



Working for the IAEA

A Guide for US Citizens

2023 Edition

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From the Editor

Your time at the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) is not just about work; it is also about meeting people from across the globe while experiencing all Vienna, Austria has to offer. This Guidebook is intended to provide practical information for United States citizens embarking on or considering an assignment at the IAEA. It will help you to make the most of this wonderful opportunity!

Since its first appearance in 1989, this guidebook has been revised frequently to reflect changes occurring at the IAEA, in the United States Support Program to IAEA Safeguards (USSP), and in Vienna. The 2023 Edition reflects these changes at the time of publication. Nevertheless, IAEA salaries, allowances, and other benefits change, as do telephone numbers, addresses, and websites. Currency exchange rates, prices, and store hours in Vienna inevitably fluctuate. We regret any inconvenience this may cause our readers. The 2023 Edition of the Guidebook was prepared by the International Safeguards Project Office (ISPO) under the auspices of the USSP and was published by Brookhaven National Laboratory (BNL).

Janine Lambert, Editor

December 2022

Working for the IAEA: A Guide for US Citizens
2023 Edition

Prepared by the International Safeguards Project Office (ISPO)
under the auspices of the United States Support Program to IAEA Safeguards (USSP)

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Printed by Brookhaven National Laboratory, Upton, New York, USA

Photo credits: IAEA, Brookhaven National Laboratory (p.11), Austrian Armed Forces (p.41), National Archives and Records Administration (p.42), Leonsbox/iStockphoto (P.48), Wien Tourismus (p.49, 66), Heisenberg Media/Flickr (p.57), Hotel Imperial (p.60), tsaiid/Flickr (p.62), Steiermark Tourismus/Jürgen Hammerschmid (p.73), Grafenegg Festival/Sonja Stangl (p.74), Donauinselfest/Elisabeth Pollak (p.74), ImPulsTanz/Karolina Miernik (p.75), ImPulsTanz/Ali Tollervey (p.76), Cha-gia Jose/Flickr (p.82), dugspr/Flickr (p.82), Neusiedler See Tourismus (p.95, 110), Stephan Rebenik/Flickr (p.98), Allura/Wikimedia Commons (p.103), Donau Niederösterreich/Lachlan Blair (p.109), Leonsbox/iStockphoto (p.48), Freepik.com (pp. 56, 57, 58, 63, 72, 80, 88, 106).

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Foreword

This Guidebook is the fourteenth in a series of guides produced by the International Safeguards Project Office (ISPO), in cooperation with IAEA Programs at Argonne, to help U.S. citizens who have been selected for an assignment with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), headquartered in Vienna, Austria. This Guidebook should be used in conjunction with our website and the IAEA Programs at Argonne website, which both contain additional information for prospective candidates and new employees and their families.

The decision to pursue employment with the IAEA is both a professional and personal one. There are many benefits and, depending on your perspective, there may be a few disadvantages. You will find that taking an assignment with the IAEA will open doors to new experiences, such as living in a foreign country, meeting experts in different fields, and working in an international, multicultural environment while supporting a worthy mission. We hope this Guidebook will provide the information you need to prepare for this new experience and become comfortable in your new surroundings so that you can take full advantage of everything your employment at the IAEA has to offer.

This Guidebook was prepared with input from numerous sources to ensure a broad spectrum of information that appeals to a wide audience. Information has been verified against reputable sources. Some is based on personal experiences and, as would be expected, is more subjective. We actively solicited input from individuals who are familiar with the IAEA, Vienna, and the United States Support Programs in order to include the most relevant information. Any suggestions or comments you may have for future editions would be greatly appreciated.

Raymond A. Diaz, Head
International Safeguards Project Office
Brookhaven National Laboratory

February 2023

The IAEA at Work

The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) is the world's focal point for scientific and technical cooperation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. Established in 1957 as an autonomous organization under the United Nations, the IAEA represents the realization of (then) US President Eisenhower's visionary "Atoms for Peace" speech to the UN General Assembly in 1953. He proposed the creation of an international body to both control and promote the use of atomic energy. The IAEA works with its Member States and multiple partners worldwide to promote the safe, secure and peaceful use of nuclear technologies.

IAEA programs and budgets are set through decisions of its policymaking bodies: the 35-member Board of Governors and the General Conference of all Member States. The Board normally meets five times a year or more frequently if required for specific situations. The General Conference takes place once a year. Reports on IAEA activities are submitted periodically, or as cases warrant, to the UN Security Council and the UN General Assembly.



"The Agency shall seek to accelerate and enlarge the contribution of atomic energy to peace, health and prosperity throughout the world."

IAEA Statute, Article I I

IAEA Director General
Mariano Grossi

The IAEA Secretariat is made up of a team of about 2500 multidisciplinary professional and support staff from more than 100 countries. Most of these men and women work at the IAEA's Headquarters in Vienna, Austria. Others work at the regional offices in Toronto and Tokyo, at liaison offices in New York and Geneva and at research laboratories in Seibersdorf (Austria) and Monaco.

The main areas of nuclear cooperation are nuclear safeguards and verification, nuclear energy, nuclear safety and security, nuclear sciences and applications, and the cross-cutting program on technical cooperation. The IAEA's work on nuclear safeguards and verification is discussed below, followed by a brief overview of the work in the other technical areas.

Safeguards Implementation at a Glance (2021)

- 186 States with safeguards agreements in force
- 138 States with additional protocols in force
- 3,042 infield verifications carried out
- 27,900 seals applied on nuclear material, facility and IAEA safeguards equipment at nuclear facilities
- 473 environmental samples & 705 nuclear material samples collected
- 148 facilities remotely monitored
- 1,072 NDA systems deployed for measuring nuclear material
- 1,378 surveillance cameras maintained at nuclear facilities



IAEA Safeguards and Verification

For more than 60 years the IAEA safeguards system has applied verification measures on nuclear material and nuclear related activities in order to assure the international community that Member States are honoring their international legal obligations to use nuclear material and technology exclusively for peaceful purposes. An effective safeguards system functions as a confidence-building measure, an early warning mechanism, and the trigger that sets in motion other responses by the international community if and when the need arises.

In recognition of the importance of IAEA safeguards, the [Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons \(NPT\)](#) requires each non-nuclear-weapon State party to the Treaty to conclude a comprehensive safeguards agreement with the IAEA and to place all nuclear material in all nuclear activities under IAEA safeguards. The IAEA is thus charged with providing credible assurances that States are in compliance with their safeguards obligations.

By definition, the safeguards system comprises an extensive set of technical measures and analytical tools by which the IAEA independently verifies the

correctness and completeness of a State's declarations about its nuclear material and nuclear-related activities.

Basically, two sets of measures are carried out according to the type of safeguards agreement and other legal arrangements in force with a State. One set of measures relates to verifying the correctness of a State's declarations about its nuclear material and activities subject to safeguards. These measures, implemented under a Comprehensive Safeguards Agreement (based on IAEA document [INFCIRC/153 \(Corr.\)](#)), are largely based on nuclear material accountancy, complemented by containment and surveillance (C/S) and other verification techniques. They enable the IAEA to verify the non-diversion and the peaceful use of declared nuclear material.

Another set of measures has strengthened the IAEA's verification capabilities. These measures are implemented under the complementary legal authority conferred by an additional protocol to a safeguards agreement concluded on the basis of the Model Additional Protocol. (This legal instrument is reproduced in IAEA document [INFCIRC/540 \(Corr.\)](#)). Under this Additional Protocol, a State is required to provide the IAEA with expanded declarations that contain information on all aspects of its nuclear fuel cycle activities, to grant the IAEA wider access rights, and to enable it to use the most advanced verification technology. It is only in a State with both a Comprehensive Safeguards Agreement and an Additional Protocol in force that the IAEA has the ability to provide broad assurances (i.e. a "broader conclusion") that all nuclear material in a State has remained in peaceful activities.

Safeguards State evaluations are carried out based on information provided by States in their declarations, on the results of IAEA verification activities, and on safeguards-relevant information obtained by the IAEA from various sources, including satellite imagery, trade data, and open sources. These evaluations, and

The Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT)

The NPT is the cornerstone of the nuclear non-proliferation régime, whose objectives are to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons and weapons technology, to foster the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, and to further the goal of achieving general and complete nuclear disarmament. The Treaty was opened for signature in 1968 and entered into force in 1970. In 1995, the Treaty was extended indefinitely. The text of the Treaty is reproduced in IAEA document INFCIRC/140, available at [IAEA.org/Publications](#).

Several other regional treaties also aim to limit the spread of nuclear weapons. These are: **Tlatelolco Treaty**, the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean; **Rarotonga Treaty**, the South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone Treaty; **Bangkok Treaty**, the Treaty on the Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone; **Pelindaba Treaty**, the African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty; **Guadalajara Declaration**, the Agreement between the Republic of Argentina and the Federative Republic of Brazil for the Exclusively Peaceful Use of Nuclear Energy; and **Euratom Treaty**, the Treaty Establishing the European Atomic Energy Community.

the independent reviews of their findings, are a key element of planning safeguards activities in a State and are fundamental for deriving safeguards conclusions about the non-diversion and misuse of declared nuclear material and, where appropriate, about the absence of undeclared nuclear material and activities in a State.

The Director General reports annually to the Board of Governors on safeguards implementation in the *Safeguards Implementation Report (SIR)* and to the general public in the Safeguards Statement, Background and Executive Summary of the SIR, published in the *IAEA Annual Report*.

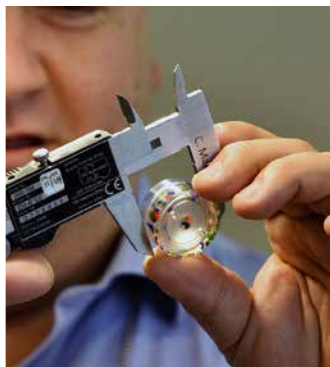
The Department of Safeguards

The Department is charged with administering and implementing the IAEA safeguards system. It also contributes to nuclear arms control and disarmament, by responding to requests for verification and other technical assistance associated with related agreements and arrangements.

Divisions of Operations The Department has three operational divisions which play a pivotal role in verifying that for States with safeguards agreements in force there is no diversion of declared nuclear material from peaceful nuclear activities and, where applicable, no indication of undeclared nuclear material or activities in the State as a whole. Each of the Divisions implements safeguards in a different geographical area: Operations A – Australia and East Asia; Operations B – Middle East, South Asia, Africa, some non-EU European states, and the Americas; and Operations C – Europe, the Russian Federation and Central Asia.

Office for Verification in Iran. Since the start of 2016, the IAEA has been verifying and monitoring Iran's implementation of its nuclear-related commitments under the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) in an impartial and objective manner, consistent with the IAEA's standard safeguards practices.

Division of Concepts & Planning The Division develops concepts, approaches and methods for safeguarding nuclear material, facilities and activities, prepares



safeguards policy and guidance documentation, assists the Operations Divisions with safeguards implementation issues, and supports advisory and policymaking bodies. It also conducts strategic planning for the Department and coordinates R&D activities, including the management of Member State Support Programmes. The Division provides assistance to personnel from Member States through training, advisory missions and guidance documents.

Division of Information Management The Division is composed of specialized information analysts and data processing specialists who collect, process and analyze safeguards relevant information available to the IAEA from its verification activities, from State declarations, from the scientific, technical and political literature and geospatial information, and from various other open sources of information.

Division of Technical & Scientific Services The Division provides scientific and technical support to the Operations Divisions. This includes the design, development, testing, calibration, installation and maintenance of safeguards equipment; it also monitors the performance and contamination of equipment and inspection logistics.

Office of Safeguards Analytical Services The Office is in charge of the analysis of nuclear material and environmental swipe samples, the provision of associated sampling and quality control materials, and the coordination of sample shipment logistics and cooperation with Member State institutions in the Network of Analytical Laboratories (NWAL). The Office comprises the Safeguards Analytical Laboratories, which include the Environmental Sample Laboratory and the Nuclear Material Laboratory. This Office is also responsible for reporting analytical results provided by the NWAL and for providing technical support in the areas of radiation protection, quality management, and training.

Office of Information & Communications Systems The activities of the Office include the specification, development, and maintenance of information and communication technology (ICT) systems and the management of all ICT infrastructure and services to support the Department.



Other Areas of IAEA Nuclear Cooperation

The Department of Nuclear Energy

The Department of Nuclear Energy fosters sustainable nuclear energy development by supporting existing and new nuclear programs in Member States as well as providing a forum for future technologies. It provides technical support on the nuclear fuel cycle and the life cycle of nuclear facilities and builds indigenous capability in energy planning, analysis, and nuclear information and knowledge management. The Department is home to several databases, notably the International Nuclear Information System (INIS), which is one of the world's largest collections of published information on the peaceful uses of nuclear science and technology. INIS is operated by the IAEA in collaboration with over 150 Member States. Other key databases are the Power Reactor Information System (PRIS), which contains information on power reactors in operation, under construction, or being decommissioned; the PRIS-STATISTICS reporting system makes PRIS reports globally available online.

Division of Nuclear Power The Division supports Member States in the operation and expansion of existing nuclear power programs through enhancements in engineering, performance, management systems, human resource management, stakeholder involvement and technical infrastructure. For States embarking on new nuclear power programs, it supports capacity-building, conducts review missions, and offers guidelines, standards and workshops on developing the infrastructure needed for a safe, secure and sustainable nuclear power program.

Division of Nuclear Fuel Cycle and Waste Technology The Division focuses on safe, secure, environmentally sound and cost-effective activities that support the nuclear fuel cycle, the decommissioning of nuclear installations and environmental remediation, access to and operation of research reactors, and waste management strategies and technologies covering all activities that generate radioactive waste, including disused sealed radioactive sources.



Division of Planning, Information & Knowledge Management The Division provides support in nuclear economics and energy system planning, sustainable development related to the environment including nuclear energy's role in mitigating climate change, nuclear information management and dissemination, and nuclear knowledge management.

The Department of Nuclear Safety and Security

The protection of people, society and the environment from the harmful effects of ionizing radiation is at the heart of the Department for Nuclear Safety and Security's work. Whether the cause is an unsafe act or a security breach, it aims at providing a strong, sustainable and visible global nuclear safety and security framework.

Division of Radiation, Transport & Waste Safety The use of radiation for beneficial purposes requires appropriate protection of workers, patients, the public and the environment. A core work element of the Division is setting and promoting the application of international safety standards for the management and regulation of activities involving nuclear and radioactive materials.

Division of Nuclear Installation Safety The Division supports Member States in establishing the appropriate safety infrastructure and continuously improving the safety of nuclear installations during site evaluation, design, construction and operation. It helps to develop safety standards for nuclear installations and provides safety reviews and advisory services to support their effective application.

Division of Nuclear Security The Division implements the IAEA's Nuclear Security Plan, develops nuclear security requirements and guidance, and provides training, technical advice, peer reviews and other advisory services to Member States. The focus is on helping States prevent, detect, and respond to acts or threats of nuclear terrorism or other malicious acts involving nuclear material, other radioactive substances or their associated facilities.



The Department is home to the **Incident & Emergency Centre (IEC)** which is the global focal point for international emergency preparedness, communication and response to nuclear and radiological incidents and emergencies, regardless of whether they arise from an accident, negligence or a deliberate act.

The Department of Nuclear Sciences and Applications

The Department covers a broad range of socio-economic sectors from human health, food and agriculture, water resource management and environmental protection. It assists Member States in meeting their development needs through nuclear science, technology and innovation. It houses the IAEA Collaborating Centers, composed of scientific institutions such as laboratories, universities and research facilities which promote the practical use of nuclear techniques worldwide and assists the IAEA in implementing its own activities.

The Department manages eight laboratories in Seibersdorf, Austria, and the marine environment laboratories in Monaco, which deliver technical assistance to Member States. Situated about 35 km southeast of Vienna, the Seibersdorf laboratories contribute to the Department's programs with experimental activities in the following fields: applications of radiation and isotopes in food and agriculture, sterile insect technique, nuclear instrumentation, radiation dosimetry, nuclear techniques for monitoring radioactive and other contaminants in the environment. The laboratories are also a training center for scientists from developing countries. In addition, they provide quality control services for analytical and radiometric measurements and radiation applications.



Recognizing the need to modernize some of the laboratories, the IAEA established the Renovation of the Nuclear Applications Laboratories project (ReNuAL). Renovation began in 2016 and was completed in 2020. The follow-up, ReNuAL2, was launched that same year and will provide for additional construction, targeted refurbishment of the remaining laboratories, and new, modern equipment. Groundbreaking began in late 2022.

The Department of Technical Cooperation

The technical cooperation (TC) program is the IAEA's key mechanism for helping Member States establish and strengthen capacities for the safe, peaceful and secure use of nuclear technology for sustainable socio-economic development, working in partnership with national actors. TC projects focus on resolving problems in such fields as health and nutrition, food and agriculture, water and the environment, industrial applications/radiation technology, energy, nuclear knowledge development and management, and nuclear safety and security. All Member States are eligible for support, although in practice technical cooperation activities tend to focus on the needs and priorities of less developed countries. The TC program is developed and managed jointly by the Member States and the IAEA Secretariat and focuses on activities in four geographic regions: Africa; Asia and the Pacific; Europe; Latin America and the Caribbean.

The Department is home to the IAEA Program of Action for Cancer Therapy (PACT), which provides support to Member States in establishing comprehensive national cancer control programs.





Related Resources

[IAEA Reports](#)

[IAEA Annual Report 2022](#)

[Safeguards Statement, Background & Executive Summary of the SIR 2022](#)

[IAEA's Competency Framework](#)



Multimedia

[This is the IAEA: This is Atoms for Peace and Development](#)

[IAEA Safeguards: Past and Future](#)

[Inspecting the Nuclear Fuel Cycle](#)

[Taking the Initiative for Peaceful Uses](#)

[The Nuclear Fuel Cycle](#)

[Women in Science](#)

United States Support Programs to the IAEA

The United States Support Programs to the IAEA assist the IAEA in its mission to provide credible assurances to the international community that Member States are honoring their nuclear non-proliferation obligations. Specifically, the Support Programs provide financial and technical support for tasks targeted to resolve issues and improve tools and methods, and create impact. Funding is drawn largely from the US Departments of State and Energy. Tasks are implemented by a number of US participants, including private sector businesses, national laboratories, individual consultants on short-term assignments, and Cost-Free Experts (CFEs) and Junior Professional Officers (JPOs) who work at either the IAEA headquarters or laboratories in Seibersdorf or Monaco.

ISPO's headquarters is located at Brookhaven National Laboratory.



About ISPO

The [International Safeguards Project Office](#) (ISPO) manages the US Support Program to IAEA Safeguards technically and administratively. ISPO is based at Brookhaven National Laboratory in Upton, New York, and maintains a Liaison Office in Vienna. ISPO performs this service at the behest of the Subgroup on Safeguards Technical Support (SSTS), a Washington-based interagency committee that provides policy and program oversight and task funding approval. The SSTS is composed of representatives of the US Departments of Energy, State, and Defense, and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

ISPO evaluates the technical feasibility of proposed tasks, offering sound recommendations for the interagency review process, and ensuring that tasks meet the IAEA's stated needs. Administrative management functions include tracking schedules and budgets for active tasks, preparing status reports, obtaining proposals from prospective contractors, recruiting for CFE and JPO positions, and working with contractors to coordinate the various tasks under the US Support Program to IAEA Safeguards.

The Brookhaven ISPO Office includes scientific, technical and administrative staff members. The ISPO Liaison Office in Vienna serves as a mechanism for local communication with the IAEA on Support Program matters and for regular transmittal of information on tasks to the ISPO Brookhaven Office and to the SSTS. The Liaison Officer is attached to the US Mission to International Organizations in Vienna. For more information about ISPO, visit <https://www.bnl.gov/ispo>.



About IAEA Programs at Argonne

Housed at Argonne National Laboratory in Lemont, Illinois, IAEA Programs at Argonne works under a contract with US Department of State to serve as an interface between the IAEA and the US nuclear community, promoting peaceful uses of nuclear energy and technology, and supporting nuclear safety and security.

As of its part mission, IAEA Programs at Argonne encourages well-qualified US citizens to join the IAEA's professional staff in non-Safeguards departments at the IAEA's headquarters in Vienna and its research laboratories in Seibersdorf, Austria and Monaco.

The Office distributes field-specific job alerts to interested US citizens, conducts recruitment campaigns, and provides substantial support to applicants through sharing advice on applying and interviewing, conducting resume reviews and mock interviews, tracking applications throughout IAEA's selection process, providing information on moving abroad, and more.

IAEA Programs at Argonne is led by the Office Director and supported by several staff members who work together on a variety of programs (Careers, Fellowships, Training, and Event Nominations) to support the IAEA.

For more information about IAEA Programs at Argonne, visit <https://international.anl.gov>.

Argonne National Laboratory



US Mission to International Organizations in Vienna

The United States Mission to International Organizations in Vienna (UNVIE) conducts multilateral diplomacy with international organizations in Vienna to advance the US Government's commitment to prevent the spread of nuclear and other dangerous weapons and technologies, to combat terrorism, narcotics trafficking, international crime and corruption, and to promote investment, sustainable development and the peaceful use of nuclear power.



UNVIE works with the following organizations:

- [International Atomic Energy Agency \(IAEA\)](#);
- [United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime \(UNODC\)](#);
- [Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization \(CTBTO\)](#);
- [United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs \(UNOOSA\)](#);
- [Wassenaar Arrangement \(WA\)](#);
- [United Nations Commission on International Trade Law \(UNCITRAL\)](#);
- [United Nations Industrial Development Organization \(UNIDO\)](#), of which the US is not a member; and
- [International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis \(IIASA\)](#), in Laxenburg, Austria.

UNVIE is headed by a US Ambassador who serves as the US Permanent Representative to the UN Office in Vienna, the US Permanent Representative to the IAEA, and the US Governor to the IAEA Board of Governors. UNVIE is located near the Vienna International Centre (VIC) in the 22nd District. More information can be found online at vienna.usmission.gov.



IAEA Employment: Opportunities and Benefits

The chapter gives an overview of the opportunities and benefits available to US citizens working at the IAEA. The reader is advised to consult the Related Resources for more information.



Related Resources

Documents

- *United Nations Common System of Salaries, Allowances and Benefits, International Civil Service Commission*: <https://careers.un.org/lbw/home.aspx?viewtype=SAL&lang=en-US>
- *Privileges and Immunities INFCIRC/9/Rev.2*:
<https://www.iaea.org/sites/default/files/infirc9r2.pdf>



Links

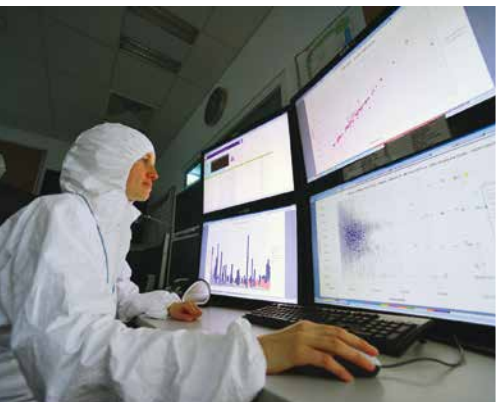
- IAEA employment webinars: <https://www.iaea.org/about/employment/webinars>
- Guide to the Vienna International Centre: <https://www.iaea.org/events/guide-to-the-vic>
- Support available around the Agency: <https://anl.app.box.com/v/AgencyResources>

Employment Opportunities

The IAEA offers several types of employment contracts for professional staff, including professional fixed term appointments, consultancies, and two types sponsored by the US Government - namely, Junior Professional Officer (JPO) and; Cost-Free Expert (CFE). These officials receive remuneration in accordance with the *UN Common System of Salaries, Allowances and Benefits*. They are considered international civil servants and as such are entitled to certain *Privileges and Immunities*; however, consultants are not normally entitled to the benefits, privileges, and immunities accorded to these IAEA officials.

Professional Staff Member

The required expertise of the professional staff at the IAEA is specific to the nature of the work. For example, professionals at the Department of Safeguards typically have expertise in nuclear physics and engineering, physical/chemical sciences, environmental specialties, or information and communication technologies. The working language is English, but knowledge of other official languages (Arabic, Chinese, French, Russian, and Spanish) is an advantage. At the IAEA headquarters in Vienna, some knowledge of German is an asset, both for working contacts and for life outside of office hours.



