

Anniversaries and events



Austria is celebrating plenty of anniversaries in 2026. Lower Austria will play host to the most festivities, from the 100 year anniversary of the Rax cable car and Höllentalbahn railway to the 20th anniversary of Grafenegg Festival. Salzburg and Vienna are celebrating the 270th birthday of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, and Vienna is also busy preparing for the 70th Eurovision Song Contest which will take the city by storm from 12th to 16th May 2026. Other highlights include sporting events across Austria and the first singalong at the Bregenz Festival.

Anniversaries

AUSTRIA

75th Tour of Austria

The first Tour of Austria took place in 1949, when Austria was still divided into four occupation zones. The route led clockwise from Vienna in seven stages to Graz, Klagenfurt, Lienz and over the Grossglockner to Zell am See or Saalbach. After a rest day in Kaprun it continued on to Innsbruck and then back to Vienna via Salzburg and Linz. The bike race was so well received by participants and spectators that it has been held annually ever since, with the only exception being during the Covid pandemic. The 75th edition of the tour will begin on 7th July 2026 in Steyr in Upper Austria and the fifth and final stage will end on 13th July in Feldkirch in Vorarlberg, with 717 km and many thousands of metres in altitude to overcome in between.

tourofaustria.com

BURGENLAND

100 Years of Passion Plays in St. Margarethen

In 1926 the pastor of St. Margarethen had the idea of staging Passion Plays. The first performers were teenagers and the original venue was a farm. The Passion Plays took place every ten years to begin with, but have been held every five years since the Roman quarry in St. Margarethen began providing a unique natural stage for the performances in 1961. Around 400 amateurs take to the stage each time. The St. Margarethen Passion Plays will celebrate their 100th anniversary in 2026 with new production "Mirjam" running from 23rd May to 12th July. The play explores the Passion story from a female perspective.

burgenland.info

CARINTHIA

50th Festival of German-Language Literature



Ingeborg Bachmann, whose birthday will be celebrated for the 100th time in 2026, is one of the best-known writers from Carinthia. One of the most important literary prizes in the German-speaking world is also named after the great female author: the Ingeborg Bachmann Prize. The accompanying Festival of German-Language Literature has been held in Klagenfurt since 1977. Each year, 14 authors selected by a jury present previously unpublished literary contributions. The event will take place for the 50th time from 24th to 28th June 2026. In addition to the main prize, four other prizes and a writing scholarship will be awarded.

bachmannpreis.orf.at/stories/3334589/ (German only)

10 years of lake.bike

Lake.bike stands for the extensive mountain bike, road bike and gravel bike offerings in the Villach – Faaker See – Ossiacher See region. The main event for the 10th anniversary of lake.bike will take place on 2nd July 2026, but celebrations will last the entire weekend until the end of 5th July 2026 right where it all began: on the trails. In addition to a few surprises, it's all about group biking, coming together with like-minded people and celebrating with the community.

lake.bike

LOWER AUSTRIA

100 years of the Höllentalbahn railway



100 years ago, the popular summer resort area around the Rax experienced a boom, which saw the Rax cable car and Höllentalbahn railway go into operation. The Höllentalbahn railway created the connection from Payerbach station to the valley station of the Rax cable car about 6 km away. It has been in operation as a museum railroad on a slightly shortened route since 2006. From the end of June to the end of October, it takes passengers from Payerbach to Hirschwang and back on Sundays and public holidays. To mark the anniversary year there is a combined ticket that includes a journey on the Höllentalbahn railway and Rax cable car.

lokalbahnen.at/hoellentalbahn/

100 years of Golf Club Semmering

At the beginning of the 20th century, Semmering was one of the popular summer resorts for visitors from nearby Vienna and from the regions of the monarchy. So it should come as no surprise that Austria's first golf course opened in Semmering in 1926. Today the fabulously located 9-hole course is the oldest golf course in Austria still operating in its original form.

gcsemmering.at (German only)

40 years of Wald4tler Hoftheater

The Wald4tler Hoftheater in Pürbach in the Waldviertel region has been one of Austria's most charming theatres since 1986. In addition to the main theatre with 176 seats, the lovingly restored complex houses a café with a small stage and an idyllic courtyard. Every May to December, the Hoftheater offers a diverse programme with several in-house productions and selected guest performances, ranging from theatre to cabaret, literature and concerts. Since 2017, the "Wald4tler Offtheater" programme has been searching for unconventional formats and new means of expression, with many performances held outdoors.

waldviertel.at

> LOWER AUSTRIA

40 years of the provincial capital St. Pölten

Vienna was the capital of Lower Austria for a long time and almost all of the provincial institutions were located there. But Lower Austria wanted its own capital and chose St. Pölten to be this in a 1986 referendum. St. Pölten is celebrating its 40 year status as provincial capital throughout 2026 with events, festivals and exhibitions. The provincial capital festival on 10th July will also be entirely dedicated to the anniversary.

