

WELCOME TO CARINTHIA

Your guide to a new life in Carinthia with lots of detailed information on relocating, arrival, finding a home, working and living in the most southern province of Austria.

**We look forward to your contact!
office@cic-network.at**



Welcome in your new home!

Hello everybody!

It is a pleasure to welcome you to Carinthia.

Our goal is to support you in the best possible way during the process of relocating, to provide you with information and to connect you with people from the local and ex-pat communities so that you can "settle in" easily to your new home.

The Carinthian International Centre was founded in 2009. Since then, the CIC team has already helped over 1.900 qualified foreign employees (and their families) from industrial and educational institutions to settle in Carinthia by providing an active network of information, services and support.

With our programme for Dual Career Couples, we also provide tailor-made support for partners / families in their search for employment in Carinthia and thus aim to create a supportive, open and attractive environment for all.

The Villach office is located in the Köllpassage, Hauptplatz 7 and the Klagenfurt office is located in Burggasse 7, 9020 Klagenfurt. Both offices have become places of discussion, networking, knowledge sharing and where we learn different languages and cultures. In addition, we offer expert talks and language courses, workshops, individual counselling, baby chats, book clubs and networking events.

With our team of seven staff members, who speak a total of 10 languages, we will be happy to assist you in your search for housing, driver's licence registration, opening a bank account and all other administrative procedures.

You are cordially invited to get to know the CIC, to become a member, to contribute ideas, to participate and to live and celebrate diversity.

We wish you lots of luck in your new home!

Alexandra Truppe MBA, CMC
General Manager CIC



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Why Carinthia?

“Kärnten is lei ans” - **Carinthia there is only the one**

Carinthia is not only the most southern, but for many also the most beautiful province of Austria.

Throughout the year, people travel, not only from Munich or Vienna, three and a half hours away, but also from all the other provinces of Austria to spend their holidays in Carinthia. Neighbouring countries such as Slovenia and Italy border Carinthia and are easily accessible in a short time, as well as the Croatian Adriatic within a few hours.

A little larger than Cyprus, but still a little smaller than Lebanon, Carinthia offers its inhabitants everything that makes life worth living.

Education and Training

Educational institutions whether small or large, from kindergartens to universities, can be found easily within Carinthia. You will find there are many opportunities to develop personally and professionally here.

There Are Few More Beautiful Places to Work

55% of Carinthia's total area consists of forests, but there is a lot hidden under the economic driving force. The manufacturing industry, in particular (engineering micro-electronics, the timber industry, etc.), IT and tourism are leading economic sectors in Carinthia.

Living Space - Pure Nature!

More than 1,200 lakes and a little more than 2,400 mountains, invite you every day to step out of your front door and be discovered. You can meet one of the 562,000 homosapiens, try and find 180,000 cows or explore more than 1,300 km of cycle paths. In Carinthia you can experience the real pleasures of life, in many places, during all four seasons.

Whether in the city or the countryside, be it art, literature, sports, an Austrian tradition or good food, Carinthia has unlimited options and something to offer for everyone to feel comfortable and at home.



Our Offers for You and Your Family

There are many benefits to attending our networking events:

You can meet other internationals and locals, get to know our CIC team members, ask lots of questions and enjoy lots of tea, coffee, juices and delicacies.

Check our website for the next events, we look forward to meeting you. Don't be afraid to contact us, as we were all nervous on our first visit. Be assured that we are a very friendly group.

We also welcome members of the LGBTQ+ community.
All our events take place in English and German language.

CIC Activities

CIC Welcome Days

At our Welcome Days you will receive all the information you need for a successful start in Carinthia. These events usually last 90 minutes and give an overview of the Carinthian way of life and especially how the CIC can support you during your arrival and integration.

CIC Networking Sessions

Monthly meetings held in the evenings, to chat and get to know each other.

Villach: On the first Thursday of the month from 6 to 8 p.m.

Klagenfurt: On the third Thursday of the month from 6 to 8 p.m.

CIC Coffee Mornings

Monthly meetings to chat and get to know each other for held in the mornings, at a local café in Villach and Klagenfurt.

CIC Get Togethers

Series of events with creative touches, they offer opportunities to contact other expatriates and locals.

CIC Language Brunch

Our festival celebrating cultural diversity.

You can expect a great program with live music, language games, entertainment for the little ones and of course delicious international cuisine!

CIC “Be Active”

With this offer, we cordially invite you to become active in the CIC yourself as a volunteer. We are always happy to have an extra pair of hands at our networking activities or with writing stories for our website and social media channels.

CIC Book Club

Once a month a group of people meet on a Monday evening to discuss a book that everyone has read.

CIC Talks “Living and Working in Carinthia”

Enjoy short, informative and educational lectures (usually 45 minutes, plus Q&A) about living and working in Carinthia. These lectures will cover all the things you need to know, such as your new home, the culture, cuisine and geographical features, the education system, the health care system, the tax system and the labour market.

CIC Guidance and Support Service

individual consultancy: advice on schools, kindergartens and further education or any other information to help you settle in Carinthia. Meetings by appointment.

CIC Dual Career Options

With our programme for Dual Career Couples we accompany partners with individual and customized trainings on their way to a suitable job or to start their own business in Carinthia.

CIC Workshops & Seminary

We are certified as an adult education institution and offer workshops and seminars on the way to integration into the first labour market for expatriates. For Carinthian companies we offer a comprehensive range of languages as well as intercultural training.

CIC Immigration & Residence Service

We advise and accompany highly qualified employees and their families from their country of origin to Carinthia and offer a comprehensive service package for this purpose.

CIC Language Offers

CIC language swaps

One-to-one language coaching for languages such as English, Italian, Spanish, French, Russian, others upon request.

Teach your language and learn another! For approximately one hour, two partners communicate for thirty minutes in their own language and for thirty minutes in the other language. The topics, dates and location are fixed by the partners. Basic knowledge of the language you want to improve is necessary.

CIC German Groups from A1 to C1

The CIC offers German-learning groups - more information can be found [here](#).

Language Workshops for Children

This popular initiative is about creating a fun and exciting environment for children to read books, play games, sing songs, and do crafts together while conversing in a new language.

The goal is to create an environment where everyone feels comfortable practicing a new language while learning about other cultures and making new friends.

Italian Language workshop: Un, due, tre... Libro!

The goal of this group is that children read a book together in Italian. The recommended age is 2 to 8, but everyone is welcome, starting at age 0! Come and join us for a time of laughter, adventure and fantasy.

Ukraine Language workshop: The fabulous world of books

The world of books is magical and fascinating and we invite you to discover it together! The group leader will read books in Ukrainian with you and your children, share impressions and stimulate conversations. Reading aloud is very useful for children's development and perception.

Spanish Language workshop: Yo también hablo español

An opportunity for children from 1 to 8 years old to learn Spanish in a fun way! In this group, the organizer Mayumi Miyagi will read children's literature and your child will sing songs and learn typical games from Latin America.

Language workshops for adults

Language workshop Spanish – German

This is a German-Spanish language exchange group that is free for CIC members. To participate, you should have a basic knowledge of both languages, but all levels are welcome.

Language workshop Italian – German

A meeting for native speakers of Italian and German. Come and contribute to the language exchange with your own experiences. Anyone who wants to practice the languages is welcome.

German Intensive Courses at the University of Klagenfurt

CIC members can get a special discount of 10% for all Intensive German Courses (cannot be combined with other discounts) at Klagenfurt University's language centre. Please request your voucher code from the CIC by sending an email to: admin@cic-network.at

You can find information on all courses and dates [here](#).

If you are interested in becoming a member, we invite you to purchase your membership and get in touch with us here -> <https://my.cic-network.at/en/membership/registration-for-full-membership-for-employees-of-member-companies/>.

Employees of member companies benefit from a reduced membership.

CARINTHIA

Daily Life

Greetings and How We Way Goodbye

As in every province of Austria, also in Carinthia, we certainly consider ourselves as very polite people. Instead of a "Guten Tag" we prefer to say "Grüß Gott", and, instead of a "auf Wiedersehen", we say "Widaschaun". Even if we enter an elevator or a waiting room at the doctor's and there are already one or more people in it, we say "hello" or "Grüß Gott" and, we like to say goodbye with a "Pfiat di", "Servus", "Griaß eich"!

On Time and Where We Hurry

In everyday life you can be sure of one thing, buses and trains are on time and arrive as announced, just as we Austrians also prefer to be on time, normally five minutes before an appointment.

Where we all are certainly similar, is that we are always "in a rush". As an example, it is typical to see in any supermarket where several cash registers are closed, and the open one has a long queue, that if it is taking too long someone who is standing further back, calls out "second cash register please" through the store, as we do not want to wait longer, to pay and leave the shop.

From Small to Large – From Young to Old

Children under the age of 6 are not allowed to travel alone on public transport, and teenagers are nowadays (unfortunately) very busy with their smartphones due to the digital revolution.

Adults are active every day and always on the move, and our seniors over 65 will make up the largest share of the population in the future, according to forecasts.

The Privilege of Unique Nature

With our turquoise blue lakes, of drinking water quality which are surrounded by beautiful mountains-and enveloped in dense forests, we are drawn magnetically to discover the delights and wonders of this privilege of outstanding natural beauty.

Whether it is spring, summer or autumn, you will always meet someone walking, running, cycling, hiking or swimming - as well as in winter skiing, ice skating, ski touring or snowshoeing.

Relaxation, Food & Tradition

As a way to relax, we enjoy nothing more than getting together whether its sitting on a park bench, meeting for a coffee or going for walks. It's nice to chat and "put the world to rights".

If we don't care about something or if it seems less important, we prefer the vocabulary "wurscht" (doesn't matter) and we do not like to give up on our Nochspeiß (dessert) to a coffee, whether in the morning or afternoon, whether at work, in a coffee bar, at home or in a mountain hut.

