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Issued: Mon, 5th November 2018

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# Austrian Country Guide

Page 1 of 5 Important Information Prior to Travelling to Austria

### Passport and Tourist Visa Conditions

Austria forms part of the Schengen Area. Australian passport holders are usually allowed to enter the Schengen Area for Tourism or Business purposes for up to 90 days in any 180 day period without a visa. The countries which make up the Schengen Area are Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland.

Travellers to the Schengen Area should ensure their passport is valid for at least six months beyond their intended stay. Travellers are also recommended to be able to provide documentation confirming their ability to financially maintain themselves during their stay, travel insurance covering the period of stay in the Schengen Area as well as tickets and entry documents for their onward destination. Travellers are required to register their presence in Austria within three days of their arrival at the nearest Police Station. In most cases this registration is undertaken by accommodation providers. For further information and to confirm that you are able to travel to the Schengen Area under this visa waiver program, contact an Austrian mission on the details below.

### **Current DFAT Travel Advice**

This advice is current for Thu, 1st November 2018.

<u>Exercise normal safety precautions</u> in Austria. Use common sense. Look out for suspicious behaviour. Petty crime, including bag snatching and pickpocketing, is increasing. Be alert on public transport and in tourist areas. See <u>Safety and security</u>.

Terrorist attacks have occurred in a number of European cities in recent years. See <u>Safety and security</u>. Since 2015, there have been significant pressures on border controls in Europe due to the movement of asylum seekers. Be sure to carry your passport when crossing borders, even within the <u>Schengen</u> area. See <u>Entry and exit</u>.

The weather in alpine regions is unpredictable and can change suddenly. Avalanches, flash flooding and mudslides have resulted in deaths in recent years. See <u>Natural disasters</u>.

The above information is an edited excerpt of the Travel Advice Summary from The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Travellers are encouraged to read the travel advice in full, subscribe to updates to this advice and to register their presence in Austria at <a href="https://www.smartraveller.gov.au">www.smartraveller.gov.au</a>.

#### Vaccinations and Health Precautions

The following information is intended as a guide only and in no way should it be used as a substitute for professional medical advice relative to a travellers individual needs and vaccination history. No guarantee is made as to its accuracy or thoroughness. For further information, please contact The Travel Doctor on 1300 658 844.

Vaccination against Hepatitis B should be considered for frequent travellers to Austria or those intending on a long stay overseas. Tick-borne encephalitis is present throughout many areas in Europe, predominately in forested regions. Whilst no vaccine is available in Australia, travellers visiting risk areas and planning outdoor activities during summer might consider vaccination once in Europe. Regardless of destination, all travellers should be up-to-date with their routine "background" vaccinations, including a recent annual Influenza vaccination.

Please consult a medical practitioner or contact The Travel Doctor for your specific risk to these preventable diseases and the appropriate avoidance measures. Australians travelling to Austria should ensure that they have adequate travel insurance to cover the length of their stay. Medications that are legal in Australia may be illegal in other countries. For further information on insurance, taking medication overseas and other issues please visit <a href="https://www.smartraveller.gov.au/tips">www.smartraveller.gov.au/tips</a>.

## Austrian Representation in Australia

Austrian Embassy, Canberra Austrian Consulate, Sydney

12 Talbot Street FORREST ACT 2603

Tel: (02) 6295 1533 Fax: (02) 6239 6751

Web: www.austria.org.au

Austrian Consulate, Sydney

1 York Street SYDNEY NSW 2000

10th Floor

Tel: (02) 9251 3363 Fax: (02) 9251 1038 Honorary Consulate of Austria, Melbourne

Rm 802, 180 William Street MELBOURNE VIC 3000

Tel: (03) 9225 8750 Fax: (03) 9349 5100 Austria also operates consulates in Queensland, South Australia, Tasmania and Western Australia. For the contact details of these missions, please visit the website of the Austrian Embassy.

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# **Austrian Country Guide**

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#### Time Differences between Austria and Australia

Austria is Greenwich Mean Time +1 hour (+2 during daylight saving). The applicable time zone is Central European Time (CET) or Central European Summer Time (CEST). Daylight saving is observed from the last Sunday in March to the last Sunday in October.

