

English



Parliament
Austria



Welcome to
Parliament

Welcome to Parliament!

The Parliament is the centre of Austrian politics. As a historic building, it is full of history and stories, art and architecture.

Parliament's guides will show you the most beautiful parts of the building and explain interesting facts about the parliamentary process.

During a guided tour, you will experience first-hand how and where politicians work. Parliament's guided tours are inclusive and cover a variety of topics.

Further information on the free guided tours and how to book a tour:

 [https://www.parlament.gv.at/en/
experience/guided-tours](https://www.parlament.gv.at/en/experience/guided-tours)





Demokratikum - Experience Parliament

The 1,500 square metre visitor centre uses 27 interactive media stations to illustrate the development of democracy in Austria, the possible forms of democratic participation and the processes in Parliament. The various tasks of Members of Parliament are also highlighted here.

In the Demokratikum, visitors can discover new things by themselves. It is also here that all guided tours start.





1995 - heute / today

Unsere Demokratie in Europa

Our Democracy in Europe



Colonnaded Hall

Theophil Hansen, the architect of the historic Parliament Building, designed the elongated central space of the building as a meeting place – at that time between the members of the House of Deputies (Abgeordnetenhaus) and the House of Lords (Herrenhaus). The Colonnaded Hall was also intended as a place where the Emperor would ceremonially open the parliamentary sessions.

Today, the Colonnaded Hall serves as a venue for receptions. The Members of Parliament also like to use it for interviews.

The 24 Corinthian marble columns that support the ceiling and glass roof weigh around 16 tonnes each. The room measures 40 metres by 24 metres.





