

Webquests

✦ 1.1: Deutschland, Österreich und die Schweiz

As part of *Deutsch im Blick*, you will explore the culture(s) of the German-speaking countries via Internet webquests. The first webquest introduces you to Germany, Switzerland and Austria, to show you where people speak German – the language you have just begun studying.

German is spoken in several European countries as an official language, and is widely spoken in a number of other countries world-wide.

Official language of	Also spoken in
Germany Austria Switzerland Liechtenstein Luxemburg Italy (Bolzano/Südtirol) Belgium	Argentina Czech Republic Denmark Former Soviet Union France (Alsatian) Hungary Namibia Poland (Silesia) Romania United States (e.g., Pennsylvania Dutch and Texas German derived from German dialects)

1.  germany-tourism.de Go to the official [German tourism bureau's website](#) (specifically: under top link [Reiseland Deutschland](#)), and answer the following questions:

- What are the major cities in Germany?
- What are the political regions in Germany called?
- How many political "regions" are there?
- What is the capital of Germany?
- How big is Germany compared to the US? Which US state(s) are the same size?

Click on [Sehenswürdigkeiten](#) and look at the pictures the Tourist Bureau offers as the places that best represent Germany. What do these images tell you about what the bureau (at least) considers valuable, important or significant?

Explore at least three (3) other [Sehenswürdigkeiten](#) (from the drop-down menu on the left) and find these places on the Interactive map offered by the website. Draw a picture for yourself, marking these sites on your map, so you can tell your classmates about them at the next class period.

2.  www.austria.info Next, take a virtual trip to Austria at the [Austrian tourism website](#). First, look at the [webcams](#): find Vienna and Salzburg - what's "showing" right now? What is the weather there now?

Under [Über Österreich](#), find the information to the following questions:

- What are the political regions in Austria called?
- How many political "regions" are there?
- What is the capital of Austria?

Next, click on [Reiseführer](#), and list Austria's biggest cities. How big is Austria?

After having surfed these pages, think about what the images tell you about what the tourist bureau (at least) considers valuable, important or significant in Austria.

3.  Finally, travel to **Switzerland**. Under **Daten & Fakten**, find **Über die Schweiz** and answer the following questions:

- What are the political regions in Switzerland called?
- How many political "regions" are there?
- What is the capital of Switzerland?
- What are the major cities? The highest peaks?
- What languages are spoken in Switzerland besides German?

Click on one of the regional coat-of-arms and explore that region. Which one did you pick? What did you learn about this region?

After having surfed these pages, think about what the images tell you about what the tourist bureau (at least) considers valuable, important or significant in Switzerland.

Webquest links

- German tourism: http://www.deutschland-tourismus.de/index_DEU.htm
- Austrian tourism: http://www.austria.info/xxl/_site/at/_area/383532/home.html
- Swiss tourism: <http://www.myswitzerland.com/de.cfm/home>