



Austrian National
Tourist Office

Winter News 2023/24



#feelaustria
press.austria.info

DEAR READER

Saving resources plays an important role within Austrian tourism. Environmentally friendly energy comes from hydropower plants or photovoltaic systems in many places. "Biodiesel" (hydrogenated vegetable oil) is often used for snow groomers. Investments in ski areas focus on replacing existing lifts with new ones.

The sentiment within the hotel industry is good. New openings include Harry's home in Salzburg and Moxy Vienna City East in Vienna. The Falkensteiner Hotel & Spa Carinzia in Carinthia has renovated all rooms and extended its offering to include Family Suites. Hotel Gasthof Hirschen in Schwarzenberg in Vorarlberg is converting some of its rooms into spacious apartments. With the refurbished Podenhaus, a historical jewel has reopened in Bad Aussee in Styria. Unique: the PhiloPop-Up Hostel in former Gasthof Risserhof in Scharnitz in Tirol.

There are various offers that invite guests to explore nature away from the slopes. Excursions in the Hohe Tauern and Gesäuse national parks enable participants to discover the starlit sky.

Winter swimmers can look forward to a new offer at Lake Fuschl in SalzburgerLand, where there will be supervised cold water swimming once a week. And those who prefer icy rock faces will find new ice climbing routes in the Paznaun Valley in Tirol.

A "super cultural year" is coming to Upper Austria, where the Salzkammergut will become European Capital of Culture in 2024. The province will also be celebrating the 200th birthday of composer Anton Bruckner with various events. Other highlights for those interested in culture are the newly opened Anton Lehmden Museum in Deutschkreutz in Burgenland and the new Prater Museum in Vienna, which will open in spring 2024.

We also introduce you to some extraordinary personalities. These include fish expert Martin Müller from Carinthia, Christmas decoration collector Franziska Winder from Upper Austria, Austria's youngest five-toque chef Benjamin Parth from Tirol and violinist and new director of the alpenarte orchestra Matthias Honeck from Vorarlberg.

Has one or more of the topics caught your interest? We would be delighted to help arrange a press trip for you.

Happy reading!

The Austrian National Tourist Office Team



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WINTER WITH CHARM

HOLIDAYS IN AUSTRIA IN WINTER 2023/24

From soothing breaks with hiking and wellness to relaxed family ski holidays and action-packed stays spent on mogul slopes and powder runs – **Austria's winter regions will soon be delighting all types of snow lovers once again.** To ensure that it stays that way, lots of changes are currently being made for more sustainable winter holidays, from solar-powered ski lifts to eco-labelled accommodations. We are happy to leave the rest as it is: the Austrian warmth and charm, for example, or the rustic huts and their delicious fayre.

Winter fairy tales. Relaxing family breaks

Kids love snow. In many of Austria's winter sports regions, families can also look forward to special services such as affordable children's ski courses and professional childcare. This means that parents and grandparents get to enjoy some time to themselves whilst they are away. Fun and relaxation on and away from the slopes await in the **Serfaus-Fiss-Ladis holiday region**, one of Austria's highest rated family ski areas. Families are also in their element in the **Tiroler Zugspitz Arena** just behind the Bavarian border, from which guests can easily reach Germany's highest mountain with the Zugspitzbahn. The picturesque **Pitztal** scores with its free ski passes for children and guaranteed snow until May. What's more, the entire valley is a model region for the Clean Alpine Regions initiative.

Winter magic. Authentic and in touch with nature

Feel the winter landscape, magical and powerful. Charming winter regions invite you to go hiking and cross-country skiing or enjoy the slopes in lovely little ski areas. The atmospheric Advent in **Radstadt, the historic town in the mountains**, enchants with its many traditional customs. Tip: Take a ride down the idyllic toboggan run. The **Murau region in Styria** is an energy model region and relies entirely on "renewables". Eight ski mountains offer fantastic views and some of the peaks can only be reached with touring skis or snowshoes. **Holidays on the farm** are another charming way to fall in love with winter. **Farms across Austria** promise natural and authentic winter stays and even include "vitality" farms that specialise in holistic holidays

Winter bliss. For those who love skiing

Be the first to hit the slopes in the morning, feel the freedom of freeriding or put your fitness levels to the test with a ski circuit. Austria's winter sports regions offer the right type of fun in the snow for all ages. In addition to its variety of slopes and endless cross-country ski trails, the **Bregenzerwald in Vorarlberg** surprises with its old and new wooden architecture in inviting villages and exquisite cuisine. Ski enthusiasts will also find their happy place in **Montafon, the southernmost valley of Vorarlberg**. Unforgettable mountain experiences are guaranteed here, such as ski tours or ice climbing with the BergePLUS guides. And in the **Tirolean Zillertal** there are family mountains and wide carving slopes next to first-class powder areas up to glacier height. A hotspot for freeriders!

Sustainable travel and accommodation tips

Enjoy affordable, comfortable and environmentally friendly travel to Austria by train with the WinterRail offers. Having arrived, guest cards are often your free ticket for local transport. Austria's accommodation establishments are thinking about tomorrow too. The **Travel Charme Bergresort Werfenweng** in Salzburger Land is located in an Alpine Pearls region where eco-friendly mobility is guaranteed. **Familotel Alphotel** in the Kleinwalsertal ski area has a district heating system that uses renewable raw materials. In addition to solar power, the **Dilly National Park Resort** in Upper Austria swears by regional food and even the water comes from a nearby source. And the **Stanglwirt** in the Tirolean SkiWelt Wilder Kaiser-Brixental proves that an organic farm can also be a five-star wellness hotel.

Winter in Austria is as diverse as it is magical! Further information on the **most beautiful winter regions and accommodations** plus tips for a more sustainable winter holiday can be found on our website.

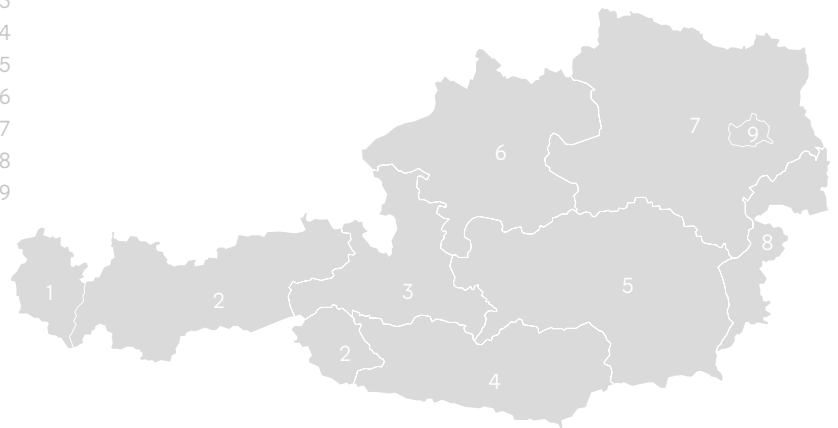
Web: press.austria.info
press.austria.info/uk/winter-24



Winter in the Ski Juwel Alpbachtal Wildschönau

WINTER HOLIDAYS IN AUSTRIA

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Sustainability

What are Austria's cable car operators and ski resorts doing to actively minimize their CO2 emissions and the consumption of resources? Thanks to technical innovations, the energy needed for snowmaking has been significantly reduced in recent years. Most of it now comes from renewable sources. Free transfers, ski buses and all-in passes for public transport help to reduce individual traffic.

Winter in Austria

Austria's skiing resorts can't wait to welcome winter sports enthusiasts back in the upcoming season. From SalzburgerLand to Tirol, have a look at what Austria's famous winter regions have to offer this year - and when you can hit the slopes.

Web: www.austria.info

Christmas Markets

The weeks before Christmas are a magical time in Austria. Explore the Christmas markets and sample the traditional delicacies. We have collected the most important dates and events in the festive calendar. The information about the Christmas markets is constantly updated.

Web: www.austria.info/en/things-to-do/skiing-and-winter/christmas-markets



OFFERS SKI & CO



Winter Holidays in St. Lambrecht in Styria © Grebenzen

CARINTHIA

Practice area for ski tourers

How do you go about ski touring safely? Aspiring ski tourers can obtain the relevant know-how along the 5.2 km educational trail in Innerkrems, which is equipped with information boards. From winter 2023/24, an avalanche training field will extend the area, with newcomers able to try out their LVS device (avalanche transceiver) before they begin the tour. Innerkrems ski school offers supervised avalanche training once a week.

