A Timeline of European History

This extensive timeline, drawing on numerous and usually in-agreement sources, covers the period when what we'd call Austria existed, with particular concentration on the Holy Roman and the Austrian Empires and the operations of the Post within them. The author has chosen to convert "historic present tense" into conventional English.

Year	Event
1156	17 September: Duchy of Austria established by Frederick Barbarossa, King of the Romans and soon to become Holy Roman Emperor. The first Duke of Austria was Henry Jasomirgott.
1278	The Habsburg Rudolf I of Germany acquired the duchies of Austria and Styria after defeating his rival, King Ottokar II of Bohemia, at the Battle on the Marchfeld.
1477	11 February: The States General of the Netherlands recognized Mary of Burgundy, the only child of the recently-deceased Duke Charles the Bold, as ruler of Burgundy. On 16 August, she married the Habsburg Holy Roman Emperor Maximilian I.
1482	27 March: Mary of Burgundy died. Philip I the Handsome, the young son of Mary and Maximilian, succeeded as Duke of Burgundy. Maximilian I took over the rule of Burgundy as regent.
1488	8 January: Maximilian I issued a decree establishing the Royal Netherlands Navy.
1490	The postal service between the Residence in Innsbruck and Mechelen in the Habsburg Netherlands, established by the Emperor Maximilian I in 1490, is generally regarded as marking the birth of Austrian Post. The mail was carried by mounted couriers.
	The Tirolean nobility forced Sigismund, Archduke of Austria to abdicate in favour of Maximilian.
	19 December: Maximilian I married Anne of Brittany, but the Pope annulled it.
1491	Franz von Taxis was named "obrister Postmeister" by Maximilian I.
1492	Columbus landed in the Americas.
1494	16 March: Maximilian I married Bianca Maria Sforza, the niece of Ludovico Sforza, the regent of Milan, receiving a dowry of four hundred thousand ducats.
1495	10 February: Papal Bull granted for the foundation of the University of Aberdeen, Scotland.
1496	Feldpost, überlieferte Nachrichten seit 1496
1500	1 March: King Philip's son Philip-le-Bel, Duke of Burgundy, created Franz von Taxis his "Hauptpostmeister".
1504	Franz von Taxis undertook to provide a postal connection between the court of Philip in the Netherlands and of those of Maximilian I in Austria and Germany, linked with the courts of France and Spain.
1508	4 February: Unable to reach Rome safely, and with the consent of Pope Julius II, Maximilian I took the title Elected Holy Roman Emperor at Trento.
1508	The title "Postmeister" began to be applied to those appointed to the role.
1516	12 November: Emperor Charles V made a treaty with Franz and Johann Baptista von Taxis extending the postal service throughout the entire Habsburg dominions and connecting it to Rome and Naples.
1517	31 October: Martin Luther published the Ninety-five Theses, which criticized the Church practice of selling indulgences.
1519	12 January: Maximilian I died; he was succeeded as Archduke of Austria by Charles V who on 28 June was elected King of the Romans.
1521	The House of Habsburg split into the senior "King of Spain" branch and the junior Austrian Archdukes "Holy Roman Emperor" branch.
1522	The Military Border Districts, where the Habsburg Empire met the Ottoman Empire, were protected from 1522 to 1878 by regiments composed of settlers, ex-army veterans and the like.
1526	29 August: Battle of Mohács: A Hungarian army met an Ottoman invasion at Mohács. The Ottoman army surrounded and destroyed the Hungarians and killed Louis II of Hungary, king of Hungary and of Bohemia. After the battle Bohemia and the part of Hungary not occupied by the Ottomans came under Austrian rule.
1529	27 September: Siege of Vienna. Some hundred thousand Ottoman soldiers led by Sultan Suleiman the Magnificent laid siege to Vienna. On October 15, following the failure of a massive assault on the city and several weeks of early snowfalls, the besieging Turkish army withdrew thus ending the Siege.
1533	22 July: Austria and the Ottoman Empire signed the Treaty of Constantinople, ending their conflict.

Year	Event
1535	Oldest known Postordnung
1542	Henry VIII proclaimed that the King of England was also the King of Ireland (as a personal union)
1559	Petrus von Paar and his brothers obtained an endorsement from the Emperor Ferdinand I of the postal rights that the Emperor Maximilian I had conferred on a distant relative
1603	24 March: Union of the Crowns - personal union between Scotland and England whereby James VI of Scotland was also James I of England.
1620	8 November: Battle of White Mountain (at Prague): Emperor Ferdinand II, a fiercely devout Roman Catholic, defeated a Bohemian army and sought to eliminate Protestantism. This began the Thirty Years War, as most of Europe took sides and joined in.
1622	Johann Christoph von Paar the son of Johann Baptist von Paar bought the office of Chief Court Postmaster from a Johann von Magni for 15,000 florins and six coach horses.
