

Erste wins „best private bank“ awards for CEE, Austria and Slovakia from The Banker/PWM

- Erste Group again named “Best Private Bank in Central and Eastern Europe” by The Banker and PWM
- Erste Private Banking was also honored as “Best Private Bank” in both Austria and Slovakia

Erste Group Bank AG (Erste Group) has been recognized as the "Best Private Bank in Central and Eastern Europe" by The Banker and PWM. This marks the ninth consecutive year that Erste Group has secured this prestigious title, which is awarded by the two trade publications belonging to the Financial Times Group. Erste Private Banking also won PWM/The Banker's 2022 awards for "Best Private Bank in Austria" (for the seventh year in a row) and "Best Private Bank in Slovakia".

“Convenience is key for our customers. Therefore, we have invested significantly in our digital solutions and can provide - in addition to our classic consulting business - remote video advice, digital signature, high-end reporting solutions and much more. Being a part of a universal bank that excels in innovation is a huge benefit for Erste Private Banking. As a result, we provide tailored Private Banking solutions, as well as the whole range of products, whether for private individuals or business owners, corporations, or foundations. Our solution is highly individualized according to the needs of each customer, covering all relevant asset classes and product categories, as well as ESG criteria,” explains Maximilian Clary und Aldringen, Head of Private Banking and Wealth Management.

Best Private Bank in Central and Eastern Europe

The PWM/The Banker jury emphasized Erste Group's high level of expertise in serving high net worth individuals in Austria and the CEE region, where local private banking units operate in Croatia, Czechia Hungary, Romania and Slovakia. In these markets, Erste Private Banking offers a full range of wealth management services to around 21,500 private clients with total assets under management of EUR 29.5 billion. In 2022, Erste Group's private banking continued to develop its digital services to further complement the strength of its in-person advisory offerings.

Best Private Bank in Austria

Erste Private Banking was also honored for the ninth time in ten years and the seventh time in a row for providing the best private banking services in Austria. Within the market, Erste Group is not only distinguished by its excellent advice and service to high net worth individuals, but also by being the market leader in the Austrian investment fund business.

Best Private Bank in Slovakia

Erste Private Banking has been operating in Slovakia since 2011. It has a strong regional presence in the country, with offices in Bratislava, Trnava, Nitra, Trenčín, Banská Bystrica, Žilina, Košice and Prešov. Erste Private Banking serves around 1,600 well-to-do Slovak clients with total assets under management of over 1 billion euros.

*“Our goal is to be the leader in service quality in private banking with the largest share on the Slovak market. This past year proves that we are on the right track. We are dynamically growing not only in the number of clients, but also the volume of managed assets - which exceeded one billion euros last year, “ said **Peter Augustín**, who is the Head of Treasury & Investments Division at Slovenská sporiteľňa and is also responsible for Erste Private Banking in Slovakia. “We also continued improving customer service quality, managed to digitalise most of our services, and introduced investment solutions in cooperation with renowned partners from all over the world. We are part of the strong international Erste Group and I am pleased that our success has also been recognized by experts from the prestigious magazines PWM and The Banker.”*

The Global Private Banking Awards by PWM/The Banker

To make their selection, a panel of 15 leading industry experts based in North America, Asia, and Europe reviewed submissions from more than 120 private banks from 50 countries. Performance was compared across metrics in the areas of portfolio management, asset allocation, risk management, diversity, growth strategies, client servicing, sustainable and impact investing, business models, succession planning, philanthropic services, staff retention, banker education and training, business continuity measures in response to crises and, last but not least, innovation.

The Banker is published by the London-based Financial Times Group as a monthly magazine for the banking industry. The awards and rankings given by The Banker are recognised as a seal of approval in the international banking industry. The trade magazine PWM Professional Wealth Management is also part of the Financial Times Group and analyses wealth management solutions for wealthy private clients and entrepreneurial families in particular.

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