Web

www.sportschiffer.at

Gerlitzen: smartphone becomes a ski pass

From winter 2023/24, skiers will have a particularly comfortable time on the Gerlitzen. They will be able to load their ski pass onto their smartphone, regardless of whether it's a day ticket or season pass. The innovative solution also helps the environment, saving on thousands of disposable tickets and keycards. The resort of Gerlitzen is located at an altitude of around 2,000 m with guaranteed snow. It boasts 20 lifts and 32 km of slopes.

Web

www.gerlitzen.com

LOWER AUSTRIA

XCX Skills Park even easier to reach

The XCX Skills Park opened on the Steyersberger Schwaig in the Vienna Alps last winter. The practice area for cross-country skiers of all ages is located near Kirchberg am Wechsel, directly on the Wechsel Panorama Trail. From this winter a new footpath will lead to the XCX Skills Park, meaning that spectators will also be able to reach the area more easily. A shuttle bus runs from Gloggnitz and Aspang train stations every Saturday and Sundays as required. Adults who would like to try cross-country skiing can get the right equipment in Kirchberg am Wechsel. Rental equipment for children is available directly on the Steyersberger Schwaig.

Web

www.loipeninfo.at
(German only)

UPPER AUSTRIA

Familypark Dachstein West

A new family park is opening in December 2024 in the Dachstein West ski region, which stretches between the towns of Gosau, Russbach and Annaberg. There will be various obstacles and lines for skiers young and old to enjoy in the sunny location near the Edtalmbahn. Advanced skiers can switch to the Funpark Dachstein West below the Edtalmbahn.

Web

www.dachstein.at

Laser biathlon and campervan site in Wintersportarena Liebenau

In the Mühlviertel region, Wintersportarena Liebenau combines a family ski area and an approximately 100 km network of cross-country skiing trails. Starting this winter, cross-country skiers can also give laser biathlon a go. The aim is to hit the target with a laser rifle at four different shooting ranges. At the ski lift, a magic carpet adds to the fun for little skiers. And since June 2023 Wohnmobilhafen Liebenau has been offering eight pitches for campervans in a quiet location, with four also open in winter.

Web

www.sportarena-liebenau.at
(German only)

Naturally 365 Ticket

The Naturally 365 Ticket was introduced in the Dachstein area this year. It is valid for a year from the date of purchase for the lifts in the Dachstein West, Freesport Arena Dachstein Krippenstein Obertraun and Feuerkogel Ebensee ski regions. Card holders can also use numerous local cable cars throughout summer. The Naturally 365 Ticket is only available online.

Web

www.dachstein.at

Tickets with added value in the Hochficht ski area

The Hochficht ski area includes nine lifts and 20 km of slopes. It is located in the Bohemian Forest, where Austria, Germany and the Czech Republic meet. Keen skiers will be able to enjoy added value from winter 2023/24, with all lift tickets being valid from 3 pm the day before and therefore also valid for night skiing. A 1 km long slope is floodlit from 4 to 7 pm on Wednesdays and Fridays.

Web

www.hochficht.at

SALZBURGERLAND

Snowpark Alpendorf

Whether on skis or snowboards, freestylers can fine-tune their tricks and jumps in the snowpark belonging to Snow Space Salzburg, made up of the three resorts of Flachau, Wagrain and St. Johann. Snowpark Alpendorf will be launching winter 2023/24 with a major update: brand new kickers and rails, a FunCross course and a parallel slalom with video evidence promise plenty of thrills. There is also a new Chillarea to kick back in.

Web

www.snow-space.com

STYRIA

New slope and ScoopJets in the Grebenzen ski area

Last winter, a new 10-person gondola went into operation in the Grebenzen ski area in the Murtal. The lift company is investing again for this winter and creating a new 2 km long blue slope. This increases the total km of slopes in the family-friendly ski area to 27. From the coming season it will also be possible to whizz down the slopes on ScoopJets. The modern toboggans, also known as speed carvers, take riders down to the valley through simple weight shift.

Web

grebenzen.at
(German only)

Ski training for experts

Former ski racer Armin Walcher is opening the MAKIA Ski Performance Center on the Riesneralm in December 2023. In contrast to conventional ski schools, Armin Walcher and his colleagues want to teach skiing at a higher level here. Individual courses are aimed at those who want to become better and faster in alpine racing. This is also the right place for anyone looking to polish their technique, master moguls or learn to ski in deep snow.

Web

makia.ski
(German only)

Premiere: Dachstein Run

Until 2023, the Tour de Ramsau was one of the most popular Austrian events for ambitious amateur and professional cross-country skiers. Now the organisers have changed the concept. The Dachstein Run will take place for the first time from 12th to 14th January 2024 – with a new course, exciting side programme and various competitions for different target groups. This shift picks up on the basic idea of cross-country skiing and aims to encourage as many sports enthusiasts as possible to take part. New to the programme, for example, are the 5 km and 42 km runs for gourmets which are lined with refreshment stations.

Web

www.schladming-dachstein.at



TIROL

Ski touring week for gourmets

Tranquil nature, a small ski area and plenty of ski touring routes characterise the Wipptal holiday region in Tirol, which stretches between Innsbruck and the Brenner Pass. Those looking to combine snowy explorations with enjoyment should book the new ski touring week for gourmets. The package includes five nights with half board in a mountain hotel in Obernberg, five guided ski tours and free hire of an avalanche transceiver, shovel and probe. The offer can be booked from 21st to 26th January 2024 and from 13th to 18th February 2024.

Web

www.wipptal.at

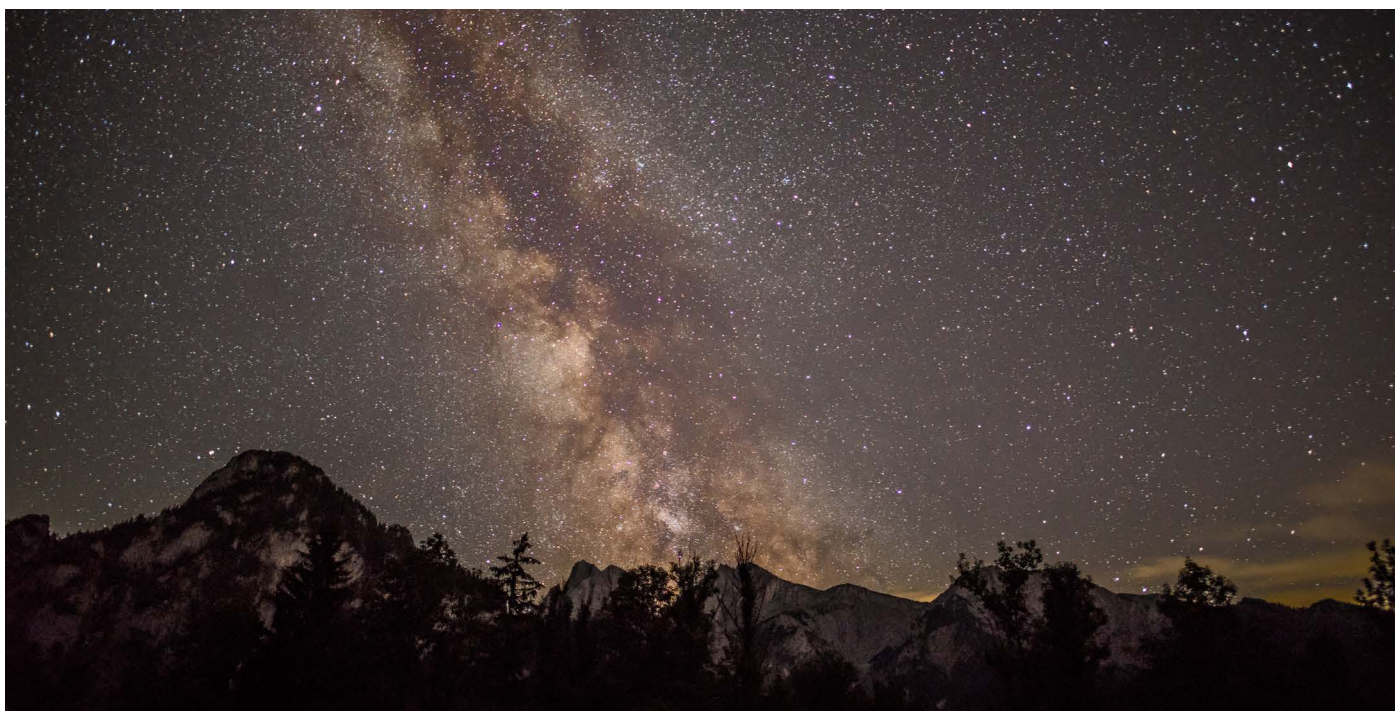
INFORMATION

Find more information about skiing in Austria online.