stpoeltentourismus.at

30 years of movies under the stars in Eggenburg

This year the Kanzlerwiese at Eggenburg's old town wall will become an open-air stage for great cinema for the 30th time. For five weeks, from 23rd July to 23rd August 2026, blockbusters, cult films and movie classics will be shown within the unique setting of the medieval walls – with an additional anniversary atmosphere.

eggenburg.gv.at/mondscheinkino (German only)

30 years of Donau-Auen National Park



The Donau-Auen National Park, which stretches from Vienna to the border with Slovakia, is celebrating its 30th anniversary this year. Its founding was cause of great debate. In the 1980s there was a plan to build a power plant in Hainburg, thereby destroying the valuable natural area. Protests and a non-violent occupation of the Hainburger Au followed. The planned construction of the power plant was aborted and the national park was created instead. The programme for the anniversary year includes a big family festival on 26th April 2026 at the National Park Centre in Schloss Orth.

donauauen.at

> LOWER AUSTRIA

30 years of Glatt & Verkehrt

Glatt & Verkehrt will celebrate its 30th anniversary in summer 2026. Since its founding, the festival has been bringing music from all over the world to its stages in Krems, Spitz and Göttweig. The 30th edition will take place from 10th to 26th July 2026. The programme combines workshops for musicians at Göttweig Abbey and concerts that mainly take place at Winzer Krems.
glattundverkehrt.at

25 years of Sommerakademie Motten

The annual seminars of Sommerakademie Motten in Heidenreichstein in the Waldviertel follow holistic principles. The mixture of crafts, stage and theatre forms, experiences, adventure, writing, creativity, energy and psychology has been drawing participants from near and far for 25 years. Group trips and hikes also contribute to the unique atmosphere. This year's Sommerakademie will take place from 9th May to 6th September 2026 under the motto "The Good Reason".
sommerakademiemotten.at (German only)

20 years of Schrammel.Klang.Festival



Schrammel.Klang.Festival in Litschau in the Waldviertel region will celebrate its 20th anniversary from 10th to 19th July 2026. Under the motto "Wööd" (world), the concerts combine world music with Viennese songs and Schrammel sounds. The Limitless Orchestra, led by Aleksey Igudesman and Hans Zimmer, will be giving an exclusive preview of its new "Strings of the World" programme before going on a world tour with it. Other concerts include the Joschi Schneeberger Quintet, Viennese singer-songwriter Ernst Molden together with Sigrid Horn and "Die Strottern" who tell poetic city stories in collaboration with JazzWerkstatt Wien. Workshops, theatre performances, a steam train ride with the Schrammel Express and a night hike to a secret location complete the programme.
schrammelklang.at (German only)

> LOWER AUSTRIA

20 years of museum gugging



museum gugging near Klosterneuburg, which opened in 2006, is dedicated to Art Brut, created by individuals with a mental illness. The foundation for the Gugging Artists was laid in the 1950s by psychiatrist Leo Navratil, who introduced drawing tests for diagnostic purposes at the Lower Austrian State Neurological Hospital East – Klosterneuburg-Gugging where the museum now stands. Impressed by the expressiveness of the work, Navratil began promoting an art-psychotherapeutic approach. In the 1980s he founded his own residential studio. Navratil's successor, Johann Feilacher, opened galerie gugging in 1994 and museum gugging followed in 2006. "20 years art" is the theme of the anniversary exhibition, which will be on display from 15th March 2026 to 17th January 2027.
museumgugging.at

20 years of Schloss Wartholz palace nursery

Schloss Wartholz in Reichenau an der Rax, built in historicist style, has existed since the late 19th century. Members of the imperial Habsburg family lived here for a time. The Blazek family took over the property in 2021 and has been filling it with fresh ideas ever since. 20 years ago, in 2006, they opened the palace nursery with a café and established the cultural programme with readings, concerts and more recently also film screenings.
schloss-wartholz.at

20 years of Bikepark Semmering

When Bikepark Semmering opened 20 years ago, it was one of the first of its kind in Austria. In the meantime it offers around 18 km of trails in all difficulty levels: easy trails for beginners and families, medium trails for advanced riders and hard trails with high jumps, rocky terrain and steep sections for experienced bikers. The latest downhill bikes and protective gear are available to hire from Bikestore at the valley station. Here you will also find spare parts, accessories, clothing and a workshop with specialist staff.
semmering.com/en/activities/bikepark/

