# Drone technology for a connected future

## Advanced drone technology for Austria

Digital Sky Austria brings advanced drone technology to Austria and enables seamless online booking of drone flights for businesses, households, and the public sector. Through the Digital Sky Austria platform, drone flights can be conveniently booked online. These flights can serve a wide range of purposes—from mapping and surveying to the inspection of buildings and infrastructure. The platform streamlines the entire drone usage process, from booking and flight execution to data delivery. Automation reduces costs and makes innovative drone technology accessible to all. Largely automated drone flights that can be booked via an app represent a pioneering achievement in Austria, helping the country catch up with Europe's leading edge.

### Quick Facts

- Solution area: **Technological innovation**
- Administrative level: **Municipality, District, State**
- Solution process: **Digitization and technology, Regional development and infrastructure, Smart City**
- Technology: **Artificial Intelligence, Digital twin, Information technology, Platform technology**

### How it works

Users request drone flights via the platform by logging in with ID Austria and specifying the use case, location, and timing. Depending on feasibility, the booking is either confirmed or declined by a drone service provider. The drones then launch automatically from stationary hubs strategically distributed across the municipality and autonomously fly to the designated mission area. The data collected by the drone is subsequently processed in a largely automated manner and made available to users via the platform. From June 2024 to July 2025, the Digital Sky Austria platform—through which drone flights can be booked—was developed, taking into account legal and economic feasibility. The project is currently in the implementation phase. The first application of Digital Sky Austria is being implemented in Klagenfurt using two stationary drone hubs.

### The Big Picture

The Digital Sky platform offers a cost-efficient alternative to conventional drone operations, reducing costs by approximately 50%. This benefits businesses, private individuals, and public authorities, all of whom can book drone services for their specific needs (e.g., water monitoring or identifying unauthorized constructions). At the same time, Digital Sky Austria not only simplifies access to drone services but also has the potential to strengthen the data economy. New data is generated, and users of the platform can choose to make this data publicly available in exchange for a price reduction. Digital Sky is a European innovation leader. It enables cities to position themselves by integrating advanced technologies and future-proofing their infrastructure. This enhances urban attractiveness and allows cities to serve as role models for other regions. With Digital Sky Austria, the future of drone technology becomes reality: precise aerial imaging, intelligent flight paths, and tailored missions will soon be conveniently bookable online for businesses, citizens, and public authorities.



**aed – Agency for Economic Cooperation and Development**
Ferdinandstraße 4,
1020 Vienna, Austria

+43 (1) 448 00 55 10
platform@bestpracticeaustria.at