press.austria.info
www.austria.info



OFFERS AWAY FROM THE SLOPES



Starry Sky in the Gesäuse National Park in Styria © TVB Gesäuse, Andreas Hollinger

CARINTHIA

Starry sky tour in Hohe Tauern National Park

Hohe Tauern National Park, which stretches across the provinces of SalzburgerLand, Tirol and Carinthia, is one of the darkest places in Europe. Starting this winter, rangers will lead a starlit tour through the Carinthian part of the national park. Participants experience the darkness in the mountains with all their senses, learn more about the importance of the dark for wild animals and get to see constellations with the naked eye. Tours set off from the Sadnighaus in the national park community of Mörttschach. They take place on 13th December 2023, 10th January 2024, 7th February 2024 and 6th March 2024 and last around three hours. The actual walking time is about an hour. Those interested can register on the national park website from mid-November.

Web

www.nationalpark-hohetauern.at

Scenic snowshoe hike to the Saualpe

Various offers invite you to experience "Magic Moments" amidst nature on certain dates in Carinthia. A new addition in winter 2023/24 is a snowshoe hike to one of the Saualpe peaks. Beautiful views far across the province can be enjoyed from the easily reached mountain range. The tour to the 1,896 m Großer Sauofen begins at the rustic Steinerhütte high above the Görttschitztal. From there the snowshoe hikers leisurely trudge uphill to the summit. Once at the top, the group enjoys tea and coffee before hiking back to the starting point.

Web

www.visitcarinthia.at

Through snow-covered pine forests

Guided tours within unique natural spaces promise "Magic Moments" amidst nature on certain dates in Carinthia. New to the 2023/24 winter programme is a snowshoe tour through the UNESCO Biosphere Reserve Nockberge. Accompanied by a ranger and equipped with lanterns, participants hike from Ebene Reichenau to picturesque St. Lorenzen at dusk. This is not only the oldest settlement in the area, but also home to Carinthia's highest parish church. The path leads through the moor and snow-covered pine forests to the idyllic church of St. Anna, where the hikers can recharge their batteries with a hot drink and traditional "Bettlerkräpfen" doughnuts. In the light of the lanterns the tour then returns to the starting point.

Web

www.visitcarinthia.at



LOWER AUSTRIA

Cross-border hiking in Thayatal National Park

The new suspension bridge in Thayatal National Park paves the way for an impressive winter hike. Since April 2023, the bridge near Hardegg has led over the Thaya into Podyjí National Park in the Czech Republic. It takes around two and a half hours to complete the 6 km cross-border circuit, starting from Hardegg National Park House. The trail leads to two beautiful vantage points with views of the Thayatal and the "Einsiedler" (hermit), a high rock face with a visible cave in which a hermit is said to have lived. New wooden loungers invite you to take a break along the way. These loungers have been positioned in particularly beautiful spots along hiking trails since summer 2023.

Web
www.np-thayatal.at

Guided winter hike in Thayatal National Park

A new guided hike around the Umlaufberg has been added to Thayatal National Park's winter programme. The mountain rises on the border of Austria to the Czech Republic and is the landmark of the cross-border protected area. There are particularly lovely views of the winding river landscape when the trees are bare in winter. The guided hike begins at the Kaja castle ruins and takes around four hours. The first date is set for 28th December 2023 with further dates planned for the following winter months.

Web
www.np-thayatal.at

UPPER AUSTRIA

Family snowshoe tour

In Schwarzenberg am Böhmerwald there will be a new signposted snowshoe tour from winter 2023/24 that is particularly suitable for families. The 2.6 km route leads snowshoe hikers through the gently rolling Bohemian Forest for around an hour. The tour starts and ends at Gasthaus Dreiländereck where you can also reward yourself with a bite to eat after your winter adventure. Snowshoes can be hired from the local sports shop which is open every day.

Web
www.boehmerwald.at

SALZBURGERLAND

Excursion to wintery Wasenmoos

Hohe Tauern National Park rangers take you to special places throughout winter. The national park extends across the provinces of Salzburg, Tirol and Carinthia and is the largest protected area in Central Europe. A new tour that has been added to the programme is a hike to wintery Wasenmoos near Mittersill. The high moor lies between 1,200 and 1,500 m and impresses with a huge variety of plants and animals. Dates can be found on the national park website from mid-November.

Web
www.nationalpark-hohetauern.at

Winter bathing and stand-up paddling at Lake Fuschl

Bathing in cold water makes you healthier and happier. As of winter 2023/2024, Lake Fuschl will be inviting you to brave the cold as part of a group. From December to March you can try winter bathing at the Fuschlseebad every Thursday from 4:30 pm. Experienced cold water swimmers are on hand to give guidance and there is tea to warm up afterwards. Participation is free. Another refreshing new offer coming to the winter lakes of the region is stand-up paddling. Participants head out onto the water wearing a wetsuit and warm boots for the approximately 2-hour tour accompanied by certified SUP instructors.

Web
fuschlsee.salzkammergut.at

First biathlon hotel in the Alps

Hotel Neubergerhof in Filzmoos is an ideal base for cross-country skiers and biathletes. As the first biathlon hotel in the Alps, the Neubergerhof scores with a perfect training area right on its doorstep. Manfred Nagl looks after the guests. He was a professional cross-country skier for 20 years and is currently the coach of the national police squad in the disciplines of cross-country skiing and biathlon. Biathlon and cross-country skiing equipment can be hired at the hotel and guests can also make use of a lockable ski and service room as well as cross-country skiing maps.

Web
www.neubergerhof.at

STYRIA

Mobile observatory at Gesäuse National Park

Gesäuse National Park extends in the north of Styria. Thanks to its location far away from large cities, nights there are particularly dark and therefore ideal for viewing the starlit sky. From the beginning of 2024, the mobile observatory will make it possible to take a fresh look at the stars. The sophisticated, innovative construction with a dome and telescope is attached to a car trailer and travels to spots where the night sky can be seen from its most stunning side. The national park website will provide information on stargazing dates in winter 2024 from late autumn.

Web

nationalpark-gesaue.at

Look far across the province from the new tower

The lookout tower on top of the Demmerkogel in the Sausal was destroyed by a fire in 2019. The new "Horst am Demmerkogel", built primarily of wood, will open in mid-October 2023. Visitors can reach the viewing platform at a height of 20 m via six single-flight wooden staircases inside the tower. From the top the view extends far across the Sausal and surrounding area to Hungary, Slovenia and Carinthia. The simple structure is also intended to provide a habitat for birds, insects, bats and falcons. Four oversized sculptures will be erected around the tower: a stag beetle, a butterfly, a green lizard and a hoopoe.

Web

www.steiermark.com

TIROL

Reutte on Ice

From 17th November 2023 to 25th February 2024, the Reuttener Untermarkt park area will be transformed into a dazzling dream. On an ice surface of 2,080 m² there will be skateways, space for ice dancers, curling lanes and an ice hockey area. Come evening, a special lighting concept will create a magical atmosphere. The Christmas Market will be grouped around the ice surface on two weekends in Advent. The opening on 17th November 2023 will be celebrated in style with highlights including a performance by DJ Ötzi.

Web

www.reutte.com

New ice climbing routes in the Paznaun Valley

The Paznaun Valley is not only considered a versatile climbing area in summer. Numerous icy rock faces offer unique opportunities for experienced ice climbers in the cold season and four waterfalls can now also be climbed. The waterfalls named José, Fernando, Alfredo and Ladylike are around 50 m high each. Difficulty levels range from WI3 to WI5. WI stands for "water ice" and gives climbers information on steepness, ice quality and the difficulty of placing protection on the route.

