme of events open to the public:

App. 15.00 hrs Troops are transported to
Hollabrunn/Schöngrabern/Nappersdorf for
street fighting engagement (for infantry),

20.00 hrs. Life in camp, campfire, music



**Saturday 5 August 2006:
(Programme of events open to public)**

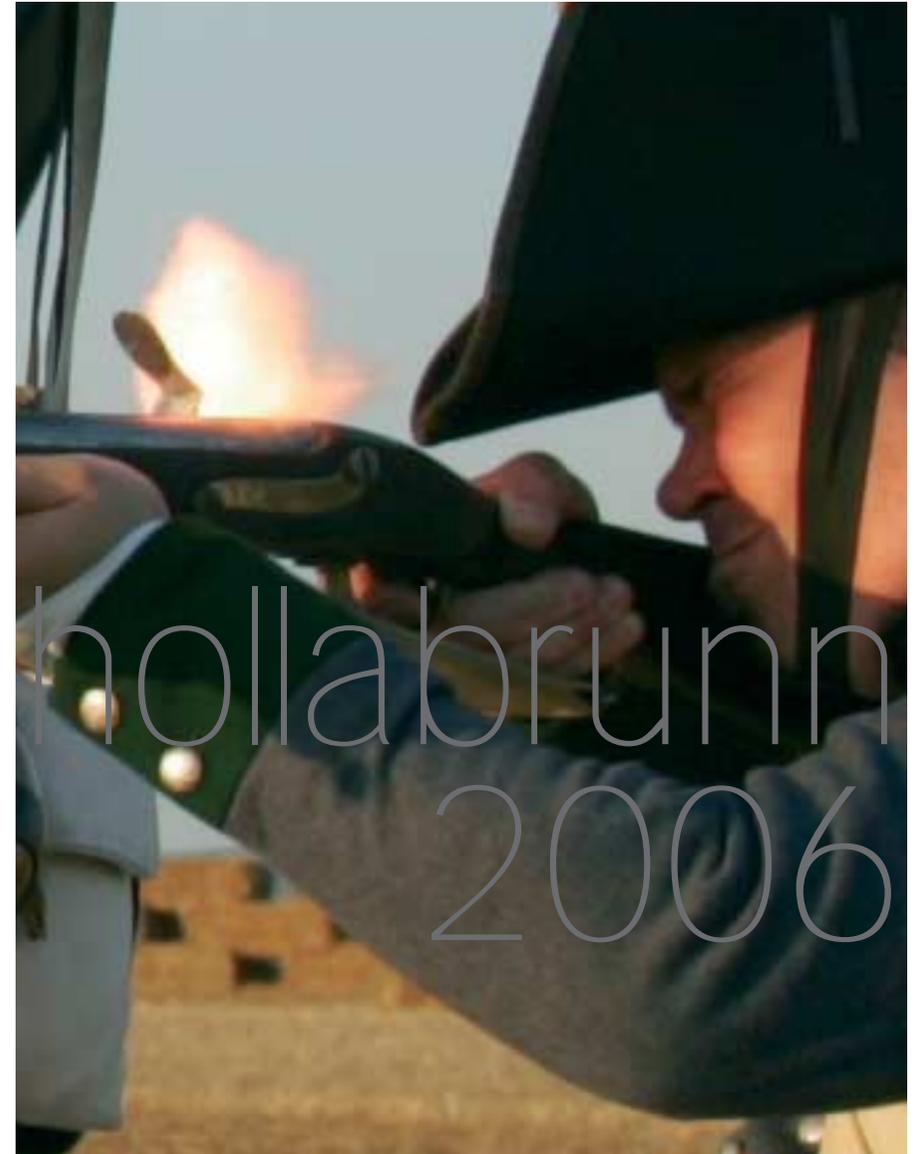
07.00 hrs Reveille, breakfast

09.00 hrs. Camp: Presentation themes:
Presentation of the cavalry + infantry:
equipment, regimentals, uniforms, drill
Recruiting (selected members of the public
will be included in the drills), Riding training
for recruits (mounting and seat, on the lead
rope, wheel, riding in formation at all paces)
Fencing training (for officers): individual,
lesson, training with partners; formal duel
Artillery drill and loading drill with firing

