

**MISSIONARY ATLAS PROJECT  
EUROPE**

**Austria**

**Snapshot**

**Country Name:**

Republic of Austria  
Local—Republik Oesterreich

**Country Founded in:**

September 17, 1156—Duchy of Austria  
August 11, 1804—Austrian Empire  
November 12, 1918—Austrian Republic

**Population:**

8,192,880 (2006)

**Government Type:**

Federal Republic

**Geography/location in the world:**

Central Europe—north of Italy and Slovenia.  
Austria is a landlocked nation with mountains in the southwest and rolling plains in the northeast. It borders the Czech Republic, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Liechtenstein, Slovakia, Slovenia, and Switzerland.

**Number of people groups:**

47

**Picture of flag:**



**Religion Snapshot**

**Major Religion and % of population:**

Christianity—78.3%

**All religions and % for each:**

Roman Catholic—73.6%

Protestant—4.7%

Muslim 4.2%

Other—3.5%

Unspecified—2%

None—12%

**Government interaction with religion:**

In 1867, Religious freedom was declared a constitutional right. There is an official separation of Church and State. Nevertheless, Austria continues to be heavily influenced and even pressured by the Roman Catholic Church.

## Country Profile

### Republic of Austria

#### Basic Facts

##### Country Name:

Republic of Austria  
Local—Republik Oesterreich

##### Demographics:

Population—8,192,880  
▪ (Vienna—capital city, exceeds 1.6 million)  
Population growth rate—0.09%

Birth Rate—8.74 births/1,000 Population  
Death Rate—9.76 deaths/1,000 Population  
Fertility Rate—1.36 Children born/woman

Infant Mortality Rate—4.6 deaths/1,000 live births  
Life Expectancy at birth—79.07 years total (76.17—males/82.11—Females)

Sex Ratio—0.95 males/females

##### Age Structure:

- 0-14 years: 15.4%
- 15-64 years: 67.5%
- 65+years: 17.1%

Median Age—40.9 years (Male—39.8/Female—42)

##### Major Ethnic Groups:

- Austrian—91.1%
- Former Yugoslavs—4%
- Turks—1.6%
- German—0.9%
- Other—2.4%

65% of Austrians live in urban areas.

While the capital Vienna houses more than 2 millions inhabitants with the suburbs included, the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest city (Graz) only has 240,000. There are only 5 cities in all of Austria with more than 100,000 inhabitants.

##### Language:

German is the official, nationwide language in Austria. Almost 99% of the Austrian population speaks German as their native language. The German spoken in Austria is a High German, very close to the German spoken in Southern Germany. There are, however, many High German dialects spoken throughout the various provinces, such as Vorarlbergerisch—an Alemannic dialect similar to Swiss German spoken in Vorarlberg, the Central Austro-Bavarian dialects spoken throughout Vienna, Upper and Lower Austria, and the Southern Austro-Bavarian dialects spoken in Tyrol, Carinthia, and Styria. The Central Austro-Bavarian languages are more likely to be intelligible to Standard German speakers than the Southern dialects. The dialects are very distinct and it is easy for Austrians to determine the particular dialect the German speaker is using.

Croatian (Burgenland), Slovene (Carinthia), and Hungarian (Burgenland) are also official languages in their specific regions.

English is frequently spoken and a required language in high school.

### **Society/Culture:**

While Austrians share a language with the Germans, they are not German and do not wish to be identified as such. They differ in multiple ways, particularly in various values, attitudes, and customs, as well as their historical and political development and heritage.

Austrians are known to be a good natured people with a relaxed and positive attitude towards life. They are hard working, enjoy learning, value cleanliness and order, and respect the environment.

Austrians also tend to be formal, polite, and courteous in public situations. It is customary to shake hands when greeting and parting. In fact, even children shake hands with the adults. Hand gestures however, are rarely used and often considered impolite. Verbal communication is preferable. It is considered impolite to chew gum in public.

Austrians place a high value on time and promptness. It is important to arrive to appointments, even with friends, on time. As Austrians enjoy hosting guests in their homes, guests should never arrive unannounced. Guests typically bring a small gift of candy or flowers for the hostess. Flowers are to be in odd numbers, and preferably bought rather than brought from the home garden. Even married children will bring such gifts when they are visiting home. Guests are to remove their shoes at the door, and are to remain standing until invited and shown where to sit.

Austrian families, particularly in urban areas, are small, with typically one or two children. Both parents typically work, and the children attend day care / school. Despite the fact both sexes are in the labor force and contributing family wages, the household and child raising responsibilities continue to belong only to the females.

Families in urban areas tend to live in apartments.

It is common for a dating couple to live together before marriage, or even instead of marrying. Marriage is most likely to occur between 25 and 28.

The arts are popular throughout Austrian society. The cultural arts play a significant role in shaping the society, and even the youth frequently attend opera and orchestra performances. Most of the larger cities have professional orchestras. Austria also has its own folk music, and every village has its own band and particular style of dress.

Austrians love being outdoors, and enjoy all types of outside activities from walks in nature, to cycling, boating, and mountain climbing. The most popular Austrian sports are winter sports, where Austrians tend to excel and consistently win Olympic medals. Skiing is the favored winter sport.

Austrians tend to dress very western, appearing similar to those in the North East US. They nevertheless usually tend to add Austrian flare. Austrians continue to use their traditional costumes, but wear them mainly during festivities and holidays.

All working Austrians, even the young and inexperienced, receive a minimum of 5 weeks paid vacation. This vacation increases with seniority to 8 weeks. Austrians also get paid an extra month's wages before Christmas and before Vacation season, meaning Austrians are paid for 14 rather than only 12 months per year.

#### Holidays—

- January 1—New Years
- January 6—Epiphany
  - In the rural areas, children will entertain neighbors with a carol in honor of the Three Kings, in hopes of blessing their land for the next year.
  - Epiphany marks the beginning of a period of celebration known as *Fasching* season, which lasts until Ash Wednesday and the beginning of Lent.
- March/April—Easter, Easter Monday
- May 1—Labor Day
- May—Ascension Thursday
- May/June—Pentecost, Pentecost Monday
- May/June—Corpus Christi
- August 15—Assumption Day
- October 26—National Day
  - Commemorates the signing of the State Treaty in 1955 restoring Austrian national sovereignty, marking the end of occupation of WWII troops and the passage of a permanent neutrality law.
  - The day has become a patriotic fitness day, where many Austrians take long walks.
- November 1—All Saint's Day
- December 6—Saint Nicholas Day
  - Marks the beginning of the Christmas holiday season.
  - Children receive gifts of sweets, nuts and apples, supposedly from Saint Nicholas on this day.

