

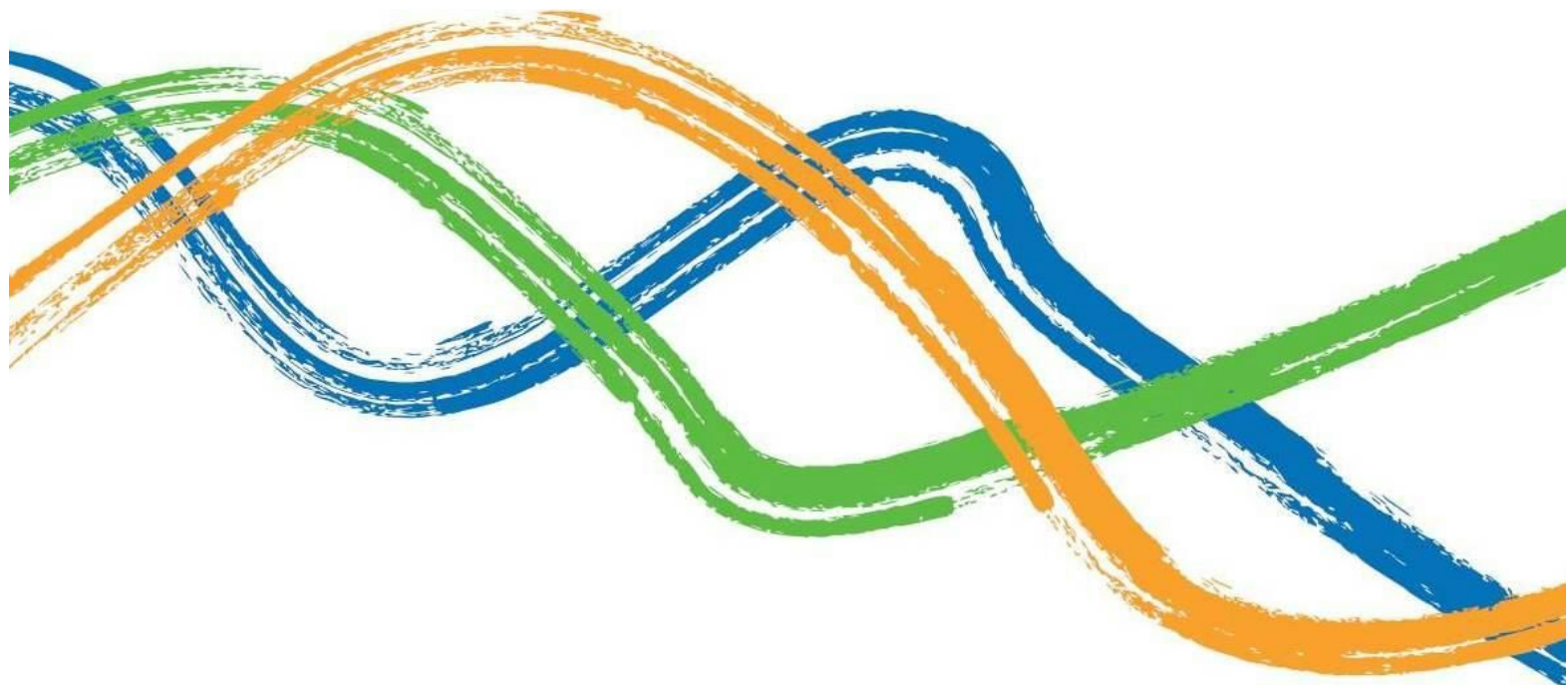


BEST
GRAZ

Survival Guide

WINTER COURSE

January/February 2016





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INTRO

This is the Survival Guide (SG) for Winter Course (WiC) 2015. It contains all the necessary information you will need to survive in Austria. WiC is being organized by Local BEST Group Graz (LGB Graz) and it will be held in the city of Graz and most probably also in a small village near the city.

We hope that you won't need all the stuff that we're providing here for you, but you never know!

