



Country Intelligence Brief

Austria

Overall Risk Rating

2.00 - Low

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Ratings Overview

Security

1.75 - Low

Civil Unrest	2.00
Crime	1.50
Kidnapping	1.00
Terrorism	2.00
Armed Conflict	1.00
Security Services	2.00

Infrastructure

2.00 - Low

Ground Transport	2.00
Cyber	2.75
Air Travel	1.25
Utilities	1.25

Environment

2.00 - Low

Man-Made Hazards	1.75
Seismic	2.00
Storm Systems	2.00
Natural Hazards	2.00

Health and Medical

2.00 - Low

Disease and Health Threats	2.00
Medical Facilities and Services	1.75
Mental Health	2.75
Food and Water Safety	1.00

Political

2.00 - Low

Corruption	1.75
Government Stability	2.00
Rule of Law	1.25
Sanctions	1.50

LGBTQ Security

2.00 - Low

LGBTQ Legal Environment	1.00
LGBTQ Enforcement	2.00
LGBTQ Social Environment	2.00

FactBox

Location	Austria
Government Type	Federal Parliamentary Republic
Population	9,120,000 (2025)
Languages	Official Language: German Other languages that are considered official or widely spoken: Turkish; Serbian; Croatian (Burgenland); Slovene (South Carinthia); Hungarian (Burgenland) Languages that should only be used discreetly: None
International Country Code	+43
Time Zones	UTC+1
Traffic	Drives on the right
Drinking Water	Safe to Drink

Overview

2.00 - Low

The Republic of Austria is a landlocked, stable democracy in central Europe that enjoys an important geopolitical location at the center of the continent. As a member of the European Union, Austria has become one of the richest countries in the region. It has a developed market economy and maintains close ties with other European Union countries, particularly Germany. Austria actively participates in foreign investment and has provided an attractive investment climate for a number of domestic and international companies. The primary threat to foreign travelers is from petty acts of crime, such as theft of personal items and pickpocketing, although security concerns are generally minimal and can be managed with basic mitigation measures. The infrastructure of Austria is generally excellent, providing an extensive network of transportation and excellent public health conditions.

Security

1.75 - Low

Crime rates are generally low, though petty crimes have affected tourists, including pick-pocketing and purse-snatching. Austria has been a target for transnational terrorist groups and their sympathizers; deadly terrorist attacks have taken place. Additionally, radicalization among isolated elements of the Muslim community is an issue, particularly in Vienna and the regions of Lower Austria and Styria. Protests and demonstrations occur periodically and are generally peaceful.

Civil Unrest

2.00

Protests are generally peaceful and focus on political issues and work conditions. Domestic politics and international developments can trigger demonstrations, particularly on important dates and during the visits of controversial foreign officials. Environmental groups protest against businesses they deem harmful to the environment. Farmers' groups occasionally organize large protests that disrupt traffic and transport in large cities.

Police do not typically intervene in peaceful protests. However, the potential for violence to occur is elevated during demonstrations by far-right or far-left groups. Increased immigration from Africa and the Middle East has contributed to a sharp rise in pro- and anti-migrant demonstrations in recent years. Clashes can occur between rival groups of protesters. Pro-Palestinian and/or pro-Israel demonstrations in Austria are typically peaceful and organized by civil society groups and trade unions.

Likewise, the rise of the far-right, anti-immigrant Freedom Party (FPÖ) has generated protests. Large anti-FPÖ demonstrations can potentially shut down parts of Austria's capital, Vienna. Further demonstrations of this kind are likely following any controversial policy announcements. The annual "Academics Ball", held by far-right parties in Vienna's imperial Hofburg palace on the last Friday of January, attracts large protests organized by the radical-left alliance NOWKR each year. These protests can turn violent and block traffic.

Crime

1.50

Crime rates are among the lowest in Europe. Travelers have been affected by petty crimes such as pick-pocketing and bag-snatching at train stations, shopping centers, restaurants, hotels, and historical landmarks, particularly in major cities. Vienna's two largest train stations, the plaza around St. Stephan's Cathedral, and the nearby pedestrian shopping areas in Vienna's First District are areas of particular concern. Violent crime is rare, and weapons are seldom used. Residential burglaries have increased in more affluent neighborhoods. Increased immigration from Africa and the Middle East resulted in anecdotal reports of some criminal activity, including both violent and non-violent incidents. Violence at football (soccer) matches, including street fights, can break out, particularly surrounding high-profile matches or matches involving historic rivalries.

Kidnapping

1.00

For most foreigners, the threat of kidnapping in Austria is minimal.