There are five grades in the professional category, ranging from P-1 at the junior level to P-5 at the senior level, and three grades in the higher policymaking category. Staff at the P-1 to P-3 levels typically have a university degree (or equivalent graduate degree) and one to five years of experience in a relevant field. Staff at the P-4 and P-5 levels typically have an advanced university degree and a minimum of seven to ten years of experience in a relevant field.

For professional staff appointments, the IAEA follows a policy of rotation so as to keep the collective knowledge of the staff at a high level, especially in scientific and engineering fields, and to ensure the constant influx of new ideas. Initial appointments are normally for a three-year period with no expectation or right to extension, renewal, or conversion to another type of appointment. Based on program requirements and work performance, the IAEA may offer further two-year extensions. As a rule, seven years constitute the normal period a staff member can expect to be employed by the IAEA. Extensions beyond this period are the exception.

Junior Professional Officer

The US Government offers young professionals the opportunity to work for the IAEA as a Junior Professional Officer. Other Member States, such as France, Germany Italy, Japan, and the Republic of Korea, have also benefited from participation in the IAEA Junior Professional Officer Program. US-sponsored JPO positions in the Department of Safeguards are administered by ISPO, and the IAEA Programs at Argonne administers JPO positions in non-Safeguards Departments

A JPO task is developed in response to a need identified by the hiring Department and relayed to ISPO or IAEA Programs at Argonne via the U.S. Mission. The need may arise as a by-product of the Department's R&D plan or as an essential work enhancement for verification or development activities.



Unless otherwise noted, a candidate must be a US citizen and normally not more than 32 years of age. They should hold a university degree in a variety of fields relevant to the specific JPO job advertisement and have a minimum of two years of relevant work experience.

Cost-Free Expert

Cost-Free Expert (CFE) is a category of support that has proven beneficial to both the IAEA and the US Government. Unless otherwise noted, a candidate must be a US citizen and under the age of 65 (the IAEA's mandatory retirement age). A CFE is an individual with a specialized skill that is not readily available among the IAEA professional staff and who works on a defined task that cannot be financed under the current IAEA budget.

CFEs are “cost-free” only to the IAEA. There are three types of CFE arrangements: Type A, whereby the expert receives a fixed term contract and the US Government reimburses the IAEA for the total cost of the expert's services; Type B, whereby the expert's services are paid directly by the Member State; and Type C, whereby there is a shared arrangement between the IAEA and the Member State. Typically, the US Government sponsors a Type A CFE, who receives a contract entitling them to practically all of the benefits, privileges, and immunities accorded IAEA officials.

A CFE initial contract is generally for two years, at the end of which the IAEA may request an extension if the CFE is deemed indispensable to the continuation or completion of the task on which they are working. Funding of an extension request is at the discretion of the US government.

Consultant

Consultants carry out tasks that require specialized skills not readily available at the IAEA; continuous presence in Vienna is not necessarily required. Consultants typically work under a Special Service Agreement, the duration of which will vary from short term to one year or more, depending on the task requirements. Compensation will also vary according to the task, the Consultant's qualifications, and the task duration.



Salaries, Allowances and Benefits

Salaries and Post Adjustment

Salaries are determined by the grade and step within each grade. A staff member whose performance meets the required level is entitled to an annual salary increment in accordance with official scales.

Professional staff members are paid a net remuneration, are exempt in principle from income tax and are normally paid in the currency of the duty station. The salary is composed of a net base salary, determined within the framework of the UN Common System, and a post adjustment which varies according to the cost of living in Vienna compared to New York, the base of the UN remuneration system.

An example of annual net base salaries and post adjustments for professional staff is given below. The actual amounts may vary monthly, due to such factors as the Euro-US\$ exchange rate, but as a practical matter these variations are relatively minor. Salaries may be paid entirely in Euros (the currency of Austria) or, if the staff member prefers, a portion of the salary (up to a certain percentage) may be paid in US dollars and directly deposited in your US bank account.

EXAMPLE OF PROFESSIONAL STAFF SALARIES

As of January 2023, annual net base salaries and with post adjustment for a staff member at Step 1 of professional grades P-2 to P-5 are as follows (all amounts are in US\$):

Grade	Salary	Post Adjustment	Total
P-5/Step 1	92 731	42 285	135 016
P-4/Step 1	77 326	35 260	112 586
P-3/Step 1	64 121	29 239	93 360
P-2/Step 1	50 377	22 971	73 348

Taken from https://www.un.org/Depts/OHRM/salaries_allowances/salary.htm



Tax Exemption and Reimbursement

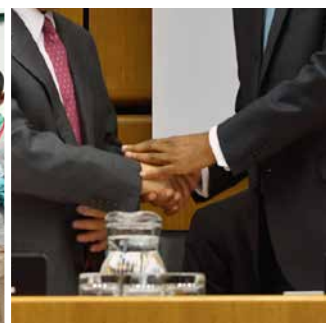
Austrian Taxes All IAEA staff members are exempt from paying Austrian taxes on their IAEA salaries and pensions. Non-Austrian staff members holding a *Legitimationskarte* are further exempted from paying Austrian taxes on motor vehicles, radio/TV, and bank accounts, obtaining an Austrian visa, and registering with the Police when residing in Vienna (*Meldezettel*).

US Income Tax Reimbursement US tax laws require US citizens working at international organizations to file tax returns for federal and applicable state and local governments. Under an agreement between the US Government and the IAEA, the IAEA will reimburse a staff member (or eligible CFE and JPO) for US income taxes paid on the IAEA derived income in excess of the foreign earned income limit; the US Government will reimburse the IAEA for these payments. US taxes are not deducted from the employee's IAEA paycheck and the employee is responsible for making tax payments. The IAEA will also advance the employee up to a year's worth of tax payments so that taxes can be paid in advance.

According to US tax laws, for the tax year 2018, foreign earned income up to a limit of US\$ 104,100 may be excluded from federal taxation if a US citizen meets one of the conditions: (a) they are a bona fide resident of a foreign country (or countries) for an uninterrupted period that includes an entire tax year; or (b) they are physically present in a foreign country or countries for at least 330 full days during any twelve consecutive months. Eligible staff members employed at the IAEA for at least one year would qualify under one of these conditions. For information on your individual tax situation, download IRS Publication 54, "[Tax Guide for US Citizens and Resident Aliens Abroad](#)." Individuals are also advised to consult their state's internal revenue service about how to treat foreign earned income under state tax law. For an introduction on filing taxes from abroad, visit: www.ustaxclaims.com. The IAEA also has a US tax employee and resources to help you.

Dependency Allowances

Dependency allowances are given to professional staff members for both dependent spouses who earn a yearly salary under a certain threshold, and for children under the age of 21 for whom the staff member provides main and continuing financial support. Staff members will only receive the allowance for dependent children between the ages of 18 and 21 if they are in full-time attendance at a school, university or similar educational institution. Staff members who do not have a dependent spouse may be eligible to receive a secondary dependent allowance for a parent or sibling under certain circumstances.



Pension Plan

A professional staff member with an appointment of six months or more is required to participate in the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund (UNJSPF), for which they contributes 7.9% and the IAEA contributes 15.8% of the pensionable remuneration. A staff member may exceptionally be authorized to continue to participate in a national pension insurance scheme or the pension scheme of the former employer. If s/he can prove to be contributing to a pension plan acceptable to the IAEA, the IAEA will contribute to that pension plan, normally on a reimbursement basis.

For CFEs and JPOs there are three pension options: Option A, join the UNJSPF; Option B, let the IAEA contribute to a pre-existing or national pension fund; Option C, take a lump sum pension payment in lieu of IAEA's contributions to the UNJSPF and in an amount equal to those contributions.

In order to receive UNJSPF pension benefits, an IAEA staff member must contribute at least five years to be vested.

Health Insurance

A staff member may choose between two medical insurance schemes, the premium costs of which are shared by the staff member and the IAEA. Normally non-Austrian staff members and eligible dependents are enrolled on a cost-sharing basis in the (full) IAEA medical insurance scheme provided by Cigna International, which provides reasonable coverage for medical and hospital costs, dental treatment, and long-term care. Under certain conditions, a staff member could join the Austrian national health insurance scheme and optionally enroll in a Cigna supplementary insurance plan. In special cases, approval may be granted to continue participation in medical insurance schemes other than those suggested by the IAEA.

Education Grant and Education Travel

For eligible staff, the IAEA provides an education grant for each child in full-time attendance at a recognized primary, secondary, or post-secondary educational



institution. An education travel grant is also given to ensure that once a year parents and children can spend a reasonable period of time together. The claimed expenses are subject to an admissible educational expenses limit, which is reimbursable under a sliding scale as shown.

The amount of the grant per scholastic year for each disabled child shall be equal to 100% of the admissible educational expenses actually incurred, subject to the maximum reimbursement.

IAEA Education Grant as of 1 January 2022

Expense (US\$)	Reimbursement rate (percentage)
0 – 13 244	86
13 225 – 19 836	81
19 837 – 26 448	76
26 449 – 33 060	71
33 061 – 39 672	66
39 673 – 46 284	61
46 285 and above	0

Relocation Expenses

The IAEA normally meets the costs of travel to/from the place of recruitment to the duty station in the case of an internationally recruited professional staff member and their eligible dependents. For a staff member appointed for two years or more, it meets the costs of shipping (or storing) personal and household effects to/from the place of recruitment to the duty station.

Settling-in Grant

An internationally recruited professional staff member and their eligible dependents may be entitled to a grant for covering initial, settling-in expenses (e.g., hotel accommodations, meals). The grant comprises a daily subsistence allowance (DSA) and a lump-sum portion. The DSA portion consists of 30 days' DSA for the staff member and one half that amount for each eligible accompanying family member. The lump sum equals one month's salary.

Rental Subsidy

Internationally recruited professional staff may be eligible for a rental subsidy, applied on a sliding scale for a maximum period of seven years. The subsidy cannot be more than 40% of the actual rent. The UN has a [calculator](#) that is helpful in understanding the rental subsidy at each level.

Repatriation Grant

Upon separation from service, an internationally recruited professional staff member who has completed at least five years of continuous service outside their home country may receive a repatriation grant. Payment of the grant shall be subject to evidence of relocation. The amount is linked to the staff member's dependency status and the length of service with the IAEA.

Home Leave and Travel

Travel expenses of an eligible staff member and their spouse and primary dependents are paid to and from their home country to enable them to take leave there once every two years of qualifying service. The first home leave will fall due in the second year of a staff member's service, provided that their total period of service is expected to be at least two years.

Maternity and Paternity Leave

Normally, fully-paid maternity leave begins eight weeks prior to the anticipated date of confinement and extends to a period of eight weeks thereafter. With written permission from a doctor, maternity leave may begin four weeks prior to the due date and extend twelve weeks thereafter. Paternity leave on full pay is granted to a staff member in order to provide care for their newly born child. Normally, the duration of paternity leave shall not exceed four weeks, except under certain conditions.

Annual Leave

Staff members are entitled to 30 days (2 ½ days per month) of annual leave. In addition, there are ten official holidays.

Sick Leave

Sick leave entitlements depend on the type of appointment and the amount of continuous service at the IAEA before taking such leave. Staff members who have completed at least three years of continuous service are entitled to up to nine months of sick leave on full pay and nine months on half pay in any period of four consecutive years. Those holding a fixed-term contract of at least one year but less than three years of continuous service are entitled to up to three months on full pay and three months on half pay in any period of twelve consecutive months.



Work Week

The normal IAEA work week consists of five days, Monday–Friday, and normal working hours are 8:30–17:30 (8:30–17:00 in summer), with a one-hour lunch break. A flexible system of working hours and a work-at-home arrangement may be applied, as needed.

Obligations

Obligations to the US Government

As an IAEA staff member, a US citizen is not required by the US Government to report or provide information about duties or any other aspects of the IAEA activities. The relationship of a US staff member to the US Support Program is basically similar to that with the US Government, except that the US Support Program and the IAEA may have agreed upon special arrangements to serve mutual interest, such as periodic activity reporting by a CFE or a JPO. Nevertheless, they retain the responsibilities of US citizenship, owes allegiance to the US, remains subject to its laws, and is entitled to protection by the US Government. US income tax returns must be filed and taxes paid if owed. Individuals should make arrangements for voting in US elections by absentee ballot.

US Security Clearance Matters

Before joining the IAEA, a US staff member may have been engaged in work for which a US security clearance was issued. In such a case, the individual is advised to discuss the ongoing conditions with respect to the security clearance with her/his US employer (or former employer) before accepting the IAEA assignment or before departing for the assignment. Security clearances are not required to work at the IAEA.



Privileges and Immunities

Eligible IAEA staff members may import certain items free of duty or other levies, prohibitions, and import restrictions; examples of such items are furniture and household effects, one automobile every four years, and limited quantities of articles for personal use or consumption and not for gifts or sale to others. Officials holding the professional grade of P-5 or higher are accorded additional privileges and immunities corresponding to those of diplomats of comparable rank in Austria, including the import of one new automobile every two years and the refund of the value added tax (VAT) on local purchases greater than a specified amount and up to a maximum amount.

IAEA Information Confidentiality

At the beginning of the assignment, a staff member/JPO/CFE/Consultant must sign a “*Confidentiality Undertaking*” in which they agree not to formally disclose, at any time during or after employment, any confidential information that may come to their knowledge in connection with the employment, including commercial, technological, or industrial secrets, to any person, government, or organization not authorized to receive such information. A staff member/JPO/CFE/Consultant owes professional loyalty to the IAEA and is required not to seek or accept instructions from any government or authority external to the IAEA. They must not be seen to show partiality to the US Government or to any US entity, least of all to a former employer.



Supporting Services at the VIC

Commissary

The Commissary is a tax and duty-free store where eligible staff members may purchase such products as cigarettes, alcoholic beverages, cosmetics and toilet preparations, medical supplies, over-the-counter pharmaceuticals and food products produced outside of Austria.

Family Support Services

A full-time Child Care Center (in German), located at the VIC, is available for staff members' children aged three months to six years. For children of preschool age, there are municipal and private kindergartens in the vicinity of the VIC and throughout Vienna. More information is available later in this guidebook in Schools & Education Facilities.

Housing Assistance

The IAEA and other international organizations at the VIC set up the [Housing Service](#) to help staff secure suitable rental accommodation and to advise on leasing agreements.

Language Training

The VIC offers IAEA staff and their spouses language training, at a reasonable cost, in the six official UN languages as well as in German. The IAEA currently partners with [Inlingua](#) and provides a partial refund to those that pass the class.

Medical Service and Pharmacy

There is a well-equipped Joint Medical Service staffed by several doctors, nurses, and a counsellor, who provide emergency medical care, routine health screenings, travel immunizations, private injections and advice on medical services in Vienna. English speaking pharmacy services are also available at the VIC.

THE VIENNA INTERNATIONAL CENTRE

The IAEA headquarters is located at the Vienna International Centre (VIC), also called the "UNO City," which was designed by the Austrian architect Johann Staber and inaugurated in 1979. It is located on the banks of the Danube River, only ten minutes from the city center and easily accessible by public transport (U1-red line to the "Kaisermühlen/Vienna International Centre" station). The Austrian Government is renting the building for 99 years to the IAEA and the other UN organizations in Vienna at a symbolic rate of €1 Euro/year.



Promoting Gender Equality

The lack of gender balance continues to be a problem at the IAEA. The IAEA is among the UN organizations with the lowest representation of women professional staff. As of 1 June 2017, women represented 29.4% of the professional and higher categories, compared to 27.8% in June 2015 and 26.0% in June 2013.

The IAEA has measures in place to address this problem. For example, special attention is being given to well-qualified women candidates in the recruitment process to ensure that in cases of comparable qualifications and suitability, women are given due consideration. The IAEA has in place Focal Points for Gender Concerns which address specific gender-related concerns, recommend suitable policy changes, monitor the progress made in the representation of women in the professional and higher categories and promote a supportive environment that allows staff to suitably balance work and family responsibilities.

The [Marie Skłodowska-Curie Fellowship Programme](#) aims to inspire and encourage young women to pursue a career in the nuclear field, by providing highly motivated female students with scholarships for Master's programs and an opportunity to pursue an internship facilitated by the IAEA. Scholarships are awarded annually, with 150 female students selected per year depending on the availability of funds.

The [IAEA Lise Meitner Programme](#) seeks to boost women career development in the nuclear sector, in particular in the nuclear energy field, by providing cohorts of 10 to 15 early- and mid-career women professionals with opportunities to participate in a multiweek visiting professional program and advance their technical and soft skills.

Family-Friendly Environment

The IAEA's family-friendly work environment helps counter some of the challenges professional women encounter when fulfilling an international assignment. Arrangements now in place to help staff balance work and family life include the following:



- Flexible working hours,
- Job sharing (or part time work) for staff in special occupational categories at the professional level,
- A work-from-home policy in certain circumstances,
- Fully-paid maternity leave of four months,
- Fully-paid paternity leave of up to four weeks (as well as unpaid leave for a similar time period),
- Nursing breaks for new mothers,
- Family emergency leave,
- Child care center located at the VIC,
- Enforced policy for the prevention of harassment and other forms of unfair or discriminatory treatment of staff.

Women in Nuclear: IAEA Chapter

The Women in Nuclear IAEA Chapter was established in 1996 and provides an active network for women and men working at the IAEA and other VIC-based organizations in order to support exchange of knowledge and experiences towards advancing their role in the nuclear field. The WiN IAEA Chapter sponsors numerous events, such as luncheon talks and webinars by experts, technical visits to nuclear facilities, and informal social gatherings. It also facilitates a mentoring program in the IAEA and advocates for internal policy improvements that enable a positive working environment for all. For more information, visit: <https://win-iaea.org/>.



Getting Ready for the Move

Moving to Vienna

Start planning your move to Vienna well in advance; after all, you are moving across the Atlantic! This section provides a few tips that can help with your move and your transition to the Viennese (and European) way of life. Two books may provide additional insights: *The Expert Expatriate: Your Guide to Successful Relocation Abroad* (M. Brayer-Hess, P. Lindeman) and *Living in Vienna* (American Women's Association). Also check out the numerous websites on Vienna.

Look into international schools in Vienna

If you have school-aged children, register them **as early as possible** at a school in Vienna. There are many international, English language, and bilingual schools in Vienna, but places fill up quickly. Information on schools and education facilities is provided elsewhere in this Guidebook.

Decide what to bring and what not bring

Eligibility for the IAEA's generous shipping allowance will definitely influence your decision about what to bring and what not to bring. In general, furniture, clothing, housewares, electronics, sporting equipment, etc. are more expensive in Vienna than in the US and likely some of the brands you are accustomed to in the US will not be available here. As such, it makes sense to ship as many of these goods as possible. Keep in mind, however, that if you ship an entire US household's worth of furniture, it may dictate your choice of apartment. Importing US automobiles is not recommended. A few guidelines are presented below.

Clothing This may sound obvious, but bring enough clothing to accommodate all four seasons and a varied climate that has been compared to that in the Midwest and New England: expect cold, windy, and humid winters and hot summers! Keep in mind that the use of air conditioning in Vienna (and Europe as a whole) is not nearly as widespread as it is in the US. In fact, it's quite rare to find air conditioning

throughout the city in the summer months. Be sure to bring along comfortable shoes for city walking and appropriate winter shoes for those snowy, winter streets.

In general, the Viennese dress quite nicely especially in the business areas and in and around the 1st District. Depending on your role at the IAEA, the “unwritten” dress code at the VIC is typically business to business casual.

Household items Do not bring major household appliances, such as washer-dryers and refrigerators, as they require large transformers: the Austrian electrical system operates on 220 volts and a frequency of 50 hertz, while the US system operates on 110 volts and 60 hertz. Also, smaller appliances (e.g. hair dryers, toasters, coffee machines) may pose a problem unless they are of dual voltage type. Most computers and laptops are generally dual voltage and should not pose a problem.

Mobile phones The most important thing to consider with respect to your mobile phone is whether it is “unlocked” and GSM compatible. If it satisfies these criteria, you will have no problems using it on the Austrian networks. If you’re unsure, ask your current provider. Of course, you can always buy a new phone upon arriving in Vienna!

Automobiles Automobiles imported from the US must meet Austrian safety and emission standards. Although an eligible staff member may bring such cars into Austria duty free, the autos must go through Customs and technical inspection to assure compliance with Austrian requirements. The process is apt to be costly and complicated, and such autos will usually be expensive to maintain and service. It may also be difficult to resell such autos upon departure and bringing them back to the US may entail further expenses for conversion back to US safety standards. Automobiles can be easily bought in Vienna, especially if you are eligible for tax-free purchases.

[Bring along battery chargers and adapters for digital devices](#)

Most chargers for your digital devices (e.g. mobile phone, laptop) are dual voltage (check the label) and can handle up to 60 Hz and 240 volts. All you need is a plug adapter since Austrian plugs have two round prongs while the US uses a flat-pin type plug. If you’re not sure whether you’ll be able to easily recharge your cell phone while traveling, buy a battery powered charger which can typically hold enough “juice” to charge your phone several times.

Adapters and converters are available at most electronics stores in the US. An abundance of options can also be found on Amazon. If you must use a transformer, buy it in the US or online; if it is fused, buy extra fuses. Transformers are expensive in Vienna; although you may be lucky enough to buy one from someone moving back to the US.

Arrange for shipment of household and personal effects

For those eligible for this benefit, the IAEA will pay the cost of shipping and storing household and personal effects up to certain limits (4890 kg for a single person and 8150 kg for an individual with dependents). Shipment of motor vehicles (including motorcycles), boats, trailers, and pets is not included. The majority of the shipment is by surface, except for a limited amount of goods that may be shipped by air (225 kg, with an additional 150kg for a first dependent and an additional 75 kg for each additional dependent). Keep in mind that surface shipments require about six to eight weeks to arrive at your address in Vienna, while air shipments take about two to three weeks. Bring all items you will need immediately in Vienna with you in your luggage. [More information is available in this document from the IAEA.](#)

The IAEA will also pay the cost of storing household goods in the US within certain limits. Insurance costs for such stored goods are not covered.

When notified of your acceptance of the employment offer, the IAEA will instruct three shipping agents in your area to estimate the shipping and storage costs. These estimates are then submitted to the IAEA, who will commission one of the agents for the shipment of your goods. You will be notified of the particulars, including advice on obtaining insurance. You will be required to fill out a list that details all of the items (and their value) that you are shipping. For the more valuable and delicate items, it may be beneficial to document their condition prior to shipment in case there are any issues upon its arrival in Vienna.

Get necessary documents in order

As a US citizen, you can enter Austria without a Visa, but you will need a valid passport for international travel, for obtaining a *Legitimationskarte* (an Austrian identity card that the IAEA arranges for you in lieu of a residence permit), and for other identification purposes. Make sure to check the validity of your passport and apply for a new or renewal passport if necessary; your passport must be valid for at least three months after your date of travel. After arriving in Austria, it is relatively easy to obtain a new passport in Vienna if necessary. Make sure to keep several copies of your passport in the event it is lost or stolen. Be sure to take important

CHECKLIST Documents for Austria

- US passport (check period of validity)
- Medical records, including immunizations
- Important legal & financial records
- IAEA employment letter & related correspondence
- Birth certificate (or notarized copy) for each family member
- Marriage certificate (or notarized copy)
- Educational degrees
- Children's school records
- US and/or international driver's license
- Good driving record statement from US insurance agent
- International Vaccination Certificate for accompanying pets

medical, legal, and financial records, as well as your IAEA employment letter and any related correspondence.

Be certain to clarify with the IAEA which documents you need to bring on your first day of work!

Definitely bring your original birth certificate (or a notarized copy) and that of each member of your family. You will also need your marriage certificate (if applicable) to prove dependency status. Other necessary documents include educational degrees (i.e. original diplomas), children's school records, your US and/or international driver's license, and a "good driving record" statement from your US insurance agent that can assist you in getting a discount on automobile insurance in Austria. If you plan to bring a pet, you'll also need an International Vaccination Certificate.

Be sure to take all original documents and copies in your carry-on luggage.