More detailed information will follow when you got accepted. :)



1. GENERAL INFORMATION

1.1 Date: 30.1. – 8.2.2014

Arrival day will be Saturday the 30.1. 2016 and the departure day the 8.2.2016. Between this time you will have a great program mix (academic, social, leisure, cultural part). The first part will be held outside of Graz in a small village located in the mountains not far away from the city. In the second part of the course we will be in the city of Graz.

1.2. Accommodation

There will be two different locations. In the small village outside of Graz in the mountains we will stay all together in a big house (made for 50 people). In Graz, you will be hosted in a student dormitory, hostel or some similar institution.

1.3. Meals

Meals will be cooked by our lovely organizers, sometimes we might have lunch in the local restaurants or canteen. You get three meals a day. omnomnom :)

1.4. Before you leave

Before all the fun starts, there is a little paper work that needs to be done:

1.4.1. Travel plan

Let us know about it as soon as possible. This will be of great help to us in case of delays or other problems.

1.4.2. Visa

If you need one, don't forget to tell us ASAP so we can send you your official invitation.

1.4.3. Travel & health insurance

This is very important for you. You must bring health insurance, or something similar.

1.4.4. What to bring with you

Of course you know how to pack your own suitcase, but just so that you won't get surprised, please check this list and make sure nothing is left behind:

-Personal insurance;



- ID, passport, student card and/or visa if required
- good outdoor shoes in case we go hiking
- warm clothes that keep you dry in snowstorms ;)
- some nicer cloths for the official opening
- Toothbrush + necessary accessories;
- Medicine (if you need it);
- pocket money for drinks in Cash
- A Flag from your country!
- This survival guide;
- Any special and/or traditional dish from your country;
- Some Whisky, Vodka, Alcohol, Wine, Beer, a bottle of a typical drink from your country;
- Huge, tremendous, incredible sense of humor, and lot of energy!
-and of course the BEST spirit :D

2. AUSTRIA

Austria (German: Österreich, literally "the Eastern Realm" or "Eastern Empire") is a land-locked alpine German speaking country in Central Europe bordering Switzerland and Liechtenstein to the west, Germany and Czech Republic to the north, Slovakia and Hungary to the east and Slovenia and Italy to the south. Austria, along with neighboring Switzerland, is the wintersports capital of Europe. In the winter the weather is quite cold ;) (whatever this means).





2.1. City of Graz

Graz is the second-largest city in Austria, with a population of about 280,000. Some 40,000 of this population is made up of students, as Graz is home to no less than six universities.

The roots of Graz can be traced back to Roman times, when a small fort was built where the city center is today; Slovenians later built a larger fortress in the same place. The Slovenian name of the castle is Gradec; the name Graz is derived from this.

Graz has many good sights; most of them are located in the old town that also is a world heritage site. There is a hill ('Schloßberg') in the middle of the City which contains our famous clocktower ('Uhrturm') and the remains of the big fortress that was blasted by Napoleon. As Graz was the cultural capital of Europe in 2003, there is the unique Murinsel (an island in the river 'Mur' that goes through the city) and the fabulous house of arts left from that event. Moreover you'll find more cultural highlights at the borders of the town, just ask at the tourist information located near city center.

2.1.1. Moving in Graz

You can do most distances by foot, otherwise you should use the good but public transport (trams and busses - one hour for 2,0 €), or a bicycle (Graz has a very good network of cycle paths).

2.1.2. Going out in Graz

Due to its importance as a university city, Graz has a vibrant night life featuring almost all styles of (musical) entertainment. Bars are concentrated around the old town as well as the Karl-Franzens-University to the west of the old town. Just ask locals (or the organizers) and tell what preferences you have; you'll get the right recommendation ;).