Kidnappings are uncommon and kidnappers are more likely to target locals. The most common types of abduction in Austria include basic opportunistic kidnap-for-ransom and high-net-worth individual kidnap-for-ransom. Victims are usually released unharmed and relatively quickly.

Terrorism

2.00

Austria faces a terrorist threat.

The most recent high-profile terrorist attack occurred in Vienna when a lone gunman killed four people and injured another 23. The attacker was identified as an Islamic State sympathizer. Radicalization among isolated elements of the Muslim community is an issue, particularly in Vienna and the regions of Lower Austria and Styria. Several counter-terror arrests have been made by Austrian law enforcement. Austria's Federal Office for State Protection and Counter-terrorism (BVT) has warned that several hundred Austrian citizens, mostly Muslims of Chechen or Bosnian descent, previously left the country and joined IS in Syria and Iraq. Those returning to Austria could pose a security threat. There are also concerns over militants infiltrating the country under the guise of being refugees. Authorities have acknowledged increased surveillance of potential radical groups and have arrested several suspects. Austrian authorities raised the country's terrorism threat warning levels and introduced heightened border security in response to developments in the Israel-Hamas conflict.

Armed Conflict

1.00

There is no particular conflict threat facing Austria.

Austria is part of the European Union and has close links to other member countries, particularly Germany. Vienna is home to a number of international organization headquarters, such as the Secretariat of the OSCE, the International Atomic Energy Agency, the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) and a United Nations office, among others.

Security Services

2.00

Security forces in Austria are generally reliable.

Responsiveness is excellent and overall security capabilities are extremely robust. Police in Austria typically speaks English; officers in Vienna often speak Serbo-Croatian.

Although Austria has a number of different security forces, the civil police are likely to be the most relevant for foreign nationals.

Interaction with Travelers

In Austria, travelers in need of assistance should contact their diplomatic mission in addition to security forces.

Infrastructure

2.00 - Low

There are no safety concerns over air travel.

Road conditions and traffic safety are very good throughout the country.

Austria has efficient ports.

Utilities are very good.

There is concern over the growing danger of cyber-attacks, and a number of incidents have been reported. Austria has prioritized the issue and is implementing a cybersecurity strategy to mitigate risks.

Ground Transport

● 2.00

Austria has good roads and public transport services. Weather conditions may affect driving.

Road conditions and traffic safety are very good throughout Austria. Road connections and border crossings with neighboring countries Czech Republic, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Slovakia, Slovenia, Switzerland and Liechtenstein are well-maintained and efficient. In the winter months between December and February, road conditions in the Alpine area may be affected by snow and ice. Carrying snow chains may be necessary in some areas. Traffic congestion can occur, particularly in the summer vacation months of July and August. Roads in large cities are shared by a complex tram and bus system which can pose a driving hazard.

Public transit systems are of excellent quality. Random ticket checks by plain clothes ticket enforcement officers take place. Taxi services are readily available but are not typically hailed in the street. Pre-booked and official taxis are considered safe to use. There are daily rail services provided by Austria's Federal Railways (ÖBB), which operates an efficient internal service across the country. Its central hub is in Vienna with frequent inter-city services to Salzburg, Innsbruck, Graz and Klagenfurt, and regular services through the Tauern Tunnel. Excellent rail service also link Austria to various destinations in western and eastern Europe.

The EU-wide migrant crisis led Austria to implement temporary movement restrictions and border control policies at its borders with Slovakia, Hungary, and Slovenia in a bid to manage the flow of migrants reaching the country.

Local Buses

● Unrated

Intercity bus travel is available between most major cities. Intercity buses in Austria have a good safety record.

City buses are available in most major centers. City buses have a good safety record.

Mass Transit

● Unrated

Metro systems are available in the capital in Austria. The country's metro systems are generally efficient and safe. Derailments and other accidents are rare. Securing personal items onboard metro trains is important, as theft is a standard threat. Terrorism poses a moderate threat to metro networks - terrorists have not attacked metro systems in Austria in the past decade. Terror warnings are rare on Austria's metro networks.

Taxis

● Unrated

Taxis are readily available in all major cities in Austria.

Taxis arranged in advance by upscale hotels or trusted business associates are generally safer than those hailed on the street.

Ride-sharing services or vehicles ordered through online apps are available in few major cities in Austria.

Train Travel

● Unrated

Train Safety

Trains in Austria have a good safety record. Derailments and rail accidents involving passenger trains rarely occur. Rail stations are generally safe. Petty crime poses a minimal threat at rail stations. Security services have excellent capabilities at most major railway stations.