Web

www.kappl.com

VORARLBERG

Swinging in Fontanella and Faschina

Four giant swings have been delighting guests in the mountains of Damüls in the Bregenzerwald for a few years now. From this winter, four more will be added in neighbouring Fontanella and Faschina in the Großes Walsertal Biosphere Park. The swings are made by hand from solid oak wood. In winter they invite you to swing over the snowy landscape and enjoy beautiful views.

Web

www.damuels.at

INFORMATION

Find more information about winter activities away from the slopes in Austria online.

press.austria.info
www.austria.info



MORE EXPERIENCES AND ACTIVITIES



Step by Step through the Winter © Filzmoos Tourismus, Coen Weesjes

UPPER AUSTRIA

Through Linz with the City Express

The yellow City Express has been available for tours through Linz since August 2023. In just under an hour it takes you to all of the city's sights, from the modern train station district to the cathedral and baroque main square. Information is available in eight languages. During Advent, the City Express shuttles between the five Christmas Markets and can be used free of charge at this time. The heated train will operate on Saturdays and Sundays in January and February 2024 and then daily from March 2024.

Web

www.linztourismus.at

SALZBURGERLAND

Holiday experiences included: the new Filzmoos Winter Card

The Filzmoos Winter Card will be helping you save on the holiday budget from winter 2023/2024. The card, which all guests receive from their first overnight stay, is valid for numerous attractions. These include free use of the Fidibus ski and village shuttle, swimming at Filzmoos leisure centre, ice skating at Filzmoos ice skating rink, tobogganing on the Kleinberg toboggan run, guided snowshoe and torchlight hikes and much more.

Web

www.filzmoos.at

STYRIA

Advent excursions

During Advent, Graz Tourism not only offers a series of guided tours through the atmospheric city. The festive programme also includes excursions on the four Sundays in Advent. On 25th November 2023 the trip leads to the Packer Mountain Advent and on 2nd December 2023 participants travel to Bärnbach and the Church of St. Barbara. The excursion on 9th December takes you to the Austrian Open-Air Museum Stübing and on 16th December to the magical Lumagica light park.

Web

www.graztourismus.at

TIROL

Visorium leisure complex

A new indoor leisure complex is set to open in Mayrhofen in the Zillertal in late autumn 2023 for guests who love games and puzzles. Across 2,000 m², visitors immerse themselves in the historical tales and legends of the valley. The journey leads through an "Adventure Golf" facility, a laser tag arena and escape rooms. The complex also includes a restaurant. The name Visorium is intended to illustrate the vision of seeing and exploring everything around us in a new way.

Web

www.mayrhofen.at

AlbertAdler PlayWorld by Ravensburger

The AlbertAdler PlayWorld by Ravensburger opened at FreiRaum next to the Ahornbahn mountain station in Mayrhofen/Hippach in summer 2023. Covering an area of 140 m², play stations include a large climbing wall, listening stations, a giant puzzle and play tables. The PlayWorld is named after AlbertAdler, the region's mascot.

Web

www.mayrhofen.at

YOUR DOME Tirol

Schwarz has long been playing with the idea of filling the local planetarium with new life. Since June 2023 it has been transformed into an experience dome. Beneath the convertible 360-degree dome, visitors immerse themselves in magical worlds of images and sounds. Films and projections entertain and convey knowledge about our living space. YOUR DOME Tirol is also a venue for music shows, lectures, theme nights and other events.

Web

www.wilderkaiser.info

Birds of prey and owls at National Park House Matrei

A new special exhibition is dedicated to birds of prey and owls at National Park House Matrei in East Tirol. It provides insights into the protection of the species by Hohe Tauern National Park and, above all, presents birds that live here in the largest protected area in Central Europe. These include pygmy owls, boreal owls, golden eagles and bearded vultures. Visitors also learn more about lesser-known species such as griffons, black vultures and hawks. National Park House Matrei is open Monday to Friday from 18th December 2023 until 28th March 2024.

Web

hohetauern.at

VORARLBERG

New location: Haus Habakkuk in Bludenz

Kasperl, Helmi and Tintifax the Magician – these were big television stars throughout the childhoods of many Austrians. The puppets were made by Arminio Rothstein, better known as "Clown Habakkuk". After Arminio Rothstein's death, Vorarlberg puppeteer and cabaret artist Christian Mair managed to acquire his puppets. In 2022 Christian set up a small puppet workshop with an exhibition in Bludenz. And in October 2023 Christian and his puppets will move to a much larger building in the centre of Bludenz. In addition to the expanded exhibition and workshop, there will be a stage for live performances and a Habakkuk Café.

Web

www.habakkuk.at
(German only)

INFORMATION

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press.austria.info
www.austria.info



CULINARY OFFERS



Hotel Hirschen Schwarzenberg Hoferstube © Hotel Hirschen, Adolf Bereuter

STYRIA

From award-winning chef to award-winning chef

A new package for gourmets combines three culinary days in Upper Styria with two overnight stays at one of the region's award-winning establishments. You can choose from the Lurgbauer (an inn in a green side valley near St. Sebastian), Johanns Living (a boutique hotel with two suites and a small gourmet restaurant in Bruck an der Mur), Gasthof Schäffer in Neuberg an der Mürz, Landhotel & Restaurant Hubinger in Thörl and Hotel Restaurant-Café Krainer in Langenwang. The package entitles you to an overnight stay with breakfast and the first 5-course award-winning menu with wine or juice at the establishment of your choice. A table should then be reserved for dinner on the second evening (not included) at another award-winning establishment. The package can be booked at the respective establishments on request.

Web

www.steiermark.com

VORARLBERG

New Fenkart Chocolate World

A paradise for chocolate lovers is opening in Hohenems in the Vorarlberg Rheintal! The new Fenkart Chocolate World will be completed on Schlossplatz by the end of 2023. Visitors will be able to experience chocolate production and learn interesting facts about the glass chocolate factory's treats. And there is plenty to see and taste, with colourful fruit, seeds and spices traditionally refining the chocolate bars and pralines. There will also be a spacious new 160 m² shop. And the ice cream parlour on Schlossplatz, one of the coffeehouse rooms and the garden have been given a refresh.

Web

www.schokoladengenuss.at
(German only)

Enjoy a healthy lunch together at "Tisch Zwölf"

The "Tisch Zwölf" concept combines a sustainable, healthy and delicious lunch with new networking opportunities. The initiators, who include restaurateurs and vegetable producers, "want to change the future" and make group catering sustainable. This is to be achieved through well-prepared regional, seasonal food and dining options in special places. "Tisch Zwölf" is brought to "Die Gute Stube" in Andelsbuch in the Bregenzerwald and CampusVäre in Dornbirn once a week. The joint lunch is extremely popular, and the long tables are almost always fully booked, so we recommend making a reservation. "Tisch Zwölf" is mainly aimed at locals working in the area but visitors are welcome to join them.

Web

www.tisch-zwoelf.at
(German only)

VORARLBERG

First "Wälderness Culinaire"

Hotel Gasthof Hirschen in Schwarzenberg is renovating some of its rooms this autumn. In order to bring culinary life into the establishment, host Peter Fetz asked some of his friends from the world of cuisine whether they would like to give a guest performance at the Hirschen. From the end of September to 1st November 2023, experts from near and far will be cooking on specific dates. These include Paul Ivic from the award-winning vegetarian restaurant Tian in Vienna (25th October) and the team of Japanese restaurant Mochi in Vienna (31st October and 1st November 2023).

Web

www.hotel-hirschen-bregenzerwald.at

Walch's Rote Wand Gourmet Hotel with "Friends & Fools"

The Walch family of Walch's Rote Wand Gourmet Hotel in Lech has big plans. In the next few years, a culinary lab, cookery school, bakery, charcuterie and fromagerie are to be built on the property in Zug near Lech am Arlberg. In order to involve as many interested parties as possible and to be able to fund these projects, the hotel has founded the "Friends & Fools" community programme. There are four packages to choose from which can be redeemed as vouchers for Rote Wand services over five years and offer discounts on hotel stays. Community members can also take part in exclusive events such as cooking workshops.