Dairy products such as the daily glass of milk at school, cheese for breakfast or in salads, with spreads and ham (in combination = Jausn [snack]) are an indispensable part of everyday life for most people.

Numerous culinary, family and traditional festivals gather the people in the cities and countryside to celebrate them exuberantly. We love to participate actively and to preserve our traditions.

What represents the people at all these gatherings? It is the traditional costume, everyone has them. So, whether it's men in lederhosen or women in a dirndl, if you want to join in and don't already have one, get one as soon as possible. We even have our own dirndl design which is very pretty.

Carinthia – so beautiful!

GENERAL INFORMATION

Carinthia is the southernmost federal state of Austria, **bordering on Italy and Slovenia**. It is in the Alpine-Adriatic region.

Encircled by mountains with many lakes and rivers, this province is known for the beauty of its natural landscape. A good infrastructure and great outdoor leisure activities offer unique opportunities to enjoy both work and free time.

The official language is German. Slovenian is also accepted as an official language, as there is a Slovenian-speaking minority in Carinthia. English is taught as the first foreign language at school.

Internet Domain:	.at
Country Code:	+43
Postcode:	A
Currency:	€
Supply Voltage:	220V, 50 Hz

[The University of Klagenfurt](#) (Alpen-Adria Universität) and [the Carinthia University of Applied Sciences](#) (Fachhochschule Kärnten) offer opportunities for higher education and scientific research. The private research and development sectors are well developed and have an advanced and competitive infrastructure. After tourism and the service sectors, industry is the most important driving force behind business development in Carinthia.

Carinthia has a total of more than 560,000 inhabitants. The biggest cities are the federal state capital Klagenfurt and Villach, both statutory cities with populations of around 101,300 and 62.800 respectively. Wolfsberg is the biggest town in Carinthia's sectional districts. This is followed by Spittal an der Drau, Feldkirchen, St. Veit an der Glan, Völkermarkt and Hermagor.

GEOGRAPHY AND CLIMATE

Carinthia is famous for its mountains and lakes. There are 93 mountain peaks stretching to more than 3,000 meters above sea level, including the Großglockner which at 3,798 m is Austria's highest mountain (see [here](#)).

There are roughly 1,270 lakes and they have excellent water quality. Half of Carinthia's total surface is covered with forest. There are lots of nature-related scenic attractions in Carinthia. These include the natural thermal water sources in Warmbad-Villach, Bad Kleinkirchheim, and Bad Bleiberg.

Carinthia has a surface area of 9,536 square kilometres. In the West, North and East, it borders on East Tirol, Salzburg, and Styria respectively. The border between Carinthia and Slovenia extends across 170 kilometres of mountainous terrain. The southern border between Carinthia and Italy is another 109 kilometres long. The three countries meet at the [Dreiländereck](#), a mountain close to Arnoldstein.



Here you can see clearly each of the 9 provinces in Austria and also which borders to the other one.

CLIMATE, WEATHER AND TIME ZONE

Carinthia has a Central European temperate climate with four seasons, hot and moderately wet summers, and long harsh winters. In recent decades winters have been exceptionally arid. **The average total amount of annual sunshine hours in Austria is the highest in Carinthia.**

- Carinthia is in the Central European Time zone (CET) (Mittleuropäische Zeitzone, MEZ).
- Central European summer time (CEST/ MESZ) starts on the last Sunday of March, when clocks are put forward by an hour at 2 a.m. meaning the night is shortened by an hour.
- The change to wintertime (CET/ MEZ) takes place on the last Sunday of October when clocks are turned back an hour at 3 a.m. making the night
- an hour longer.

AUSTRIAN CULTURE

Every country has certain traditions and norms that are unique to that country's culture. If you would like to know a little bit more about Austria's social and business culture, please see [here](#), [here](#) and [here](#).

CULTURAL HISTORY

Carinthia has a rich cultural and religious heritage as many different civilizations have lived in the region since prehistoric times.

Catholicism has made profound impressions on Austrian culture and Carinthia is no exception to that. The majority of Carinthians are Roman Catholic. Further large religious groups are Protestants, people without a religious denomination and Muslims.

In Carinthia there are a lot of ossuary's and wayside shrines (Bildstöcke), romantic and gothic mural paintings (Master Thomas Artula, Villach) as well as castles and palaces. A special feature of religious art is painted Lenten Veils ("Fastentücher").

Austria has a very rich and ancient cultural tradition, especially in the fields of music and literature. One of the most important annual events that celebrates this tradition is the Carinthian Summer Music Festival in Villach. This festival was first organized in 1969, in Ossiach Abbey. Featuring world famous artists since its start, the event continues to celebrate Austria's long-standing engagement with the arts and music showcasing with the best international musicians and performers (see [here](#)).

One of the most famous German literature festivals is the **Ingeborg Bachmann Prize** in Klagenfurt (<https://bachmannpreis.orf.at/>). Carinthia has a long list of renowned authors such as Christine Lavant, Ingeborg Bachmann, Gert Jonke, Peter Handke, Peter Turrini and Josef Winkler, to just name a few.

Local writers such as Anton Martin Slomšek and Matija Majar Ziljski have led the way in the recognition of literature in the Slovenian language in collaboration with the association Hermagoras. Celebrated writers include Milka Hartman, Florian Lipuš, Janko Mesner, Karel Smolle, Janko Ferk and Maja Haderlap.

Carinthia is also the birthplace and/or place of residence of several contemporary artists. The list includes painters Maria Lassnig, Cornelius Kolig, Valentin Oman, Hans Staudacher, Angelika Kaufmann, Giselbert Hoke as well as Anton Kolig, Franz Wiegele, Sebastian Isepp, Herbert Boeckl, Anton Mahringer, A. J. Clementschitsch, Hans Bischoffshausen and Kiki Kogelnik among others.

Finally, a lot of information about museums, galleries, architecture, sculpting, painting and other cultural events can be found [here](#).

NATIONAL INSURANCE IN AUSTRIA

Basic insurance is provided for everybody by the Austrian national insurance system called "Sozialversicherung." It covers the areas of health insurance, accident insurance, unemployment insurance and retirement pension insurance. It is financed mainly by contributions from the employee and the employer.

HEALTH INSURANCE

Austria has a compulsory insurance system. Every employed person must have health insurance. You are not able to choose your health insurance yourself as it is dependent on the employer and their field. People employed in private industries are insured by the regional medical insurance company ("[Österreichische Gesundheitskasse](#)") of their federal state. However, you can have private insurance as well.

Health insurance covers illness, maternity leave and inability to work as a result of illness.

ACCIDENT INSURANCE

Accident insurance covers accidents at work and illness while employed. It can generate non-cash benefits and cash payments, generally in the form of accident benefits.

Private supplementary insurance payments can be made in addition to compulsory insurance, for example for dental costs, supplementary pension contributions, or spa/health resort cures and alternative treatments.

NATIONAL INSURANCE CONTRIBUTIONS

The foundation for the calculation of contributions is the earned income of the insured person. This earned income is used to calculate the insurance contributions. If the income is higher than the maximum basic contribution this is considered in the calculation. The insurance contributions are for retirement pension insurance, health insurance, unemployment insurance, for a labour chamber (AK) contribution and housing subsidy contribution. In addition to this, the company pays for a company pension plan contribution, accident insurance and IESG (Insolvenz-Entgeltsicherungsgesetz) supplement.

EVERYDAY LIFE

COST OF LIVING

[Here](#) are detailed budget calculators for your situation.

According to [Numbeo](#), Austrians spend money in the following ways.

Item	Percentage of Income
Food and drink	32.2%
Monthly rent	25%
Restaurants	15.2%
Transport	11.7%
Monthly utilities	7%
Sports and leisure	5.7%
Clothing and shoes	3.1%

Current market costs in 2023 for Austria – Carinthia could be slightly different!

Prices of food and drink, restaurants, monthly utilities, clothing and shoes, sports and leisure facilities, average monthly salary, property purchase prices and monthly rental costs can be found on this website: numbeo.com/cost-of-living/

How much would a working day or a leisure day cost in Carinthia?

Working day

- Breakfast & coffee 6€
- Lunch 10€
- 1x day ticket public bus transport 2,70€
- 1x after-work drink 4€

Total: €22,70 (it can be €10 more or less, depending on what and how much someone eats and at which time of the day)

Leisure day

- Breakfast & coffee 6€
- Lunch €10
- 1x day public transport bus ticket €2,70
- 1x day ticket at one of the Carinthian lakes €5,50
- 1x scoop of ice cream in the afternoon €1,90
- 1x Sundowner drink in the evening €4,50

Total: €30,60 (it can be €10 more or less, depending on what and how much someone eats and at which time of the day)

OPENING TIMES

Most grocery shops are open between 7:15 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. from Monday to Friday, and from 7:15 a.m. till 6:00 p.m. on Saturdays. **Almost all shops are closed on Sundays.** Exceptions are shops in tourist areas that open from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. during the summer and winter seasons. Petrol stations often offer a basic selection of food and drinks and are open on Sundays and public holidays.

In town centres many shops open from 9:00 a.m. and close between 6:00 p.m. and 6:30 p.m., (although some stay open later). Shopping malls like ATRIO in Villach or City Arkaden in Klagenfurt are open from 9 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. during the week and on Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Public Authorities and Administrative Offices (e.g. tax office)

Mon/Tue/Wed/Thu from 7:30 a.m. till 3:30 p.m.;

Fri from 7:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Post offices

Most post offices are open from Mon-Fri 8 a.m. – 12 p.m. and 2 p.m. or 3 p.m. until 5 p.m. or 6 p.m. Some **do not** open in the afternoon, and others are also open on Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Post offices can also be found in shops such as Spar, newsagents or petrol stations. Please find an overview [here](#). You can also search at Tools/Filialfinder.

