

VORWEIHNACHTENSITTEN (PRE-CHRISTMAS CUSTOMS)

HOW TO PREPARE FOR CHRISTMAS LIKE AN AUSTRIAN

Christmas is coming! And it would be very un-Austrian of you to be unprepared for this popular and beautiful time of year.



The time from late November to the end of the year has a very special meaning in Austria. It's a time to visit the Christmas markets, try some Glühwein, and get into the spirit of eating well, making merry and spending time with friends and family.

With the first Advent Sunday fast approaching (November 30th) Austrians across the country will be putting their advent wreaths in pride of place, traditionally woven from evergreen twigs and decorated with ribbons and four candles, to be lit on each of the four Sundays leading up to Christmas.

So roll up your sleeves, get out your baking apron and your elastic-waisted pants, and have a gander at our Christmas gallery.



Get ready, set, shop! Austrians plan on spending €387 on gifts this year, according to a GfK poll. Almost half of Austrians will buy gift vouchers. Books, toys, jewellery and watches round out the most popular gifts. And most people intend to buy in stores, rather than online, so brace yourself for long checkout lines.