Driving in Austria

To enable a save journey through Austria the Austrian Automobile, Motorcycle and Touring Club (ÖAMTC) provides an overview of traffic rules.



Driving License

Foreign travellers residing in the European Union entering Austria with a motor vehicle require their national driving licence and vehicle registration certificate. Travellers from other countries require a German translation or an international driving license.

Speed Limits

	Built-up areas	Outside built-up areas	Expressway	Motorway
MotorcycleVehicles up to 3.5t (including camper vans)	50 km/h	100 km/h	100 km/h	130 km/h
Vehicles up to 3.5t towing a trailer not exceeding 750 kg	50 km/h	100 km/h	100 km/h	100 km/h
Camper vans and vehicles over 3.5t	50 km/h	70 km/h	80 km/h	80 km/h

Tolls

A Vignette is mandatory for all vehicles with a permissible maximum weight of up to 3.5t on motorways and expressways. The Vignette can either be obtained:

- in the form of a sticker available at e.g. ÖAMTC stores, gas stations, tobacconist
- in the form of a "Digital Vignette" by registering the license plate at www.asfinag.at/toll/vignette or at ÖAMTC stores

Seat belts

All occupants of a motor vehicle are required to wear a seat belt.



Child restraints

Every child has to have a seat of its own. Children under the age of 14 who are shorter than 135 cm need to be secured in a suitable restraint system e.g. baby or child seat, booster seat. Children who are taller than 135 cm must wear a seat belt.

Usage of mobile devices

It is strictly prohibited to use a mobile device while driving. Telephoning is only allowed by using a hands-free kit. To use it as a navigation system the device needs to be fastened in the car.

Safety equipment

All motor vehicles must be equipped with a warning triangle, a first-aid kit and a reflective vest.

Pedestrian Crossing

Motorists must approach a pedestrian crossing at low speed or stop in time to allow pedestrians the unhindered and safe crossing.

Emergency lane

In case traffic jam is imminent all drivers of vehicles are required to clear a lane for emergency vehicles. On a motorway or expressway with two lanes an emergency lane must be cleared between the two existing lanes. On a motorway or expressway with more than two lanes drivers on the far left lane are required to drive to the left as far as possible while all other drivers must drive to the right to clear a lane for emergency vehicles.

Blood alcohol level

The legal blood alcohol limit is 0.05%

Driving in winter

Before departure snow and ice has to be removed from the entire vehicle including windscreen and other windows, lights, number plates and the vehicle's roof to ensure safe driving.

For driving a motor vehicle with a permissible maximum weight of up to 3.5t during winter conditions between 1 November and 15 April it is mandatory to install winter tyres on all wheels.

Fuel

Larger gas stations accept international credit cards. In cities and on main roads, gas stations are open from 8:00 to 20:00. Service stations on motorways are generally open around the clock.

To find a gas station in your area visit the ÖAMTC website: www.oeamtc.at/thema/tanken/

Traffic information

For information about current traffic and roadworks visit maps.oeamtc.at

Emergency numbers

Police: +43 133
Ambulance: +43 144
Fire brigade: +43 122

For more information about driving in Austria visit the ÖAMTC website: www.oeamtc.at/laenderinfo/austria

For more information about sights and activities in Austria visit the Austrian National Tourist Office: www.austria.info/uk

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All data has been compiled and checked with utmost diligence, but errors and changes are reserved.