Austria, 12 noon, Winter (Dec) = Perth 7pm; Darwin 8:30pm; Brisbane 9pm; Adelaide 9:30pm; Hobart, Melbourne, Sydney 10pm. Austria, 12 noon, Summer (Jun) = Perth 6pm; Darwin, Adelaide 7:30pm; Brisbane, Hobart, Melbourne, Sydney 8pm.

#### **Important Contact Numbers**

Country Code for Austria: +43

To Dial Australia Call: 00 61 <City> <Number>

Australian Reverse Charges Direct: 0800 200 202. Users may need to insert phone cards/coins.

Travelex Card Services: 0800 293 496
Visa Global Assist: 0800 293 084

MasterCard: 0800 218 235

American Express Travellers Cheques:

0800 232 340

Emergency Services: 112
Police: 133
Ambulance: 144
Fire: 122

Outside of large cities these services may not have English speaking staff. To avoid delay it may be best to seek the assistance of a German speaker to call the emergency services.

### Important Information to be Recorded

Travellers are encouraged to carry photocopies of all important documents separately to their originals, and to leave a set of these photocopies with someone in Australia. This includes those documents listed below.

Passi	ports
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Name:	Passport #:
Name:	
Credit Cards	
Name:	Institution:
Card Number:	
Name:	Institution:
Card Number:	
Travel Insurance	
Name:	Institution:
Policy #:	Emergency #:
Name:	Institution:
Policy #:	Emergency #:

## Australian Representation in Austria

Australian Embassy, Austria

Mattiellistrasse 2 VIENNA A1040

Tel: +43 (0) 1 506 740 Fax: +43 (0) 1 504 1178

Web: www.austria.embassy.gov.au

Alternatively, Australians may obtain assistance by contacting the 24 hour Consular Emergency Centre in Australia on (+61) 2 6261 3305.

Australians in Austria are encouraged to register their presence and contact details with the Australian Embassy in Vienna, or online with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade at <a href="https://www.orao.dfat.gov.au">www.orao.dfat.gov.au</a>.

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# **Austrian Country Guide**

General Destination Information Austria

### **Duty Free Allowances**

Duty Free limits when entering Austria from a non EU state:

Alcohol: 1 L spirits (>22% alc vol) or 2 L other beverages:

as well as 4 L of still wine and 16 L of beer.

200 cigarettes or 50 cigars or 250 g of tobacco. Tobacco: Other Goods: Up to a value of €430 for air and sea travellers,

€300 for others and €150 for those under 15 years.

Please go to http://english.bmf.gv.at/Customs for further details on Austrian Customs and Duty Free regulations.

Duty Free limits when entering Australia:

Alcohol: 2.25 L.

Tobacco: 25 cigarettes plus one open packet of cigarettes. Other Goods: Up to a value of \$900 (\$450 if under 18 years).

For more information on Australian duty free allowances or other customs regulations, please visit www.homeaffairs.gov.au.

Minors may not claim alcohol or tobacco products. Further restrictions apply to these and other goods, travellers should familiarise themselves with these restrictions before entry.

### **Electrical and Telephone Adaptors**

Electrical Plug type: European

Voltage: 220-240 volts (same as Australia, no voltage or frequency converter required).

Modem: Austria has its own unique telephone socket / plug.

Source: Korjo Travel Products.

To purchase electrical/modem adapters, or for further information on this matter, please view the Korjo adapter guide at www.korjo.com.au.

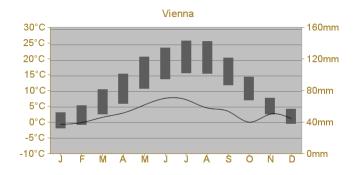


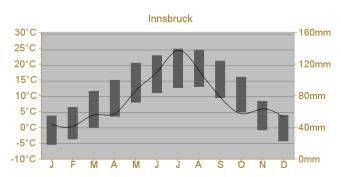
#### Austrian Public Holidays 2018

01 Jan: New Year's Day 15 Aug: Feast of the Assumption National Holiday 06 Jan: 26 Oct: **Epiphany** 02 Apr: Easter Monday 01 Nov: All Saints' Day 01 May: Labour Day 08 Dec: Conception 10 May: 25 Dec: Ascension Day Christmas Day 21 May: Whit Monday 26 Dec: Boxing Day

Corpus Christi 31 May:

## Average Temperature (Bar) and Precipitation (Line) in Austria





Source: Austrian Central Institute for Meteorology. For local forecasts please go to www.zamg.ac.at or www.bbc.co.uk/weather.

