

AUSTRIA INFO

Tourist map
2011

IT'S GOT
TO BE
AUSTRIA.





A perfect holiday

Whatever your expectations of a holiday might be – Austria has a wealth of offers to suit every taste.

Austria is a small country, compact, easy to get to know, delightful to see. There is a spectacular scenery around every corner: vineyards, ancient castles and venerable abbeys overlooking the Danube, wooded hills rising out of the lush farmland, lakes dotted with sailboats and ringed by soaring mountains, Alpine peaks and their icy world of glaciers reaching for the sky.

The towns are as varied as the countryside around them: historic cities where architectural masterpieces from three or four centuries face one another across narrow lanes or sweeping squares, market towns that have barely changed since the Middle Ages, mountain villages with neat little houses.

Whether classic or contemporary music – playbills in Austria feature every genre

Austria has always been a bridgehead between cultures and ranks throughout the world as a major cultural power. Cultural institutions such as the New Year's Concert of the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra (www.wienerphilharmoniker.at), performances of the Spanish Riding School (www.srs.at) or Sunday mass sung by the Vienna Boys' Choir (www.wsk.at) are visited and immensely enjoyed by visitors from all over the world.

Cultural activity never ceases

Cultural activity in Austria never ceases. The regular events are spectacular enough: opera, concerts and theater, opera and concert seasons in other Austrian cities, palace concerts and the Marionette Theater in Salzburg. These special events are renowned world-wide:

- 1 Taking a rest on a mountain pasture near Grossarl. Austria's mountains are a paradise for hikers.

Our service. Your holiday.

Do you want information about a specific topic? Or are you looking for ideas and suggestions? We invite you to take advantage of our Holiday Service.

Write us an e-mail: info@austria.info
Or visit us on: **www.austria.info**



Holidays in Austria
www.austria.info



- 2 After a long hike
- 3 The stylish Mole West on Lake Neusiedl
- 4 Dairymaid at a mountain hut near Filzmoos
- 5 The Lentos art museum in Linz
- 6 The Konzerthaus in Vienna – a venerable venue for the world's best orchestras
- 7 Graz, Austria's second largest city
- 8 The Life Ball at Vienna's City hall attracts visitors from far and wide



- Motorway
- Motorway under construction
- Motorroad
- Motorroad under construction
- International trunk road
- Main connecting road
- Regional trunk road
- Road numbering
- Railroad
- Car ferry
- International airport
- National border
- Regional boundary





Year round	Salzburg	Mozart Serenades at the fortress
Easter	Salzburg	Easter Festival
May/June	Vienna	Vienna Festival
May – October	Eisenstadt	Haydn matinées
Mid June	Feldkirch	Schubertiade
Mid June – mid July	Graz	Styriarte
Late June – early August	Innsbruck	Concerts at Ambras Palace
Early July – late August	Bad Ischl	Operetta Weeks
Late July – late August	Salzburg	Salzburg Festival
July/August	Bregenz	Bregenz Festival
July/August	Ossiach/Villach	Carinthian Summer
Early September	Linz	Ars Electronica
Mid September	Eisenstadt	International Haydn Days
Mid September	Linz	International Bruckner Festival
September/October	Millstatt	Musical autumn

Enjoy life the leisurely way

At pastry shops, in coffee houses, in beer gardens, in wine taverns. Savor the superb Austrian food which makes every meal a pleasure in itself. And relax with the friendly Austrians who genuinely like foreign visitors. Shop for outstanding handcrafted items or native dresses, jackets and hats.

Some Basic Facts on Austria

Area: 83,858 km² (32,376 square miles)

Population: 8.1 mio

Capital: Vienna (pop. 1.6 mio)

Major cities and their populations

Graz 250,000

Linz 190,100

Salzburg 150,000

Innsbruck 110,400

Languages

German is spoken as a first language by 99 % of the Austrian population.

English is by far the leading second language.

Topography

The western part of the country is mountainous; valley bottoms have elevations between 1,500 (500 m) and 2,500 (800 m) feet, peaks range from 8,000 (2,500 m) to more than 12,000 (3,800 m) feet; villages lie anywhere up to the 6,000-foot (1,800 m) line. In eastern Austria, a central line of 6,000 to 8,000-foot mountains is paralleled by lower hills on the north and south sides; the lowlands of the Danube Valley and extreme eastern parts of Austria are on the 600 to 800-foot level.