Opening times of branches vary and are always shown at the entrance to the branch. Some branches in towns open on Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays, although at reduced hours. These are usually found close to train stations.

Banks and Exchange offices

Mon-Wed, Fri 8/9 a.m. – 3 p.m., Thu 8/9 a.m. till 5:30 p.m. Branches are usually closed between 12:30 p.m. and 1:30 p.m.

Shopping malls

- [ATRIO](#) in Villach (Kärntner Straße 34, 9500 Villach)
- [City Arkaden](#) in Klagenfurt (Heuplatz 5, 9020 Klagenfurt am Wörthersee)
- [Südpark](#) in Klagenfurt (Südpark 1, 9020 Klagenfurt am Wörthersee)

Markets

Klagenfurt Markets

Benediktinermarkt

The most important marketplace in Klagenfurt is the Benediktinerplatz. Farmers from Carinthia, Friaul (Italy) and Slovenia sell locally produced delicacies on the traditional market days.

Thursdays and Saturdays (6 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.).

Weekly Markets

Waidmannsdorf (Crossing Kanaltalerstraße-Baumbachplatz) and Viktring, Viktringerplatz.

Wednesday and Saturday (6 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.).

Bio Markets

Every Friday produce from purely organic suppliers is sold on the Benediktinerplatz (6 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.).

Both market halls are also open daily from 6:30 a.m. till 6 p.m. In addition to the usual selection, many gardeners sell plants here from 6:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Villach Markets

Weekly Market

Wednesdays and Saturdays (Draulände/ Markthalle) from 7 a.m. till 12:00 p.m. As well as fruit and vegetables, local producers sell cold cuts of meat, pasta delicacies, honey, fish and seafood.

Bio-Bauernmarkt

On Fridays organic products from local farmers are sold in [Hans-Gasser-Platz](#) (9 a.m. to 3 p.m.). The produce includes fruit and vegetables, as well as cold cuts of meat, cheese and pastry.

Flat/House Hunting

Information about available flats or houses is published in daily newspapers (e.g. Kleine Zeitung – weekend editions are of particular interest or can be obtained via specialized agents or agencies (ImmobilienmaklerInnen – you find them in local yellow pages under "Immobilien") and a diverse set of other websites. For instance, city and community administrations also offer information about property available.

Rental costs depend on several factors, such as distances to transport networks, infrastructure, the residential area as well as the flat/house itself (furnished or unfurnished, etc.). In addition, general running costs (around 25% of the net rent) for water, electricity, gas and/or other heating costs etc. need to be taken into consideration.

Before formally signing an agreement to rent or buy a property, you may wish to consult guidance and support infrastructures, to verify the legitimacy of the contract.

Helpful bodies are:

- the Aggregation of Tenants (<https://mietervereinigung.at>)
- Association for the Protection of Tenants (www.mieterschutzverband.at)
- Association for Consumer Information (<https://vki.at>)
- Chamber of Labour/ Arbeiterkammer (<https://kaernten.arbeiterkammer.at>)

Source: [EURES](#)

Information on buying property in Austria can be found [here](#).

Marriage

If you plan to marry in Austria, it is best to inquire at the local registry office. As well, you should inquire at your consulate whether a marriage conducted in Austria is also recognized in your home country.

The bridal couple can either get married in a registry office of their choice or get married in a civil ceremony at another location.

The location must correspond to the significance of the marriage and be appropriate. In Carinthia there are numerous wedding venues where you can also get married in a civil ceremony.

From 2019, same-sex marriages will be permitted in Austria. However, this does not apply if one or both partners come from countries where same-sex marriages are not recognized.

For assistance and tips, please contact the following contact and [link](#).

Some facts about marriage in Carinthia

- 16 years, is the age at which marriage is legal with the consent of parents.
- 18 years is the age at which everyone is allowed to marry.
- 2.423 marriages took place in Carinthia in the previous year.
- The average age women 32,7 and men 34,9.
- 39% Divorce rate

Carinthian Wedding / Shotgun Wedding

The bride is pregnant, or this couple already have children. Carinthia has the highest rate of children born out of wedlock than any other province in Austria.

Preparing for "the Big Day"

Austrian citizens and persons whose main residence is in Austria can submit their application at any registry office, registry office association or magistrate in Austria.

Be sure to bring all required documentation, some of them may need to be translated. Questions about the registration of marriage, marriage procedure, required documentation, costs and additional information can be found [here](#).

Additional support around your marriage, can also be offered by the CIC team, we will accompany you through all that it is required until "the big day".

Living with Pets



In Carinthia, pets such as dogs or cats, but also reptiles, fish, birds and other small animals, are simply part of life in over 255,000 Carinthian households.

Therefore, the 130,000 cats and 40,000 dogs belonging to the Carinthians, lack for nothing. Together with a strict animal protection law, you will also find animal rescue homes, grooming parlours, diverse specialised trade stores for animal food and accessories as well as The Cat Café in Klagenfurt (which, for all cat lovers is a must!) We also, very warmly, welcome your pets here in Austria when you relocate. You can find all the necessary information [on this website](#) as to which animals are allowed.

DIGITAL PUBLIC SERVICES AUSTRIA

An important website is the official Digital Public Services for Austria. Here you can find all relevant information about contacting the authorities in Austria (please click [here](#) and [here](#)).

We are also happy to help you with information on other topics such as:

- Taxation overview
- Immigration scenarios for third country nationals
- Types of employment in Austria
- Rights of employees
- Nostrification/recognition

For more information contact the CIC team by phone or email.

LOSS OF DOCUMENTS

In case of loss or theft of personal identification or other documents (passport, driving license, documents for vehicles etc.) please go to your nearest police station. You will need an official declaration of loss or theft for the issuing of duplicates (via embassies or consulates), as well as for insurance claims.

TRANSLATION SERVICE

Important personal documents (e.g. birth certificate, marriage certificate, possibly certificate of adoption) should be brought with you to Austria. In some circumstances, a translation of the documents may be required.

[Here](#) you can find a list of all translators available in Carinthia. If you need help finding the right one for your language, we are at your disposal

WASTE SEPARATION

In Austria paper, plastic, tins and cans (yellow bag), and organic waste are collected and disposed of in separate containers. There are also specific facilities or collection points for glass. Toxic waste is dealt with at special waste collection points. Old batteries can be returned to shops that sell batteries. You can find an overview about recycling collection points, how to separate waste and collection dates [here](#).

HEALTH

Everybody who lives and works in Austria must pay health insurance as it is part of the country's social security system. It covers basic medical services and visits to the dentist, as well as hospitalization and medicine. It is also possible to include non-working relatives and children in your health insurance.

Prescription-free drugs can be obtained at the pharmacy (Apotheke). The same pharmacies also sell prescription drugs. There are no over-the-counter sales for drugs in supermarkets. Prescriptions can only be issued by doctors, following a visit. Local newspapers publish information about pharmacies that are open on weekends/nights and you can find them here as well: [Villach](#) - [Klagenfurt](#).

DOCTORS AND DENTISTS

The doctors and dentists you can consult depends on your health insurance. If you are insured with the public health authority Österreichische Gesundheitskasse (ÖGK) you can consult doctors registered with the ÖGK for free. You must bring your e-card to every visit.

It is also possible to get private medical care. In this case you need to pay the doctor (known as a "Wahlarzt/-ärztin") or dentist ("Wahlzahnarzt/-ärztin") directly. Depending on your insurance, you may be able to claim some of the cost of your consultation afterwards.

Emergency doctor service:

On weekends and public holidays and during the night, you can contact the medical service (141). In emergency cases you may also get medical attention in hospitals.

Foreign language doctors can be found [here](#). On the screen you will find a link to search for doctors (Arztsuche). The search option allows you to specify and choose between different specialists such as Internal Medicine (Internist), General Practitioners (Allgemein-Mediziner), location and language. The result should be the doctor of your choice closest to your home.

PAEDIATRICIANS

The paediatricians you may consult depend on your health insurance. In case you are insured via the public health authority Österreichische Gesundheitskasse (ÖGK) you may consult doctors that are registered with the ÖGK for free. You will need to bring your e-card to every visit.

It is also possible to get private medical care. In this case you need to pay the doctor directly. Depending on your insurance, you may claim costs of your consultation afterwards, or part of it.

You may find foreign language doctors [here](#). On the screen you will find a link to search for doctors (Arztsuche). The search option allows you to specify and choose between different specialities such as Paediatrics (Kinder- und Jugendheilkunde), location and language. The result should be the doctor of your choice closest to your home.

If you have problems or doubts, do not hesitate to contact CIC for help:
+43(0)664 2520575

In emergency cases you may also get medical attention in hospitals.

HOSPITALS	Address	Telephone
KABEG - Klinikum Klagenfurt am Wörthersee Department of Paediatrics and Adolescent Medicine	Feschingstraße 11, 9020 Klagenfurt	Tel.: +43/463/538/39414 or +43/463/538/39500 In case of emergency: 00:00-24:00
KABEG - Landeskrankenhaus Villach Department of Paediatrics and Adolescent Medicine	Nikolaigasse 43, 9500 Villach,	Emergency Mon-Fri: 8:00-12:00 (g. fl.) Tel.: +43/4242/208-62356 Emergency Mon-Fri: 15:30-07:30 (1st fl.) Tel.: +43/4242/208/3155 Emergency Sat, Sun and feast days: 00.00-24.00 (1st fl.) Tel.: +43/4242/208/1361

FSME - Meningoencephalitis

Large areas of Austria are at risk of Early Summer Meningoencephalitis (FSME) at certain times of the year. FSME is a virus that can be transferred through tick-bites. Austria officially recommends active immunization through vaccination. Before vaccination a doctor should be consulted.