20 years of Grafenegg Festival



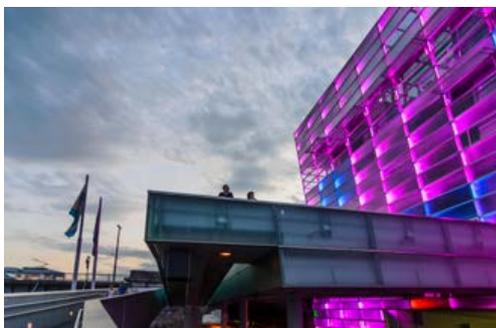
From 14th August to 6th September 2026, the historic landscape garden around Grafenegg Castle will be transformed into a lively festival venue for the 20th time. World-class orchestras and leading artists of our time will once again be performing in the iconic Wolkenturm, auditorium or castle courtyard, as well as – brand new – in the Rudolf Buchbinder Hall on the upper floor of the riding school with wonderful views of the castle grounds. Here, music will be played in a more intimate setting with focused acoustics every Saturday throughout the festival at 3:30 pm. The full range in the anniversary year spans from solo recitals to chamber music and Lieder, large choral-orchestral works and opera concertante, popular solo concerts and symphonies as well as new works and exciting premieres. grafenegg.com

15 years of "Tafeln im Weinviertel"



The culinary event series "Tafeln im Weinviertel" enters its 15th season in 2026. Every summer guests take a seat at long tables dressed in white at some of the Weinviertel's loveliest locations to enjoy a five-course menu, accompanied by wine and music. Night after night, nature becomes a stage. The sunset serves as lighting and the sky forms the roof under which a warm summer evening becomes a unique experience. There are various dates between June and August to choose from in the anniversary year. And, according to the event team, there will be one or two surprises as well. tafeln-im-weinviertel.at

30 years of the Ars Electronica Center



The Ars Electronica Center opened in Linz in 1996 as a museum of the future. Its team has been analysing and commenting on the digital revolution ever since. Exhibitions are created with experts from all over the world that deal with key questions about our future. Current themes include artificial intelligence, laser technology and neurobionics, the combination of biological systems and artificial technologies. The Ars Electronica Festival has been around for even longer, since 1979. The festival which is dedicated to the intersection of art, technology and society takes place in Linz every September. ars.electronica.art

10th Gustav Mahler Festival



The Gustav Mahler Festival in Steinbach am Attersee will take place for the tenth time from 21st to 28th June 2026. The connection to the great composer is not by chance. Gustav Mahler spent several summer holidays here in Steinbach at the end of the 19th century and also built a composing hut. At the core of the anniversary programme is Mahler's 3rd Symphony, which he completed 130 years ago at Lake Attersee. mahler-steinbach.at

10th Wolfgangsee Pilgrimage Day

The Wolfgangsee Pilgrimage Day will take place for the tenth time on 25th April 2026. It is as an invitation to all hiking and pilgrimage enthusiasts to experience a special day that includes a pilgrim's blessing and spiritual impulses, pilgrim's soup and boat trip on Lake Wolfgang. The day begins at 8 am at the European Monastery Gut Aich and concludes with vespers in the monastery church.
wolfgangsee.salzkammergut.at

SALZBURGERLAND

140 years of Sonnblick Observatory

The observatory named after the mountain was opened on the Sonnblick in the Rauris Valley at an altitude of 3,106 m in 1886. To this day, it is the highest continuously manned meteorological observation station in Austria. Its construction was initiated by Julius Hann, who was director of the ZAMG (Central Institute for Meteorology and Geodynamics) at the time. The goal was to study higher layers of the atmosphere from a station in the high mountains, with the Sonnblick the location of choice. There was advanced infrastructure here thanks to mining, and Rauris mine owner Ignaz Rojacher greatly supported the elaborate project. The observatory is only accessible to visitors on foot. The high alpine tour takes five to eight hours, depending on route. Next to it is the Zittelhaus alpine club hut, where up to 100 people can stay overnight.
sonnblick.net

40th Paul Hofhaimer Days

In honour of Paul Hofhaimer, an important composer and organist of his time, the international Paul Hofhaimer Days are held every year in his birthplace, Radstadt, in the Salzburger Sportwelt. Visitors of this "Festival for Music From the Past & New Sounds" can expect unique concerts and listening experiences in special locations: from well-known choral works to compositions by young talents and readings accompanied by music in concert halls, at Schloss Höch, in churches, inns or even a factory hall. The anniversary programme from 3rd to 7th June 2026 guarantees performances of the highest level by top-class artists and musicians.
radstadt.com

25 years of EPIC Bikepark Leogang



With over 120 km of lines and trails across seven mountains and connected by nine cable cars, EPIC Bikepark Leogang is part of Austria's largest biking region. The park is celebrating its anniversary throughout the entire season. The highlight will be the major event weekend from 24th to 26th July 2026 in Saalfelden-Leogang. On the agenda: bike action, group rides, side events and plenty of atmosphere.
bikepark.saalfelden-leogang.com