Reliability and Availability

Austria has an extensive intercity passenger rail network. Rail travel is available between all major cities. The passenger rail network in Vienna is somewhat more developed. Trains in Austria generally run on time.

International Rail Travel

Austria has international rail connections with France, Germany, Switzerland, Italy, Hungary, and the Czech Republic.

Vehicles and Roads

● Unrated

Road safety conditions in Austria are generally excellent. Traffic in Austria drives on the right. Roads in cities are generally paved and well-maintained. Drivers generally obey traffic laws. Police rigorously enforce traffic laws. Car rentals are available in most major cities.

International Road Travel

Austria has international road connections with Germany, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Hungary, Slovenia, Italy, and Switzerland.

Cyber

● 2.75

Austria experienced significant cyber attacks in the period 2016-20. Incidents included when A1 Telekom, Austria's largest internet operator, was infiltrated by unidentified hackers. The hackers had access to the company's systems for six months. Previously, a group of hackers known as *Aslan Neferler Tim* claimed responsibility for an attempted cyber-attack on Vienna Airport.

The country has invested in defensive measures and according to the European Union's cyber security ranking, Austria is one of the most secure countries in Europe. In late 2024, officials revealed that hackers continued to target the websites of ministries, government agencies, and utility companies. In the run-up to national elections, the major political parties also experienced attempted cyber attacks.

Criminals are constantly developing new cyber-attack techniques to steal people's identities, hack into their accounts, trick them into revealing personal information or infect their devices with malware. Hackers use phishing techniques to attempt to acquire sensitive information such as usernames, passwords and credit card details by impersonating a trusted entity (government, bank, PayPal or Ebay) in an email communication. These emails are used to entice users to click on a link that will take them to a fraudulent website that appears honest. Scammers may offer registration links to malicious sites through website postings, emails, and text messages.

Maritime

● Unrated

Maritime services along the Danube River are available in Austria, though services are generally recreational excursions and cruises rather than a reliable transport solution. Travel via ferry or large passenger vessel is available between Vienna and Upper and Lower Austria. Ferries are generally safe.

Air Travel

1.25

Vienna International Airport (VIE) is the main transit hub for Austria and is located 18km (11 miles) east of the city. All major airlines fly there - *Austrian Airlines* is the national carrier. Various bus and rail services are available linking Vienna airport to the city center. These are of excellent quality. Taxis are available to the city and can be found north of the Arrivals Hall. Self-driving is also safe in Austria and a range of car hire services are available. Airport security and facilities are considered very good.

Other international airports include: Graz (GRZ), Salzburg (SLG), Klagenfurt (KLU), Innsbruck (INN), and Linz (LNZ).

As a result of an EU ban in connection with Russia's invasion of Ukraine, Austrian airspace is closed to all Russian aircraft and flights.

Utilities

1.25

Utilities are very good.

The Austrian electricity sector is very proficient and works reliably. The frequency of power outages in Austria is among the lowest in the world.

The Austrian mobile phone market is highly competitive, with some of the lowest rates in Europe.

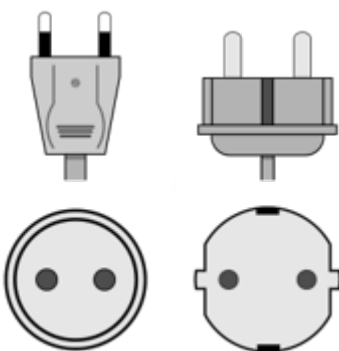
About 85 per cent of the population has access to the Internet. There are no government restrictions on access to the Internet or credible reports that the government monitors e-mail or Internet chat rooms without appropriate legal authority.

Electricity

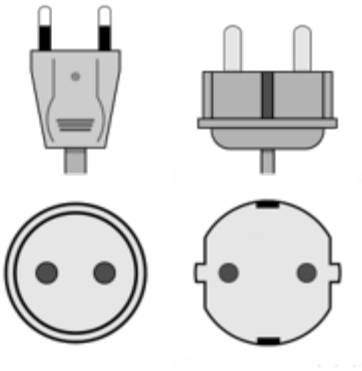
Unrated

Electricity in Austria is supplied at 230 V, 50 Hz. Austria uses Type C and F plugs.

Plug Types



Types de prises



Internet and Telecommunications

Unrated

Internet service in Austria is readily available in most public and private accommodations and Internet cafes. Internet activity is considered private and secure in all areas - see our Information Security advice sheet.

