

PRESS RELEASE

TOP 10 – The largest environmental zones in Europe

An Austrian zone with 20,000 km² lies just ahead of France

Berlin, 14.08.2019. The Green-Zones portal has determined the extent of the largest European environmental zones, measured by their height and width in north-south and east-west direction.

Burgenland in Austria is ranked **10th** among the largest environmental zones in Europe. The permanently established environmental zone covers the entire Land with an area of 3,962 km². However, considering the maximum extension of the zone from north to south and east to west of 143 km and 86 km, a rectangular area of 12,298 km² would result from these dimensions. In this area there are driving bans for trucks of the EURO standards 0-2, which are obliged to affix an environmental badge. In Austria, this badge is the Umwelt-Pickerl, which is still optional for passenger cars.

France ranks **in the middle** of the largest environmental zones. The local zones cover an entire department. The zones which are mainly activated because of high concentrations of particulate matter and ozone or according to weather conditions, have no entry or exit signs and are not visible to travellers driving through. Fines are therefore inevitable and applied to all vehicle types. A Crit'Air vignette is mandatory. However, this does not automatically entitle the driver to enter the zone. The degree of air pollution is always decisive, in that case individual badge classes would lose their validity.

The Land of Lower Austria ranks **1st** in the size of the environmental zones. The permanently established environmental zone has a maximum extension of 125 km to 165 km from north-south to east-west. From these dimensions would result a rectangular area of 20,625 km². The Land itself is a bit smaller.

Find below a table with the TOP-10 zones. All details for each environmental zone in Europe can be viewed by clicking on the links in the table.

The TOP rankings of Europe's environmental zones will continue in the summer months – followed by evaluations of the “largest”, “smallest”, “most polluted”, “oldest”, “newest”, “most beautiful”, “most dangerous” and “most unusual” environmental zones in Europe.

The Berlin-based company Green-Zones provides information about permanent and weather-dependent (temporary) environmental zones in Europe and in the respective European countries through its portals green-zones.eu, umweltplakette.de, crit-air.fr and blaue-plakette.de, among others. Thanks to the free Green-Zones app and the professional app (Fleet-App), tourists and especially commercial users (e.g. bus and transport companies) can obtain reliable information in real time about the current environmental zones. The required badges and registrations are also available from Green-Zones.