75 years of the Stubnerkogelbahn & 15 years of the suspension bridge

The first cable car travelled up Gastein's panoramic Stubnerkogel on 21st January 1951, providing convenient access to the summit which was mainly used as a pasture and viewpoint at the time. With it began the touristic development of the Gastein Valley – from spa destination to winter sports resort and finally an all-year-round hotspot. For 15 years the spectacular suspension bridge at over 2,200 m above sea level has provided incredible views and special summit experiences, attracting over two million visitors each year.
gasteinertal.com



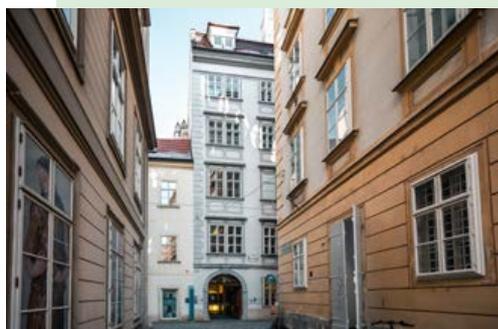
SALZBURGERLAND / VIENNA

270 years of Mozart



The cities of Salzburg and Vienna are celebrating the 270th birthday of composer Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart with numerous events. Mozart grew up in Salzburg and spent his most successful years in Vienna. From the DomQuartier to Mirabell Palace, St. Peter Stiftskulinarium, the Mozarteum Foundation and Hohensalzburg Fortress: Salzburg will be moving to the beat of Mozart's music all year round. City tours and the Mozart Residence offer insights into his life. And until 14th June 2026, the Museum der Moderne is presenting an exhibition titled "Under the Spell of Mozart's Magic Flute".

salzburg.info



Vienna shines a spotlight on its Mozart sites and experience worlds. Visitors can learn more about his life and work at the Mozarthus, which is celebrating its 20th anniversary in 2026. "Mythos Mozart" leads to buildings where the great composer worked, as well as to his grave at the Biedermeier cemetery in St. Marx.

wien.info

> SALZBURGERLAND

20 years of the Salzburger Almenweg



For 20 years, the Salzburger Almenweg has been one of the most enjoyable long-distance hiking trails in SalzburgerLand. It leads 350 km across the Pongau region in 25 stages, with around 120 mountain huts inviting you to stop and stay along the way. The round anniversary of the trail is also the focus of the ceremonial alpine summer opening, which takes place on 14th June 2026 at the Tauernkarleitenalm near Zauchensee.

salzburgerland.com/en/salzburger-almenweg/

10th anniversary of GlemmRide

Bike Festival GlemmRide, which takes place in Saalbach-Hinterglemm, will celebrate its 10th anniversary from 8th to 12th July 2026. Its highlights include Masters of Dirt Big Air Shows and downhill races. There is also a great programme of side events including concerts and opportunities to ride with the pros.

saalbach.com/en/events/glemmride

90 years of the Raxkircherl chapel



The idea of building a chapel in memory of alpinists who had accidents in the mountains on the Styrian side of the Rax originated from tourist circles and received the support of the alpine clubs and the Austrian Tourist Club in particular. The foundations were laid in May 1935 and the inauguration took place a year later on 20th September 1936. Above the offertory box there is a broken ice axe and the rope of a fallen climber is attached to the altar. A plaque commemorates the deceased. An anniversary mass conducted by Styrian Bishop Wilhelm Krautwaschl will take place on 13th June 2026.

raxkircherl.at (German only)

40th Mountainfilm Festival

Mountainfilm Graz, the international film festival, will take place for the 40th time from 17th to 21st November 2026. It was founded by Austrian mountaineer Robert Schauer, who still organises it to this day. Every November, Mountainfilm Graz brings the latest outdoor film productions from around the world to the Styrian capital. It is an opportunity to see the best mountain and adventure films and to discuss them in an engaging environment.

mountainfilm.com

30 years of the Styrian Chamber Music Festival

From 29th July to 6th September 2026, the Styrian Chamber Music Festival will draw audiences to Styria's most beautiful locations for the 30th time. Castles, palaces, basilicas and a dripstone cave are filled with sound. The spectrum ranges from a solo concert with the concertmaster of the Vienna Philharmonic performing Johann Sebastian Bach to an orchestral concert with Vivaldi's and Piazzolla's "Four Seasons" in the anniversary year.

steiermark.com

STYRIA

950 years of Lambrecht Abbey

St. Lambrecht Abbey, the impressive Benedictine monastery on a hill above the Mur surrounded by dense forests and gentle mountains, impresses with its baroque architecture, elaborate frescoes and a centuries-old library. The abbey is an important cultural and spiritual centre in Upper Styria. Its founder Margrave Markward of Eppenstein is believed to have died on 16th June 1076, so anniversaries have been celebrated from this year onwards. A varied programme is planned for the 950th anniversary in 2026 that is intended to provide an opportunity not only to look back on the rich history of the monastery, but also to raise awareness of its present-day life and work and to look towards the future.