Web

www.rotewand.com

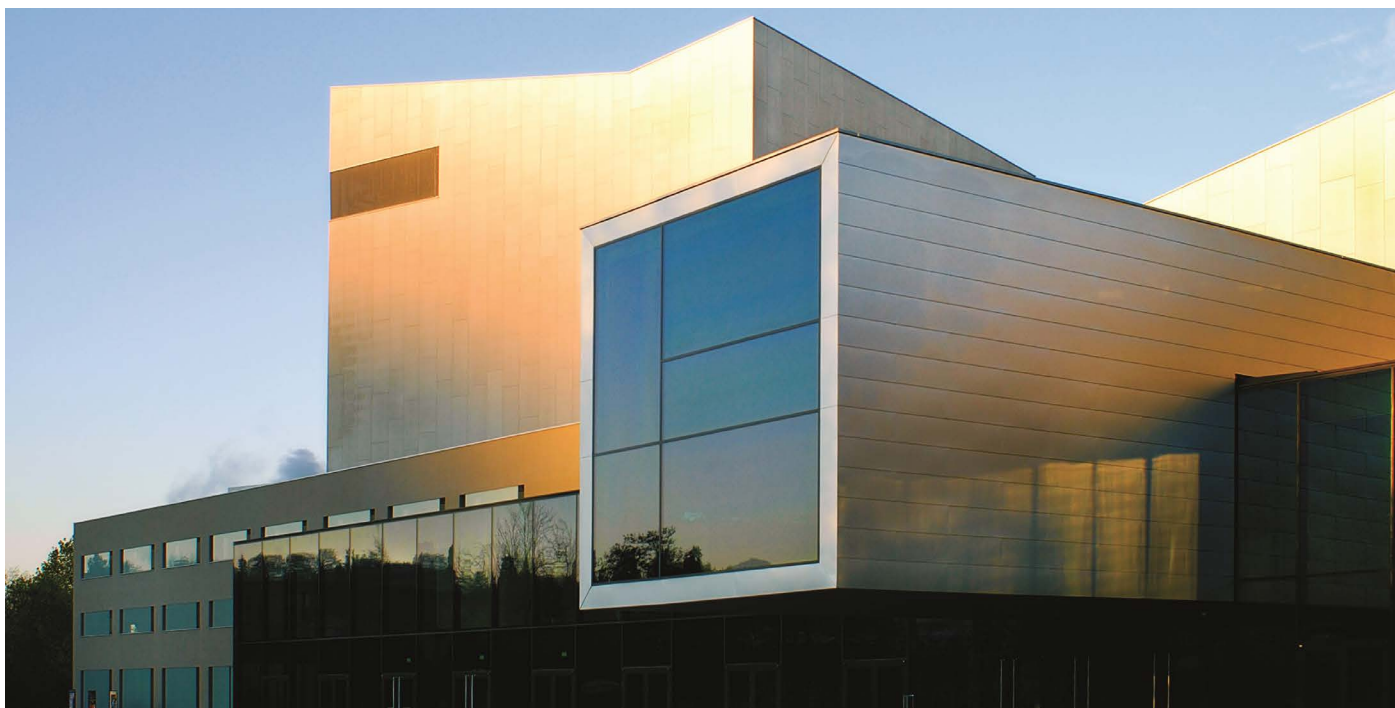
INFORMATION

Find more culinary tips and information about Austrian producers online.

www.austria.info/en/food-and-drink
www.austria.info/recipes



MUSEUMS AND CULTURE



Festspielhaus Bregenz © Vorarlberg Tourismus, Marco Mathis

BURGENLAND

Anton Lehmden Museum in Deutschkreutz

Anton Lehmden (1929 – 2018) is one of Austria's most important painters. He was a co-founder of the "Vienna School of Fantastic Realism" and a professor at the Academy of Fine Arts Vienna for many years. In the 1960s he bought Deutschkreutz Castle in Burgenland and gradually restored the magnificent four-winged building from the renaissance period. In May 2023 his daughter Barbara opened the Anton Lehmden private museum on site. Visitors can enjoy "living art" across the 800 m² exhibition space, which features paintings, huge murals and stained glass windows by the artist. It also provides insights into the artistic design of the interiors. The Anton Lehmden Museum can be visited as part of guided tours on certain dates. Individual appointments are possible for groups of five or more.

Web

www.burgenland.info

SALZBURGERLAND

Special Annemarie Moser-Pröll exhibition

Since May 2023, a special exhibition at the Salzburg FIS State Ski Museum in Werfenweng has been dedicated to legendary Austrian ski racer Annemarie Moser-Pröll. The exhibition looks at her outstanding sporting achievements as well as her personal life. Annemarie won gold, silver and bronze medals at the Winter Olympics and World Cup races in the 1970s. She also won the overall World Cup title six times. The exhibition "My Life as an Athlete of the Century" runs until 31st October 2024.

Web

www.skimuseum.at
(German only)

VORARLBERG

New art fair: STAGE Bregenz

Wintery Bregenz is to be the setting of a premiere. The first "STAGE Bregenz – Fair for Contemporary Art and Collectible Design" will be held at the Festspielhaus Bregenz from 22nd to 25th February 2024. Around 55 renowned galleries will be exhibiting and, above all, highlighting the creative variety of the Lake Constance region in the areas of art, design and architecture.

Web

www.stage-bregenz.art

VORARLBERG

The Museum of Local History Bezau is getting an extension

The listed Museum of Local History Bezau, located in a typical Bregenzerwald farmhouse, will have had a major extension by April 2024. A connection from the existing building to the new one will make fully accessible tours possible. While the old building will provide insights into former housing and living conditions of the Bregenzerwald, the new site will be dedicated to women's crafts within the region and the Bezau baroque master builders.

Web

www.damuels.at

VIENNA

New Prater Museum

A new Prater Museum is being built in the middle of the "Wurstelprater", telling the more than 250-year history of the amusement park. As one of the first public wooden buildings in Vienna, it is to become a model for the integration of ecological and social sustainability. The opening is planned for March 2024. The Prater collection includes original objects such as merry-go-rounds, parts of a grotto railway, early slot machines and Punch and Judy figures from the Praterwurstel funfair.

Web

www.wienmuseum.at

Tritsch-Tratsch Concert Shows in the Vienna Prater

In preparation for the Johann Strauss anniversary year 2025, a new attraction will open in Vienna's Prater in October 2023. The Tritsch-Tratsch Spiegelzelt (mirrored tent) is to become a venue for concerts and treat visitors to upscale Heurigen cuisine. On four evenings a week, the newly founded Johann Strauss Philharmonic will play the most beautiful waltzes, polkas and operetta melodies by "Waltz King" Johann Strauss. The musical journey through time will thus take us very close to its origins, given that the Prater was where Johann Strauss repeatedly performed for his Viennese audience. Tickets are available in different categories, from the VIP Box with a multi-course Heurigen menu to entry with a glass of sparkling wine.

Web

www.tritsch-tratsch.com

INFORMATION

Find more information about museums and other cultural highlights online.

press.austria.info/uk/
www.austria.info



ANNIVERSARIES AND EVENTS



Esplanade Bad Ischl © Foto Stadler

CARINTHIA

Mallnitz Mountain Advent

For the first time, the small town of Mallnitz invites you to its tranquil Mountain Advent. The market is open on all four weekends in December 2023, from 2 to 8 pm on Fridays and from 12 to 8 pm on Saturdays and Sundays. Highlights include an atmospheric Advent trail, a fun children's programme as well as food and craft stalls.

Web

www.mallnitz.at

UPPER AUSTRIA

1.100 Jahre Heiliger Wolfgang

St. Wolfgang am Wolfgangsee will celebrate its namesake in 2024. Towards the end of April, the traditional associations of the three Wolfgangsee communities will put on anniversary celebrations filled with customs, traditions and folk culture. Packages invite you to go on a pilgrimage in the footsteps of Saint Wolfgang. There are also plans to present the life and work as well as the legend and veneration of Saint Wolfgang in the form of a play by the lake.