- December 8—Immaculate Conception Day
- December 25—Christmas Day
  - Gifts are placed under the Christmas tree and opened on Christmas Eve.
- December 26—Saint Stephen’s Day

WorldMark Encyclopedia of Cultures and Daily Life, Volume 4, 1997.

“Republic of Austria.” *Culture Grams: World Edition, 2004* <http://www.webster.edu/intl/sa/culturegram/austria.pdf>

**Government:**

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Republic of Austria was established December 19, 1945, in accordance with the 1920 Constitution along with the 1929 amendments.

Austria is a Federal Republic. It has a Parliamentary Democracy based upon a civil law system. The government is divided into three branches: Executive, Legislative, and Judicial. The government can be officially removed by the President’s decree or by a “vote of no confidence,” by the National Council.

- Executive
  - Chief of State/President—elected by direct popular vote for 6 year terms.
  - Head of Government/Chancellor—chosen by president from the plurality party in the National Council.
- Legislative
  - Bicameral Federal Assembly
    - Federal Council—62 Members, represents States based on population proportions, serve 5 or 6 year term
    - National Council—183 seats, elected directly by popular vote, 4 year terms
- Judicial
  - Supreme Judicial Court
  - Administrative Court
  - Constitutional Court

Universal Suffrage is universal at the age of 18.

There is compulsory military service for boys at the age of 18.

Austria is divided into 9 federal states/provinces, each with its own government. Most of the administrative, legislative and judicial authority however, is granted to the central government.

- Burgenland
- Kaernten (Carinthia)
- Niederoesterreich (Lower Austria)
- Oberoesterreich (Upper Austria)
- Salzburg
- Steiermark (Styria)
- Tyrol
- Vorarlberg
- Wien (Vienna)

## Political Pressure Groups

- Austrian Trade Union Federation—(independent in name, but actually Socialist.)
- Federal Economic Chamber
- League of Austrian Industrialists
- Roman Catholic Church
- Catholic Action
- Austrian People's Party

CIA World Fact book—<https://www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook/geos/au.html>

Worldmark Encyclopedia of the Nations, 10<sup>th</sup> edition, Volume 5

US Department of State—Austria (Feb. 2006)—<http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/bgn/3165.htm>

## Economy:

Austria enjoys a high standard of living. In fact, they are the 4<sup>th</sup> wealthiest nation in the EU (European Union.) They have a strong market economy comparable to that of other EU economies. Austria attracts many foreign investors due to its strategic crossroads location between Western and Eastern Europe, especially in relation to the new EU nations of Central and Eastern Europe.

Currency—Euro (beginning January 1, 2002)

Currency Exchange Rate—0.80 EUR/1 USD (2005)

GDP Purchasing Power Parity—\$267.6 billion

GDP Official Exchange Rate—\$293.4 billion

GDP Real Growth Rate—1.9%

GDP Per Capita—\$32,700

GDP Composition by Sector

- Agriculture—1.8%
- Industry—30.4%
- Service—67.8%

—Tourism is a key factor in Austria's economy. Austria has a year long tourist season, and strives to continue to attract visitors in order to maintain its rank among the leading tourism countries in Europe.

## Budget

- Revenues—\$148.6 billion
- Expenditures—\$154.5 billion

Labor Force—3.49 Million

Unemployment Rate—5.2%

Population Below Poverty Line—5.9%

Inflation Rate—2.3%

### Agricultural Products

- Grain
- Potatoes
- Sugar Beets
- Wine
- Fruit
- Dairy
- Cattle
- Pigs
- Poultry
- Lumber

### Industries

- Construction
- Machinery
- Vehicles and Parts
- Food
- Metals
- Chemicals
- Lumber and Wood Processing
- Paper
- Communications Equipment
- Tourism

### Export Partners:

- Germany—31.3%
- Italy—8.7%
- US—5.9%
- Switzerland—5.2%
- France—4.2%
- UK—4%

### Import Partners

- Germany—46.2%
- Italy—6.7%
- Switzerland—4.3%

[www.wikipedia.org](http://www.wikipedia.org) -- ([http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Economy\\_of\\_Austria](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Economy_of_Austria) )

CIA World Fact Book

### **Literacy:**

98% of Austrians 15 years of age and older are able to read and write.

### **Land/Geography:**

Austria is a small, landlocked, mountainous country in Central Europe. It is slightly smaller than the US state of Maine. It shares borders with Switzerland, Liechtenstein, Germany, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Hungary, Slovenia, and Italy.

The Northern Calcareous Alps, the Central Alps, and the Southern Calcareous Alps all run through Austria. The mountains are primarily in the Southern and Western areas. Much of the land in these Alpine regions is uninhabitable, and most people live within the river valleys. The land in the Eastern areas however, is mostly flat with gentle slopes. Approximately 40% of Austria is covered by forestry, and less than 20% is suitable for agriculture.

Austria has a temperate climate. The winters are long and cold with much rain and snow; the summers are moderate with some rain.





<http://www.nationsonline.org/oneworld/austria.htm>

<http://www.mywinetutor.com/images/maps/austria.gif>

## History

Human civilization existed in Austria since prehistoric times. Much of the region south of the Danube River was known as Noricum. The western uplands region between the upper Rhine River, the lower course of the Inn River, and the Bavarian and subalpine plateau was known as Rhaetia. This area also included parts of modern-day Germany and Switzerland. The plains region in the east and southeast was known as Pannonia and included areas in present-day Hungary and Slovenia.

The Romans invaded these regions about 15 BC and made them provinces of the empire. Under Roman control, the provinces eventually became outposts for offensive and defensive action against various barbarian tribes. To a large extent Roman strategy was based on the fact that the region contains important passes through the Eastern Alps and thus commands vital transportation arteries between northern, southern, western, and eastern Europe. One of the first Roman military posts in the region was Vindobona (now Vienna), which was located on the site of a Celtic settlement on the edge of the Eastern Alps and on an arm of the Danube. Vindobona became an important strategic crossroad for two main trade routes and for numerous roads leading into the fertile basin of Niederösterreich. Carnuntum (now Petronell), east of present-day Vienna, was another important Roman center in the area.

