



LIVING & WORKING IN AUSTRIA

Information & Tips



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GENERAL

Land area: 83,879 km²

Population: 8,902.600

Languages: German, recognised minority languages e.g. Slovenian, Croatian, Hungarian, Slovakian

RESIDENTIAL REGISTRATION & RESIDENCE

Residential registration: You have to register with the responsible residence registration authorities within three days (district municipal administrative authorities (Magistrat) or municipality office (Gemeindeamt)).

Residence

- **Up to three months:** Swiss citizens or EU/EEA citizens require neither a visa to enter the country nor a residence permit; however, a valid travel document is necessary.
- **Over three months:** You are to submit an application for a residence permit at the district municipal office (Magistrat). In cities, submit the application at the regional district administration office (Bezirkshauptmannschaft) and in municipalities competent for your place of residence, not later than in the fourth month after entering the country.

SEEKING EMPLOYMENT

European Union (EU)/European Economic Area (EEA) citizens and Swiss citizens as well as their family members (EU/EEA citizens or Swiss citizens) have free access to the labour market; they can be assisted by the Public Employment Service Austria (AMS) offices.

Transitional provisions are deemed applicable **to citizens of Croatia** in many cases. For more details visit the EURES website at: www.ec.europa.eu "Freedom of movement in Austria (Freizügigkeit Österreich)" and the Public Employment Service Austria (AMS) website.

Information on job vacancies as well as living and working in Austria can be found on the EURES website at: www.ec.europa.eu.

Vacant positions at the Public Employment Service Austria (AMS): www.ams.at

Additional AMS services include amongst others assistance in drafting an application (interactive Application Portal (Bewerbungsportal)), eJob-Room (your own advertisements, searching for vacant positions on the Internet, etc.), career details, AMS JOB APP, information on employment for non-Austrians, unemployment, etc.

Private employment agencies can be found below under "Internet Addresses".

Job vacancies published in daily newspapers such as:

- Die Presse
- Der Standard
- Kurier
- Kronen Zeitung
- Kleine Zeitung
- Oberösterreichische Nachrichten
- Salzburger Nachrichten
- Tiroler Tageszeitung
- Wiener Zeitung

Professional associations advise on working conditions and labour law:

- Trade unions (for instance, the Austrian Trade Union Federation (ÖGB))
- Chambers of labour (Arbeiterkammern/AK)
- Chambers of commerce and economic chambers

SOCIAL SECURITY

Employees' contributions are deducted at source from gross wages/salaries. The employer carries out the registration of the employees. Social security contributions are paid by both employers and employees. Once registered with the social security institution you normally enjoy a health pension, unemployment and accident insurance coverage.

Self-employed have to register themselves with the social security institution.

Health insurance: The health insurance institution issues an insurance card (e-card) which is to be presented when consulting a doctor. When insured, you are in principle entitled to cost-free medical, dental and hospital treatment from doctors and hospitals holding contracts with your health insurance institutions.

A minor daily rate is, however, charged during hospital stays. If you are ill your employer will initially continue paying your remuneration after which you will be entitled to sickness benefits.

When entering Austria as a job seeker or tourist, please be sure to bring your European health insurance card which entitles you to the same benefits as if you were insured in Austria.

Unemployment insurance: If you arrive to Austria with a PD U2/E 303 form, it may be possible to enjoy your unemployment benefits for a maximum of three months. Please contact the unemployment service in your home country in good time before departure.

After a certain insurance period in Austria you are entitled to unemployment benefits. Register with the responsible Public Employment Service Austria office at the latest on the first day of unemployment.

Pension insurance: Pursuant to Austrian law you are entitled to pension benefits if you have been self-employed or employed for over one year and have paid pension insurance contributions. Insurance periods under one year will be added to the pension insurance periods obtained in your home country.

TAXES

Tax rates:

- Income tax: 25% - 55%
- Corporation tax: 25%

- Value added tax: Umsatzsteuer (USt)
Standard rate: 20%, Reduced rate: 13%, 10%

HOUSING

In towns and built-up areas there are large numbers of rented, housing association, and freehold flats; detached and semi-detached houses predominate in rural areas.

Assistance in finding accommodation is amongst others available from:

- local/regional newspapers,
- real estate agents,
- various Internet forums, e.g. www.immobilienbazar.at,
- at banking institutions & municipal offices (Gemeindeamt).

Rental contracts are concluded either for a limited (e.g. three years) or unlimited term. Notice periods are determined by the respective rental contract and apply the tenancy law. Tenants associations or the chamber of labour in your federal province are available for assistance in case of problems.

EDUCATION

Kindergardens: Generally fee-paying in most provinces. The last year of kindergarden is free of charge.

Compulsory schools: Public schooling is free. School books are provided free of charge.

Compulsory education: Between the age of 6 and 15, in Austria, training is mandatory up to the age of 18.

RECOGNITION OF DIPLOMAS

Diploma recognition must be applied for with the competent Austrian authorities. When required, these authorities will perform examinations in individual cases.

For more information, please consult the institution you graduated from (university, college, ministries, etc.) in your home country.

INTERNET ADDRESSES

EURES-Website:

www.ec.europa.eu

European Employment Service (EURES) Advisers in Austria:

www.ams.at

European Employment Service (EURES) Advisers in Europe:

www.ec.europa.eu

Public Employment Service Austria (AMS):

www.ams.at

Application Coach (Bewerbungscoach):

www.bewerbungsportal.ams.or.at

Career Compass (Berufskompass):

www.berufskompass.at

Career Information System (BIS, Berufsinformationssystem):

www.ams.at/bis

AMS Job App:

www.ams.at

Careers Lexicon (Berufslexikon):

www.ams.at

Austria:

www.austria.gv.at

Info Server on Important Topics:

www.help.gv.at

Overview of Living & Working in Austria:

www.ams.at

Statistics Austria:

www.statistik.at

Registering & Unregistering your Place of Residence:

www.help.gv.at

Registration Certificate (Anmeldebescheinigung):

www.help.gv.at

Overview of Private Employment Agencies:

www.ams.at

Private Employment Agencies:

www.monster.at

www.jobpilot.at

www.stepstone.at

Press:

www.kurier.at

www.diepresse.com

www.derstandard.at/Karriere

www.kleinezeitung.at

www.tt.com

www.nachrichten.at

www.sn.at

www.wienerzeitung.at

www.krone.at

www.vn.at

Austrian Chamber of Labour (AK):

www.arbeiterkammer.at

Austrian Trade Union Federation (ÖGB):

www.oegb.at

Austrian Federal Economic Chamber (WKO):

www.wko.at

Social Security:

www.sozialversicherung.at

Unemployment:

www.ams.at

Pension Insurance:

www.pensionsversicherung.at

Taxes:

www.bmf.gv.at

Tax Related Brochures & Guides:

www.bmf.gv.at

Housing:

www.immobilien.net

www.bazar.at

Austrian Association of Real Estate Businesses

(Österreichischer Verband der Immobilienwirtschaft):

www.ovi.at

Landlord and Tenant Law Related Issues:

www.arbeiterkammer.at

www.mietervereinigung.at

Schools/Education:

www.help.gv.at

www.bildung.bmbwf.gv.at/schulen

Educational Systems in Europe:

www.webgate.ec.europa.eu

Further Education:

www.wifi.at

www.bfi.at

Recognition of Diplomas:

www.enic-naric.net

www.berufsanerkennung.at

Yellow Pages/Business Directory:

www.herold.at

The electronic version of this folder is also available on the Internet: www.ams.at.

The Public Employment Service Austria (AMS) accepts no responsibility for websites called up using the listed links.

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