1624	Johann Christoph von Paar was invested by the Austrian Chancery with the office of Chief Court Postmaster in Hungary, Austria, Bohemia, and in the adjoining provinces except Silesia.
1627	The Kingdom of Bohemia and its neighbouring countries Moravia and Silesia were declared (hereditary) Crown Lands.
1629	Johann Christoph von Paar received the office of Inner Chiefpostmaster to the Court and Crown Lands; and in 1630 his area was finally extended to include the post in Silesia
1640	Postwagen („fahrende Posten") began around this date
1648	15 May: The Peace of Westphalia ended the Thirty Years War; it had brought great death, destruction, witch-hunts, and epidemic disease to much of Europe.
1656	Count Charles von Paar was again granted all the postal rights of the House of Taxis. However, when Ferdinand III died Lamoral Gladius von Thurn und Taxis regained them.
1657	Beginning of newspaper handling by the Post
1658	18 July: Ferdinand III died and Leopold I became Holy Roman Emperor
1683	Second Ottoman siege of Vienna, 14 July – 12 September. The city was freed after two months when the forces of the Holy Roman Empire and those of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth under King John III Sobieski decisively defeated the Turkish army.
1699	26 January: The Treaty of Carlowitz, signed on 26 January at the end of the Great Turkish War, entitled Austria to operate a fortnightly mounted courier service between Vienna and Constantinople. Most of Hungary came under Austrian control.
16-17 Cy's	Ottoman expansion into Hungary saw frequent conflicts between the two empires.
1700	1 November: Carlos II died, ending the Spanish Habsburg line.
1701	18 January: Frederick I of Prussia crowned himself king; the Duchy of Prussia became the Kingdom of Prussia. A decree fixed the general tariff for the letter post in the Austrian Netherlands. Louis XIV of France promised the exiled James II of England to put his son "James III" (the Old Pretender) on the English throne, proclaiming him King of England, Scotland and Ireland. By 9 July, open hostilities had broken out between Austria and France. The War of the Spanish Succession was under way. On 7 September, England, the Holy Roman Empire and the Dutch Republic signed the Treaty of The Hague, re-establishing the Grand Alliance and setting out their primary goals: the establishment of Austrian control over Spanish territories in Italy and the Spanish Netherlands, as well as Dutch and English access to markets in the Spanish Empire.
1702	15 May: State of war was formally declared between the Grand Alliance (England, the Dutch Republic, Spain and Austria) and France

Year	Event
1703	Ferenc Rákóczi II led an insurrection in Hungary against Habsburg rule. It was partly funded by France, to distract Austria. He established his own postal service, which was mainly used for his military purposes. Leopold I and his sons Joseph and Charles agreed a "pact of mutual succession" to make the succession clearer. See "Pragmatic Sanction", April 1713. In May, Samuel Oppenheimer, the "Court Jew" who had financed the Habsburgs since 1680, died. The regime promptly cancelled the huge debt they owed him, making his bank bankrupt and very nearly bankrupting the regime as well.
1704	13 August: Battle of Blenheim: John Churchill, Duke of Marlborough and Prince Eugene of Savoy triumphed over the French and Bavarian armies.
1705	5 May: Leopold I died and Joseph I became Holy Roman Emperor.
1706	23 May: Marlborough's decisive victory at the Battle of Ramillies in Brabant. (But the financial cost to the victors of this war was great.) 7 September: Prince Eugene marched on Turin from Verona and broke the French siege in the Battle of Turin.
1707	March: The war in Italy ended with the Convention of Milan confirming Austria's control of Milan, Mantua and Modena. By September, Austria had also seized the Spanish Bourbon Kingdom of Naples and in 1708 the island of Sardinia. 1 May: Acts of Union: a single Kingdom of Great Britain resulted from the union of the Kingdom of England (which comprised the present-day countries of England and Wales) and the Kingdom of Scotland. Queen Anne became its first monarch. (For Ireland see 1801)
1708	June 30: The Duke of Mantua had sided with the French in the War of the Spanish Succession, so the Dukedom was withdrawn by the (Habsburg) Holy Roman Emperor on the grounds of "gross infidelity to the feudal lord" and the Duchy merged with the Habsburg Duchy of Milan.
1709	The Great Frost – Europe-wide freeze; crops failed; farm animals died; people likewise.
1711	The Rákóczi insurrection of 1703 was suppressed, his postal system discontinued, and the former postal organization re-established. 17 April: Joseph I died and Karl VI became Holy Roman Emperor.
1712	24 January: Frederick II "the Great" of Prussia was born.
1713	11 April: Treaties of Utrecht between Great Britain & France helped to end the War of the Spanish Succession. Spain's European empire was divided up. Great Britain obtained Gibraltar; and also the Asiento – the right to send 4800 African slaves annually to the Spanish colonies in the Americas. 19 April: The Pragmatic Sanction was an Edict issued by Karl VI, Holy Roman Emperor, to ensure that the Habsburg hereditary possessions could be inherited by a daughter – and if there were no male heir, by his daughter (Maria Theresia) first instead of those of his recently-deceased elder brother. The Pragmatic Sanction added the Kingdom of Hungary to the Crown Lands. It also laid the legal foundations for turning the Habsburg Monarchy into a single entity.
