



# ABA – Work in Austria

Live and work in Austria –  
the most liveable country in the EU

# ABOUT WORK IN AUSTRIA

## Who we are

ABA – Work in Austria is one of the departments of the Austrian Business Agency (ABA), which is owned by the Republic of Austria and directly reports to the Federal Ministry for Digital and Economic Affairs. It promotes Austria as a work location for specialized employees and as Austria's competence centre for recruiting international specialists. ABA – Work in Austria also supports Austrian companies in their search for specialized employees from abroad.

## What we do

For this purpose:

- an Austrian-wide online job platform for specialized employees from other countries has been established,
- events in the target markets are attended and organized,
- cooperation agreements with universities are concluded,
- Austrian companies are consulted on legal issues related to recruiting qualified personnel from abroad and
- communications work on behalf of Austria as a work location (regional employer branding) is being carried out.

## Our focus

In the first phase, the measures carried out by ABA – Work in Austria will target markets within the European Union, especially:

- Poland,
- Croatia,
- Bulgaria,
- Romania and
- Greece.

The initial focus will be on qualifications with an especially high impact on the entire economy, above all in the fields of IT, metal technology and electrical engineering.

# OUR SERVICES



We offer comprehensive information for interested qualified employees from other countries and provide support and guidance in taking all the required steps needed to enter the Austrian labour market.



**Would you like to ask us questions personally?**

## Meet us at events

We regularly attend fairs and visit universities. We would be happy to answer all your questions and provide information on exchange programmes and potential internships.



**Interested but still searching for the perfect job?**

## Visit our nationwide job platform

As a bridge between Austrian companies and qualified employees in other countries [www.workinaustria.com](http://www.workinaustria.com) offers a customised platform for international professionals.

**Are you interested in working in one of the world's most liveable countries?**

## Get all the relevant information

At [www.workinaustria.com](http://www.workinaustria.com) you will find extensive information on living and working in Austria as well as job prospects and career opportunities.



**Do you have questions on legal issues regarding living and working in Austria?**

## We offer free consulting

In addition to general information on residence and work permits we provide support and guidance for every phase involved in entering the Austrian job market.



**Do you want to get in touch with other professionals and interesting companies?**

## We foster community ties

We offer numerous networking opportunities with representatives of your occupational group and Austrian companies at events in Austria and abroad.

# WHY AUSTRIA? WORK IN AUSTRIA



## Innovative companies

Austria is internationally renowned as a popular tourist destination as well as for its classical music, Sacher cake and other stereotypes. However, in addition to its being a modern industrial nation with a dynamic foreign trade, it is also one of Europe's most innovative countries. In relation to its population, Austria's performance of 261 patent applications per million inhabitants is considerably above the EU average of 139. Moreover, Austria has one of the highest densities of hidden champions.

A woman with brown hair tied back, wearing black-rimmed glasses and a green button-down shirt, is speaking and gesturing with her right hand. She is in an office environment with a desk lamp visible on the right and blurred office lights in the background.

## Best working conditions

People enjoy many advantages when working in Austria, also when working in Austria as a foreigner, not least because the rights of employees in Austria are exceptionally well protected by labour laws. This is reflected, amongst other things, by the second lowest strike rate in the world and the excellent relations between employees and employers.

## High salary level

Austria stands out in an international comparison thanks to its very good level of wages. According to the latest OECD statistics it is ahead of Sweden, Finland, France and even Germany. It is important to note that as a rule, the monthly salary in Austria is paid fourteen times per year. An important benchmark is also the GDP per capita, measured in purchasing power standards. In this regard, Austria ranks third in Europe.

# WHY AUSTRIA? LIVE IN AUSTRIA

## Excellent social welfare & health system

The health care system in Austria is one of the best in the world and Austria's social services contribute to a high level of social security for its inhabitants. Together with France, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Italy and Sweden, Austria ranks among the countries investing more than one quarter of their gross domestic product in social expenditures.

## Super central location

With a total land area of 84,000 km<sup>2</sup>, the Republic of Austria certainly does not rank among the largest EU member states. However, it does stand out due to its super central location in Europe. Every European capital city can be reached by air in less than three hours flying time thanks to Austria's geographical location.

## Multicultural life

Austria is a land of immigration with a long tradition. About two million people with a migration background live in Austria. This represents about one-quarter of the population. Vienna, the most liveable city in the world for ten straight years (Mercer study), even features a share of about 40 percent.

## Quality of living

Austria is a prosperous, stable and thriving country with a long and turbulent history. There is hardly any country in the world which matches Austria with respect to the security of persons and property. According to the ranking of the IMD World Competitiveness Yearbook 2019, Austria is rated second throughout the entire world with respect to its quality of life.

# HOW TO FIND A JOB



Austria's unemployment rate is one of the lowest in the European Union. Nevertheless, due to the country's flourishing economy, the chances of quickly finding jobs in Austria are very high. Here is what you need to know.