Environment

2.00 - Low

Austria is located near a seismic zone and experiences infrequent and relatively low-magnitude earthquakes. The northern and central regions of Austria are susceptible to heavy rains that can cause flooding, particularly from June to August. Avalanches are common during the winter months (December to March) in the mountainous regions of the country's central and western regions.

Man-Made Hazards

1.75

There is no direct threat from landmines or unexploded ordnance. However, World War II mines are periodically unearthed on construction sites. Such discoveries are likely to pose travel disruptions in the vicinity.

Seismic

2.00

Austria is located near a seismic zone and experiences infrequent and relatively low-magnitude shallow earthquakes. The area from Murau to Vienna is the most earthquake-prone, followed by Tyrol State.

Storm Systems

2.00

Austria's northern and central regions are susceptible to heavy rains that can cause flooding, particularly from June to August. The upper mountainous areas are susceptible to mountain torrents that can turn into debris flows when torrents pick up enough sediment load to turn into a water-mud-gravel mixture. Debris flows can reach high speeds and cause extensive damage due to the weight of debris transported.

Landslides can occur across the Alps, with the northern and southern Alps the more susceptible to larger landslides due to the fractured nature of the rocks.

Avalanches are common during the winter months (December to March) in the high mountainous zones of the country's central and western regions, including the Arlberg region and the inner valleys of west Tyrol. Avalanches can cut off most of the valleys originating from the Alpine divide as most only have one exit. Potential avalanches are brought down under controlled conditions, although those participating in winter sports outside of controlled areas will be exposed to the risk. Skiers have been killed in avalanches.

Natural Hazards

 2.00

Austria has different climate regions due to topographical diversity. The Alpine Region has high precipitation, short summers and long winters. Snowfall is common. The lowland regions in the north and east have more continental influenced conditions with colder winters and hotter summers. The south-eastern areas of Austria have longer and warmer, almost Mediterranean-like summers. Temperatures depend largely on altitude.

Air Quality

 Unrated

Air Quality

Air pollution routinely exceeds recommended thresholds in urban areas, especially Graz, Klagenfurt, Linz, Salzburg, and Vienna. Individuals with asthma or chronic cardiorespiratory conditions should consult with a healthcare provider prior to travel and carry sufficient medications. On days when air quality is particularly poor, affected individuals should take personal precautions to reduce respiratory stress ([map](#)).

Health and Medical

 2.00 - Low

Visitors to Austria do not face significant health risks while traveling within the country. Medical care is of excellent quality. Most ordinary prescription drugs are widely available from pharmacies (Apotheke). Austria has excellent-quality tap water that is safe to drink.

Disease and Health Threats

 2.00

Diseases of High Risk

- None identified

Diseases of Moderate Risk

- **Tick-borne Encephalitis (TBE):** Transmitted through the bite of an infected tick. Bite prevention is essential. In rare cases, people can become infected by consuming unpasteurized dairy products. Early symptoms include fever, fatigue, headache, myalgia, and nausea. These symptoms generally appear two to 10 days after exposure. In some cases, infection can progress to encephalitis (inflammation of the brain), which can be life-threatening. TBE is endemic throughout Austria, with highly endemic regions including the Carinthia, Styria, Upper Austria, Salzburg, Tyrol, and Vorarlberg Provinces.
- **Hepatitis A:** Transmitted by contaminated food and water. Hepatitis A does not always cause symptoms. If they occur, symptoms appear two to six weeks after exposure and include fever, nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain, fatigue, dark urine, loss of appetite, joint pain, and jaundice.
- **Lyme Disease:** Transmitted through the bite of an infected tick. Bite prevention is essential. Symptoms of Lyme disease vary depending on the stage of the disease. Early symptoms include a red, expanding rash that looks like a bullseye, fatigue, chills, fever, headache, muscle aches, and joint aches. These symptoms generally appear days to weeks after exposure. In some cases, individuals develop chronic symptoms months to years after exposure. The most common symptom is bouts of arthritis with severe joint pain and joint swelling.

- **Altitude Sickness:** Some locations in Austria, such as the Grossglockner region and high-alpine roads and ski resorts, are above 2,440 meters (8,000 feet). Some people may experience adverse health effects at such altitudes. Ascend gradually to allow for acclimatization and remain watchful for signs of altitude sickness or more severe manifestations.