1714	7 March: Treaty of Rastatt in Baden helped to end the War of the Spanish Succession. Karl VI took the sovereignty of the Austrian Netherlands. 1 August: Queen Anne of GB died and was succeeded by George I, Elector of Hanover. 7 September: Treaty of Baden-bei-Zürich between France and the Holy Roman Empire helped to end the War of the Spanish Succession.
1715	6 September: Jacobite rebellion launched in Scotland; it was ended in early 1716.
1718	Austria forced Savoy to exchange Sicily for Sardinia. As compensation the Duchy of Savoy was raised in status to a Kingdom. 21 July: The Treaty of Passarowitz is the first official document in which explicit provision was made for an Austrian Post in Ottoman territory
1720	Savoy-and-Sardinia were known from 1720 as the Kingdom of Sardinia.
1722	12 June: Kaiser Karl VI "took back control" of the postal system from the Taxis and Paar families and issued a Postordinance to achieve this.

Year	Event
1725	Archduchess Maria Elisabeth of Austria, Karl VI's sister, became the Governor of the Austrian Netherlands. Prince Anselme-François de Taxis purchased the post office franchise of the Austrian Netherlands
1727	11 June: King George I of Great Britain died; George II succeeded.
1736	14 February: Francis Stephen, Duke of Lorraine and Bar married Archduchess Maria Theresia.
1737	24 January: Francis Stephen was prevailed upon to give his ancestral lands of Lorraine and Bar to France and to become Grand Duke of Tuscany instead.
1740	16 October: War of the Austrian Succession began. On 20 October, Emperor Karl VI died without a legitimate male heir; his eldest daughter Maria Theresia inherited the Crown Lands. On 11 December, the Prussian king Frederick the Great issued an ultimatum to Austria demanding the cession of Silesia. On 16 December, the Silesian Wars began when Prussia invaded Silesia and captured all of it apart from a small residue next to the Moravian border
1742	24 January: Elector Charles Albert of Bavaria, self-declared King of Bohemia, was crowned as Holy Roman Emperor Charles VII. He was the first and the last non-Habsburg Emperor since 1440.
	28 July: Silesian Wars: The Treaty of Berlin was signed, transferring most of Austria's Silesian territories to Prussia and ending the war.
1744	Louis XV invaded Belgium in June; by October 1746 the whole of Belgium, except Gueldre and Luxembourg, was occupied by France.
1745	4 June: Battle of Hohenfriedberg. A Prussian force led by Frederick the Great decisively defeated the allied armies of Austria and Saxony, halting the attempted reconquest of Silesia.
	19 August: Jacobite rebellion launched in Scotland, led by Bonnie Prince Charlie and partly financed by France.
	13 September: Charles VII (of Bavaria etc) died. Maria Theresia's husband was elected as Holy Roman Emperor Francis I, making her the Empress.
	25 December: Prussia, Austria and Saxony signed the Treaty of Dresden, confirming Prussia's sovereignty over Silesia and ending the Silesian war.
1746	6 April: Jacobite rebellion in Scotland crushed at Culloden.
1748	A full-time employee was appointed at the Austrian Embassy in Constantinople to handle the postal service, which was transferred from the Embassy to special premises nearby.
	28 April: Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle restored to the Empress Maria Theresia everything that she ruled in the Netherlands before the war
	23 October: The Peace of Aix-la-Chapelle ended the War of the Austrian Succession, without Belgian territorial changes. The Prince of Taxis' employees replaced the French employees as they evacuated the territory
	The transporting of people within Austria became a Postal Monopoly (until 1865)
1749	Maria Theresia constituted two departments in Vienna to deal with the stage-coaches and the mails: the "Head Mail Coach Postal Commission" and the "General Postal Directorate".
1750	Regular passenger-carrying mail coach services begin in the mid-18th century
	Beginning of 'town marks' (indications of the place of posting) and relatively reliable charge marks in red crayon
	29 August: Third Silesian War: Prussia invaded Saxony.
1751	The earliest known 'classical Austrian postmark' was issued in Vienna.
1753	Austria introduced "Conventionsmünze" (Conventions-Money). The Austrian currency was the Gulden subdivided into 60 Kreuzer.
1756	27 January: Mozart was born in the Prince-Archbishopric of Salzburg.
	A Grand Alliance was agreed between Austria and France.
	The Seven Years War with Prussia began
1760	25 October: King George II of Great Britain died and George III ascended the throne.