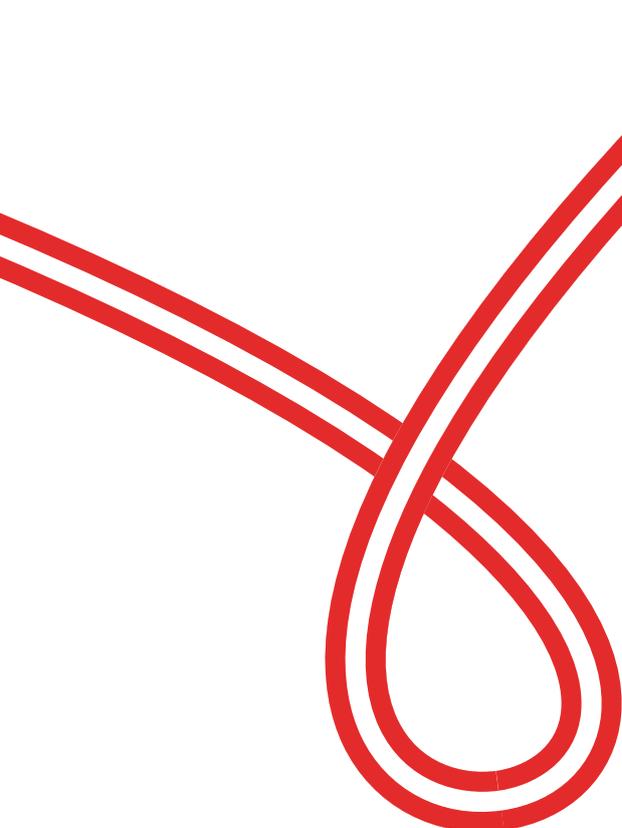
steiermark.com

250 years of Admont Abbey Library



The monastery library of Admont Abbey is considered one of the great works of art of the European late baroque period. 70 m long, 14 m wide and 13 m high, it is also known as the largest in the world. Architecture, frescoes, sculptures and centuries-old writings merge into a harmonious space of beauty and meaning. Containing more than 70,000 visible volumes, it is not just a place of aesthetic fascination, but also a living storehouse of knowledge that carries centuries of history, faith and spirit. The monastery library was completed 250 years ago in 1776. There will be a special exhibition on the history of the abbey to mark the occasion at Admont in 2026.

stiftadmont.at



TIROL

100 years of the Tiroler Zugspitzbahn



In July 1926 the Tiroler Zugspitzbahn celebrated its opening, making the once nearly unclimbable Zugspitze accessible to mountain enthusiasts from all over the world. It is the oldest cable car in Tirol and the second oldest in Austria. Austria's oldest, the Rax cable car in Lower Austria, went into operation about a month earlier. To celebrate its 100th anniversary, the cable car company is redesigning the interactive museum at the mountain station and passengers can look forward to various goodies throughout the whole year.
zugspitze.at

> STYRIA

30 years of Red Bull Erzbergrodeo

The Red Bull Erzbergrodeo, one of the toughest and most famous motorcycle enduro races in the world, will celebrate its 30th anniversary in Eisenerz from 4th to 7th June 2026. The anniversary Erzbergrodeo promises four days of excitement, adrenaline and motorsports. Highlights include the Blakläder Iron Road Prologue, where thousands of riders battle it out on the gravel track, as well as the legendary main race, in which only a handful of riders reach the finish line. Alongside the races visitors can look forward to a jam-packed programme including autograph sessions, exhibitor areas, show acts, side events and plenty of food and entertainment.
redbullerzbergrodeo.com

30 years of Styrian Eisenwurzen Nature and Geopark

The Styrian Eisenwurzen Nature and Geopark is located in Upper Styria, at the border with Lower Austria and Upper Austria. As a nature park it protects valuable habitats such as alpine pastures, forests, gorges and mountain landscapes, ensuring that agriculture, tourism and nature conservation remain in a sustainable balance. Earth's history is the focus as a geopark, with rocks, fossils, old mining traces and the formation of the Alps presented along educational trails, on information boards and throughout guided tours. The park is celebrating its 30th anniversary this year.
eisenwurzen.com

