PREPARATION DAYS

Living in Austria

Academic Year 2019/20
Welcome Center of TU Graz

We are here to assist you!

Visiting address:
Mandellstraße 15/2nd floor

Office hours:
Mo – Fri: 10 am – 12 pm
Wed: 1 pm to 3.30 pm
or individual appointment

✉: welcomcenter@tugraz.at
📞: +43 316 873 4920/6427

https://www.facebook.com/tugrazwelcomecenter/

Birgit & Elisabeth
International Office – Welcome Center

www.tugraz.at/go/welcome-center
Flags and Coats of Arms

![Flag of Austria](image)

![Coat of Arms of Austria](image)

![Flag of Hungary](image)

![Coat of Arms of Hungary](image)
Life in Graz
Graz – a wonderful place to live

- Second-largest Austrian city with a population of 320,000, capital of the Federal State of Styria in south-east Austria
- Mild climate, Mediterranean flair
- Historic old town (UNESCO world heritage site) and contemporary architecture
- City of Human Rights
- City of Design and European Capital of Culture 2003
- Science and business location (60,000 students)
- International community and associations
Graz – a wonderful place to live

- High standard of living
- Friendly, helpful population
- Good educational and health care system
- Safety, cleanliness, high environmental awareness
- Lively cultural scene
- First-class cuisine and high-quality foods
Public transport in Graz

€ 2.50 for 1 hour

€ 5.50 for 24 hours

€ 20.60 for 10 single (hour) trips

“Streifenkarte”

Altstadtbim: Free rides from Hauptplatz + 1 to Jakominiplatz + 1

Nightline: Night busses on Fridays, Saturdays and before public holidays

www.tugraz.at/go/welcome-center
Student Pass

- Pass for 4 months (38% savings)
- Price: 125.2€
- Requirements:
  - under age 26
  - degree seeking student
- Mobility cheque (Mobilitätsscheck) 30€ discount
- Documents:
  - Filled out application form
  - Confirmation of registration at the university (Studienbestätigung)
  - Passport photo
  - Additionally for the Mobilitätsscheck: email with a code

www.tugraz.at/go/welcome-center
How to get your Student Pass

1. Print out the confirmation of registration in TUGrazonline

2. Visit the Mobilitätszentrum to apply for the Student Pass/Top Ticket

   What you need to bring with you
   - Confirmation of registration
   - Completed and signed application form
   - Student ID and passport
   - Passport photo

Mobilitäts- und Vertriebscenter der Grazer Linien, Jakominstraße 1, 8010 Graz, Mo – Fri: 8 am to 6 pm, Sat: 9 am to 1 pm
Top Ticket Students

- Ticket for 6 months for travels all over Styria including Graz (train, bus, tram)

**Requirements:**
- under age 26
- degree seeking student
- place of study is in Styria

**Price:** 150€ / semester

**Validity period:**
- Sept 1, 2019 – Feb 29, 2020 (winter semester)
- March 1, 2020 – Aug 31, 2020 (summer semester)

**How to purchase the Top Ticket**
- completed [application form](#) and personal ID
- passport photograph or student ID
- confirmation of registration the university (*Studienbestätigung*)
  - Visit the Mobilitäts- und Vertriebscenter der Grazer Linien
    Jakoministraße 1, 8010 Graz, Mo – Fri: 8 am to 6 pm, Sat: 9 am to 1 pm
  - OR
  - [Online Shop of Graz Linien](#)

For further information check the [Verbundlinie website](#)
Graz – city of bikers

- Second-hand bikes (*gebrauchte Fahrräder*)
- Many bike shops
- Bicycle flea market
- Online platform: willhaben.at

https://www.willhaben.at/iad/kaufen-und-verkaufen/sport-sportgeraete

Please note:
Buy a lock of high quality

Lights at night!
Railway transport

With the ÖBB Vorteilscard (discount card), you receive a discount of up to 50% on train tickets in Austria.

