

Austria - Culture Smart!: The Essential Guide to Customs Culture

Peter Gieler

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Peter Gieler : Austria - Culture Smart!: The Essential Guide to Customs Culture before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Austria - Culture Smart!: The Essential Guide to Customs Culture:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. I enjoyed the reference and have been to Austria much of ...By Andrew P CoxI enjoyed the reference and have been to Austria much of the information seems to hold. I thought it could have mentioned more about the ski resorts but that was minor in the scheme of things. All the content was practical and very useful.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Great seriesBy AndrewThe culture smart books can be read in no time and tell you lots of things about a country that would take years to reason out yourself. It's spot on accurate for the Austrians, though it underplays their charms. It overplays the formalities a bit. Younger Austrians never were offended if I failed to observe Austrian formalities. This book might be a little too general, as

provinces matter a lot. It's probably also way too general in that it tries to characterize a country of 9 million people in 90 pages, but so what. It's a good starting point. If you're someone that likes to try to read up on or do as much background research as possible, this book is for you. I'd recommend it to anyone traveling there or who wants to understand the Austrians better. I'd also recommend reading the Culture Smart book about your own country to get a sense for how it generalizes and glosses over history, but in a way that is kind of insightful and revealing. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Helpful trip preparation By Cathy Martin Very helpful to read before our trip to Austria. Several interactions we had were easier to understand having read this book in advance; from practical tips regarding driving, no jaywalking, etc to cultural norms such as greetings, manners, etc.

The Austrians have a phrase, *Gemeinschaftlichkeit*, an abstract noun that translates loosely as cosiness but it means much more than this. It carries the notion of belonging, social acceptance, cheerfulness, the absence of anything hectic. It could be time spent at home, the region of home, a garden or just a living room and people can also be described as *Gemeinschaftlichkeit*. The Austrians care for their environment and have a strong sense of social responsibility. There are distinct social conventions and expectations that may seem old-fashioned to visitors. They are generous, accommodating and above all, *Gemeinschaftlichkeit*. Culture Smart! is a concise guide to understanding the Austrian people. It will illuminate the complexities of their collective personality. Familiarise yourself with their customs, traditions and culture and experience Austria authentically.

Culture Smart! has come to the rescue of hapless travellers, Sunday Times Travel - ...the perfect introduction to the weird, wonderful and downright odd quirks and customs of various countries, Global Travel - ...full of fascinating, as well as common sense, tips to help you avoid embarrassing faux pas, Observer - ...as useful as they are entertaining, Easy Jet Magazine - ...offer glimpses into the psyche of a faraway world, New York Times. About the Author PETER GIELER was born in Britain to Austrian parents. After gaining a B.A. in European Studies from the University of Sussex and a Diploma in Educational Technology, he embarked on a long career in educational training for several London authorities, and was Deputy Head Teacher in an Inner London comprehensive school. After retiring, he became General Secretary of the Anglo-Austrian Society. He has published several articles on culture and travel, and is the editor of Felix Austria, a quarterly journal about Austria published in the United Kingdom.