



LITTLE HOLIDAYS IN

Salzburg

AUSTRIA

CONTENTS

PLAN

Quick facts	3
When to go	5
Events and activities	6
Sample itineraries	7
Typical costs	9

BOOK

Getting there	10
Where to stay	12
Renting a car	14
Transportation options	18
Tours and activities	19
Wi-Fi and SIM cards	20

EXPLORE

Map	20
Where to go	22
What to eat and where	29
Day trips	31
Where to go next	32

Quick facts

Essential information

- [General visa information for travel to Austria](#)
- [Health information](#)

Emergency numbers

European emergency number	112
Police	133
Ambulance service	144
General practitioners' out-of-hours service	141
Tourist information (Vienna Tourist Board)	01 24 555

Language

Languages: German, English

Helpful phrases

- Hello / Good day – Hallo / Guten tag
- Thank you – Dankeschön
- Excuse me – Entschuldigen Sie
- Cheers! – Prost!
- Bye - Tschüss

Money matters

Currency: Euro (1 EUR ~ 1.10 USD ~ 1.50 SGD)

Credit cards (Visa and MasterCard) are accepted in most stores and restaurants. Always choose to pay in EUR (the local currency) when prompted by the payment terminal.

Carry a bit of cash for smaller stores and markets. If you have a [Transferwise Borderless Card](#), you can withdraw with minimal conversion fees and minimal ATM fees from Austria's major banks (ex. Bank Austria / Unicredit, Sparkasse, and Volksbank).

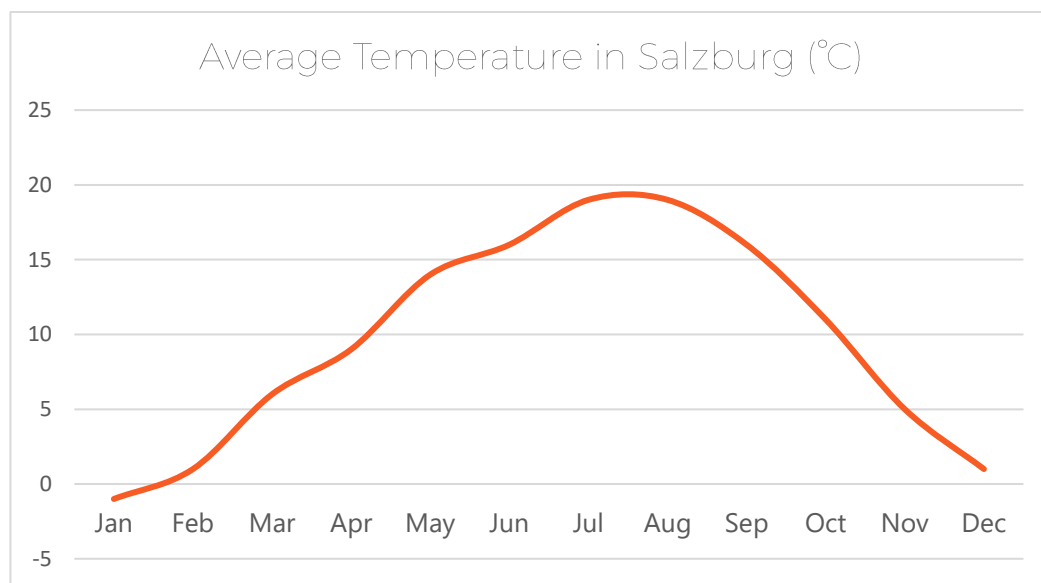
When to go

The weather is excellent for walking around Salzburg from May to September, with average temperatures of 20°C.

Peak months are from July to August, so avoid these months if you don't like crowds.

September and October are great for mild, fall weather, fewer crowds, and better prices.

Winter is also a great time to visit Salzburg, especially if you plan to visit the alps or love Christmas markets and magical European winters.



Events and activities

[Here's a complete list of events in Salzburg.](#)

JAN	MAY	JUNE
Christmas Markets New Year's Concert	Salzburg Festival	Sommerszene
JULY	AUGUST	DECEMBER
Electric Love Festival	Love im Park	Christmas Markets Winterfest

Sample itineraries

▶ 3 days

Day 1: Explore Salzburg's historical center. Start at the Mirabell Palace and Gardens, go up the Kapuzinerberg, follow the Mozart trail, then end the day in Mönchsberg.