For students younger than 26, the card currently costs € 19,- and is valid for 1 year. For online purchase:

▶ http://www.oebb.at/en/angebote-ermaessigungen/vorteilscard
Bus transport

For example Flixbus travels several times a day to destinations as Vienna, Triest and Ljubljana, at prices from € 9 from Graz to Vienna.

- http://www.eurolines.at/
- http://www.flixbus.at/

www.tugraz.at/go/welcome-center
Bank account in Austria

- Free student bank accounts
- Age limit
- Required documents:
  - Copy of your passport
  - Confirmation of enrollment („Inskriptionsbestätigung“)
- For help, contact us at the Welcome Center
- Information sheet

www.tugraz.at/go/welcome-center
Mobile phones

- Contract or prepaid?
- Lots of companies: A1, 3 Drei, Magenta,...
  with stores in the town centre (Herrengasse)
- Servicepauschale – yearly service fee
- Roaming – new regulation since June 15, 2017
- Information sheet
In case of emergency

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133
144
When do I call the police? Ambulance? Fire Department?

- Generally you may call the police, ambulance and fire fighters in any situation where you think it is necessary to call them – usually emergency situations.

- **Police**: accident*, burglary, witness of vandalism, noise complaint (*except for if no one was hurt and you could handle it yourself)

- **Ambulance**: accident, hospital/doctor visit when you are unable to make it there yourself (bleeding, pain etc.), exception if you caused it yourself – overconsumption of alcohol, drugs etc.

- **Fire Fighters**: fire, flooding, storm (branches hanging low), animal rescue, etc.

Siren check: every Saturday at 12.00 pm
Hospitals

UKH

LKH West

LKH
Doctors in Graz

- Freedom to choose your doctor:
  - GKK Insurance: consult doctors with the insurance GKK or Alle Kassen
  - BVA Insurance: consult doctors with the insurance BVA or Alle Kassen
  - Other (private) insurance: Please ask the doctor in advance

- General Practitioner: Arzt / Ärztin für Allgemeinmedizin (Hausarzt / Hausärztin) → might forward you to a specialist

- Information sheet on Medical Assistance in Austria

  http://www.docfinder.at/
Does my insurance cover me when I travel?

- EU / EEA incl. signatory countries Turkey and Montenegro – *European Health Insurance Card*
- non-signatory countries no coverage – submit original receipts – reimbursement calculated based in accordance with Austrian tariffs
- private travel insurance is recommended
Trips around Graz

- **Schöckl**: local mountain of Graz
- **Plabutsch**: local hill of Graz
- **Steirisches Weinland**: Styrian wine region
- **Bärenschützklamm** and **Kesselfallklamm**: gorges

https://www.graztourismus.at/en/see-and-do/sightseeing/trips-around-graz
Shopping for Food

- **Supermarkets**: Billa, SPAR, Merkur, Penny Markt, Lidl, Hofer, Denn‘s Biomarkt
  Opening hours: 7.40 am to 7 / 8 pm
  Spar Hans-Sachs-Gasse: 6 am to 9 pm
  Spar at Main Station: 6 am to 10 pm (also on Sundays)

- **Farmers’ Markets**: 
  Kaiser-Josef-Markt: Mo – Sat 6 am to 1pm
  Lendplatz Markt: Mo – Sat 6 am to 1 pm

- **Ethnic food shops**: especially in the districts of Lend (Lendplatz) and Gries (Griesplatz), Annenstraße
Shopping in Graz

- City centre – Herrengasse, Sackstraße, Sporgasse
- Shopping Center MURPARK
- Shopping City Seiersberg
- Citypark
- Shopping Nord
- Shopping Center West

General opening hours:
Mon – Fri 09:00 – 19:00
Sat 09:00 – 18:00

Please note:
Shops are closed on Sundays and public holidays!

www.tugraz.at/go/welcome-center
Where can I buy household goods?