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# Austrian Country Guide

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Information and (

Cheat Sheet

### **Exchange Rate**

Interbank Rate
1 Australian Dollar (AUD) = 0.63 Euro
1 Euro (EUR) = 1.59 Australian Dollars

With 4% Margin 1 Australian Dollar (AUD) will buy 0.60 Euro 1 Euro (EUR) will cost 1.66 Australian Dollars

All rates were correct at a point in time on Monday, 05 Nov 2018. The "Interbank Rate" does not take into account any exchange fees, while the "With 4% Margin" adds 4% to the exchange rate to simulate a typical margin that would be paid when exchanging currencies. These rates have been rounded and should not be used when calculating transactions of large value.

### **Purchasing-Power Parity**

The following is a purchasing-power comparison of the Euro in Austria and the Australian Dollar, using the Big Mac as a common good. While it does not present a faultless comparison, it is a useful indicator of the purchasing-power of the currencies.

Big Mac Australia: \$5.95 (AUD) = 3.73 Euro

Big Mac Austria: €3.40 (EUR) = 5.42 Australian Dollars

A Big Mac in Austria is therefore 9% less expensive than in Australia.

This comparison is based on 2018 prices using current exchange rates. Prices may not include variations by locality or local taxes.

#### **Currency Cheat Sheet**

€0.50	=	\$0.83 AUD		This cl	heat sheet uses the	"With 4% Margin" ra	te of e	change listed above.
€1		\$1.66 AUD	€10		\$16.58 AUD	€100		\$165.83 AUD
€2	=	\$3.32 AUD	€20	=	\$33.17 AUD	€200	=	\$331.65 AUD
€3	=	\$4.97 AUD	€30	=	\$49.75 AUD	€300	=	\$497.48 AUD
€4	=	\$6.63 AUD	€40	=	\$66.33 AUD	€400	=	\$663.30 AUD
€5	=	\$8.29 AUD	€50	=	\$82.91 AUD	€500	=	\$829.13 AUD
€6	=	\$9.95 AUD	€60	=	\$99.50 AUD	€600	=	\$994.96 AUD
€7	=	\$11.61 AUD	€70	=	\$116.08 AUD	€700	=	\$1,160.78 AUD
€8	=	\$13.27 AUD	€80	=	\$132.66 AUD	€800	=	\$1,326.61 AUD
€9	=	\$14.92 AUD	€90	=	\$149.24 AUD	€900	=	\$1,492.43 AUD
						£1 000	=	\$1 658 26 AUD

#### **Notes and Coins**

The legal currency of Austria is the Euro, which is abbreviated using the symbol € (for example €100). The subunit of the Euro is the cent, of which there are 100 in every Euro. The following units of currency are the most common in Austria but other versions and denominations are also in circulation (including a purple €500 note and other nations' coins). Pictures are not to scale.



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# Austrian Country Guide

Page About Austrian

#### About Austria

Full Name: Republik Oesterreich (Republic of Austria).

976 (Margravate of Austria established). Founded:

1918 (republic proclaimed).

Size: 83,871 sq km (20% larger than Tasmania).

Population: 8.2 million (40% the size of Australia).

Vienna 1.6 mil; Lower Austria 1.5 mil; Upper

Austria 1.4 mil; Styria 1.2 mil; Tyrol 700,000.

Religion: Catholic 74%, Protestant 5%, Muslim 4.2%. Language: German is the official language of Austria.

GDP Per Capita: US\$41,600 (Australia US\$40,800).

Significant Dates:

200 BC - Romans begin to conquer present day Austria. 500's AD - German tribes move south and control the region.

800 AD - Charlemagne establishes the Ostmark province (forerunner to modern day Austria).

- Rudolph I is the first Habsburg ruler of Austria. 1273

1529 - Turkish siege of Vienna.

- Period of the Austro-Hungarian Empire. 1867-1918

- Franz Ferdinand, heir to the Habsburg throne is 1914

assassinated in Serbia, sparking World War I. - The first Republic of Austria is established.

1938-45 - Austria is incorporated into the German Reich

fighting as part of the Axis during World War II.

1945-55 - Austria is occupied by the victorious Allied forces. Jihlava Tabor

1918