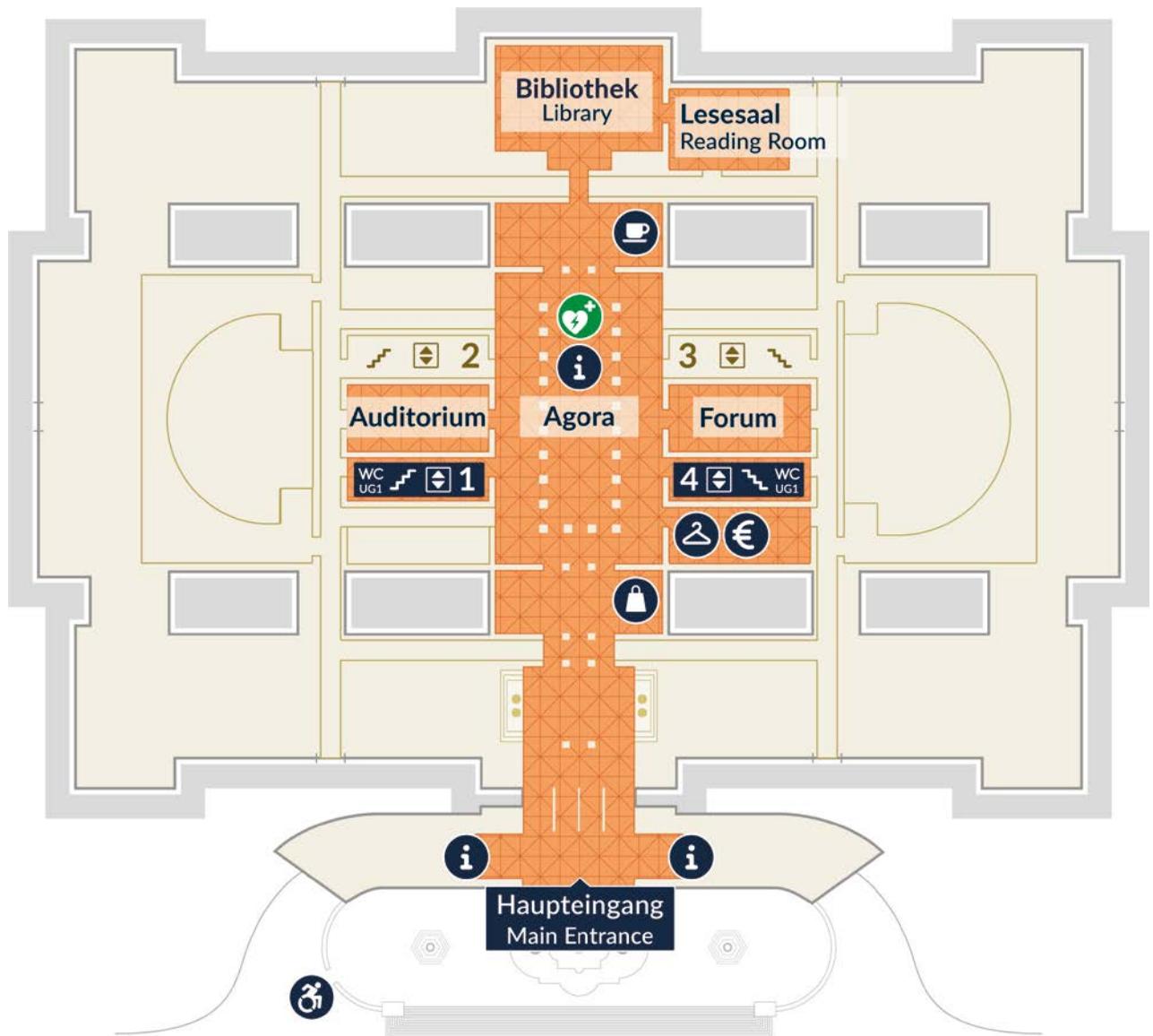


Upper Vestibule

The Upper Vestibule serves as an anteroom which – together with the adjoining Atrium – is intended to prepare visitors for the magnificent Colonnaded Hall.

The Upper Vestibule is flanked by six columns made of Trentino marble. To the left and right are the grand staircases leading up from the Lower Vestibule. The niches above the stairs contain replicas of ancient deities. A frieze painting by Alois Hans Schram, which begins above the niches and runs all the way round, leads into the Atrium.