Web

wolgangsee.salzkammergut.at

200th birthday of the composer Anton Bruckner

In 2024, the whole of Upper Austria will celebrate the 200th birthday of composer Anton Bruckner (1824–1896). He was born in Ansfelden in 1824 and was closely connected to his hometown and many other places in Upper Austria throughout his life. He was introduced to music by his father who, as a village school teacher, also had church music duties. Bruckner first trained at St. Florian Monastery where he was also a choir boy. From 1855 Bruckner was organist at Linz Cathedral. In 1886 he moved to Vienna and taught at the Vienna Conservatory. Bruckner's works will be performed at concerts throughout Upper Austria in the anniversary year. In addition, residents are invited to submit their ideas for Bruckner projects.

Web

www.anton-bruckner-2024.at

UPPER AUSTRIA

50 years of the Brucknerhaus

Brucknerhaus Linz has two reasons to celebrate in 2024. On the one hand it is marking the 200th birthday of its name patron Anton Bruckner with numerous concerts. And on the other there is an anniversary to celebrate, because Brucknerhaus Linz opened 50 years ago. To mark the anniversary there will be a concert by the Vienna Philharmonic on 23rd March 2024, performing Bruckner's 7th Symphony under Zubin Mehta. This symphony was also played at the opening on the same day 50 years ago, conducted by Herbert von Karajan at the time.

Web

www.brucknerhaus.at

European Capital of Culture Bad Ischl Salzkammergut

Bad Ischl and the Salzkammergut will become the European Capital of Culture in 2024, with numerous events taking place throughout the year. Most of the events are being organised by artists, associations and institutions from the region. The organisational team's aim is to offer a stimulating mix of regional impulses and international accents, of artistic performance and discourse. The events are intended to appreciate tradition whilst looking into the future.

Web

www.salzkammergut-2024.at

SALZBURGERLAND

20 years of the Erztrophy in Werfenweng

The Erztrophy is celebrating its 20th anniversary from 26th to 27th January 2024. The venue for the ski mountaineering races is Werfenweng and there are two competitions on the programme. In the "Vertical" competition, the men overcome almost 2,000 m of altitude on skis and the women 1,200 m. In the "Individual" competition, male ski mountaineers overcome 1,590 m in altitude and female ski mountaineers 1,200 m. Both professional and amateur athletes can take part.

Web

www.erztrophy.com
(German only)

FIS Ski World Cup Finals 2024 in Saalbach Hinterglemm

The finals of the FIS Ski World Cup 2024 will take place in Saalbach Hinterglemm from 16th to 24th March, where the international ski elite will compete for the last points of the season. Races include the Slalom, Giant Slalom, Super G and Downhill. The end of the season is also the dress rehearsal for the FIS Alpine World Ski Championships, which will take place in Saalbach Hinterglemm from 4th to 16th February 2025.

Web

www.saalbach.com

Trail running at the MOUNTAINMAN in Mittersill

Trail runners have been able to compete in winter for a few years now. The new venue for the Trailcup 2024 event series is Mittersill in the Kitzbühel Alps. There are several competitions for experienced runners as well as amateur athletes to take part in on 27th January 2024. The trails are between 10 and 39 km long with 600 to 2,540 m of altitude to be overcome.

Web

www.mittersill.info

TIROL

50th International Koasalauf

The first Koasalauf was held in February 1973. Over 1,000 cross-country skiers mastered the 38 and 72 km distances from Kitzbühel via Kössen to St. Johann in Tirol at the time. Since then the Koasalauf has developed into one of the biggest cross-country skiing events and the Kitzbühel Alps will celebrate the 50th anniversary of this special event on 10th and 11th February 2024. The organisers are expecting about 2,000 participants from around 20 nations.

Web

www.koasalauf.at

10th Austrian Ski Touring Festival

The Austrian Ski Touring Festival will take place for the tenth time from 25th to 28th January 2024 in East Tirol. It brings experts and amateur athletes together and aims to ensure more fun and safety on the mountain. The programme includes guided tours with East Tyrolean mountain and ski guides. There will also be ski tours plus expert talks and panel discussions which can be followed online.

Web

www.tyrol.com

Premiere: FIS Ski World Cup in Gurgl

The FIS Ski World Cup will kick off the winter season with a men's slalom on 15th November 2023 and the race will be held in Gurgl for the first time. Various events will mark the occasion from 16th to 19th November, including an opening night, concerts and ski guiding with local ski instructors as well as British ski star Dave Ryding.

Web

www.gurgl.com

INFORMATION

Many more anniversaries and events
can be found online.

www.austria.info/en/things-to-do/cities-and-culture/events



ACCOMMODATION NEW OPENINGS



Superior room Straubinger Grand Hotel Bad Gastein © BWM Designers & Architects

BURGENLAND

In the vineyards:
Kellerstöckl "Das Csaterberg"

On the Csaterberg near Kohfidisch in southern Burgenland, more and more traditional "Kellerstöckl" are being transformed into holiday homes. In the past, winemakers used these buildings in the vineyards for pressing and storing wine. One of the most recent new openings is "Das Csaterberg". The lovingly furnished little house with upper floor which opened in spring 2023 offers space for up to four people across 60 m². Guests can enjoy the view of the vineyards from the terrace and there are several wine taverns within walking distance.

Where

Kohfidisch

When

Since Spring 2023

Web

www.dascaterberg.at
(German only)

CARINTHIA

With a small farm:
Kleingut Moserhof

Since August 2023, Kleingut Moserhof has increased what's on offer at the chalet village of Landgut Moserhof in Penk im Mölltal. The 180 m² rustic yet modern chalet with a small farm is located in the middle of the forest, comfortably fitting up to eight people. Amenities include a wellness cabin with a panoramic sauna, a hot tub, swimming pond and large terrace. Those who would like to try their hand at being a farmer can look after the chickens and small animals on the farm. There is also a stable for horses.

Where

Penk

When

Since August 2023

Web

www.landgut-moserhof.at

Feel-good atmosphere:
Alpin Peaks Lifestyle Apartments

New Hotel Alpin Peaks is located directly by Lake Turrach in the snow-sure ski area of Turracher Höhe at more than 1,800 m above sea level. The building with a wooden facade includes 42 tastefully furnished apartments of different sizes, suitable for two to eight people. A wellness area with saunas and relaxation rooms as well as a gym complete the offering. The hotel programme includes yoga and workout sessions. The restaurant focuses on regional cuisine and at the end of the day you can meet at the bar.

Where

Turracher Höhe

When

December 2023

Web

alpinpeaks.at

LOWER AUSTRIA

Practical: AVIA Motel Zwettl

Their location next to an AVIA petrol station, practical rooms and affordable prices distinguish the Fairsleep AVIA Motels, of which there are already two in Austria: one in Gmünd and one in Bisamberg near Vienna. The third AVIA Motel will be opening in winter 2023. It is located in Zwettl in the Waldviertel and includes twelve premium and eleven standard rooms. Guests can purchase food from the shop at the petrol station or dine at one of the local inns.

Where

Zwettl

When

Winter 2023/24

Web

www.aviamotel.at
(German only)

The scent of wood: Forst Kienberg apartments

Three new Forst Kienberg apartments will up the choice in Kienberg/Gaming within the Mostviertel from December 2023. The new apartments are located in the renovated "Haushammer" building. As with the existing five apartments, wood will play a key role in the furnishings. The one and two bedroom apartments are spread across three floors. A special feature of the apartment on the top floor is its outdoor whirlpool on the spacious rooftop sun terrace, where you will also find a panoramic sauna.

Where

Kienberg/Gaming

When

December 2023

Web

www.forst-kienberg.at

UPPER AUSTRIA

Recharge your batteries: boutique hotel Königswieser Hof

Boutique hotel Königswieser Hof opened in Königswiesen within the countryside of the Mühlviertel in February 2023. The newly built, seven-story building includes 32 rooms and six suites. Rooms are equipped with oak floors and furniture made from natural materials such as linen. There are also seminar rooms for 10 to 60 participants and a 1,000 m² wellness area with an infinity pool and saunas. The hotel's down-to-earth restaurant and café invite you to meet for a bite to eat.

