

# AMLA in Vienna

Vienna awaits you



# Life Quality in Numbers



**24 h**  
service

**1€**  
cost per day of annual public  
transport pass

**99.25 %**  
reliability and punctuality

**2,000,000**  
passengers per day

**100**  
big and  
small museums



**2,200**  
coffee houses



**1.98 Mio.**  
Vienna's  
total population



**43 %**  
inhabitants with an  
international background

**1,100**  
fountains with crystal clear  
drinking water



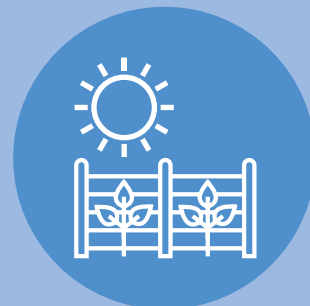
**414.9 km<sup>2</sup>**  
area

**50 %**  
green spaces

**250 metres**  
is the average distance to the  
nearest public green space

**35 ha**  
of vineyards

2 million litres of  
Vienna-grown wine for the world



**22**  
farmers' markets

**100 %**  
subsidised kindergarten

**11**  
international schools

**200,000**  
students  
(of which 1/3 are international)



*„The fight against money laundering and terrorist financing prevention is particularly important for the integrity of the common market.*



*The new Anti-Money Laundering Authority will need the best people and the best environment for its challenging mission. As the world's most liveable city, Vienna is the ideal European choice to live and thrive.“*

Magnus Brunner; Federal Minister of Finance

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# Introduction



The **Anti-Money Laundering Agency (AMLA)** is the pinnacle of European efforts to combat money laundering and terrorist financing. After years of hard work by countless people, the centrepiece of policy work is the creation of a decentralised agency, which should facilitate and coordinate this fight against illicit financial flows.

**AMLA** needs to work as effectively as possible to counter the challenges that Member States and the Union as a whole face. It needs the most capable people in this field of expertise. Without a doubt, **Vienna would be the most suitable seat for its tasks**. It offers the most attractive destination to attract qualified employees and a world-class business environment.

#### Proved by:

- **Global Liveability Index 2023**  
The „Global Liveability Index 2023“ of the British Economist Intelligence Unit has awarded Vienna first place as the most liveable city in the world
- **Monocle’s Quality of Life Survey**  
Vienna was voted number 1 in the „Monocle’s Quality of Life Survey“ for the 1st time in 2023
- **Mercer Study – Quality of Living City Ranking**  
In 2019 Vienna tops the Quality of Living City Ranking for the 10th year running

In most European countries it is harder to find someone willing to move for work, because the social fabric is more tightly knit than in other parts of the world. So the motivation to change employment, to move to a new city and to have the whole family onboard at the same time must be very high. Year after year it is getting harder to recruit and hold employees, this is a lesson the private sector learned in the last year, but is a reality for the public sector since several years. Employment models and expectations of employees change and with it the fundamentals of an employment relationship. It is not always about remuneration, but also about soft factors, such as quality of life, healthy lifestyle and peace of mind. **And here we can contribute.**

# 1 Quality of life



Let us show you why Vienna is the most livable city in the world and what makes it so great for AMLA.

## Viennese qualities for life

When we Viennese talk about quality of life, it is not all about coffee houses with snarky waiters, wine in three story cellars and a morbid relationship with the Central Cemetery, it is also about a relationship with the city we hate and love at the same time, which makes it the most liveable city of the whole world. But don't take our word for it and instead listen to the experts.



One Day in Vienna/Unique & Special Places to see

Vienna is not just a city that offers exceptional quality of life, it is also a base for countless international organizations and companies. The UN made the Austrian capital one of its four official seats, it is home to more than 40 international and intergovernmental organizations (including the IAEA and OPEC). In all, these international organizations employ more than 6,000 people in Vienna. In addition, more than 200 multinational corporations take advantage of Vienna as an ideal location.

The city's high quality of life and safety are reasons why international companies and organizations choose Vienna as a location to do business.

In 2022, the Economist rated Vienna as the most liveable city globally again. The ranking compared stability, healthcare, culture and environment, education and infrastructure factors of 173 cities.

