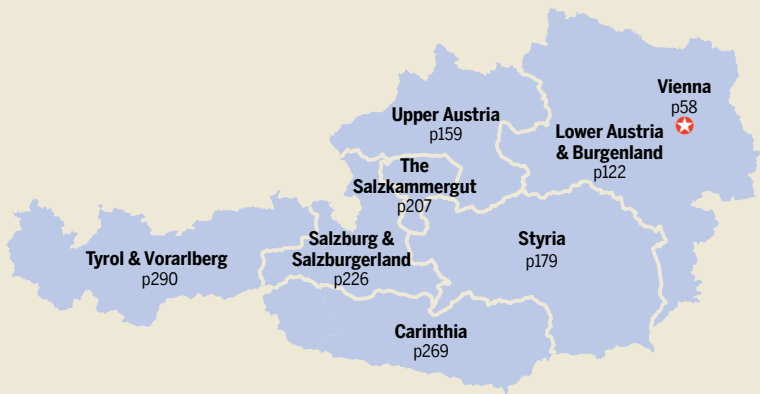




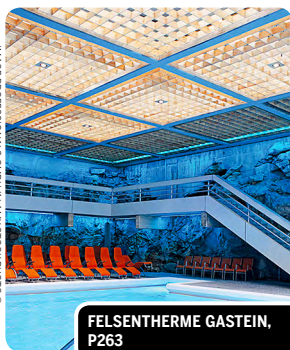
Austria



Catherine Le Nevez,
Marc Di Duca, Anthony Haywood, Kerry Walker

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Itineraries



2 WEEKS Vienna to Salzburg

This itinerary is Austria in a nutshell, winging you from Vienna's opulent palaces and coffee houses to the vine-stitched Wachau Valley, and west to the Alps in Salzburgerland. Mozart, Maria and landscapes no well-orchestrated symphony or yodelling nun could ever quite capture – this one has the lot.

Devote a couple of cultural days to swanning around Habsburg palaces, world-class galleries hung with Klimts and sumptuous coffee houses in **Vienna**. A breezy hour's train ride west and you're in the heart of wine country and on the Danube in the picture-book **Wachau**. Linger for a day or two to lap up the castles, abbeys and local rieslings.

Swing west now for two days to the **Salzkammergut**, where cinematic mountain backdrops rim lakes of bluest blue. Base yourself in ludicrously pretty Hallstatt for peak-gazing swims and a visit to Dachstein's astonishing ice caves.

From here, head west to **Salzburg** for a feast of baroque art, prince-archbishop palaces, Mozart and more. After a couple of days, tag on a day in **Werfen** with its high-on-a-hill castle and extraordinary Eisriesenwelt – all backdropped by the Tennengebirge's jagged limestone peaks.



2
DAYS

Vienna to Innsbruck

This is the grand tour of Austria's cities, loaded with culture and with a tantalising pinch of the alpine landscapes for which the country is renowned.

Kick-start your trip with three days of total cultural immersion in **Vienna**, lapping up Habsburg life in Klimt-crammed Schloss Belvedere or opulent Schloss Schönbrunn, before heading west along the Danube Valley to **Krems an der Donau**. Pause here for cutting-edge galleries and wine tastings, factoring in a trip to the spirit-lifting Benedictine abbey-fortress in **Melk**.

On day seven (a day or two earlier in winter), head to **Linz**, an industrial city that has rediscovered its creative mojo with edgy galleries like Lentos and Ars Electronica. The trail to mountain-rimmed **Hallstatt** and the lakes of the Salzkammergut are soothingly beautiful on day eight.

From Hallstatt, either venture to **Salzburg**, a pristine, castle-topped baroque city, or stop off in lakeside **Zell am See**, where hiking trails thread among some of Austria's highest peaks, before continuing to **Innsbruck** for a dose of culture, hiking, skiing – whatever takes your fancy.



10
DAYS

Salzburgerland & Salzkammergut

Cue the credits: you've seen these snow-crowned mountains and crystal-clear lakes before, right? Welcome to the *Sound of Music* country, where Maria once joyously skipped down alpine pastures. And you'll want to when you see it for real, too.

Launch your trip in **Salzburg**, with three days combing the back alleys and clambering up to the high-on-a-hill castle in Mozart's hometown. You can hook onto a *Sound of Music* tour or zoom up to the Alps from here. Or detour to Italianate Schloss Hellbrunn or **Hallein's** salt works.

From Salzburg, the road dips to the most picturesque of the lakes in the Salzkammergut, the **Wolfgangsee**, where summertime swimming, walking and cycling are splendid. Tick off lesser-known towns on hikes or rides over a few days.

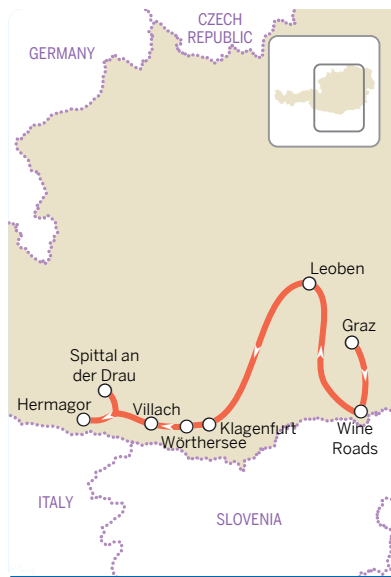
From St Wolfgang or St Gilgen, it's a short bus hop to **Bad Ischl**, a base for exploring other Salzkammergut lakes over the next three days. The most dramatic is Hallstätter See, with **Hallstatt** or laid-back **Obertraun** perfect for overnighting. Near Obertraun, take a cable car to Dachstein's surreal ice caves, and tack on a hike.