100 years of Passion Playhouse Thiersee



Passion Playhouse Thiersee is celebrating its 100th anniversary in 2026 and looking back on an impressive cultural history. The building has been closely affiliated with the Thiersee Passion Plays since 1926 and stands for a lived village community, voluntary commitment and cultural identity to this day. The anniversary year will include a new production of the play "Der Brandner Kaspar kehrt zurück" launching in autumn 2026. There will also be an open day with a celebration mass on 14th June 2026.
passionsspiele-thiersee.at

> TIROL

50th Innsbruck Festival of Early Music

The Innsbruck Festival of Early Music is presenting music from the renaissance and baroque periods for the 50th time. The festival will take place from 24th July to 30th August in the anniversary year, revolving around the “What are we celebrating?” theme. Its team is taking on a special project to mark the historic year: the production of the seven-hour opera “Il pomo d’oro” by Pietro Antonio Cesti. This monumental work premiered in Vienna in 1668 and can be seen in Innsbruck over two consecutive evenings. The Ambras Castle concerts and open-air concerts with free admission at various locations across the city complement the extensive programme.

altemusik.at

20th Glacier Marathon

Pitztal has hosted the popular Glacier Marathon since 2006. Its 20th anniversary will be the focus of the competitions on 5th July 2026. In addition to the half marathon and classic marathon distances, there will also be a 5.5 km run for beginners this year.

pitztal.com/en/glacier-marathon.html

20th Tour de Tirol

The Tour de Tirol, a three-day running event in the mountains around Söll, is one of the best known running classics in the Alps. It will take place for the 20th time from 9th to 11th October 2026. In addition to the established mountain running routes that range from 10 to 75 km, two new ultra distances are being added for the anniversary year which are 77 and 110 km long.

tourdetirol.com (German only)

10th Kufsteinerland Radmarathon



From 21st to 23rd August 2026, the Kufsteinerland Radmarathon will celebrate its 10th anniversary. The main competition will take place on 23rd August with a new option: for the first time, participants will be able to complete the 48 km Panorama Tour with 400 m of elevation gain on an e-bike.

tyrol.com

VORARLBERG

125 years of the city of Dornbirn

Dornbirn will celebrate its 125th anniversary of becoming a city this year with various events and exhibitions. The highlight will be a big festival from 19th to 21st June 2026. The focus is on the development of Dornbirn into a modern, economically strong and culturally diverse city. The programme is being put together by local institutions such as schools, clubs, businesses and artists. The Dornbirn restaurateurs will take care of the culinary delights at the festival and other events.

dornbirn.info

35 years of Handwerk + Form



35 years ago, in 1991, the Andelsbuch Craftsmen’s Association and graphic designer Harry Metzler launched the first edition of Handwerk+Form. Since 2000, Werkraum Bregenzerwald, the association of innovative craftsmen from the Bregenzerwald, has organised the event, which takes place approximately every three years. Handwerk+Form combines a design competition with an exhibition. For the competition, local craftspeople submit pieces they have designed themselves or in collaboration with international designers. A jury then decides which works will make it into the exhibition. The exhibition itself is unique. It extends from the Werkraumhaus Andelsbuch across several workshops throughout the village. Handwerk+Form will take place for the 10th time in 2026, from 2nd to 11th October, with a colourful anniversary programme.

werkraum.at (German only)

10th Montafon Totale Trail

Tough, challenging and full of moments of happiness: that's the motto of the Montafon Totale Trail, which is celebrating its 10th anniversary on 4th July 2026. Hundreds of runners from various nations will participate again this year. Depending on whether they choose the 10, 16, 31 or 45 km distance, participants will tackle between 1,200 and 3,780 m of elevation gain.

silvretta-montafon.at

[VIENNA](#)

150 years of Hotel Sacher



Hotel Sacher is one of Vienna's most traditional hotels. The chef and imperial and royal court confectioner Eduard Sacher founded the establishment in a central location opposite the Vienna State Opera 150 years ago in 1876. Hotel Sacher soon developed into an epitome of Viennese luxury and hospitality. It is family-run to this day and represents timeless elegance, having even been included as one of "The World's 50 Best Hotels 2025". It was also Eduard Sacher who perfected the Sachertorte invented by his father Franz. Like Hotel Sacher, the Sachertorte quickly became famous and is still a popular specialty from Vienna today.

sacher.com/en/vienna/

75th Wiener Festwochen

The Vienna Festival (Wiener Festwochen) is a highly anticipated highlight of Vienna's event calendar. It was founded in 1951 to reconnect Austria with the international art and cultural scene. The Wiener Festwochen began as a celebration of art, music and theatre, but over the years the festival has increasingly developed into a forum for contemporary art and sociopolitical themes. Since 2024, artistic director Milo Rau has also been focusing on participation, with the establishment of the "Council of the Republic". The Vienna Festival is celebrating its 75th anniversary from 15th May to 21st June 2026. The programme will be available online from 26th February 2026.