The Romans conquered the region in 14 BC and divided present day Austria districts, which was already occupied by tribes such as the Celts among the Noricum, Pannonia, and Illyria provinces, founding various cities that actually still exist today including Vindobona (Vienna) and Juvavum (Salzburg). Slavs migrated into the Alps during the Migration Period, and mixed with Celts who were already in the land, establishing Karantania. Karantania composed much of modern day central and eastern Austria.

In the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> centuries AD, the German Bavarians, who had settled west of Austria, in Bavaria, pushed forward, mixed with Rhaeto-Romanic peoples, and expanded into the region. Eventually Karantania lost its independence to the Bavarians, and thus the Bavarians continued pushing forward, through the Danube and up the Alps. The Bavarians were under the leadership of the Carolingian Franks and the Duchy of the Holy Roman Empire. While under Duke Tassilo III, the Bavarians were able to maintain their independence, but Charlemagne defeated him in

788, establishing the region as the Eastern March. This was taken by the Magyars (Hungarians) in 909.

Once the Magyars were defeated by the Ottoman Empire in 955, Austria was again divided into Marches. The Eastern March became the core of Austrian territory, given to Leopold of Babenberg in 976. The Marches were overseen by dukes and counts appointed by the king.

The earliest record showing Austria's name as such, is from 966, where it is written as Ostarrichi, representing the Eastern March of Babenberg. Under the rule of the Babenbergs, for centuries, people began clearing the land for civilization and founding towns. In 1156, Austria was established as a duchy by the Privilegium Minus. The death of Frederick II in 1246, brought an end to Babenberg rule, as the line became extinct. For the next years, the ownership of Austrian land was disputed between Otakar II of Bohemia and Rudolf of Hapsburg. Rudolf I defeated Otakar.

From the 13<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> century, Austria was in the hands of the Hapsburg family. Rudolf von Hapsburg, or Rudolf I—Emperor of Germany, gave Austria to his sons in 1282, beginning the long reign of Hapsburg rulers. The empire originally consisted of Upper and Lower Austria, Carinthia, Styria, and Carniola. The male Hapsburg reign that began in 1282, with Rudolf and Albrecht Hapsburg, carried on unbroken through 1740. The Hapsburgs gained prestige through the years, climaxing in the 1500s when Emperor Maximilian arranged the marriage between his son and Spain's King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella's daughter. King Charles I came out of this marriage, who became King of Spain in 1516, and three years later became Holy Roman Emperor—Charles V. He then ruled over Austria, Spain, the Netherlands, much of Italy, and parts of the Americas until 1556, when he gave Austria to his brother Ferdinand, who was at the time King of Hungary and Bohemia. The Hapsburgs continued their control over Austria, Bohemia, and Hungary until 1918.

When the Hapsburg king of Spain died in 1700, disputes for the throne began between France and Austria. This eventually developed and erupted in to the War of the Spanish Succession which lasted from 1701-14, drawing other European countries into alliances with each side. At the close of the war, Austria was given the Spanish Netherlands (Belgium), Naples, Milan, and Sardinia.

In 1740, Charles VI died, but without a son to succeed him. His only child, Maria Theresa, failed to gain recognition as the valid ruler from many of the German princes, leading to the War of Austrian Succession which lasted from 1740-48. Maria Theresa held on to her throne, but still ended up losing Silesia to Prussia. After being recognized as the legitimate ruler, she began instituting numerous internal reforms within Austria, Hungary, and Bohemia.

In 1765 her son joined her in reigning, as Holy Roman Emperor Joseph II. Even after his mother's death in 1780, Joseph continued to bring reform to his lands, but he ended up being more of an authoritarian ruler, and as he worked to eliminate serfdom and bring about religious freedom, he created internal unrest and turmoil. Nevertheless, Austria's cultural life flourished and brought about composers such as Haydn and Mozart.

At the dawn of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, Austria endured loss and changes in land. During the French Revolutionary and Napoleonic wars, Austria gave up Belgium and Milan to France (1797), but received Venice in return. Then in 1805, Austria lost Venice, Tyrol and sections of Dalmatia to Napoleon. After Napoleon's defeat, and the essentially the end of the Holy Roman Empire, the Congress of Vienna gave Lombardy, Venetia, and Istria to Austria, as well as the lost sections of Dalmatia.

Austria, under Prince Klemens von Metternich, was the leading power of the German Confederation as well as the Holy Alliance—(Austria, Russia, and Prussia), enabling Austria to dominate European politics from 1815-1848. He attained peace in the empire by ruthlessly suppressing all liberal and nationalist movements through a strict period of censorship. But in 1848, revolutions broke out in Hungary, Bohemia, and eventually in Austria itself in Vienna. Metternich stepped down and fled the empire. Emperor Ferdinand I, who suffered from mental handicaps, abdicated the throne in December, giving the throne to his young nephew Franz Joseph I.

The revolutions were suppressed by military force. Franz Joseph was 18 when he acquired the throne, and maintained his reign until his death, which was 68 years later. Franz Joseph made great attempts to strengthen the central government, and to unite all of the Hapsburg territories. Nevertheless, nationalist feelings were still high, causing tension and difficulty in solidifying the empire. The problems were even further spurred on by outside forces attempting to defeat the Austrians.

In 1859, the French and Sardinian armies defeated Austria, claiming Lombardy, thus calling an end to Austrian power in Italian politics. Then in 1866, Prussia ended Austria's control in German politics after defeating them in the Seven Week's War. Hungarians took notice of the weakened Austrian government, and demanded equal rights in the empire, creating the Dual Monarchy. As a result, both of the countries were still under one ruler, but each had their own national government. They shared the tasks of foreign affairs, defense, and finance. The Slavs continued to be oppressed with their nationalist movements suppressed.

Then on June 28, 1914, Serbian patriots and members of the Slavic movement, murdered heir to the Austrian throne, Archduke Francis Ferdinand. This in turn, started World War I, as German teamed up with Austria-Hungary, Italy, and Turkey, coming to be known as the Central Powers. The Allies were originally France, Russia, and the United Kingdom. Italy switched to the Allies, and in 1917 the United States joined them as well. The Allies defeated the Central powers in 1918, and Austria, reduced drastically to only its German speaking territories, became a republic. The Treaty of St. Germain-en-Laye set the borders of the newly proclaimed state, forbidding it to any kind of unity with Germany.