	Parma was tied to Austria by the marriage of Archduke Joseph (the future Emperor) to Louise of Farina
1762	On 15 June 1762 the Bank of Austria issued 12 million Gulden in paper money called *Bankozettel*.

Year	Event
1763	15 February: Prussia, Austria and Saxony signed the Treaty of Hubertusburg, officially ending the Seven Years War and restoring the three states' pre-war borders. Maria Theresia's domains were mostly left intact, but the province of Silesia, with the exception of a small strip around Troppau, was irretrievably lost to Prussia
1765	18 August: Maria Theresia's husband Franz died. Their son Joseph II succeeded him as Holy Roman Emperor and became Regent in the Crown Lands.
1768	7 April: Maria Theresia's daughter Caroline "the intelligent" married King Ferdinand I of the Two Sicilies.
1769	Parma was doubly tied to Austria by the marriage of Archduke Joseph's sister Amalie to the reigning Duke Ferdinand of Parma.
1770	Vienna's houses were numbered for the first time.
1771	15 October: The Archduke Ferdinand, a son of Maria Theresia, married the princess Beatrix of Este, the heiress of Modena.
1772	Vienna City Post founded. In January, Bukovina, a piece of Moldavia, was formally annexed to provide Austria with a land connection from their Principality of Transylvania to their newly acquired Kingdom of Galicia and Lodomeria, which had been added to the Empire at the first partition of Poland
1776	4 July: American Declaration of Independence.
1778	Brief Austria-Prussia war over the Bavarian succession.
1780	29 November: Empress Maria Theresia died and Joseph II became Emperor of Austria.
1782	Prague Kleine Post founded.
1783	Emperor Joseph II devolved the administration of the posts in Hungary to Buda; likewise the revenues, although the rates were still set (and altered) in Vienna. The Habsburg "Court Postal Commission" was abolished and the "General Postal Directorate" was renamed the "Chief Court Post Office Administration" 4 July: The American War of Independence ended with the Treaty of Paris.
1784	Joseph II decreed that German should replace Latin as the administrative language of Hungary.
1786	17 August: Frederick the Great (of Prussia) died.
1787	An Austrian postmaster, Johann Georg Khumer of Friesach, Carinthia, won a place in European postal history by introducing the use of place and date stamps (postmarks). However, it took until 1867 for postmarks bearing precise date and place information to become mandatory. Ofen/Pest Kleine Post founded. 17 September: American Constitution signed
1789	A rate for registered mail throughout the Austrian Empire was established for the first time 13 June: French Revolution. The Third Estate of the French Estates General declared itself the National Assembly. The Paris Bastille was stormed in July. On 26 August the French Assembly published the 'Declaration of the Rights of Man and of the Citizen' The Brabant Revolution began, caused by Emperor Joseph II's 'We are your Emperor and we know best' reforms in administration, justice and religion. On 11 January 1790, the Republic of the United States of Belgium was formed; but by 2 December Austria under Emperor Leopold II had completed the suppression of the Brabant revolution
1790	Use of postmarks almost completely stopped in Austria. Much fruitless effort has been expended on searching for the decree "that must have existed because this is Austria". 20 February: Joseph II died and Leopold II became Holy Roman Emperor 10 December: The treaty of The Hague with the States General of the United Provinces and the Kings of Prussia and England confirmed the rule of the House of Austria over the Netherlands
1791	27 August: Prussia and the Holy Roman Empire issued the Declaration of Pillnitz, promising to join a coalition to restore Louis XVI of France to the French throne. 5 December: Mozart died in Vienna.

Year	Event
1792	1 March: Leopold II died. His son Francis ruled as Holy Roman Emperor Francis II from 1792 till 10 August 1804, and as Francis I, the first Emperor of Austria, from 11 August 1804 till 2 March 1835. 29 April: In France the Legislative Assembly declared war on Austria; and Austria under Francis II declared war on Revolutionary France, wishing to reverse the latter's revolutionary ideas and prevent them spreading On 21 September, the French monarchy was abolished By the end of the year, Belgium, except Luxembourg, was occupied by the troops of the French Republic, and soon annexed.
1793	The Austrians threw the French out of Belgium and restored the Thurn and Taxis post stations. The handstamp "Brussels" introduced by the French was replaced by "Brussel". 16 October: Marie Antoinette, Queen of France and daughter of Maria Theresia, was executed
1794	The whole of Belgium was progressively occupied by France and de facto the Austrian Netherlands no longer existed. (De jure by Treaty of Campo Formio 1797.)
1795	The Graz City Post was founded. Third partition of Poland. Kraków became part of the Austrian province of Galicia.
1796	April: Napoleon Bonaparte began his first campaign in Italy, and in less than a year had evicted Austria from the Italian peninsula. 31 May: Rhine Campaign: Austria declared that its truce with French forces in the Rhine area was over.
1797	26 January: The Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth was dissolved; the Habsburg Monarchy got the Western Galicia and Southern Masovia territories, with approximately 1.2 million people. 17 October: Treaty of Campo Formio: Austria lost Lombardy but gained Venice, plus the Venetian territory east of the Adige, Istria, and Dalmatia.