Make arrangements for bringing a pet to Austria

Austria does not impose quarantine on dogs and cats, but there are regulations governing their import. Each pet should be identified by a microchip which complies with ISO standards; you'll need a microchip implantation record. Be sure your pet has been given a rabies vaccination no sooner than 21 days prior to entry into Austria and not more than the expiration date of the vaccine; proof of inoculation (i.e. International Vaccination Certificate) is required. The form, which must be signed by a licensed veterinarian, can be obtained from the Austrian Embassy or Consulate in the US; it is also available here: ec.europa.eu/food/animals/live_animals_en.

Be advised: if your dog was vaccinated before it was fitted with a microchip, it will have to be vaccinated again after the microchip has been implanted. Also, your veterinarian needs to complete an EU Vet Health Certificate (Form EC 998) within 10 days of your departure. Make copies of these documents and take them along in your carry-on luggage. The forms must accompany the pet in transport and be presented to Austrian officials upon arrival in Vienna. Information (in English) about traveling with pets to Austria is available online: <http://www.austria.org/bringing-your-pet/>.

TIP Prepare your pet for the trip

Have your pet fitted with an ID collar that includes the IAEA telephone number, your name, and the flight information. Don't lock the cage; in an emergency it could cost your pet's life. Don't put food or water in the cage; bring along a water dish in your carry-on luggage to give your pet a drink upon arrival. If the vet so advises, sedate the pet a few hours before departure.

If the pet is small, carry it with you in the airplane cabin. Advance reservations are needed and you'll have to pay a fee. If your pet must travel in the cargo hold, check with the airline to make sure there is no toxic cargo (e.g., dry ice) on the plane. Don't be afraid to ask questions or remind officials that your pet is in the hold. Avoid stopover or stays in England, which has a long mandatory quarantine for all dogs and cats, regardless of their vaccination status.

Check with your airlines about transportation requirements, especially if you change carriers in route. Given advance notice, most airlines will supply a cage, but you may want to buy one suitable for your pet. For dogs, bring a muzzle and a leash, which you will also need once you arrive in Vienna.

There are also international pet services that provide extensive help such as import and/or export permits, Custom's clearances, USDA document validation, as well as transport for your pet. A good place to start for comprehensive information is the International Pet and Animal Transportation Association: www.ipata.org.

Check out housing options and initial accommodations in Vienna

Initial accommodations For the first week or so, you may want to reserve a room at a hotel or book a short-term apartment (e.g. [Airbnb](#)). If requested, the IAEA will reserve temporary accommodations for you: complete and return the reservation request form sent to you along with your contract. Depending on availability and your requirements, renting a short-term apartment may be the best option. These are typically cheaper than hotel rooms and allow access to an entire apartment. Additionally, for longer-term rentals (e.g. two weeks or more), many Airbnb hosts offer discounts. Check out [Airbnb sublets](#) for available sublet apartments. For a short list of hotels and guesthouses located near the VIC or in the city center with easy access to the VIC, see the table or visit [Initial Accommodations](#). Many hotels and guesthouses in Austria accept pets, but may charge an extra fee; be sure to clarify in advance to avoid any issues.

Long-term housing Depending on availability and your requirements, finding an apartment in Vienna may take several weeks, even with the help of the VIC Housing Service. Visit the website or contact office@vichousing.org for more information. With the newly upgraded database, you can easily search through all of the commission-free apartments by size, location, cost, etc to get an idea of what is available.

Take along your driver's license

Assuming you have one, take along your valid US driver's license. As a staff member, you are entitled to operate a vehicle within Austria for the duration of your employment with the IAEA on the basis of your foreign driving permit,

Hotel Name	District
Austria Trend Hotel Astoria	1st
Austria Trend Hotel Europa	1st
Hotel Pension Suzanne	1st
Hotel Wandl	1st
Nossek & Co	1st
Pension Sacher - Apartments am Stephansplatz	1st
Pertschy Palais Hotel	1st
Singerstrasse 21/25 Apartments	1st
Starlight Suites Hotels	1st
Vienna Marriott Hotel	1st
Courtyard by Marriott Vienna Prater/Messe	2nd
Das Capri (Henriette Stadthotel)	2nd
Hotel Sofitel Vienna Stephansdom (SO/Vienna)	2nd
Hilton Vienna	3rd
ARCOTEL Kaiserwasser Wien	22nd
NH Danube City	22nd
Meliá Vienna	22nd

provided that you are a holder of a valid *Legitimationskarte*. As your permit is likely from a non-EU country (i.e. the US), you must obtain a certified translation: the [ÖAMTC](#) (Austrian Automobile Association) provides this service for a small fee. As noted above, this only entitles you to drive within Austria!!! You may also consider obtaining an [International Driving Permit](#) before leaving for Vienna, which along with your valid driver's license, allows you to drive in over 150 countries with a validity of one year.

If you will be in Austria for an extended period of time, it is recommended to convert your US driver's license to an Austrian driving permit, the details of which can be found on [Help.gv.at](#). You will not have to complete a driving test but will be required to supply several documents. The IAEA [Transport and Shipment Unit](#) can provide more information on this process.

Have medical checkups and stock up on medication

Inform your doctors, dentist, etc. that you will be out of the country for an extended period of time and that you need to stock up on medications, both over-the-counter and prescription medications. If applicable, bring a supply of contact lenses and an extra pair of glasses (and the prescription). Make sure to bring along any necessary medical files that you may need during your time in Vienna.

In general, most health and beauty products typically found in US drug stores (or something similar) are readily available in Vienna. Most can be found at [dm](#), [BIPA](#), [Müller](#), or any of the [pharmacies](#) (*Apoteken*) in Vienna.

Settle issues with your US bank

Ask your bank about services for customers living abroad (e.g. transferring funds to/from a foreign bank account). You may also decide to leave checks with a trusted individual in the US for paying bills, in which case you will need to arrange for the legalities (e.g. power of attorney). If desired, the IAEA will transfer part of your salary (in US dollars) to your US bank account.

Check that your US debit card is part of an international network (e.g. Plus, Cirrus, Maestro, MasterCard, American Express, Visa), allowing you to withdraw money from ATMs (*Bankomat*) in Vienna. Consider making arrangements with your US bank to increase your maximum withdrawal limit. Make sure to bring enough cash (in Euros), including a few coins, to cover your airport transportation and initial settling-in purchases in Vienna. Most importantly, make sure to inform your bank that your card may be used extensively in Europe and that it should not be flagged.

Get informed about tax liability of your IAEA income

Consult a personal tax adviser and/or contact the IRS for information about US tax liability on your foreign-earned income. A good reference is Publication 54: *"Tax Guide for US Citizens and Resident Aliens Abroad"*. Depending on your income, you may qualify for the "Foreign Earned Income Exclusion" and not owe any taxes;

remember, however, that you still have to file! In any case, if eligible, you will be reimbursed by the IAEA for US income taxes paid on your IAEA income.

Arrange for airline reservations and transportation from the Vienna airport

Discuss your airline reservations and payment (i.e. the lump sum you are entitled to) with your IAEA HR representative and begin making your travel plans. The Vienna International Airport is located in Schwechat, about 20 minutes away from Vienna. If you have a lot of luggage or a large family, it may be easiest to book advanced reservations for a taxi or a small van; a representative from the company will be waiting for you at arrivals. If you're travelling with less luggage, the airport buses or trains may suit your needs.

Start getting informed about Vienna and Austria

Before boarding your flight to Vienna, start to familiarize yourself with living in Vienna so you don't have any surprises upon your arrival. Try to get an understanding of the history and culture of Vienna too! The links and resources provided in this Guidebook are a great place to start. Another good place to start looking is [austria.org](#). Obviously, the internet is a valuable resource, but if you know someone who has previously moved from the US to work for the IAEA, use them as your resource. They will likely be able to provide practical information that may come in handy. Another very useful resource are dedicated Facebook groups where you can ask questions and get advice from people who have gone through the same process. It doesn't hurt to begin learning some basic German if you have no prior knowledge through reading, audio courses, or through one of the many available smartphone applications (e.g. [Duolingo](#)). The ISPO office also offers free access to Rosetta Stone for new hires. Don't hesitate to inquire!

Departing Staff: Moving On

Whether you are returning home or moving on to another location, the following information should be helpful. In addition to finalizing your work at the IAEA, there are several tasks that need to be completed.

Decide what to take and what not to take

Eligibility for the IAEA's repatriation package and shipping allowance will influence your decision. If you would like to sell some household goods, contact local organizations. The IAEA Staff Bulletin Board (on the IAEA intranet), the [American Women's Association](#), the [American International School](#), [Virtual Vienna](#), [Willhaben](#), and [Shpock](#) are a few possibilities for ads or flea markets. Donations are also a good option; some worthy charities include [Volkshilfe](#), [Caritas](#), and the [United Nations Women's Guild Bazaar](#).

Resolve housing obligations

Notify your landlord of your departure (typically this must be done several months in advance) and discuss when and how to facilitate showing the flat to potential renters. If renovations (e.g. painting, repairs) must be done, negotiate them with your landlord. Set a date for your final flat inspection and key return. Schedule the final cleaning of your flat for the day after the movers remove your personal belongings (unless you have negotiated otherwise with your landlord). Work with your landlord to have the utility come to do a final reading of your meters.

Schedule moving

The IAEA's Transport and Shipment Unit will arrange shipment of your household items with a moving company and set a moving date. Be sure to photograph your belongings before they are packed, especially those belongings that are more valuable. You will be required to make an inventory and a price estimate for insurance purposes. Set aside belongings for air shipment (if eligible) that you will require immediately upon arrival in your new destination. Make a checklist of all packing boxes and their contents.

Check contracts and put cancellations in writing

Service contracts in Austria usually continue until formally terminated. Put cancellations of housing leases, car insurance, telephone and internet contracts, subscriptions, and other service used while in Vienna **in writing** and send by registered mail; request written confirmation of cancellations. Not paying an invoice does not cancel a contract or subscriptions. Contact the post office to set up mail forwarding service to your new address.

Make travel arrangements

Arrange your travel according to the IAEA procedures (provided by your HR representative as part of your IAEA exit paperwork) including determining your entitlement and booking your tickets. Find the US requirements online and discuss the procedure with your veterinarian. Get your pets vaccinated within 10 days of arrival in the US.

Sell your car

Your insurance agent of the Austrian Automobile Association (ÖAMTC) can help you determine a fair market value for your vehicle. Posting an ad with a detailed description and photos on the IAEA Staff Bulletin Board (IAEA intranet) and the physical bulletin board in Building F may be useful. You can also try to sell it back to your dealer. Another option is to post an ad on one of the many websites for selling used cars, including: [AutoScout24](#), [Willhaben](#), [DasWeltAuto](#), and many more.

Get documents and essential items in order

Meet with your IAEA HR representative to discuss accrued annual leave, repatriation grant, repatriation travel, pension, health insurance, etc. Finalize arrangements at your children's schools (e.g. transcripts). Collect medical, school, employment records, as well as your pet's vaccination record (if applicable). Put a copy of important documents in your luggage or shipment and carry a copy with you in your hand luggage. Arrange for necessary medications until you get settled in at your destination.

Settle Austrian and US banking issues

Check with your local Austrian bank about closing your account, transferring funds, etc. Depending on your wishes, arrange with the IAEA about final payments to your Austrian and/or US bank.

Get informed about your US tax issues

Discuss your partial year tax situation with the IAEA tax consultant and reconcile your advances.

Follow the IAEA checklist for departing staff members

A few weeks before your contract ends, your IAEA HR representative should contact you about the list of items that need to be completed before your last day. This list requires several signatures, so don't put it off until the end!

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Appreciating Austria, Vienna and the Viennese

Behind the Facades

Vienna has changed dramatically over the last three decades from being sleepy and staid to vibrant and cosmopolitan. The city is a mixture of quaint and bygone, quirky and conventional, urban and provincial; yet it has a truly modern sensibility reflected in the many future-oriented approaches it has adopted.

This makes Vienna an interesting and comfortable city in which to live, especially considering its population of 1.98 million, making it the second-largest German speaking city (after Berlin). Of the 1.98 million, 32.2% are foreigners, a 10 percentage point increase from 10 years ago (wien.at/english/administration/statistics).

Vienna's growth in population is partially due to Austria's low unemployment rates (relative to other European countries) that present new immigrants with not only employment but also educational opportunities.

Freud's "City of Dreams," as Vienna is sometimes known, is an enigma. Contradiction is rife in a city that has witnessed many eras and historical periods—from posh to poor, and even ugly. For the average tourist, Vienna is many things: former Imperial power, World War II horror-story, gateway to the East, and a Cold War spy capital so aptly depicted in the film *The Third Man*.



Whatever the scene, it is the classical music, the movement of the *Fin de Siècle*, the incredible architecture, intellectual thought, princesses and pralines, and simple men and women that make for a great backdrop to many stories. To fully appreciate and understand Vienna and the Viennese, we need to take a fleeting look back through four distinct historical influences: the rule of the Habsburgs (1279–1918); World War I and the end of the Empire (1914–1918); the Anschluss and World War II (1938–1945); and the post-war period up to the present.

A Fleeting History

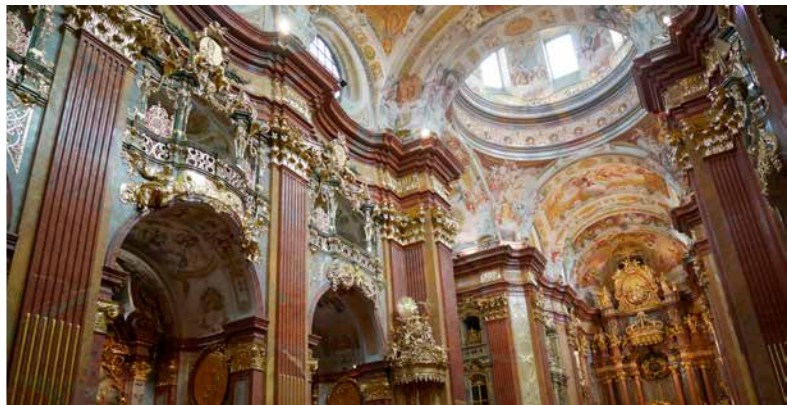
Habsburg Rule

The Habsburg rule of seven centuries, comprising different royal bloodlines, saw the expansion of the Austrian and later the Austro–Hungarian Empires to rein influence over much of central-eastern Europe. Vienna was not only the political center of the Monarchy, but also the heart of intellectual, cultural, and artistic expression.

From classical music (Mozart, Strauss, Schubert, Haydn, Mahler, Schoenberg), literature (Nestroy, Zweig, Kafka), art (Klimt, Schiele, Kokoschka, Hundertwasser), architecture (Wagner, Loos), psychology and philosophy (Freud, Wittgenstein, von Mises), economics (Hayek, Schumpeter, and the Austrian School of Economics), and medicine and science (Bolzmann, Pauli, Schroedinger, Hess, Meitner), there is no denying the political, cultural, and artistic importance Vienna had on the history of Europe and the world. Indeed, Austria, per capita, has had more Nobel Prize winners than has the United States, United Kingdom, and Germany.

WWI & the End of the Empire

The assassination of the Austro–Hungarian Crown Prince Archduke Franz Ferdinand and his wife Sophie, on June 28, 1914 in Sarajevo, ended the *fin de siècle* and triggered World War I. The end of the War in 1918, and especially Austria's defeat, signaled the finale to the Habsburg's centuries-long rule and the Austrian Empire. Vienna's situation was desperate: overnight the state was reduced from over 50 million to 3 million people and one third of that — including thousands of unemployed bureaucrats, refugees, and ex-soldiers — was in Vienna.



Fascism, the Anschluss & WWII

The period between World War I and World War II was a grey time for Austria with the country somewhat rudderless: after centuries of Monarchical rule, the (first) Austrian Republic, created in November 1918, was only in its infancy. This was a turbulent period of political and social tensions, unrelenting economic crises, and severe hyperinflation.

The catastrophic situation paved the way for the rise of fascism, among other things. Austria's chancellors Dollfuss and Schuschnigg were unable to counter Germany's threats and the growing power of the National Socialists (Nazis) in Austria. What followed was the Anschluss, Austria's incorporation into the German Reich. On

RELATED RESOURCES (IN ENGLISH)

- *Thunder at Twilight: Vienna 1913/1914*
F. Morton; Da Capo Press (2001)
- *Fin-de-Siècle Vienna: Politics and Culture*
C.E. Schorske; Alfred A. Knopf, Inc. (1980)
[original]
- *Hitler's Vienna: A Dictator's Apprenticeship*
B. Hamann; Oxford University Press (1999)
[original]
- *After the Reich: The Brutal History of the Allied Occupation*
G. MacDonogh; John Murray (2007)
- *Strangers in Their Own Land: Young Jews in Germany and Austria Today*
P. Sichrovsky; I.B. Taurus (1986) [translated from German in 1985]
- *The Struggle for a Democratic Austria: Bruno Kreisky on Peace and Social Justice*
B. Kreisky, M.P. Berg (Translator), J. Lewis (Ed.); Berghahn Books (2000)

March 12, 1938, German troops marched into Austria, encountering little resistance. Adolf Hitler, an Austrian who, as a failed artist, had left Vienna many years before, marched into Vienna in triumph and held a huge rally at Heldenplatz in front of 200,000 seemingly ecstatic Viennese. For many, Hitler's policies promised more work, socialist reforms, and political stability. But the enthusiasm that greeted Hitler soon gave way to the sobering reality of war and Nazi occupation.

Some people still question the collaborative role that Austrians played during the



*"Österreich ist frei –
Austria is free!"*

On 15 May 1955, from the balcony of Vienna's Belvedere Palace, Leopold Figl (center) presents the just-signed Austrian State Treaty that re-established Austria as a sovereign state.

Photo: Austrian Armed Forces

Nazi occupation. As historian Brigitte Hamann points out in her book *Hitler's Vienna*, the pan-German ideology of a master Aryan race and the adoption of the Swastika as its symbol were well ingrained in parts of Austria and Germany at the turn of the 19th/20th century. While many Austrian political leaders and ordinary Austrian citizens tried to avert German occupation, until recently there has been little public reflection as to the seemingly complacent role of the State, the Catholic Church, and society toward this event. This can probably be explained in part by Austria's complex history.

World War II ended in 1945 with the defeat of Germany and a 10 year occupation of Austria by Allied forces (France, the former USSR, the UK, and the US) followed. On May 15, 1955, the Staatsvertrag (Austrian State Treaty) was signed, establishing the (Second) Austrian Republic based on the principle of permanent Austrian neutrality.

Post-War Austria

Even today Austria is sometimes criticized for having failed to eliminate all traces of rightist ideology within its government and administration. Yet efforts have been made to overcome the injustices of the dark years (1938–1945). For example, the persistence of the work of both the Jewish Documentation Centre, spearheaded for many years by the late Austrian Nazi hunter Simon Wiesenthal, in pinpointing perpetrators and bringing them to justice, as well as the Documentation Centre of Austrian Resistance, created by former members of the Austrian Resistance, was and still remains essential. Several museums and memorials have emerged which evoke the city's Jewish heritage: the [Jewish Museum of the City of Vienna](#), the [Judenplatz Museum](#), the [Sigmund Freud House](#), the [Schoenberg Center](#), the [Memorial against War and Fascism on the Albertinaplatz](#) and the [Shoah Memorial on the Judenplatz](#). In 1998, the Austrian government set up the Historical Commission to investigate crimes committed against the Jews during the Nazi occupation. In addition, the constitution contains strict laws against any kind of re-emergence of Nazi symbols, publications, or activities.

US President John F. Kennedy and Chairman Nikita Khrushchev during their meeting in Vienna, 3 June 1961.

Source: National Archives and Records Administration, ARC Identifier 193204; Stanley Tretick, Photographer

Shoah Memorial on the Judenplatz.



Melting Pot

Vienna has always been a melting pot of cultures. Bruno Kreisky, a Viennese Jew who fled to Sweden during WWII, only to return to become leader of the Social Democratic Party of Austria, was the longest-serving Federal Chancellor of Austria (1970–1983). Kreisky helped foster Austria's active neutrality, bringing into the fold some Eastern bloc, former communist countries during the Cold War years. He also managed to woo many international organizations, such as the IAEA, several other UN agencies, and OPEC, to the city to make it their headquarters, which has further contributed to Vienna's multicultural mix.

Additionally, after WWII, Austria sought the help of Turkish nationals, known as *Gastarbeiter* (guest workers), to fulfill the demands of their workforce due to the loss of many young people during the War. This immigration, together with the later immigration of people from the Balkan states and the more recent influx of refugees from Syria, Afghanistan and other Middle Eastern countries, helps explain why Islam is currently the third largest religion in Austria.

Vienna Today

The Darling of Europe

Vienna is again basking in the cosmopolitan status it once enjoyed as the ruling Monarchal city of the Austro–Hungarian Empire. While many Austrians still accept the concept of administration, a Habsburg relic, they have managed to relax a few suffocating rules. Gone are many of the signs forbidding people to walk on the grass in parks, not to mention the inconceivable thought of people dipping their feet in fountains! Take, for example, the [Museumsquartier](#), which houses one of the biggest museum complexes in Europe and has become a vibrant meeting place in summer for students who wade in the ponds and lounge on the outdoor chairs.

Artistic expression is abundant and much can be experienced in terms of theater, music, and art. The Viennese take their theater seriously, and in the German-speaking world you've "made it" if you've performed at the [Burgtheater](#). The Neo-Renaissance [State Opera House](#), bombed by the allies in 1945 after they reportedly mistook it for a train station and later re-built, remains a much-loved icon on the city landscape. Most foreigners know the [Musikverein](#) through the classical New Year's Concert, televised and broadcast to more than 80 countries around the world.



Vienna hosts many balls, which enliven winter dreariness. The most famous are the [Opera Ball](#) and the [Vienna Philharmonic Ball](#). There's even an [IAEA Staff Association Ball](#) held typically at Vienna's Hofburg. Spring is especially vibrant with the [Wiener Festwochen](#), where world-class entertainers and dancers perform. In fact, Vienna offers a wide cultural program of concerts covering all styles on a daily basis.

The city has also become known as a gay and lesbian destination helped by its biggest charity event, the artistically and extravagantly-presented [Life Ball](#). Held every May in the Rathaus (city hall), its proceeds go to support AIDS sufferers and charities around the world. Despite it initially being a homosexual event, many heterosexuals—including opinion leaders such as Bill Clinton and artists such as Elton John, Madonna, and Naomi Campbell—attend this spectacular event.

[Vienna Pride](#) and the [Rainbow Parade](#), held in June, is a procession on trailers, motorbikes, in carriages, or on foot to publicly oppose discrimination of gays, lesbians, drag queens, leather boys, and transgenders. All trams in Vienna fly the rainbow flag during that time.

Quality of Life

According to Mercer's 2019 [Quality of Living Survey](#), Vienna ranks first (for the 10th time), as *the* global city to live in. Vienna was also ranked first in the Economic Intelligence Unit (EIU)'s [Global Livability Index 2022](#). In a recent study of expats, 88% think that Austria is a secure country, 78% think it is politically stable, 84% value the quality of health care and 89% of participants ranked the education system's quality as high: <https://metropole.at/quotes-stats-numbers-october/>

The Viennese have a more relaxed attitude towards working hours. For example, many offices are closed during the whole month of August and for many people, the weekend begins on a Friday when work is finished early in the afternoon. Shopping hours are also restricted, with all stores (with few exceptions like bakeries) being closed on Sundays and most holidays.

The quality of food in Austria is generally very good, and supermarkets and grocery shops tend to stock an abundance of local, organic and seasonal foods (e.g. asparagus in the spring, strawberries in the summer, apples and pumpkins in autumn). The farmer's name even appears on the packages of meat and eggs.