In 2019, Vienna was named the world's most liveable city for the tenth time in a row by Mercer. Each year, international consultants conduct a quality of life survey in 231 major towns and cities worldwide. Criteria include the political, social and economic climate, medical services, education and infrastructure facilities including public transportation, power and water utilities. Also taken into consideration are leisure facilities such as restaurants, theatres (also in English), cinemas and sports facilities, and environmental factors including green space and air quality.

In 2020, Vienna also won the internationally renowned Lee Kuan Yew World Prize that awards cities for contributions to liveable and sustainable urban communities. Vienna also ranked first in the 2019 Smart City Strategy Index by Roland Berger and won an award in 2020. The study analysed 153 cities worldwide. The survey identifies which city has the smartest solutions to challenges such as increasing population, traffic and climate protection, and uses digital solutions that benefit citizens.

Now this sounds like a lot of people would love to live here and cost of living would be soaring. Also according to Mercer's cost and quality of living assessment it is in the same ballpark as other comparable European cities in terms of cost and rated as „highest“ in the eco city index, while ranking as the most liveable city as well.

Vienna simply offers the „biggest bang for your buck“.



## Education and schools

**Parents in Vienna can rely on a well-developed educational infrastructure for all ages. There are 350 municipal/public kindergartens (for children up to the age of 6) and day-care centres in Vienna. Vienna has a capacity of 86,000 places for children aged 0-6. In terms of availability, 98% meet the needs of full-time working parents. Some kindergartens are open until 20:00, most until 18:00 and can open at 06:00.**



Vienna Summer/How to Spend your Days in Vienna

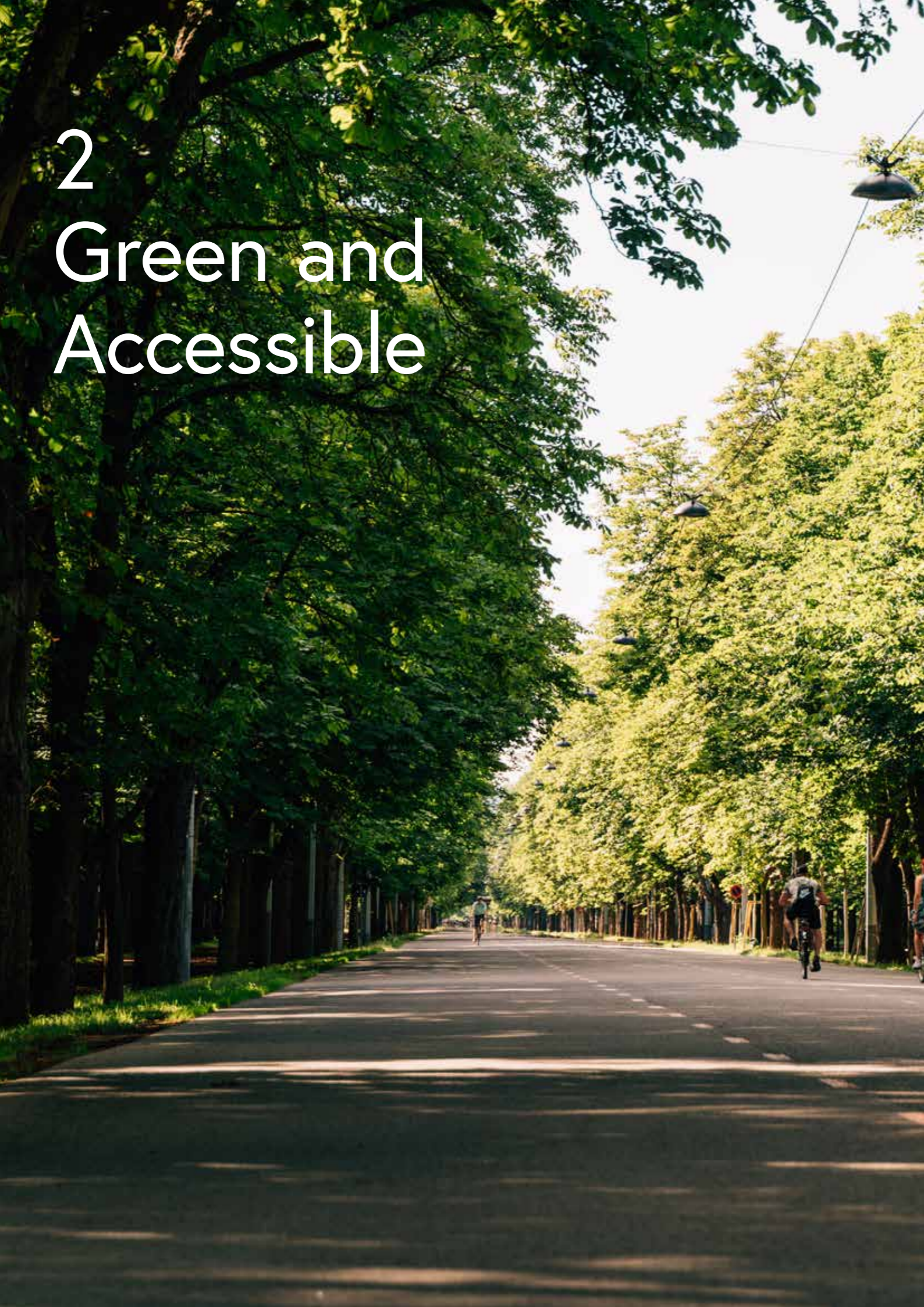
The City of Vienna invests considerable financial resources in subsidising childcare fees in both public and private childcare facilities. Parents only have to pay an income-related contribution towards the cost of meals, as well as the cost of additional extra-curricular activities such as foreign language or music lessons in early childhood. Foreign language preschools are attached to a number of international schools; some regular preschools offer bilingual education.