The new Austria soon became overwhelmed with inflation, food shortages, unemployment, financial corruption, and political unrest. Austrian politics consisted of the Christian Socialist Party, the Social democrat party, and the Austrian Nazi party, with the first two being almost equal dominant parties. Austrian Chancellor Engelbert Dollfuss, leader of the Christian Socialists dissolved the Austrian parliament in March of 1933, suspended the

democratic constitution of 1920, and ruled by decree in efforts to end the political and social turmoil. The efforts failed, and in February of 1934, civil unrest broke out and the government responded by dissolving the opposing Social Democratic Party, as well as executing and imprisoning multitudes. Dollfuss went on to set up an authoritarian corporate state, modeled along Fascism. Dollfuss had his cabinet approve a new constitution removing the freedom of the press, and established a one party system creating a state monopoly. On July 25, under the leadership of Adolf Hitler, the Nazis murdered Dollfuss. The Minister of Justice and Education, Kurt von Schuschnigg, became chancellor, and attempted to maintain Austria's independence. Nonetheless, German troops entered Austria in March of 1938, and Austria was declared a part of German Reich, or Nazi Germany—known as Ostmark. Thus Austria ceased to exist as a nation and entered World War II as part of the Axis alliance.

After the Ally victory, Allied troops entered Austria in April 1945, dividing Austria into four zones: US, British, French, and Soviet. The Allies reinstated the 1920 Constitution and allowed the Austrians to establish a limited provincial government. They received much financial aide, from both the UK and the US, from 1945-1948, and then even more from the Marshall Plan, all totally to be more than \$1 billion. The Austrians made good use of the aide, and by the 1950s, Austria maintained one of the world's highest economic growth rates.

May 15, 1955, Austria was re-established as a stable and independent democracy by the signing of the Austrian State Treaty in Vienna with the four Allied Powers. Austria became officially and permanently neutral. The Allied troops occupying the zones left October 25.

In July 1986, General Kurt Waldheim was sworn into office as Austrian president. He was accused of participating in war crimes and being a part of Nazi organizations during WWII. While he denied the charges, many diplomats avoided public contact with Waldheim, and the US Justice Department banned him from entering the United States. He did not run for re-election, and Franz Vranitzky became Chancellor.

Austria joined the European Union in 1995.

Thomas Klestil became president in 1992, and was re-elected in 1998. Strained relations with many nations were returned to normal under his leadership, such as with Israel.

The Social Democrats and the People's Party formed a coalition in the 1990's and cautious reforms were implemented. State owned enterprises were privatized, bringing inflation down to less than 1% by 1998. The budget was reduced to a 2% deficit. Growth rates were about 2% between 1997-2000, and unemployment fell to 4% in 2000.

In 1999, the People's Party and the Social Democrats were unable to agree, and so the People's Party joined a new coalition with the Freedom Party. This provoked protests throughout Austria and the EU, and many partners began to boycott Austria in all official dealings, causing a severe EU crisis. In 2002, several Freedom Party members resigned from the government, causing a collapse. Wolfgang Schussel of the People's Party won the subsequent election, and a coalition was again formed with the Freedom Party.

## Christian History

The Church and State has been closely related in Austria since the Christianization of the Roman Empire. But just as Germany was the birthplace of the Reformation, Austria was the birthplace of the Counter-Reformation.

As Austria was under the rule of the Romans, Christianity began being introduced at the dawning of the Christian era, as early as 174 AD. Christian missionaries were sent out from Austria, by the Bishop of Salzburg as early as 955 AD. The Hapsburgs, an ardent Catholic family, came into power in Austria in 1278.

Through the Middle Ages, monasteries were the predominate Christian religious centers. Vienna did not receive a bishop until 1468. By 1520, after Austria, Burgundy, Aragon, and Castile were united, there was a Protestant presence in Vienna and Salzburg. The Lutheran Reformation began making its way into Austria. In 1552 the Lutherans were given recognition. The Counter Reformation soon began however, as the Jesuits came to Vienna.

After the 30 Years War, the Hapsburgs strictly enforced Catholicism and denied Protestant freedoms. The Peace of Westphalia ended the war in 1648, which was a treaty guaranteeing the Holy Roman Empire's religious and political constitution, providing the German princes sovereign rule over religion in their lands. In Austria, Protestantism was associated with disloyalty, so Protestants were given six months to convert or leave Austria.

In 1699, as Austria defeated the Turks and gained the Hungarian lands, Hapsburg ruler Joseph II, began controlling the Church by destroying monasteries and controlling communication of Roman and Austrian bishops. During this time the Catholic Church was established as the national church and the Catholic doctrines began to dominate Austrian life and culture until the 19<sup>th</sup> century. In 1781 he issued an Edict of Toleration for the Protestants and the Orthodox.

After Napoleon was defeated, and Austria was its own empire, revolutionary spirit began, with demands for more religious freedom. In 1867, as the empire became the Austro-Hungarian dual monarchy, greater religious freedom was provided for in the new constitution. More churches began appearing at this time, including the Churches of Augsburg and Helvetic confessions, which later became the Evangelical Church. Austria was already home to many Orthodox churches, Jews, Muslims, Calvinists, Mormons, Lutherans, and Protestants. Even with the presence of other religions, Catholicism had not lost its grip in Austria.

At the rise of industrialization and secularization, the middle class in particular began demanding a separation of the Church and State. The Catholic Church nonetheless continued in its influence of both politics and society.

In 1918, after Austria was defeated and its territory was reduced, the country continued in a predominately Catholic tradition. There was a Catholic religious party known as the First

Republic Catholics, and the first leaders took leading governmental positions in 1918. However, as the Hapsburg rule had ended, the Church lost much of the influence it had once had, particularly among the middle/working class citizens. Other churches were permitted, and many began to emerge.

A project took place under Dollfuss from 1934-1938, known as the Catholic corporate state experiment. In 1934, Austria signed the concordant with Rome. The project was a failure. Further damage was incurred to the Church when Austria was absorbed into Nazi Germany in 1938.

It was not until 1952 that the Catholic Church gave up its claim to being the national church, and proclaimed through the Mariazell manifesto a free church in a free society.

During the Catholic state project in 1934-1938, and later the absorption into Germany, Protestants gained strength and grew in number. Most of it was simply a change in affiliation. New Protestant groups also formed from refugees after WWII.

Besides the Evangelical Church, the only officially recognized Protestants are the Moravians and the Methodists. In the 1990s there was a Pentecostal/Charismatic movement that spread across the older Austrian churches.