Day 2: Spend the morning seeing the world of "The Sound of Music." Even if you're not a fan, this tour will bring you to some of the most beautiful places in and around Salzburg. In the afternoon, make your way up the Hohensalzburg Fortress and explore Central Europe's biggest fully-preserved castle.

Day 3: Discover the beautiful Lake District just beyond Salzburg's walls. Get a rental car or join a tour and drive to Austria's most picturesque lake towns.

Explore the beautiful and historic **Old Town**





Take a road trip to
Salzkammergut and visit
Austria's most charming towns.

► 5 days

Days 1-3 as above

Day 4: Get a rental car (or join a day tour) and head to the Eagle's Nest in the Bavarian alps. Enjoy the ride with views of dramatic cliffs and snow-covered mountain summits.

Day 5: Check out of Salzburg and continue your drive to Hallstatt, one of the Lake District's most beautiful and historic towns. This is the perfect stopover for a road trip that continues on to Vienna.

Typical costs



BUDGET

EUR 30/night

[YoHo International Youth Hostel](#)

COMFORT

EUR 180/night

[Hotel Am Dom](#)

SPLURGE

EUR 550/night

[Hotel Schloss Mönstein](#)



EUR 3.60

Street food at [Salzburger Grill Imbiss](#)

EUR 20

[Die Weisse](#)

EUR 150

[The Glass Garden](#) tasting menu



EUR 2.90

[One ride on a tram/bus](#)

EUR 60/day

[Rental car](#)

EUR 780/day

[Private tour for a group of 8](#)



FREE ACTIVITIES

EUR 25

[Salzburg Card](#)

EUR 99

[Full day Bavarian alps tour from Salzburg](#)

Getting there

By plane

Salzburg has its own international airport (SZG), which serves flights to and from Schengen and international cities.

[Check flights to Salzburg](#)

By train or bus

If you're coming from nearby cities and countries, you can reach Salzburg by train or bus. If you're on a multi-country trip, getting a [Eurail Global Pass](#) may turn out to be more convenient and economical for you. Otherwise, you can check [ÖBB](#) for train connections to Salzburg and [RegioJet](#) for bus travel.

From Salzburg airport to the city

By bus – You can catch a bus from Salzburg airport to various points in the city. **Bus No. 2** runs daily between the airport and the Salzburg main station (Hauptbahnhof / HBF), while **Bus No. 10** runs from the airport to the city center. You can get tickets at the airport terminal, at the bus stop, or from the [Salzburg Verkehr app](#). You can ride all forms of public transportation for free with the [Salzburg Card](#).

By taxi – You can book a taxi using the [Free Now app](#).

By private transfer – The private transfer service can accommodate groups of up to 3 (sedan), 6 (minivan), and 8 (minibus).

**Book a transfer from the
airport to your hotel**

Where to stay

Salzburg is easily explored on foot or by trams and buses, and is also a great base for day trips around the Lake District. Stay in the **Old Town** if you want to explore the city's historical sights easily. If you calmer but still central stay, stay in the **New Town**. If you're looking for a more upscale residential district, stay in **Maxglan**.

Old Town

If you want to explore Salzburg's historical sights easily, stay in the Old Town. Most of the city's historic sights, best restaurants, and shopping streets are within walking distance of the Old Town.

- [Hotel Am Dom](#)
- [Hotel Schloss Mönchstein](#)

New Town

If you want a slightly calmer, less touristic, but still central base, stay in the New Town. This is nearer the Mirabell Palace and Gardens, still within walking distance of Salzburg's essential landmarks, but detached enough from the busy, touristy center.

- [Hotel am Mirabellplatz](#)
- [Villa Auersperg](#)

Maxglan

If you want a relaxed stay away from the crowds, stay in Maxglan. This is an upscale residential district filled with locally-owned boutique shops, cafes, and restaurants where you can experience a slice of local living.

- [**Das Grüne Hotel zur Post**](#)
- [**Villa Riedenburg**](#)

For “The Sound of Music” lovers

If you’re a fan of the “Sound of Music,” stay in one of these iconic hotels.