Competition between the units: obstacle
riding, precision in the handling of the
weapons (striking at targets while in motion)

- Recruiting (re-enactment) including
volunteers from the public, selection of the
recruits into different troops (grenadier or
rifleman), putting on uniform, training + sub
sequent inspection by the general
(attention, drill, load/fire)

10.30 hrs. Historical demonstration of a cavalry attack
on a company of infantry (presentation of



the actual numbers of troops, firing distances, engagement distances), demonstration of the different types of fire (volley fire, running fire, skirmishers)

- 12.00 hrs. Lunch
- 12.30 hrs. Welcoming of VIP guests
- 13:30 hrs Parade on the re-enactment field/presentation of the individual units
- 14:30 hrs Battle re-enactment
- 16:00 hrs Presentation themes (cavalry + infantry: equipment, regimental uniforms), life in camp, campfire
- 18:00 hrs Evening meal
- 19:00 hrs Performance of period music
- 21:30 hrs Salute fired by the artillery
- 22:00 hrs Camp with period music



2006

**Sunday 6 August 2006:
(Programme of events open to public)**

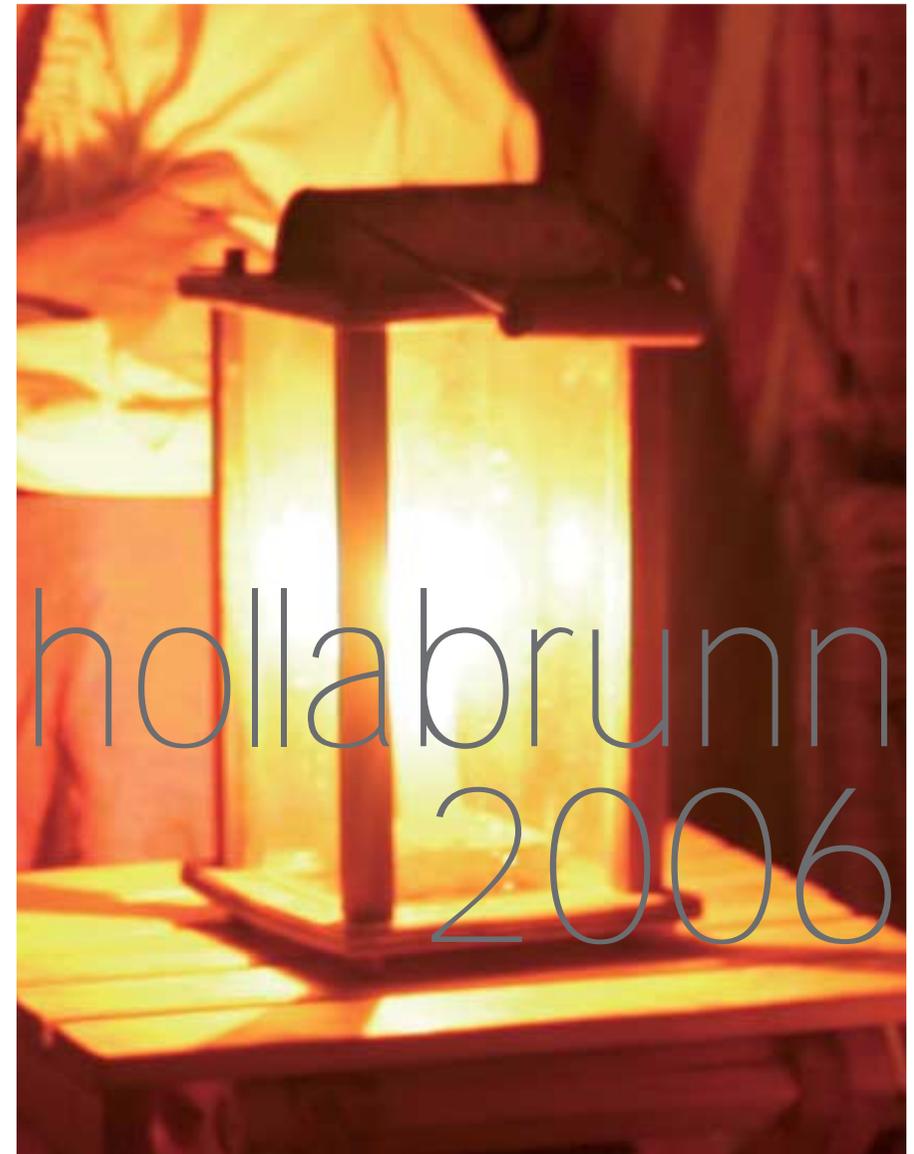
08.00 hrs Reveille, breakfast

10.00 hrs. Remembrance service at the Obelisk

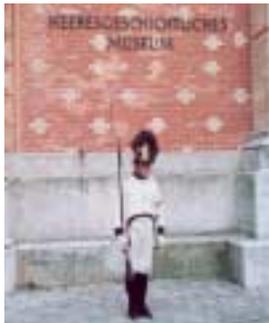
09.00 hrs. Camp: Presentation themes:
Presentation of the cavalry + infantry:
equipment, regimentals, uniforms, drill
Recruiting (selected members of the public
will be included in the drills), Riding training
for recruits (mounting and seat, on the lead
rope, wheel, riding in formation at all paces)
Fencing training (for officers): individual,
lesson, training with partners; formal duel
Artillery drill and loading drill with firing

Competition between the units: obstacle
riding, precision in the handling of the
weapons (striking at targets while in motion)

11.30 hrs. Sword demonstration
Sword training for cavalry on foot, then on
horseback Demonstration of paces (walk,
canter, gallop, charge)



- 12:00 hrs. Lunch
- 14:00 hrs Parade on the re-enactment field/presentation of the individual units
