



Steph's Quick Budget Fact Sheet

Austria - Vienna

Quick Facts

- ✓ **Capital:** Vienna
- ✓ **Language:** German
- ✓ **Population:** ± 1.8 mln
- ✓ **Sq km:** ± 414,6
- ✓ **Currency:** Euro (€)
- ✓ **Country code:** +43 (1)
- ✓ **Visa:** Schengen Visa, [info here!](#)
- ✓ **Alarm codes:** 112 (*general*), 144 (*ambulance*), 122 (*fire*), 133 (*police*)
- ✓ **Vaccinations:** None



History Recap Over 1 Drink

16BC Roman. 1217-1918: German control, Habsburg Dynasty (*some Spanish/Roman influence*). 1914-'18: WWI. End Hapsburg empire. '19: Treaty St. German → Austria's boundaries. '20: Republic, new constitution. '34: Social uprising crushed, all political parties abolished, parliament dismissed. Attempted Nazi coup. '36: Anschluss: Austria 'German State'. '38: Austria called 'Ostmark', under Hitler. WWII: Austria supports Nazi Germany on Eastern Front. '45: Soviet troops liberate Vienna, occupied by Soviet/UK/US/Fr. Elections: People's Party & Socialist Party coalition. '46-'47: De-nazification law → Reconstruction. '49: Former Nazis allowed to participate in elections. '55: Treaty: Neutral Austria, buffer between West and Soviet. Joins UN. '86: Waldheim president (*he served for Nazis*). '95: Joins EU. Coalition collapses. '99: Extreme right wins power → enters government in 2000: Freedom Party. International outcry. State-owned companies pay \$65mln to compensate Holocaust survivors / \$360mln to Jews whose belongings were seized. '02: Danube floods. Coalition collapses. Restrictive asylum laws. '08: Josef Fritzl (*imprisoned/impregnated daughter for 24yrs*). Leader of extreme-right party 'killed in car crash'. '13: Austrians vote to keep compulsory military service. '15: Islam an official religion. Migrant crisis. '17: Burqa ban.

Travel Seasons

| | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec |
|--------|--------|------|--------|-----|---------|--------|-----|--------|-----|--------|-----|-----|
| Spring | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Summer | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Autumn | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Winter | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Budget | Winter | high | season | for | skiing, | summer | and | spring | for | hiking | | |

Altitude: 47m. Climate: Marine West Coast climate (Cfb).

Bucket List For Free

- ☺ **Sights:** Inner city, [Prater](#), [Spittelau](#), Gasometer, [St. Stephens Cathedral](#) & a shit-ton of churches.
- ☺ **Museums:** [AZW](#) (Wed 5-7PM; students), [Kunsthalle Wien](#) (Sun pay-as-you-wish), [Geldmuseum](#), [Bezirkmuseums](#), [Museumsquartier](#) Passages. 1st Sunday of month & 26th Oct: Most museums free.
- ☺ **Nature:** [Danube Island](#), [Vienna Woods](#).
- ☺ There's an endless supply of 'free' (*tip-based*) walking tours.

Worth The Extra \$€¥

- 👍 **Opera:** Visit the [Wiener Staatsoper](#) or [Volksoper](#) from €3... check in the blog story how.
- 👍 **Museums & sights:** [Schloss Schönbrunn & Gardens](#), [Belvedere Museum](#) (*Klimt*), [Kunsthistorisches Museum](#), [Sisi Museum](#), [National Library](#), Stephansdom Crypt, [Kriminalmuseum](#), [MAK](#).

The supply in museums is endless in Vienna, but all are very pricey. These are just my personal favorites.

Full list [here](#).

Budget Bites

- ⌘ **Big supermarkets:** Billa, Spar, PennyMarkt.
- ⌘ **Markets:** Brunnenmarkt (*cheap*), Naschmarkt (*expensive*), Kutschkermarkt, Karmelitermarkt.
- ⌘ **Local food:** Wiener Schnitzel (*veal*), Sauerkraut, Pretzels (*bread*), Knödel (dumplings), Tafelspitz (*boiled beef in broth*), Goulash (*meat stew*), Wiener Würstel (*sausage*), Spargel (*asparagus*), Erdäpfelsalat (*potato salad*), Käsespätzle (*Austrian mac 'n cheese*), Schweinsbraten (*roast pork*), Beuschel (*lungs & heart ragout*), Apfelstrudel (*pastry*), Kaiserschmarrn (*dessert*), Brettljause (*plate of snacks*).
- ⌘ **Go vegan:** Being vegan is ridiculously easy in Europe and also in Austria. However, Austria is generally expensive and so is vegan food. Every bigger supermarket has a big supply of vegan products and there are many vegan/vegetarian restaurants. Check them here: [Happy Cow – Vienna](#). I recommend the pay-as-you-wish-restaurant Der Wiener Deewan, which has vegan options.

Mama Said

- ☠ Europe in general, and also Vienna is very safe... but use your common sense like everywhere.
- ☠ Boycott zoos or aquariums like Tiergarten Schönbrunn and Aquaterra Zoo, where animals are held in captivity.
- ☠ Tap water is drinkable. It's one of the healthiest water worldwide.

Next?

- ➔ **In Austria:** Sankt Pölten, Krems, Graz, Linz.
- ➔ **International destinations close by:** Slovakia, Czech Republic, Hungary, Slovenia, Liechtenstein, Italy, Switzerland, Germany.

Sleep Cheap

- ❖ Hostels and alternative accommodation are very expensive in Vienna. Camping is a good option in summer only. Book hostels with \$15 discount via this [Booking.com link!](#)
- ❖ Go [Couchsurfing](#) or Housesitting ([20% discount for Trusted Housesitters via this link!](#)) Also check [WorkAway](#) or [HelpX](#) for work-exchanges.

Festivals

- ☼ Wiener Festwochen: May-June.
- ☼ Vienna Love Parade: July.
- ☼ Christmas Markets: Dec.

Nights Best Spent

- ◆ **Nightlife areas:** Schleifmühlgasse, Stadtbahnbögen, Naschmarkt.
- ◆ **Theatres:** Wiener Staatsoper, Volksoper, Vienna Philharmonic, Wiener Konzerthaus, Burgtheater, Theater an der Wien, English Theatre, Raimund Theatre, Volkstheater, Theater in der Josefstadt, Wiener Musikverein, Akademietheater, Schauspielhaus, Schlosstheater Schönbrunn, Dschungel Vienna, Etablissement Ronacher.

Free-Riding?

- Walking is an excellent option to see the more subtle details of Vienna.
- Sign up for the [Citybike](#) system to bike for free! Or grab a cheap [electronic scooter](#).
- Vienna is connected by a bus-, metro- and tram system. See an overview [here](#). A ticket must be bought at ticket machines or tabacconists and validated before entering. There are also 24/72-hours passes and weekly/monthly/annual passes for sale. The international bus terminal for buses all over Austria is located at Erdbergstrasse 200A. Budget bus lines are [Eurolines](#) and [Flixbus](#).
- Vienna is served by a good working train system, operated by the [ÖBB](#). Trains connect both Vienna as well as the rest of Austria. From the airport, take the train S7 or ICE to downtown as the cheapest option to get into town.
- Airport: Vienna Airport (VIE).
- Hitchhiking is relatively safe, although not very common... but possible. You can also use apps like [Blablacar](#) to get a cheap(er) ride.

The Earth Becomes My
Throne