COCKTAIL PARTY POLITICS

To avoid looking like a new arrival in social gatherings, here's a quick look at the Austrian political landscape. The most recent legislative election was initiated after the [Ibiza affair](#) which caused the collapse of the coalition which was created in October of 2017. Following the Ibiza affair, President [Alexander Van der Bellen](#) named [Brigitte Bierlein](#) Chancellor of Austria, after a parliamentary motion of no confidence dismissed the first government of [Sebastian Kurz](#), the first successful motion of no confidence in Austrian modern history. She was the first woman to assume the role and served until the next government led by Kurz was sworn in following the legislative election which took place on 29 September 2019. From this latest election) the [Österreichische Volkspartei \(ÖVP\)/Austrian People's Party](#) emerged as the largest party in the 27th National Council at 37.5%. The [Sozialdemokratische Partei Österreichs \(SPÖ\)/ Social Democratic Party of Austria](#) finished second with 21%, slightly ahead of the [Freiheitliche Partei Österreichs \(FPÖ\) \(Freedom Party of Austria\)](#), which won third place with 16%. [Die Grüne Alternative \(Grüne\)/ Green Party](#) achieved 14% to finish fourth, and [Das Neue Österreich \(NEOS\)/ The New Austria](#), came in fifth place with 8%. [JETZT - Liste Pilz](#) ("jetzt" meaning "now"), formerly known as [PILZ](#) (which split from the Green Party at the start of the campaign in 2017), failed to cross the 4% threshold and lost all its seats in parliament. The ÖVP made a coalition deal with the Green party. The next legislative election will take place in 2024 to elect the 28th National Council. Due to the probe into Chancellor Sebastian Kurz initiated after the Ibiza affair, he eventually resigned on October 9, 2021 and was replaced by [Alexander Schallenberg](#) from October 11 to December 2, 2021. Then, [Karl Nehammer](#) was provisionally appointed as leader of the ÖVP by the federal party committee and proposed as chancellor. He is the current Chancellor and was sworn in on December 6, 2021.

Major Parties

The major parties are listed here alphabetically. Each Austrian political party is identifiable by a color.

- [Freiheitliche Partei Österreichs \(FPÖ\)/Freedom Party of Austria](#). The FPÖ was originally formed as a liberal party; since the 1980s it has been renowned for its populist right-wing views. *Blue*
- [Die Grüne Alternative \(Grüne\)/The Greens](#). Apart from the environment, rights for minorities and tax reform are also platforms. *Green*
- [Das Neue Österreich \(NEOS\)/The New Austria](#). Created in 2013, it represents an official merging of young liberal parties. *Pink*
- [Österreichische Volkspartei \(ÖVP\)/Austrian People's Party](#). Known as the Christian Democrats, the ÖVP is a conservative, socially integrative party, more recently described as a "progressive center." *Black*
- [Sozialdemokratische Partei Österreichs \(SPÖ\)/Social Democratic Party of Austria](#). Traditionally one of the largest parties, the SPÖ was formed as the center-left party and was the force behind the first Austrian Republic.

Government Officials

- [Bundespräsident/Federal President](#). The President of Austria is elected every six years and can be re-elected only once. In 2022, Alexander van der Bellen was re-elected as the 12th President of Austria.
- [Bundeskanzler/Federal Chancellor](#). The Chancellor's position is seen to be the most powerful in Austrian politics and as such the Chancellor is *de facto* chief executive. The current Chancellor is [Karl Nehammer](#), ÖVP member, who was sworn-in on December 6, 2021. The current Vice Chancellor of Austria is [Werner Kogler](#), from the Green Party.
- [Bürgermeister/Mayor of Vienna](#) In 2018, after nearly a quarter of a century of service, Dr. Michael Häupl (SPÖ) retired as [Bürgermeister](#) of Vienna. The newly elected mayor is Michael Ludwig (SPÖ). Traditionally, Vienna has been the stronghold of the SPÖ and during Häupl era, the much beloved (and often controversial) mayor played a dominant role in Austrian politics.

The Viennese Psyche

This subject is probably best left to Freud's successors and authors such as Stefan Zweig. Nonetheless, the much-talked-about Viennese *Gemütlichkeit*, which is difficult to translate but basically means "to be at ease in charming surrounds," and *das Wienerherz*, or "Viennese warm-heartedness," are in abundance, even though one often has to find the right way to "break the ice." Show your charming side and the locals will often succumb.

Austrians generally view the arts highly, so play up your musical talents and knowledge! The Viennese are known to enjoy life, with wine and food being integral to their culture, but they can also be known as a city of grumblers, or complainers. This can be experienced especially during the misty, winter months, which can be challenging.

There is a strong adherence to traditional codes of conduct, including behaving in an acceptable, even old-fashioned, way, which is endearing. This makes public events and festivals in Austria peaceful and pleasurable to attend, with little visible drunkenness and disorderly behavior. While Austrians consume rather high per capita levels of alcohol, there is a distinctly Germanic attitude to it in that there is not the amount of binge drinking that is apparent in other European cities.

The young Viennese are no different from young people in any other city in the world, with most of the educated having a good knowledge of English. Though it may be difficult to initially get to know people, once you have made an Austrian friend, they tend to be extremely loyal and will take the friendship seriously.

There are plenty of expats from all countries living in Vienna, which will make your stay easier in terms of social integration. Like anything in life, the more you immerse yourself, the more you will be rewarded. It pays to learn a bit of German to be able to order food and deal with the supermarkets. While it may take years to speak fluent German, understand the humor, or even dare to tell a joke, your stay will be enriched through an understanding of the language. That said, most people in the city center speak a bit of English and many Austrians love to practice their English.

When examining codes of behavior in Austria, it is worth noting that these are as varied as they are elsewhere in the world, depending more on a person's cultural, social, and educational background. However, there are a few rules one should observe as a foreigner in Austria (see facing page).



THE SERIOUS GUIDE TO AUSTRIA

(Adapted from *The Lonely Planet Vienna City Guide*)

- When greeting people use “*Grüss Gott*” (God’s greetings/blessings), “*Guten Morgen*” (good morning), or “*Guten Tag*” (good day). Reserve “*Servus*” or “*Hallo*” for greeting close friends, children, and teens. Say “*Auf Wiedersehen*” (goodbye, see you again) when departing.
- Shake hands when greeting (or leaving) an acquaintance (as opposed to a friend); this is done with everyone in a group. A woman offers her hand first to the man, and the older person to the younger. Handshakes are firm with direct eye contact. Cheek kissing (right, then left) replaces the handshake as people become friends.
- Use the formal pronoun “*Sie*” when talking to people who are older than you or only acquainted. Reserve “*Du*” for close friends, children, and teens.
- Address people with medical, academic, government, or diplomatic status with full titles (e.g., *Doktor*, *Professor*) and their last name (e.g., *Herr- or Frau-Doktor Schmidt*). When in doubt, use a title.
- Call out a resounding “*Zum Wohl!*” (formal form of cheers) and “*Prost!*” (informal) when toasting; click glasses and make eye contact with everyone in the group.
- Dress up for the opera, theater, or a top restaurant. A jacket and tie for older men is the norm, but the younger generation dress smart-casual.
- Give your family name when introduced to someone; first names may or may not be used later in a relationship. When you first meet an Austrian, the contact is likely to be formal. Austrians are more relaxed after a couple of meetings.
- Return the favor if someone buys you a drink; buying rounds is not common practice.
- Be punctual and bring a small gift when invited to someone’s home: typically wine for the host, flowers for the hostess (take off the paper wrapping but leave the cellophane wrap). Give only an odd-numbered bouquet; an even-numbered bouquet is considered unlucky. Stay away from red roses; they have romantic undertones. Offer to remove your shoes when entering the home; often the host will provide slippers. Call the next day to thank the host.
- Knock before entering an office.
- Say “*Mahlzeit!*” before eating lunch, “*Guten Appetit!*” before eating evening meals. Keep your hands, but not your elbows, on top of the table.
- Tip for good service: although the tip is already included in the bill, the general rule is to round up smaller bills when buying coffee or beer and to add up 10% for full meals. In all but the most posh establishments, the tip is handed over when you pay: just tell the server (*Kellnerin/Kellner*) the total amount you want to pay (bill and tip included) and they will work it out.



Blame it on the Weather

Got a headache, feeling dizzy, confused and even troubled when you're in otherwise good health? Don't worry. Most Viennese blame it on the weather, or more precisely, on the *Foehn* (pronounced like "foon") – that infamous ill wind that Austrians love to hate. Such winds also occur in Canada and the US where they are called simply Chinooks; likewise "Mistral" winds blow in France and move southward to the Mediterranean.

When the *Foehn* blows, it's the talk of Austrian newspapers, with front page forecasts warning that the wind is likely to aggravate whatever ails you. Although April is the cruelest month for *Foehn* winds, they can occur year-round. Temperatures can soar from freezing to as high as 60 degrees F (20°C) in as little as 2 hours and wind gusts can be strong enough to topple trees. Scientists report that suicide and accident rates increase noticeably during *Foehn* winds. But not everyone complains. For a few lucky people, the *Foehn* gives one an adrenaline rush – somewhat like the feeling you have after a glass of champagne.

The Viennese and their Dogs

The Viennese certainly love their canine friends. This can clearly be seen on the streets and in restaurants where owners are invariably ignored while their dogs are smothered with affection by local strangers. Cleaning up after them is another thing. A staggering 36 million bags of dog poo are deposited annually in Vienna's rubbish bins. The fines for not cleaning up dog poop have recently increased to 50 Euro. In cases of gross misconduct, the fine can be up to Euro 90.

Kaffeehaus Culture

Kaffeehäuser (coffee houses) have been deeply ingrained within the culture since Turkish invaders reportedly left behind some bags of coffee in 1683. People will spend hours at a coffee house reflecting, reading, writing, meeting friends, playing chess or bridge in some of the world's most impressive buildings. You can also eat in the coffee houses. There are so many styles of them around the city that it will take some time to get to know them all. For details, see: wiener.kaffeehaus.at

VIENNA COFFEEHOUSE CONVERSATIONS

Learn about Vienna and its residents over dinner or coffee and cake. These events take place (in English) in the *Café Ministerium* on the *Ringstrasse*. Participation in the Vienna Coffeehouse Conversations includes coffee and cake or a menu of Viennese cuisine (or a vegetarian alternative). Details online at: vienna-unwrapped.com/vienna-coffeehouse-conversations.



COFFEE CONUNDRUMS

You need to know your coffees in Vienna, as there are many choices.

- Kleiner Schwarzer / Großer Schwarzer: a single/double espresso
- Kleiner Brauner / Großer Brauner: also a single /double espresso, but with a small jug/ carton of milk or cream for you to add at your pleasure.
- Verlängerter: an espresso with added hot water.
- Cappuccino: it's more or less a cappuccino as you know it. Occasionally it comes with less milk than you expect or with (Schlagobers) on top, rather than frothed milk (Milchschaum).
- Wiener Melange: often shortened to melange, from the French meaning "mixture". This is an espresso with steamed milk and topped with a little foam and sprinkle of chocolate.



Smoking in Public Places

Once dubbed the “ashtray of Europe”, Austria finally banned smoking inside public places, such as bars, coffee houses, and restaurants, in late 2019 after a decade-long debate. The ban also extends to personal vehicles if anyone in the vehicle is under the age of 18. Smokers can still light up in open outdoors spaces without any issues.

Treasured Traditions

Many Austrians, especially those living in the provinces, have a love of traditional dress, namely *Lederhosen* (leather knickerbockers) and the *Dirndl* (a busty pinafore dress); of celebrating pre-Christian traditions such as the *Perchten Krampus*, the alter-ego of *St. Nicholas* (where bad kids are “spanked” on 5 December and good kids get gifts from *St. Nick*); of folk-music, including “oom-pah-pah bands” and home grown musical groups which perform on *Musikantenstadt* shows (something to be experienced!); of quaint *Feuerwehrfest* (fire department parties); and of *Kirtag* (fairs), held mostly in villages, where all generations congregate to eat pork sausages and drink wine, to mention a few things.

An Austrian of Moravian (now Czech) origin called Mathias Zdarsky invented skiing. It is unusual for an Austrian not to ski, and the Austrian ski team usually dominates the international ski circuit. Almost one third of total European ski sport stays are booked in Austria, making it the number one ski destination in Europe, according to Statistik Austria. Traditionally, Austrian ski champions were given plots of land in their home villages as a means of gratitude from the community. These ex-skiers often used the land to build hotels and ski resorts. In turn, these resorts have helped attract more skiers to Austrian slopes. Austria’s high ranking on the international ski circuit has created a viable industry that strongly supports tourism.

Freikörperkultur (“Free Body Culture”)

Although many consider Austrians to be a formal and rather conservative people, the extent of nudity (“ohne”) in Austrian culture may be surprising. For sure, in Austria there is a culture of handling sexuality and nudity more openly than, say, in the US. Throughout the country there is a vibrant sauna culture, often with no gender segregation. Also, naked bodies are displayed freely in advertisements and on television without a trace of modesty.

Naturism is a flourishing movement in Austria. *Freikörperkultur (FKK)*, a somewhat strange term meaning “free body culture,” refers to areas that allow nude swimming and sunbathing. You are likely to see “FKK” printed on a sign or stenciled on a wall or sidewalk to indicate nudist areas. An *FKK Strand* is a nude beach. Nude beaches can be found along the *Donauinsel*, a long, narrow, man-made island in central Vienna located between the Danube and the New Danube (*Neue Donau*). For information check out (in English): ohnaturist.com.



Living in Vienna

There are so many publications, websites and blogs about living in Vienna that it would be impractical to repeat this information. Here we present a sampling of facts and practical tips intended to help you enjoy living in Vienna. To round out your picture of life in Vienna, we suggest you check any (or all) of these favorites (in English):

- [Living in Vienna](#), by the American Women's Association – valuable information for newcomers to Vienna.
- [Lonely Planet Vienna City Guide](#) – a must read.
- [Virtual Vienna Expat Blogs](#) – practical tips on moving to and living in Vienna
- [Vienna Wurstelstand](#) – weekly updated blog providing information on current events, new restaurants/bars, and much more!
- [Metropole](#) – insightful information for living in Vienna.

Austria's language

German is the official language of Austria. While most Austrians and other residents of Vienna (especially the younger generation) speak at least some English (and most of them almost fluently), it may be slightly frustrating to live in Vienna without a basic understanding of the language. This becomes more of an issue when you venture outside of Vienna to the more rural areas of Austria, where you may encounter people who speak/understand minimal or no English at all.



There are many ways to learn German, including: enrolling in a German class, getting a private German tutor, finding a tandem learning partner, and/or using a language learning software (e.g. [Duolingo](#)). Private tutors may advertise on [Falter](#), [Bazar](#), [Willhaben](#), and other newspapers/websites, as well as on the IAEA Staff Bulletin Board (IAEA intranet). You may find a tandem partner on such websites as [tandem](#) and [University of Vienna](#) where you can trade your expertise and knowledge of English in exchange for learning German from a native speaker. This is also a great way to meet people! There are also several places around the city where you can take German courses of varying levels of intensity. The most convenient is definitely the [IAEA Language Programme at the VIC](#) managed by [inlingua](#) with classes taught on the 9th floor of the F Building; they offer courses of varying levels at different times throughout the day. Other possibilities for German courses include, but are not limited to, the [DeutschAkademie](#), [Berlitz](#), [Alpha Sprachinstitut Austria](#), [IKI Internationales Kulturinstitut](#).

While Google Translate is not perfect, if you ever need a quick and dirty translation of something (e.g. document, email, letter), it can be extremely useful. If you use Google Chrome as an Internet browser, it will automatically translate internet pages for you. Also, Google's Gmail service will translate emails directly in your inbox if you wish!

Automobiles and Driving

Driver's License

As a staff member, you are entitled to operate a vehicle within Austria for the duration of your employment with the IAEA on the basis of your foreign driving permit, provided that you are a holder of a valid *Legitimationskarte*. For more information see "Take along your driver's license" in Getting Ready for the Move.



Car Insurance

Third-party liability insurance (*Haftpflichtversicherung*) is compulsory in Austria. In addition, you can get partial (*Teilkaskoversicherung*) or full (*Vollkaskoversicherung*) insurance. Two factors determine the premium: your previous driving record and the vehicle's horsepower. Austria has a “*Bonus/Malus*” system that rewards/punishes drivers based on their accident history. A “good driving record” statement from your US insurance agent is key to getting the premium discount. The following Austrian insurance companies have offices at the VIC: [Allianz Elementar](#); [Generali](#); [UNIQA](#); [Wiener Staetische](#); and [Zurich](#).

Purchasing a Car

Eligible staff can buy a new automobile tax-free every four years (two years for P-5 and above) and may sell the vehicle tax-free. The CO2 emission tax must be paid either by the buyer or the seller. Check with the relevant manufacturer about receiving the “diplomatic price.” For IAEA assistance in buying a tax free car, email IAEA Staff Administration at VCU.Contact-Point@iaea.org. For used cars, there are many websites available, including [AutoScout24](#), [Willhaben](#), [DasWeltAuto](#). Be sure to also check out the IAEA Staff Bulletin Board.

Regulations

Automobiles on the highway (*Autobahn*) must display a tax sticker (*Autobahn Vignette*) on the inside windshield. The sticker (valid for one year, two months, or ten days) may be purchased at border crossings, gas stations, and Tabak-Trafik shops located throughout Austria. Fines for not displaying a valid *Vignette* can be high.

Tip Short-term parking

Since March 2022, almost the entire Vienna metropolitan area is subject to short-term parking zones rules: applicable M-F, 9:00am to 10:00pm, maximum parking duration is two hours. Be sure to display a voucher (*Parkschein*) on your dashboard (*Kurzparkzonen*). Buy ½-hour, 1-hour, 1½-hour, and 2-hour vouchers at Tabak-Trafik shops (and some gas stations where you may also pick up some of the free (purple) vouchers for parking for up to 15 minutes). Details can be found at wien.at/english/transportation/parking.

Alternatively, download the parking app (*Handyparken*) onto your smartphone. After transferring money to the app with your credit card, enter your license plate, select the desired time, and activate the parking voucher. The app will display the voucher which can be read by parking inspectors.

Parking is relatively cheap, but fines can be as much as €50 for not having a voucher.



The use of a hand-held mobile phone (*Handy*) while driving is prohibited. Unlike in the U.S., turning right on red is prohibited throughout Austria. Penalties for driving under the influence of alcohol tend to be stricter than in the U.S.. Cars must stop for pedestrians at crossings marked by red/white.

Have your license and car registration with you at all times. By law, you must also carry in your car luminous vests (yellow or orange) for each passenger, a first-aid kit, and a warning triangle (to be placed on the road at a safe distance from your car to warn others of a stationary vehicle in the event of an accident or breakdown).

Speed limits are usually 30–50 km in residential areas, 100 km on country roads, and 130 km on the *Autobahn*. Spot checks are frequent, as are breath tests, and fines for driving under the influence of alcohol are high.

Automobile clubs in Austria offer 24/7 services free of charge for members and for a fee for non-members payable by cash or credit card: [ARBÖ](#) and [ÖAMTC](#).

Banking and Finances

US and Austrian Banking

Most Americans working at the IAEA have found it convenient to maintain a dollar account at a US bank to facilitate dollar salary payments (if requested) and arrange payments of remaining US expenses. Even so, since rent and other local expenses are paid in Euros, it is best to set up a Euro currency account (*Girokonto*) with an Austrian bank.

A *Girokonto* has many advantages. You can overdraw on the account without overdraft fees; however, the bank may charge interest on the overdrawn balance. Both the interest rate and the overdraft limits vary, so ask the bank beforehand. A *Girokonto* also entitles you to a debit card (*Bankomatkarte*), issued with a PIN code, which functions like a US debit card and can be used to withdraw cash 24/7 at the many ATMs (*Bankomat*) in Austria (identified by green and blue horizontally striped



neon signs). Most stores, supermarkets, gas stations, and restaurants allow purchases with a *Bankomatkarte*.

Austrian banks offer many services, including on-line banking (in English) and the use of credit cards. Bills may be paid through direct transfer of funds from your account to that of the recipient. This can be done either by on-line banking or through the use of a transfer order (*Zahlschein*). You can also issue a standing transfer order to automatically pay bills that are issued regularly (e.g., rent, telephone, utilities). Fees are charged for opening and closing an account, for account maintenance, and for getting a *Bankomatkarte*. Foreign exchange fees and service charges vary among banks, so be sure to ask about these before setting up your account.



Banks at or near the VIC

[Bank Austria](#), with branches throughout the country, maintains one branch in the VIC. Other major Austrian banks with branches near the VIC and throughout Austria include: [Raiffeisenlandesbank NÖ-Wien AG](#); [BAWAG P.S.K.](#); and [Erste Bank und Sparkasse](#).

Membership in the [United Nations Federal Credit Union \(UNFCU\)](#) is available to all UN staff, affiliated agencies, and families. UNFCU offers numerous services, including checking and savings accounts in US dollars, as well as credit cards, investments, and loans. Headquartered in New York, the bank maintains a branch at the VIC. Even after you leave the IAEA, you can maintain membership with the UNFCU.

Communication, Television and Internet

The telecommunication industry in Austria, as elsewhere, continues to improve and expand with respect to both the products and the services offered and their costs. In general, for those that are used to the prices in the US, you will find that the prices in Austria for cell phone service, home internet, etc. are more affordable.

Additionally, with the adoption of “roam like at home” a few years ago, those with phone plans in any EU country are able to call, text, or surf the internet in any other EU country (as well as Iceland, Liechtenstein, and Norway) with no additional roaming charges. This makes traveling around Europe that much easier and more convenient!

Home Internet

Most internet service providers normally require (at minimum) a one-year contract; therefore, depending on your contract length, it may be best to get an internet connection immediately upon arriving in Vienna. Be sure to ask about the cancellation policy; many contracts require three-months' notice. Keep in mind that you will likely be required to show your *Legitimationskarte* when signing up for a contract. Prices vary depending on speed and provider. Currently, some of the major internet service providers are:

- **A1** Offering [landline](#) and [5G/LTE Net Cube](#) options
- **T-Mobile** Offering several 5G/LTE options both [with](#) and [without](#) contracts
- **UPC** Offering several [landline](#) options
- **Drei** Offering several [5G/LTE](#) options

Several of these companies also offer cell phone and cable TV packages. Ask around for deals and discounts on bundled products.

TV and Video

There are a few TV providers in Austria, with the most popular being [A1](#) and [UPC](#). TV packages can be bundled with internet if desired. Keep in mind that with the basic packages, the majority of channels and shows will be in German. For an additional price, it is possible to find packages that offer English language and sports channels.

As in the U.S., there has been a transition from physical video mediums (e.g. DVD and Blu-Ray) to streaming services (e.g. Netflix, Amazon). The most commonly used streaming service is definitely Netflix. While the selection varies slightly from the US Netflix, there is still an abundance of movies and series available to watch. Obviously, there are plenty of German language options, but the majority of the content is available in English.

In Austria, there is a tax on radios and TVs (see [gis.at](#)). While IAEA staff holding a *Legitimationskarte* are exempt from paying this tax, don't be surprised if government inspectors show up knocking on your door!



Mobile Phones (*Handy*)

When setting up your mobile phone service, you may frequently encounter the word *Handy*, which is the word used in Austria for mobile phone. The first thing to determine is whether you want to use your current phone or whether you will purchase a new phone in Austria; similar to the US, when signing a contract you are typically eligible for a new phone. If you want to use your current smartphone, you will need to ensure that it is “unlocked” and GSM compatible. If you’re not sure, contact your current provider in the US before moving to Vienna.

There are two main options for mobile phone service in Austria. The first option are prepaid SIM cards. This option may be beneficial to certain people as there is no contractual obligation: buy a SIM card (usually preloaded with a certain amount of minutes, text, and data) and refill it whenever needed. These SIM cards can be purchased from most of the providers in Austria. Keep in mind, however, that the free EU-wide roaming (“roam like at home”) may not be applicable for some of the prepaid options.

The second option is a contract. This may be cheaper depending on your usage, but minimum contract lengths are typically 1-2 years. Additionally, with a contract, you are eligible for free EU-wide roaming. When signing up for a contract, be sure to take along your passport, Austrian bank account details, and proof of your address in Vienna.

Currently in Austria, there are three main cell phone operators:

- [A1](#)
- [T-Mobile](#)
- [Drei](#)

Additionally, many smaller carriers offer SIM cards with varying packages that operate on one of the major operators:

- [bob](#) (operated by A1)
- [yesss!](#) (operated by A1)
- [tele.ring](#) (operated by T-Mobile)
- [Hofer](#) (called Hot)
- Many more



International Calling

By far, the easiest way to stay in touch with friends and family back home is using one of the many platforms that allow free audio and video calls over the internet. For example, the most widely-used platforms at the present time include Apple FaceTime, WhatsApp, Google Hangouts, Skype, and Viber.

