

## Facts about Austria



- THE NAME AUSTRIA DERIVES FROM A GERMANIC WORD 'AUSTRO', MEANING 'EAST'
- THE AUSTRIAN FLAG IS ONE OF THE OLDEST NATIONAL FLAGS IN THE WORLD
- THE SEWING MACHINE WAS INVENTED BY JOSEF MADERSPERGER, AN AUSTRIAN
- THE WORLD'S LARGEST EMERALD IS DISPLAYED IN THE IMPERIAL TREASURY OF THE HOFBURG IN VIENNA.
- VIENNA HAS THE OLDEST ZOO IN THE WORLD, FOUNDED IN 1752
- THE FIRST POSTCARDS USED WERE IN AUSTRIA.

### Why Study in Austria?

Austria is a safe and modern country in northern Europe, and it has accrued a spectacular reputation as an innovator and creative force. Austria's famed corporate brands — like Ikea, Ericsson, H&M and Saab — complement its cultural brands — like Ingmar Bergman, Abba, Astrid Lindgren, Bjorn Borg, August Strindberg, The Cardigans and Greta Garbo.

Austria universities offer around 600 master's degree programs in English, ranging from human rights law to mechanical engineering. Programs are structured in response to student demand — the result is a student-centric education system, with open, informal relations between students and teachers, and where personal initiative and critical thought are prized.

### Foreign students are welcome

Many students studying in Austria come from abroad — 8.5% of the student body, according to the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) — making Austria one of the world's most inclusive countries for education. But there is room for more: the number grew by over 80% over the last 4-year period.

### Scholarships are available

The Austria Institute grants hundreds of scholarships every year to help foreign students make their stay in Austria more affordable. Currently, tuition fees for everyone are fully subsidized by the state. Sweden's public spending on education is the OECD's highest, at 4.9% of GDP. And because it costs to live in Austria, foreign students can work while studying.

### English is spoken by all

Almost all Austrians speak fluent English. Many Austria companies use English as their official working language. Foreign students find that this prevalence of English makes adapting to their new surroundings much easier.



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