To this day, most Austrians continue to hold to basic Christian convictions, and continue in carrying out the Catholic rites upon birth, marriage, and death. However, devout and regularly practicing Catholics are declining and have become a minority. It is reported that most, even 50 % of the regular Sunday mass attendees, do not believe in the major doctrines such as the resurrection. While a Christian nation in name, it has long been considered a mission field by Protestants around the world.

*The World Christian Encyclopedia*, Second Edition, Volume 1.  
Wikipedia  
<http://lcweb2.loc.gov/frd/cs/attoc.html>

## Religions

### Non-Christian

- *Atheism*
  - 700,000 Atheists Recorded in 1996.
- *Buddhism*
  - 10,000+ Austrian Adherents
  - Officially recognized under Austrian law in 1983
  - First Buddhist Society was founded in Vienna in 1923
  - Austria is a member of the European Buddhist Community
  - 
  - Amidist Sect *Jodashin-shu*—headquarters in Salzburg
  - *Octopus Versandbuchhandlung* Buddhist publishing house in Vienna
- *Hinduism*

- Predominately in the form of Hare Krishna in Austria—represented through Gaudiya Vaishnavism.
- 0.002% of the total population—163 Recorded Hindus in Austria. (2004)
- International Society for Krishna Consciousness Society in Vienna.
- *Islam*
  - 4.22% of Austrian Population—report over 165000 members. 3<sup>rd</sup> largest religion in Austria. (2001).
  - Austria is only Western European nation to officially recognize the Islam religious community.
  - Muslims are entitled to teach Islamic lessons in the state schools.
  - 3 Muslim prayers halls in Vienna
  - Muslim Social Service—founded in Vienna in 1964
- *Paganism*
  - Pagan customs survive in the rural areas and Eastern Alps of Austria.
  - One of the main figures is Krampus. Men dress up as Krampus (with red masks, sheep skin, and horns) in early December roaming the streets during the evenings to frighten people on the streets.
  - The Catholic Church has battled and attempted to prohibit the practice for centuries.
- *Judaism*
  - First center for Jewish learning was in Austria in 13<sup>th</sup> Century
  - Large expulsion of Jews in 1669, but readmission in 1848—a strong Jewish community developed again.
  - 300,000 lived in Austria in 1930s
  - 200,000+ emigrated or were killed after being absorbed into Germany in 1938.
  - Approximately 7,400 Jews in Austria today
  - Many Jewish organizations:
    - Association of Israelite Religious Communities
    - Youth House in Vienna
    - Vienna Synagogue
    - University of Vienna Institute for Judaism
- *Tenrikyo*—<http://www.tenrikyo.or.jp/index.html>
  - Japanese religion founded by Miki Nakayama. The goal is to attain the “joyous life,” and believe in the one god—Tenro-O-No-Mikoto, who is the caring parent of all mankind. There is continual reincarnation.
  - 2 Million followers world wide
  - I new recorded member in Austria in 1998.

[www.wikipedia.org](http://www.wikipedia.org)

*The World Christian Encyclopedia*, Second Edition, Volume 1.

Adherents.com

- *Jehovah's Witness*—[http://www.watchtower.org/statistics/worldwide\\_report.htm](http://www.watchtower.org/statistics/worldwide_report.htm)
  - 20,436 Witnesses, 301 Congregations.
  - 33,776 Memorial Attendee Witnesses
  - 366 Baptized in 2005

- *Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (Mormon)* <http://www.lds.org>, <http://www.hlt.at>
  - 3,800 Adherents and 22 Units (1997)
- *Scientology*—<http://www.scientology-ccvienna.org/>
  - Celebrity Scientology Church is located in Vienna
  - Church of Scientology—Vienna
  - Church of Scientology Mission—Salzburg
  - Church of Scientology Mission—Wolfsberg
- *Unity Church*— <http://www.unity.org/>
  - Groups in Hiederndorf, Vienna, and Linz

### **Catholics/Orthodox Churches**

- *Roman Catholicism*
  - Largest Denomination in Austria—5.6 million adherents and almost 2 million members
  - Governed by the Austrian Conference of Catholic Bishops
  - Catholic Church has experienced decline. Membership loss reached as many 40,000 each year. The number of priests has declined and others have been involved in sex scandals. In 1539 90% of the people in Austria followed the Reformation teachings but today less than 3% of the younger people attend church.
- *Eastern Orthodox*
- *Greek Orthodox*
- *Serbian Orthodox*
  - 2 Parishes in Vienna
  - 3 Churches—Linz, Feldkirch, and Salzburg
- *Romanian Orthodox*
- *Russian Orthodox*
  - 5 Congregations—
    - Holy Virgin Protection Church—Saggen
    - Archangel Michael Church—Linz
    - Orthodox Kirch Maria Schutz—Salzburg
    - St. Alexander Nevsky Orthodox Church—Villach
    - St. Bridget Church—Vienna
- *Bulgarian Orthodox*-- <http://www.bulgarischekirche.at/en/>
  - Founded in 1967 in Vienna; officially recognized by Austria in 1969
  - 10,000 adherents

### **Protestant/Evangelicals/Pentecostals**

- *Baptist*
  - 1,400 Members in 22 Congregations. (2005)
  - 79 Baptisms in 2004, 83 in 2005
  - 2,200 Weekly Visitor Average (53% higher than members)
  - Baptists have been in Austria since 1846
- *Evangelical Lutheran Church*—<http://www.evangel.at/english.0.html>



- Bishop is the highest ecclesiastical representative of the Lutherans, and they are governed by a Presbyteral-Synodal Constitution
- Augsburg Confession
  - Structured into 7 Dioceses and 192 Parishes.
  - Highest Percentage of followers in Burgenland
- Helvetic Confession (Reformed)
  - 9 Parishes
- The two orders were joined in name under Emperor Joseph II
- 370,000 Adherents combined
  - 354,000 Lutheran
  - 19,000 Reformed
- *Mennonite (Mennonitische Freikirche Osterreich)*
  - 300 Members and 6 Congregations in 2003
- *Free Christian (Ass. Of God)* hve 36 congregations with over 2000 members
- *Seventh Day Adventists* has 70 congregations with almost 4000 members
- *Armenian Apostolic Church in Austria* reported 3 congregations with over 5000 members
- *Mennonite Brethren* have 9 congregations with around 500 members
- *Free Christian Churches* have 36 congregations with over 2000 members
- *The Old Catholic Church* reports 14 congregations and over 8000 members. The Old Catholic Church is a community of Christian churches that split from the Roman Catholic Church in the 1870s because of the teaching of the doctrine of Papal Infallibility as promoted by the Vatican Council of 1869-70. The name, 'Old Catholic,' was first used in 1853 to describe the members of the Sea of Utrecht, who were not under Papal authority.

