



LAUDER BUSINESS SCHOOL

Welcome Guide

For Visiting Lecturers, Staff & Exchange Students

Vienna, Austria

This guide provides practical information to help you prepare for and settle into life in Vienna. It covers the city, transport, accommodation, health, and daily life essentials.

1. Austria & Vienna at a Glance

Country Facts

Official name	Republic of Austria (Republik Österreich)
Capital	Vienna (Wien)
Population	Approx. 9.1 million (Statistik Austria, 2024)
Area	83,879 km ²
Official language	German
Currency	Euro (€)
EU member	Yes, since 1995
Government	Federal parliamentary republic; 9 Bundesländer (provinces)

Vienna

Vienna is Austria's capital and by far its largest city, with a population of approximately 2 million. It sits in the north-east of the country, on the Danube, bordering Slovakia and Hungary. The city is home to a wealth of imperial architecture, world-class museums, concert halls, and one of the most vibrant café cultures in Europe.



Vienna has ranked among the world's most liveable cities for many consecutive years. In Mercer's 2024 Quality of Living City Ranking, Vienna placed 2nd globally (behind Zurich), maintaining its position as one of the top two cities in the world.

Climate

Vienna has a continental climate with four distinct seasons. Winters can be cold, with temperatures occasionally dropping below -10°C and snowfall possible in the city. Summers are warm to hot, often exceeding 30°C. Spring and autumn are mild and pleasant. Rain is possible year-round.

Winter (Dec–Feb)	0°C to -10°C; snow possible
Spring (Mar–May)	8°C to 18°C; mild
Summer (Jun–Aug)	20°C to 35°C; warm to hot
Autumn (Sep–Nov)	8°C to 18°C; mild

Tourism & Culture

Vienna is one of Europe's great cultural capitals. Key attractions include the Kunsthistorisches Museum, the Belvedere, the Vienna State Opera, the Prater park, the Naschmarkt, Schönbrunn Palace, and the historic Innere Stadt (1st district, a UNESCO World Heritage Site). Most major sights are easily reachable by public transport.

2. Daily Costs (2025 / 2026)

Vienna is a comfortable mid-to-upper-range European capital in terms of cost. The following are approximate current ranges.

Category	Budget (up to €120/day)	Midrange (€120–200/day)
Accommodation	Dorm bed €35–50 / Budget double €80–120 per room	Hotel double €120–200 per room
Food	Self-catering or lunch specials €8–15	Two-course meal with drink €30–45
Museums	Free or low-cost sights	Major museums €15–20
Drinks	Beer/wine at happy hour €3–5	Cocktails €10–14

Tipping

- Restaurants & cafés: round up smaller bills to the nearest 50 cents or euro; add 5–10% for full meals. Tip is given at the time of payment as a single sum.



- Taxis: around 10% is expected.
- Hotel porters & cloakroom: €1–2 per service.

ATMs (Bankomats) are widely available throughout the city. Credit cards are generally accepted in hotels and larger restaurants, but smaller cafés and some shops are cash only.

3. Getting to Vienna

Vienna International Airport (VIE)

Vienna's main international airport is located approximately 18 km south-east of the city centre. It has two terminals and extensive facilities including banks, ATMs, currency exchange, supermarkets, restaurants, left-luggage, and car hire.

Website:

[viennaairport.com](https://www.viennaairport.com)

Airport to City Centre

Option	Journey time	Price	Runs
City Airport Train (CAT)	16 min (non-stop)	€14.90 one-way / €24.90 return Students/discounts: €7 / €12	Every 30 min, 05:37– 23:37 daily
ÖBB S7 / REX7 (suburban train)	~23 min to Wien Mitte	€5.40 one-way (2 fare zones)	Every 30 min
Vienna Airport Lines bus	20–40 min depending on route	~€9–12 one-way	Multiple routes to city
Taxi (metered)	25–40 min	€35–45 (fixed airport rate available)	Always available
Rideshare (Uber/Bolt)	25–40 min	Variable; typically €30–40	Available via app

Budget tip: The ÖBB S7/REX7 suburban train to Wien Mitte costs €5.40 and is almost as fast as the CAT at a fraction of the price. If you hold an annual Wiener Linien pass, you qualify for the discounted CAT fare of €7.

Wien Hauptbahnhof (Vienna Main Station)



All international trains and ÖBB intercity services arrive at Wien Hauptbahnhof, located roughly 3 km south of the city centre. From there, U-Bahn line U1, trams D and O, and buses 13A and 69A connect to the centre. A taxi to the centre costs approximately €10.

4. Getting Around Vienna

Vienna's public transport network (operated by Wiener Linien) is one of the most efficient in Europe, covering five underground lines (U-Bahn), 29 tram lines, and over 100 bus routes. Night services run continuously on weekends. All tickets are valid across U-Bahn, trams, buses, and S-Bahn within the Vienna core zone.