TELEPHONE

To dial an Austrian number from abroad:

Country code (+43) + Area code (without „0“) + telephone number.

To dial within Austria:

Area code (with „0“) + telephone number.

MOBILE PHONE PROVIDERS

The mobile phone operators (A1 Telekom, Hutchison Drei Austria und Magenta Telekom – Status: August 2021) have different conditions regarding the signing of a mobile phone contract for non-Austrians. You can find more information about mobile phone providers on their webpage. Some also offer a prepaid card without registration (A1, Magenta).

Provider	Website	Telephone
A1	www.a1.net	0800 664 100
Bob	www.bob.at	0800/680 680
Drei	www.drei.at	+43 (0) 660 30 30 55
Magenta (formerly T-Mobile)	www.magenta.at	+43 (0) 676 2000
HoT Hofer Telekom	www.hot.at	+43 0800 700677
Lidl connect	www.lidl-connect.at	+43 690 106910

INTERNET

Mobile network providers also offer fixed and mobile Internet connections.

The two main providers of wireless internet in homes in Austria are [A1](#) and [Magenta](#). Please refer to the links for more information.

You can find useful information about the monthly internet costs depending on your internet usage on [this site](#).

SPORTS

Carinthia offers a wide range of opportunities to be active in sports.

180,000 people in Carinthia are active members of one of the 1,600 sports clubs.

Numerous ski resorts and ice rinks, as well as frozen lakes (if they have been declared as safe :D) allow us to do sports outdoors as well as indoors in winter.

In spring, summer and autumn, the lakes as well as the beautiful countryside give us the opportunity to swim, hike, ride our bikes and much more.

- Hiking tours: [visitcarinthia.at hiking](http://visitcarinthia.at/hiking)
- Swimming: [lakes](#) and [indoor pools](#)
- Cycling: [visitcarinthia.at cycling](http://visitcarinthia.at/cycling)
- Skiing and snowboarding: [visitcarinthia.at ski](http://visitcarinthia.at/ski)
- Cross-country skiing: [visitcarinthia.at cross-country-skiing](http://visitcarinthia.at/cross-country-skiing)
- Ice-skating: [Skating on lakes](#) and [ice rinks in Carinthia](#)
- Bowling: [Klagenfurt](#) and [Villach](#)
- [Rodeln \(Sledging\)](#): Natural sledging tracks at Landskron; Hundsmarhof, Bad Bleiberg; sledging track Dreiänderecke; Kreuzbergl, Klagenfurt; Gailberg, Kötschach-Mauthen etc.
- [Der Naturpark Dobratsch \(Nature Reserve\)](#): Hiking, playground, sledging,
- Other sports activities: visitcarinthia.at (click on "Activities")
- [Games day \(Spielefest\)](#) presentation of the latest games for adults and children (usually in autumn).

SPORTS CLUBS

If you are interested in becoming an active member of a sports club, you will find an overview of many clubs in Villach, Klagenfurt and Carinthia here:

[Villach.at Sportvereine](http://Villach.at/Sportvereine)

[Klagenfurt.at Sportvereine](http://Klagenfurt.at/Sportvereine)

[Sportunion Kärnten.at](http://Sportunion.Kärnten.at)

SPORTS FACILITIES

Here you can find an overview of the Carinthian sports facilities especially [Villach.at Sportstaetten](#) and [Klagenfurt.at Sportstaetten](#) where you can practice your decided sport.

THEATER, MUSEUMS AND CINEMA

THEATER

[Stadttheater Klagenfurt](#)

Theaterplatz 4

9020 Klagenfurt am Wörthersee

Tel: +43(0)463 55 0 64 (tickets) or +43(0)463 50 46 63 (ticket ordering by fax)

[Klagenfurter Ensemble](#)

Messeplatz1/11 Theater Halle
Florian-Gröger-Straße 11
9020 Klagenfurt am Wörthersee
Tel: +43(0)463 31 03 00

[Neuebuehne Villach](#)

Performances: Rathausplatz, 9500 Villach
Office: Hauptplatz 10
Tel: +43(0)4242 287164 or +43(0)664 4644297

Within these theatres, you can enjoy contemporary and modern classics as well as world premieres of new releases. In the summertime plays and performances of the Neuebuehnevillach are staged in a marble stone pit (Marmorsteinbruch) in Krastal, Treffen.

CINEMAS

In Carinthia there are many cinemas, you can find a list of the websites and phone numbers [here](#).

EXHIBITIONS, GALLERIES AND MUSEUMS

Throughout Austria cultural exhibitions captivate, galleries inspire and theatre evenings stimulate us to laugh or think.

For more in-depth information about culture in Carinthia - Please click [here](#).

SIGHTS, EVENTS AND FESTIVALS

Interesting places to visit in Carinthia:

- [Minimundus](#) in Klagenfurt, is a miniature village where you can find miniature models of famous buildings from all over the world
- [Affenberg](#) in Landskron, Villach is Austria´s largest monkey enclosure!
- [Naturpark Dobratsch – experience nature and understand nature.](#)
- [Pyramidenkogel – highest wooden view tower in the world](#)
- In the "[Kärntner Freilichtmuseum](#)" in Maria Saal old farmhouses and stables can be visited. Old cultural traditions are kept alive here.

Here you can find a list of other local attractions:

www.visitcarinthia.at/attractions

With the Kärnten Card, over 100 destinations are free or greatly reduced. Everything you need to know about the Kärnten Card, can be found [here](#).

Here is an overview of cultural activities and sights: [Villach](#) and [Klagenfurt](#)

Further information on cultural events can be found [here](#) and [here](#).

For all those who are interested in culture we recommend **the free KulturPass**, [here](#) you will find all partners from Carinthia as well as a summary of all museums, galleries and exhibitions.

TRADITIONS, TRADITIONAL EVENTS AND FESTIVALS

Traditional costumes: **Dirndl & Lederhose**



Austrians look back on their roots with care and a certain pride and lovingly uphold their traditions. From childhood onwards, people in this country grow up with regional customs and rites and integrate them into their way of life.

Traditions related to customs and cultural heritage are encountered in annual celebrations, life events (births, baptisms, weddings or funerals) and partly through daily living (church services, greetings and clothing). Also at various village festivals, that are celebrated on church holidays one encounters such customary acts.

1.Mai (National holiday - Labour Day is celebrated 1st of May every year)

Setting up the Maypole



The tradition of setting up the maypole dates back to the Middle Ages. The colourfully decorated tree symbolizes life and fertility.

Find [here](#) more about this Day.

Krampus & St.Nicholas - every year again (December 5/6)

While St. Nicholas rewards children who have been good during the year with gifts, Krampus rattles chains and scares children who have been bad.

Find [here](#) more about this custom.

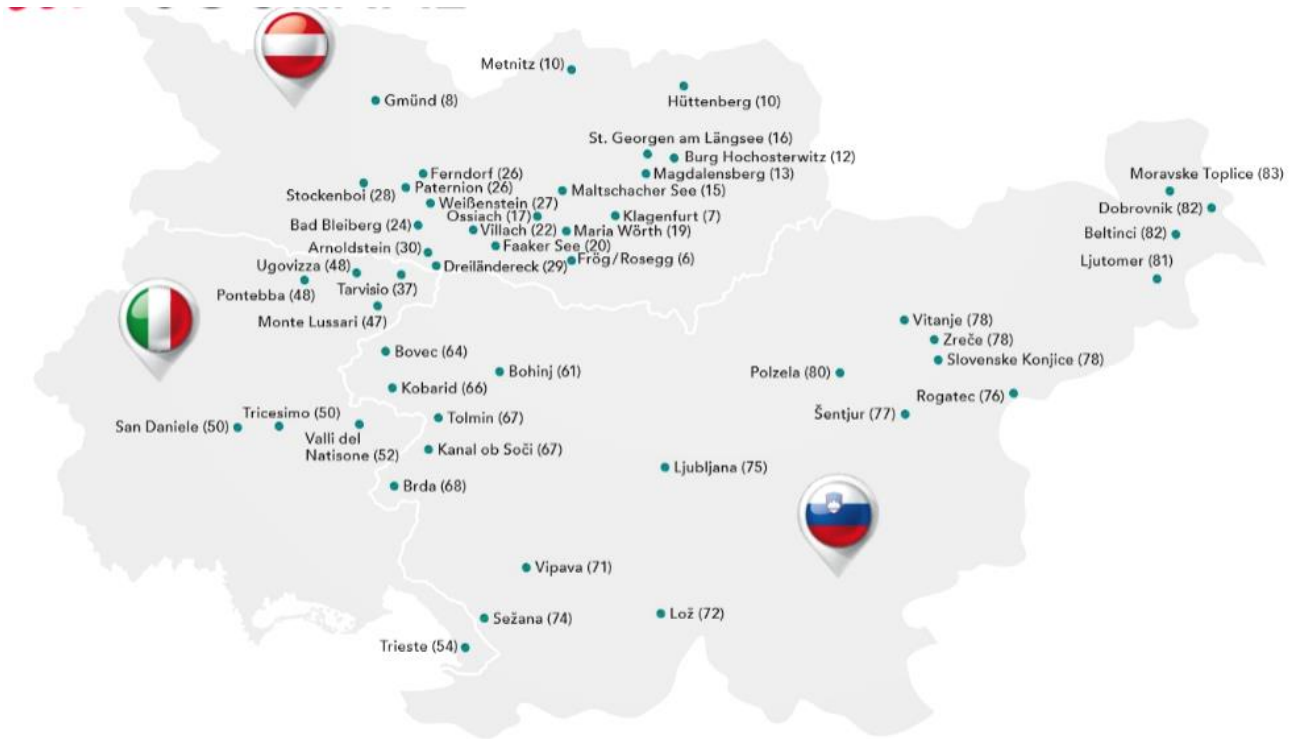
More events in Carinthia can be found [here](#).



