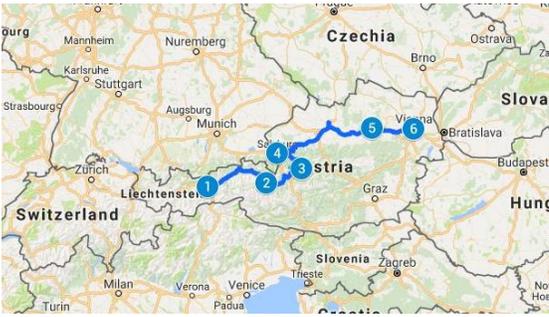




DRIVE TO DISCOVER AUSTRIA

VISIT AUSTRIA: THE
PERFECT ROAD
TRIP





Road Trip Drive	Distance	Driving Time
Innsbruck to Zell am See	99 miles	2 hours 24 minutes
Zell am See to Hallstatt	68 miles	1 hour 42 minutes
Hallstatt to Salzburg	44 miles	1 hours 12 minutes
Salzburg to Melk	131 miles	1 hours 57 minutes
Melk to Vienna	54 miles	1 hours 7 minutes
Total Distance Covered:	396 miles	

This blog post was created in partnership with the Austrian Tourist Office, the official tourist office of Austria. Learn more about their services below.

For a small country, Austria holds immense geographic and cultural appeal. You will find art, music, and stunning scenery in the heart of Europe. Catch a concert in Salzburg, the proud hometown of Mozart, and then enjoy the modern art and music scene in nearby Linz. Sit in one of the storied cafes of Vienna, or splash into the alpine lakes near Kufstein. This Drive to Discover Austria itinerary will take you on the perfect road trip from Innsbruck to Vienna and our full itinerary found here (<http://www.autoeurope.com/blog/road-trips/the-perfect-road-trip>) includes recommendations for hotels & restaurants along the way.

TO/FROM:

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

1. Innsbruck

Upon arriving in Innsbruck, you'll find the capital of Tirol a sizeable city with a vibrant history dating to the early middle ages. The old town's colorful facades contrast beautifully with the rugged peaks rising in the background. There are enough cultural attractions to fill several days, but Innsbruck's main draw is the easily accessible, unspoiled nature surrounding it. Take the Nordkettenbahn directly from the city center to the top of the Nordkette mountain, for stunning views over the town and beyond.

2. Zell am See

From bluer-than-blue Lake Zell to the snow-white peaks of the Hohe Tauern mountains and then on to its charming village center, Zell am See is tailor-made for the active traveler. In summer, dive into the lake, cycle the picturesque shores or search out the best mountain views. The towering Schmittenhöhe boasts some of the most beautiful vistas of any Austrian mountain. Views feature 30 different 10,000-foot peaks, the lake, the river basin and the entire Saalach Valley. The new cable car from Porsche Design zips to the top, where a high-altitude promenade awaits.

3. Hallstatt

Hallstatt, a gorgeous village tucked between majestic peaks and the glassy waters of Hallstätter See, is a pedestrian-only village, so leave your car at one of the nearby parking garages; a shuttle or short walk will take you to the center. The town is known not only for its picturesque beauty and spectacular landscapes but a remarkable 5,000-year history. Both the local World Heritage Museum and the spectacular Salzwelten Hallstatt – probably the oldest salt mine in the world – provide an excellent glimpse of that history. And for an excellent view of the town itself, check out the new viewing platform 360 meters above it. The same cable car that takes you to the salt mines will carry you up.

4. Salzburg

In Salzburg itself, a spectacular fortress towers over the baroque city center and the city's scattering of museums, palaces and grand churches, all demanding several days of exploration and discovery. But for all its pastoral landscapes and traces of deep history, Salzburg has a thoroughly modern streak, as well. Case in point, the internationally celebrated Museum of Modern Art and the provocative art installations found throughout town. Meanwhile, the flourishing gallery scene and array of music festivals are a testament to a rich life beyond "The Sound of Music."

5. Melk

One of the most magnificent abbeys in Austria, Melk Abbey perches above the quaint village of the same name and looks out onto the Danube. The building, a UNESCO World Cultural Heritage Site, embodies all the grandeur and splendor of the Baroque age. Explore the library, museum, church, and gardens, then amble through the village below for striking views of the building and its surroundings.

6. Vienna

Getting to know Vienna from a local perspective means adopting the great Viennese tradition of taking your time to enjoy the finer things in life. Linger over coffee and pastries at a Viennese coffeehouse, spend an evening tasting local wines and food specialties at a Heuriger (wine tavern) or browse the stalls of fresh produce and local delicacies at the farmers' markets, sampling a bite here and there as you go.