[Wiener Linien — tickets, maps and journey planner](#)

Ticket Prices (valid from 1 January 2026)

Ticket type	Price	Notes
Single ticket (1 Trip VIENNA)	€3.20	Valid 80 min from validation; unlimited changes
7-day pass (digital / non-transferable)	€17.10	Valid 7 consecutive days from activation
7-day pass (paper / transferable)	€28.90	Valid 7 consecutive days; can be shared
31-day pass	Check wienerlinien.at	Valid 31 days from chosen start date
Annual pass (digital)	€461	€1.26/day; valid 365 days in Vienna core zone
Annual pass Youth (under 26, digital)	€294	Replaces the old semester pass
Annual pass Youth (under 26, standard)	€300	For those preferring a physical ticket

For a semester stay, the 7-day pass (€17.10 digital) renewed every week is flexible. If staying longer, the Youth Annual Pass (€294) is the best value — equivalent to €0.81/day.

Tickets can be purchased at U-Bahn station machines, via the Wiener Linien app, at Trafik (tobacco kiosk) shops, or online. Always validate your ticket before boarding. Note: the old 48/72-hour passes have been discontinued as of January 2026.

Taxi

Taxis in Vienna are metered and regulated. They are recognisable by their yellow-and-black TAXI roof signs and licence plates ending in TX. Fares are set by city regulation.

Base fare (day, Mon–Sat 6am–11pm)	€3.80
Base fare (night, Sun & public holidays)	€4.30
Per km (first 4 km)	€1.42
Fixed rate to Vienna Airport	€36 (most operators); confirm in advance
Tip expected	~10%

Popular taxi apps in Vienna: Taxi 31300, Taxi 40100, Taxi 60160. Uber and Bolt also operate in Vienna.

Tram

Vienna's 29 tram lines cover the city centre and many suburbs. Services run approximately 05:15 to 23:45. Trams are numbered or lettered (e.g. D, O, 1, 2, 18) and use the same tickets as the U-Bahn. The Ringstraße trams (1 and 2) offer a scenic and affordable way to see the inner city.

Cycling

Vienna is highly cycle-friendly. The Citybike Wien rental scheme has stations throughout the city. Many dedicated cycle paths run alongside major roads and through parks. Download the Citybike or WienMobil app to locate stations.

5. Visas & Entry

EU / EEA / Swiss Nationals

Citizens of EU member states, the European Economic Area, and Switzerland do not require a visa to enter Austria. A valid national ID card or passport is sufficient.

Israeli Nationals

Israeli nationals are visa-free for stays of up to 90 days in Austria and the wider Schengen Area (per 180-day period), provided they do not take up employment.

Student Visas (stays over 90 days)

For study stays of more than 90 days, a Residence Visa D is required. This must be applied for in person at the competent Austrian embassy or consulate-general in your home country before travelling.



Travel visa C (Schengenvisum)	For stays up to 90 days in the Schengen zone — not needed if visa-free
Residence visa D	For stays of 91 days to 6 months; apply at Austrian embassy before departure

[OeAD — Entry, Residence & Employment Information](#)
[Austrian Ministry of Foreign Affairs — Visa information](#)

6. Health & Insurance

Healthcare in Austria

Austria has a high-quality public health system. Vienna's main public hospital is the Allgemeines Krankenhaus (AKH), which has a 24-hour Accident & Emergency department. Many private doctors in Vienna offer consultations in English — check individual practice websites for language availability.

Tap water is safe to drink throughout Austria.

Health Insurance for Exchange Students

- EU/EEA/Swiss students: the European Health Insurance Card (EHIC — called e-card in Austria, EKVK in German) provides free or reduced-cost public healthcare. Arrange this before departure through your home country's health insurance provider.
- Non-EU students: comprehensive travel and health insurance is required before arrival at LBS. LBS will verify proof of both health and liability insurance before the exchange begins.

LBS requires proof of both health insurance and liability insurance before the exchange starts. Make sure to arrange these before travelling.

OEH Student Insurance

Students enrolled at an Austrian institution who pay the OEH student union fee (ÖH-Beitrag) are automatically covered by a student insurance policy with Generali Versicherungs AG. This covers accident and liability during education-related activities — including travel to and from university, time on campus, and field trips.

Accident insurance policy	000 1809 6819
Liability insurance policy	000 1810 4297
Sum insured — liability	Up to €1,000,000
Sum insured — accident	€7,500 medical; €50,000 invalidity; €15,000 death



Excluded countries	USA, Australia and Canada are NOT covered
Claims	oeh-versicherung.at@generali.com
OEH hotline (Austria)	0800 204 4400 (freephone)
OEH hotline (outside Austria)	+43 1 204 4400

To obtain an insurance certificate (required for some internships or non-EU placements), email studierendenversicherung@oeh.ac.at with: your name, Vienna address, student ID number, and institution, plus a current enrolment confirmation.