1799	Napoleon undertook his Egyptian campaign. While his back was turned, a coalition between Austria, Britain, Turkey and Russia conquered a large part of Italy.
1801	1 January: Great Britain united with the Kingdom of Ireland to form the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, with George III as its first King. 9 February: War of the Second Coalition: France and Francis II, Holy Roman Emperor, signed the Treaty of Lunéville, ending their conflict. France made territorial gains, including the extension of its border with the Holy Roman Empire east to the Rhine. On 16 February Napoleon, who had returned from Egypt, re-established the Cisalpine Republic
1802	25 March: French Revolutionary Wars. France and the United Kingdom signed the Treaty of Amiens, ending the war.
1803	The archbishopric of Salzburg was secularised by Emperor Napoleon 27 April: Francis II, Holy Roman Emperor, ratified the *Reichsdeputationshauptschluss*, consolidating the states of the Empire mainly by secularization of ecclesiastical lands and abolishment of free imperial cities. The lands of the dioceses of Trento and Brixen were incorporated into the Tirol, which became a crownland of the Austrian Empire 18 May: Napoleonic Wars. Great Britain declared war on France.
1804	11 August: Holy Roman Emperor Francis II promoted 'Austria' to an empire, with himself as Francis I, the first Emperor of Austria. The Holy Roman Empire was dissolved two years later. On 2 December, as Francis had anticipated, Napoleon crowned himself as Emperor of France
1805	17 March: The Italian Republic, whose president was Napoleon Bonaparte, became the (Napoleonic) Kingdom of Italy, with the same man as King Napoleon I 22 June: The Principality of Lucca Piombino was formed by Napoleon by merging the Republic of Lucca and the Principality of Piombino, with Napoleon's sister Elisa as ruler 9 August: Austria joined with Britain Sweden and Russia who had started the War of the Third Coalition against France. As usual, initial successes were followed by failures 21 October: The naval Battle of Trafalgar took place; resulting in a decisive British victory over a combined French and Spanish fleet. This significantly impacted the Napoleonic Wars by effectively ending Napoleon's plans to invade Great Britain.

Year	Event
	26 December: Napoleon's victories at Ulm and Austerlitz and his occupation of Vienna were followed by the Treaty of Pressburg which marked the dissolution of the Holy Roman Empire. Bavaria acquired the Tirol and Vorarlberg. Venetia, Istria, and Dalmatia were incorporated into the Kingdom of Italy
1806	Napoleonic Wars: Prussia declared war on France.
	Salzburg was annexed to the Austrian Empire as a duchy as compensation for the loss of Tirol to Bavaria, and Ferdinand was transferred to rule Würzburg.
	The Bavarians introduced their Reichswährung currency of 24-Gulden-Fuß standard into the north Tirol. It, and only it, was the official currency of the north Tirol until 1 August 1818; postage rates were expressed and paid in it
	12 July: Sixteen German states established the Confederation of the Rhine, a protectorate of France.
	6 August: Dissolution of the Holy Roman Empire: Francis II, Holy Roman Emperor, abdicated his title and released his subjects from their obligations to the empire
	14 October: Battle of Jena-Auerstedt: French forces dealt a decisive defeat to a numerically superior Prussian army at Jena and Auerstedt
1807	9 July: France and Prussia signed the second Treaty of Tilsit, in which Prussia ceded half of its territory to Russia and French client states.
1808	4 February: Following the dissolution of the Papal States, the (Napoleonic) Kingdom of Italy annexed the present-day Marches.
1809	9 April: Austria re-declared war on France on 9 April - with the now-traditional outcome: they lost. Napoleon occupied Vienna on 13 May.
	14 October: By the Peace of Vienna (alias Treaty of Schönbrunn), Austria lost the Innviertel and Salzburg to Bavaria. The new Kingdom of Illyria took Carinthia, East Tirol, Krain, south Croatia, Trieste, Dalmatia and Istria. The Duchy of Warsaw got West Galicia, and the Russian Empire took Tarnopol district
1810	30 September: The territory of Salzburg was transferred to the Kingdom of Bavaria, and its postal system integrated into the Bavarian.
1811	15 March: The *Bankozettel* were called in and replaced by a new paper note of the same face value, the *Anticipationsscheine* or *Einlösungsscheine* (redemption note), at an exchange of 1 new for 5 old.
1813	Prince Johann Karl von Paar resigned from the position of general manager for postal affairs, remaining as postmaster general
	11 August: Austria yet again declared war on France. After the Battle of Leipzig etc Napoleon was finally defeated and evicted.
1814	11 April: Napoleon abdicated the thrones of both France and Italy. He was exiled to become "King" of the Mediterranean island of Elba.