Adherents.com  
Wikipedia.org

## People Groups

00000

Afghan—generic (31,000)

The Afghans are of the Iranian-Median affinity bloc and Pathan people cluster. Their primary language is Southern Pashto. The Afghans are primarily Muslim—99.9%. They are among the least reached peoples in the world, and only have portions of the Bible translated into their language.

00000

Albanian—Tosk (59,000)

The Albanian Tosk are from the Eurasian Peoples affinity bloc, and the Albanian people cluster. Alternate people names include Calabrian, Tosk, Tosk Speaking, Arvanite, and Shqip. The Albanian Tosk are primarily Christian adherents (39.8%), but there are a significant amount who

adhere to Islam (35%) and atheism (25%) as well. Of the Christians, they are 59.1% Orthodox and 40% Roman Catholic.

00000

American—US (5,400)

The Americans are a North American People of the Anglo-American people cluster. They primarily speak English and adhere to Christianity (85%). They are 35% Evangelical Christians. About 13% of the Americans in Austria are non-religious.

3

Anglophone (14,000)

The Anglophones are primarily Christian adherents and speak English.

4

Arab (7,100)

The Arabs are from the Arab World affinity block and the Arabian people cluster. Alternate people names include Anglolan Arabs, Bedouin Arabs, Coast, Hemat, Lebanese Arab, Nawar, Palestinian Arab, Syrian Arab, Baggara, Bosnian Muslims, Iraqi Arab, Levantine Arab, Saudi Arab, and Syro-Lebanese Arabs. They speak Arabic Standard which is a Semitic language of the Afro-Asiatic language family, and are 90% Sunni Muslims.

Arabs number over 148 million and form the majority population in 15 countries. The Arabs are “the largest, most diverse and most politically influential Muslim ethnic group in the world.” (From Richard V. Weekes, ed., *Muslim Peoples: A World Ethnographic Survey*, 2d ed., *Acehnese-Lur* (Westport: Greenwood Press, 1984), 35).

5

Bavarian—Austrian (6,929,000)

The Austrians are of the Eurasian Peoples affinity bloc, and the Germanic people cluster. They primarily speak Bavarian German. They are Primarily Roman Catholic Christians (82.0%).

00000

Bosnian (75,000)

The Bosnians, also known as Croatian, and Muslimani, are Southern Slavs of the Eurasian people affinity bloc. They speak Serbian, and primarily are Sunni Muslims (80%). The Bosnians are from the former Yugoslavia and are traditionally a rural, agricultural people living in family units. Bosnians converted to Islam under the Ottoman Empire in the 15<sup>th</sup> century. The Bosnians are among the least reached peoples, with few, if any, known believers.

9

Brazilian (800)

The Brazilians, also known as Branco, Portuguese, and Brazilian Mestico, are Portuguese Brazilian people of the Latin-Caribbean American affinity bloc. The Brazilians primarily speak Portuguese and are Christian adherents (93%). They are 84% Roman Catholic.

10  
British (4,000)

The British are of the Anglo Celt people cluster of the Eurasian affinity bloc. They are alternately named Anglo-Pakistani, Euronesian, Scottish, White, and Anglophone. The British speak English and are primarily Christians (71%).

11  
Canadian (847)

The Canadians in Austria are primarily French Canadians, also known as QuTbTcois. They are of the French people cluster and speak French. The French Canadians are primarily Christian (74%), and specifically predominately Roman Catholic (97%). There are a significant number of atheists as well (25%). The Canadians are considered among the unengaged peoples.

12  
Croat (61,000)

The Croats, alternately known as Bosnian, Serbian, Muslimani, are Southern Slavs from former Yugoslavia. They primarily speak Croatian and are Christian adherents (91%). They are 88% Roman Catholic Christians.

13  
Czech (7,700)

The Czechs of Austria, also known as Bohemian, are Western Slavs. They speak Czech and primarily adhere to Christianity (54%). A larger number however are atheistic—45%. They are less than 2% Evangelical and have had no active church planting within the past couple of years.

14  
Danish (400)

The Danes living in Austria, are a Scandinavian people. They speak Danish and are Primarily Christian (85%), particularly Protestant (80%). They are not a least reached people, but are an unengaged people. They are less than 2% evangelical and have had no active church planting within the past 2 years.

6  
Deaf (39,360)

The Deaf Austrians use Austrian Sign Language and are primarily Christian adherents. They are however among the least reached peoples. They are in the process of creating a translated

recording of the Bible for them to view as many of them do not learn or communicate best through the written language.

31

Dutch—3,124

The Dutch are of the Germanic people cluster and are alternately named Dutch Jew and Fleming. They primarily speak Dutch and are Christian (60%). They are 53.3% Roman Catholic and 45% Protestant. In the meantime, 39.5% of the Austrian Dutch hold to Atheism. They are considered an unengaged people and have had no active church planting within the past 2 years.

15

Estonian (500)

The Estonians, also known as Estlased, are a Finno-Ugric people cluster who speak Estonian. They are primarily Non-Religious (61%). They are however 38.5% Christian—primarily Protestant. The Estonians are considered unengaged.

00000

Filipino—Tagalog (8,300)

The Filipino, also referred to as Pilipino and Tagalog, are a Malay People of the Central Filipino people cluster. They speak Tagalog and are predominately Christian adherents (96%), and 17% Evangelical. Of the Christians, they are mostly (71%) Roman Catholic.

17

French (15,000)

The French in Austria, referred to also as Franco-Mauritian Mulatto, and Metropolitan, speak primarily French. They are of the French people cluster. The French are mostly Christian (75%), and predominately Roman Catholics (97%). They are considered an unengaged people, with no active church planting in the last 2 years and less than 2% Evangelical. There are multiple agencies involved in reaching them, however.

18

German (263,000)

The Germans in Austria, also known as German Standard, Saxon, Volga German, High German, and Transylvanian, speak German Standard. They are primarily Christian adherents (72%)-- Roman Catholic composing 51.1% and Protestants 45%.

45

German Swiss (9,000)

The German Swiss, also known as Alemannic, Alemannisch, Alsatian, German, Liechtensteiner, Schwyzerdutsch, and Swiss, are of the Germanic people cluster. They primarily speak Swiss

German, with High Alemannisch dialect. The German Swiss are primarily Christians—90% (Roman Catholic 52%, Protestant 45%).