Lageplan



 Öffentlich zugängliche Bereiche
Areas open to the public

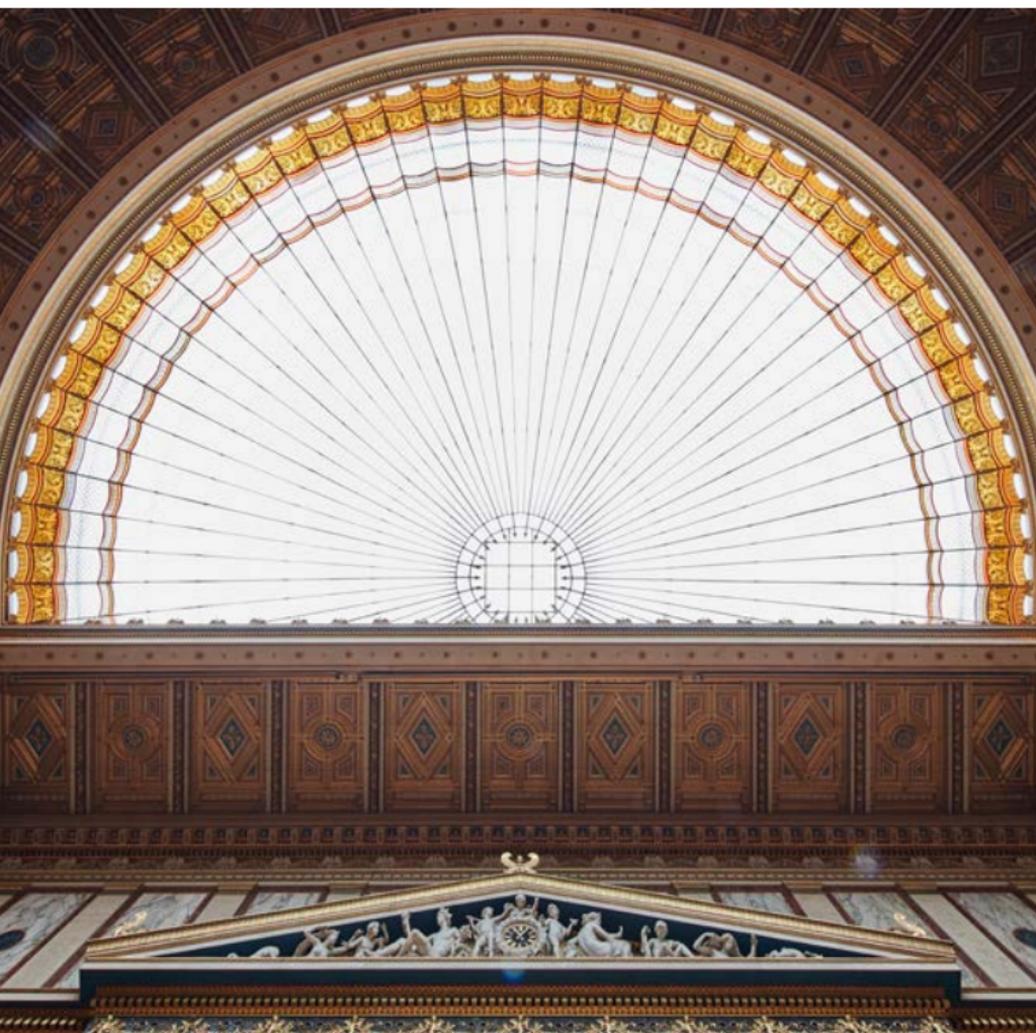
 Shop

 Bankomat
ATM

 Aufzug
Elevator

Federal Assembly Hall

The former assembly hall of the House of Deputies of the Austro-Hungarian monarchy has been preserved in its original state. With its semi-circular shape and its ascending rows, with 456 seats today, it is modelled on an ancient Greek theatre and is crowned by a hand-painted glass roof.





In the past, 516 deputies from the 17 kingdoms and lands represented in the Austrian Imperial Council (Reichsrat), which were organised into over 30 parliamentary groups, met here.

Today, not only the inauguration of the Federal President takes place here, but also joint ceremonial sittings of the National Council and the Federal Council as well as the annual commemorative event for the victims of National Socialism.

Federal Council Chamber

Since the renovation of the Austrian Parliament building, the Federal Council has met in what was formerly called the Budget Hall of the Parliament Building. This room was initially intended to serve the two houses of the former Imperial Council as a ceremonial hall and as a meeting room for the delegations of the Austrian and Hungarian halves of the empire. The coats of arms of the 17 kingdoms



and lands which were represented in the Imperial Council can be found on the stucco coffered ceiling.

After the end of the monarchy, the representative room was used for the deliberations of committees.