- [**Hotel Schloss Leopoldskron**](#)
- [**Villa Trapp**](#)

Renting a car

Requirements

- **Age** – To rent a car, you must be at least 18 years old. If you're under 25, rental car companies may add a young driver surcharge and you may not be able to rent certain car models.
- **License** – If you plan to drive in Austria for a short time as a tourist, it is recommended to get a valid International Driving Permit (IDP) from your country's automobile association. Note that the IDP is only valid when accompanied by a valid local license, so make sure to bring both. Driving licenses issued within the European Union are valid in Austria.
- **Other documents** – Have your passport and a credit card under your name when picking up the rental car. The rental car company might authorize a deposit on your credit card to cover for any damages.

Renting a car

- **Reserve online** - Make sure to reserve your car online in advance. If you're flying into Salzburg airport, you can get your car from there.

Rental cars in Salzburg

[Other car hire locations in Austria](#)

- **Get a comprehensive car hire insurance** – For total peace of mind, get a [comprehensive personal car hire insurance](#) that will cover for damages and theft.

Get a rental car insurance

- **Add-ons** – A GPS unit and child seats can be added to your reservation if needed.
- **One-way rentals** – Many rental car companies in Austria allow domestic one-way rentals for an extra fee. This means you can pick up your car from one city and drop it off in another.

Costs – 3-day road trip (2019 prices and estimates)

- **Rental car** – A 5-seat sedan ranges from EUR 130-180 for 3 days.

- **Gas** – Estimating 600 kilometers over 3 days, gasoline could cost you up to EUR 60.
- **Tolls** – You'll need a highway toll sticker or vignette to use the motorways. Most rental car companies will include this with the car, but if not, it costs EUR 9 for a vignette with a 10-day validity.
- **Parking** – Within cities, you can look for blue zones where parking is free for a certain period (indicated as number of minutes on a sign within the vicinity), or paid parking spaces. "Park and Ride" garages are cheap options when spending a day in the city – you can park here for the whole day for EUR 4-5.

Road rules and safety

Emergency numbers

- 112 – General emergency number
- 133 – Police
- 144 – Ambulance

Austria drives on the right side of the road.

Usual speed limits

- Highways – 130 km/hr (80 miles/hr)
- Country roads – 100 km/hr (62 miles/hr)
- Towns and cities, urban areas – 50 km/hr (30 miles/hr)

Follow posted speed limit signs in motorways and villages.

Things to watch out for

- Don't drink and/or use mobile devices while driving.
- Always wear a seatbelt.
- Don't drive during winter without snow chains.
- Don't park on a white line at a bus stop and in front of yellow/red lines or within 3 meters of a fire hydrant.
- Don't turn right on red.

Navigating

Useful apps

- [Google Maps](#)
- [Waze](#) – add “Vignette AT” to your Toll and HOV Passes (Settings – Navigation) so the app can give you the best routes
- [Maps.me](#)

Connectivity

- [4G WiFi](#)

Resources

- [A guide to driving in Austria for tourists](#)
- [RentalCars](#) – Online rental car booking platform
- [Comprehensive car hire insurance](#)

Transportation options

Local transportation

You can get around Salzburg and nearby destinations using trains, buses, and trams. I highly recommend getting the [Salzburg Card](#), which lets you ride all forms of public transportation for free and gives you free admissions and discounts to most of the museums and sights in this itinerary.

For train travel, you can check routes and buy tickets online using the [OBB app](#). For buses and trams within the city, you can find routes and buy tickets (if you don't have the Salzburg card) using the [Salzburg Verkehr app](#).

You can book a taxi using the [Free Now app](#).

Tours and activities

[City and countryside full day tour](#)

See the highlights in Salzburg city and the Salzkammergut in one full day tour.

[Concert at Mirabell Palace](#)

This is one of the most famous chamber music concerts in the world. Spend an evening enjoying Mozart's most beautiful works being performed by national and international soloists and ensembles.

[Sound of Music Tour](#)

Experience the world of "The Sound of Music" and visit set locations and beautiful places in and around Salzburg.

[Sound of Music Bike Tour](#)

Okay, so maybe you don't want to be in a big bus singing "16 going on 17." But how about a bike tour? You'll get to enjoy the crisp air and work out all those nockerls and strudels as you bike all around Salzburg.