Climate

At a latitude of 47° North, the climate is moderate and generally agreeable. Summer days can be hot, with temperatures occasionally reaching 32° C / 89° F and more, summer evenings are usually cool. Precipitation is quite evenly distributed over the entire year, but May, September and the first half of October tend to be the driest, April and November the wettest periods. The winter snow cover lasts from late December through March in the valleys, from November through May at about 2,000 m (6000 ft) and becomes permanent above about 2,500 m (8,500 feet).

Clothing

Warm clothes and shoes or boots with slip-proof soles are essential in winter. In spring and fall, a few warm pieces and a topcoat or raincoat are advisable. In summer, a sweater or cardigan and an all-purpose raincoat will serve well, as evenings are cool, especially in the mountain regions. Adjust your wardrobe to the areas you will be visiting: an extra formal piece for an extended stay in the cities, a little more wool and some what sturdier walking shoes if you go into mountain country, a down parka and a heavy sweater if you plan on outdoor activities high in the Alps.

Temperatures in Austria's major cities (°C)

Place	May	July	Sep.	Nov.	Jan.	Mar.	
Vienna	19	24	20	7	1	8	max.
	10	15	11	3	-6	1	min.
Klagenfurt	20	25	20	1	-1	9	max.
	8	13	10	1	-8	-1	min.
Salzburg	18	25	20	8	2	9	max.
	8	12	4	-4	-5	3	min.
Innsbruck	20	25	20	8	1	17	max.
	8	13	4	-4	-4	4	min.

Getting there

Austria's national carrier, Austrian Airlines (www.aua.com) offers frequent direct services from many countries. Even more flights to Austria are offered by numerous other airlines – directly or through other European cities. Vienna is the main international airport but some international flights also connect to Graz, Innsbruck, Klagenfurt, Linz and Salzburg.

Entry

When entering Austria as tourists a valid passport assures admission for three months for citizens from most non-European countries without any further formalities. For detailed visa and health certificate requirements please contact Austrian embassy in your country.

Customs

Travelers residing in a non-EU-country are not liable to pay duty on personal articles for their own use or for performing their business tasks. Likewise, overseas travelers over 17 years of age may carry up to 200 cigarettes or



50 cigars or 250 grams of tobacco, 1 liter of distilled liquor and 2.25 liters of wine or 3 litres of beer duty-free. Importing an amount of more than € 10,000 to Austria requires an official customs declaration.

Important information

Money

The EURO, €, is the official currency in Austria. If your banking card features the Maestro or Cirros symbol and your PIN code does not exceed four digits it can be used for withdrawing money from Austrian cash machines.

Banking Hours

In the cities, banks are open generally from 8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 1:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Thursday. Banks are closed Saturday and Sunday. Exchange offices at airports and major city rail terminals are open seven days a week from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., in resort areas a few hours each day seven days a week.

Shopping Hours

Stores open at 8:00 or 9:00 a.m. and close at 6:00 or 7:00 p.m. Monday through Friday (12:00 noon or 6:00 p.m. on Saturdays). Shops are closed on public holidays. In many tourist resorts, shops might offer extended shopping hours.

VAT Refund www.globalrefund.com

Residents of non-EU countries purchasing goods in excess of € 75.01 in one store per purchase day can apply for a refund of the Value Added Tax paid, if they export the goods within three months. Ask the store's staff to complete the required tax-free check. Then present this check together with the goods purchased to customs officials when leaving the European Union for validation. Once the tax-free check is validated, the VAT-refund less a handling fee can be obtained at many cash refund desks located at airports or major border crossings. Alternatively, you can send the form for mail refund using the tax-free envelope. Be aware that customs validation can only be obtained when leaving the last EU-country on your trip. Inform yourself about customs validation procedures on trains before departure.

Electricity

Electric current in Austria is 220 volts AC at 50 cycles per second. If your gadget needs another voltage you have to apply an adapter/convertor.

Medical Treatment

Medical standards are very high, and no town or village is without a doctor or pharmacy. Evenings and Sundays, pharmacies operate on a rota system: when closed, they display notices showing locations of others that will be open. For medical emergency service, check the telephone directory or contact any police station.

Emergency Phone Numbers:

Fire Department 122 Police 133 Ambulance 144

Communications

Telephone

For telephone calls within Austria, zero (0) has to be dialed before the respective area code. The dialing code for Austria is 0043.

Internet, Modems & E-mail

If you need Internet access or a modem outlet, check with your hotel in advance. Newer and larger hotels are equipped with modem outlets in their rooms. Some hotels have business centers which allow access to their modems or have the necessary adapter plugs. Some hotels offer internet service and internet cafes.

Automobile Travel

Minimum driving age in Austria: 17.