## Who is permitted to work in Austria?

In principle, freedom of movement for workers applies in the European Union. This means that citizens of EU member states can freely exercise their right to employment in another member state.\* In addition to EU members, the free movement of workers also applies to Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland. If you are from a country outside the European Economic Area you can find more info on [www.workinaustria.com](http://www.workinaustria.com) and in our brochure on the Red-White-Red-Card for Austria or else, simply get in touch with our team.

## In which sectors do exciting job opportunities exist?

Austria's unemployment rate is one of the lowest in the European Union. International talents are offered the best career opportunities in emerging sectors such as information and communications technology, electronics and electrical engineering, life science and the automotive industry.

## Where do I find advertised job openings?

In most cases, job vacancies today are published on the internet. [workinaustria.com](http://workinaustria.com) offers a customised platform for international professionals who are looking for a job in Austria.

\*The transitional restrictions on the freedom of movement for workers from the newest member state of Croatia following the EU's Eastern enlargement expire on June 30, 2020. By no later than this date, all EU citizens will have free access to the Austrian labour market.

# APPLY FOR A JOB IN AUSTRIA

The first step in launching one's professional career in Austria is a complete and accurate application.

For this, the following is usually required:

- ☐ A curriculum vitae with an application photo (not required but customary)
- ☐ An application letter (ideally in German)
- ☐ Relevant certificates and possibly references from former employers
- ☐ Verification of participation

## The letter of application

To convince the company you would like to work for that you are the right person to fill the advertised job vacancy:

- ☐ List all the work experience and acquired skills which are relevant for the desired position.
- ☐ Stick to the facts, be clear and focused and to keep it as short as possible. The letter of application should not be longer than one A4 page.
- ☐ Refer to the company and the desired position.
- ☐ Naturally be optimally informed about the company.

## The curriculum vitae

A complete and up-to-date curriculum vitae should contain:

- ☐ personal data,
- ☐ a professional application photo (not required but customary),
- ☐ education/training and career path in chronological order,
- ☐ special qualifications such as foreign language and IT skills, driving license, etc. and
- ☐ the date and handwritten signature.

# FIND A HOME IN AUSTRIA



## The next important step after finding a job is to search for an apartment.

Daily newspapers, real estate agents, various Websites as well as cities and municipalities are the main information sources for available apartments or real estate in Austria.

Average costs to rent an apartment in Austria vary from one federal state to the next. The average rental costs are lowest in Burgenland (2018: € 5.93/m<sup>2</sup>) and are the highest in Salzburg (2018: € 9.23/m<sup>2</sup>)\*. Factors such as infrastructure, transport links, quality of the residential neighbourhood and furnishings in the apartment also affect rents. Flats located in inner-city locations or apartments on the outskirts of the city featuring good transport connections and a good infrastructure are generally expensive. Rents of smaller apartments per square metre are frequently just as expensive as larger apartments.

Mercer's annual "Cost of Living Survey" compares living expenses in 209 large cities of employees sent abroad. The study takes account of factors such as rent, food, public transportation, recreational activities and clothing. The Austrian capital of Vienna lies significantly behind comparable European cities such as Copenhagen, London, Milan and Paris.

\*Source: Statistic Austria

# WHAT TO KEEP IN MIND WHEN MOVING TO AUSTRIA

## Before moving:

- ☐ Check if you need a residence and or work permit
- ☐ Find a job
- ☐ Find a new home in Austria
- ☐ Find a suitable school and childcare for your kids
- ☐ Organise a relocation and removal Company
- ☐ Make arrangements for the import of your vehicles
- ☐ Check if your driving license is valid or if you need a new driving license in Austria
- ☐ Don't forget to de-register in your home country



## After moving:

- ☐ Register with the registration authority within three days after moving
- ☐ Open a bank account
- ☐ Register with the responsible immigration, citizenship and registration office and get a registration certificate within a period of four months to get the necessary registration certificate
- ☐ Regarding applying for health insurance the good news is: your employer will do this for you
- ☐ Register with the fiscal authorities by creating an account with FinanzOnline
- ☐ Learn German
- ☐ Enjoy culture and leisure of the world's second liveable country

# CONTACT

Please contact us if you need more detailed information about working and living in Austria.

T: +43 1 588 58 - 0

E: [workinaustria@aba.gv.at](mailto:workinaustria@aba.gv.at)

W: [www.workinaustria.com](http://www.workinaustria.com)



Ms. Aleksandra Izdebska



Ms. Ines Vodanovic

Editorial:

Owner&Publisher: ABA – Work in Austria / Austrian Business Agency, Opernring 3, A-1010 Vienna.

Editor-in Chief: René Tritscher. Associate Editor: Gertrud Purdeller.

Photo credits: Adobe Stock. Design: november-design.at. April 2020