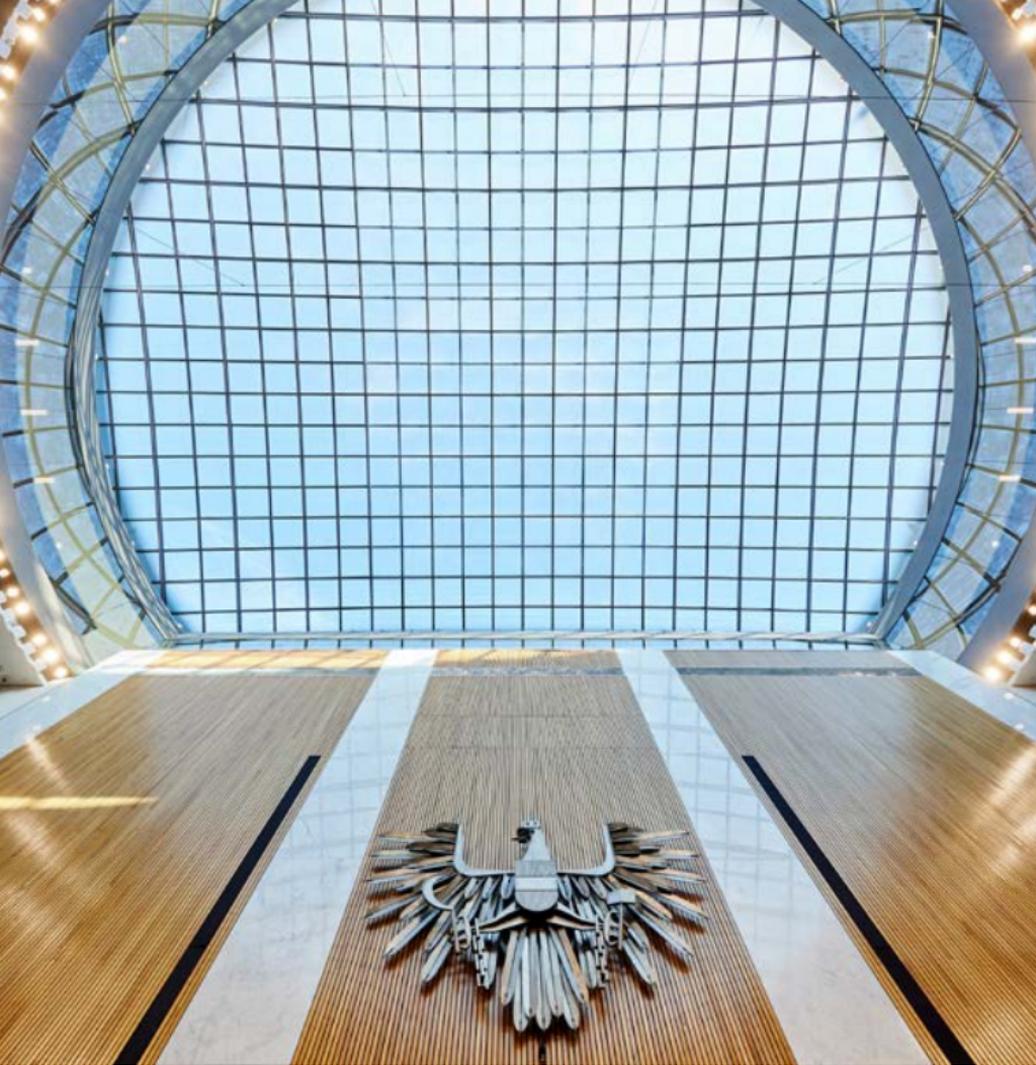
Today it serves as the meeting room of the Federal Council. The coats of arms of the Austrian federal states are displayed above the presidium, with the coat of arms of the presiding federal state always in the centre.



National Council Chamber

The National Council Chamber was originally the meeting room of the Herrenhaus and was destroyed by a bomb hit during the Second World War. The hall was rebuilt according to the plans of architects Max Fellerer and Eugen Wörle and completed with its famous wood panelling in 1956.

As part of the refurbishment which started in 2017, the design of the hall created by Fellerer and Wörle was carefully modernised by architects Christian Jabornegg and András Pálffy. Guests can follow the meetings of the National Council from the gallery. The impressive glass dome is completely new, with a glazed walkway directly below the roof – the Plenarium. There, young people interactively explore the topics of democracy, parliamentarianism and the constitution.



Admission

All visitors to Parliament are advised to register for access in advance via the website of the Austrian Parliament. You will then receive the necessary digital confirmation in advance, which you must present alongside a valid official photo ID at the entrance.

Online registration is of course also possible spontaneously and on site using your own smartphone. A security check will be carried out upon entry to the Parliament Building.

Further information:

 www.parlament.gv.at/en/experience



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