

# Graz & Southern Styria: Austria for Foodies

Recommended length: 3-4 nights



City of Graz © Graz Tourismus/Harry Schiffer



## Graz - Austria's Capital of Culinary Delights

Graz is Austria's second largest city - and one of its hidden secrets. This historic city in the southern region of Styria has plenty to flaunt. Graz is also called the Capital of Culinary Delights. The city is surrounded by lush farmland and peaceful wine country. As a foodie, you'll feel right at home in Graz: You'll find local cuisine using regional and seasonal products at every corner. Events like the week-long Graz Food Festival in August and regular farmers' markets are integral parts of the city, as are exciting restaurants serving up ever new scrumptious creations.

Besides being a foodie paradise, Graz is also known for its artsy side. Its reputation of being a lively, modern cultural place earned it the title of Cultural Capital of Europe 2003, and its beautiful historical centre, which is a UNESCO World Cultural Heritage site, is a colourful smorgasbord of different influences, from the Baroque to the Renaissance, Art Deco and Medieval.

The Schlossberg mountain is the ideal spot to start exploring the city. Graz' landmark, the Clock Tower, perches above the Old Town. The Kunsthaus museum is a must-visits for lovers of contemporary art. And the futuristic Mur Island is the perfect place for a sun-downer.

### Markets not to miss:

- Market on Lendplatz
- Farmers market on Kaiser-Josef-Markt
- City Farmers Store

### Must-try:

- Styrian Runner Bean Salad
- Pumpkin Seed Oil
- Styrian Fried Chicken

### Restaurant recommendations:

- Der Steirer
- Aiola Upstairs
- Dreizehn by Gauster



Lendplatz Market © Graz Tourismus/Harry Schiffer



Graz by night © Graz Tourismus/Werner Krug





## South Styrian Wine Road

The Südsteiermark (Southern Styria) is synonymous with fresh, aromatic white wines, particularly Sauvignon Blanc. On 2,340 hectares of planted vineyards, there is plenty of room however, so a wealth of other varieties, from Welschriesling to Morillon (Chardonnay) and Gelber Muskateller to Traminer. The viticulture here is amongst Europe's finest, with its charming scenery, yet it also includes some of the hardest and most challenging terrain, because most of the vineyards are planted on extremely steep inclines.

### **Vineyards not to miss:**

- Hannes Sabathi
- Tement
- Maria & Sepp Muster

### **Must-visits:**

- Traditional Buschenschank
- Genussregal
- Oil Mill Hamlitsch

### **Restaurant recommendations:**

- Weinbank
- Magnothek & Wirtshaus am Zieregg
- Sattlerhof



## Vulcano Region Styria

Once called Südoststeiermark, the wine region's new name 'Vulkanland Steiermark' (Volcano Country Steiermark) already speaks for itself. But it is not only the soil that distinguishes this region from others; it also manifests considerable differences in terms of climate. In addition to being a Foodie paradise, the region is also well known for its thermal springs and many spa resorts.

### **Vineyards not to miss:**

- Fischer Weine
- Wein vom Pock
- Weingut Winkler-Hermaden

### **Must-visits:**

- Zotter Chocolate Factory
- Vulcano Ham Manufactory
- Bäcksteffl Runner Bean Museum

### **Accommodation recommendations:**

- Loisium Wine & Spa Hotel
- Apartment Weingartenblick
- Rogner Bad Blumau



South Styrian Wine Road © Julius Silver



Traditional Brettljause © Christian Kremser