

Orientierungshilfe für Internationale Studierende

GET ALL THE INFORMATION YOU NEED TO EXPLORE AUSTRIA AS AN INTERNATIONAL STUDENT!

ENGLISH PLEASE

Moving abroad to study is not an easy feat. As international students, we all have gone through the same phases of excitement of studying in a foreign country, confusion on dealing with a lot of things and make a fresh new start in our lives. Seeing that we understand the struggles that come with it, we have decided to share our top ten tips to help for better navigating this big change.

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1. Research as much as you can online (and offline is possible) about the place before moving. Get all your documents in order. In Austria this is essential, so make sure to have every document you think you might need, make copies and also back them up in an online drive, usb stick or laptop

2. If something is unclear for you e.g. in your classes, curricula etc contact the responsible persons listed on the TU Graz website or your degree-specific student representatives. Everyone at TU Graz is really friendly and always tries to help international students.

3. Contact the Welcome Center. Attend the International Welcome Days if possible and subscribe to their mailing list. They organize really cool events where you can meet other international students.

4. Food is also an important topic. As a TU Graz student, you can get the "Mensa stempel" at the student union office (HTU Graz) at the Alte TU Campus. With that you will get a small discount in the TU Graz cafeteria. If you are on a budget and like to cook yourself some of the cheapest stores would be Lidl and Hofer.

5. If you need resources for studying, you can find them at the TU Graz libraries on the Alte TU Campus, Neue Technik Campus or Inffeldgasse Campus. Here you can find books with different topics. Another library you can use is the city library, or also the Resowi library at Karl Franzens University.

6. You can also go to the libraries to study, if you need a quiet place. However, be aware that opening/closing times may vary between libraries. If you need to study for a longer period of time, you can use the Lehrzentrum at Inffeldgasse 10, which is open 24/7. You only need your valid ID card to enter the building. The student ID card can be validated in the machines on all campuses.

9. As an international student you usually must pay tuition fees. However, there is a possibility of getting half of it back if you fulfill certain criteria. For this you need to apply for the "Fördertopf" offered by the HTU every semester.

7. Another important thing for students are the copyshops (Printkultur). Simply load your student ID card with credits (min. 10 euro) in the copyshops located at Stremayrgasse 16 and Inffeldgasse 10. You can use these credits on the many printers located on all three campuses and at the copyshops.

8. Graz is a city of 294,630 residents (as of 2020) and is the capital of the state of Styria. Since the city is not that big, navigating through it is best done with a bike. Depending on your preference, you can either buy a new or a used bike. Alternatively, you can also explore the city on foot. Students who are younger than 26 years old can get the Top Ticket for students which allows you travel through all of Styria for 6 months for only 138 euros (153 euros during regular times).

10. In case of financial difficulties, we also recommend you to apply for the SozialTopf offered as well by HTU Graz twice a year, as well as the Sozialfond of the Federal Austrian Students' Union which is offered once a year.