19

Greek (12,000)

The Greeks are descendants of migrants of the Balkan Peninsula who went to Russia in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. After the Russian Turkish wars, there was a great population movement, where primarily the oppressed Christian population found hope in the Russians and fled the Turkish rulers by following the Russian army out in droves. They settled in Crimea and along the coast. The Greeks are alternately named Dimotiki, Greek Cypriot, Hellenic, Romei, Romeos, and Urum. They are of the Eurasian Affinity Bloc, and speak Greek. The Greeks are primarily Christian (95%), predominately Orthodox (92.8%). These Greeks are considered unengaged.

00000

Gypsy—Austrian (9,200)

The Austrian Gypsies are a South Asian People. They speak Bavarian and are primarily adherents to Christianity (80 %,) particularly Roman Catholicism (99%).

20

Han Chinese—Mandarin (34,000)

The Han are the most numerous ethnic group worldwide. While the majority live in mainland China, the Han also reside in nearly every nation around the world. Most of the Han worldwide continue to maintain their own culture and language, feeling it is superior. The Han Chinese are also known as Beijinghua, Cantonese, Chinese, Mandarin, Guanhua, Guoyu, Hakka, Hoton, Huizui, Kreol, Northern Chines, and Pei.

The Han Chinese in Austria, primarily speak Mandarin and adhere to Buddhism—Mahayana (35%). Of the other major religions, 6.9% are Christian, 30% adhere to ethnic religion, 27.7% are non-religious, and .4% adhere to something otherwise.

Of the Christians, 85% are Roman Catholic. The Han are considered unengaged, but greater than 5% of the population is reported likely to soon form into groups of evangelical fellowships.

21

Hungarian (22,000)

The Hungarians are a Eurasian people, and are alternately referred to as Magyar, Siculi, and Szekely. The Hungarians live predominately in the Burgenland, Niedersosterreich, Steiermark, and Wien provinces of Austria. They speak Hungarian and are predominately Christian (90%). The Hungarians Christians are 67% Roman Catholic and 22% Protestant. Of the Hungarians in Austria, 10% are Atheistic.

The Hungarians are considered at the unengaged status, with less than 2% Evangelicals, but statistics show more than 5% are probable for forming an evangelical fellowship.

00000

Indo-Pakistani (21,000)

The Indo-Pakistanis are a South Asian people originally from India, but live around the world today. While natively most are Hindu, those in the Arabian Peninsula are Muslim. Hindi is their native language. Alternate names for the group are East Indian, Hindi, and North Indian. In Austria, 52% are Hindu, 5% Christian, 40% Muslim, and 2.5% other. They are among the least reached people of the world, and are less than .01% Evangelical. There are no churches among the people, but some believers, with many agencies actively working with them.

25

Italian (7,700)

The Italians are a Eurasian people, speaking primarily Italian. They live predominately in the Karnten, Salzburg, Steiermark, Tirol, and Vorarlberg provinces of Austria. They are 80% Christian adherents—predominately Roman Catholic—97.9%. 20% of Italians in Austria are atheist. They are less than 2% evangelical and considered unengaged.

00000

Jew—German (8,100)

The Jews in Austria speak German Standard and adhere primarily to Judaism (95%). Less than 1% are Christian, and 4.8% are Atheist. The German Speaking Jews are among the least reached peoples and have no churches.

26

Kurd—Northern (23,000)

The Northern Kurds are a part of a great long lasting, Kurd population, divided among many clans and tribes. They are for the most part Shafite Sunni Muslims, who embraced Islam after the Arab conquests in the 7<sup>th</sup> Century. The Northern Kurds have been displaced and separated, particularly throughout the former USSR. Alternate people names include Kermanji, Turkish Kurd, and Yezidi (Yazidi). They are of the Iranian-Median affinity bloc and Kurdish people cluster. They primarily speak Northern Kurdish. The Northern Kurds in Austria are 94% adherents to Islam. They are among the least reached people, with few if any known Christian believers.

27

Liechensteiner (557)

The Liechensteiners are a Germanic people who speak German Standard. They are 92% Christian adherents, with 93% of those being Roman Catholic. They are considered among the

unengaged, and have had no active church planting within the past 2 years. They have an agency working on site.

22083

Luxembourgeois (334)

The Luxembourgeois, also known as Luxemburgian and Luxemburgher, are a Germanic People who speak Luxembourgeois. They are 94.7% Christian adherents, and 97.5% of those Roman Catholics. They are considered unengaged as they are less than 2% evangelical. There is a reproducing church movement and agency partnership among the group.

00000

Macedonian (4,100)

The Macedonians are a Southern Slavic people, who primarily speak Macedonian. They are 86.3% Christian, (Orthodox—96.7%, Roman Catholic 2%, Other 1.3%)

33

Norwegian (315)

The Norwegian, also known as Dano-Norwegian, New Norse, and Nynorsk, are a Scandinavian people who speak Bokmal Norwegian. They are mainly Christian adherents (93.6%), and primarily protestant (97.8%) at that. They are less than 2% evangelical, and considered to be among the unengaged but have a widespread disciplined church and are experiencing an accelerated rate of new fellowships.

34

Persian (16,000)

Persians compose a large, tribal ethnic group, unified originally by both language and location. Persians are also known as Ebhele, Farsi, Irani, and Parsiwan. They are an Iranian-Median people who speak Western Farsi. Persians throughout Austria are still predominately Shia Muslims (77%). Approximately 1% are Christian, with 60% of those being Protestant. They are among the least reached peoples of the world.

35

Peruvian (259)

The Peruvians, alternately known as Detribalized Aymara, Detribalized Quechua, Peruvian Mestizo, and Peruvian White, are a Hispanic people of the Latin-Caribbean American affinity bloc. Peruvians speak Spanish and predominately are Christian adherents (91.3%), with 8% being evangelical and 83% being Roman Catholic. The Peruvians are among the unengaged peoples but have a reproducing church movement in place and are experiencing an accelerating rate of new fellowships.

36

Polish (39,000)

The Polish, also referred to as Pole and Silesian, are a Western Slavic people. They are primarily Christian adherents (90%) with the other 10% being atheistic. In the Christian realm, 88.7% of the Poles in Austria are Anglican. The Poles are considered unengaged.