	20 April: Venetia capitulated to Austria.
	25 May: The Austrians had occupied Milan on 28 April; on 25 May the Emperor of Austria's Viceroy Count Heinrich von Bellegarde took control of all Lombardy and gradually re-established the former monarchies in Modena, Romagna and Piedmont.
	30 May: War of the Sixth Coalition: France signed the Treaty of Paris, under which it returned to its 1792 borders; the House of Bourbon was restored to the French throne; and the remains of Napoleon's kingdom were annexed by the Austrian Empire.
	The Congress of Vienna began its meetings in September
	The Congress of Vienna and the Treaty of Paris returned the Tirol to Austria from 1814; but it wasn't fully reabsorbed into Austria in administrative and monetary terms until late 1818.

Year	Event
1815	15 February: Napoleon escaped from Elba, rallied troops, and evicted the French King Louis XVIII 9 June: The Final Act of the Congress of Vienna, embodying all the separate treaties, was signed on 9 June, a few days before the Battle of Waterloo. 18 June: Battle of Waterloo: The restored French emperor Napoleon was dealt a decisive defeat by Prussia, Great Britain, and allies 16 July: Napoleon exiled to St Helena, where he died on 5 May 1821. Louis XVIII became King of France again. Austria emerged from the Congress of Vienna as one of Europe's great powers. Amongst its many actions were to create The Kingdom of Lombardy-Venetia by combining Lombardy, Mantua, and Venetia; to give Kraków "independence" as the Free City of Kraków; to return Salzburg (minus Rupertiwinkel and Berchtesgaden) to Austria and integrate it into the Province of Salzach, ruled from Linz.
1816	Dalmatia was raised to a Kingdom within the Austrian Empire.
1817	The Austrian "Privileged National Bank" was created, relying on foreign capital 1 September: The Austrian Post Office began to run the postal services in Liechtenstein, starting with the opening of a letter-collecting office in Balzers. A reorganisation of the postage rates system – also bringing payment by the recipient of the charge for the carriage of inland mail – led to the introduction of letterboxes throughout the country in 1817. The half-and-half-payment system was abolished. Decree issued requiring all post offices in Austria to obtain postmark cancellers and use them. A Postal Treaty between the Austrian Empire and France was signed (possibly on 10 August)
1818	1 August: The currency used in the Tirol officially reverted to Austrian Conventionsmünze, remaining thus until the Austrian currency reform of 1858.
1820	29 January: King George III of GB died and George IV ascended the throne. 6 April: 500th anniversary of Declaration of Arbroath, proclaiming Scotland's independence.
1825	Postal Treaty between France and Austria 27 September: The Stockton and Darlington railway, the world's first public steam-hauled passenger railway, opened.
1826	4 March: Francis I re-established the University of Innsbruck.
1827	26 March: Beethoven died.
1828	19 November: Schubert died.
1830	The "Head Mail Coach Postal Commission" and the "General Postal Directorate" were merged into a "Chief Court Postal Administration". The Vienna postal service was reorganised under the Imperial-Royal Senior Postal Administrator Ritter Maximilian Otto von Ottenfeld. 26 June: King George IV of GB died and William IV succeeded
1831	Postal Treaty between France and Austria.
1831	Place-Date cancels introduced into Austria 1831/1867.
1833	28 August: The Slavery Abolition Act 1833 gained British royal assent, banning slavery throughout the British Empire; it came into force on 1 August 1838.
1834	1 January: The Zollverein came into existence, merging the Bavaria–Württemberg Customs Union, the Prussia–Hesse-Darmstadt Customs Union and the Thuringian Customs and Commerce Union into a single customs union.
1835	The "Austrian Lloyd Steam Navigation Company" was founded in Trieste. 3 February: Francis I died on 2 March; Ferdinand I became Emperor of Austria.
1837	20 June: William IV of GB died and the long reign of Queen Victoria began.
1837	New postal law (RGB047)

Year	Event
1838	1 May: Order issued required registration handstamps or combination postmarks to be used in all post offices by 1 May 1839.
1839	Austria – Tuscany Postal Convention.
	Belgium, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, Austria, France, the German Confederation, and Russia signed the Treaty of London, recognizing Belgium's independence and guaranteeing its neutrality.
	The Post- und Telegraphen-verordnungsblatt commenced publication
	Mail began to be transported by train
1840	10 January: probably the world's first postage stamp came into use in GB.
1842	Austria - Bavaria Postal Treaty.
1843	Austria - Baden Postal Treaty.
	Austria - Saxony Postal Treaty.
	Postal Treaty between Austria and Thurn and Taxis.
1844	Austria - Prussia et al Postal Treaty.
	Postal convention between the Austrian Empire and the Kingdom of Sardinia.
	Postal Treaty between Austria and Great Britain, France, Spain, Belgium, Luxembourg, & all their colonies.
1846	16 November: Following a failed insurrection in Kraków, the city was annexed by Austria as the Grand Duchy of Kraków which was then incorporated into the kingdom of Galicia.
