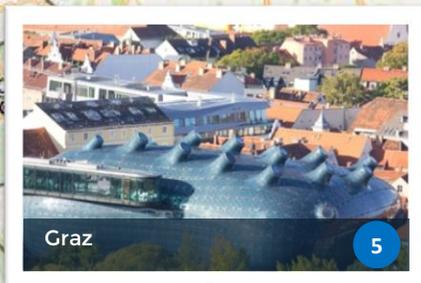




DRIVE TO DISCOVER AUSTRIA

BEST FAMILY HOLIDAYS IN AUSTRIA





Road Trip Drive	Distance	Driving Time
Vienna to Linz	91 miles	2 hours 2 minutes
Linz to Salzburg	82 miles	1 hour 20 minutes
Salzburg to Klagenfurt	142 miles	2 hours 31 minutes
Klagenfurt to Graz	85 miles	1 hours 31 minutes
Graz to Vienna	124 miles	2 hours 12 minutes
Total Distance Covered:	524 miles	

Planning one of the best family holidays in Austria doesn't have to spike your anxiety level, even if that trip to Austria with kids involves driving. In fact, a road trip through Europe is one of the most exciting and rewarding family getaways you can plan. Continental Europe has new adventures, culture, and traditions at every turn, and if you're ready to embark on an epic Austrian family holiday, then consider driving this kid-friendly route!

Begin and end in beautiful Vienna, a city with attractions that will appeal to the wonder-struck toddler and brooding teen alike, with stops in Linz, Salzburg, Klagenfurt, and Graz along the way. Auto Europe offers a number of affordable rental car options with plenty of leg room and space for luggage, so you can stay comfortable while touring Austria with kids.

TO/FROM: Vienna Airport

In this road trip guide, you'll begin and end your journey at Vienna's International Airport.

1. Vienna

Schönbrunn Palace is an enchanting destination for little ones, sure to spark their imagination. Add a dose of culture before lunch with a stop at the Children's Museum on the west side of the palace. After playing dress-up and snapping some photos of your kids in imperial garb, grab lunch at a local bistro (we recommend walking, and letting your kids pick a good spot!), head to Schönbrunn Zoo, which is a fun break from all of the culture and history that Vienna has to offer.

If your kids are musically inclined and old enough, consider getting tickets to the Vienna State Opera, or touring Haus der Musik. Younger kids, will adore a trip to the Prater amusement park, and the 200-foot ferris wheel will offer stunning views of Vienna and let you plan your next move.

2. Linz

Navigate west on E40 in your Vienna car rental, and 2 hours later you'll arrive in Linz, the third-largest city in this beautiful European country. The city sits on the banks of the famous Danube River. Dining out with children in Linz is fun, because the city has a thriving and eclectic gastronomy scene which will allow you to be adventurous together, trying new things and enjoying the melting-pot atmosphere of this Austrian city, which attracts numerous German, Italian, Dutch, and Swiss tourists each year.

3. Salzburg

Hohensalzburg Fortress is a must-see while visiting Salzburg. This fortress is the largest and best-preserved in central Europe, and it's an amazing destination to explore with kids. It is perched atop a mountain, offering epic views of Salzburg, and after visiting Hohensalzburg you'll be able to look up and see it from most locations in the city. If you plan your visit to this destination around mid-day you can enjoy lunch at one of the restaurants located in the fortress - a cool experience your kids will talk about the rest of the trip (because of the view!).

If you're traveling with young boys or girls who are obsessed with big machines, take time to visit the Hanger 7 Aircraft Museum in Salzburg. The hanger is a fabulous glass and metal structure, filled with amazing real airplanes, and there's a hip lounge and outdoor café where you can get a snack before the next stop.

4. Klagenfurt

The Planetarium Klagenfurt, EboardMuseum, and Carinthian Museum of Modern Art are cool scientific and cultural destinations in Klagenfurt, Austria, and there are numerous attractive and historic chapels within the city as well. One of our favorite destinations in Klagenfurt to explore with little ones is Minimundus, a park with small scale models (1:25) of numerous historic buildings from all over the world. Not only are the little structures beautiful and exceptionally well-done, we think this is an excellent place to explore with children to find inspiration for other sites your family might one day travel to explore.

4. Graz

Graz is just an hour and a half from Klagenfurt by car, and when you arrive your first stop should be the Kunsthaus Graz. This is a building, although the structure's exterior looks like an alien spaceship, making it incredibly intriguing to children. The contemporary art collected in this museum is always different, as new collections are regularly rotated through, and most of the exhibits are very interesting, and will certainly spark some fun discussions with your kids. We recommend visiting earlier in the day, but returning after dinner taking a stroll around the structure as the building looks unbelievable at night when lit from within.

An outdoor destination worth exploring with your little ones while visiting Graz is the Grazer Schlossberg (or "Castle Hill"). Not only does this 400 foot hill offer spectacular, panoramic views of this beautiful city (it's also our recommended spot for taking stunning family photos), but there are several fun ways to reach the top, including an elevator inside the mountain made of glass, a century-old funicular which ascends the hill on a hair-raising 60-degree incline, and (for the physically fit), an old 260-step staircase.

After your adventures in Graz are complete, you can return to Vienna - a beautiful Austrian drive which will take just over 2 hours. If you're inspired to extend your stay, there's so much more to do in this beautiful city before departing, and when you're ready to leave, you and your children will have a lot to discuss and remember on the flight home.