The following languages are currently offered: English, French, Italian, Hungarian, Czech and Slovak, with varying degrees of intensity.

There are several private international schools where English is the language of instruction. These private schools follow their own curriculum and offer education from grades 1 to 12, with the International Baccalaureate (IB) as the school-leaving qualification.

Vienna is the oldest and largest university city in the German-speaking world. Vienna has 20 universities and universities of applied sciences and arts with a wide range of specialisations and is home to 195,000 students (30% international students). Most courses at public universities are free of charge, with the exception of the student body contribution, which will amount to €21 per semester in 2022.

# 2 Green and Accessible



Let us explore Vienna's green spaces between vineyards and parks. Find out how to get there easily.

## Green city

Sprawling parks and monumental buildings around the central ring road come to mind when you think of green Vienna. It is true that parks and the like are nice places to hang out, but they do get crowded, especially on warm summer evenings. So you might want to venture into the woods or through the meadows along the Danube, and it is in these precious moments that Vienna's green heart shines.

And this is meant both literally and figuratively, as one of the main retreats for the Viennese is the Prater, a 6 square kilometre park in the centre of the city. In the middle of the park a 4.4-kilometre-long, car-free avenue leaves plenty of space for jogging, horse-riding, cycling and other forms of exercise under the chestnut trees. And again, don't take it from us Viennese, but from Eliud Kipchoge, who decided to run the 42.2 kilometres of a marathon in under two hours in the Prater.



[Why Vienna is the Greenest City in the World](#)

There are more than 1000 other parks scattered around the city for everyone to discover and enjoy. There are special parks where dogs can run free, and others for your favourite leisure activities.

According to Resonance Consultancy, Vienna is the greenest city in the world.

Vienna has a wide selection of more than 170 vegetable farmers within the city limits and around 170 wine producers. This gives you the opportunity to buy food locally at your nearest market or supermarket and keep transport times to a minimum. If you want to get away from the hustle and bustle of the city, you can explore the outskirts in the hills to the west, the foothills of the Alps. Here you'll find forests and vineyards that give the wine its special blend. In this area you can also find the UNESCO World Heritage Site of the „Heuriger“, small taverns that are open seasonally to present the wine and all its by-products, such as the „Sturm“ of the current year, with something to eat (and, as always, laws dating back to monarchical times to regulate them).



Vineyards and noteworthy winemaking in the city are something uniquely Viennese, as it is the only city in the world where this is possible, and even the city itself produces its own wine and sparkling wine in a city-owned vineyard.

Now it is time for a confession, because in the spirit of transparency it should be clear that, coming from a country with a strong wine culture, we do something that could be considered frivolous. We add sparkling water to our white wine.

We are not going to apologise for that! The only reason we can do it and get away with it is the quality of the water. In fact, it is protected by the Viennese constitution. Almost all the water from the tap comes directly from the mountains of Styria and Lower Austria at a cool temperature of around seven degrees.

