

American International School Vienna

Vienna, Austria



Austria's longest-running English-language school pairs an embassy-founded campus by the Vienna Woods with a CERN-linked physics program.

RANKING DIMENSIONS

Overall	70/100
Academic outcomes	72/100
University placement	70/100
Prestige & heritage	70/100
Alumni network	69/100
Facilities	73/100
Transparency	65/100

EDITOR'S VERDICT

American International School Vienna occupies a clear niche: a long-established, English-language day school in a city where many international options lean bilingual, national or church-linked. Founded in ****1959****, non-profit and non-religious, it offers an American curriculum from ages 3 to 18 on terms that matter to mobile families: continuity, English-medium teaching and recognised accreditation through the Middle States Association and the Council of International Schools. The Vienna setting adds its own pull, but the school’s sharper distinction lies in longevity. In a market full of newer entrants and hybrid models,

AIS Vienna carries the weight of institutional memory. That gives it *stability parents value* and a *settled international culture*.

What puts it on a shortlist is not novelty but fit. This is a day school for internationally minded families who want an American educational framework without boarding, religious framing or a local-language barrier at the point of instruction. The editorial tagline's reference to an embassy-founded campus by the Vienna Woods and a CERN-linked physics programme points to the school's strongest identity markers: diplomatic roots, an outward-facing student body and a science offer with real intellectual ambition. That combination gives AIS Vienna a *serious academic spine* without turning it into a pressure-cooker. For families relocating into Austria, that matters. So does the fact that it serves the full **3-18** age range, which reduces the churn of changing schools mid-journey.

The school will suit students who thrive in international classrooms, speak or want to study in English, and want a broad school experience rather than a narrowly selective local track. It fits children of diplomatic, corporate and academic families especially well, along with students who need a portable education that travels cleanly between countries. It also suits the child who wants a campus with *a strong sense of continuity* and *less ideological baggage* than confessional schools. Families seeking a deeply Austrian educational experience, a bilingual German-English model, or a boarding environment should look elsewhere. AIS Vienna's appeal is more exact than that: it offers an established American-style education in Vienna, backed by recognised accreditation and a long record in the city since **1959**.

STRENGTHS

- Founded in 1959, the school is Founded in 1959, The American International School (AIS) Vienna is Austria's oldest English-speaking school. giving it decades of experience serving relocating families.
- AIS Vienna is accredited by the Middle States Association of Schools and Colleges, USA, and the Council of International Schools, and is recognized by the Austrian Ministry of Education.
- AISV offers an American curriculum as well as the International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Program (Grade 11 and 12), and all students are eligible to graduate with the American High School Diploma and additionally, the full IB Diploma or IB courses / certificates.
- The school reports a Student to teacher ratio: 8:1 alongside a maximum class size of 21, the average is 18.
- Teaching staff come from all over the world and represent 21 different nationalities, with the majority being US citizens, and over 70% of teachers hold advanced degrees.

TRADE-OFFS

- The school is located in Vienna's 19th district near the Vienna woods, in the outskirts of the city, meaning a longer commute for families based centrally.
- Admission is in accordance with the Admissions Criteria and Guidelines, and the following order of priority: Children of U.S. or Canadian citizens with diplomatic status, qualifying AIS Vienna faculty and administration, and Ambassadors to Austria come ahead of other applicants, including local Austrian families without such ties.
- With the exception of AP Statistics, and occasionally, AP Computer Science, we do not offer AP courses in general, limiting choice for families wanting a broad AP menu alongside the IB option.
- Annual tuition at American International School Vienna ranges from EUR 13,592 to EUR 37,065 for 2026/27, plus a non-refundable Application Fee: 700 euros (non-refundable; valid for two years) and additional one-time enrollment and capital charges.

ADMISSIONS

AISV admits from Pre-Kindergarten through Grade 12, with rolling admission for Pre-K to Grade 8 and semester-based entry for Grades 9-11 depending on space. A best-consideration deadline falls around 1 February, with decisions issued after 1 April; unplaced applicants join a grade-level waitlist that is held for one school year before rolling over. Admission follows a stated priority order favoring US/Canadian diplomatic families, AIS staff and ambassadors ahead of other diplomatic, alumni or local Austrian applicants. High school entrants must demonstrate advanced/native English proficiency, as the upper school does not provide EAL support. An application fee is charged and is non-refundable.

NOTABLE ALUMNI (11)

MUSIC: Left Boy, Bryan Adams, James Hersey

DRAMA: Bryan Adams

VISUAL_ARTS: Bryan Adams, Michael P. Gorman

LETTERS: Tomasz Lem, Lisa Biritz

SCIENCE: Tomasz Lem, Q57484191

BUSINESS: Oskar Deutsch, Thomas G. Stenberg

WTS RATING 

This profile summarises editorial research by World's Top Schools. Verify all admissions dates directly with the school before submitting. Sources are cited in the full online profile at WorldsTopSchools.com/schools/sch_f9e0519f0c.