What	price €
beer 0,5l(store)	0,6 - 1
beer 0,5l(Pub)	2,6-3,8
beer 0,5l(Club)	3-6
water 0,5l(store)	0,2-0,8
coffee (cup, café)	1 - 3,5
Cigarettes	3,9 - 4,5
Mars, Snickers	0,8
Milka chocolate	1
Kebap	2 - 3,5
Hot Dog	2 - 3,5
bottle Vodka 0,7l (store)	8-14



bottle Vodka 0,7l (pub)	~60
Club entry	0-8
Bottle of 'Stroh 80' (store)	19,9
Original Mozart balls (18 pieces)	~10

2.2. Austrian Language

The official language in Austria is German. But we developed our own kind of pronunciation and adapted some Slavic and Jewish words. Therefore it is pretty likely that you won't understand an „original“ Austrian the first time you hear him, even though you may have studied German for years. We (Austrians) as a matter of fact DO understand every word in GERMAN. This might be a little bit confusing, but we have a small extra lesson for all those who want to develop some extra skills: Every Austrian dialect pronounces hard vowels (t,k,p..) soft (d,g,b...). We also „swallow“ some endings, which makes it extra difficult to recognize the word.

English	Austrian
cheers	Prost
please	Bitte
thank you	Danke
good morning	Guten Morgen
good evening	Guten Abend
good bye	Auf Wiedersehen
a person	Eine Person
tram	Straßenbahn
beer	Bier
ticket	Fahrkarte
train	Zug
bread	Brot
street	Straße
entry	Eingang
exit	Ausgang
open	geöffnet
closed	geschlossen
Sorry	Entschuldigung!
meeting point	Treffpunkt
Yes	Ja
No	Nein
help	Hilfe
subway	U-Bahn



laying floortiles	Fliesenlegen
help	Hilfe
car	Auto
How are you?	Wie geht es Ihnen?
doctor	Arzt
I don't understand you!	Ich verstehe Sie nicht!
police	Polizei
firebrigade	Feuerwehr
hospital	Krankenhaus
station	Bahnhof
left	links
right	rechts
Can you help me?	Können Sie mir helfen?
How much?	Wie viel?

2.3. Security

Every town/city in Austria is safe. That means that you can walk through the whole city at any time without the need for knives, pepper spray, guns, swords, bodyguards or things like that.

2.4. Public Transport vs Taxi

Some of you may be used to taxi drivers that try to rob you or worse. We have a surprise for you: You can take any taxi without risk in Vienna and Graz. The taxi prices in Austria are around 10€ for a 10 min trip.

Public transport in Graz beats taxis during day AND night - but for public transport you have to know the lines that bring you home. See the city guides for more information!



2.5. How to reach us

2.5.1. By Plane

GRAZ

When taking the plane you'll most probably arrive at the Graz Airport (<http://www.flughafen-graz.at/>). The airport is a little bit outside of Graz. To get into the town you can take the bus or the train. Take a look at this link:

<http://www.holding-graz.at/linien.html>

You will find information about the timetables and the prices. The busses will bring you directly to „Jakominiplatz“, the biggest hub for public transport in Graz.

VIENNA

There are busses going regularly from the airport to all train stations. You can also take the train to the city center. The cheapest way (4,20€) to get to the city is to take the suburban trains (Schnellbahn) S7.

www.vor.at

2.5.2. By Train

GRAZ

If you get to Graz by train, you will arrive at the central station (called „Hauptbahnhof“ in German). There are several trams and busses in front of the main exit.

VIENNA

Vienna is a bit more tricky. There are two major train stations - one to the West („Wien Westbahnhof“) and one to the South („Wien Hauptbahnhof“). There is also one smaller station in the South called „Wien Meidling“. Transfer between them is possible by public transport or a special bus line that also goes to the airport. The „Wien Hauptbahnhof“ and „Wien Meidling“ are the stations with the trains to Graz, so please don't wait for the train at the western one.

Link to the Austrian Railway Company (ÖBB):

www.oebb.at/en

2.5.3. By International Busses

GRAZ

All busses stop at the Andreas-Hofer-Platz or the central station.

VIENNA

There are two possible Bus Stops for international Busses in Vienna:

Erdberg in the south East of Vienna close to the U3.

Hauptbahnhof (Central Train Station)





USEFUL CONTACTS

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