Diseases of Low Risk

- **Traveler's Diarrhea:** Transmitted by contaminated food and water. This is the most common illness in travelers. People who become ill by an infectious agent that causes traveler's diarrhea most often experience nausea, vomiting, fever, bloody stools, and/or the urge to constantly pass stools despite an empty gastrointestinal tract.
- **Hepatitis B:** Transmitted through infected blood and bodily fluids, and effectively prevented with vaccination. An unexpected medical or dental emergency may place the unvaccinated traveler at risk. Practice safe sex and ensure medical procedures, tattoos, or piercings are conducted using sterile equipment. Symptoms include fever, nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain, fatigue, dark urine, loss of appetite, joint pain, and jaundice.
- **Hepatitis E:** Transmitted by contaminated food and water. Symptoms appear two to eight weeks after exposure and include fever, nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain, dark urine, joint pain, and jaundice.
- **West Nile Virus:** Transmitted through the bite of an infected mosquito, mostly between dusk and dawn. Bite prevention is essential. Symptoms of West Nile virus include fever, headache, body aches, joint pains, vomiting, diarrhea, and rash. Most people experience no symptoms.
- **HIV/AIDS:** Transmitted through infected blood and bodily fluids. Practice safe sex and ensure medical procedures, tattoos, or piercings are conducted using sterile equipment. Within two to four weeks of HIV infection, many people, but not all, experience influenza-like illness, including fever, swollen glands, sore throat, rash, fatigue, muscle and joint pains, and headache. These symptoms, also called acute retroviral syndrome (ARS), can last from days to weeks. Without treatment, the infection can lead to AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome).
- **Rabies:** Transmitted through the saliva of infected wild or domesticated mammals, usually by a bite or scratch. Do not approach unfamiliar animals. No known risk.
- **Tuberculosis:** Transmitted through respiratory droplets released by coughing or sneezing. Individuals planning an extended stay should consider obtaining a PPD skin test to reference against future suspected infections. Symptoms commonly include chest pain, a bad cough lasting three weeks or longer, and coughing up blood and/or sputum. Some people also experience chills, weight loss, fever, weakness, night sweats, and loss of appetite.

Health Requirements

● Unrated

Yellow Fever: Vaccination Not Required

There are no recommendations or requirements for yellow fever vaccination in Austria. There is no risk of yellow fever.

Health Recommendations

● Unrated

Recommended Immunizations for Travel to Austria

Travelers should ensure that they have routine vaccination courses and boosters. You should visit a healthcare professional at least four to six weeks before the trip. Routine vaccines include measles-mumps-rubella (MMR), diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis, varicella (chickenpox), polio, and the annual flu vaccine. Travelers should consider obtaining COVID-19 vaccination where available, even if the destination country does not require it.

- **Hepatitis A:** Recommended for most individuals unless contraindicated. Two doses, administered at least six months apart, are required for long-lasting protection. It is recommended that all susceptible people traveling for any purpose, frequency, or duration to countries with high or intermediate hepatitis A endemicity be vaccinated or receive immune globulin before departure. A booster is recommended for partially vaccinated travelers.
- **Hepatitis B:** Recommended for most individuals unless contraindicated. Widely used formulations require three doses administered over the course of six to 18 months, depending on the recipient's age and vaccination history. Booster doses after a complete series are usually not required to maintain immunity. If exposed before finalizing the full series, individuals may receive a special booster within 24 hours for short-term protection.
- **Rabies:** Unless contraindicated, the WHO and CDC recommend vaccination for individuals who will be performing occupational or recreational activities that increase the risk for exposure to potentially rabid animals, such as animal handlers, field biologists, cavers, missionaries, veterinarians, and some laboratory workers. It is also recommended for travelers who might have difficulty getting prompt access to safe post-exposure prophylaxis. Austria has not reported any rabies cases, thus most travelers are at low risk. Bats are likely to carry bat rabies.
- **Tick-borne Encephalitis:** Recommended for individuals trekking, working, or engaging in outdoor activities in high-risk, endemic areas, particularly heavily forested areas where the disease occurs and ticks are likely to be found. Currently, a tick-borne encephalitis vaccine is available in many countries. The initial vaccine consists of three doses and requires six months or more for completion. Tick bite prevention is also essential.

Medical Facilities and Services

 1.75

Medical facilities are of excellent quality, and medical professionals are well trained and abide by the highest international standards. Medical care is available nationwide. Hospitals and doctors usually require advance payment or proof of adequate insurance before admitting a patient. Ambulance services are readily available.

Medications and Pharmacy

 Unrated

Pharmacies across Austria are readily available. Supply of most medicines needed by travelers is high. Prior to travelling confirm the status of your "over the counter" medicines with accredited foreign government offices of Austria in your country. Always carry your prescription medication in its original packaging, along with your doctor's prescription and any other relevant documentation.