festwochen.at

30th Pride Parade



The first Rainbow Parade made its way along Vienna's Ringstraße in 1996. Today it is one of the largest celebrations of equality in Europe. Tens of thousands of people take part to stand up for diversity, tolerance and human rights each year. Nowadays the Rainbow Parade is embedded in the Pride Parade and its programme of events during the first two weeks of June. The anniversary Rainbow Parade will take place on 13th June 2026.

viennapride.at

20 years of Vienna Design Week

Austria's largest design festival, the Vienna Design Week, will take place for the 20th time from 25th September to 4th October 2026. Every year the festival transforms Vienna into a stage for creative impulses and showcases pioneering design in the fields of furniture, product and urban space. The Vienna Design Week attracts around 40,000 visitors to about 200 events at architecturally interesting locations across Vienna.

viennadesignweek.at

Events

CARINTHIA

Carinthia 200



The Carinthia200 cycling event is celebrating its premiere in Villach on 31st May 2026, with the aim of establishing the region as one of Austria's leading road cycling destinations. A maximum of 2,000 participants can choose from three distances – 200, 155 or 125 km – with roads fully closed to traffic on all routes. The event is not a race in the traditional sense. Only the three fastest men and women of the 200 and 155 km distances receive an award. The focus is far more on the challenge and enjoying the spectacular scenery. carinthia200.com

Everesting on the Dobratsch



The first Everesting Austria is set to kick off on 30th May 2026. The cycling event will see endurance riders repeatedly climb the Villach Alpine Road to Rosstratte am Dobratsch, alone or in teams, until they have matched the height of Mount Everest (8,848 m). Participants can also opt to cover an eighth, quarter or half of the Everest. events.everesting.com/event/austria/

UPPER AUSTRIA / SALZBURGERLAND

Woodstock Academy

With the Woodstock Academy, the municipalities around Lake Wolfgangsee have created a new format for musicians. The first edition successfully took place in autumn 2025, when more than 50 instructors from the world of brass and folk music conducted over 120 workshops. This year the Academy will take place from 23rd to 29th October 2026. The choice of workshops ranges from breathing techniques to individual instruments and even introductions to conducting. Lectures and ensemble sessions complete the programme. woodstockacademy.at

UPPER AUSTRIA

“Kultur im Meierhof” at Clam Castle



Clam Castle, known for its large open-air concerts in summer, will welcome a new event series at the end of April 2026. From 30th April to 29th May 2026, “Kultur im Meierhof” will present concerts ranging from jazz and funk to Wienerlied. The newly refurbished Meierhof, a barn adapted for concerts, can accommodate audiences of up to 350. clamlive.at

Ahoi! Pop Festival in Linz

A festival that existed a few years ago will return to Linz in summer 2026. Ahoi! Pop Sommer Open Air will make its comeback from 8th to 10th July 2026. Carefully selected acts will take to the open-air stage by the Danube for three days of partying and dancing. linztourismus.at

Unicycle World Championships UNICON 22

The Unicycle World Championships UNICON have been held every two years since 1984. They will take place in Austria for the first time from 25th July to 7th August 2026. The venue for the largest and most diverse unicycling event in the world will be Steyr. The championships include various competitions that take place both indoors and outdoors. unicon22.at

Wels named European Christmas Capital 2026



In cooperation with the European Parliament, the Christmas Cities Network chose the city of Wels as European Christmas Capital 2026. This award recognises the magical decoration of the city during Advent. An innovative LED lighting concept featuring over 800,000 lights and 29 different settings enhances the atmosphere. And the three Christmas markets on the main square, in Pollheimer Park and at Gösser beer garden are also lovingly designed. wels.at

SALZBURGERLAND

Hochkönig Ultraks



After 10 successful years, the popular trail running festival will launch under a new name and with a new event starting in 2026: the Hochkönigman will become Hochkönig Ultraks. Taking place from 5th to 6th June 2026, the event will be part of the renowned Ultraks series, which is held in several top European regions. In addition to the established routes around Maria Alm, Dienten and Mühlbach there will be a new Vertical Race. On the 5.9 km route starting and finishing in Dienten, trail runners take on around 1,080 m of ascent. hochkoenig-ultraks.at

STYRIA

First Leobner Bergstadtfest

From 29th to 31st May 2026, the centre of Leoben will transform into a lively stage for culture, tradition and community. The Leobener Bergstadtfest (mining town festival), which is taking place for the first time, offers a varied three-day programme – from the ceremonial opening to an impressive mountain parade, uplifting live concerts and a range of activities for the whole family. It is an event that honours the history of the region and its people, whilst promising top-notch entertainment for all generations. As part of the first Bergstadtfest, Leoben is also celebrating 170 years of the Bergkapelle Leoben-Seegraben (miners' band) and 300 years of coal mining in Seegraben. bergstadtfest-leoben.at (German only)