[Apple strudel and Salzburger nockerl class](#)

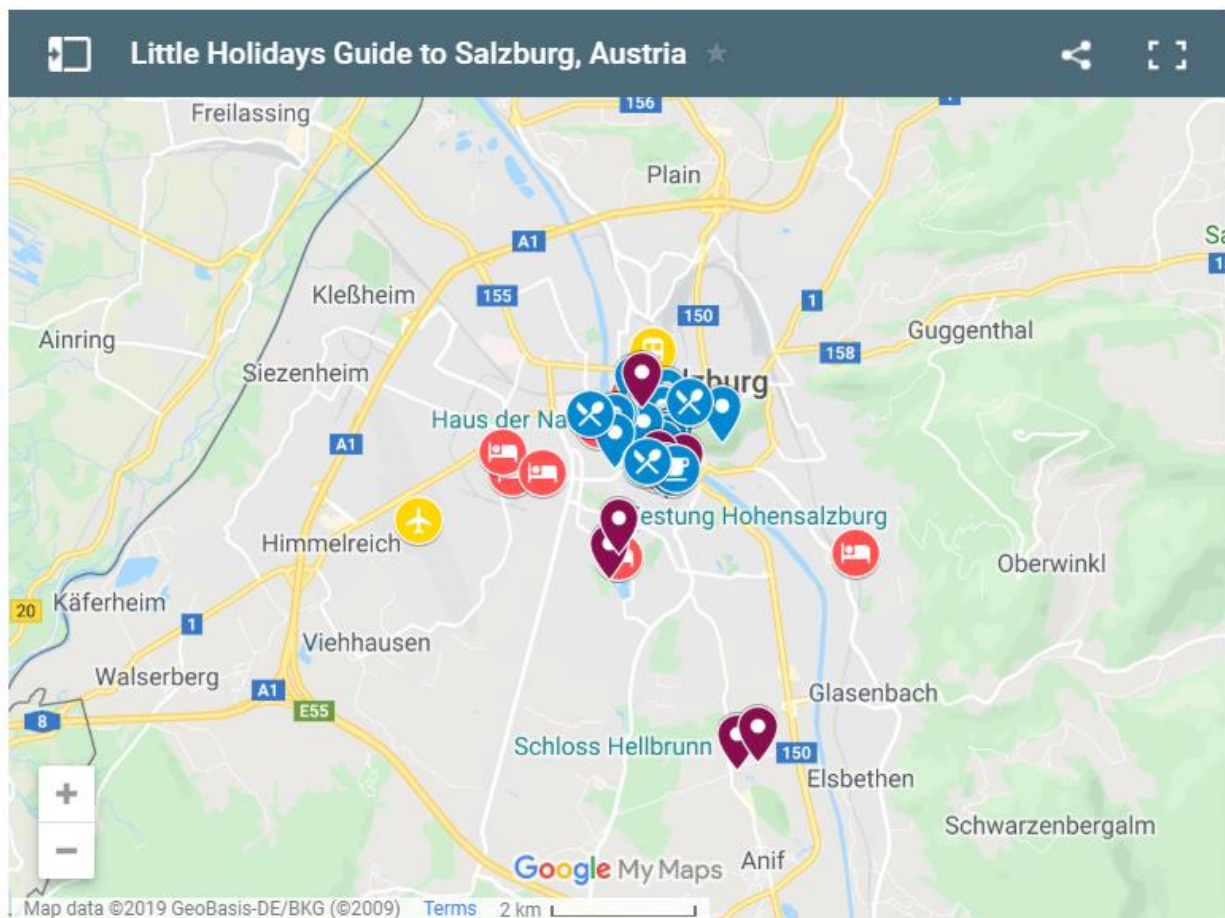
Take home a tasty new skill and learn to make Salzburg's classic desserts. Of course, you get to eat it, too!

Wi-Fi and SIM cards

Wi-Fi device

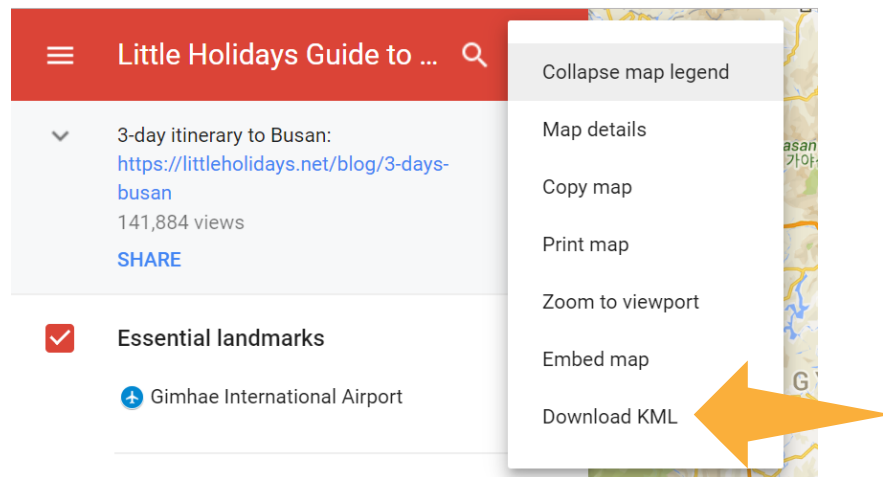
Map

Use this [Google Map](#) to get around and plan your trip.