Documents

Non-residents 17 years of age or over who intend to operate a motor vehicle in Austria need a **driver's license** that entitles them to operate a motor vehicle at their usual place of residence in conjunction with the **International Driver's License**, which can be obtained from your local automobile club.

Car registration papers are required but no customs documents for the car.

Austrian traffic regulations are similar to those in force in other European countries (right-hand traffic). For driving in Austria during the winter months, winter tyres are essential and in extreme cases snow chains have to be used. These can be hired at all major border crossings. Children under the age of 12 are not allowed on front seats, unless their height is more than 1.50 m. They must be seated in the back in special children's seats with seatbelts fastened.

Third-party insurance is obligatory. The wearing of seatbelts is compulsory. Cars have to carry a first-aid kit, warning vests and a warning triangle.

Speed

Where no different limits are specifically posted general speed limits are:
50 km/h (31 mph) in town
100 km/h (62 mph) on all roads and highways out of town
130 km/h (81 mph) on expressways.

Drunken driving

(Permissible alcohol limit 0.5‰ – one glass of wine or beer!) is punishable and can lead to confiscation of driver's license and heavy fines.

Motorcycles

The wearing of crash helmets is compulsory for riders and passengers. Dipped headlights must be used at all times.

Expressways subject to toll

Austria's expressways and multi-lane highways (also city highways) are subject to toll. The toll is validated by purchasing a sticker called "Vignette" that has to be attached to car's windshields. The annual toll is € 76.20 for



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automobiles. For people on vacation, 2-month stickers (€ 22.90) and 10-day stickers (€ 7.90) are available. Infringements of the toll regulation will be punished. The toll stickers may be purchased at automobile clubs in Austria and neighbouring countries, at gas stations and stores close to the border as well as at post offices, tobacco stores and gas stations all over Austria. For vehicles over 3.5 t maximum permissible weight a GO-Box is required. Please visit www.go-maut.at for detailed information.

Car Rental

Minimum renting age: 21, 23 or 25 years, depending on company policy.

Documents: Driver's license with International Driver's License, all other documents come with the car.

Insurance: Most rental cars are insured for higher coverage than the legal minimum, all of them fully meet Austrian requirements.

Deposit: Car rental companies require a cash deposit amounting to the approximate total of the anticipated rental cost; this deposit is waived if the renter uses the credit card of a particular company or another accepted credit card (generally American Express, Diners Club, Master Card or Visa).

Taxi

In larger cities taxi meters are officially controlled. Surcharges apply for luggage carried in the trunk. From Vienna to the airport special "airport taxis" may be ordered which are cheaper than normal taxis. In smaller towns, fixed charges for certain destinations apply, while fares for overland journeys are agreed upon in advance. Taxis are hired at specially marked locations, or in larger cities stopped when cruising.

By Coach www.eurolines.com

The Coach Company **Eurolines** in co-operation with National Express serves Vienna, Salzburg and Linz in Austria.

For detailed information, please visit the website www.eurolines.com

By Rail www.oebb.at

The railroad is the main mode of city-to-city overland transportation in Austria. Comfortable trains offer frequent service on 3,600 (5800 km) miles of rail tracks. Most trains carry First and Second Classes. The roughly 50% premium for First Class travel buys softer upholstery and more space. Seat reservation for First Class is free, for Second Class € 3.00.

Seven intercity lines depart every two hours in the following directions:

Vienna – Salzburg – Innsbruck – Bregenz (via Kufstein) & return

Vienna – Salzburg – Innsbruck (via Zell am See) & return

Vienna – Graz & return

Vienna – Villach & return

Bruck/Mur – Villach & return

Graz – Linz & return and

Graz – Bischofshofen – Innsbruck & return

Travelling times on intercity trains:

Vienna – Salzburg: 3 hours 20 min. With the new railjet train: 2 hours 50 min

Salzburg – Innsbruck: 2 hours

Innsbruck – Bregenz: 2 hours 40 min

Vienna – Graz: 2 hours 25 min

Graz – Linz: 3 hours 25 min

Graz – Innsbruck: 6 hours

In addition, frequent Eurocity trains with fewer stops en route offer comfortable and very fast service between Austria and many European countries.

Discount Fares

The Austrian Railpass

Purchasable only outside Europe, provides 3 days of unlimited train travel within 15 days, with the option of purchasing up to 5 additional days. It also entitles to discounts on Danube steamers.

Eurailpass and Eurail Selectpass

Austria is part of the EURAILPASS (18 European countries) and the EURAIL SELECTPASS (select 3 to 5 bordering European countries), both to be purchased outside Europe and granting reduced railway fares as well as various discounts on a number of sights and attractions. www.eurail.com

The European East Pass

Also purchasable only outside Europe. Entitles to travel within Austria, Hungary, the Czech and Slovak Republics as well as Poland. It is available for 5 days in 1 month with the option of purchasing 5 additional rail days.

