
AUSTRIA: BASIC DATA

- GEOGRAPHY** Austria is an inland country in south-central Europe with a total area of 84,000 km². Two-thirds of the country is mountainous and is bordered by Switzerland, Italy, Hungary, Slovakia, Germany, Liechtenstein, Slovenia and the Czech Republic.
- CLIMATE** Temperate, the hottest month is July (15-25°C), and the coldest month is January (minus 4-1°C). The driest month is January (39 mm average rainfall), and the wettest month is July (84 mm average rainfall).
- POPULATION** 7.8 million (1992)
- MAIN TOWNS**
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|--------|-----------|------------|---------|
| Vienna | 1,600,000 | Salzburg | 147,000 |
| Graz | 240,000 | Innsbruck | 119,000 |
| Linz | 210,000 | Klagenfurt | 93,000 |
- TIME** Austria is 1 hour ahead of GMT, and 6 hours ahead of EST.
- MEASURES** The metric system is used throughout Austria.
- LANGUAGE** German, with many businessmen fluent in English.
- LEGAL SYSTEM** The Austrian legal system is based on the constitution of 1920 and represents a federal republic made up of nine provinces. The national legislature is bicameral and is elected by proportional representation.
- EDUCATION** Education is administered by the federal government and is free, compulsory and coeducational between the ages of six and 15. Austria has 12 universities and six fine art colleges, and Vienna University is one of the oldest surviving universities in the German speaking world.
- STANDARDS** Austria is a modern social welfare state.
- CURRENCY** One Austrian Schilling = 100 groschen.
- HOLIDAYS** Public holidays fall on January 1, January 6, April 20, May 1, May 28, June 8, June 18, August 15, October 26, December 8, December 25, and December 26.