## Accessibility of Vienna

**Green living in a city inevitably involves mobility. And as parents, relatives, employees and people, we need to be in different places. So it is also about having options to choose from to get from A to B.**

Well, starting with public transport within the city limits, this is quite easy, because for 1 €/day for the annual pass you can use an extensive network of buses, trams, metro and trains without any limits. This annual pass gives you access to 5 metro lines, 28 tram lines and 131 bus lines, covering a total of 1,150 kilometres of public transport. They serve one billion passengers a year.

You can also travel by bike or scooter, or simply walk. There are more than 1654 kilometres of cycling infrastructure to get around the city. Vienna actively engages with its population to promote active mobility, reduce car use and increase the share of public transport, and the simple fact that there are more season ticket holders than cars in Vienna. This is why there are more than 3,000 bicycles available for sharing. Of course, residents may need cars for certain purposes, but the need for cars is gradually diminishing.

But sometimes we need to get out of the city for work and leisure, and a modern public transport system should provide competitive alternatives to individual motorised transport. Travelling within Austria is all the more convenient with public transport.

If you want to travel around the country, an annual ticket for all Austrian public transport costs just €3 per day.

If you want to travel across the border by train, Vienna's main railway station is a major public transport hub for reaching Member States around Austria and beyond.

Vienna International Airport is a 15-20 minute train ride from the city centre where AMLA will be located. Trains run almost around the clock.

The proposed location of the Agency will be on the same line and the same statistics for airport availability apply.



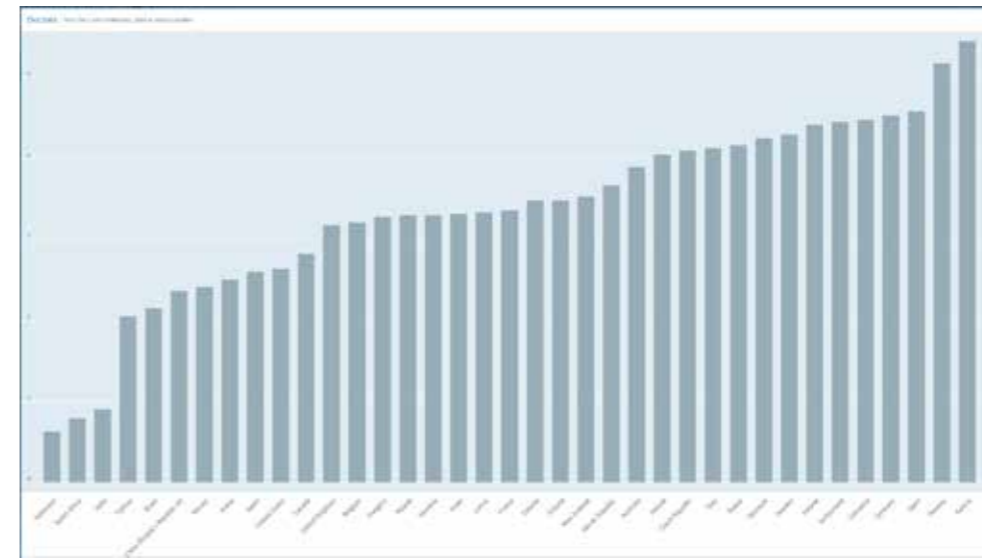
# 3 Peace of mind



In Vienna, all your personal needs are taken care of.

## Healthcare and other needs

Austria's universal healthcare system ensures that 99.9% of the population is covered. As in many other European member states, we do not often think about health insurance as we take it for granted, but when we cross borders we may start to worry about our children, family and loved ones.



AMLA employees will travel regularly and face challenges in their work, so we want to give them peace of mind. Accidents and illnesses are an unfortunate part of life and as a society we should provide the best possible treatment for everyone, including our guests. This includes removing language barriers, one of the most frustrating things to deal with in a personal crisis. Over 19 000 medical practitioners in various fields, including mental health counselling and speak more than 35 different languages. They reflect the international character of the city, including its expat population. Therefore, we can assure you that no matter where you come from, there is a very high likelihood that your doctor will speak your native language.

In addition, a large part of the health infrastructure is dedicated to long-term flourishing and some medical institutions prescribe spa stays for various illnesses, either as a treatment or as a preventive measure. A number of renowned institutions are spread across the country. AMLA employees and their family members, including especially vulnerable ones, will come to value this option.