[OEH Insurance Information](#)

Pharmacies & Night Pharmacies

Pharmacies (Apotheken) are common throughout Vienna. Night pharmacies rotate on a schedule — check current locations and opening times at:

[vienna.at — night pharmacies](#)

Electricity

Austria uses Type F power sockets (230 V / 50 Hz). Type C and E plugs also work in Type F sockets. If travelling from Israel (Type C/H) or the UK (Type G), bring an adapter.

7. Accommodation

The Jewish Heritage Dormitory (on campus)

The Jewish Heritage Dormitory is located directly on the LBS campus in Vienna's 19th district — just a 5-minute walk to class. It is the most convenient housing option for incoming LBS students and visiting lecturers.

Location	Hofzeile, 1190 Vienna — on LBS campus
Single room price	€460 per month
Cafeteria	Lunch €5 (soup, main, salad, dessert) Dinner €3
Dietary notes	100% kosher; not gluten-free or dairy-free
Community	~120 Jewish students from around the world each year
Room includes	Bed, desk, chair, closet, private shower and toilet, heating, hot water, free Wi-Fi



Facilities	Study lounges, social lounge, gym, laundry room
Contact	dagmar.kreuzer@jhc-dormitory.at

Other Accommodation Options

If the dormitory is full or you prefer independent accommodation, the following platforms cover Vienna well:

[HousingAnywhere](#) — medium-term furnished rentals
[base19.at](#) — student residence in the 19th district
[home4students.at](#) — student housing across Vienna
[oejab.at](#) — student residences

Finding an apartment in Vienna can take time, especially for shorter stays. Start your search as early as possible — ideally 2–3 months before arrival.

8. Practical Information

Language

The official language is German. In Vienna, most service staff, university personnel, and many locals speak at least some English. At LBS, all teaching and administration is conducted in English.

Money & Banking

- Currency: Euro (€). ATMs (Bankomaten) are widely available.
- Credit and debit cards are accepted at larger establishments, but many smaller cafes, restaurants, and shops are cash only. Carry some cash.
- Exchange students will need an Austrian bank account to receive their Erasmus+ grant. Open one promptly upon arrival.

Mobile Phones & SIM Cards

Austrian mobile operators include A1, T-Mobile/Magenta, and Drei (3). SIM cards are widely available at supermarkets, phone shops, and online. EU roaming rules apply for EU/EEA nationals. Israeli students should check their carrier's roaming rates or buy a local SIM.

Internet

Free Wi-Fi is available on the LBS campus and in the dormitory. Vienna also has extensive free public Wi-Fi at many cafes, parks, and public buildings. The Wiener Linien network also provides free Wi-Fi at many U-Bahn stations.

Grocery Shopping



Vienna has a wide range of supermarkets. The most common chains are Billa, Spar, Hofer (Aldi), Lidl, and Penny. For specialist or organic produce, look for Natur Aktiv or Bio Markt. The Naschmarkt (14th district) is Vienna's famous open-air market with fresh produce, deli items, and international foods.

Recycling & Sustainability

Austria has a strict and well-organised recycling system. Separate your waste into Restmüll (general waste), Altpapier (paper), Altglas (glass), and Gelber Sack/Behälter (packaging/plastics). Yellow bins or bags are used for recyclables. Deposit bottles (Pfand) are returned at supermarket machines.

Emergency Numbers

Police (Polizei)	133
Ambulance (Rettung/Notruf)	144
Fire brigade (Feuerwehr)	122
European emergency number	112
Medical emergency hotline	1450 (health advice line, 24/7, also in English)

9. Useful Links

LBS & Erasmus+

[Lauder Business School](#)

[OeAD — Austrian Agency for International Mobility](#)

[Erasmus+ Programme Guide](#)

Vienna

[Vienna Tourist Board \(wien.info\)](#)

[City of Vienna official website](#)

[Wiener Linien — public transport](#)

[ÖBB — Austrian Federal Railways](#)

[City Airport Train \(CAT\)](#)

[Vienna Airport](#)

Health & Insurance

[OEH student insurance](#)

[Allgemeines Krankenhaus \(AKH\) — Vienna main hospital](#)

[Night pharmacies in Vienna](#)



Accommodation

[Jewish Heritage Dormitory — contact dagmar.kreuzer@jhc-dormitory.at](#)

[HousingAnywhere](#)

[home4students.at](#)

Lauder Business School

Hofzeile 18-20, 1190 Vienna, Austria
international@lbs.ac.at | lbs.ac.at

International Office

Erasmus+ Mobility Programme
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