

V I E N N A

Vienna is situated in the northeast area of Austria with the Danube running through the northern suburbs of the city. Vienna was the centre of the cultural Renaissance during the 18th and 19th centuries, and home not only to Mozart and to Strauss but also to Haydn, Beethoven, Schubert, Bruckner, Brahms and Mahler.



Transportation

Vienna has an extensive system of metro, bus light rail and tramway services. Most routes have a flat fare, and there are pre-purchase multi-journey ticket and passes. Tickets are available from newspaper shops or tobacconists called TRAFIK. The classic way to travel around the capital is by horse-drawn carriage (Fiaker); fares should be negotiated in advance.



Banks and Currency

Banks are open 0800 - 1230 and 1330 - 1500 Monday, Tuesday Wednesday and Friday. Thursday hours are 0800 - 1230 and 1330 - 1730. You can also exchange currency at the airport and railway stations. The Austrian unit of currency is the Austrian Schilling (ATS).



Postage

Stamps may be purchased in post offices or tobacco shops. Post boxes are painted yellow. Post office hours: generally 0800 - 1200 and 1400 - 1700/1800 Monday to Friday.



Eating

Traditional Austrian dishes are Weiner Schnitzel, calf's liver with herbs and butter, goulash as well as various types of smoked and cured pork. There are more than 57 varieties of Torte. Open all day, the Austrian coffee shop is little short of a national institution and often provides the social focus of a town or neighborhood.



Places to visit

Vienna's abundance of museums include the National History Museum, The Austrian Museum of Applied Arts, The Museum of Modern Art and The Clock & Watch Museum. There are also memorial sites for Mozart, Haydn, Beethoven, Schubert, Strauss and Freud.



Language

German is spoken by 99% of the Austrian population. English is by far the leading second language and is understood widely and spoken fluently by most people working in tourism-related jobs.



More information

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