## Reliability of services

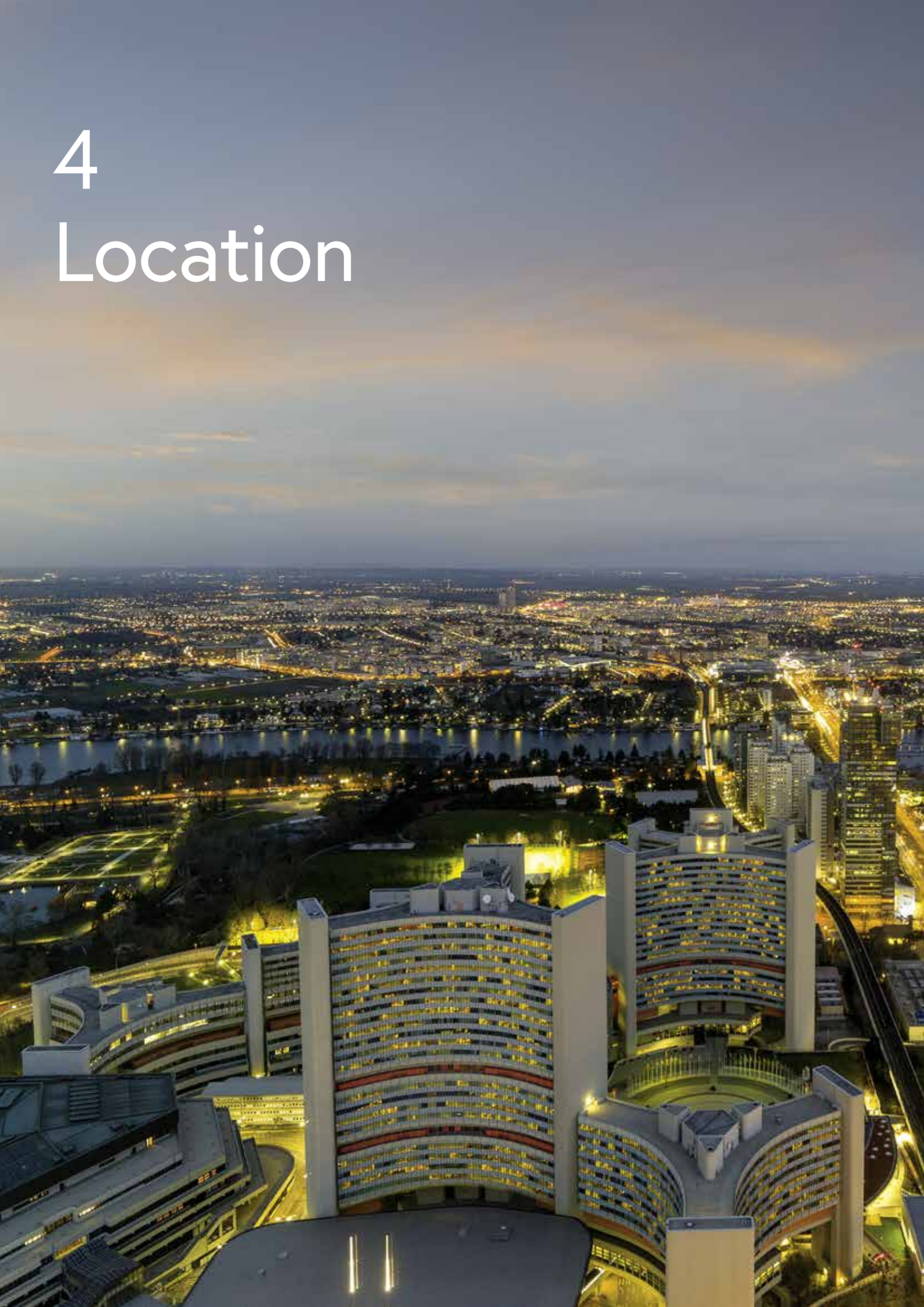
The reliability of a city's services goes a long way to put your mind at ease. Vienna is a pretty clean city (some would say spotless!). More than 3,000 people sweep the streets, look after the bins and operate the collection points. Vienna aims to become a zero-waste city by 2050. The city even has an app that tells you the right container for your waste, where that container is, and gives recycling advice. Even if these things seem trivial, it stinks when essential services are not working.

Furthermore, it is exceedingly rare for public services to be unavailable due to strikes. Over the last ten years, there were only 0 to 1.1 strike minutes per employee per year. This is largely due to the fact that Austrian trade unions and employers' associations negotiate collective agreements for their respective industries.