37

Portuguese (200)

The Portuguese, also named Branco, Brazilian, and Portuguese Jew, are a European Portuguese people. They speak Portuguese and are primarily Christian adherents (94%). In fact, the Portuguese are predominately Roman Catholic (94%). The Portuguese are considered an unengaged people.

40

Romani—Sinte (500)

The Romani are a South Asian Gypsy people, who have numerous alternative names, including Croatian Gypsy, Kazakhstani Gypsy, Manush, Rom, Rommane Gypsy, Sasitka, Roma, Sinte, South German Sinte, South German Romany, and Manuche. The Romani primarily speak Romani Sinte and adhere to Christianity. The Romani are 80% Christian with 89% of those adherents being Roman Catholic, and 20% Atheist. The Romani are considered an unengaged people, but they do have multiple agencies working with them to produce a reproducing church movement.

38

Russian (15,000)

The Russian people, also known as Eluosi, Russ, and Olossu, are an Eastern Slavic people who speak Russian. Russians are 70% Christian adherents, with the other 30% being Atheist. Of the Christians, 89.5% are Orthodox. The Russians are considered unengaged.

39

Schwyzerdutsch—300,000

The Schwyzerdutsch are a group of Swiss Germans living in Austria who speak Alemannisch. They are primarily Christian Adherents.

00000

Serb (31,000)

The Serbs, also known as Bosnian, Muslimani, and Serbian, are a Southern Slavic people from the former Yugoslavia who speak the Serbian language. They are 84% Christian adherents (90% Orthodox). The Serbs are less than 1% evangelical.

41



Slovene (30,000)

The Slovenes, also known as Prekmurian, predominantly live in Burgenland, Karnten, and Steiermark Austrian provinces. They are a Southern Slavic people who speak Slovenian. The Slovenes are predominantly Roman Catholic Christians (86%). About 14% of the Slovenes in Austria are atheists. The Slovenes are considered an unengaged people but have a functioning agency partnership as well as a reproducing church movement.

00000

Sorb—Lusatian (4,100)

The Lusatian Sorbs, also named Lusatian, Northern Sorb, Southern Sorb, Upper Saxons, and the Wend, are a Western Slavic people. The Sorbs speak Lower Sorb and are primarily Christian adherents (70%). The Sorbs are predominantly Roman Catholics, making up 85% of the Christian population. The Sorbs are less than .01% evangelical, but have a functioning agency partnership working among them with a reproducing church movement.

43

Spaniard (3,800)

The Spaniards of Austria are alternately known as Argentinean White, Camba, Chilean, Colombian, Cuban, Dominican, Dominican Mulatto, Hispanics, Latin American, Latin American White, Latino, Mexican, Mestizo, Peruvian, and Puerto Rican White. The Spaniards are a Spanish Eurasian people who speak the Spanish language. They are 69% Christian adherents with 99% of those being Roman Catholic. The other 31% of the Spaniards are non-religious. The Spaniards are an unengaged people, but have agency partnerships and a reproducing church movement taking place.

44

Swede (1,768)

The Swedes are a Scandinavian people who speak the Swedish language. In Austria, 54% are Christian adherents, and 96% of those are Protestants. They are unengaged, but greater than 5% are likely to become parts of evangelical fellowships and they have a widespread disciplined church.

46

Turk (71,000)

Turks are originally from Turan, which lies between the Caspian Sea and the Mongolian Desert. They are alternately known as Anatolian, Baharlu Turk, Meskhetian Turk, Ottoman Turk, Rumelian Turk, and Urum. The Turks speak Turkish and are predominantly Sunni Muslims (99.9%). The Turks are 0.1% Christian. The Turks are among the least reached peoples, but have at least one agency working with them onsite as well as one known church.

00000

Vietnamese (3,300)

The Vietnamese in Austria, also known as Annamese, Ching, Gin, Jing, King, Kinh, and Viet, are a Southeast Asian People. They speak Vietnamese and are primarily Mahayana Buddhists (55%). About 12% of the Vietnamese in Austria are also Christian (82% Roman Catholic), and 23% are non-religious. The Vietnamese have one known agency working with them.

22082

Walloon—Belgian (600)

The Walloon in Austria, also known as French, are a French Eurasian people who speak French. They are largely Christians (67%), with 88.8% being Roman Catholic. The Walloon are an unengaged people, but do have a functioning agency partnerships among them, as well as a reproducing church movement.

[www.joshuaproject.com](http://www.joshuaproject.com)

[www.peoplegroups.com](http://www.peoplegroups.com)

### **Missiological Implications**

1. Evangelical Christians and churches should pray earnestly that spiritual revival will break among the Catholic and Orthodox populations of Austria. These Church groups show serious nominality and decline. Methodologies for evangelizing the Roman Catholic peoples should be introduced and taught as well as means for spiritual growth for those who are Born Again believers.
2. Evangelical Christians and churches should seek means to help the Lutheran and Reformed Churches that are in serious decline. These groups are losing as many as 3000 adherents annually). The nominalism in these church groups is at least as serious as in the Catholic and Orthodox groups. Sending people who could influence these church members in spiritual growth would greatly intensify the witness in Austria.
3. Evangelical Christians and churches should seek to increase the use of small group dynamics such as house churches in Austria.
4. Evangelical Christians and churches should seek to aid the believers in Austria in training church leaders. Some advance in Theological Education by Extension has given promise. These types of efforts should be multiplied
5. Evangelical Christians and churches should seek ways to evangelize among the over 200,000 students in Austria.
6. Evangelical Christians and churches should aid the Christians in Austria to reach out to the thousands of Han Chinese who now reside in the country. The majority of this group needs Christian salvation.
7. Evangelical Christians and churches should provide training in ways to approach those caught in various cultic movements such as New Age, Eastern cults, Jehovah's Witnesses, Mormons, and various types of Occult practices. Training in dealing with these false teachings could greatly strengthen the Christians in Austria and their ministries.

8. Evangelical Christians and churches might consider evangelistic methods that make use of cultural elements such as music and art. Sending noted musicians and artists who are Christian and could witness as part of their artistic presentation might prove beneficial.

**Links –**

<http://www.columbiagazetteer.org/public/Austria.html>

<http://www.webster.edu/intl/sa/culturegram/austria.pdf>

<http://www.angelfire.com/ia/tedfletchall/webdoc2.html>

<http://lcweb2.loc.gov/frd/cs/attoc.html>

[www.austria.org](http://www.austria.org)

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