



Nasushiobara & Linz

Austrian Libraries



Grand Hall of the Austrian National Library
©Österreichische Nationalbibliothek/Hloch

Austria's oldest library is the library of St. Peter's Abbey in Salzburg. The collection of books started around 696, and today's library has last been renovated around 1769. In Austria, monasteries had been centers of knowledge and learning since the Middle Ages. Today, the monasteries still preserve treasures such as old manuscripts. Gorgeous baroque reading rooms are still preserved in monasteries such

as Admont Abbey, which has the world's largest abbey library hall or St. Florian Abbey near Linz. The abbey libraries are private institutions, but many of them are open to visitors. As for national and city-owned libraries, I recommend the Austrian National Library. It has been built by the Habsburg Family, who reigned Austria for around 600 years. Especially the grand hall is impressive and there are reading rooms where you can peruse books. If you would like to read in a more casual atmosphere, I recommend the various local libraries.



Library of Schlierbach Monastery in Oberösterreich
©Land Oberösterreich



Library of the City of Linz "Wissensturm"
©Stadt Linz

Culture Corner: The Three Magi



January 6 is Epiphany or "Dreikönigstag" (German for "Three King's Day"). The Three Kings are the three Magi that are mentioned in the bible, who followed a star to visit the new born baby Jesus. On this day, children dress up as the three Magi, walk around the neighborhood and sing. People who have listened to their song donate to charity. As a sign of gratitude, the children write "C+M+B" on the door of the house to bless it. "C+M+B" is short for "May Bod bless this house" in Latin or alternatively for the three Magi's initials (Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar). Walking in an Austrian city, here and there you can spot doors with "C+M+B" written on them.

January 6 also marks the end of Christmas time, so many people put away their Christmas trees on this day.



☆ Time at Home with Florin ☆

We are introducing Austrian culture, small crafts and recipes on YouTube (in Japanese). Please feel free to take a look!

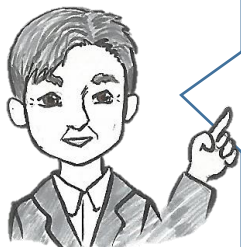
<https://www.youtube.com/user/nasushiobaracity>



Nasushiobara Channel

Nasushiobara & Linz

Lively Host-Town-Exchange



Atsushi Utsuno,
Sports Promotion
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Nasushiobara City takes the exchange with Paralympian athletes as an opportunity to implement city planning with regards to universal design and a mindset of accessibility for an inclusive society. For this reason, we are registered as “Host Town for a Harmonic and Inclusive Society” with the Republic of Austria as our partner country. Thanks to the support of the Austrian Paralympic Committee, currently 9 elementary and junior high schools in our city are able to participate in an online-exchange with 8 Austrian para swimmers and para cyclists leading up to the 2020 Tokyo Paralympics and are cheering them on. We are introducing the exchange below.



Y. Marzinke & Higashihara Elementary

Exchange Dates: Oct 1, Nov 5, Dec 3, 2020; Jan 14, 2021;
Focussing on the idea of “connecting even when apart” we have a monthly exchange with Ms. Marzinke despite the 8 hours of time difference and a distance of roughly 10,000 km. At the meetings, we showed videos and photos of our daily school activities. Mrs. Marzinke said it was “cool!” and encouraged the children, so they became confident and were able to communicate their thoughts. Through the exchange with the top athlete from abroad, their interest in the Paralympics and international exchange has grown.



©Thomas Kaserer

Name: Yvonne Marzinke / **Sport:** Para Cycling (Class C2) / **Age:** 44

Message: “I am very happy I get to participate in this project! See you in Tokyo!”



A. Gritsch & Nishi Elementary

Exchange Dates: Nov 17, Dec 24, 2020;
We held exchange meetings between the hand cycling athlete Mr. Alexander Gritsch and the 6th and 5th grades of Nishi Elementary School. The children were shy initially, but Mr. Gritsch smiled and encouraged the kids, and soon they introduced their school and Nasushiobara in English; they asked questions about his daily training and hand cycling. We realized an exchange, in which the children had fun talking to Mr. Gritsch, whose words were interpreted for them.



Name: Alexander Gritsch / **Sport:** Hand Cycling (Class H4) / **Age:** 38

Message: “Had someone told me 10 years ago, that I would go to Japan for the Paralympics, I wouldn’t have believed them! Today I know that anything is possible!”