In general, Austrians just hate it when things don't work properly. When a subway train does not arrive on time, there is a palpable sense of shared discontent in the station. The same goes for littering, which we don't do because we care about the city. While Viennese may seem formal at first, they do it out of respect for other people and guests. And this is why we assume, we might come across as unfriendly, because we just stick to ourselves, but there is no harm intended.



# 4 Location



Let us show you AMLA's neighbours and all the reasons why AMLA will feel welcome.

## AMLA will be welcomed among other International Organisations

Vienna and Austria have been the site of many international conventions and the seat of many international organisations. The location between East and West on neutral ground was the reason for this increased diplomatic activity, especially in the last century.

**International organisations and institutions based in Vienna**

Legend: Federal Ministry, Republic of Austria, European and International Affairs

Map labels: Laxenburg

ORGANISATIONS AND ENTITIES OF THE UNITED NATIONS		OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS AND INSTITUTIONS	
01. UNCTAD United Nations Conference on Trade and Development The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) is a United Nations agency that works to increase trade and investment flows, and to help developing countries to diversify their economies and improve their living standards.	06. UNCTAD United Nations Conference on Trade and Development The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) is a United Nations agency that works to increase trade and investment flows, and to help developing countries to diversify their economies and improve their living standards.	07. UNCTAD United Nations Conference on Trade and Development The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) is a United Nations agency that works to increase trade and investment flows, and to help developing countries to diversify their economies and improve their living standards.	08. UNCTAD United Nations Conference on Trade and Development The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) is a United Nations agency that works to increase trade and investment flows, and to help developing countries to diversify their economies and improve their living standards.
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**INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS OUTSIDE VIENNA**

**QUASI-INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS**

Diplomacy has a strong tradition in Austria. We believe strongly in the power of international dialogue in international institutions that promote discussion and negotiation. The city actively supports international activities and attributes part of its success as a city to its internationality and cosmopolitanism.

As we have shown, the city's assets also help international organisations in Vienna by providing the best possible work environment.

The creation of new ideas and approaches is usually fostered by the cross-pollination of different groups of people trying to push an issue in the same direction.

Some international organisations relevant to the future of AMLA are already well established and others are ready to expand their presence in Vienna.

As one of four seats of the United Nations, Vienna is proud to host the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO) and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

The Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), the world's largest regional security organisation, has been based in the Hofburg since 1995. The World Bank Group is also present in Vienna and is expanding its offices.

The International Anti-Corruption Academy is located nearby, providing expertise to the rest of the world in the prevention and prosecution of corruption.

In terms of European decentralised agencies, we are proud to host the Fundamental Rights Agency, a 110-strong agency that promotes and protects the human rights of everyone in the European Union through its main tasks of collecting and analysing data, providing evidence-based advice and communicating the results of research, and raising awareness of fundamental rights.

## Shared city resources for AMLA

**AMLA will be located in an environment of well-established and renowned organisations, using the resources already available in the city for its mission.**

There are more than 422 hotels and other accommodation providers in Vienna, offering more than 34,000 rooms with more than 68,000 beds for more than 18 million guests per year.

The Austria Center Vienna can accommodate more than 22,800 people on five different levels, providing space for almost any occasion. There are almost 20 auditoriums in various configurations and sizes. And this is just one of the larger meeting facilities that make Vienna the number one meeting destination for 2012 and 2021 according to the ICCA Destination Performance Index Ranking. As we want to remain as environmentally friendly as possible, the Vienna Convention Bureau will also help the organiser of such events to certify them as Green Meetings according to the standards of the Austrian Eco-Label.



Meet us in the extraordinary/Meeting Destination Vienna

# 5 Building



## Proposed building and surrounding premises

You know Vienna and all its plentiful amenities by now. But how does that translate to AMLA and what we can offer for AMLA itself?