- 14:30 hrs Battle re-enactment
- 16:00 hrs Break camp



2006

What else do we offer:

- Re-enactment field with an area of approx. 60,000 m²
- Campsite for re-enactors and horses
- Catering from day of arrival for re-enactors (meat and vegetables to cook yourself, water, beer) and horses (water, hay, oats).
- Firewood and straw for palliasses
- Black powder
- Sanitary facilities including showers
- Contribution towards travelling costs for uniformed re-enactors

...and anyone who was there in 2005 knows that our organisation strives to accommodate every wish. Take part in 2006 and don't miss out on this unique opportunity. The budget situation requires that we prioritise the registrations for the event according to their date of receipt. The closing date for registration is 1 March 2006. Detailed information will be sent directly to the groups following registration.



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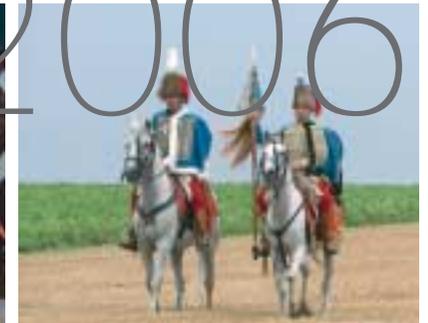
we request that:

- the cavalry arrive by Wednesday, 2.8.2006,
- the infantry arrive by Thursday, 3.8.2006
- re-enactors bring along their uniforms, equipment, tents and cooking utensils.

Registration:

Starting now (in writing please), addressed to:

- **Werbung&Co**
Werbe- und Veranstaltungsagentur GmbH
Mr. Wolfgang Horak
Am Mühlgraben 213, A-2392 Grub
Tel.: +2258 30232 21, Fax +2258 30232 11
office@werbung-co.at, www.werbung-co.at
- **Mr. Romain Baulesch**
MajorGeneral of the Italienarmee
r.baulesch@vip.at



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Registration:

- 1) Anti-French allies
- French and their allies

2) Precise designation of the unit (website if applicable):

3) Commander/commandant/contact person:

Address, tel. no., e-mail, website

4) Anticipated number of uniformed participants:
 ___soldiers ___stallholders ___civilian re-enactors

5) Anticipated number of artillery pieces:_____

6) Anticipated number of own horses:_____

Anticipated number of supplied horses required :_____

7) Arriving on:_____

Anticipated time of arrival:_____

Other information:_____