Where

Königswiesen

When

Since February 2023

Web

www.koenigswieserhof.at
(German only)

On the edge of the forest: Apartments Schöneben

Apartments Schöneben opened directly on the hiking and cross-country ski trails of the Bohemian Forest in May 2023. There are three Maysonette apartments in the new wooden building. Each apartment is 100 m² in size and has two bedrooms, a bathroom and kitchen with a large living and dining area. From the terrace the view extends into the forest. Guests can use the wellness area at the hotel opposite and also treat themselves to culinary delights at the hotel's restaurant.

Where

Ulrichsberg

When

Since May 2023

Web

www.schoeneben.at
(German only)

Own hydropower: Natur Resort Dietlgut

At the end of the Stodertal, beneath the peaks and wooded slopes of the Totes Gebirge, Natur Resort Dietlgut will open in autumn 2023. The Dietlgut, built in 1925, was originally a hunting lodge. Over the decades it transformed into a bed and breakfast, then into a hotel and now the property is changing again. As part of a comprehensive redesign, the family business is becoming a nature resort with 30 spacious apartments, some with private saunas, and six forest houses, each with 144 m² of living space, private sauna and open fireplace. Local produce can be purchased from the on-site shop. Water comes from the estate's own spring and the electricity for the entire resort and its e-charging stations is supplied by its own power plant on the Steyr river, which originates not far away.

Where

Hinterstoder

When

October 2023

Web

www.dietlgut.at
(German only)

Exclusive retreat: alpine resort TRIFORÊT

A boutique resort with a hotel and 20 chalets for two to six people will open by the middle station of the Hinterstoder ski area at 1,410 m above sea level in December 2023. Alpine resort TRIFORÊT will be open all year round. In the main building there are 41 exclusive apartments measuring up to 63 m², a fitness, wellness and sauna world with an infinity pool, meeting rooms and a restaurant. The resort also offers its guests an extensive sports and activity programme.

Where

Hinterstoder

When

December 2023

Web

arcona.de

SALZBURGERLAND

Family-friendly:

Gut Wenghof mountain chalets

Gut Wenghof Family Resort in Werfenweng, which bears the Austrian Ecolabel, will offer its guests even more comfort from mid-December 2023. Four luxurious mountain chalets have been added to the resort, two of which are 180 m² in size and the other two offering plenty of living space across 280 m². Three chalets have their own sauna. The host family offers a breakfast service for chalet guests and dinner can be delivered to the chalet as a buffet upon request.

Where

Werfenweng

When

December 2023

Web

gutwenghof.at

Travel by train:

harry's home is coming to Salzburg

The harry's home hotels & apartments group will open a new establishment in the cultural metropolis of Salzburg in spring 2024. And with its ideal location, the group is once again making it possible to enjoy a stress-free and environmentally friendly arrival by train. The new harry's home Salzburg is just a five-minute walk from the main train station and a short walk from the Old Town, where you can visit Mirabell Palace and Mozart's Birthplace. The property has 119 rooms, most of which have fully equipped kitchens. Those who prefer to be looked after in the morning can enjoy a delicious hotel breakfast with homemade and regional delicacies. There are also meeting rooms, a fitness room, a children's playroom, and an underground car park with e-charging stations.

Where

Salzburg

When

From March 2024

Web

harrys-home.com

For conference guests:

Stadthotel Saalfelden

Congress Saalfelden is a modern conference and event centre in Saalfelden. A new hotel is opening within walking distance of Congress Saalfelden in the first half of 2024. The Stadthotel has 72 rooms, 92 garage spaces and a sky bar for breakfasts with a terrace and views of the Steinernes Meer mountains. Together with the 4-star boutique hotel Hindenburg, 130 rooms will thus be available for conference guests right by the congress centre.

Where

Saalfelden

When

1st half of 2024

Web

www.saalfelden-leogang.com

STYRIA

Golden lift and new rooms:

Vier Jahreszeiten

There are 27 new "Mohnblume" (poppy) rooms at Thermenhotel Vier Jahreszeiten in Loipersdorf, furnished in an open style. Floral wallpaper meets brick-red ceramic tiles and little design elements create a warm ambience. The new 60 m² "Rosensuite" (rose suite) with its free-standing bath, large round bed, open fireplace and infrared sauna cabin is ideal for romantic breaks. A further fresh eye-catcher is the hotel's golden lift, whilst in the restaurant the corridors and front cooking station have been given a refresh.

Where

Bad Loipersdorf

When

Since April 2023

Web

www.jahreszeiten.at
(German only)

In the countryside:

the Lorettohof

The Lorettohof opened in Gaal im Murtal in June 2023. With loving care and labour, the former manor house was transformed into a modern bed and breakfast hotel with a café and snack bar. Guests can choose from 24 rooms of different categories. There is also a chalet within walking distance of the hotel that can accommodate up to five people. The host family offers a range of activities such as barefoot walks and guided hikes to nearby mountains.

Where

Gaal

When

Since June 2023

Web

www.lorettohof.com
(German only)

New feel-good rooms:

Thermalhotel Leitner

The 26 double rooms and the Christella Suite at Thermalhotel Leitner in Loipersdorf present themselves with a new lighting concept, high-quality furniture and elegant bathrooms with walk-in showers. All rooms are equipped with a new couch which can be converted into a comfortable additional bed as well as a desk made by a local master carpenter. Part of the restaurant has been modernised too.

Where

Bad Loipersdorf

When

Since July 2023

Web

www.hotel-leitner.at



STYRIA

Relax in peace:

hotel spa at Quellenhotel Bad Waltersdorf

The brand new, completely refurbished hotel spa at Quellenhotel Bad Waltersdorf celebrated its opening on 31st August 2023. Inside, the nature of the Styrian Thermen- and Vulkanland is showcased in a big way. Hotel guests can spend relaxing hours in the new forest sauna with panoramic windows or the completely renovated oases of peace. The ladies' spa is a blissful haven with its own sauna and terrace. A spiral staircase leads to a new lounge area on the upper floor. The natural bathing pond with its integrated thermal pool remains the centrepiece. In addition, the generously extended bistro terrace tempts with regional delights.

Where

Bad Waltersdorf

When

Since 31st August 2023

Web

www.heiltherme.at

More wellness and space:

Rogner Bad Blumau

The Hundertwasser thermal and wellness hotel in Bad Blumau has given its apartments in the so-called "Augenschlitzhäuser" a new concept for even more individual feel-good space – with new furniture and a new design. The terraces, restaurants, conservatory and chimney lounge are being extended and new treatments and infusions will increase wellness options.

Where

Bad Blumau

When

From Christmas 2023

Web

www.blumau.com

TIROL

Luxurious comfort:

Alpine Collection Wildschönau

Contemporary alpine flair combined with high-quality furnishings set the tone at the newly opened aparthotel in the high valley of the Wildschönau in Tirol. Choose from eight spacious apartments with plenty of space for families of up to six people or slightly more compact studios for two people to snuggle up in. The aparthotel has a wellness area with a panorama sauna and rooftop whirlpool as well as a modern gym. In the hotel's cosy lobby, the 24-hour self-service Honesty Maxi Bar with a terrace invites you to have a drink and a chat. There is also a charging station for e-cars and e-bikes, free WiFi as well as free parking spaces and an underground car park.

Where

Niederau

When

Since February 2023

Web

www.alpine-collection.at

Heavenly:

Villa Himmlgassl

Guests enjoy truly heavenly stays at Villa Himmlgassl, which opened in Zellberg in the Zillertal in August 2023. The five accessible apartments in the newly built establishment have names such as "Himmelschlüssel" (key to heaven), "Himmelreich" (heavenly kingdom) and "Himmelglück" (heavenly happiness). They range between 780 m² and 130 m² in size and are furnished in modern alpine style. All apartments have a sauna and balcony. The host family provides holiday-makers with a breakfast basket upon request and offers a bread roll service.

Where

Zellberg im Zillertal

When

Since August 2023

Web

www.villa-himmlgassl.tirol

Modern and rustic:

LUF Lodges

The new LUF Lodges in Ischgl are fitted out with rustic wood and modern comfort. The centrally located resort comprises five 130 m² four-bedroom lodges. Two of the lodges are under the same roof and the other three stand side by side. Each accommodation unit has a balcony and its own parking space.