To get an offline version of this map –

1. Download maps.me to your phone
2. Open the [Google map \(click\)](#) on your desktop web browser
3. Click on the **⋮** icon on the right side of the map name
4. Select **Download KML**



5. Export as KML
6. Send the file to your mobile via email or messaging app
7. Open the KML file using maps.me
8. Download the Austria map on maps.me when prompted while you have an internet connection
9. You'll then be able to use maps.me offline – you'll find this map saved in your **Bookmarks**

Where to go

Mirabell Palace and Gardens

The Mirabell Palace is one of Salzburg's most beautiful places and where you can get some of the best views in the city. It's best to visit in the early morning before the crowds arrive. If you're intent on getting beautiful photos of the gardens, an early start is a must.

Walk around the gardens and look for Pegasus. Go up the terrace steps for amazing views of the Hohensalzburg Fortress. Visit the Dwarf Gnome Park and go through the vine tunnel and around the hedge maze.

Afterward, make your way to the palace, which houses the historic Marble Hall, where Mozart performed piano concerts as a child. Now, it's a concert hall where you can enjoy one of the most famous chamber music concerts in the world.

INSIDER TIP: The evening concert at Mirabell Palace is one of the most famous chamber music concerts in the world. If you'd like an evening of Mozart's most beautiful works being performed by national and international soloists and ensembles, make sure to [get your tickets](#) a few days before your trip.



Enjoy the city's
most beautiful
views at the
**Mirabell Palace
and Gardens.**

Capuchin Hill (Kapuzinerberg)

Trek up the highest point of Salzburg for amazing views of the old town.

A short walk from the Saint Sebastian church, you'll find the steps going up the Capuchin Hill (Kapuzinerberg). Follow it all the way up to various viewpoints, parts of the medieval city wall, and the Capuchin Monastery.

UP FOR MORE HIKING? Continue farther uphill to Saint Francis Fortress (Franziskischlössl), a former watchtower and now a lovely restaurant serving Austrian cuisine. Having coffee and cake here is a pretty nice way to enjoy the view!

Enjoy breathtaking viewpoints and relaxing hiking trails up the **Capuchin Hill.**



Old Town (Altstadt)

Start in the Mozartplatz and listen to street musicians, admire the baroque buildings, and have a helping of traditional Austrian cuisine.

Make your way to the Salzburg Cathedral, one of the Old Town's most impressive buildings. Enter the Goldgasse alley and (window) shop all the way to the Old Market Square. From there, continue your stroll to Mozart's Birthplace and learn more about Salzburg's favorite son.

End the day on top of the Mönchsberg. You'll find plenty of viewpoints there, plus nearby places to get a drink and a hearty dinner (like the famous [Augustiner bräu](#)).

TOP TIP: Get a [Salzburg Card](#)! You'll get access to most of the museums and sights in this itinerary.

Explore the beautiful and historical **Old Town** and get to know the cultures and traditions of Salzburg.



Hohensalzburg Fortress

Ride up the funicular to the Fortress Hohensalzburg, one of the largest fortifications in Europe. It was first built in 1077 and expanded in the 1500s to become the most impressive structure in the city. It served its original purpose of protecting Salzburg quite well – never once has it been captured by foreign troops.

Watch the sunset from one of the fortress' viewpoints. If you're feeling fancy, set aside this evening for a [concert and dinner treat](#) high above the city of Salzburg.

Explore one of the largest fortifications in Europe – **Fortress Hohensalzburg**. This is also a great place to watch a concert and have a fancy Austrian dinner.



Salzkammergut / Lake District

Discover the charming lake towns in Salzkammergut.