For the old-fashioned, there are some companies that offer low international calling rates. These include [Amiga](#), [1031 Telekom](#), [BilligNet](#), and [TeleDiscount](#). Prepaid international calling cards are also available and may offer additional savings and increased flexibility.

Texting

While many of the mobile phone plans and prepaid SIM cards in Austria offer unlimited texting, most texting is now through the [WhatsApp](#) smartphone application, which is compatible with all major smartphone operating systems. With this app, messages are sent over the internet using WiFi or your cellular data when on the go. Additionally, WhatsApp offers several benefits (e.g. group chatting, location sharing,) in an easy-to-use and good looking interface. Also, as mentioned above, it is possible to make calls (audio or video) over the internet to anyone in the world who also has the app installed and an internet connection.



Eating out and Entertainment

Vienna has an abundance of eating and drinking locales that cater to all budgets and culinary preferences and there is no shortage of events and activities for all generations. Some useful guides:

- For news, ratings, and recommendations of restaurants, bars, and events: [Falstaff Restaurant Guide](#)
- For information on restaurants, cultural events, entertainment: [info.wien.at](#)
- Everything you ever wanted to know about the Viennese coffee house (Kaffeehaus): [wiener-kaffeehaus.at](#)
- For information on Heurigen (wine taverns): [heurigenkalender.at](#)
- “Der Österreichische Bier Guide”: website maintained by the “Bierpapst (Beer Pope)” detailing everything you need to know about Austrian Beer.
- For information on current events: [wien.info/en/lifestyle-scene](#)
- For interesting facts, current events, and restaurant/bar info: [Vienna Wurstelstand](#). (Keep an eye out for their “what to do” guide for every week and weekend throughout the year.)
- For finding Vienna’s “in” places: [wien.info/en/lifestyle-scene/in-places](#)
- For booking tables at restaurants at discount prices: [delinski.at/en](#)
- Spotted by Locals: [spottedbylocals.com/vienna](#)
- [Metropole](#)

Eating Out

Vienna has thousands of restaurants catering to all budgets and styles of cuisine. For traditional Viennese cuisine and atmosphere, visit a *Gasthaus* or one of the simple eating places known as a *Beisl* (derived from the Yiddish word for “little house”). During weekdays, many restaurants offer a daily *Mittagsmenü*, or lunch menu, where usually a choice of three courses is served for prices starting as low as <10e. In addition to places serving Austrian cuisine, there are an increasing number of international restaurants serving dishes from all of the world, as well as



eating places for the ecologically conscious who have their hearts set on eating wholesome, organic (*bio*), and “five senses” dishes. Many takeaway and “fast food” options are also sprouting up throughout the city when you’re in need of a quick bite to eat. If you’re really short of time, visit a *Würstlstand* for a frankfurter, served with bread, or, for the brave, a *Käsekrainer*: a pork sausage with melted cheese inside (be careful not to burn anyone when the hot cheese spurts out as you bite into it!).

Brunch culture is also getting bigger and better in Vienna. On the weekends, it is typical to meet for a late morning brunch (that can last until the early afternoon!). During the warmer months, most restaurants have outdoor seating to enjoy the nice weather.

Austrian cakes and pastries are a well-known feature of its cuisine. Perhaps the most famous is the *Sachertorte*, a chocolate cake with apricot jam filling, traditionally eaten with whipped cream. Such cakes are typically eaten at a *Café-Konditorei* or bought by the slice from a *Konditorei* (a specialist cake-maker). For ice cream connoisseurs, Vienna has the greatest density of ice cream salons in Europe, selling ice cream of unparalleled quality. Many of these are operated by the descendants of Italian immigrants.

Wherever you decide to eat out, it’s always recommended to make a reservation as most restaurants fill up very quickly!

Below is a list of recommended Cafes and Konditorei. For an interactive map of these locations, visit [Cafes & Konditorei](#).

Name	District
Café Central	1st
Cafe Demel	1st
Café ELAN	1st
Café Hawelka	1st
Café Landtmann	1st
Café Prückel	1st
Café Restaurant Bräunerhof	1st
Café Sacher Wien	1st
Café Schwarzenberg	1st
CaffèCouture	1st
Fenster Cafe	1st
Joseph Brot	1st
Kaffee Alt Wien	1st
Kleines Café	1st



Name	District	Name	District
KLYO	1st	Fürth Kaffee	7th
Sluka Conditorei Café	1st	J. Hornig Kaffeebar	7th
Balthasar Coffee Bar	2nd	Kaffemik	7th
Joseph Brot	3rd	Strudls	7th
AGGYS coffeeshop	4th	Wolfgang Coffee	7th
Café Anzengruber	4th	Café Florianihof	8th
Guerilla Bakery	4th	Kaffeemodul	8th
kaffeefabrik	4th	Café Français	9th
Brass Monkey	6th	Cafe Stein	9th
Cafe Drechsler	6th	CoffeePirates	9th
Café Jelinek	6th	Jonas Reindl	9th
Café Kafka	6th	La Mercerie	9th
Café Sperl	6th	Weltcafé	9th
phil	6th	GOTA Coffee experts	15th
Café Leopold	7th	12 Munchies	18th
Figar 1070	7th		



Below is a list of recommended traditional Austrian restaurants. For an interactive map of these locations, visit [Traditional Austrian Restaurants](#).

Name	District	Name	District
Figlmüller Bäckerstraße	1st	Motto - Restaurant.Bar	5th
LUGECK	1st	Waldviertlerhof	5th
Motto am Fluss	1st	Alt Wiener Gastwirtschaft Schilling	7th
Palmenhaus	1st	Gastwirtschaft Wratschko	7th
Plachutta Wollzeile	1st	Glacis Beisl	7th
Plachuttas Gasthaus zur Oper	1st	Schreiners Essen und Wohnen	7th
Wrenkh Restaurant & Wiener Kochsalon	1st	Gasthaus Rebhuhn	9th
Zum Finsteren Stern	1st	Stomach – En detail	9th
Zum Schwarzen Kameel	1st	Figs	19th
Schweizerhaus	2nd	Plachutta Nussdorf	19th
Restaurant Steirereck	3rd	Strandcafé	22nd
		Zur Alten Kaisermühle	22nd

Below is a list of recommended international restaurants. For an interactive map of these locations, visit [International Restaurants](#).

Name	District	Name	District
Do&Co Hotel Vienna	1st	ON Market	6th
ELISSAR	1st	Saigon Restaurant	6th
Max & Benito	1st	ShanghaiTan	6th
Viet Thao Restaurant	1st	ERICH	7th
Café Ansari	2nd	Flatschers Bistrot and Bar	7th
Los Mexikas	2nd	Flatschers Steakhouse	7th
MOCHI	2nd	Gasthaus Sapa	7th
deli Naschmarkt	4th	Naturkost St. Josef	7th
Santos Wieden I Mexican		Konoba Restaurant	8th
Grill & Bar	4th	Los Mexikas	8th
On	5th	Ristorante La Delizia Wien	8th
Bits & bites	6th	Florentin	9th
Mama Liu & Sons	6th	Koinonia	18th
MINI	6th	DOTS im Brunnerhof	19th
NENI am Naschmarkt	6th	FRANCESCO Grinzing	19th



Below is a list of recommended pizza restaurants. For an interactive map of these locations, visit [Pizza Restaurants](#).

Name	District
Pizza Mari	2nd
Riva Pizza Favorita	4th
Disco Volante	6th
Pizzeria La Spiga	7th
Il Sestante	8th
Riva Pizza Türkenstraße	9th



Below is a list of recommended burger restaurants. For an interactive map of these locations, visit [Burger Restaurants](#).

Name	District
Mel's Craft Beers & Diner	1st
Rinderwahn	1st
said the butcher to the cow	1st
Weinschenke am Karmelitermarkt	2nd
Pointers Vienna Sports Bar	4th
Zweitbester	4th
Omnom Burger	5th
Weinschenke Franzensgasse	5th
Burger de Ville by 25h Hotels	7th
Die Burgermacher	7th
LeBurger Mariahilfer Straße	7th
ULRICH	7th
Weinschenke	7th
Beaver Brewing Company	9th
Lichtenthal Brau – Brew Pub	9th
HAWIDERE - Bier & Burger	15th
BURGERISTA	22nd
Le Burger	22nd



Below is a list of recommended restaurants for breakfast/brunch. For an interactive map of these locations, visit [Breakfast & Brunch](#).

Name	District	Name	District
Café & Restaurant Motto am Fluss	1st	Marks	7th
Guesthouse Vienna / Brasserie & Bakery	1st	The Brickmakers Pub & Kitchen	7th
Café Ansari	2nd	The furniture Cafe	7th
Hotel Daniel Vienna	3rd	ULRICH	7th
Joseph Brot	3rd	Cafe The Province	8th
Meierei im Stadtpark	3rd	Weltcafé	9th
The Breakfastclub	4th	Das Augustin	15th
Vollpension	4th	Dellago – Das Lokal am Yppenplatz	16th
Bits & bites	6th	Kent Restaurant	16th
ERICH	7th	Café Himmelblau	18th

Below is a list of recommended restaurants for a quick lunch during workdays. For an interactive map of these locations, visit [Quick Lunches](#).

Name	District	Name	District
12 Karma Food	1st	Ramasuri	2nd
Café & Restaurant Motto am Fluss	1st	Rita bringt's am Vorgartenmarkt	2nd
Makro1	1st	Seoul Restaurant	2nd
Schönscharf	1st	Stewart	2nd
eatalico	2nd	Vapiano	2nd
Homolje Grill Mexikoplatz	2nd	Coffeeshop Company Kitchen	22nd
MOCHI	2nd	Donauzentrum	22nd
Mochi Ramen Bar	2nd	Kaori Sushi Bar	22nd
O-M-K	2nd	ra'mien go	22nd



Below is a list of recommended ice cream parlors. For an interactive map of these locations, visit [Ice Cream](#).

Name	District	Name	District
Eis-Greissler	1st	Eis Greissler	6th
Eissalon am Schwedenplatz	1st	Gelateria La Romana	7th
Eissalon Tuchlauben	1st	Paolo Bortolotti	7th
Ferrari Gelato	1st	Schelato	8th
Gelateria Hoher Markt	1st	Tichy	10th
KURT	1st	Veganista Ice Cream	6
Zanoni & Zanoni	1st	locations	

Below is a list of recommended food markets. For an interactive map of these locations, visit [Food Markets](#).

Name	District	Name	District
Karmelitermarkt	2nd	Brunnenmarkt	16th
Volkertmarkt	2nd	Gersthofer Markt	18th
Vorgartenmarkt	2nd	Johann-Nepomuk-Vogl-Markt	18th
Rochusmarkt	3rd	Kutschkermarkt	18th
Naschmarkt	6th	Nussdorf Market	19th
Viktor-Adler-Markt	10th	Sonnberg Markt	19th
Meidlinger Markt	12th	Hannovermarkt	20th
Schwendermarkt	15th	Floridsdorfer Markt	21st



Drinking Places

Surrounded by beautiful hills and vineyards, Vienna is home to a big winemaking scene. Heurigen is the name given to wine taverns in which winegrowers, or vintners, serve their most recent wines. Heurigen are concentrated in the wine growing city suburbs, with Grinzing being the most well-known (and, as a result, the most touristy) area. Other areas to check out are Heiligenstadt/Nussdorf and Sievering/Neustift am Walde (in the 19th District) as well as Strebersdorf and Stammersdorf (north of the Danube) that house some of the most authentic taverns. There are even a few inner-city Heurigen worth checking out. Details can be found at [Heurigen Kalender](#), where you can also search for open Heurigen in the area.

Below is a list of recommended Heurigen in and around Vienna. For an interactive map of these locations, visit [Heurigen](#).

Name	District or City	
Esterhazykeller	1st	
Feuerwehr Wagner	19th	
Fuhrgassl-Huber	19th	
Heuriger Sirbu	19th	
Heuriger Wolff	19th	
Hirt	19th	
Mayer am Pfarrplatz	19th	
Weingut am Reisenberg	19th	
Weingut Wörseg	19th	
Weinhof Zimmermann	19th	
Weingut Schilling	21st	
Winzer Gregor Schup	Guntramsdorf	
Alphart am Mühlbach	Traiskirchen	

Austria also has the reputation of being a beer-loving country, where in the summer it is common to see people enjoying beer at lunchtime in many of the city's outdoor restaurants. In addition to being the home of one of Austria's biggest beer producers ([Ottakringer Brauerei](#)), there are several small microbreweries in Vienna that brew their own beer.

Below is a list of recommended Vienna-based breweries and other places to enjoy a cold one! For an interactive map of these locations, visit [Breweries and Beer Locales](#).



Name	District	Name	District
1516 Brewing Company	1st	Beaver Brewing Company	9th
Delirium Café Vienna	1st	Charlie P's	9th
Flanagans	1st	Lichtenthaler Bräu	9th
Gösser Bierklinik	1st	Stiegl-Ambulanz	9th
Mel's Craft Beers & Diner	1st	The Highlander	9th
Salm Bräu	3rd	Uni Bräu	9th
Craftmühle	4th	Beer Store Vienna	12th
Fassldippler	4th	Malefitz	12th
Wieden Bräu	4th	Medl Bräu	14th
AmmutsÖn Craft Beer Dive	6th	Hawidere	15th
BeerLovers	6th	Brauerei Ottakringer	16th
Brew Age	6th	Plachtuttas Grünspan	16th
Kängaruh-Pub	6th	Brandauer's Bierbögen	19th
Brickmakers	7th	Fischer Bräu	19th
Siebensternbräu	7th	100 Blumen Brewery	23rd
Verde 1080	8th		

The number of cocktail bars and lounges in Vienna has increased over the past few years. There are now many places that serve up a variety of delicious, well-made cocktails! Below is a list of recommended cocktail bars and lounges. For an interactive map of these locations, visit [Cocktail Bars & Lounges](#).

Name	District	Name	District
Dino's	1st	Puff	6th
First Floor	1st	Agent Oscar	7th
Kruger's	1st	Die Parfümerie	7th
Loos Bar	1st	Matiki	7th
Roberto's Bar	1st	Botanical Garden	9th
Hammond Bar	2nd	Halbestadt	9th
Barfly's Club	6th	krypt	9th
Luster	6th	The Sign	9th
Miranda Bar	6th		



Bars & Clubs

In Vienna, the distinction between a bar and a club is often blurred. Don't dismiss a place because of its label. While you'll find the largest concentration of trend-setting bars mainly in the 6th and 7th districts to the north and south of Mariahilferstrasse and along the Gürtel (mainly around the U6 stops of Thalia Strasse, Josefstädter Strasse and Nussdorfer Strasse), you're certain to find cozy bars in many of the other districts as well.

During the summer months, several clubs, bars, and restaurants open on both sides of the Donaukanal (between Schwedenplatz and Roßauer Lände) and the Donauinsel (near the U1 stop). These are great places to meet up for a drink on a warm, summer day (especially after a long day at the office!). One place in particular that is sure to be busy on a warm evening is [Summer Stage](#) (located at the Roßauer Lände U-Bahn station on the U4), where a large outdoor patio is temporarily home to several popular restaurants.

Getting home after a night out is not a problem with the many [Nightline](#) buses that operate throughout the city and the availability of both taxis and Uber drivers, with Uber typically being the cheaper of the two options. Additionally, on weekends, the U-bahn runs the entire night (although you may have to wait for 15-20 minutes for the next train to arrive!).

Below is a list of recommended bars. For an interactive map of these locations, visit [Bars](#).

Name	District	Name	District
Café Tachles	2nd	Tanzcafe Jenseits	6th
Franz von Hahn	2nd	Tonstube	6th
Das Moped	3rd	Top Kino	6th
Heuer am Karlsplatz	4th	Café Espresso	7th
Werkzeug	5th	Café Europa	7th
Café Einhorn	6th	Café Voodoo	7th
Café Wellmann	6th	Dachboden	7th
Elektro Gönner	6th	Die Parfümerie	7th
Futuregarden	6th	Donau Techno	7th
If Dogs Run Free	6th	Ganz Wien	7th
Känguruh Pub	6th	Le Troquet	7th
Liebling 2	6th	Liebling	7th
Miranda Bar	6th	Radio Bar	7th
Monami	6th	Ungar Grill	7th
Phil	6th	Wirr	7th
Stehbeisl	6th	Café Clash	9th

Below is a list of recommended clubs. For an interactive map of these locations, visit [Clubs](#).

Name	District	Name	District
Club U	1st	Celeste	5th
Horst	1st	Titanic	6th
Volksgarten	1st	B72	8th
Pratersauna	2nd	Chelsea	8th
Roxy Club	4th	Grelle Forelle	9th

Entertainment

Children's Activities

Vienna is rich in activities for children of all ages. A good place to start looking is the family brochure available (in English) from wien.info/media/files/familienbroschuere_en.pdf. For information on what's going on in Vienna for children, visit kinderinfowien.at and falter.at, and kinder-kalender.at. Other ideas for what to do with your kids can be found at babymamas.at. A few of the recommended activities are listed in the table and on the [Children's Activities](#) interactive map.


Name	District	Name	District
House of Music	1st	Technisches Museum Wien	14th
Kunsthistorisches Museum	1st	Children's Farm at Wien Cobenzl Estate	19th
Natural History Museum	1st	Waldseilpark Kahlenberg	19th
Schmetterlinghaus	1st	Monki Park	20th
Wiener Staatsoper für Kinder	1st	Danube Jumping	21st
Prater	2nd	Donauinsel	21st
Zeiss Planetarium	2nd	Alte Donau	22nd
Haus des Meeres (Aquarium)	6th	Donauinsel Kletterpark	22nd
Zoom Kindermuseum	7th	Wasserspielplatz Donauinsel	22nd
Bohemian Prater	10th	SchokoMuseum	23rd
Kindermuseum Schloss Schönbrunn	13th	Vienna Public Libraries	Many locations
Palmenhaus	13th		
Wüstenhaus	13th		



Cinemas

There are several cinemas (*Kino*) in Vienna that show films in English or in their original language; look for the abbreviations OV (original language), OmU (original language with German subtitles), and OmeU (original language with English subtitles). Many of the cinemas show films in English (e.g. Artis Kino, Burg Kino and Haydn Kino), while others do so only part of the time. Tickets can be reserved by phone or online via the cinema's website. For the summer months, check out some open-air cinemas, visit: <https://www.wien.info/en/lifestyle-scene/open-air-cinema>. Below is a list of recommended cinemas. For an interactive map of these locations, visit [Cinemas](#).

Name	District
Artis International	1st
Burg Kino	1st
Cinema De France	1st
Gartenbaukino	1st
Stadtkino	1st
Urania Kino	1st
Haydn	6th

A photograph showing the entrance to a cinema. A large poster for the film 'ISLE OF DOGS' is visible, with the text '16:30 OF / 20:30 OV' and 'ISLE OF DOGS' in red. Below it, another poster for 'LOOKING FOR GUM KULTURIM' is partially visible. The entrance has glass doors and a sign above the door.

Museums

Vienna has [more than 100 museums](#) offering an endless range of exhibitions and collections on subjects ranging from the fine arts to high tech. Not to be missed are the [Albertina](#), with its graphic arts collection, and the [MuseumsQuartier Wien](#), home to such large art museums as the [Leopold Museum](#) and the [MUMOK](#) (Museum of Modern Art), as well as contemporary exhibition places such as the [Kunsthalle Wien](#) (Art Hall Vienna).

The [Kunsthistorisches Museum](#) (Art History Museum) and the nearby [Naturhistorisches Museum](#) (Museum of Natural History) offer not only priceless works of art and artifacts but also opportunities to view buildings from the Habsburg era. The [Belvedere Museum](#) is housed in the Belvedere Palace built by Prince Eugene of Savoy as a summer residence. The collections of the 19th and 20th centuries are in the Upper Belvedere, with works by Biedermeier artists, French impressionists, and Austrian artists (the most famous displayed being Klimt, Schiele, and Kokoschka). The Lower Belvedere houses the Museum of Medieval Art and the Baroque Museum.

Below is a list of recommended museums. For an interactive map of these locations, visit [Museums](#).

Name	District	Name	District
Albertina	1st	Dritte Man Museum	4th
Jewish Museum	1st	Kunsthalle	4th
Kunsthistorisches Museum	1st	Leopold	7th
Museum of Applied Arts	1st	Mumok	7th
Natural History Museum	1st	Museums Quartier	7th
Belvedere	3rd	ZOOM Kindermuseum	7th
Museum of Military History	3rd	Sigmund Freud Museum	9th
Transport Museum	3rd		


Operas, Classical Music and Musicals

Vienna is considered by many to be the world’s epicenter for opera and classical music. The list of venues (see below) is certainly not complete, but showcases some of Vienna’s well-known venues to enjoy a concert, such as the [Musikverein](#), the [Wiener Staatsoper](#), and the [Konzerthaus](#). You’ll even find live music in some of the coffeehouses; view the brochure “*Vienna’s Concert Cafes*” online: wien.info/en/music-stage-shows/classic/concert-cafes. Some of Vienna’s churches are also nice places to catch a classical concert. Churches such as the Augustinerkirche and the Minoritenkirche often complement Sunday services with a full choir. Ticket prices vary, from standing room at a few Euros to a prime spot up to e300 or more. Generally, tickets can be purchased on the individual websites (mostly in English) with a credit card. In July and August, the Rathausplatz (City Hall) offers some 50 outstanding music and theatre productions screened on an open-air video screen (Vienna’s version of the “drive-in”) in front of City Hall. Admission is free and there are many international food and beverage stalls on site. For more information, visit: filmfestival-rathausplatz.at/en/.



Below is a list of recommended venues for operas, classical music, and musicals. For an interactive map of these locations, visit [Operas, Classical Music, & Musicals](#).

Name	District
Burgtheater	1st
Kammeroper	1st
Musikverein	1st
Wiener Staatsoper	1st
Wiener Konzerthaus	3rd
Raimund Theater	6th
Theater an der Wien	6th
Volkstheater	7th
Volksoper	9th



Jazz

Alongside classical music, Vienna offers a rich landscape of jazz, blues, and soul. The annual [Vienna Jazz Festival](#), a week-long event held in June/July, is one of the most popular jazz festivals in Europe. Top-ranking artists perform in some of the city's best venues (e.g. Staatsoper, Museumsquartier, and Rathaus). Jazz can also be enjoyed throughout the year. Arguably, the best place to enjoy modern jazz and blues in Vienna is [Porgy & Bess](#).

Below is a list of recommended venues for jazz. For an interactive map of these locations, visit [Jazz](#).

Name	District
Jazzland	1st
Porgy & Bess	1st
ZWE	2nd
Theater am Spittelberg	7th
Spielraum im Gasometer	11th
Reigen Live	14th



Music Festivals

The [Donauinselfest](#) is an open-air, free music festival, which takes place annually on the Donauinsel in Vienna typically at the end of June (Friday through Sunday). It is Europe's biggest open-air event with free admission, where many stages (both big and small) are set up across the Donauinsel for artists who perform music from a broad range of genres. Many international food and beverages stands are available. Vienna also offers several smaller, more intimate musical festivals throughout the year including [Popfest](#), which takes place at Karlsplatz at the end of July as well

as the [Donaukanaltreiben](#) typically for three days at the end of May, which includes several stages set up along the Donaukanal from Spittelau to Franzensbrücke offering live concerts, DJ sets, and more! For information on other music festivals, visit [wien.info](#).

Theater and Dance

There are some 50 theaters in this theater-loving city, with most performances in German. Nevertheless, you can always count on the [English Theater](#) to provide good entertainment in English. Additionally, the [Open House Theatre Company](#) offers performances (mainly in English) for adults and children at various venues throughout the city. For contemporary dance performances, visit the [Tanzquartier](#). In July and August, the dance festival [ImpulsTanz](#) hosts international contemporary dance groups for workshops and performances.