1847	Telegraphy introduced
	The General Post Office took over the Vienna City Post and re-structured it.
1848	13 March: Revolution broke out in Vienna
	7 April: the first independent Hungarian government was formed.
	1 June: Hungary declared independence. This revolution was eventually defeated with the aid of Russian forces, but led to a constitutional government being founded in Hungary, which became a personal union with the Austrian emperor.
	24 July: King Charles Albert of Piedmont-Sardinia declared war on Austria in March; was defeated by the Austrians at the Battle of Custoza; signed a truce; and withdrew from Lombardy.
	6 August: The Austrians re-entered Milan, restoring Austrian rule.
	13 September: Batthyány announced a rebellion in Hungary.
	30 November: The revolution in Vienna was defeated and the city captured by the imperial army.
	2 December: Ferdinand I abdicated and his nephew Franz Joseph I became Emperor.
1849	4 March: Kreis Bukovina was declared the separate Duchy of Bukovina.
	14 April: Franz Joseph was deposed as king of Hungary
	1 June: Hungary's postal service was re-assimilated into the Austrian.
	13 August: After several bitter defeats, the Hungarian war of independence ended with the surrender of the revolutionary army. Many of the leaders were executed.
	24 August: The Austrians re-entered Venice, restoring Austrian rule.
	25 September: Emperor Franz Joseph I formally approved the proposal to introduce postage stamps.
	Also in 1849: Austria occupied much of Emilia-Romagna & the Marche; Austria-Modena-Parma and Austria-Swiss Federation Postal Treaties were agreed; several new Crown Lands were created, eg Bohemia and Moravia.
	Management and operation of the post became the third section of the "Ministry of Commerce, Industry, and Public Works".

Year	Event
1850	**27 April: The official announcement of the introduction of adhesive stamps appeared in the Postverordnungsblatt.** **24 May: Announcement in the Wiener Zeitung, tucked away on page 17:** https://anno.onb.ac.at/cgi-content/anno?aid=wrz&datum=18500524&seite=17&zoom=38 **1 June: Adhesive postage stamps introduced in Austria.** Austria - Tuscany Postal Treaty. Germany - Austria Postal Union (UPU forerunner). Postanweisungs introduced Start of mail deliveries by rail when the first "Imperial Mobile Branch" entered service on the route between Vienna and Oderberg, Germany.
1850	Land Salzburg, which had been administered as the department of Salzach from Linz, the capital of Upper Austria, was reinstated as the Duchy of Salzburg, a crown land of the Austrian Empire, with Salzburg as its capital.
1863	An international postal conference attended by delegates from 15 countries including Austria agreed guidelines for international postal treaties. The foundation of the Universal Postal Union (UPU), which establishes the principle of a single postal territory for all member countries followed in 1874.
1864	Geschäftsbericht der Post- und Telegraphenverwaltung ab 1864
1865	International Telecommunications Union founded
1866	Austro-Prussian War. Superior Prussian forces (and weaponry) inflicted a crushing defeat on Austria's army
1867	The defeat led to the Austro-Hungarian Compromise, establishing the dual monarchy of Austria-Hungary, a military and diplomatic alliance of two sovereign states with the same ruler.
1868	Introduction of the Landpostdienst (rural postal carriers)
1869	Women first employed in state-owned postal service The first postcards – an Austrian invention – were issued during the year. Still blank "correspondence cards", they only conquered the world when they become picture postcards in 1885.
1870	Women first employed in the telegraph service
1874	UPU founded
1875	The "Rohrpost", a pneumatic capsule pipeline system for transporting telegrams, was developed and commissioned in Vienna. By 1913 the tube network had grown to 82.5 kilometres (km); it remained in operation until 1956. The Postal Service adopted the metric system.
1881	Public telephone services began
1883	Introduction of Postsparkassendienst ("Post Office Savings Bank plus Giro") at Post Offices
1885	Picture postcards permitted
1886	Letter-cards introduced
1900	In the latter half of the 19th Century, in an age of emerging nationalist movements in Europe, Austria-Hungary became increasingly difficult to rule.
1903	Central European Time adopted in the postal service
1907	International Reply Coupons introduced. Mechanically propelled vehicles entered the postal service
1908	Following the Young Turk revolution in Turkey, Austria-Hungary annexed Bosnia and Herzegovina, nominally part of the Ottoman Empire. The move provoked strong resentment in Serbian pan-Slav circles.
1914	The assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand in Sarajevo by Bosnian Serb Gavrilo Princip triggered the outbreak of World War One.
1914-18	Over one million Austro-Hungarian soldiers died in the war, which led to the dissolution of the Austro-Hungarian Empire and the end of Hapsburg rule.
1918	Austria became the first country in the world to introduce a civil air mail service. Aircraft had been carrying military orders and despatches since 1915. Overseas air mail services started in 1928.