ALPS-ADRIATIC REGION

The Alps-Adriatic region between Austria, Italy and Slovenia stretches from the mountains through the hills to the sea.

The connecting infrastructure is well developed (footpaths, cycle paths, motorways, railways and road transport) and the tourist resorts and cultural centres are easily accessible from Villach or Klagenfurt.



ITALY - some nice nearby places we recommend here

[Venice](#)

daily train (two hours drive) from Klagenfurt and Villach. More information are available [here](#).

[Trieste](#)

The Port town of Trieste with its unique history and location is only 180 km away from Villach. By [ÖBB Intercity bus](#), easily to reach several times a day.

[Lignano](#)

If you like the seaside but also enjoy nightlife you should visit Lignano, just a 2-hour drive from Villach.

[Grado](#)

The seaside tourist destination on the Adriatic with its Roman cultural heritage is 170 km away from Villach. It can be reached by car or even by bike ([Alpen Adria Cycle Path](#)).

More information about events in the Friuli-Venezia-Giulia region of Italy is available [here](#).

SLOVENIA - some nice nearby places we recommend here.

[Ljubljana](#)

Ljubljana, the capital of Slovenia, can be reached in one hour by car from Villach. There are also bus connections from Klagenfurt. More information [here](#).

[Kranjska Gora](#)

You can reach the famous tourist destination and ski resort Kranjska Gora within 30 minutes by car from Villach over the Wurzenpass.

[Bled Lake and its surroundings](#)

The fairy tale lake and wonderful Bled Castle are only 80 km away from Klagenfurt.

[Soča Valley](#)

The Soča Valley with its wonderful natural landscapes of mountains and lakes is reachable within 1 hour by car from Villach.

More information about events in Ljubljana are available [here](#). There are also articles about Ljubljana's markets and museum on the CIC webpage: [here](#) and [here](#).

FOOD AND DRINK

Drinking water - one of the best in Europe!

We are in the enviable position to have sufficient high-quality drinking water - always, everywhere and even on hot summer days.



Here is a small pictorial sample of the **best Carinthian specialties!**



Kärntner Kasnudln



Kärntner Kirchtagsuppe



Fish from
Carinthia



Kärntner Reindling



Brettljause

Restaurants that serve traditional Austrian delicacies can be found [here](#).

Meals in Austria

In Austria people usually eat three meals a day.

- **Breakfast** between 6.30 a.m. and 10 a.m.
- **Lunch** between 11.30 a.m. and 2 p.m.
- **Dinner** between 6 p.m. and 9 p.m.

Breakfast & Brunch hotspots in Villach you can find [here](#).

TRANSPORT AND TRAFFIC

AIRPORTS

Carinthia's [international airport](#) is located in Klagenfurt-Annabichl.

Other airports include Graz, Salzburg, Ljubljana in Slovenia and Marco Polo – Venice, Treviso and Trieste in Italy. These are all reachable by car in between one to three hours.

There is also Wien-Schwechat in Vienna and smaller ones just outside Innsbruck and Linz.

BUS SERVICE

Bus service information in Carinthia can be found [here](#).

RAILWAY NETWORK

The central train station in Villach is the transport hub for the southern line from Vienna to Italy (via Arnoldstein), the north-eastern Tauernbahn that connects Salzburg to the East and South of Tyrol (via Spittal an der Drau) and the Karawankenbahn line to Slovenia (via Finkenstein and Rosenbach).

You can download an app for your mobile device [ÖBB Scotty](#), with all the routes and times. With this app you can also buy an online ticket: [ÖBB](#).

ÖBB RAIL AND DRIVE

General Infos: [Startseite | ÖBB Rail & Drive \(railanddrive.at\)](#)

Location: [Stationsbeschreibung | ÖBB Rail & Drive \(railanddrive.at\)](#)

ROAD TRAFFIC

Motorways cover similar routes. The A2 runs from Vienna via Graz through Villach to Italy. The A10 (Tauernautobahn) connects Salzburg to Villach via the Katschbergtunnel (5,439m long) and the A11 extends to Slovenia through the Karawanken tunnel (which is 7,864m long). The connection between Klagenfurt and Slovenia crosses the Loiblpass (1,367m in altitude). In winter, it is compulsory to have **winter tyres**.

Important mountain passes in Carinthia are the Großglockner Hochalpenstraße and the Nockalmstraße.

DRIVING LICENSES

Valid non-EU or non-EEA driving licenses must be converted within six months of establishing your place of residence in Austria. This has to be done at the driving license authorities (in cities this is the Federal Police Directorate, in municipalities the district authority).

PETROL STATIONS

Not all petrol stations are open 24 hours a day.

ROAD TAX FOR MOTORWAYS: [AUTOBAHNVIGNETTE](#)

To drive on motorways, you must buy an Autobahnvignette (a sticker to attach to the windshield or a digital version). You can get the sticker or a digital vignette at petrol stations, in tobacconists and at automobile associations (such as the ÖAMTC): [Sale points](#).

WHAT THE TRAFFIC LIGHTS MEAN.

- **A red light** means that drivers must stop.
- **An illuminated yellow light together with the red light** also means you must stop and lets the road-user know that the signal for “Go” will follow.
- **A green light** means you can go.
- **The green light flashes four times before it changes to yellow.** This means the signal will change.
- **A yellow constant light** means you must stop. Drivers who find themselves already on a junction on a constant yellow light should leave it as soon as possible.
- **A flashing yellow light** means you may proceed if there is no oncoming traffic but you must take great care.

Driving in Slovenia & Italy - Good to know

Even though these two countries border on Carinthia and Austria and we are all members of the European Union, there are slightly different traffic regulations or rules than in our country, which in detail, please see for Slovenia [here](#) and for Italy [here](#).

PARKING

In and around city centres there are different types of parking zones. In short stay zones charges apply and in free parking zones further out they don't. Parking zones where charges apply are marked by blue lines on the road. In Klagenfurt there is a zone marked by green lines on the road for cheap all-day parking.

In free parking zones you need to display a parking clock on your car dashboard inside your windscreen. This is not optional: you will get a parking ticket if you don't! You can buy one in a car accessory shop.

PARKING IN VILLACH

In marked parking zones within 4 minutes' walk of the 'Hauptplatz' there is a fee of 60 cents per half hour which must be paid at a ticket machine or via your mobile phone. The maximum stay is 3 hours. For stays of up to 20 minutes there is no parking fee, but your arrival time must be displayed in your car.

In short stay zones payment is required at the following times.

Mondays to Thursdays from 8 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Fridays from 8 a.m. – 12 p.m.

No payment is required on Friday afternoons or Saturday mornings, but the maximum period is 3 hours and you must use your parking clock (otherwise you will get a parking ticket!)

In other free parking zones the maximum long stay period with a parking clock is either an hour and a half or three hours. Parking is permitted on Mondays to Fridays from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. and on Saturdays from 8 a.m. – 1 p.m. or 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

To find out about paying parking fees via your mobile phone see [here](#).

You can park at Willroider Parkplatz for free, which is 10 minutes from the city centre on foot.

PARKING IN KLAGENFURT

The short stay parking zone is marked by blue lines on the road. The maximum parking time is 3 hours. In this zone you can park your vehicle for 15 minutes free of charge as long as the exact arrival time is shown either on a handwritten note or on a parking clock. If you stay longer than 30 minutes you need to pay from that first minute on.

Parking tickets are available from machines in the zone. The fee is 90 cents per half hour and applies during these periods.

Mondays to Fridays from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Saturdays from 8 a.m. – 12 p.m.

It is also possible to pay parking fees via your mobile phone (see [here](#)).

CAR SHARING

Carsharing Mayerhofer Villach

General Infos: [Carsharing Villach \(motor-mayerhofer.at\)](http://motor-mayerhofer.at)

Android App: [Hyundai Carsharing Austria – Apps bei Google Play](#)

iPhone App: [Hyundai Carsharing Austria im App Store \(apple.com\)](#)

Location:

- [HANS-GASSER-PLATZ-VIERTEL - Ringmauergasse 4](#)
- [WESTBAHNHOF - Parkplatz Pestalozzistraße/Italiener Straße](#)
- [HAUPTBAHNHOF - Willroiderstraße 2](#)

Family of Power Klagenfurt:

Website: <https://www.familyofpower.com/>

FReD Carsharing:

Website: [FReD | Prima fürs Klima - Erfolgreiches Carsharing in Kärnten \(fred-fahren.at\)](http://fred-fahren.at)

Android App: [FReD fahren – Apps bei Google Play](#)

iPhone App: [FReD fahren on the App Store \(apple.com\)](#)

Location (in the App):

- Landsitz in Landskron
- Drive Wiegele

Tier Scooter:

Website: tier.app/

Android App: [TIER E-Scooter-Sharing & mehr – Apps bei Google Play](#)

iPhone App: [TIER E-Scooter-Sharing & mehr im App Store \(apple.com\)](#)

Max Motion Scooter:

Website: [MAX Motion – on the future way](#)

Android App: [MAX Motion – Apps bei Google Play](#)

iPhone App [MAX Motion on the App Store \(apple.com\)](#)

BIKES

The bike path network is extensive. There are cycle paths along the Drau/Gail, around lakes, to Tarvisio in Italy and beyond. To cycle alone on public roads children must be 12 or 10 if they have passed a proficiency test. Cycling on public footpaths is only allowed if it leads to a bike park or, if a child on a bike, is accompanied by an adult. The alcohol limit for cyclists is slightly higher than for motorists at 0.8 mg per 1000 ml.

MOTOR INSURANCE

If you own a vehicle and drive it on the road you must purchase liability insurance with a motor insurance company. The motor insurance company you choose issues you with a registration certificate and number plates.

