

## AUSTRIA'S HIDDEN GEMS

Away from the well-trodden path of Vienna, Salzburg and Innsbruck, you can experience the raw culture of the Alps or the charming day-to-day life in the towns and villages. Here is a guide to Austria's lesser-known destinations, yet worth visiting.

### Bregenzwald – Where modern architecture meets tradition

If a ranking of the most significant architectural regions in the world were to be drawn up today, Vorarlberg would, without a doubt, be in the top ten. This community of villages in western Austria thrives off artisanship and local tradition. The “Bregenzwald Umgang” guides you through the twelve picturesque villages and shows the diverse creativity – from bus stops designed by internationally renowned designers in Krumbach to Austria's only Women's Museum in Hittisau and secret cheese cellars in Lindengau and.

For more information: <https://www.bregenzwald.at/en/thema/architecture/bregenzwald-umgang/>

### Gailtal Valley – First Slow Food Travel Region

The Gailtal valley in Carinthia is the world's first travel region that dedicates itself to slow food. 19 local artisans and craftsmen and women got together for the Slow Food Project to create a more mindful culinary culture. They opened their dairy farms, wine cellars and smoke houses to visitors to tell the story of what makes Gailtal bacon so special, why the fertile ground brings creativity into the kitchen and why Gailtal's bees produce extra sweet honey.

For more information: <https://www.austria.info/us/activities/food-wine/gailtal-slow-food-region>

### Linz – The city that's a little bit different

This “City of Smart Tourism” has historic beauty aplenty: Its expansive main square – located right by the Danube – and its quaint Old Town have a relaxed and authentic feel. But Linz is also defined by a constant desire for change and innovation. Once primarily an industrial centre, Linz has become a pioneer when it comes to culture, art and technology. Home to a harbour that doubles as one of Europe's biggest graffiti galleries and the cutting-edge art-slash-technology museum Ars Electronica Center, Linz is a destination for travellers looking for the unfamiliar.

For more information: <https://www.austria.info/us/where-to-go/cities/linz>

### Kaisertal - The Valley Without Cars

Only accessible by foot, the Kaisertal Valley is an almost untouched piece of Tirol you can explore from the town of Kufstein. Hidden behind Tirol's Wilder Kaiser mountains the valley was voted the most beautiful spots in the country in 2016. Due to the lack of public road access only 39 people claim to live here. Rumor has it that the valley is a place of power and a source of energy. The five Alpine huts offer traditional Austrian food and a place to sleep to recharge batteries.

For more information: <https://www.austria.info/us/austria-a-singular-journey-a-lifetime-of-tirol-innsbruck/kaisertal>

### Graz – Austria's Southern Beauty

The best way to discover Austria's second largest city is through local food. It is not called "Capital of Culinary Delights" without a reason. The Mediterranean flair that comes with the Graz gets visitors carried away with the city's easy-going approach to life. Sitting in an outdoor space in the old city, listening to a nearby street musician, and sipping your second coffee in the sun: There's no big city rush here. Local cuisine using regional and seasonal products can be found at every corner. Events like the Graz Food Festival, The Long Table of Graz and regular farmers markets, where producers sell their choicest meats, vegetables, eggs, and baked goods are integral parts of the city.

For more information: <https://www.austria.info/us/austria-a-singular-journey-a-lifetime-of/graz-surroundings>

### **Image database:**

[www.views.austria.info](http://www.views.austria.info)

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