Festivals: A Few Favorites

Spring/Summer

- [Steiermark Frühling](#) (Styria Spring)
Typically held in early April, another event to sport your lederhosen or dirndl and celebrate the culture and cuisine of Steiermark, the second largest of Austria's nine states.
- [Donauinselfest](#) (June/July)
A 3-day festival of music of all genres taking place on the Donauinsel. Activities for children. International food & drink. Free admission.
- [Easter Markets/Ostermärkte](#) (2-3 weeks before Easter)
Markets showcasing traditional Easter decorations, decorated eggs, children's activities, and an assortment of food and beverage stalls. A few favorites:
[Old Viennese Easter Market](#) (Altwiener Ostermarkt)
[Schönbrunn Palace Easter Market](#) (Ostermarkt Schloß Schönbrunn)



- **Film Festival Rathausplatz** (July-August)
Films of opera & classical music shown after dusk every evening. Free admission. International food stands.
- **Glatt und Verkerht**
Large festival for traditional music held in Krems an der Donau, about one hour from Vienna.
- **Grafenegg Festival** (mid August-September)
Castle Grafenegg, about one hour from Vienna, hosts orchestral and musical concerts including international musicals from all genres.
- **ImPulsTanz** (July-August)
Professional dancers, choreographers, teachers, and students from around the world transform Vienna into a global dance capital.
- **Jazz Fest Wien** (June/July)
A modern, urbane festival with an international reputation.
- **Soho in Ottakring** (May-June)
An urban art festival in the multicultural area of Ottakring bordering the Gürtel. Empty offices and shops are transformed into art galleries, bars, band venues, and art shops. You can expect a very artsy crowd!
- **Summer Night Concert Schönbrunn** (Sommernachtskonzert)
The Vienna Philharmonic performs an open-air concert with free admission in the gardens of the Schönbrunn palace. Typically very crowded! For an interesting perspective, sit on the hill below the Gloriette; while the music is hard to hear, the hill is full of people enjoying the nice summer evening with a view of the concert below.
- **Wiesen Festivals**
The city of Wiesen in Burgenland, about one hour from Vienna, hosts outdoor music festivals. Possible to camp overnight on the 1.2 hectare property. The venue has a capacity of 8000 people.
- **Neustifter Kirtag** (August)
An annual festival held in Neustift am Walde which dates back to the middle of the 18th century. Yet another event to sport your lederhosen or dirndl and



enjoy “Heurigen-hopping” and live music. For the younger crowd, be sure to check out the after party!

- **Popfest** (July)
An annual music festival held in front of the Karlskirche at Karsplatz. Every year, around 60,000 visitors stop by to enjoy the music.
- **Donaukanaltreiben** (May)
An annual music festival with several stages setup along the Donaukanal from Spittelau to Franzensbrücke. Enjoy a nice stroll along the Kanal while enjoying live concerts, DJ sets, and more!

Fall/Winter

- **Erntedankfest** (mid September)
Put on your lederhosen or dirndl and enjoy this weekend long festival to celebrate the year’s harvest and experience a little piece of Austrian agriculture. Many food and beverage stands are available.
- **Vienna Wine Hiking Day** (Wien Wandertag)
For one weekend every fall (typically end of September) Viennese wineries open their cellars and kitchens for samplings. A nice way to enjoy the fall weather and views of the city.
- **Kuebisfest** - Weekend family festival of pumpkins and gourds where you can buy pumpkins of all sizes, taste pumpkin soup and other foods, and wash it all down with pumpkin beer. Children’s activities: <http://www.himmel.at/veranstaltungen-2/kuebisfest/>
- **Advent Markets** (Christkindlmärkte)
Put on your warm clothes and head to one of the many Christmas markets around Vienna where you can enjoy some traditional food and hot drinks and live music while hanging out with your friends and family in the cold winter air. A few favorites:
[Weihnachtsmarkt am Spittelberg](#)
[Adventsmarkt am Karlsplatz](#)
[Weihnachtsmarkt am Hof](#)
And many more!



- **Vienna International Film Festival** (Viennale)
Typically held for two weeks in October and November, the festival showcases carefully picked films from all over the world, including international premieres. Films are shown in many of the cinemas throughout the city. The festival typically attracts nearly 100,000 visitors.
- **Wiener Eistraum** (January-March)
Ice skating in the heart of Vienna, winding through the park directly in front of Rathaus. Curling (*eisstockschießen*) is also available. Bring your own skates or rent onsite for a small fee.

Emergencies

Store the following numbers on your phone for use in case of an emergency:

- General emergency number #112
- Ambulance #144
- Fire #122
- Police #133
- Physicians (nights & weekends) #141
- Dentists (nights & weekends) #01/512 2078
- Pharmacies (recording in German by district) #1455
- Gas leak #128
- Electricity outage #0/800 500 600
- Poison emergency line #01/406 4343
- US citizen emergency services #01/313 39
- Women's emergency center #01/717 19
- Roadside Assistance #120
- Mountain Rescue #140
- Telephone Counselling for children #147



Housing and Utilities

Looking for a Flat

While it is exciting to look for apartments before departing for Vienna, it is highly advisable to not make any commitments (even verbal) before visiting the apartment in person (and be aware of scams!). A good place to begin your search is with the [VIC Housing Service](#), which exists to support the IAEA and other VIC-based staff members in their search for housing. You can register through this service for access to the housing database, the functionality of which has recently been greatly improved. All of the listings provided in this database are offered as “*Provisionsfrei*”, where you do not have to pay an agent/realtor fee. As an added benefit, if you find an apartment through this service, they will assist you with the contract. Visit the website or contact office@vichousing.org for more information.

It is also possible to search for apartments on other housing websites. Keep in mind, however, that you may be required to pay agent/realtor fees (i.e. a *Provision*) as well as a contract fee. A few suggested websites for apartment searches include:

- www.immmo.at
- www.willhaben.at/iad/immobilien/
- www.immodirekt.at/
- www.immobilien.net

For those who are eligible, the IAEA rental subsidy will partly offset the monthly rent above a certain threshold, which depends upon your salary grade, for up to seven years. The percentage that is paid by the IAEA is a sliding scale based on the number of years of service. If applicable, a certain percentage of the agent/realtor fee is also covered once during your contract. For more information visit the Rental Subsidy Estimate calculator: <https://info.undp.org/gssu/onlinetools/RentalSubsidy/RentalSubsidy.aspx>

What to Look For

Vienna is composed of 23 districts (Bezirke) and accommodations are readily available in nearly every district. Many people choose to live in the more central districts (e.g. districts 1 through 9), which have many advantages: easy commute to the VIC by public transport, central to cultural and social activities, and an excellent infrastructure. People with school-age children often prefer to live in one of the outlying districts (e.g. the 13th, 18th, or 19th), the so-called “green areas”, because of the many parks. For the younger crowd, the 6th and 7th districts are more desirable due to the close proximity of many nice restaurants, bars, and cafes. An up and coming area that provides easy access to the VIC as well as quick access to the rest of the city is the area around Nestroyplatz (2nd district), located conveniently on the U1.

Both furnished and unfurnished apartments are available for rent. In Vienna, unfurnished often means no furniture, appliances, or light fixtures (check that a kitchen is installed). A partly furnished apartment often includes an appliance or two (e.g. oven, refrigerator), while a fully furnished apartment usually includes a fitted kitchen with combined fridge/freezer, dishwasher, washing machine, electrical or gas stove and oven, furniture, lamps, curtains, wall units, and possibly even dishes, cutlery, and linens. Rent consists usually of basic rent plus value added tax and house maintenance costs (*Betriebskosten*). Most landlords request a deposit of up to three months' gross rent, which is returned upon termination of the lease, provided all outstanding bills have been paid and there is no damage to the premises or its contents.

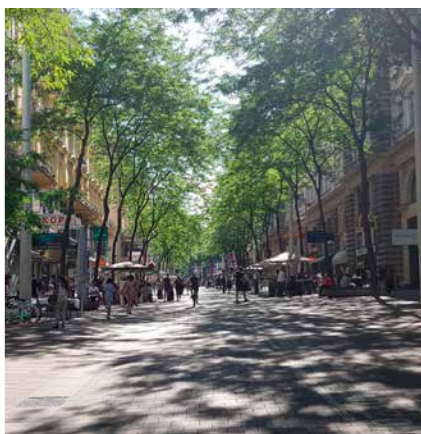
At the contract signing stage, get an inventory list from the landlord (double-check it!) or make one yourself. Record in writing and take photos of any damage to the walls, furniture, etc. As soon as possible, ensure all appliances are running and report any problems in writing to the landlord.

A few resources that provide helpful information for deciding where to live:

- [17 essential questions everyone faces when moving in Vienna](#)
- [The Vienna Expat Survival Guide: 13 ultimate tips for internationals moving to, or living in Vienna.](#)

Utilities

You will be billed for utilities (e.g. gas, electricity) a few times a year (depending on your provider); the amount owed on each bill is the same for the entire year. At the end of the year, you will be charged (or refunded) the difference between the amount paid and the amount that was actually used (*Jahresabrechnung*). The amount billed during the year is based on the usage of the previous year; if, for example, the apartment was uninhabited during the year prior, you may have low costs throughout the year, but you may have an unexpectedly large bill at the end of the year. For advice about utility charges and billing, contact the Vienna Service Office at the VIC: viennaserviceoffice@unvienna.org.



Medical Services

Medical insurance is mandatory for all IAEA staff. No matter which insurance scheme you opt for, be sure to carry the insurance card or certification with you at all times and have the contact information readily available in case of hospitalization or other major medical needs. For those with a medical condition, it is advisable to register with a general practitioner as soon as possible after arrival. The Joint Medical Service at the VIC can offer advice on doctors and provide English-speaking options in and around your district. The [US Embassy website](#) is a valuable source of information on hospitals, doctors, and other medical services in Vienna. For further information, visit: wien.gv.at/english/health.

Medical Treatment Outside Normal Hours

For medical emergencies outside normal IAEA working hours that require immediate medical treatment, call an ambulance (*Rettung*): #144; this will ensure quick access to hospital care. For non-emergency medical attention outside normal hours, contact the “doctors on call” (*Ärztefunkdienst*): #141. They will send you a doctor if needed; for more information, visit aekwien.at. To significantly reduce the waiting time, have answers ready for the following questions:

- Name and age of the patient
- Address and telephone number of the patient
- Description of the complaints
- Known pre-existing conditions
- Name of regularly taken medications.

If you require a dentist (*Zahnarzt*) after normal hours, call #01/5122078 (in German).

Tick Immunization (*Zeckenschutzimpfung*)

Many wooded areas in Austria are habitat to certain tick species that carry the tick-borne encephalitis (TBE) virus that can cause meningoencephalitis. While not all ticks carry the TBE virus, those that do are frequently found in wooded, low lying areas such as the Vienna Woods (*Wienerwald*). Avoid tick-infested areas and protect yourself from tick bites by wearing protective clothing and using repellents. A vaccine against TBE has been developed in Austria and is highly effective. The tick immunization is a series of three intramuscular injections, usually administered in late winter/early spring but also at other times of the year if needed. The vaccination is good for three to five years, depending on the patient’s age. The inoculation is available at the VIC through the Joint Medical Service.



Pharmacies

Contrary to the US where many over the counter (OTC) medicines can be purchased at grocery and convenience stores, in Austria practically all medicines (OTC and prescribed drugs) can be purchased only in a pharmacy (*Apotheke*). Opening hours for most pharmacies are 8:00 to 18:00 weekdays and 8:00 to 12:00 on Saturdays. Certain pharmacies are open “after hours” and on Sundays. A complete list of pharmacies located throughout Austria is available online at apotheker.or.at. For a list of those pharmacies that are open “after hours”, visit nachtapotheker.wien or call #1455 (in German). Other useful tools include the free smartphone applications “Apo-App” and “Susi” which list all of the pharmacies in Austria and allows filtering of those pharmacies that are nearby and open. There is also an English speaking pharmacy located at the VIC (Building F, 7th floor).

COVID information

The [US Embassy](#) has updates on the COVID situation as does local sources for both [Vienna](#) and [Austria overall](#). Information on vaccines etc. can be obtained from your general practitioner or you can register on [StadtWien](#) and make an appointment online.

Pets

Austria has strict requirements for entry of dogs and cats (see Getting Ready for the Move). Owners of dogs aged three months or more must register their dogs with the local authorities and pay an annual tax (Hundesteuer); there is no tax on cats. Dogs are identified in Austria through a microchip. According to the Animal Protection Act, all dogs in Vienna must be leashed or muzzled in public places for safety reasons. However, this restriction does not apply in the more than 100 dog zones and dog-walking zones (www.wien.gv.at/umwelt/parks/hundezonen.html). There is a fine if your dog is found without a leash and muzzle outside allowed areas, and a more severe penalty is imposed if your dog attacks someone. Owners of certain breeds of dogs are required to take a special dog-training course. Dogs are not allowed to use sidewalks, pedestrian areas, sandboxes, or children’s playgrounds to relieve themselves. You are expected to pick up after your pet and you could be



fined for not doing so. In case you forget your own supplies, there are automats with free dog clean up supplies throughout the city. There are specific regulations on traveling with a dog on public transportation (see Transportation)

For general information, visit metropole.at/keep-pet-vienna/, help.gv.at, and wien.gv.at. For information on acquiring a Vienna Dog License (a certificate of good behavior), check out www.wien.gv.at/english/environment/animal-protection/dog-licence.html. For a list of veterinarians, visit tierarzt.at and www.herold.at/gelbseiten/wien/tierarzt/. Other useful links are: emergency veterinarian service in Austria (www.herold.at/blog/tierarzt-notdienst-wien/), and the [Vienna Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals](https://www.vienna-animalsociety.org/).

Recycling and Waste Management

Recycling is well established in Vienna. Austria is one of the most environmentally conscious countries in Europe and recycling is not only dictated by conscience but compelled by law. Residents diligently divide waste from the rest of their refuse and bring this to nearby containers marked as follows: paper (*Altpapier*), clear glass (*Weissglas*), colored glass (*Buntglas*), plastic (*Kunststoff*), metal (*Metall*, *Dosen*), biodegradable (*Biotonne*), and other (*Restmüll*). In addition, second-hand clothing bins for various charity organizations are available throughout the city. For more information on recycling and waste management in Vienna, visit: <https://www.wien.gv.at/umwelt/ma48/beratung/muelltrennung/index.html> (in German) and [http://www.vienna-expats.at/recycling-in-vienna/](https://www.vienna-expats.at/recycling-in-vienna/).

Religious Services

Religion plays an important role in the lives of many Austrians and the country has been a stronghold of Roman Catholicism for centuries. This can be seen everywhere: Vienna has numerous churches, towns invariably have at least one church, and the countryside is dotted with small roadside shrines decorated with fresh flowers.

Today, Roman Catholicism is still the dominant religion, but the percentage of Catholics in Austria is decreasing, primarily due to secularization and migration (from 89 % in 1961 to 55.2 % in 2021). The [Evangelical Lutheran](#) and the [Evangelical Reformed](#) churches have also experienced membership losses. 68.2% of the population was Christian while 22.4% claimed non-religious as of 2021.

In contrast, the percentage of [Muslims](#) in Austria has increased in recent years, from 4.2% in 2001 to around 8.3% in 2021. Orthodox church membership has also grown, currently representing some 4.9% of the population. Immigration from Turkey, the Balkans and most recently from Syria and Iraq largely account for these increases.

SOME ENGLISH SPEAKING RELIGIOUS CENTERS IN VIENNA

Christian Denominations

- Information on Christian churches is available from the [Vienna International Religious Centre \(VIRC\)](#)
- The [Vienna English Speaking Catholic Community \(VESCC\)](#) worships on Sundays at the [Francis of Assisi church](#) in the 2nd District. Weekday mass is at the [Donaukirche](#) (near the VIC).
- The [Christ Church Vienna](#) (Anglican/ Episcopal) is located in the 3rd District.
- The [International Baptist Church of Vienna](#) is located in the 10th District.
- The [United Methodist Church](#) is in the 15th District.
- The interdenominational [Vienna Community Church \(VCC\)](#) is located in the 1st District.

Buddhism

- Information on Buddhism in Austria can be found at the [Austrian Buddhist Religious Community](#), located in the 1st District.

Hindu

- The [Hindu Religious Society in Austria](#) is located in the 8th District.

Islam

- The [Islamic Community in Austria \(IGGÖ\)](#) is located in the 7th District.
- The [Vienna Islamic Centre](#) is located in the 21st District.

Judaism

- Information about the Jewish Community in Austria (Israelitische Kultusgemeinde (IKG) can be found at [ikg-wien.at](#); the City Synagogue is in the 1st District.



Freedom of religion is guaranteed under the Constitution and nearly all of the legally recognized religious communities are represented in Vienna.

Safety and Security

Crime

Although Vienna is considered a relatively safe city, petty crime does occur. As in all cities, be aware of your surroundings and keep belongings close. There are a few places in Vienna where you should be especially vigilant: the Karlsplatz U-Bahn station, as well as Praterstern, Westbahnhof, and Mexikoplatz are especially busy so be aware of pick pocketing. Südtirolerplatz and the U-Bahn, S-Bahn, and Strassenbahn stations along the Gürtel can be quite unnerving after dark. The police patrol these areas and security cameras monitor these stations. If needed, seek help at any of the police stations (*Polizei*) that operate at major stations or call the emergency number: #133.

Tips for minimizing risks:

- If approached by a “plain clothes detective” or other claimed official for no apparent reason, demand to see the alleged official’s ID. In case of doubt, call the police for assistance: #133.
- Keep debit and credit card numbers, PIN codes and the company phone numbers separate from the cards themselves. Check regularly on the safety of these cards. If missing, immediately call the card issuer to cancel. Use the following numbers for contact: AmEx #0800 900 940; Diners Club #01/501 3514; Visa #01/711 11 770; MasterCard #05 9906.
- When using a debit or credit card at an ATM (*Bankomat*), check that no one is observing you type in the PIN code. If the card gets stuck in the machine, this may be part of a con trick. In this case, someone may offer to help retrieve the card, requesting your PIN code. Don’t disclose this! Stay near the ATM (*Bankomat*) and call the police for assistance: #133.



International Terrorism

Austria, like so many countries, has a strong anti-terrorism policy in place. Nevertheless, ordinary citizens can help prevent or protect themselves and others from terrorist events. Here are a few must-know tips:

- Encourage security awareness in your family and discuss what to do if there is a security threat.
- Protect your personal information. Do not reveal details of your personal life to strangers.
- Be vigilant at public places, which are more vulnerable to bomb attacks. Keep an eye out for unattended packages or bags.
- Keep emergency numbers and contact details on your phone. Keep your phone charged at all times. Make a backup hard copy.
- Never agree to hold or watch over a stranger's belongings – no matter how politely they ask.
- Know where emergency exits are located in buildings that you frequently visit. Plan how to get out if an emergency arises.

Harassment

In case of harassment at work, IAEA staff should follow UN/IAEA reporting procedures. For harassment outside of work, women should consult:

- [Frauennotruf](#) (Women's Emergency Center)
- [Women Against Violence Europe](#) (WAVE)

Loss or Theft

For loss or theft of an item other than a debit or credit card, file a police report at the nearest police station. You'll need this report for insurance purposes and for replacing passports and other documents. For lost or stolen US passports, contact the Consular Section of the [US Embassy in Austria](#), located in the 1st District.

Crisis Assistance

- Emergency services for US citizens: [US Embassy in Austria](#).

Schools and Education Facilities

Choices for education in Vienna are as diverse as the population. Schools offering American, British and many other curricula are available. Some of the private schools offer students (aged 3-19 years) one or more of the [International Baccalaureate \(IB\) Programs](#): the Primary Years Program (PYP), the Middle Years Program (MYP), the Diploma Program (DP) and the Career-related Program (CRP).

Vienna also has an excellent State-run bilingual (German/English) education system for those who would like their child to have an Austrian learning experience and become immersed in the German language. The Vienna Bilingual Schools (VBS) option is available at both the primary (elementary) level and the lower and upper secondary levels. For more information contact [European Office Vienna Board of Education](#). Below is an overview of the private English language primary and secondary schools in Vienna, as well as some of the pre-school, kindergartens and nurseries (*Knabbelstuben*) for children aged one to three. For an interactive map of the schools listed below, visit [Schools & Education](#). Be sure to contact these schools as early as possible to try to reserve your spot!

Private Primary and Secondary Schools

- [Amadeus International School Vienna](#) (18th District) Amadeus International School Vienna combines a vigorous academic program with education in innovative music and performing arts. Amadeus is a Nobel Talent School of Music as well as an authorized IB Continuum School for students aged 3 to 18.
- [American International School \(AIS\)](#) (19th District) AIS is a private international school modeled on the US system with pre-kindergarten, kindergarten, and primary and secondary schooling through grade 12. Accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools, AIS awards the US High School Diploma, the IB Diploma and the Austrian Matura.



- [Danube International School \(DIS\)](#) (2nd District) DIS offers the IB Diploma Programme, the IB Middle Years Programme and the IB Primary Years Programme.
- [International Christian School of Vienna \(ICSV\)](#) (22nd District) ICSV is a private educational institution that provides Christian-oriented education for students from 5 to 18 years. ICSV is an IB World School, and is accredited with the Association of Christian Schools International.
- [Mayflower Christian Academy \(MCA\)](#) (10th District) MCA is a private bilingual elementary school (grades 1–4), with a learning methodology that supports Christian values. The curriculum is in accordance with the requirements of the Austrian Teaching Plan (*Österreichischer Lehrplan*). MCA is a member of the Association of Christian Schools International and has been accredited by the Austrian Minister of Education. MCA is registered as a denomination school of the Free Churches of Austria.
- [Vienna Elementary School \(VES\)](#) (18th District) VES offers a comprehensive elementary school program (in English) from kindergarten through grade 4. VES is based on the Austrian school system and curriculum, incorporating elements of the US systems. After five years of the elementary school (including kindergarten), children are ready to attend any Austrian middle school (*Gymnasium*) or the fifth grade of an English-speaking international school.
- [Vienna International School \(VIS\)](#) (22nd District) VIS is an IB World School, authorized to deliver three IB programs. Students may also be awarded the Austrian Matura. The VIS Early Learning Centre is available for preschool children. There are currently about 1400 students enrolled, representing more than 102 nationalities and 72 languages.

Preschools, Kindergartens and Nurseries

In addition to the Child Care Center on the premises of the VIC, English language kindergartens and pre-schools that serve the international community in Vienna include the following:

- [American International School](#) (Age 4+, Pre-K, and Kindergarten, 19th District)
- [The Children's House International Montessori Kindergarten](#) (Ages 1-6, 22nd District)
- [Danube International School](#) (Age 3–4 and Kindergarten, 2nd District)
- [International Montessori Preschool Vienna](#) (3rd District)
- [International Private Children House](#) (7th District)
- [Vienna English Preschool](#) (Age 1.5 –6, next to VIC, adjacent playground, 22nd District)
- [Vienna International School](#) (Age 3–5, 22nd District)

Bilingual (English/German) facilities include:

- [Arche Noah](#) (Age 0–6, promotes Christian values, 10th District)
- [Kindergarten Schmetterling](#) (English & German native speakers, 19th District)
- [Kinderoase Weimar](#) (Age 3–6 , vegetarian meals, special attention to preparing for school entry, 18th District)
- [United Children](#) (Age 2–6, international outlook, flexible hours, 6th District)

University Studies and Adult Education

Opportunities exist in Vienna for English language college level education at [Webster University](#), the [Lauder Business School](#), the [Institute of European Studies](#) and the [Open University and Business School](#). In addition, there are joint degree programs as well as English language courses available through the international programs at Austrian universities such as the University of Vienna; for information, visit [OEAD](#). In addition, there are a number of study options (in English) for adults looking to broaden their knowledge and expertise. For information, visit [Die Wiener Volkshochschulen](#).

Of course, many universities today in the U.S. and throughout the world offer online programs.



Shopping

Food Shopping

Vienna has an abundance and a wide variety of food shopping options, from the opulent [Julius Meinl am Graben](#) to the money saving supermarket chain [Hofer](#). Here we offer only a sampling.