HIGH VISIBILITY JACKETS (ROAD OR MOTORWAY REQUIREMENTS)

Drivers of road vehicles (with the exceptions of motorbikes and bikes) must carry a high visibility reflective jacket ("Warnweste") in their vehicle at all times. One is required for each passenger. Vehicles also need to carry a first aid kit and a breakdown triangle.

Following an accident or breakdown, you must put on such a jacket if you get out of your vehicle on a motorway, main road or country road (outside city limits) and you must put up a breakdown triangle. High visibility jackets should also be worn on roads with poor visibility, or in bad weather, at dawn or dusk and at night.

HEADLIGHTS (ROAD OR MOTORWAY REQUIREMENTS)

You can switch on your vehicle's lights during the day, but it is not compulsory. You are required to switch your headlights on when travelling through a tunnel.

MOBILE PHONES WHILE DRIVING

It is against the law to use your mobile phone whilst driving unless you use it with a hands-free car kit. Exactly the same principle applies to cyclists, who risk a penalty. The list of penalties you can find [here](#).

SPEED LIMITS

Main connecting roads or country roads	100km/h
Motorways (Autobahn)	130 km/h
Main roads in towns and villages	50 km/h
Minor roads in communities, as marked	30 km/h

If a road sign states "Rechtsvorrang", this means that the driver coming from the right has priority.

DON'T DRINK AND DRIVE

The blood alcohol level in Austria as well as in our neighbouring countries can be different. For more details click [here](#).

LIFE WITH CHILDREN IN CARINTHIA

Dear parents, the **CIC - Carinthian International Center** - offers information, advice, and networking activities to enable contact with other families from all over the world.

CIC ACTIVITIES FOR PARENTS AND CHILDREN

CIC Baby Chat

A group of parents and their babies meet regularly at the CIC office **in Villach**. If you are interested, please send an email to office@cic-network.at

CIC Summerkids

Multilingual and intercultural Summerkids childcare for children aged 6 to 12 years old, is organised and run by CIC.

MOTHER-CHILD PASSPORT

At the beginning of pregnancy, expecting mothers receive a mother-child passport, with which they can plan preventive examinations of the unborn child and the mother as well as vaccinations and preventive examinations of the infant and toddler. The mother-child passport can be obtained from gynaecologists, general practitioners, in the district health offices, in the specialist outpatient clinics of the Regional Health Insurance Fund, in the outpatient departments of hospitals with obstetrics departments and in the pregnancy counselling centres.

MATERNITY PROTECTION

When women find out that they are pregnant they should inform their employer. From this notification onwards, there is protection against dismissal and redundancy.

Maternity protection for pregnant women usually begins eight weeks before the birth and ends eight to sixteen weeks after the birth. During this period, employment is absolutely prohibited. The employment relationship for employed women continues during the protection period. During this period female employees and workers receive maternity allowance under certain conditions. Information on the amount of the maternity allowance can be obtained from the respective health insurance fund.

PARENTAL LEAVE AND CHILDCARE ALLOWANCE

Parental leave is the entitlement under labour law to time off work after the birth of a child and after the end of the protection period.

During this time, there is no entitlement to remuneration, but protection against dismissal and redundancy applies. Parental leave can be taken either by one parent only or alternately by both parents.

During this time, childcare allowance (KBG) can be drawn if the requirements are met. All children, including foster children and adopted children, are entitled to childcare allowance.

Prerequisites for receiving the flat-rate childcare allowance:

- You reside (live) in the joint (same) household as the child.
- At least one parent living in the joint household is entitled to family allowance.
- Centre of interest of life in Austria.
- Living and working in Austria.
- You hold legal residency in Austria.
- Performance of mother-child passport examinations: five during pregnancy, five after birth.

FAMILY ALLOWANCE

As a rule, children who have their main residence in Austria are entitled to family allowance. Family allowance must be applied for by parents or legal guardians at the appropriate authority, normally, the resident parent(s) tax office (Finanzamt).

Family allowance is paid to:

- minors up to the age of 18.
- From the age of 18, family allowance is only paid under certain conditions.

This is the case if the child e.g.

- is undergoing vocational training (including university studies),
- takes part in further training in a learned profession at a technical college and the practice of the profession is not possible
- is likely to be permanently unable to - support himself/herself due to a disability.
- is between the end of compulsory military service, training or civilian service and the start or the continuation of vocational training (the vocational training must be started or continued at the earliest possible point in time)

The amount of family allowance depends on the age of the child. In addition, there are child deductions and supplements if maintenance is granted to two or more children or one or more disabled children.

CHILDCARE

If you have specific questions about childcare and schools, **CIC** offers individual guidance and support. This includes help in making choices about childcare and schools. Please contact: +43 (0) 650 260 81 95 or office@cic-network.at.

BABYSITTERS

You can find "sitters" by placing ads in newspapers or via someone you know. Childcare for very young children (6 months to 6 years) exists in the form of childminders (Tagesmütter) and day nurseries (Kinderkrippen). Most of the bigger towns have nurseries (Kindergartens), minimum age 3 – maximum age 6.

CHILDMINDERS

If you have little children to look after, you may also try to become a childminder. These are mothers who look after other people's children, often alongside their own. An advantage is often the flexibility regarding the time spent childminding and being with one's own children.

AVS (ARBEITSVEREINIGUNG DER SOZIALHILFE KÄRNTENS)

This is a care standard for children aged 8 weeks to 15 years old and, depending on the space available and the number of children the childminder has herself, up

to four children can be looked after for a whole day or up to six children for a part of the day. Childminders have a training in education. The childcare takes place in the childminder's home.

The parents' outlay for individual childcare complies with an agreed scale and currently averages €2,20 (including food, effective 06/2017) per agreed hour and child. The association receives support from Carinthia state. The professional educational opinion is that at least 60 hours a month should be carried out.

[AVS-Tagesmütter](#)

Fischlstraße 40

9024 Klagenfurt am Wörthersee

HILFSWERK KÄRNTEN – MOBILE CHILDCARE

„Hilfswerk“ offers mobile childcare by educationally trained childminders in a familiar setting ([mobile childminders](#)). This means that the childminders come to the children's homes. The childcare hours are flexible and are agreed on an individual basis.

The subsidized rates (dependent on net household income) average between 7 and 15 Euros an hour. The full price for an hour's childcare without subsidy (for weekdays between 6 a.m. and 10 p.m.) averages €32.60. For overnight stays and other days there is a 50% supplement.

Hilfswerk also offers support „Hauskrankenhilfe“ for sick and convalescent adults.

Hilfswerk in Carinthia:

8.-Mai-Straße 47

9020 Klagenfurt

Tel: 050 544 00

Email: office@hilfswerk.co.at

All locations:

hilfswerk.at/kaernten/standorte

GRANDMA SERVICE

This service is set up to allow families and grandmothers to get in touch with each other. You can specify your needs and preferences at your local administration office by filling in a questionnaire. Once a suitable "Oma" (Grandma) is identified

you will be provided with the contact details so that you can arrange a meeting. Timetables and salary are to be arranged directly between the two parties. For further information, please contact:

[Büro des Katholischen Familienverbandes Kärnten](#)

Contact: Frau Mag. Eva Ludescher

Tuesdays, 1 to 5 pm Thursdays, 8 – 12 am

Tel: +43(0)676 8772-2444

Email: omadienst-ktn@familie.at

NURSERIES (KINDERGARTEN)

The final year of nursery - the year before children start primary school - is compulsory. Free nurseries (Gratis Kindergarten) exist for all children of 3 years or more (mornings only).

We recommend that you register your child as soon as possible because some nurseries have long waiting lists.

In this document, we highlight those care and educational institutions that offer **multi-lingual** or **special alternative educational** programmes.

KINDERGARTENS - KLAGENFURT (MULTILINGUAL OR SPECIAL PROGRAMMES):

English-speaking Kindergartens

["Sunrise"](#)

Lakeside Park B10

9020 Klagenfurt-St. Martin

Tel: +43(0)463 261484

The first English nursery in Carinthia offers children the chance to "experience" the English language in a free, relaxed and playful atmosphere. For this, it is very

important for the children to be challenged according to their level of development and that they are not put under any pressure. Motto: "Learning by Doing".

„MyDragonFly“

Villacher Straße 93
9020 Klagenfurt
Tel.: +43 (0) 664 621 88 98

A private kindergarten, which is striving for the MINT seal of approval certification and due to the international orientation, Christmas is also viewed from the perspectives of different countries and cultures, for example.

Special alternative educational:

Montessori Kindergarten can be found here:

Klagenfurt

<https://www.creavita.at/>
<https://www.diakonie.at/>

Villach

<https://www.kinderbetreuung.at/onlinesuche/detail/montessori-kinderhaus-entdeckungsraum>

Waldorf Kindergarten can be found here:

Klagenfurt

<http://www.waldorfkindergarten-klagenfurt.at/waldorf/>

Villach

<https://www.waldorf-villach.at/>

The University of Klagenfurt offers flexible child-care

In the Lakeside Park (building B02).

Here it is also possible to find a babysitter who speaks your native language.

Mag.^a Bronwen Arbeiter-Weyrer

Director of the Bureau for children at the Alpen-Adria-Universität Klagenfurt

Lakeside Park B02
9020 Klagenfurt am Wörthersee
Tel: +43(0)463 2700 9216
Email: bronwen.arbeiter@aau.at

In addition to the above, the University also offers:

[Kindergruppe Uni Klagenfurt](#)

Lakeside B02
9020 Klagenfurt am Wörthersee
Tel: +43(0)664 5985997
Email: kindergruppe@uni-klu.ac.at

KINDERGARTENS - VILLACH (MULTILINGUAL & ALTERNATIVE PROGRAMMES):

[International Daycare Center](#)

Bilingual childcare for children 11 months to 6 years old
Siemensstraße
9500 Villach
Tel: +43(0)4242 217266
Email: office@sonnenstrahl.co.at

[Sonnenstrahl](#)

Multi-lingual childcare for children 1 to 3 years old
Italiener Straße 37 b
9500 Villach
Tel: +43(0)4242 217266
Email: office@sonnenstrahl.co.at
Contact Person: Ms. Sophie Nelhiebel

Here is a list of all other public Kindergartens in Klagenfurt and Villach.