1919	The Treaty of St Germain defined Austria's boundaries.

Year	Event
1920	New constitution created the Republic of Austria.
1922	Introduction of meter-marks
1924	Radio stations opened
1928	Foreign air mail and at-home letter-boxes were introduced
1933	End of the republic. Chancellor Dollfuss suspended parliament and set up an autocratic regime
1934	Government backed by the army crushed a Socialist uprising. All political parties were abolished except Dolfuss's Fatherland Front. Imprisonment of Nazi conspirators led to attempted Nazi coup. Dollfuss was assassinated, and succeeded by Kurt von Schuschnigg
1936	Austria acknowledged itself "a German state".
1938	11 March: Federal Chancellor Schuschnigg resigned. Seyss-Inquart installed as NS-Federal Chancellor and forms a transition Cabinet. 12 March: "Military assistance" was requested (in Seyss-Inquart's name) from the German Reich. German troops cross the Austrian border. 13 March: German troops occupied all of Austria; FPOs were set up for them. Joint declaration of the Seyss-Inquart (Austrian) and the German governments that henceforth Austria was reunited with Germany. 15 March: Hitler entered Vienna. The three Dolfuss stamps withdrawn and invalidated. 17 March: Reichsmark/pfennig was introduced alongside Schilling/Groschen. 4 April: Some basic postage rates changed to German and were expressed in Reichspfennig. Mixed German-Austrian franking possible. 10 April: The Anschluß was approved by a plebiscite in both countries. 25 April: Austrian currency (Schilling/groschen) no longer legal tender. 15 May: Austrian currency no longer accepted at Post Offices etc. 20 May: German FPOs were closed. 1 August: All postage rates changed to German, in Reichspfennig. 5 August: Sale of Austrian stamps ceased at Post Office
1939	World War 2 began
1945	World War 2 ended. Soviet troops liberated Vienna. Austria was occupied and partitioned into four occupation zones by Soviet, British, US and French forces. Vienna was also divided between the four occupying powers.
1946	Denazification laws passed. Reconstruction began.
1949	Letter-cards discontinued
1955	Austrian State Treaty signed by Britain, France, US and Soviet Union established an independent but neutral Austria (as) a convenient buffer between the West and the Soviet bloc. The four powers withdrew their troops. Austria joined the United Nations.
1956	Rohrpost in Wien ended
1957	New Postal Law was introduced
1959	Founding of the CEPT (Konferenz der Europäischen Post- und Fernmeldeverwaltungen)
1966	Austria was one of the first countries to introduce a standardised national system of postal codes which replaced district postmarks. Felix the Postfox was created to publicise postcodes and encourage their use.
1975	Introduction of the Posthorn as the postal service emblem.
1978	Introduction of standard weights for letters.
1986	Ex-UN Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim was elected president, despite controversy over his role in the German army in World War Two. The new Express Mail Service (EMS) gave priority to letter and parcel mail at every forwarding stage, including customs clearance.
1995	Austria joined the European Union.
1996	Post und Telekom Austria (PTA) was founded as the legal successor to the Post- und Telegraphenverwaltung (Postal and Telegraph Administration).

Year	Event
1998	The postal and telecommunications businesses were demerged, though a common holding company was retained.
1999	Austrian Post became legally independent as the indirect successor of the postal and post bus operations of the former Post- und Telegraphenverwaltung (Postal and Telegraph Administration).
1999	Far-right Freedom Party led by Jörg Haider won 27% of vote in national elections.
2000	International outcry as People's Party formed a coalition government with Freedom Party. EU imposed diplomatic sanctions before ending them seven months later as counter-productive. The post bus business was spun off into a new company, Österreichische Postbus AG, leaving Austrian Post free to concentrate on its core business.
2001	Entry to the Slovenian market marked the start of Austrian Post expansion into neighbouring countries. This was followed by Austrian Post's acquisitions of Slovakian companies Slovak Parcel Service (SPS) and In-Time in January 2002. The expansion drive continued with the takeovers of Croatia's Overseas Trade in 2003 and feibra Hungary in 2005, making Austrian Post one of the top players in the parcel and unaddressed direct mail segments in the CEE region.
2002	Austrian Post revamped its organisational structure, meanwhile continuing to invest in the transport and distribution logistics modernisation programmes launched in 1999, in preparation for impending phased postal market liberalisation.
2005	"In order to adjust segment reporting to market realities" (their wording) the existing Austrian Post business areas were grouped into the Mail, Parcel & Logistics and Branch Network Divisions.
2006	At 9am on 31 May 2006, shares in Austria Post were first traded on the Vienna Stock Exchange.
2008	Felix the Postfox, created in 1966 to publicise postcodes and encourage their use, had to become Fridolin for copyright reasons!
2011	Otto von Habsburg (the last crown prince of Austria) was buried in the Imperial Crypt in Vienna amid much of the pomp associated with the days of the empire.
2013	Austrians voted in a referendum to keep compulsory military service.