

# AUSTRIA



Source: esri

## General

Austria - officially the Republic of Austria - is a landlocked country in Central Europe. It is bordered by the Czech Republic and Germany in the North, Hungary and Slovakia in the East, Slovenia and Italy in the South, and Switzerland and Liechtenstein in the West. The territory of Austria covers 8.39 Mha (million hectares) with, in 2022, a population of 8.9 million, or 1.06 persons per ha (Wikipedia and United Nations, 2022).

## Climate and geography

The greater part of Austria lies in the cool/temperate climate zone, where humid westerly winds predominate. In the East - in the Pannonian Plain and along the Danube valley - the climate shows continental features with less rain than in the alpine areas. Although Austria is cold in the winter (-10 to 0 °C), summer temperatures can be relatively high, with average temperatures of 25 °C (source: Wikipedia).

The terrain of Austria is highly mountainous, lying within the Alps. The Central Eastern Alps, Northern Limestone Alps and Southern Limestone Alps are all partly in Austria. Of the total area of the country, only about a quarter can be considered low lying, and only 32% of the country is below 500 m+MSL (mean sea level). The Alps of western Austria give way somewhat into lowlands and plains in the eastern part of the country (source: Wikipedia).

## Existing polders

The Group Polder Development (1982) identified one polder, called Voraldburger Rheindelta Polder (Figure 1). The polder is located near the entrance of the Rhine River in the Bodensee. The crest level of the dike is 0.5 m above the highest lake level. There are three pumping stations.

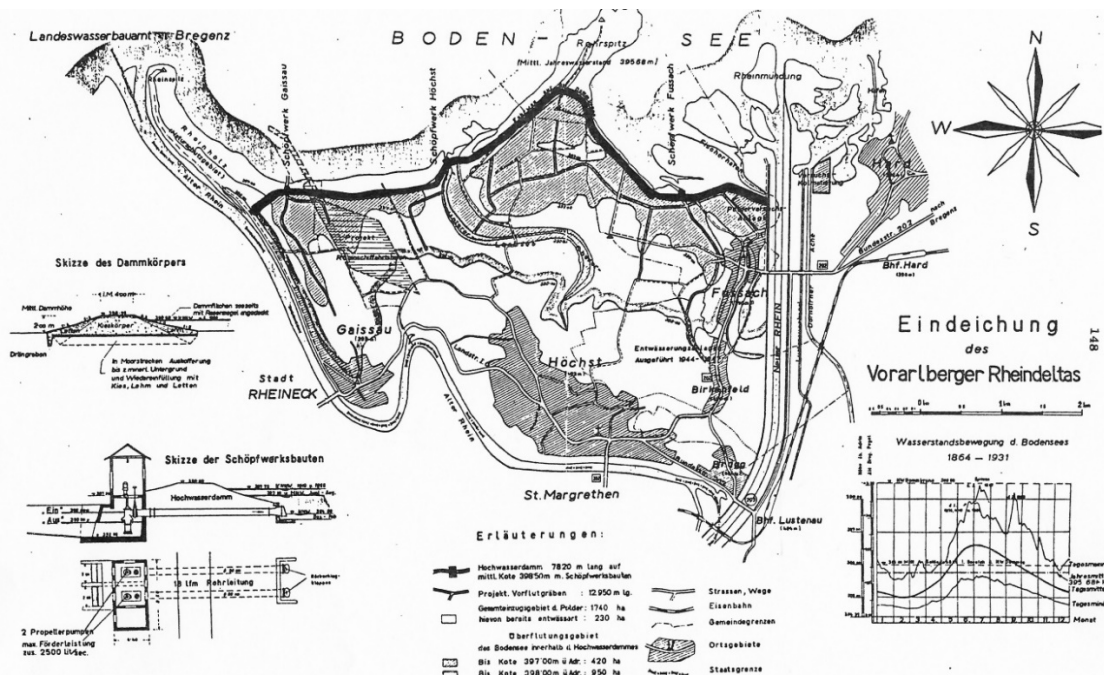


Figure 1. Voraldburger Rheindelta Polder (Group Polder Development, 1982)

General characteristics of the polder in Austria are shown in Table I. Table II shows the characteristics of the water management and flood protection systems of the existing polder.

## Proposed polders

No proposed polders have been identified.

## Location of the polder in Austria as shown on the World polder map

The location of the polder in Austria is shown in Figure 2.



Figure 2. Location of the polders in Austria (source: esri – Batavialand)

## References

- Group Polder Development, Department of Civil Engineering, Delft University of Technology, 1982. *Polders of the World. Compendium of polder projects*. Delft, the Netherlands
- International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River, 2018. *A shared river. Managing the Danube River Basin*. Vienna, Austria.
- United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division. 2022. *World population prospects, medium prognosis. The 2022 revision*. New York, USA.

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Table I. General characteristics of existing polders in Austria

Name	Reclamation	Area in ha	Type *)	Latitudes	Longitudes	Elevation in m+MSL	Land use
Voraldberger Rheindelta Polder	1964	1,000	RLL	47° 29' N	9° 38' E	395	Rural area
Total		1,000					

\*) RLL = reclaimed low-lying land; LGS = land gained on the sea; DL = drained lake

Table II. Characteristics of the water management and flood protection system of existing polders in Austria

Name	Design criteria in chance of occurrence/year					
	Water management				Flood protection in chance/year	
	Drainage			Irrigation	Rural	
	Type	Design criterion	Percentage of open water			Discharge capacity
			m <sup>3</sup> /s	mm/day		
Voraldberger Rheindelta Polder	RLL					0.5 m above the highest lake level