St. Gilgen

You'll find plenty of picture-perfect streets and alleys as you walk around the town, with wooden houses and beautiful gardens amidst glimpses of the lake and the mountains. There's also a boardwalk along the lake where you'll find shops and restaurants serving delicious Austrian cuisine.

St. Wolfgang

Much like St. Gilgen, St. Wolfgang's streets are lined with colorful wooden houses, all leading to a central market square. Follow the streets down towards the lake until you reach an old 14th-century church, where you'll see lots of precious artworks inside.

Mondsee

This town is famous for the Saint Michael's Church, which was the setting for the wedding scene in "The Sound of Music." Spend some time walking around the pretty town, then walk past the tree-lined path to the lake promenade.

Head out the city and explore the gorgeous **Salzkammergut** – visit lovely lakeside towns and villages, drive along winding mountain roads, and see the beauty of the Austrian countryside.



What to eat and where

Beer breweries

Beer is big in Salzburg – they’ve been brewing there for 600 years and they’ve claimed the title of “Austria’s beer capital.”

To try Salzburg’s best beers, head to these breweries and enjoy traditional Austrian cuisine with a glass or two: [Stiegl](#), [Augustiner Bräu](#), and [Die Weisse](#).

Traditional Austrian cuisine

Enjoy schnitzels and dumplings and platters of sausages all over Salzburg. Some of the best restaurants to check out: [Gasthaus Zwettler](#), [Gasthof Goldgasse](#), and [Bärenwirt](#).

Never miss an opportunity to eat schnitzel



Cafés and konditorei

Enjoy Austria's café culture and spend some time celebrating idle time in the country's favorite local hangout. It's the perfect excuse to try out the delicious cakes and pastries as well.

- [Schatz-Konditorei](#)
- [Kaffee-Alchemie](#)

Farmers' markets

Sample fresh local fruits and vegetable, cheeses, pastries, and more in Salzburg's traditional farmers' markets.

- [Salzburg Schranne](#)
- [Grünmarkt](#)
- [Kajetanerplatz](#)

Day trips

[Eagle's Nest](#)

The Bavarian Alps are a scenic bus ride away from Salzburg and is home to dramatic cliffs and views of snow-covered mountain summits. It also houses Hitler's vacation home, the Eagle's Nest, which has impressive cliffside views and fascinating history.

[Berchtesgaden salt mine](#)

Salt plays such a huge role in how Salzburg and the surrounding areas were able to build their beautiful cities. Get a glimpse of the history and impact of Alpine salt mining in the Berchtesgaden salt mine, then ride across an extraordinary underground salt lake.

[Hallstatt](#)

Hallstatt is one of Salzkammergut's most beautiful and historic towns. You can easily spend a couple of days exploring the compact town and the surrounding countryside ([here's my travel guide to Hallstatt](#)), but even if you only have half a day to explore, this eye-candy of a town is definitely worth a visit.

Where to go next

Continue your travels around Central Europe to discover more beautiful cities with old-world charm and a wealth of history and culture.

[Prague, Czech Republic](#)

If you love art and culture, head to Austria's neighbor, the Czech Republic. Start in Prague, the country's capital, then make a side trip to [Cesky Krumlov](#). If you have more days and love a fantastic countryside adventure, make your way to [South Moravia](#), the country's wine-growing region.

[Vienna, Austria](#)

Austria's capital has its own charms, with its share of historical landmarks, beautiful buildings, and quirky neighborhoods. This [backroads drive from Vienna to Salzburg](#) is a great way to see more of Austria!

[Budapest, Hungary](#)

One look at the majestic buildings on both sides of the Danube river, and you'll understand why everybody loves Budapest. If you want to add a bit of excitement to your European holiday, Budapest will fit right into your itinerary.



ABOUT THIS GUIDE

Thank you for downloading this guide! I wish you happy travels to Austria. If you found it useful, please forward or share it with your friends and travel buddies. Using the links on this guide and on the blog also helps support the Little Holidays (at no extra cost to you), so thank you so much for that!

This guide was downloaded from the [Little Holidays travel blog](#) and the information is current as of October 2019. Please check the website for updates.

If you have more questions about travel in the area, [send me a message](#), and I'll get back to you ASAP!

Lastly, I'd love to know what you think! Please take 2 minutes to help me make better guides in the future.

How likely are you to recommend this travel guide to a friend?

NOT LIKELY AT ALL

EXTREMELY LIKELY

1

2

3

4

5

Thank you and enjoy your little holidays! ♥