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T. Frühwirth & Atsusaki Junior High

Exchange Dates: Sept 24, Dec 2, 2020;

Our school realized two online exchange meetings with the internationally active hand cyclist and para triathlete Thomas Frühwirth. Four 3rd grade students who had visited Austria through our school exchange last year and ten 2nd grade students, who had applied to take part in the online-exchange, participated. Although they were nervous beforehand, the students actively planned the exchange in which they asked the world-class athlete questions and introduced their school. We are looking forward to Mr. Thomas' activities during the Paralympics and the whole school is rooting for him!



Name: Thomas Frühwirth / **Sport:** Hand Cycling (Class H4), Para Triathlon

Age: 39 / **Message:** “I want to follow in Peter Pan’s footsteps and keep searching for my own “Neverland” throughout my life. In life as well as in sports.”

W. Schattauer & Sakitama Elementary

Exchange Dates: Nov 13, Dec 18, 2020; Jan 22, 2021;

“Hello!” The exchange started with a lively greeting. At the first meeting we asked questions about the hand cycling sport and introduced Nasushiobara’s charms. The children learned about the interesting sport, and were amazed that the pedals are moved with both hands, and surprised that hand cyclists can reach the speed of a car. On the second date we introduced Japanese culture such as sumo or tatami using gestures and pictures. The children were happy they were able to communicate their thoughts as they chatted with many happy smiles.



Name: Wolfgang Schattauer / **Sport:** Hand Cycling (Class H2)

Age: 61 / **Message:** “I am happy that through this exchange, I got to know many things about Japan, its people and its sights.”

Austrian Food at Nasu Takuyou High School



As a part of the promotion of the Olympic and Paralympic Games we were lucky to participate in a horizontal exchange between Austrian host towns. We deepened our knowledge of the Austrian food culture with the goal of an international exchange centered on food in the host towns. With the help of the restaurant Happo-en, we presented an Austrian style dessert and a dish for the à la carte menu using ingredients from our three cities Nagai City in Yamagata Prefecture, Yahaba

Town in Iwate Prefecture and Nasushiobara. We got the memorable opportunity to present our activities to the Minister for the Olympic and Paralympic Games, Mrs. Seiko Hashimoto. We are very grateful that despite Corona, thanks to the network of people who helped us we were able to come so far and realize this project. We will do our best to continue connecting our countries and present the charms of our city at the games.

Nasushiobara & Linz

Handmade ☆ Telling your Fortune with “Wax Pouring”

In Austria, we make predictions for the next year while waiting for midnight on December 31st. We used to pour lead for this, but since it is bad for the body and for nature, using lead was forbidden in 2018. Wax is used instead.

Materials: Wax, candles, a bowl of water, a metal spoon

How to: Put a little wax on a metal spoon and melt it over the candle flame. It takes about 3-5 minutes. The spoon can get hot, so be careful! As soon as the wax has melted, pour it into the cold water. Once it has hardened, you can look at the shape and look up or make up the meaning of the shape, happily anticipating to the following year. For example, if it looks like a ship, you might think something like “I bet I’ll be able to travel next year!” or a heart shape may make you think “Maybe I will meet someone special this year”, and so on. Since you are using fire, be careful or try the fortune telling together with an adult!



Answer on page 4



Q: What kind of cake is the famous Austrian “Sachertorte”?

A: Baiser Cake

B: Chocolate Cake

C: Walnut Cake

D: Apple Cake

Regional News

Experiencing History in Salzburg (State)



In a Salt Mine ©Salzwelten/Podpera

Salzburg State’s capital city is known as Mozart’s birth place and filming location for “Sound of Music”. The state is one of Austria’s famous regions, but it only became part of Austria (or rather the Habsburg Empire) around 200 years ago. During the Iron Age, the area was home to the blossoming “Hallstatt culture” of the Celts, in Roman times it was known for its rock salt, gold and iron. After the demise of the Western Roman Empire, it became a religious center where many monasteries were located. Salzburg used to be part of Bavaria, but from the 14th century on it was reigned by the “Prince-Archbishop” of the church in Salzburg (the highest dignitary of this parish). Traces of all these epochs remain to this day, and you can visit historical salt mines or monasteries.



State: Salzburg (State) ♥ **State Capital:** Salzburg (City) ♥
Population: ca. 558,410 ♥ **Area:** ca. 7,155km² ♥

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Nasushiobara Sister City Newsletter



Quiz-answer: B. It is the famous chocolate cake with apricot jam made by the Viennese Hotel Sacher.