Top: Dom St. Jakob
(p295), Innsbruck
Bottom: Murinsel
(p185), Graz



WESTENDGETTY IMAGES ©



10 DAYS Styria and Carinthia

Austria beyond the obvious? This spin of the south takes you to chilled-out, culture-packed Graz, the vineyards of Styria, the turquoise Wörthersee and many other lakes, villages and little-known trails besides.

Factor in three or four days to slip under the surface of **Graz**, Austria's easygoing second city, where space-age galleries, Renaissance courtyards and a spirited food and nightlife scene rival for your attention. On the third day, venture out along the south Styrian **wine roads**, a Tuscan-like landscape with vineyards at every bend.

A train takes you to Klagenfurt via **Leoben** where you can break the journey for a few hours and check out its MuseumsCenter Leoben. The remaining five days can be divided between **Klagenfurt** and **Wörthersee**, **Villach** or **Spittal an der Drau**, towns with a sprinkling of sights and plenty of outdoor activities. Towns such as **Hermagor** in the Gail Valley have great cycling, hiking and (in winter) skiing possibilities.

For a food, wine and culture focus, plan more time around Graz in Styria. For swimming and other activities, plan more time in Carinthia.



2 WEEKS Tyrol

One word: mountains. Wherever you go in Tyrol you'll be confronted by big, in-your-face, often snow-dusted mountains. Grab your hiking boots or skis and dive into these incredible alpine valleys.

Start with a few days in **Innsbruck**. Stroll the historic *Altstadt* (old town), taking in galleries, Habsburg treasures and upbeat nightlife. On the third day, take the futuristic funicular to the Nordkette, or eyeball Olympic ski jump, Bergisel. From Innsbruck, go south for skiing at the **Stubai Glacier** or west to the baroque abbey in **Stams**.

Then head west to the **Ötztal**, where you can dip into prehistory at Ötzi Dorf and thermal waters at Aqua Dome. Spend the next few days rafting near **Landeck**, exploring the Rosengartenschlucht gorge, or hiking and skiing in **St. Anton am Arlberg**.

In week two, retrace your steps to Innsbruck and swing east. Factor in a day for the medieval town of **Hall in Tirol** and Swarovski Kristallwelten in **Wattens**. The alpine **Zillertal** will have you itching to head out hiking, canyoning, rafting or skiing. Round out at fortress-topped **Kufstein** and the legendary mountains of **Kitzbühel**.

Behind the Scenes

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THIS BOOK

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Map Legend

Sights

- Beach
- Bird Sanctuary
- Buddhist
- Castle/Palace
- Christian
- Confucian
- Hindu
- Islamic
- Jain
- Jewish
- Monument
- Museum/Gallery/Historic Building
- Ruin
- Shinto
- Sikh
- Taoist
- Winery/Vineyard
- Zoo/Wildlife Sanctuary
- Other Sight

Activities, Courses & Tours

- Bodysurfing
- Diving
- Canoeing/Kayaking
- Course/Tour
- Sento Hot Baths/Onsen
- Skiing
- Snorkelling
- Surfing
- Swimming/Pool
- Walking
- Windsurfing
- Other Activity

Sleeping

- Sleeping
- Camping
- Hut/Shelter

Eating

- Eating

Drinking & Nightlife

- Drinking & Nightlife
- Cafe

Entertainment

- Entertainment

Shopping

- Shopping

Information

- Bank
- Embassy/Consulate
- Hospital/Medical
- Internet
- Police
- Post Office
- Telephone
- Toilet
- Tourist Information
- Other Information

Geographic

- Beach
- Gate
- Hut/Shelter
- Lighthouse
- Lookout
- Mountain/Volcano
- Oasis
- Park
- Pass
- Picnic Area
- Waterfall

Population

- Capital (National)
- Capital (State/Province)
- City/Large Town
- Town/Village

Transport

- Airport
- Border crossing
- Bus
- Cable car/Funicular
- Cycling
- Ferry
- Metro station
- Monorail
- Parking
- Petrol station
- S-Bahn/Subway station
- Taxi
- T-bane/Tunnelbana station
- Train station/Railway
- Tram
- U-Bahn/Underground station
- Other Transport

Routes

- Tollway
- Freeway
- Primary
- Secondary
- Tertiary
- Lane
- Unsealed road
- Road under construction
- Plaza/Mall
- Steps
- Tunnel
- Pedestrian overpass
- Walking Tour
- Walking Tour detour
- Path/Walking Trail

Boundaries

- International
- State/Province
- Disputed
- Regional/Suburb
- Marine Park
- Cliff
- Wall

Hydrography

- River, Creek
- Intermittent River
- Canal
- Water
- Dry/Salt/Intermittent Lake
- Reef

Areas

- Airport/Runway
- Beach/Desert
- Cemetery (Christian)
- Cemetery (Other)
- Glacier
- Mudflat
- Park/Forest
- Sight (Building)
- Sportsground
- Swamp/Mangrove

Note: Not all symbols displayed above appear on the maps in this book



OUR STORY

A beat-up old car, a few dollars in the pocket and a sense of adventure. In 1972 that's all Tony and Maureen Wheeler needed for the trip of a lifetime – across Europe and Asia overland to Australia. It took several months, and at the end – broke but inspired – they sat at their kitchen table writing and stapling together their first travel guide, *Across Asia on the Cheap*. Within a week they'd sold 1500 copies. Lonely Planet was born.

Today, Lonely Planet has offices in Franklin, London, Melbourne, Oakland, Dublin, Beijing and Delhi, with more than 600 staff and writers. We share Tony's belief that 'a great guidebook should do three things: inform, educate and amuse'.

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