PARENT-CHILD GROUPS

INTERNATIONAL PARENT/CHILD GROUPS

CIC Baby Chat

Please contact the CIC for details:

Email: office@cic-network.at

International group: [Projektgruppe Frauen](#)

Radetzkystraße 2

9020 Klagenfurt am Wörthersee

Contact Person: Maria Magnidong Epse Chedjou, BA.Msc

Tel: +43(0)463-502 338 or +43(0)699 114 08 704

Email: office@projektgruppe-frauen.at

International Parent/child groups at the Catholic Church:

[Villach St.-Josef](#)

Richtstraße 33

9500 Villach

Tel: +43(0)4242 37072

[Diözesanhaus Klagenfurt](#)

Tarviser Straße 30

9020 Klagenfurt am Wörthersee

Group leader: Alfred Uster

Contact: alfred.uster@kath-kirche-kaernten.at

PARENT/CHILD GROUPS AT PARISHES

Many churches offer parent-child groups ("Krabbelgruppen") using parish meeting facilities.

There are group games for children from 0 to 4 years old and the chance for mothers, fathers and grandparents to share experiences. There are talks on selected topics and childcare during the talks.

Please find here an overview of all parent/child groups of the Catholic church in Carinthia (most groups are in German, for international groups see [above](#)): [Parent/child groups, Katholisches Bildungswerk](#)

Contact Person: Katharina Wagner

Tel: +43 (676) 8772 2407 / Email: katharina.wagner@kath-kirche-kaernten.at

OTHER INSTITUTIONS FOR PARENTS AND CHILDREN

[Eltern-Kind-Zentrum Klagenfurt](#)

Troyerstrasse 36
9020 Klagenfurt am Wörthersee
Telefon: +43(0)650 2602 255
Email: hallo@ekiz-klagenfurt.at

Institute for Family Counselling and Psychotherapy in Villach (IFP der Caritas)

Conversational groups and workshops on the subject of children, toddlers and babies. In the parent/child group meetings (Krabbelgruppen) parents accompany their babies.

Contact:
Karlasse 3
9500 Villach
Tel: +43(0)4242 21352

Institute for Family Counselling and Psychotherapy in Klagenfurt (IFP der Caritas)

Adolf-Kolping-Gasse 6/II
9020 Klagenfurt am Wörthersee
Tel: +43(0)463 500667, Fax DW-20
Email: lb-klagenfurt@caritas-kaernten.at

SCHOOLS

Children must have had their sixth birthday before they must by law start school the following September. School is compulsory in Austria for nine years. School timetables do not provide full-day education.

Afternoon care is dealt with separately and parents have to register their children in an after-school centre ("Hort") to get a place. For primary-aged children centres have the same rates. More information is available below under "Afternoon Care for Children of Compulsory School Age".

THE DIFFERENT TYPES OF SCHOOLS IN THE AUSTRIAN EDUCATION SYSTEM

- Primary schools: Volksschulen (year 1 to year 4)
- Secondary schools (Level 1): Neue Mittelschulen (year 5 to year 8)
- Special schools: Sonderschulen (year 1 to year 8)
- Polytechnic schools (year 9)
- Secondary schools (Level 1 and 2) Allgemeinbildende höhere Schulen: Unterstufe (year 5 to 8), Oberstufe (year 9 to 12)
- Secondary schools that include vocational training: Berufsbildende mittlere Schulen (year 9 to year 12), (Sekundarstufe 2)
- Higher secondary schools that include vocational training: Berufsbildende höhere Schulen (year 9 to year 13)
- Educational institutions for child-minding and social studies: Bildungsanstalten für Kindergarten bzw. Sozialpädagogik (year 9 to 13)
- Schools to accompany professional apprenticeships: Berufsschulen
- (from year 9 – the duration depends upon the chosen apprenticeship).

A diagrammatic explanation of the Austrian education system in English is available here: [Das österreichische Bildungssystem](#)

Your child will normally be assigned to a primary school in your area. Exceptions can be made, but only following an application to change schools to either the city's school council or the school itself.

Registration for secondary school takes place with the school report of a completed year 3 and the first semester of year 4, so it normally happens in the February of the last year of primary school. Here you can find an overview of the schools types: bildung.bmbwf.gv.at

The CIC office can send you further information regarding schooling in Carinthia. If you are interested, please send an email to: office@cic-network.at

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL CARINTHIA (ISC)

[The International School Carinthia \(ISC\)](#) (initialized by the CIC) was founded in September 2013. The curriculum followed is the International Baccalaureat (IB) Programme. However, the school also ensures that the learning objectives of the Austrian curriculum are fulfilled.

Contact (Individual meetings by appointment):

International School Carinthia (ISC)
Rosentaler Straße 15
9220 Velden am Wörthersee, Austria
Tel: +43(0) 4274 52471-10
Email: office@isc.ac.at

HIGHER EDUCATION

Institution	Contact	additional information
Alpen-Adria-Universität Klagenfurt	Tel: +43 (0)463 2700-9200	University education and training
Language Center "Deutsch in Österreich"	Tel: +43 (0)463 24180 Email: dia@aau.at	For CIC members: special discount of 10% for all Intensive German Courses (cannot be combined with other discounts).
Fachhochschule Kärnten	Tel: +43 (0)5 90500-0	Carinthia University of Applied Sciences with internationally oriented education. Sites in Spittal, Villach, Klagenfurt am Wörthersee, Feldkirchen
Pädagogische Hochschule Kärnten	Tel: +43 (0)463 508508 Email: office@ph-kaernten.ac.at	comprehensive training centre for teachers and for people who are or will be active in pedagogical fields.

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS IN CARINTHIA

Updates on school holiday dates can be found [here](#).

AFTERNOON CARE FOR CHILDREN OF COMPULSORY SCHOOL AGE

Some schools offer afternoon care, either in the form of an after-school care centre (Hort) or other child-minding facilities. For primary-aged children centres

have the same rates. You can find more details about Horts in Villach [here](#), or in Klagenfurt [here](#).

ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN

PLAYGROUNDS

Listed below are the bigger ones the ones near the town centre.

Villach

- Stadtpark: Berta von Suttner Straße / Evangelische Kirche
- Wasenboden: near the Drau riverside / Stefan-Moser-Straße, Villach
- Landskron: Dr.-Karl-Rennerstraße/Volkshaus Landskron
- [Dobratsch](#): Adventure Playground (Erlebnisspielplatz) Rosstratte

Klagenfurt

- [Europapark Klagenfurt](#): Near Lake Wörthersee
- Kreuzberglwiese Spielplatz Klagenfurt, Friedrich-Wellwitsch-Weg 11

More playgrounds can be found here.

[Villach](#)

[Klagenfurt](#)

Alpine club

(mountain climbing courses, youth programs, ski tours, hikes, MTB-courses...)

Villach – for more information follow the [link](#)

Klagenfurt – for more information follow the [link](#)

Game festival in the CCV; each autumn there is a presentation of the latest parlour games available for adults and children more information [here](#)

Spring, Summer and Autumn

During these months you can enjoy cycling (including use of the many cycling paths Drau/Gail), around lakes, hiking, playing football, swimming, tennis as well as many more.

Winter

(Ski helmets are compulsory on the ski slopes for children up to 14 years of age)

Skiing

Ski courses for children: http://www.gerlitzten.ski/GB/startseite_GB.html

Ice skating

Indoor or outdoor on natural ice (as long as officially declared safe) see [here](#)
Further information for outdoor ice skating you can find [here](#).

Sledging

Find further information for many destinations [here](#)

Experience the most beautiful destinations in Carinthia with your kids

free of charge or discounted with the Kärnten Card, inquire here
<https://www.kaerntencard.at/winter/en/>

INDOOR-PLAYGROUNDS

Villach

[Lollipop](#) in the **Atrio shopping mall** (Villach)
entry fee, for children aged 1-12. Family adventure park, playland with slide, dexterity games and a separate area for toddlers.

Bowling in the V-Center in Villach – more information find [here](#)

[Alpen-Adria-Mediathek](#)

Kaiser-Josef-Platz 1

9500 Villach

Tel: +43 (0)50 477 5115

A meeting place for those interested in literature and culture. The Mediathek has also got a multimedia dimension (audiobooks, DVDs, PCs with internet access). It offers books and DVDs in German and other languages and book presentations for adults and children are organized on a regular basis.

Klagenfurt

[Nimmerland – Parents-child cafe](#)

Heinrich-Harrer-Straße 9 (vis-a-vis furniture shop Rutar)

A place where children can let their imagination and energy run wild while parents enjoy a coffee in peace.

Bowling in the Cine City/Bowling Arena in Klagenfurt – more details [here](#)

[Jump dome](#)

Carinthias most attractive jump park

[Jump World One – Funsport Area](#)

Indoor & Outdoor-Fun and Sport during the whole year

ACTING, SINGING AND DANCING

Music School

The Carinthian Landesmusikschulwerk offers musical tuition and training to all sorts of people who are interested in it. Activities range from early musical education for the youngest to classes for adults. The schools are all in the largest community of a local authority. Classes are taught during school semesters. Appointments are usually arranged directly with the teachers and registration is in September.

All the music schools in Carinthia are listed [here](#).