For example:

- Interspar: Wiener Straße 286, 8051 Graz
  Shopping Center West
  Citypark

- Leiner: Annenstraße 63, 8020 Graz

- Ikea: Weblinger Gürtel 31, 8054 Graz

- Butlers: Hans-Sachs-Gasse 5, 8010 Graz

- Bipa or DM for hygienic products in the town
Where can I buy electronics?

For example:

- **Saturn:** Citypark Shopping Center Nord
- **Media Markt:** Shopping Center Seiersberg Shopping Center MURPARK
- **Conrad:** Shopping Center West
Public holidays in 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Holiday</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Holiday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan 01</td>
<td>New Year’s Day</td>
<td>Aug 15</td>
<td>Assumption of Mary</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan 06</td>
<td>Epiphany</td>
<td>Oct 26</td>
<td>National Holiday</td>
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<td>Mar 19</td>
<td>St Joseph’s Day</td>
<td>Nov 01</td>
<td>All Saints’ Day</td>
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<td>Apr 12</td>
<td>Easter Sunday</td>
<td>Dec 08</td>
<td>Feast of the</td>
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<td>Apr 13</td>
<td>Easter Monday</td>
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<td>Immaculate Conception</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 01</td>
<td>Labour Day</td>
<td>Dec 25</td>
<td>Christmas Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 21</td>
<td>Ascension Day</td>
<td>Dec 26</td>
<td>St. Stephen’s Day/</td>
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<td>May 31</td>
<td>Whitsun</td>
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<td>Boxing Day</td>
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<td>Jun 01</td>
<td>Whitsun Monday</td>
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<td>Jun 11</td>
<td>Corpus Christi</td>
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Holidays and Semester Breaks

- All Souls' Day:
  2 November 2019
- Christmas holidays:
  16 December 2019 to 6 January 2020
- Semester breaks:
  3 to 29 February 2020
- Easter holidays:
  6 to 18 April 2020
- Rektorstag:
  22 May 2020
- Tuesday after Whitsun:
  2 June 2020
- Summer holidays:
  29 June to 30 September 2020
- Every Sunday and public holidays

The holding of exams on Saturdays is permitted. The holding of courses on Saturdays is only permitted in exceptional circumstances.
Upcoming events in Graz

- **Historic centre walking tour**
  - every Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday from 1/2 - 12/30/2019
  - Graz tempts you - narrow...

- **Schlossberg hill walking tour**
  - every Saturday from 5/4 - 9/28/2019
  - A steep ascent, breathtaking...

- **Lendwalk**
  - every Wednesday from 5/8 - 12/18/2019
  - Urban flair meets creative...

- **Graz at twilight**
  - every Wednesday, Friday from 7/3 - 9/27/2019
  - Historic lanterns in narrow...

- **steirischer herbst**
  - 9/19 - 10/13/2019
  - steirischer herbst—Europe’s...

- **Long night of the museums**
  - 10/5 - 10/6/2019
  - Saturday October 3rd is the...

https://www.graztourismus.at/en

www.tugraz.at/go/welcome-center
Food and restaurants

The Welcome@TUGraz App
With the Welcome@TUGraz App, important information is sent directly to your phone:
- important addresses,
- entry and residence requirements,
- accommodation,
- food and
- general information on living in Graz.

Download the app from the Google Play Store or Apple Store!

See also: https://www.graztourismus.at/en/eat-and-drink
Welcome Center Events

- Monthly events and get-togethers
- Special events according to the season
- Chance to meet people and exchange experiences
- Information on the latest event via email, website and facebook

www.tugraz.at/go/welcome-center
Welcome Center Events

- potluck dinners
- picnics
- board game evenings
- sports and cultural events
- excursions

► Upcoming event: Trip to the Styrian Wine Region (Sept, 27)

If you wish to receive information on upcoming events, then please allow us to add you to our mailing list by signing the statement of consent.