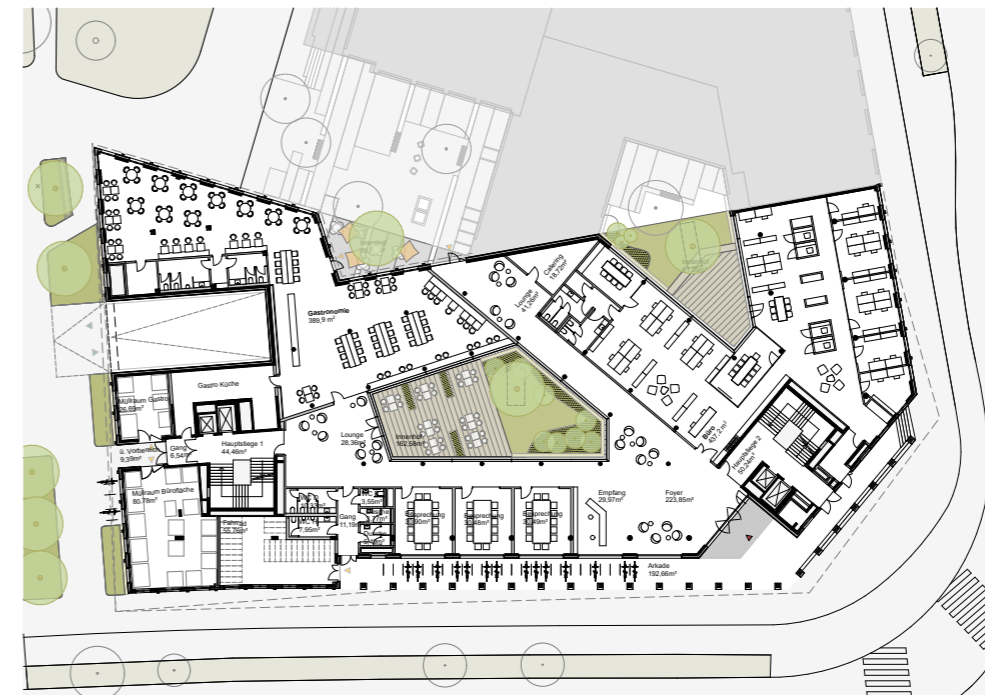
We have made it our mission to find the perfect place in Vienna for this authority and we asked numerous experts to create the perfect agency.

We wanted something close to the airport, but also close to the centre. Where you are connected to all the different means of transport, but also surrounded by liveable space.

We wanted something very secure, but also embedded within the city. We wanted something which gives the future employees every possibility to grow.

We wanted something where they feel at home and we think we found it. We found a home for AMLA in Vienna.

This is how it's going to look like:



## What do we offer in technical terms?

The new building is part of a new district, called “Village im Dritten” ([villageimdritten.at](http://villageimdritten.at)) embedded within office buildings, flats, commercial space and public greenery. It will be operational by 2026 and purpose-built for AMLA and Austria will provide a fully functional temporary accommodation until that point. The proposed building is fully adaptable to meet all the needs of AMLA. It provides 9 850 m<sup>2</sup> of space over eight floors, including a conference room of 300 m<sup>2</sup>, a representative lobby as well as working areas, lunch spaces and its own cafeteria and staff kitchen. Additionally, this building can accommodate several meeting rooms of various sizes, tailored to AMLA's needs. The building structure offers a wide range of closed, mixed and open spaces. The light-flooded interior is complemented by the use of a lot of visible wood due to its hybrid construction. It is designed to provide outdoor spaces for lounging and to hold evening receptions. The following pictures are part of a study for this very purpose and are only indicative of the possibilities.



The site also provides underground parking spaces and above-ground bicycle parking spaces. As this building is part of a dedicated district, additional office spaces are available nearby if needed. Energy is provided by a unique network of geothermal energy and district heating, supported by photovoltaic power.

Regarding physical safety and security requirements, the building can be split up in several sections with turnstile entry controls in each section or for the whole building, as a lobby is part of the initial planning. These are options and the ultimate preferences will be fully adapted to the needs of AMLA.

Nearby of the location there are conference centres such as the Austria Convention Center (24 000 m<sup>2</sup>), the Marx Halle (20 000 m<sup>2</sup>) or the Hofburg (17 000 m<sup>2</sup>). Those provide plentiful space for conventions or other events in case the space within the Agency would be insufficient for one-off events.



AMLA's future home is just 5 minutes from the nearest train station, which takes employees and guests straight to the airport and is also situated within 15 minutes' walk from Vienna's main railway station. From there, it is only a 20-minute ride to the airport, with trains running every 15 minutes. There are also tram stops in front of the building going in both directions or into the city center. If you would like to take a brief walk, there is either the Schweizergarten or the spectacular view of the Belvedere Gardens next door.