ART EXPO at Seifenfabrik Graz

The ART Expo will take place in Graz for the first time from 24th to 26th April 2026 at the historic Seifenfabrik by the river Mur. The international art fair brings together artists, collectors and art lovers, offering a professional platform to showcase and exchange within a setting of industrial architecture and contemporary art. artexpo-international.com/graz

TIROL

First Zugspitz Arena Gravel Triathlon

On 29th August 2026, Heiterwang in the Tiroler Zugspitz Arena will become the venue for the first official gravel triathlon in German-speaking Europe. Those participating in the sprint triathlon must swim 750 m, ride 22 km on a gravel bike and complete a 6 km run. Everyone taking part in the short distance triathlon has to complete double the respective distances. zugspitzarena.com/en/News-Events/gravel-triathlon

Alpine Water Festival in Klostertal

The Klostertal will be entirely dedicated to the element of water for the first time from 2nd to 5th July 2026. The interactive programme, which is primarily aimed at families, is divided into four areas: Water.EXPERIENCE, Water.POWER, Water.GOURMET and Water.FAMILY. Planned activities include conscious nature experiences like relaxing by the water or hiking to the Mason waterfall and insights into the power of water on guided tours, such as at Spullerseen power plant. Water.GOURMET combines special spots by the water with regional delights and tastings.
vorarlberg-alpenregion.at

Gravel bike event with Specialized Ultra



For a number of years, 'into the wold' has been gathering the gravel bike community in the Bregenzerland. This year's event will take place from 2nd to 5th July in Mellau. In addition to the tried and tested programme, a Specialized Ultra will be included for the first time. Anyone who wants to take part in this adventure starts on 3rd July and has the task of covering 300 km and 8,000 m of elevation within a maximum of 36 hours. Participants must take care of their own meals while on the go. Breaks to sleep are allowed, but accommodation cannot be booked in advance.
intothewold.at/ultra/ (German only)

VORARLBERG

Sailing World Cup in Bregenz

From 20th to 27th June 2026, Yacht Club Bregenz will host the 8 Metre World Cup. Up to 30 classic yachts from more than ten nations are expected. Yacht Club Bregenz became internationally known thanks to its member Lukas Mähr, who won the gold medal in the 470 mixed class at the 2024 Olympic Games with Lara Vadlau.
8mr.org/world-cup/2026/

Valley of Sound

The Kleinwalsertal will be transformed into a "Valley of Sound" for the first time from 13th to 15th March 2026. The three-day event combines alpine nature, winter sports and musical variety between the valley station and summit cross. From rock 'n' roll to hip-hop, acts of all styles will perform on open-air stages, at huts and restaurants, in the valley and on the mountain.
kleinwalsertal.com

New concert format: SOV Outreach

The Symphony Orchestra Vorarlberg (SOV) is surprising its audience with a new format. Various chamber music ensembles will be leaving the concert hall to meet the audience in unusual, public locations. The free of charge concerts are accompanied by presenters, spiced up with competitions and opportunities to join in, and put the shared experience of music and the dialogue with the audience at the forefront. This extraordinary tour will travel throughout Vorarlberg. The first dates are scheduled for May/June 2026.
sov.at/outreach (German only)

Singalong at the Bregenz Festival



An anniversary sounds best when celebrated together, which is why the Bregenz Festival is hosting a singalong on the lakeside stage in summer 2026 to mark its 80th anniversary. The event, where well-known opera choruses will be performed together, will take place on 1st August 2026. From choirs to vocal ensembles and individuals – everyone is invited to join in. All you need to do is register; participation itself is free of charge. Led by conductor Steven Moore and accompanied by musicians from the Symphony Orchestra Vorarlberg, festival soloists and various regional choirs, an electrifying ensemble of hundreds of voices will come together outdoors. Videos are available to warm up and practice and there will be a joint rehearsal on 9th May 2026 at the Festspielhaus in Bregenz. bregenzerfestspiele.com

VIENNA

Eurovision Song Contest 2026



The city of Vienna is looking forward to a major event: from 10th to 16th May 2026 the 70th Eurovision Song Contest will put Austria's capital in the international spotlight. The opening ceremony will take place on Rathausplatz on 10th May, whilst the semifinals (12th and 14th May) and the final (16th May) will be held at the Wiener Stadthalle. Those who don't have tickets can follow the action from the public viewing area on Rathausplatz. And there will be public viewings at many other locations across Austria.

wien.info