Mental Health

 2.75

Mental health services are available in most locations, particularly urban areas, and conditions are somewhat managed.

Food and Water Safety

 1.00

Drinking water is generally safe in Austria. However, officials still recommend drinking bottled or otherwise purified water whenever possible to reduce the risk of traveler's diarrhea or other gastrointestinal illnesses. Ensure that food is properly handled and prepared. Wash raw produce

before eating. Consume only pasteurized milk and dairy products, or use powdered or canned milk and cured cheeses. Consider avoiding street vendors and unregulated food establishments.

Political

2.00 - Low

Austria is a federal multi-party parliamentary republic. The President is the head of state, and the Chancellor is the head of government. The President, the Chancellor, and the Cabinet form the government and exercise executive power. Presidential elections take place every six years. The Parliament consists of the National Council (lower house) and the Federal Council (upper house) and exercises legislative power. General elections take place every five years. The judiciary is independent of the executive and the legislature. Several snap elections have been called in recent years in response to political developments.

Coalitions featuring a cross-section of political parties are typically required to form the government. Government collapses occasionally occur. State institutions are competent and effective and provide reliable services across the country.

Corruption

1.75

The perception of corruption in Austria is low.

Corruption is not a major concern or obstacle to doing business in Austria. The country takes anti-corruption legislation seriously and has solid institutional and legal frameworks. However, many corruption scandals among high-level officials in recent years have increased the perception of corruption. A recent survey unveiled the links between the media and public administration, questioning the full independence of the media.

Austria's Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI) score declined in recent years. Transparency International Austria's chairwoman, Bettina Kno#tzl, criticized the CPI result and called for stronger measures to combat corruption. The Council of Europe Group of States against Corruption (GRECO) has published two compliance reports on Austria, highlighting insufficient progress in implementing anti-corruption measures. Austrian intelligence official Egisto Ott was charged with corruption and espionage for allegedly leaking sensitive information to Russian intelligence operatives since the beginning of the ongoing conflict in Ukraine.

Government Stability

2.00

Austria is a democratic country that guarantees political rights and civil liberties. The country has historically been governed by grand coalitions that include both center-left and center-right political parties. However, in recent years the far-right populist Freedom Party of Austria (FPO) has put pressure on the government which is a cause for concern since the FPO has used nationalist and xenophobic rhetoric.

The political stability of Austria has deteriorated in recent years. In 2021, several leading Austrian People's Party (OVP) and FPO politicians were investigated on allegations of corruption and embezzlement throughout the year. This included then chancellor Sebastian Kurz and finance minister Gernot Blumel. Kurz resigned as chancellor in October 2021 and stepped down as OVP party leader in December; Blumel also resigned in December. Alexander Schallenberg was elected as the new chancellor but also stepped down in December 2021. The OVP then elected interior minister Karl Nehammer as chancellor and as the party's chair. Former FPO leader Heinz-Christian Strache was found guilty on charges of corruption in August 2021 and was given a 15-month suspended sentence.

Rule of Law

1.25

Austria's judiciary is characterized by a high degree of professionalism and independence from political interference. Judicial corruption is not considered an issue. The legal framework is strong and well implemented, contractual arrangements and commercial law are fully respected,

and property rights are protected. The police in Austria are professional, well trained and effective. Austrian police response time to emergency calls is excellent and english is widely spoken throughout the police force.

Sanctions

1.50

No sanctions program currently exists for Austria as authorized by US, EU or UN mandates. A number of Russian retaliatory sanctions that affect a number of EU countries have a negative impact on the country's agricultural export sector.

Legal

Unrated

Visitors to Austria are subject to local laws, which may not mirror, either in whole or in part, those of their home country. Those deemed to be in violation, even unknowingly, may be fined, detained, imprisoned, temporarily or permanently expelled, or tried *in absentia* depending on the nature of the offense. Those convicted of possessing, using, or trafficking illegal drugs may be subject to large fines or sentenced to jail. Home-country consular officers are not typically systematically informed of a detention but are permitted to provide support services at the request of their detained citizens. When there is no treaty in force, notification and access depend on whether the two countries have direct or indirect diplomatic relations. Consular officers cannot interfere with local judicial proceedings, nor provide legal advice or representation at trial, and are unable to pay legal fees or fines with government funds. The status of dual nationals will be determined by local officials, with all attendant ramifications for access and support.