Unlike the 24/7 food shopping option that exists in the US, Vienna's supermarkets are normally open weekdays from 7:00/8:00 to 19:00/20:00, and on Saturdays until 17:00/18:00. And in stark contrast to the US, the majority of grocery stores and

supermarkets are closed on Sundays; they are also closed on Austrian holidays. However, there are some stores that are open on these days. These stores are typically located in major train stations, bus stations, and at the airport. Be warned, however, as some products (like toilet paper!) are not available on Sundays. Additionally, more and more gas stations have added a supermarket-priced grocery corner (e.g., [Billa](#), [Spar](#), [Merkur](#)). If that doesn't work for you, pick up some milk products and cold cuts (possibly even more) at one of the chain bakeries ([Ströck](#), [Anker](#), [Der Mann](#), [Felber](#)). Some of their locations are open on Sundays, but with limited hours.

Food stores open on Sundays and holidays are:

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|-------------|
| • Billa Praterstern | 2nd District | 6:00–22:00 |
| • Billa Franz-Josef Bahnhof | 9th District | 6:00–22:00 |
| • Merkur Mini-Markt Westbahnhof | 15th District | 5:30–23:00 |
| • SPAR Pronto Wien Mitte | 3rd District | 6:00–23:00 |
| • Interspar - Pronto Hauptbahnhof | 10th District | 6:00–23:00 |
| • Billa Airport Wien-Schwechat | Schwechat | 6:30–22:00 |
| • SPAR im AKH (General Hospital) | 9th District | 9:00–19:00 |
| • SPAR Markt Babenbergerstraße 9 | 1st District | 10:00–19:00 |

Supermarkets

Supermarket chain outlets can be found throughout Vienna. They may be roughly grouped as follows:

- Upscale stores which focus on brand names, offer service counters for meat, bread, fish, etc., have membership cards, house a large product range and are comparably more expensive than the discounters. Most of these stores offer online shopping with home delivery. Examples: [Billa](#), [Merkur](#), [Spar](#).
- Discounter stores which have largely store brands and a limited product range, offer pre-packed meat, cheeses and breads and are generally less expensive than the upscale stores. Examples: [Hofer](#), [Lidl](#), [Penny](#).
- There is also a great program to avoid food waste called [Too Good to Go](#) which allows you to purchase food from restaurants and grocery stores that they were unable to sell. It is very active in Vienna and offers everything from produce at Spar to croissants at bakeries to meals from all levels of restaurants. You pick your order up at the end of a shift or store opening. There is an app for [Android](#) and [iOS](#).



SUPERMARKET SHOPPING, AUSTRIAN STYLE

- Bring along cloth or paper bags to carry home groceries; bags can also be purchased for a nominal fee at the checkout counter.
- To use shopping carts, insert either a e1 or e2 coin to unlock the cart; the coin is released when you reconnect the cart to another in the collection area.
- Unless fruits and vegetables are pre-packaged and priced, weigh the item on a scale, press the corresponding number shown on the item's nameplate, and stick the print-out to the bag or item before heading to the checkout counter.
- For deli service, order cold cuts and cheese by weight (e.g., "zehn Dekas Schinken, bitte"—this is 100 grams or equivalently 3½ ounces of ham); if you prefer fresh rolls and bread over pre-packaged products, order these by piece (e.g., "drei Semmeln, bitte"—three rolls please; or "ein Halbes Brot"—a half loaf) or order by weight ("ein Kilo Brot").
- Some glass bottles have a deposit (Pfand); after use, place the bottles in the empty-bottle machine (Leerflaschenautomat) at the store to get a credit receipt; present this at the checkout counter.
- At the checkout counter, load your groceries onto the conveyor belt. Once they are registered, reload them into your shopping cart; pack them at a side counter. You can pay by cash, with a debit card (Bankomatkarte), or (sometimes) with a credit card.

Specialty Food and Wine Shops

Vienna is truly an international city, as reflected in the wide range of food choices. Here's a few favorites.

- [Billa Corso](#) An upscale supermarket with many imported products. Two 1st District locations.
- [Bobbys Food Store](#) Specializes in American and British products. 4th District.
- [Casa Caria](#) Italian food specialties, 7th District.
- [Casa Mexico](#) Fresh tortillas and many products for those who love to cook Mexican foods, 7th District.
- [Dancing Shiva Superfoods](#) Selection of superfoods, raw food products, detox products, natural food supplements and sweet and spicy treats, 7th District.
- [Grand Cru](#) Specializes in wine, whiskey, coffee, and herbs, 7th District.
- [Haug Delikatessen](#) Italian and Austrian specialties, 19th District.
- [Meinl am Graben](#) Offers the finest gourmet foods from around the world, 1st District.
- [Prosi](#) A wide range of products from Asia, Africa, and Latin America, 7th District.
- [Un jour en France](#) French food and wine specialties, 7th District.
- [Zum Schwarzen Kameel](#) Austrian specialties. Great meeting place as well, 1st District.

Austrian Wine

Good wine is everywhere to be found – from supermarkets to exclusive wine shops. To guide your selection, here's an overview of the most popular grapes (white and red) grown in and around Vienna and throughout Austria.

White wines

Chardonnay Two varieties: dry, full-bodied wines with high acidity and or dry, floral, steely white wines with strong acidity and relatively low alcohol.

“Gemischte Satz” Mixed blend unique to Vienna that has a firm body and a generous acidity.

Grüner Veltliner referred to as the “Austrian national drink”, it covers most of the vineyard area in Austria. Wide range of this wine from simple table wines to fine and lasting high-quality wines.

Müller Thurgau/Riesling x Sylvaner Austria's second most important white wine variety. It has high acidity and intense fruit flavors.

Neuburger An Austrian specialty generally regarded as a medium-quality semi dry wine.

Rheinriesling A noble white wine capable of attaining excellent quality by international standards; reaches its full intensity after two years of maturation.

Sauvignon Blanc Good vintages develop to excellent quality. Best drunk as a fresh and young wine.

Traminer/Gewürztraminer This grape counts among the top quality varieties in Austria.

Weißer Burgunder, Weißburgunder/Pinot Blanc Excellent white that improves with age.

Welschriesling Quality varies greatly depending on vintage, origin and storage, ranging from table wines to excellent quality wines.



Zierfandler, Spätrot Specialty of the Gumpoldskirchen region south of Vienna with quality ranging from table wines to outstanding Austrian quality wines.

Red wines

Blauburger Reminiscent of berry fruit: Full-bodied, velvety.

Blauer Burgunder/Blauburgunder/Pinot Noir One of Austria's top-notch wines.

Blaufränkisch Claimed to be the best Austrian red wine today.

Blauer Portugieser A modest red wine easily digestible due to low acidity.

Cabernet Sauvignon Regarded as most elegant red wine worldwide.

Saint Laurent Regarded in Austria as the second best red variety after Blaufränkischer.

Zweigelt/Blauer Zweigelt A relatively new grape developed in 1922 by Austrian scientist Fritz Zweigelt; a cross of Saint Laurent and Blaufränkisch that is known to vary strongly in quality.

Organic (*Bio*) Food Stores

Organic food can be found at specialty stores, open-air markets and most of the larger supermarkets. Below is a sampling of exclusively organic stores, some of which serve meals.

- [Bio Feinkostladen](#) 8th District
- [Denn's Biomarkt](#) Currently 16 store locations in Vienna
- [Elmira](#) 2nd District
- [Henzls Ernte](#) 5th District
- [Maran Vegan](#) 6th District
- [Naturkost St. Josef](#) 7th District
- [Reformhaus Buchmüller](#) 7th District
- [Makro1](#) 1st District

Organic Bakeries The trend to eating everything natural continues.

- [Gragger & Cie](#) four locations in Vienna
- [Joseph Brot vom Pheinsten](#) four locations in Vienna
- [Wholegrain Bakery Waldherr](#) 1st District

Open-air Markets

If eating, shopping, and people-watching sound like fun, then the [Naschmarkt](#) is a veritable local culture and culinary consumer treasure. Located in the 4th District, the Naschmarkt is the largest open-air market in Vienna, with stalls selling everything from fresh produce to delicious ethnic specialties and organic (*Bio*) food. On either side of the main thoroughfare are, among others, Asian, Indian, and Mediterranean stores and restaurants.

Almost every district has a traditional Viennese market selling fresh produce, many reflecting the ethnic diversity of their neighborhood. For example, [Karmelitermarkt](#) in the 2nd district is Vienna's oldest market. The Turkish butchers sell what is said to be Vienna's best lamb. Also visit the [Brunnenmarkt](#), located in Ottakring (16th District),



which exudes south European flair with a strong Turkish flavor. Numerous young artists have set up shop in the surrounding area, making the Brunnenmarkt and the nearby Yppenmarkt one of the most electric neighborhoods in the city today. For lists of Vienna's major open-air markets, consult www.wien.gv.at/english/fima/markets.htm or visit the [Food Markets](#) interactive map on your computer or smartphone.

Shopping: Non-Food

Antiques and Flea Markets

The end of the *Naschmarkt* segues into the vast [Naschmarkt flea market \(Flohmarkt\)](#) that is an Austrian institution. About 400 sellers present their goods here every Saturday from 6:30 to 18:00. A must for bargain-hunters and flea market specialists. For other flea markets in Vienna, visit stadt-wien.at.

For a look back on the Biedermeier and Jugendstil periods in Austria, visit the [Dorotheum \(Tante Dora/Aunt Dorothy, as the Viennese say\)](#) which is Vienna's foremost auction house and the oldest institute of its kind in the world. Located in the 1st District and housed in an impressive Neobaroque building, the Dorotheum offers daily auctions and special sales of antique (and some contemporary) furniture, jewelry, paintings, rugs, and bric-a-brac.

Mindful of today's environment and with a yearning for past glories, Vienna hosts some of the most enchanting vintage and second hand shops. Examples are [FLO Vintage Nostalgische Mode](#), [Design 1900-2000](#), and [Bootik 54](#). Don't overlook the second-hand stores run by charitable organizations such as [Carla](#), [Humana](#), [Christ Church Shop](#) and the [UN Women's Guild bazaar](#) in November/December.

Clothing

In Vienna's inner city (1st District), the pedestrian walks along the *Kärntnerstrasse*, *Graben*, and *Kohlmarkt* are filled with upscale and specialty shops, as well as major international chains (e.g., [H&M](#), [Zara](#), [Mango](#), [Forever 21](#)) that feature chic, inexpensive clothing for the young at heart. There is also a great clothing store along with an online shop, [Best Secret](#), that sells designer clothes at a discount. *Mariahilfer Strasse*, in the 7th District, is the city's longest and most lively (and crowded)



shopping area. For contemporary fashion and design, explore the side streets in the 6th and 7th Districts, and increasingly in the 2nd District, where Vienna's young up-and-coming creatives have set up shop.

Furniture and Household Goods

You'll find just about everything you need (or want) for your home or office at one of these major chains [IKEA](#), [Kika](#), [Leiner](#), [Moebelix](#), [Interio](#), and [xxxLutz](#). For interior design options check out yelp.at/list/interior-design-shops-wien.

Electronics, Appliances, Computers & IT

The two giants in Vienna in these fields are [Media Markt](#) and [Saturn](#) which recently combined under Media Markt. For fans of Apple, check out its [Apple store](#) in the 1st District.

Shopping Malls and Department Stores

If mall shopping is your thing, then check out the many places scattered throughout the city. Opening times vary for these major shopping malls:

- [Auhof Center](#) 14th District
- [Donauzentrum](#) 22nd District
- [Gerngross Department Store](#) 6th District
- [Wien Mitte The Mall](#) 3rd District
- [Lugner City](#) 15th District
- [Millennium City](#) 20th District
- [Parndorf Fashion Outlet](#) Parndorf (southeast of Vienna)
- [Q19](#) 19th District
- [Ringstrassen-Galerien](#) 1st District
- [Shopping City Nord \(SCN\)](#) 21st District
- [Shopping City Süd \(SCS\)](#) Vösendorf (south of Vienna)
- [Steffl Department Store](#) 1st District



Books and Multimedia

English language newspapers and magazines are widely available in Vienna, particularly around major train stations and *U-Bahn* stations, at newsstands and pavement sellers, and at the newsstand at the VIC. For rentals, [Vienna's Main Library \(Hauptbücherei Wien\)](#) in the 7th District houses a good selection of English language books and electronic media (CDs, DVDs and videos). To learn more about what else is available, check out the following:

- [Babette's Spices and Books for Cooks](#) — modest selection of English language books; cooking classes. 4th District
- [Cafe phil](#) — a fun place to enjoy coffee and browse among an ever-changing selection of books, DVDs, and LPs. 6th District
- [Pickwick's](#) English bookstore, media club, and coffee house — A favorite meeting place. 1st District
- [Shakespeare & Company Booksellers](#) A paradise for book lovers; hosts lively readings and events. 1st District
- [Thalia](#) — Houses a large selection of English language books. Seven Vienna locations.

Sports and Fitness

Parks and green spaces make up more than half of the metropolitan area, offering plenty of opportunities around Vienna for keeping fit. Recreation areas such as the Wienerwald, the Prater, the Alte Donau, and the Donauinsel offer facilities for all kinds of sporting activities, such as biking, boating, running, skating, swimming, tennis. Vienna also has its own national park: the Lobau wetlands are Vienna's contribution to the [Donau-Auen National Park](#). Nearly one quarter of this national park is within the Vienna city limits.

Good starting points for finding information on sporting activities in Vienna are [wien.info/en/vienna-for/sports](#), [wien.gv.at/english/environment-leisure/sports/](#) and [wien.info/en/vienna-for/sports/winter-sports](#). Additionally, there are many sporting and recreational clubs at the VIC such as the [VIC Workout Club](#), [UN Golf Club](#) and the [VIC Hiking and Mountaineering Club](#); check out [vicrec.unvienna.org](#) for more information.

An event you shouldn't miss is the [United Nations Inter-Agency Games](#), which is held annually in spring, and brings together people from all over the world from various UN organizations and agencies for a few days of friendly sport competitions. The event is a great way to meet people and make lifelong contacts.

Directly adjacent to the VIC is the [Sportcenter Donau City](#) which offers fields and courts for several sports including tennis, soccer, volleyball, and more! There are

several groups organized by IAEA staff that play soccer here on a weekly basis. If you're interested, ask around for the organizer to get added to the email list.

Baseball/Softball

The [American International Baseball Club](#) is a volunteer, nonprofit organization that has a yearly youth baseball program for boys and girls up to 13 years old. Additionally, there are several Viennese baseball/softball clubs which have programs for children and young adults. For more information, visit the [Austrian Baseball Federation](#) for a list of clubs. For adults wanting to get in on the fun, the [Wanderers Slowpitch League](#) is a lot of fun and has both spring and fall seasons.

Biking

Vienna's layout and well-marked, dedicated bike lanes make riding bikes very easy and convenient. In many cases, you can get to your destination quicker on bike than on public transport! For information on riding bikes in and around Vienna, visit wien.info/en/vienna-for/sports/cycling and check out the relevant information in the *Transportation* and *Useful Apps* sections.

Other useful resources include [Radtouren in Österreich](#), [ARBÖ](#) (Austrian Automobile and Bicycle Association), [radlobby Vienna](#), and [ÖAMTC](#) (Austrian Automobile, Motor-bike, and Touring Club).

The [Argus Bike Festival](#) kicks off the cycling season in early or mid-April. This two-day festival held on Rathausplatz is a cross between a trade fair and a celebration of all things bicycle, complete with a dirt bike contest, test courses, and a variety of bikes on display.

Boating and Sailing

The Alte Donau and the Neue Donau areas are ideal for these activities. For information on boat rentals, as well as sailing/windsurfing lessons, visit: meine-insel.at, [Segelschule Hofbauer](#), and [Bootsvermietung Eppel](#). Be sure to also check out the [Vienna International Sailing Club](#).



Bowling

There are several bowling alleys located throughout the city. If you're an avid bowler and interested in joining a league, check out the [English Speaking Bowling League](#).

Climbing

There are many climbing gyms located throughout the city as well as places outdoors to climb. More information can be found on the city of [Vienna's website](#) as well as on [The Crag](#). Also while you are here, try via ferrata climbs where there's already a line on the wall to clip into. Via ferrata recommendations can be found on [Bergsteigen](#) and [AllTrails](#).

Golf

Joining the [UN Golf Club](#) is the best way to get started with golf in Austria, which organizes several tournaments throughout the year and provides members with special deals at different golf courses throughout the area. Additionally, most of the members can provide you with all of the information you could possibly need to know about golf in Vienna and Austria.

Hiking and Nordic Walking

The opportunities for hiking and Nordic walking in Austria are nearly endless. In Vienna, Nordic walking is possible throughout the Prater, along the Donauinsel, and in the numerous parks. While the hiking paths in the Wienerwald can offer challenging ascents and descents with views over Vienna and the surrounding areas, if you enjoy hiking you must experience what the rest of Austria has to offer!

The [VIC Hiking and Mountaineering Club](#) is very popular among VIC staff and offers wonderful opportunities for hiking almost every weekend (seasonal). Another option is the Vienna section of the [Austria Alpine Association](#) (*Österreichischer Alpenverein*). For an annual fee of €61 (2018 prices), you can enjoy numerous benefits, such as guided tours, discounted lodging at over 1700 mountain huts, and even insurance in case of emergency which requires medical assistance (even evacuation by helicopter). Two sections worth looking into are [Alpine Club Vienna](#)



(English speaking) and [Alpenverein Edelweiss](#). Two further clubs worth contacting are the [Friends of Nature, Austria](#) (*Naturfreunde Österreich*) and the [Austrian Tourist Club](#) (*Österreichischer Touristenklub*). Two other great websites (and apps) for discovering hiking routes, finding mountain huts, researching weather conditions, and much more are [Bergfex](#), [Alpenvereinaktiv](#), and [Wanderdörfer](#).

Ice skating and Hockey

Come winter, ice skating is extremely popular in Vienna; many of the locals even have their own skates. Some winters the Alte Donau and Neu Donau freeze over and you will find many people skating on them. A few of the many ice rinks in Vienna are:

- [Wiener Eislaufverein](#) 3rd District
- [Wiener Eisraum](#) 1st District
- [Engelmann](#) 17th District

For hockey fans, check out Vienna's professional team the Capitals <https://www.vienna-capitals.at/>.

Kayaking

There are several kayak rental facilities along the Donau that also rent stand up paddle boards etc. Additionally, the [VIC Kayak club](#) is a lot of fun and a great way to learn.

Running

If you're a runner, there are many different opportunities throughout the year to showcase your skills. For bigger events, check out the [Österreichischer Frauenlauf](#) (Women's Run), the [Vienna Night Run](#), the [Wiener Halbmarathon](#), and of course the [Vienna City Marathon](#). The Vienna City Marathon takes place annually every April with typically more than 40,000 participants; it is a fun-filled day, even if you're only watching! For other running events, check out [Wienläuft](#) and [laufkalender24.at](#). Two popular options for those who enjoy running and socializing are the [VIC Runners Club](#) and the [Vindobona Hash House](#).

Skiing

Excellent ski resorts can be found all over Austria, with a few that are even close enough to Vienna for a day trip. For those wishing to enjoy skiing in the Austrian Alps and meet people, check out the two very popular ski clubs at the VIC: the [IAEA Ski Club](#) and the [VIC Ski Club](#). Information on ski resorts can be found at [bergfex.com/oesterreich](#). Most resorts have a ski school and equipment rentals. Weather and avalanche reports in Austria's ski regions are updated daily at [lawine.at](#). The ski season is long in Austria, typically beginning in October and extending through April. There are even several glaciers in Austria that offer skiing in summer: [Mölltaler Gletscher](#), [Hintertux](#), [Stubai Gletscher](#), and [Kitzsteinhorn](#).

Swimming

In summer, the Donauinsel, Alte Donau, and Lobau are often swamped with people eager to cool off. There are also a large number of indoor and outdoor pools run by the city of Vienna. For more information, visit: www.wien.gv.at/english/leisure/bath and www.wien-konkret.at/sport/schwimmbad. The **VIC Swimming Club** offers both pool and open water swimming.

Fitness Centers

A few too many Schnitzels? Check out the following gyms which offer a variety of programs and membership plans. Some of them offer discounts to UN/IAEA Staff. There are also many other types of fitness available (CrossFit, fitness boxing, etc.) in Vienna that can be discovered with simple internet searches.

- [Club Danube](#) (several locations)
- [Fit Fabrik](#) (several locations)
- [FITINN](#) (several locations)
- [Holmes Place](#) (several locations, one near VIC)
- [John Harris](#) (several locations, one near VIC)
- [Manhattan Fitness](#) (19th District)
- [Mrs. Sporty](#) (several locations)

Transportation

Public Transport within Vienna

Vienna's well-developed and extensive public transport network will take you almost anywhere in the city in nearly no time at all. There are currently five underground lines (*U-Bahn*), which are shown on transport maps in the following colors: U1-red, U2-violet, U3-orange, U4-green, and U6-brown. The U5 line is currently under construction and is scheduled to begin operation in the next few years; it will be Vienna's first fully automated (i.e. driverless) service. The rapid local train lines (*Schnellbahn* or *S-Bahn*), usually shown in maps in blue or black, connect the city



with its suburbs (including the airport) and can also be used for travel within the city. There are numerous tram (*Strassenbahn*) and bus (*Autobus*) lines, including over two-dozen night bus (*Nightline*) lines that operate between 12:30 a.m. and 5:00 a.m. when other transport modes are shut down. A live map can be found on the [Wien gov site](#). *Wiener Linien* also provides [downloadable maps](#) for your convenience. One of the most useful smartphone applications in Vienna is WienMobil, which is available for both [iOS](#) and [Android](#). It provides many useful features including nearby public transportation locations,, as well as providing a route (with exact times) from your current location to anywhere else in the city; a must download! It combines many different transportation methods (taxis, car sharing, public transport, etc.) and allows public transport tickets to be purchased directly on the app. Google maps can also be used with the public transport option to estimate travel times and determine the correct public transport option and direction..

Tickets and Passes

For those who will be using the public transport system on a daily or regular basis, the most economical choice is the yearly ticket (*Jahreskarte*). This ticket allows for unlimited travel on all public transport options within the core zone of Vienna for the low price of e365 per year (2018 prices). For students under the age of 24 and seniors over the age of 62, discounts are available. For more information on the types and prices of tickets, visit [Wiener Linien](#).

For those who may use public transportation less frequently, other tickets (e.g. single ride, daily, weekly.) may be purchased from ticket offices at major *U-Bahn* stations or at automatic vending machines located within the *U-Bahn* stations. Tickets cannot be purchased on the *U-Bahn*, however there are ticket machines on the trams which accept coins.

All tickets except the *Jahreskarte* must be validated before use. Look for a small blue validation machine (*Entwerter*) upon boarding a tram or bus or at the entrance to a *U-Bahn* station; place the end of the ticket into the slot and wait for a click to validate it with a timestamp. You may notice, that unlike other major cities, there is nothing to prevent you from getting on public transport without a ticket. In Vienna, this is based on the honor system. Ticket inspections, however, are not infrequent; once the doors are closed, undercover Wiener Linien employees will ask everyone (*"Fahrkarten bitte!"*) to show their tickets. Those caught without a valid ticket (*Schwarzfahren*) may be fined e105 or more!

Taking Bikes and Dogs on Board

Bikes may be taken on the *U-Bahn* and *S-Bahn* in cars marked with a bicycle symbol, but only at specified times. Bikes should be kept in designated areas. Dogs may be taken on public transportation under certain conditions, i.e. they must be kept on a

leash and wear a muzzle. While bike transport is free with all tickets on Wiener Linien lines, those with a *Jahreskarte* may take a bike on all *S-Bahn* and regional trains (within the core zone) for free. Additionally, *Jahreskarte* holders may take a dog on board free of charge; otherwise, an additional half-price ticket is necessary. Visit [House Rules](#) for more information on the rules of riding on public transport in Vienna.

Austrian Railways

Austria's train network extends throughout the country and to neighboring countries. The Austrian National Railway (*Österreichische Bundesbahn—ÖBB*) operates the majority of the train system. Traveling by train in Austria (as well as in Europe as a whole) is a very common practice and is typically very comfortable and almost always on time. Most long-distance trains have restaurant cars where food and drink can be purchased. Additionally, most trains now offer complimentary WiFi for the entirety of the journey. For more information and to search and purchase tickets, visit [ÖBB](#) (oebb.at). A smartphone application ([ÖBB App](#)) also exists that allows you to search for, purchase, and store tickets for all of your journeys. Tickets can also be purchased in advance at ticket offices or from automated machines or can be purchased directly on the train (more costly). Seats can be reserved for a small fee, but doing so is highly recommended on busy travel days.

