

City Breaks in Austria. Now for real. #realAustria

Castles and palaces that take us straight back to former times, lively musical performances, and paintings of some of the world's greatest: Not even the best photograph could ever replace the experience of taking in the splendour of Vienna's Schönbrunn Palace in real life, of exploring medieval Hohensalzburg Fortress or standing right in front of masterpieces by Rubens, Rembrandt, and Dürer. Austria's cities welcome visitors to experience their charm first-hand, away from phone screens and Zoom backgrounds.

Stroll through [Graz](#)' UNESCO-awarded medieval centre, check out [Vienna](#)'s best museums, go shopping in [Salzburg](#)'s Getreidegasse or whisk up a mountain after a sightseeing tour in Tirol's [Innsbruck](#). Pack your bags and get ready for your next #realAustria city break!

Salzburg: Mozart's birth town celebrates its 25th UNESCO anniversary

Salzburg celebrates its [25-year-anniversary as a UNESCO World Heritage Site](#) in 2022, making it a must-visit this year. Austria's fourth largest town (155,400 inhabitants) owes its elegance to the prince-archbishops: Their architectural, artistic, and social heritage is omnipresent to date. Prince-Archbishop Wolf Dietrich zu Raitenau (1559-1617) dreamt of transforming Salzburg into a magnificent "Rome of the North", creating landmarks such as Mirabell which helped the city earn its UNESCO title.

To mark the anniversary, see for yourself why Mozart's birth town is a World Heritage Site: Visit [Mirabell Palace](#) and explore its stunning imperial rooms, its parks, fountains and hidden faces, then head to the 1,300 year-old [DomQuartier](#). The Museums at [Hohensalzburg Fortress](#), the [Hellbrunn Palace](#), [Cathedral Museum](#) and [Museum at St. Peter's Abbey](#) all have special exhibitions this year. And of course, no visit to Salzburg is complete without seeing Mozart's [birthplace](#) in the famous [Getreidegasse](#).

Need a rest in style? Pop into [Café Tomasselli](#), a family-run institution that has been around for over 150 years, visit Salzburg's oldest bakery [Stiftsbäckerei St. Peter](#) dating back to the 12th century or watch puppet versions of "The Magic Flute", "The Sound of Music" or "The Little Prince" at the [Marionette Theatre](#).

More about Salzburg: <https://www.salzburg.info/en>

Salzburg Guest Card: <https://www.salzburg.info/en/hotels-offers/salzburg-card>

Innsbruck: Imperial sightseeing and mountain getaway both in one

Tirol's capital Innsbruck is the perfect place for anyone wanting to combine a [sightseeing](#)-packed city break with some [outdoor sports activities](#). Stroll through the streets full of imperial elegance and beautiful Baroque and Gothic architecture in the [Old Town](#), then get whisked up the [Nordkette](#) and be at 2,000 m in just 20 minutes.

Innsbruck (122.458 inhabitants) is compact enough to be experienced on foot or a bike. Check out its sights including the [Golden Roof](#), the [Helbing House](#), the [Imperial Palace](#) and the city's most famous street [Maria-Theresien-Strasse](#), then head to one of the hip districts such as Mariahilf and St. Nikolaus where the uni students meet for a beer, a cocktail or a vegan lunch. Curious about the traditional Tirolean cuisine? Join a [Food Tour](#) and spend four hours with a local guide, sampling all the local delicacies while learning more about their history and ingredients. Tirol's oldest café [Konditorei Munding](#) dates back to 1803.

Thanks to its location in the heart of the Austrian Alps, Innsbruck at the River Inn doubles as an outdoor hub. [Hiking](#), [biking](#), [climbing](#), you name it, the region has it all. Take one of the [cable cars](#) from the city centre and enjoy outdoor sports, magnificent views over the cities and a drink in style. Looking for an adrenaline kick? Check out the world-famous [Bergisel Ski Jump](#) including a café and viewing platform.

More about Innsbruck: <https://www.innsbruck.info/en/>

Innsbruck Welcome Card:

<https://www.innsbruck.info/en/destinations/accommodation/welcome-card.html>

Graz: A hip Mediterranean town and Austria's foodie hotspot

Graz is like an [invitation to all senses](#): the Mediterranean lifestyle, the stunning viewpoints, architectural gems, numerous [sights](#), [museums and art spaces](#), [trendy festivals and other events](#), hip [design shops](#), [bars and restaurants](#) for culinary pit stops – there is no way you would ever get bored in this city.

In Austria's second largest city (292.533 inhabitants), the past merges into the future, especially visible in architecture. Elegant courtyards, yaw-dropping houses, porticos, cupolas, cobble-stone alleys and unique, red roof-tops, all protected by UNESCO as a world cultural heritage site: the charismatic historic old town and [Schlossberg hill](#) blend perfectly into the city's contemporary architecture of international fame. Right in the city center, you will find the [Island in the Mur](#), a futuristic viewing point, bar and meeting space, showing off bright colours at night.

Thanks to its numerous [farmers' markets](#), small bars, street cafés, excellent [restaurants](#), outdoor bars and deli shops, Graz is also known as [Austria's Capital of Culinary Delights](#), where you can enjoy excellent Austrian and international dishes made of only the highest quality ingredients on every corner. Events like the Graz Food Festival, the [Long Table of Graz](#), various [foodie tours](#) and the [Truffel Festival](#) are an integral part of the city.

More about Graz: <https://www.graztourismus.at/en>

Graz Guest Card: <https://www.graztourismus.at/en/getting-there-and-public-transport/graz-card>

Vienna: Austria's capital enchants as the centre of culture and the arts

Austria's capital city Vienna (1.931.830 inhabitants) stuns with a mix of Imperial tradition and vibrant metropolitan flair, top-notch art, as well as its equally [classical music scene](#) and famous [coffee houses](#). World history has been written in the city for half a millennium – and yet Vienna's more modern sides are just as fascinating.

[St. Stephen's Cathedral](#), the [Vienna State Opera](#), the [Museum of Art History](#) and its counterpart, the [Museum of Natural History](#), [Schönbrunn Palace](#) (including the [oldest zoo in the world!](#)), [Belvedere](#) and [Hofburg Palace](#) are must-visits for first-timers to Vienna.

However, there's much more to explore in the city: For art fans, the ALBERTINA museum and ALBERTINA modern, currently dedicating their main shows to [Gustav Klimt](#), [Edvard Munch](#) and [Ai Weiwei](#), are must-visits, as are the recently reopened [Lower Belvedere](#), the [Heidi Horten Collection](#), one of Europe's leading private collections, scheduled to open in

late spring, as well as the futuristic [Living Home](#) museum (opening in the summer) and the new [House of Strauss](#) (opening in the fall).

Before or after your sightseeing tour, go for a [swim at a city beach or a boat](#), book a [yoga session in a museum](#) (!) and end your day in style in one of Vienna's top [restaurants](#) and trendy [rooftop bars](#) and [clubs](#).

More about Vienna: <https://www.wien.info/en>

Vienna City Card: <https://www.wien.info/en/travel-info/vienna-city-card>

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