Lake and River Boats

Scheduled boat services are available on a number of Austrian lakes from May through September.

The use of private motorboats for recreational purposes is not permitted on Austrian lakes for environmental reasons.

Passenger boats are scheduled daily on the Danube between May and September and selected excursion services are offered from mid-April to mid-October.

Cruises of varying durations are operated throughout the year by Austrian, German, Romanian, Bulgarian and Russian boats.

The **Hovercraft/Hydrofoil** between Vienna and Budapest is a practical means of transportation between the two capitals. The trip takes 5 hours downstream (Vienna – Budapest) and 6 hours and 20 minutes upstream (Budapest – Vienna).

For information and reservations regarding boat travel on the Danube river please contact: info@ddsg-blue-danube.at



- 9 Austrian wines are frequently award winners
- 10 View from Vienna's St. Stephen's Cathedral
- 11 Recovering in a heated lake-pool in lake Wolfgangsee
- 12 Skiing and enjoying the amazing view
- 13 Skating in front of Vienna's City Hall

Austrian Public Holidays 2010/2011

New Year's Day	January 1	January 1
Epiphany	January 6	January 6
Easter Monday	April 5	April 25
Labor Day	May 1	May 1
Ascension Day	May 13	June 2
Whit Monday	May 24	June 13
Corpus Christi	June 3	June 23
Feast of the Assumption	August 15	August 15
National Holiday	October 26	October 26
All Saints' Day	November 1	November 1
Feast of the Immaculate Conception	December 8	December 8
Christmas Day	December 25	December 25
St. Stephen's Day	December 26	December 26

Ordering tickets directly from the source

Vienna

September–June: Opera and operetta season (closed in July and August).
October–June: Concert season.

The much sought-after tickets of the

Vienna State Opera www.wiener-staatsoper.at

and **Volksoper** www.volksoper.at

can be reserved directly at:

Kartenvertrieb der Wiener Staatsoper

Hanuschgasse 3, 1010 Vienna, Austria

Fax: +43 1 51444 2969

Volksoper Wien, Stadtbüro

Goethegasse 1, 1010 Vienna, Austria

Fax: +43 1 51444 3669, www.culturall.at

Tickets for the **Vienna Boys' Choir** can be ordered by mail at least eight weeks ahead of time through:

Hofmusikkapelle, Hofburg

1010 Vienna, Austria, Fax: +43 1 533 99 2775

whmk@chello.at, www.wsk.at

or from the travel agency **Mondial**

Faulmannngasse 4, 1040 Vienna, Austria

Tel.: +43 1 58804141, Fax: +43 1 5871268, ticket@mondial.at

Written orders for performances of the **Spanish Riding School** beginning at 10:45 a.m. on Sundays and 7:00 p.m. on Wednesdays have to be directed to:

Spanish Riding School

Michaeler Platz 1, 1010 Vienna, Austria

Fax: +43 1 533903140,

tickets@srs.at, www.srs.at

For Concert Tickets in Vienna contact:

Gesellschaft der Musikfreunde

Bösendorfer Straße 12, 1010 Vienna, Austria

Tel.: +43 1 5058190, fax: +43 1 50591-94

tickets@musikverein.at, www.musikverein.at

or:

Konzerthausgesellschaft

Lothringerstraße 20, 1030 Vienna, Austria

Tel.: +43 1 242002, fax: +43 1 24200110

ticket@konzerthaus.at, www.konzerthaus.at

Salzburg

For **Salzburg Festival** tickets between late July and late August or for the

Salzburg Easter Festival and the **Whitsun Concert Series**

contact: Postfach 140, 5010 Salzburg, Austria, tel.: +43 662 8045-500,

fax: +43 662 8045-555, www.salzburgfestival.at

Detailed information on Austria

Web addresses of all Austrian provinces:

Vienna:	www.vienna.info
Salzburger Land:	www.salzburgerland.com
Tirol:	www.tirol.at
Upper Austria:	www.oberoesterreich.at
Lower Austria:	www.niederoesterreich.at
Styria:	www.steiermark.com
Carinthia:	www.carinthia.at
Vorarlberg:	www.vorarlberg.travel
Burgenland:	www.burgenland.info

Web addresses of Austria's major cities:

Vienna:	www.vienna.info
Graz:	www.visitgraz.com
Salzburg:	www.salzburg.info
Innsbruck:	www.innsbruck.info
Linz:	www.linz.at/tourismus

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