

Flugs: shared electric cars for cheap and sustainable transport

Flugs e-carsharing is a flexible mobility offer in East Tyrol, Austria. Maintained and expanded after a pilot phase in 2015, Flugs enables local communities and tourists to rent an electric car to travel in throughout the Alps.

Offering a shared, electric and cheap mobility solution

The [Flugs e-carsharing](#) system was first developed in the small city of Lienz, Austria, in 2015 to offer a flexible and affordable sustainable mobility solution in the region, in addition to municipal and regional public transport. The development of Flugs reflects different objectives:

- Encouraging shared mobility among local residents by putting the focus on “sharing instead of owning”. The aim is for instance to show that replacing the second car is possible in some households if a cheap and flexible shared mobility system is made available. The German Stiftung Warentest for instance calculated that, for 5.000 km per year, car sharing monthly costs € 138 compared to € 206 for a private car.
- Strengthening rural-urban linkages by improving mobility schemes while also reducing the dependency on private cars.
- Offering sustainable, cheap and flexible transport to the last mile for tourists.

MORE INFO



A flexible and affordable system for all users

There are 11 stations in East Tyrol where customers can pick-up and return cars. Stations are located both in more urban areas, like in the city of Lienz, and in rural ones, such as in the village of Innervillgraten (900 inhabitants) and Obertilliach (600 inhabitants).

Users can easily rent a car online and 2 booking tariffs exist, to better match with the needs of local communities and tourists. Regular users can pay a € 4.90 monthly membership fee and rent a car from € 2 per hour whereas occasional ones can rent a car from € 4 per hour. Cheaper prices are also proposed for night renting hours. There is no kilometre limit for users and drivers can also cross borders to travel through the Alps, even though they must return the car in one of the 11 stations in East Tyrol. Flugs also provides users with a map of charging points available for electric cars.

In 2019, 11 cars were available for rental and Flugs counted around 60 regular users in the region.

Credits: Flugs




Resources

Establishment costs for the implementation of the car sharing system amounted € 6.300, which included electric terminals, cars' branding and the creation of the online prepayment system. Monthly operational costs, to maintain the fleet, amount around € 530 per car.

The initiative was launched by the local association "Energy Impulse East Tyrol", which works to improve the quality of life in East Tyrol. The Regional Management East Tyrol as well as the regional Government of Tyrol then also supported the project. Flugs was financially supported by a State programme supporting the implementation of electric terminals. Tyrol's regional government also supported the project by granting a subsidy of € 3.000 to each municipality being a carsharing partner.

Innovative aspect



If electric cars rental systems are multiplying in European cities, Flugs covers the entire region, including rural mountainous areas. It offers services adapted to the needs of different users' profile and is an accessible sustainable transport option in the Alpine area. Such a model is easily replicable in other mountainous regions.



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