Villach:

[Musicalschule Villach](#)

Europaplatz 3

9500 Villach

Judith Schusser-Ortner: Tel: +43(0)664 301 57 92

[Ballet and Dance Studio Viktor Kopeyko](#)

Hans-Gasser-Platz 3b

9500 Villach

Tel: +43(0)660 803 2446

Email: office@tanzstudio-kopeyko.at

Klagenfurt: Dance schools are listed [here](#)

WHAT YOU MUST DO IN CARINTHIA WITH CHILDREN

[Here](#) you will find a Top 10 of excursion destinations, with news and tips.

Here you can find a further list of attractive sights in the region:

www.visitcarinthia.at

Leisure-time activity programme for the summer offered by the [city of Villach](#). Register early, limited places! Waiting list.

CHILDREN ON TOUR – NO MATTER IF BY CAR, BUS, TRAIN OR BIKE

From the age of 6 children in Austria are allowed to ride the train or the bus unaccompanied.

BUSES

A maximum of 2 children up to the age of 6 (up to their 6th birthday) are carried free of charge when accompanied by a supervisor (except for regular, organised kindergarten transport and children's group trips). Accompanying persons can be persons over 6 years old.

Children from the age of 6 (from the 6th birthday) up to the age of 15 (up to the 15th birthday) are entitled to single and day tickets at the Supersaver fare. The entitlement document is a photo ID showing the child's identity and date of birth.

Families receive a reduction on single and day tickets if at least two of the entitled persons, among whom there must be at least one parent and at least one child travel in the same vehicle via the same route.

Every regular pupil and apprentice under 24 years of age who has his/her main place of residence and/or place of training in Carinthia is entitled to transport within the framework of the free travel for pupils and apprentices. More information [here](#).

University Students up to the age of 24 (up to their 24th birthday) receive monthly travel passes at a reduced student price for journeys between their place of residence and the regular location of the educational institution, if they are enrolled at a university, college, university of applied sciences, pedagogical academy or conservatory in the province of Carinthia.

RAILWAYS

For children up until their 6th birthday tickets are free. From their 6th birthday until one day before their 15th birthday they pay half price and from the age of 15 years old, they pay full price. More information [here](#).

BIKES

Children, under the age of 12 years old, may only ride bicycles on public roads under the supervision of a person who is at least 16 years of age. An exemption applies to children with a cycling licence. Children can obtain this from the age of ten after passing an examination. Children who are already in the fourth grade can obtain the pass from the age of nine. Since 1 April 2019, children over the age of 8 years old are also allowed to ride small scooters powered exclusively by muscle power.

CAR SEATS

By law children need to be fastened into a child car seat appropriate for their age and size.

* * * * *

Ideas and suggestions are always welcome. Please let us know if you find something important or that might be useful to add to the booklet. This booklet does not claim to be complete and there is no liability for possible errors.

More information is available on the CIC website: www.cic-network.at.

CIC contact number: +43(0)664 2520575

WE WISH YOU AND YOUR FAMILY ALL THE BEST IN CARINTHIA!

IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NUMBERS

European emergency number/ Euro-Notruf	112
Fire service/ Feuerwehr	122
Police/ Polizei	133
Ambulance/ Rettung	144
Emergency doctor/ Ärztfunkdienst	141
Emergency dentist/ Zahnärztlicher Notdienst	141
Chemists open at night/weekends	Villach, Klagenfurt

24-hour vehicle breakdown services offered by associations for car and motorbike drivers and cyclists	
ARBÖ	123
ÖAMTC	120

HOSPITALS	Klagenfurt	Villach
General: KABEG Klinikum Klagenfurt Feschniggstraße 11 9020 Klagenfurt	+43(0)463 538-0	
Accident and Emergency: Unfallkrankenhaus Waidmannsdorfer Straße 35 9020 Klagenfurt	+43(0)5 9393-46000	
General: Landeskrankenhaus Nikolaigasse 43 9500 Villach		+43(0)4242 208-0
Accident and Emergency: LKH Villach – Unfallabteilung		+43(0)4242 208-62910

SNOW		
General Helpline Problems caused by snowfall, snow-clearing services	+43(0)463 537-5444	+43(0)4242 205
Interruption of Electricity Supply	+43(0)463521-211	

OTHER		

Citizens' Advice Service Contact point for any questions, problems or complaints Bürgerservicestelle	+43(0)463 537-2750	+43(0)4242 205-3901
Vaccination/ Impfservice	+43(0)463 537-4657	+43(0)4242 205-2517
Registration Office: residence registration form, registration certificate Meldeservice (Meldezettel, Meldebestätigungen etc.)	+43(0)463 537-4602 to 4608	+43(0)4242 205-3901
Burial Services/Cremations Bestattung Kärnten GmbH	+43(0)5 0199-6649	+43(0)5 0199-6699

Useful Links

- https://www.migration.gv.at/en/welcome/?no_cache=1
- <https://villach.at/?lang=en-us>
- <http://www.klagenfurt.at>
- https://www.visitcarinthia.at/?_ga=2.220509912.1730341447.1672135278-1378056448.1671090100
- <https://www.ktn.gv.at/English>
- <https://www.oesterreich.gv.at/en/public.html>
- <http://www.justlanded.com/>
- https://austria-forum.org/af/Infos_zum_AF/Short_English_Presentation

many links on the forthcoming pages are provided in German only, if you need assistance on any topic, please feel free to contact us for this purpose.

MOVING TO AUSTRIA CHECKLIST

Pre arrival formalities	
Basic formalities	Identification documents (e.g. passport, international driving licence, birth and marriage certificates)
	Visa, work/residence permit, social security, vaccination certificate, health certificates
	Check insurance for abroad
Medical precautions	Necessary doctor's visits
	Prepare a first-aid kit or medicine chest
Housing	Cancel tenancy agreement
	Sell/rent house/flat
	Inform utility companies
	Draw up moving list and calculate moving costs
	Check storage of furniture/household goods
	Determine import restrictions and customs duties
Bank/insurance	Open an account abroad
	Change/cancel direct debit mandates, standing orders, saving contracts (e.g., ISAs) and loans
	Clarify validity of existing insurances abroad and extend insurance cover if necessary
Motor vehicle/driving licence	Apply for an international driving licence
	Deregister or re-register your car
	Have the no-claims bonus confirmed by the insurance company
	Determine import restrictions
Final preparations	Check personal tax situation - avoid double taxation
	Post forwarding order
	De-registration with the authorities in the home country
	Check infrastructure in the destination country (schools for children, housing)
	Job opportunities for your (spouse) partner
	Clarify security aspects abroad
	Cancel or suspend memberships in clubs or associations during the assignment
	Deregister or re-register magazines/newspapers
	If necessary, issue powers of attorney for specific errands

Pre-Arrival in Austria Checklist	
Passport or identity card	Check for validity
Passport for children	Have passport issued for children
E-forms	<i>Form E 303 and E 301:</i> Confirmation of periods of employment in the country of origin (E 301) and prepare the E 303 form issued by the employment service of the country of origin and the form for taking unemployment benefit entitlements with you.
E-card	Prepare E-card or comparable form (E 111) or other insurance cover for abroad.
Motor vehicle documents	Prepare driving licence, registration. For registration in Austria: prepare 2 photographs of the vehicle from the front diagonally to the left, operating instructions, purchase contract, leasing contract, EU operating permit, vehicle registration certificate.
Certificates	Prepare diplomas, certificates of employment, certificates of service in original and translated form.
Job Application	Prepare CV and application in German and English
School attendance	Prepare school attendance certificates and school attendance certificates of the children in German translation, which will help to place your children in the right school year as quickly as possible.
Various	Organise accommodation (hotel, flat, etc.) or make hotel reservations.
	Ensure you have sufficient funds available to cover initial costs (rent, living expenses, etc.) for the first few months.
	Arrange for health and accident insurance in Austria
	Inform the authorities in your home country (registration office, school, etc.) about the move.
	Organise EU pet passport for all pets.

Post-Arrival to Austria Checklist	
Employer	Register immediately with your employer. Ask for a confirmation of your social insurance registration.
Job searching (dependents)	Report to your local AMS office within 7 days if you require benefit payments for the purpose of job searching.
Registration Form: Meldezettel	Register with the appropriate authority office within three days of taking up residence i.e. the mayoral or municipal office or the Magistrate (town hall in larger cities). The form can be downloaded here: http://www.help.gv.at/Content.Node/documents/meldez.pdf
Registration Certificate: Anmeldebescheinigung	Submit your registration certificate to the administrative authority (Bezirkshauptmannschaft, Magistrat), within three months of entering the country. Apply to the Magistrat, preferably with your first three payslips. Please click here .
Social insurance	Register with the appropriate social insurance institution (this applies especially to marginally employed people, newly self-employed people and family members). Obtain a national insurance number and e-card. For employees: your social insurance number will be given to you by your employer. To order an e-card you need a confirmation of the application for the Certificate of Registration. You can order an e-card here .
Bank account	To open a bank account these documents are necessary: current photo ID, passport or identity card and driving licence.
Vehicle registration	Register your foreign vehicle within one month of entering the country! If you import a vehicle, you will have to pay NoVA tax at the Tax

	Office/Finanzamt. If you do not re-register your vehicle, you will be punished with heavy fines. Registration papers are necessary. Please follow the link here .
Driving licence	If necessary, change your driving licence for an Austrian one (not necessary for EU citizens).
Tax office	Register at the appropriate tax office (for taxes and family allowance)
Registration	Necessary for gas and electricity, telephone, internet, television and radio
Schools	Register your children at an appropriate school (contact a school)
Immigration/ VISA	Submit your registration certificate to the administrative authority (Bezirkshauptmannschaft, Magistrat) if you intend to stay longer than 3 months.