Emergency Contacts

Unrated

Emergency Contacts

Ambulance 144

Fire 122

Police 133

Embassies and Consulates

Unrated

French Embassy

Address Wipplingerstrasse 24-26 1010 Vienna
Telephone Number +43 1 502750
Email contact@ambafrance-at.org
Web Site <https://at.ambafrance.org/English>
Opening Hours Monday to Friday 8:45-12:15 Wednesday 13:30-17:00

Canadian Embassy

Address Laurenzeberg 2, 1010, Vienna
Telephone Number +43 1 531383000
Email vienn@international@gc.ca
Web Site <https://www.international.gc.ca/country-pays/austria-autriche/vienna-vienne.aspx?lang=eng>

Opening Hours Monday to Friday: 0830-1230

Delegation of the European Union

Address THE ICON VIENNA – Tower 24/18th floor
Wiedner Gürtel 13, 1100 Vienna, Austria

Telephone Number +43 1 505 84 11 11

Email delegation-vienna@eeas.europa.eu

Web Site https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/vienna-international-organisations_en

Australian Embassy

Address The Icon, Gertrude-Froehlich-Sandner-Str. 2, 1100 Vienna, Austria

Telephone Number +43 1 506740

Email consular.vienna@dfat.gov.au

Web Site <https://austria.embassy.gov.au/>

Opening Hours Monday to Friday: 0830-1630

British High Commission

Address Jauresgasse 12, 1030 Vienna

Telephone Number +43 1 716130

Email press@britishembassy.at

Web Site <https://www.gov.uk/world/austria>

Opening Hours Monday to Friday: 0900-1700

US Embassy

Address Boltzmanngasse 16, A-1090 Vienna

Telephone Number +43 1 313390

Email embassy@usembassy.at

Web Site <https://at.usembassy.gov/>

Entry/Exit

Unrated

Travelers can obtain specific information about visas and other entry-exit requirements at: <https://entry-exit.crisis24horizon.com>.

Pre-Departure

Unrated

- Travelers should provide friends and family a copy of travel itinerary, and make a copy of important travel and identification documents.

Travelers should also ensure that adequate travel insurance is in place for medical treatment.

On Arrival

Unrated

- There are no significant measures to undertake when arriving in Austria.

In Transit

● Unrated

- There are no significant measures to undertake when traveling in Austria. Public transport is efficient, and self-driving may be conducted.

At Your Hotel

● Unrated

- There are no significant measures to undertake at hotels in Austria.

In the Street

● Unrated

- Crime rates are low in Austria, although travelers are sometimes targeted by opportunistic theft. Travelers should avoid overt displays of wealth, which is especially important in more crowded areas. Travelers should use only small denominations of currency, and keep large amounts of cash and cards in a separate place on your person. Reduce the contents of your wallet or purse contents, particularly cards which may denote affiliations, memberships and accounts. Do not use credit or debit cards unless absolutely necessary and then only at respected, well-known retail and service establishments.

- While the terrorism threat is low, there is growing concern over radicalisation of the Muslim community and the rise of the Islamic State (IS). Travelers should exercise increased vigilance in crowded areas. If travelers observe anything suspicious they should leave the area immediately and subsequently report their concerns to the authorities.

- Demonstrations and protests occur periodically. Although generally peaceful, travelers should avoid demonstrations, protests and rallies, which may attract security forces and law enforcement officers and present a dynamic and volatile environment. Travelers should also be advised that such incidents disrupt local transport networks.

Culture

Unrated

Standard Hours of Operation

Business: Monday-Friday, 0800-1230 and 1330-1730

Government: Monday-Friday, 0800-1230 and 1330-1730

Banking: Monday-Friday, 0830-1730

Business attire is generally semi-formal.

Appointments are best scheduled Monday-Friday between 0800-1230 and 1330-1730. Arriving on time to meetings or social engagements is a common practice. Informal or personal discussions are uncommon. Scheduled meetings will typically end on time. If a meeting includes dining out, the host offers to pay.

English and German are commonly used for business purposes. Attempts by visitors to use phrases in the native language are well received but not expected. Business cards are widely used. Always use Mr./Ms. or a local honorific/title until the host indicates that using first names is appropriate. Addressing the host according to their official title is seen as a sign of respect. When beginning a business meeting, shake hands with everyone.

Gestures

● Unrated

Business cards are widely used; when in use, they must be printed in German on the reverse side.

When beginning the meeting, shake hands with everyone. When departing the meeting, shake hands again.