If desired, you can also arrange “door to door” pickup and delivery of your bags when traveling on ÖBB trains. For more information, visit [ÖBB Luggage](#).

In addition to the standard tickets available, ÖBB offers several methods for getting to your destination as cheap as possible. Also, keep in mind that children and seniors typically receive an additional discount. A few recommended discounts include:

- [ÖBB Vorteilscard](#): by purchasing this card, you receive a discount (typically 50%) for every ticket you purchase through ÖBB. After a few trips, the card has already paid for itself!
- [ÖBB Einfach-Raus-Ticket](#): ideal for group travel (e.g. attending a concert or sporting event). This ticket allows for unlimited use of the ÖBB network until 3:00 a.m. the following day. This is also an excellent option for a multi-person day trip with your bicycles!



Another option for traveling between Vienna and Salzburg is the [Westbahn](#), which has several trains running between the two cities on a daily basis for an affordable price.

[RegioJet](#) is another train and bus option which is usually more affordable and operates mainly in countries east of Austria.

Travelling by Boat

With the Danube passing through the heart of Vienna, it's possible to explore the surrounding areas by boat. For example, with the [Twin City Liner](#), you can travel down the Danube from Vienna to Bratislava in a little over an hour. With the [DDSG Blue Danube](#), you can experience Vienna city cruises, day cruises to the Wachau (a UNESCO World Heritage Site), as well as longer cruises throughout neighboring countries.

Travelling by Plane

Due to Vienna's central location within Europe and its large international airport ([Vienna International Airport](#)) just southeast of the city center, it is very easy to quickly travel around Europe as well as the rest of the world. Austria's largest carrier, [Austrian Airlines](#), has approximately 130 worldwide destinations, 40 of those being within Europe.

Vienna International Airport also serves many other [international airlines](#) with destinations throughout the world. While it is always possible to book tickets directly through the airline's website, other useful sites for finding the best offers include:

- [Checkfelix](#)
- [Skyscanner](#)
- [Google flights](#)

Another option for flying is to depart from [Airport Bratislava](#). This airport is home to several cheaper airlines (e.g. RyanAir) that do not fly to the Vienna International Airport. While this option requires getting to Bratislava, there is an [airport bus](#) from Vienna Hauptbahnhof that will take you directly to Airport Bratislava.

Taxi Services

Standard Taxis

Taxis can be easily found throughout the entire city; to find a nearby taxi stand, use the [WienMobil](#) app. You can also order a taxi by phone, for an extra fee. Journeys within the city are metered. For destinations outside Vienna, negotiate the price before starting the ride. A small tip is the norm. While most taxis now accept credit cards, don't assume they do and be sure to ask if you don't have any cash. For booking a taxi, try one of these numbers: #01/60160, #01/40100, #01/31300. You can also order standard taxis through the [FreeNow](#) smartphone application.

For trips to the airport, you can call the numbers above for a fixed price but make sure to specify you are going to the airport when making the booking. A recommended company for fixed-price transfers to the airport is [Airport Driver](#) (#01/22822). For more information on all taxi services in Vienna, visit: <https://www.wien.info/en/travel-info/to-and-around/taxi>.

Uber

Another taxi style service that continues to grow in popularity is Uber. Ordering and paying for your ride is all done through the dedicated [Uber app](#). Typically, Uber fares are cheaper than a standard taxi and no tipping is required; simply get in the car, enjoy the ride, and get out at your destination. During busy times, be aware of “surge pricing”, where the prices can increase drastically.

Bolt

Similar to Uber, Bolt (previously called Taxify) is another taxi-like service that is booked completely through the [Bolt app](#).

Bike Sharing

Whether you use your own bike or one of Vienna’s popular bike sharing services, traversing the city by bike is very easy (with many dedicated bike lanes) and can be quicker than using public transportation. If using your own bike, be sure to lock it up! The main bike sharing opportunity in Vienna used to be [Citybike Wien](#). With over 120 stations across the city, simply pick up a bike from one station and deposit it at another station when you’re done (the first hour is free!). There are many apps that can be used to help find the nearest Citybike station, as well as the number of bikes available at the station: visit <https://www.citybikewien.at/en/stations/apps>.

Other bike sharing services that are gaining popularity in Vienna are [OBIKE](#) (€1/hr). These services are similar to Citybike, although with some significant advantages. First, reserving, unlocking, and paying for a bike is all done through the dedicated smartphone applications. Second, they do not have dedicated bike stands; the bikes can be picked up and dropped off at any suitable public place within the city!

Car Rentals

Most major multinational rental companies are represented in Austria, with convenient locations around the city. The minimum age for renting is normally 18 years or up for small cars and 25 years or up for larger, fancier cars. You will need a credit card and a valid driver’s license; some firms may require an international driver’s license. Keep in mind that when crossing borders, there will be an additional fee; when crossing into non-EU countries, the fees become very expensive. A few of the more widely used options are listed below:

- [Avis](#) (three convenient locations)
- [Europcar](#) (four convenient locations)
- [Sixt](#) (six convenient locations)
- [Hertz](#) (four convenient locations)

Car Sharing

Car sharing is also a practical option for short term car rentals (like when you need to make that Saturday afternoon trip to IKEA!).

For car sharing companies, after registering, you can locate, reserve, and unlock cars all through the dedicated smartphone application. The price is typically based on kilometers driven; the cost of gas, parking, and insurance is already included in the price. When your journey is complete, simply park the car in a valid parking place. Check out the following options:

- [ShareNow](#)
- [Free2move](#)

For private car sharing options, you can find private car owners who will rent the use of their car. For these rentals, insurance is typically included but the cost of gas is not. Check out the following option:

- [drivy](#)

Ride Sharing

Another interesting option is ride sharing. To reduce costs of travel, it is not uncommon for those travelling by car with extra space to offer a seat in their car for a certain fee. This helps the driver pay for gas and significantly reduces the cost of your trip. This could be a good option for a weekend getaway! The most widely used option is [BlaBlaCar](#); simply put in your origin, destination, and dates of travel and look for a ride! There is also a smartphone application to make searching and reserving even easier.

Getting to the Airport

The Vienna International Airport (VIE) at Schwechat is located 20-30 minutes southeast of the city center. It is possible to get to the airport via car, bus, or train. While each option may have its pros and cons, the train is the cheapest and most reliable option (no traffic!). A few options for getting to and from the airport are: (2022 prices quoted)



- **City Airport Train (CAT)**: this train operates every 30 minutes and travels nonstop to/from the airport and the Wien-Mitte railway station. The ride takes 16 minutes and costs €11 one-way €19 return).
- **Vienna Airport Lines**: these buses run to/from the airport from three locations around the city (Westbahnhof, Schwedenplatz/Morzinplatz, & Donauzentrum). The bus beginning at Donauzentrum stops directly in front of the VIC, making it a convenient option to get to the airport directly from work. Depending on the route and traffic, the ride takes 25-35 minutes and costs €9 one-way (€15 return).
- **Schnellbahn-S7**: this local train travels between the city and the airport, although with several stops along the way. This train travels through convenient stations in the city (e.g. Handelskai, Praterstern, Wien-Mitte). A standard ticket (including core zone Vienna) costs €4.30 one-way. If you already hold a valid pass for core zone Vienna (e.g. a *Jahreskarte*), the ticket only costs €1.90 one-way. Depending on where you board the train, the journey takes roughly 20-35 minutes.
- **Regional Trains**: many regional trains pass through the Vienna airport. These trains typically stop at Hauptbahnhof and cost the same as the S7 above. Check the monitor or use the **ÖBB App** to find a train and buy your ticket.
- **Airport Driver**: as mentioned above, a reliable service, with reasonable, fixed prices. Call #01/22822 ahead of time and schedule your pickup.
- **Airport Taxi**: as mentioned above, all taxis will take you to the airport. Be sure to specify that your destination is the airport when booking.
- **Uber**: drivers are always willing to take passengers to the airport and are typically available 24/7. Typically Uber drivers are also waiting for pickup at the airport.

Travel Agencies

- **American Express**: the official travel agency of the IAEA, offering services for both official and private travel. There is an office in the VIC that is open Monday-Friday from 8:30-17:30. Call #01/2600 23040 or email IAEAliesure@ax-travel.at.
- **Carlson Wagonlit**: another travel agency with an office at the VIC (F0E11) open Monday-Friday from 8:30-17:30. Call #01/26026 3186 or email hannes@cwt.at.
- **Restplatzbörse**: Austria's No. 1 provider of last minute travel deals including bargain flights and hotels. They will assist in planning your entire trip. Six locations in Vienna.
- **TUI**: another popular travel agency that will help you plan your entire trip.

Where to Meet People

Leaving your home in the US to live and work in Vienna can be a challenging experience that, for one thing, will help you appreciate how much you took for granted. Where you once knew how simple, everyday things work (e.g. on the road, at the bank, at work, while shopping, at a restaurant), you now have to learn to chart your way through unfamiliar (and sometimes uncomfortable) territory! For sure, settling into a new lifestyle will take time, patience, and perseverance; in doing this, however, you will get to know yourself better and discover strengths and capabilities you didn't know you had.

Your willingness to be proactive in building relationships, both with local Austrians and other expats, will definitely enhance your expatriation experience. In the beginning, getting to know and spending time with people who already have a good knowledge of life in Vienna (e.g. fellow Americans or work colleagues) will definitely help to alleviate those post arrival blues. Be sure to ask your contact at ISPO or IAEA Programs at Argonne for a list of other CFEs and JPOs currently at the IAEA! Once the initial thrill (and likely some stress!) of moving to another country wears off, however, getting to know other international people (especially the locals) outside of the UN complex will help you appreciate the Austrians and their culture and to stop feeling like an outsider. It's easy to get caught up in the "UN bubble," but it certainly behooves you to burst that bubble!

Just like you may have learned to dismiss people's misconceptions about Americans, learn to reject opinions voiced by many about the difficulty of establishing friendly relationships with Austrians. While it may seem that Austrians are "cold" and unfriendly at first, once you get to know them, they can be some of the most friendly, supportive, and helpful people you will ever meet. If you really want to be successful, you need to be proactive and take the initiative!

The best way to meet local Austrians and other residents of Vienna is to seize as many opportunities as possible: for example, join a sports and recreation club, encourage co-workers to introduce you to their friends or to provide event recommendations, attend cultural events, be active in your children's school activities, take a German language course, join a church, take a class (e.g. photography, cooking, painting), find a tandem language partner, and much, much, more. Vienna has no shortage of possibilities to meet people. Find something that interests you and give it a whirl!



As described on [Deutschzentrum Wien](#):

“So how do you get to know new people? The answer is simple: by joining a club or society, that is to say, somewhere where people with common interests meet. It could be a sports club, a dance course, a theatre group, a choir or whatever else takes your fancy. There you can make new contacts and friends, just like the locals do.”

Below is an admittedly short list of platforms, ideas, groups, websites, etc. for finding and connecting with people in Vienna and Austria. If you have other wishes, simple Google searches will likely provide the desired information. If not, ask around. Chances are high that someone can help you find what you are looking for!

Facebook groups

- [Americans in Vienna](#)
- [Foreign in Vienna 2](#)
- [English Speaking Parents in Vienna, Austria](#)
- [Women of Vienna \(WoV\)](#)
- [English speakers in Austria](#)
- [LGBTQ+ Expats Vienna](#)
- [International Women Connected/ Vienna](#)
- [Foreigners Vienna Austria \(Expats\)](#)
- [Foreigners and Expats in Vienna and Austria](#)
- [Expats in Vienna](#)
- [Vienna International Community](#)
- [Vienna: For Expats, Housing and Buy&Sell](#)
- [Dog Owners Vienna \(English\)](#)
- [English Speaking Dog Owners Austria](#)
- [Vienna Hikers](#)

For families with young children

- [Vienna Family Network](#) (formerly the Vienna Babies Club)
- [Babymamas](#)

Expatriate communities

- [InterNations](#)
- [Vienna Expats](#)
- [International Women's Club of](#)

Vienna

- [United Nations Women's Guild Vienna](#)
- [Austro-American Society](#)
- [UN Nuclear Young Generation](#)

Meeting people

- [Meetup](#)
 - [Internationals in Wien](#)
 - [Speed Friending](#)
 - [Vienna Girl Gone International](#)
 - [Vienna Outdoor Fitness Training](#)
 - [Football Friendly Vienna](#)
 - [And many, many more!](#)

Tandem partners and language courses

- See “Austria’s Language” on pg. 51.

Dating

- [Tinder](#)
- [Parship](#)

Sport and fitness clubs

- See “Sports & Fitness” on pg. 94.

Meeting potential flatmates

- [FlatShare Vienna](#) on Facebook
- [Roomster](#)
- [Housing Anywhere](#)
- [Just Landed](#)

A few recommended blog accounts:

Account Name	Facebook Profile	Instagram Profile	Twitter Profile
Vienna Wurstelstand	@viennawurstelstand	@viennawurstelstand	@VWurstelstand
Vienna Unwrapped	@ViennaUnwrapped	@viennaunwrapped	@Viennaunwrapped

Account Name	Facebook Profile	Instagram Profile	Twitter Profile
Metropole	@metropolevie	@metropole_vie	@metropole_vie
Vienna.info	@ViennaTouristBoard	@viennatouristboard	@ViennaInfoB2B

Useful Apps (and Websites!)

Like it or not, we now live in the age of smartphones. While it may be unfortunate that we increasingly become more and more dependent on these devices, in some cases, they definitely make life easier and more convenient! With the explosion of app development in the past several years, it seems as though there is an app for everything!

<p>General Information</p> <p>wien.at live</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • iOS • Android <p>Susi</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • iOS • Android <p>Stadtplan Wien</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Website <p>Public Transportation in Vienna</p> <p>WienMobil</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • iOS • Android <p>Austrian Railways</p> <p>ÖBB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • iOS • Android <p>Parking</p> <p>Handy Parken</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • iOS • Android <p>Flights</p> <p>checkfelix</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • iOS • Android <p>Skyscanner</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • iOS • Android 	<p>Bike Sharing</p> <p>Citybike Apps</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • iOS • Android <p>Bike Navigation</p> <p>Bike Citizens</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • iOS • Android <p>Bike Citizens Route Planner</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • iOS • Android <p>AnachB Route Planner</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • iOS • Android <p>Car Sharing</p> <p>ShareNow (previously called DriveNow and car2go)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • iOS • Android <p>GetAround (previously called drivy)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • iOS • Android <p>Ride Sharing</p> <p>Blablacar</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • iOS • Android 	<p>Taxi Services</p> <p>FreeNow (previously called mytaxi)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • iOS • Android <p>Uber</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • iOS • Android <p>Bolt (previously called Taxify)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • iOS • Android <p>Food Delivery</p> <p>Mjam.at</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • iOS • Android <p>Lieferservice</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • iOS • Android <p>Foodora</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • iOS • Android <p>Uber Eats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • iOS • Android <p>Pharmacy Finder</p> <p>Apo-App</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • iOS • Android <p>Susi</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • iOS • Android 	<p>Shopping</p> <p>Willhaben</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • iOS • Android <p>Shpock</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • iOS • Android <p>Learning German</p> <p>Duolingo</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • iOS • Android <p>Outdoors</p> <p>Komoot</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • iOS • Android <p>Fly Fishing Austria and Slovenia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • iOS • iOS <p>Bergfex</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • iOS • Android <p>Alpenverein</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • iOS • Android <p>Post Office</p> <p>Post</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • iOS • Android
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This section is provided to give an overview of the abundance of smartphone applications that may make your life a bit easier and more enjoyable during your time in Vienna (and Austria!). The majority of these have been mentioned elsewhere in the text, but they are provided here again for convenience. Additionally, if working from a computer, most of these apps are based on websites; be sure to check them out!

Interactive Maps

When viewing this Guidebook on your smartphone, tablet, or computer, the interactive maps linked below may be useful. Just click on the desired link and the maps will open in your browser or your smartphone/tablet application.

Eating Out

- [Cafes & Konditorei \(Pastry Shops\)](#)
- [Ice Cream Parlors](#)
- [Pizza Restaurants](#)
- [Burger Restaurants](#)
- [Breakfast & Brunch](#)
- [Quick Lunches from VIC](#)

Drinking Spots

- [Heurigen](#)
- [Breweries and Beer Locales](#)

Bars & Clubs

- [Bars](#)
- [Cocktail Lounges](#)
- [Night Clubs](#)

Children's Activities

- [Children's Activities](#)

Cinemas

- [Cinemas](#)

Museums

- [Museums](#)

Operas, Classical Music, & Musicals

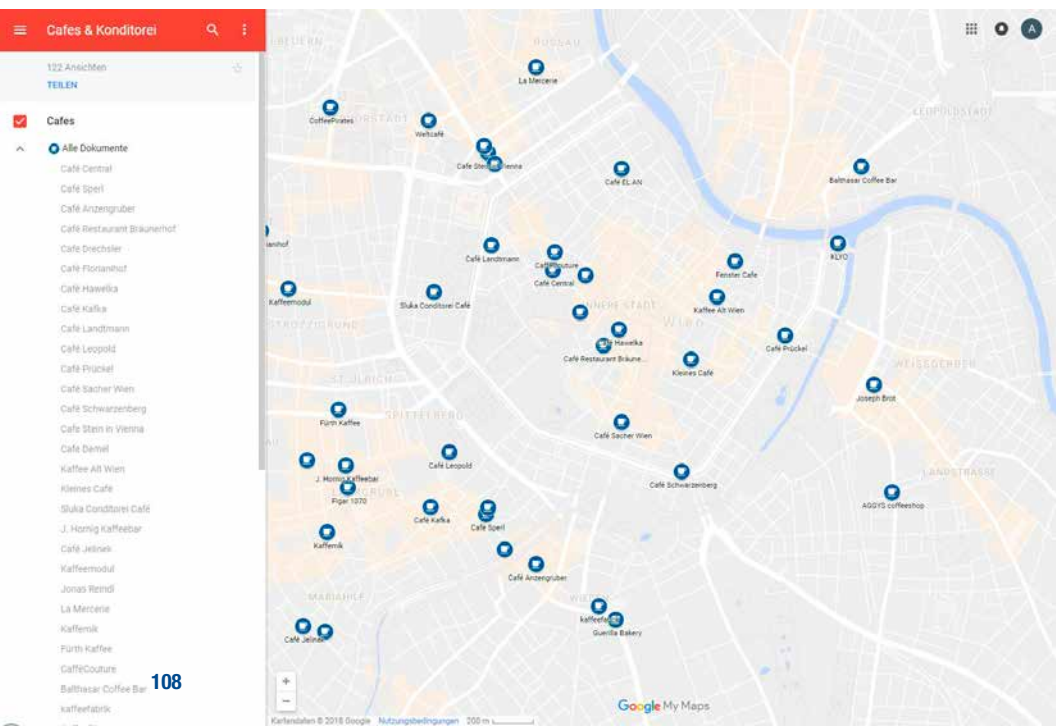
- [Operas, Classical Music & Musicals](#)

Jazz

- [Jazz](#)

Waste Separation

- [Waste Separation](#)



Excursions from Vienna

Located on the banks of the Danube River in the northeastern foothills of the Alps, the area around Vienna offers some of the most spectacular sites and scenery in Austria. The city's central location makes it a convenient base for 1-2 day excursions to the nearby regions of Burgenland and Lower Austria where you'll find magnificent abbeys, opulent palaces, historic sites, and the best nature has to offer. And if that's not enough enjoyment, Bratislava in Slovakia, Budapest in Hungary, and Prague in the Czech Republic are all within a few hours of travel time from Vienna. Admittedly, this Guidebook can only offer a snapshot of these treasures. For details consult these excellent websites.

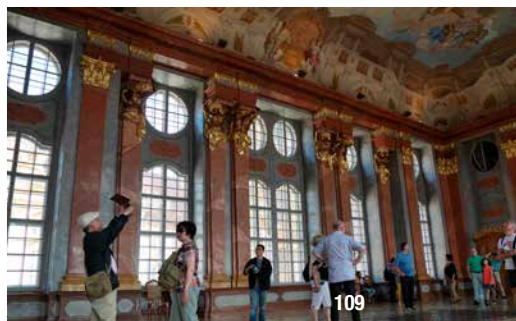
- www.lonelyplanet.com/austria
- www.wien.info/en
- www.tripadvisor.com
- www.planetware.com
- www.vienna-unwrapped.com

Danube Boat Tours

A trip along the Danube by boat offers a look at some of the most beautiful scenery around Vienna. Destinations include cities such as Bratislava and Budapest or simply a short 1-2 hour jaunt upstream to the Wachau Valley and Melk.

Klosterneuburg

On Vienna's northern outskirts (ca. 30 minutes from the center) lies the small town of Klosterneuburg with its impressive abbey *Stift Klosterneuburg*. Highlights of this sprawling complex include the church with its Romanesque and Baroque features, the Leopold Courtyard, the monastery vaults and the monastery museum.



The Wachau Valley

This spectacular stretch of the Danube lies between the towns of Melk and Krems (about an hour from Vienna) and is characterized by vineyards, forested slopes, wine producing villages and imposing fortresses at nearly every bend. No wonder the UNESCO named the Wachau Valley a World Historic Site. A must visit is the [Stift Melk](#) (Melk Abbey) perched high on a hilltop overlooking the Danube.

Eisenstadt and Schloss Esterhazy

About an hour south of Vienna lies the picturesque city of Eisenstadt which is famous for its connection to one of Austria's greatest composers, Joseph Haydn. Be sure to visit [Schloss Esterhazy](#), a medieval stronghold that houses such treasures as the Haydn Room.

Neusiedler See

This, the only steppe lake in Central Europe, is not only a popular summer holiday getaway for many Viennese and an excellent wine growing region, but also a favorite breeding ground for some 300 species of birds. A bird watcher's heaven located only 50 km from Vienna.

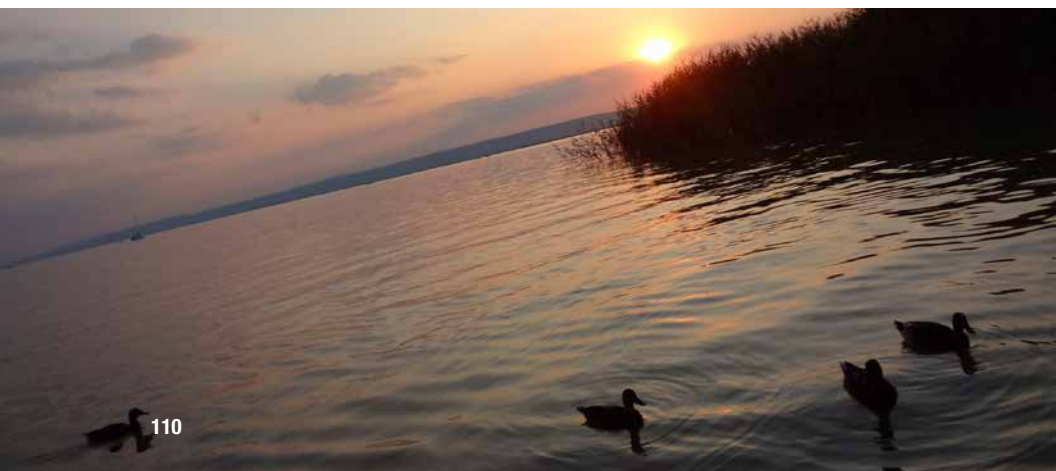
Wienerwald

If you want to experience the best of nature without traveling very far you need only visit the Vienna Woods (*Wienerwald*). Designated a Biosphere Reserve by UNESCO for its cultural and natural landscape, the Wienerwald is home to such attractive places as the wine growing centers of Perchtoldsdorf, Mödling and Gumpoldskirchen.

Auf Wiedersehen!

Take the time to say "*auf Wiedersehen*" to friends and colleagues and especially to Vienna—a city that hopefully you have learned to enjoy and appreciate.

The Editor



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