

Vienna, the affordable housing dream come true

Today, Vienna boasts some of the lowest-cost housing among European capital cities while commonly ranking as “the most liveable city in the world”. Subsidised housing is so popular that many of those who could afford to move elsewhere, or buy their own property, choose to stay.

Approximately half of Vienna’s current inhabitants live in subsidised housing, either in one of the 220,000 units owned by the municipality or in one of the 200,000 co-operative, not-for-profit, housing association units, which are privately developed with municipal subsidies and support. The reason given for the popularity of this form of housing is because Viennese social housing complexes often offer libraries, nurseries, gardens, sports’ fields, and even roof-top swimming pools in some cases. Many of the buildings are energy efficient, low-carbon, and in central locations close to transport links, while older complexes are renovated and updated.

For food for thought on this approach to development, read these recent articles: [Politico Live](#) and [Intergenerational Foundation](#).