Moving to and Living in Vienna

AIOV
Americans in International Organizations in Vienna
Agenda

• We will talk about:
  – Considerations when moving to Vienna (timeline, resources)
  – Housing
  – Schools for kids
  – Higher education options
  – Transportation
  – Spouse employment
  – Resources/clubs at the VIC

• We will NOT talk about:
  – How to get a job in Vienna
  – Special situations/details (Questions ok, if it will help the entire audience)
Who we are!

• The ‘Americans at International Organizations in Vienna’ (AIOV) Club
  – Social, support and networking club, not only Americans
• Social events (Thanksgiving, St. Patty’s Day, July 4\textsuperscript{th}, etc.)
• Information seminars
• Networking
Living in Vienna

• Figure out what is important for you in a new home.
  – Middle of the city/Out in the suburbs
  – Transportation and schools
  – Number of rooms, terrace, garden
  – Modern and new with full amenities or old style Viennese (fixtures, curtains, etc.)
  – Plan on down-sizing unless you want to rent a large home in the suburbs
Rental Agreements

• Rent a temporary place for a month or so while you are looking for a flat/house
  – VIC Housing Service (http://vichousing.iaea.org/VicHousing)
  – Staff Bulletin Board
  – Online listings like: Immobilien.derstandard.at
  – Rental Agents commission is high; use the VIC housing service to avoid these fees
• Lease is usually three years, but usually you can give notice after one year with no penalty
• IAEA offers a rental subsidy; you can calculate it at https://info.undp.org/gssu/onlinetools/RentalSubsidy/RentalSubsidy.aspx
• Tenants may have more responsibility for maintenance
• Get renters insurance
Education and Schools

- Register ASAP
- 8 International Schools in Vienna
  - American International (19th District) follows US high school diploma approach (good if your kids will transfer back to a US public school before graduation)
  - Vienna International (near VIC) offers an international baccalaureate which is an academically rigorous programme that is usually well regarded by US universities
    - [http://www.wien.gv.at/english/education/internatschool.htm](http://www.wien.gv.at/english/education/internatschool.htm)
- K-12 tuition is reimbursed by IAEA (sliding scale)
- University tuition, room and board is reimbursed by IAEA (sliding scale and up to a ceiling set for each country)
Higher education

- Vienna has many universities and technical schools
- Most teach in German, but lots of English language courses are available
- Online programs are also a good option
- Expat Centre offers advice about programs
- Webster University – Vienna teaches all courses in English, is accredited in USA and Austria (based in St. Louis, MO)
  - Does not offer science/engineering/math type degrees
  - Business, international affairs, psychology, media
What to pack?

• Bring
  – Lamps - they will work with an adapter
  – Small tool bag/tool box (English units hard to find)
  – Extra prescriptions if you can arrange it
  – Computer, laptop, etc. – they have dual power supply but you may need to flip a switch on the back first!

• Don’t Bring
  – Electrical appliances (no fans, blenders, blow driers, etc.)
  – Cell phones – plans are cheaper here
  – Alcohol
  – Candles or other flammables
  – Cars/motorcycles – registration problems
Transportation

• Public transportation system is best in the world.
• Many rental car companies located in city centre or airport
• Apartments in the city don’t have free garages/parking space
• Car sharing (Car2Go, Denzel, etc.)
• Need to have two sets of tires (winter/summer) or all-season (M+S)
• IAEA offers tax-free car purchase
Spousal Employment

• Can be difficult to find employment, but resources exist (US Mission, Expat Centre)
• Other options could include:
  – Higher education
  – Volunteering
  – Language skills
  – Hobbies or other new skills
Miscellaneous

- COVID-19
- Leave of absence from a national laboratory
- Home/Family Leave
- Taxes
Vienna International Centre

- Commissary
- 2 Banks
- ATMs
- Post office
- Cafeteria/Restaurant
- Bar
- Gym/locker room
- Pharmacy
- Limited medical clinic

- Small book travel
- Flower shop
- Hair dresser
- F1001 party room
- Dry cleaners
- Souvenir shop
- Language classes
- Day care center
53 official clubs at the VIC

- AIOV
- Art Club
- Basketball
- Volleyball
- Ski (2 clubs)
- Chess
- Darts
- Bridge
- Golf
- Gardening
- Music
- Nuclear Young Generation
- Sailing
- Soccer (football)
- Tennis
- Yoga
- Hiking
- Toastmasters
- Women in Nuclear
- Plus UN Women’s Guild

Smart Traveler Enrollment Program

• Free service by U.S. State Dept.
• Receive important information about safety conditions
• Help U.S. Embassy contact you in an emergency (natural disaster, civil unrest, family, etc.)
• https://step.state.gov/step/
THANK YOU!

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