Avoid using the following gestures or habits, as they are deemed offensive or insulting:

- Keeping your hands in your pockets
- Chewing gum in public

Religions

● Unrated

Catholic 57%, Eastern Orthodox 9%, Muslim 8%, Evangelical Christian 3%, other/none/unspecified 23%

Ethnicities

● Unrated

Austrian 81%, German 3%, Bosnian and Herzegovinian 2%, Turkish 2%, Serbian 2%, Romanian 1%, other 10%

Significant Dates

● Unrated

2026 Significant dates

Jan. 1	New Year's Day
Jan. 6	Epiphany
April 6	Easter Monday
May 1	Labor Day
May 14	Ascension Day
May 25	Whit Monday
June 4	Corpus Christi
Aug. 15	Assumption of Mary
Oct. 26	National Day
Nov. 1	All Saints' Day
Dec. 8	Immaculate Conception Day
Dec. 24-26	Christmas

Financial

Unrated

Financial systems can differ considerably by jurisdiction. Acceptance of cash, debit, and credit cards also varies across the country. Some locations may only accept cash due to the absence of card-processing machines. Banks or legal money changers typically offer the official exchange rates. While the import and export of both local and foreign currency are authorized, sums should not exceed the amount declared upon arrival.

Currency

● Unrated

Currency Name/Code

The official currency of Austria is the Euro (EUR). One Euro is made up of 100 cents.

Currency Convertibility

Banks or legal money changers generally offer currency exchange services in Austria. Larger banks may offer the best exchange rates, on average. Austria forbids foreigners from exiting with local currency in amounts greater than name EUR 10 000.

Credit Card

● Unrated

Major credit cards are widely accepted in shops, restaurants, hotels, and businesses.

Taxes and Tipping

● Unrated

It is customary to tip hotel personnel, wait staff in restaurants, and taxi drivers; there may be a service charge on the bill. Tips of about 5 percent are expected if a service charge is not included in the bill.

Bank and ATM

● Unrated

ATM Availability

Automated teller machines are widely available throughout Austria. Always choose a machine located in a secure area, preferably within hotels or other populated, well-lit locations.

Bank Availability

Banking hours are generally Monday through Friday 0800-1500. Cash advances on major credit cards issued by foreign banks are permitted.

LGBTQ Security

2.00 - Low

The security environment in Austria is low and broadly stable. National and international monitoring bodies report occasional assaults and harassment against LGBTQ individuals, including several hundred recorded hate#crime incidents annually where sexual orientation or gender identity are the primary bias motives. These incidents cluster in urban nightlife districts and public#transport hubs, and victims are often young adults. Police generally respond and record such cases, but underreporting persists. For business travelers and expatriates who follow standard urban security practices, targeted physical violence remains unlikely but cannot be ruled out, particularly for visibly transgender individuals or couples displaying affection late at night.

LGBTQ Legal Environment

● 1.00

The legal environment in Austria is minimal threat and highly protective. Same#sex sexual acts are legal, and Austria has provided registered partnerships since 2010 and full marriage equality since 2019, alongside joint adoption rights for same#sex couples. Federal law prohibits discrimination based on sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, and sex characteristics in employment and a range of services, and recognizes LGBTQ families on equal terms with non#LGBTQ households. Hate speech and hate crime provisions address bias based on sexual orientation and gender identity, and Austria aligns with European norms for asylum claims linked to LGBTQ persecution abroad. Remaining legal gaps relate mainly to uneven regional anti#discrimination coverage outside employment and services.

LGBTQ Enforcement

● 2.00

The legal enforcement environment in Austria represents a low threat to LGBTQ activism. Authorities collect and publish data on hate crimes, including those motivated by sexual orientation and gender identity, and have introduced specialized training for police and prosecutors. Austrian law enforcement institutions generally investigate and prosecute bias-motivated violence, though civil society groups continue to call for more consistent application of hate-crime aggravators and better victim support. LGBTQ travelers who report abuse can usually expect neutral or supportive treatment, particularly in Vienna and other large cities.

LGBTQ Social Environment

 2.00

The social environment in Austria is low threat and gradually improving. Eurobarometer polling and regional human rights reporting indicate that a substantial majority of Austrians support equal rights for LGBTQ individuals and legal recognition of same-sex couples, although conservative and far-right actors continue to mobilize against aspects of LGBTQ equality, particularly in education and gender identity debates. Pride events in Vienna and other cities draw large, peaceful crowds with visible corporate and political support. Nonetheless, some LGBTQ individuals—especially transgender people and those living in smaller towns—report ongoing harassment and family-level rejection. Travelers engaging in typical European public displays of affection or visiting LGBTQ venues face relatively low social risk compared to regional peers.

Active Alerts

No Alerts

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