

# AUSTRIAN FILMFESTIVAL - UGU FILMFESTIVAL

## Film making in Austria

An overview by the Austrian independent filmmaker and festival organizer Andreas Reisenbauer

(<https://www.reisenbauer-film.com/> <https://www.reisenbauer.com/>  
<https://www.austrianfilmfestival.com/> <https://viennasciencefilmfestival.at/>)

(disclaimer: Some information can be changed or be not true anymore; Covid has also be very hard for the filmmakers in Austria, and at the moment it is a permanent change in the funding system for cinemas and filmmakers in Austria; 9/2021)

- 1.) If you want to **watch Austrian films online**
- 2.) If you want to know more about **Austrian film festivals** in Austria
- 3.) If you want to just **shoot a movie in Austria** and have no contacts or locations or ...
- 4.) If you want to just **shoot a movie in Austria** and **need money**

- 1.) If you want to **watch Austrian films online** (most short films are freely online)

<http://austrianfilms.online>

- 2.) If you want to know more about **Austrian film festivals** in Austria:

you find it here:

[https://www.austrianfilmfestival.com/austrian\\_links.html](https://www.austrianfilmfestival.com/austrian_links.html)

recommendations:

shorts: Vienna Shorts (Oscar qualifying), Austrian Filmfestival, Festival of Nations ...

feature films: Viennale (B-festival, no competition, very good and big festival, but most films have been in A-festivals like Cannes/Venice/Berlin before; must be Austrian premiere), Austrian Filmfestival (genre awards, the Best of Award = Austrian Indie Eagle)

documentary films: Ethnocineca, Austrian Filmfestival, This Human World Filmfestival and festivals with special topics like mountain/outdoor filmfestivals,

there are many festivals with restriction to: youth, female, LBTQ, animation, science , horror;  
e.g. the Vienna Science Filmfestival shows science, fantasy and science fiction films  
or the Slashfilmfestival and Fright Nights show horror films ...

3.) If you want to just **shoot a movie in Austria** and have no contacts or locations or need help

→ go to the film commissions websites of the counties (see below).

They do really brilliant jobs and make filmmaking much easier and they are very friendly

Austria is a safe and clean country, so it is easy to film here. What you can find in Austria: castles, museums, history, rivers, mountains, snow, lakes, cities, technics, parks, monasteries ...

The film commissions help you find locations, to connect you with local film makers or to get the filming permissions (if you need one).

There are 9 counties in Austria. Most of the counties have their own funding system (see below in 4.) ) and most have a helping organisation (film commission) (BUT: it sounds a bit confusing; do not go to the Austrian Film Commission - they "sell" or make marketing for their own films.)

### **Filmcommissions** / locations / help:

Austria overall: <https://locationaustria.at/de/>

Wien (Vienna Filmcommission) <https://www.viennafilmcommission.at/en>

Niederösterreich (Lower Austria Filmcommission) <https://www.lafc.at/>

Salzburg <https://www.itg-salzburg.at/en/film-location>

Steiermark (Styria): Cinestyria Film Commission [www.cinestyria.com/](http://www.cinestyria.com/)

Tirol (Cine Tyrol) <https://www.cine.tirol/>

location video mountains: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NSpXhyNmc1Y>

Kärnten (Carinthia): Carinthia Film Commission <https://www.filmcommission.at/de/>

#### 4.) If you want to just **shoot a movie in Austria** and **need money**

Nearly no **private money** exists in Austria for films, therefore the **funding system** is important. But there is a **huge amount of very good filmmakers** (including Oscar filmmakers) who also want that money for their films

My Advise: always use a cooperation partner (service provider) from Austria itself, it is just easier because of the bureaucratic structures, but there is no guarantee for getting financial support and it is very time consuming.

If you want money, there are two different approaches to film funding in Austria, depending what kind of film you make or what budget you intend to have:

- a.) FF: Film funding for "big" budget films (industry).  
budget > 1 Mio \$. (only Austrian (partner) firms which did it before are allowed)
- b.) FA: art films, documentary funding; budgets < 200.000 \$, mostly < 20.000

Austria: FF. <https://filminstitut.at/foerderung>  
[filmstandort-austria.at](https://www.filmstandort-austria.at) FISA  
FA. <https://www.bmkoes.gv.at/Kunst-und-Kultur/film/foerderungen.html>

Vienna: FF: <https://www.filmfonds-wien.at>  
FA: [www.wien.gv.at/kultur/abteilung](http://www.wien.gv.at/kultur/abteilung) (MA7)

Styria: FF <https://einreichen.cinestyria.com> - [http://www.cinestyria.com/450\\_en/](http://www.cinestyria.com/450_en/)  
FA [www.filmkunst.steiermark.at](http://www.filmkunst.steiermark.at) (Cineart)

Tyrol: FF/FA: <https://www.cine.tirol/production-incentive/> Cine Tirol Film Commission

Salzburg: FA/FF: [www.salzburg.gv.at/themen/kultur/kulturfoerderungen/film](http://www.salzburg.gv.at/themen/kultur/kulturfoerderungen/film)

Lower Austria (NOE)  
FF+FA: [https://www.noe.gv.at/noe/Kunst-Kultur/Film\\_-\\_Foerderung.html](https://www.noe.gv.at/noe/Kunst-Kultur/Film_-_Foerderung.html)

Oberösterreich:  
FA/FF: <https://www.land-oberoesterreich.gv.at/212728.htm>

Burgenland: FA/FF [www.burgenland.at/themen/kultur/kulturfoerderungen](http://www.burgenland.at/themen/kultur/kulturfoerderungen)

Vorarlberg: FA/FF: [vorarlberg.at/-/film-kino-video-foerderung](http://vorarlberg.at/-/film-kino-video-foerderung)

Kärnten: FA/FF: [www.kulturchannel.at](http://www.kulturchannel.at) (Kärntner Landesregierung/ Abteilung 14)

additionally, there are special fundings: for LGBTGQ+, youth, female, immigrants, tourism often connected with ministries, counties or cities in Austria

PS: If you want to **sell** a movie in Austria, be aware that in German speaking countries, subtitling alone might be not enough. Nearly all narrative films are dubbed (synchronized) in the Austrian television.