FORMULA 1 GROSSER PREIS VON ÖSTERREICH

JULY 1st – JULY 3rd, 2016

Weather Portrait for the Spielberg area



GENERAL INFORMATION

Formula 1 first came to Austria in 1964 thanks in part to the talented Jochen Rindt who represented Austria during his racing career. Rindt's success in motor racing lead to a growing interest in the sport among Austrians, and in 1969 the Österreichring opened replacing the older, bumpier Zeltweg Airfield Circuit. The first Formula 1 race at the Österreichring was held the following year in 1970. Since 1970, the track underwent a couple of major improvements and upgrades, including two name changes from the A1 Ring in 1997 to the Red Bull Ring in 2011. This year, drivers will race around the 4.326 km circuit 71 times for a total of 307.02 km.

CLIMATE OF SPIELBERG

Spielberg is nestled among the Central Alps along the Mur River in central Austria. The town sits in the province of Styria at close to 670 meters above sea level. Winters are typically chilly, with occasional bouts of snow, rain, and temperatures frequently falling below 0 degrees. Average annual snowfall for the area is 75 cm, with February being the snowiest month at an average of about 17 cm of snow.

A stark warming trend is evident through spring and summer with average high temperatures rising from near 4.5°C in February to 19.4°C in May up to 24.8°C in July, the warmest month of the year. The region averages around 800 mm of precipitation per year with a majority falling from summertime thunderstorms during the warmer months of June, July, and August. In fact, Styria was Austria's most active province for lightning strikes last year with 224.247 strikes being recorded within the province in 2015. Temperatures cool off at a steady rate during the fall months from September to November with the first snowflakes of the cold season usually

observed by late October or early November.

JULY CLIMATE SPECIFICS

July is the heart of summer for most mid latitude cities, and for Spielberg that means it's the middle of thunderstorm season. The most thunderstorm days out of any month occurs in July where thunder or lightning is observed about 9-10 days of the month. Additionally, thunderstorms can occasionally turn severe with strong winds and even hail. The occurrence of hail is not too frequent, but it is typically observed in Spielberg about once every four years in July with the hailstones sometimes growing up to a few Centimeters in size. Given the latitude and elevation of the area. summertime temperatures usually do not get too hot, but July does hold the record for the hottest temperature recorded in the area at 36.2°.





DETAILED CLIMATE INFORMATION (DATA IS FROM ZELTWEG):

	June	July	August	Year
Average high (deg C)	22.6	24.8	24.1	13.5
Record high (deg C)	34.2	36.2	35.3	36.2
Average low (deg C)	9.8	11.6	11.4	2.0
Record low (deg C)	-0.4	2.3	0.4	-29.8
Average precipitation (mm)	107	114	116	759
Average number of days with				
at least 0.1 mm of precipitation	11.9	11.2	11.2	94.5
Average sunshine (hours)	191.0	213.5	205.3	1,788,6

Source is the Central Institute for Meteorology and Geodynamics (ZAMG)

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