Where

Ischgl

When

December 2023

Web

www.luflodges.com
(German only)

Like home:

Summit Seefeld

Apartment house Summit Seefeld will be opening in the centre of Seefeld in mid-December 2023. It includes 25 stylishly furnished apartments in three different categories. Ranging between 35 m² and 82 m², the units offer space for two to six guests and plenty of comfort. All apartments have a fully equipped kitchen and balcony. There is also a bright wellness area with an outdoor pool and saunas in the building. The optional breakfast buffet provides a tasty start to the day and guests receive a ten percent discount for dinner at three partner restaurants in Seefeld.

Where

Seefeld

When

December 2023

Web

www.marcati.at



VORARLBERG

Modern and homely: Hof 30

Hof 30 opened in Schwarzenberg village centre in May 2023. The traditional wooden house built in the Bregenzerwald style has two lofts. Hofloft offers space for up to six people whilst the 90 m² Toblloft can accommodate up to four. The holiday apartments are equipped with high-quality wooden furniture, box spring beds and modern kitchens.

Where

Schwarzenberg

When

Since May 2023

Web

fewoschwarzenberg.com
(German only)

Small and chic: Unique Places

Four tiny houses called "Unique Places" have been welcoming guests in Bludenz since July 2023. The 60 m² houses with an upper floor are luxuriously furnished and can accommodate two to six people. There is a fully equipped kitchen as well as a small bathroom and terrace. Several ski areas can be easily reached from Bludenz by train or bus. The Brandnertal, Montafon, Klostertal and also the Ski Arlberg ski area are particularly close by.

Where

Bludenz

When

Since July 2023

Web

unique-places.com
(German only)

In the middle of nature: Alpenstolz Apartments

The 39 Alpenstolz Apartments have been open for bookings in Damüls since August 2023. These beautifully furnished apartments are spread across four buildings. You can choose from apartments with two, three or four rooms. The largest units can accommodate up to eight people. A bread roll service is offered for breakfast and guests can either make their own dinner or dine at one of the restaurants in Damüls.

Where

Damüls

When

Since August 2023

Web

www.alpenstolz-damuels.at

Spacious: Bregenzerwälder Appartements

In Andelsbuch, Manuela Sutterlütli and Ignaz Fink have added an extension to their traditional Bregenzerwald farm. This houses two spacious, high-quality apartments furnished in the modern Bregenzerwald wooden architecture style. Both units have been welcoming guests since August 2023. Apartment one is 100 m² in size and has two double bedrooms. Apartment two is located on the top floor and offers space for up to six holidaymakers across 150 m².

Where

Andelsbuch

When

Since August 2023

Web

www.bregenzerwälder-appartements.at
(German only)

Comfortable: Sonnberg Appartements

The Sonnberg Appartements will open in Schröcken in the Bregenzerwald in autumn 2023. The 17 holiday apartments are 48 m² to 76 m² in size and spread over two new buildings with underground parking. All of the apartments have a balcony and there is a sauna on the lower floor. The bus to the Warth-Schröcken ski area stops right outside the door. From Warth-Schröcken, skiers can also reach the Ski Arlberg ski area.

Where

Schröcken

When

Autumn 2023

Web

ferienwohnungen-oberboden.at
(German only)

Stylish: Balma Lech

Balma apartment house and its à la carte restaurant will open in the Zug district of Lech in December 2023. It contains five apartments ranging from 54 m² to 149 m² that can accommodate up to four guests. Designer furniture, a fireplace and private sauna create a stylish yet cosy atmosphere in each apartment. As an additional luxury, the hosts fill the fridge with selected regional products free of charge once per stay. There is also a breakfast service that can be booked upon request.

Where

Lech am Arlberg

When

December 2023

Web

www.balma.at
(German only)

VORARLBERG

Small and sustainable: Cabinski

Ten minimalist and thoughtfully and sustainably constructed tiny holiday homes have stood in Montafon for a few years now. Twelve more Cabinski houses will open in Sonntag in the Großes Walsertal Biosphere Park in winter 2023/24. They are made of wood, metal and glass, each offering sleeping space for up to four people. Facilities include a small kitchen, bathroom, terrace and carport.

Where

Sonntag-Oberbuchholz

When

Winter 2023/24

Web

www.cabinski.at
(German only)

VIENNA

Casual and classy: Moxy Vienna City East

The new Moxy Vienna City East opened in September 2023 in the Neu Marx neighbourhood, which is developing into a meeting point for events and concerts. After the Moxy Vienna Airport, it is the hip hotel brand's second establishment in the Greater Vienna area. Moxy Hotels see themselves as budget hotels with the soul of boutique hotels. Moxy Vienna City East has 203 air-conditioned rooms. Guests can come together in the lobby, bar and breakfast room. For Vienna stays of five or more nights, there are also 43 Residence Inn by Marriott studios in the same building complex.

Where

Vienna

When

September 2023

Web

www.marriott.com

Viennese charm: Hotel Schani UNO City

The latest Schani Hotels property will open near UNO City at the beginning of 2024. International flair meets Viennese charm in the lobby, as celebrated in all hotels belonging to the group. Modern design, high-quality furnishings and plenty of plants create a feel-good atmosphere. The new Schani Hotel has a total of 202 rooms and family suites as well as seminar and event spaces for up to 200 people. A leafy courtyard with a terrace invites you to relax and the elegant bar also welcomes external guests 24 hours a day. The new establishment is well prepared when it comes to sustainable mobility, with bicycle parking and e-charging stations in the hotel garage.

Where

Vienna

When

Early 2024

Web

www.schanihotels.com

INFORMATION

More new hotels and guest houses can be found online.

press.austria.info



ACCOMMODATION RENOVATIONS



Falkensteiner Hotel Carinzia, Nassfeld © Falkensteiner Hotels

BURGENLAND

In the wine region: Kellerstöckl Wills

In Moschendorf on the Pinkatal Wine Route in Southern Burgenland, the two Kellerstöckl Wills cottages invite you to spend holidays in the vineyards all year round. "Crown Cottage" was renovated in 2022 and the lovingly renovated "Traude Cottage" has also been welcoming guests since spring 2023. Both cottages can accommodate two guests each. They are equipped with a kitchen, bedroom and bathroom. A large garden surrounds the cottages and inns and traditional wine taverns are within walking distance.

Where

Moschendorf

When

Since spring 2023

Web

www.kellerstoekl-wills.at
(German only)

Fresh energy: Hotel Larimar

Hotel Larimar in Stegersbach reopened in July 2023 after several months of renovation. Four Comfort Suites were added to the existing 111 rooms and suites. They are 48 m² in size and consist of two separate bedrooms. The newly designed, extended restaurant offers more space between the tables and therefore more privacy. There is now also more space in the waiting area in front of the spa reception. The hotel generates its own electricity with the help of a new photovoltaic system.

Where

Stegersbach

When

Since July 2023

Web

www.larimarhotel.at

CARINTHIA

More wellness: Hotel Prägant

The 4-star Hotel Prägant in Bad Kleinkirchheim opened its new spa and wellness area in summer 2023. The 1,000 m² oasis includes a 30 degree warm indoor pool, a Finnish sauna with panoramic view, a bio sauna and sole steam bath. Further new additions are a snack bar and additional light-flooded relaxation rooms and cosy islands. Those who would like to swim in the fresh winter air can head to the new outdoor pool which is heated all year round.

Where

Bad Kleinkirchheim

When

Since summer 2023

Web

www.hotel-praegant.at

CARINTHIA

New impulses:

Falkensteiner Hotel & Spa Carinzia

The Falkensteiner Hotel & Spa Carinzia reopened in Hermagor am Nassfeld at the end of July 2023 after extensive renovation. All rooms were given a modern and comfortable look with new 66 m² Family Suites increasing the choice of accommodation. The updated restaurant with its seating niches is the perfect place to sample "Via Carinca", the new kitchen concept that invites you to take a culinary journey through Carinthia and Italy. Hotel guests can recharge their batteries in the also newly designed Acquapura Carnica SPA with bathing, sweating and relaxation options. Since its reopening, the previous 4-star hotel has been categorised as a 4-star superior establishment.

Where

Hermagor

When

Since July 2023

Web

www.falkensteiner.com

SALZBURGERLAND

Snazzy:

4-star superior Hotel Soulsisters

"GRIAS DI darling" is how the cheerful 4-star superior hotel in Kaprun welcomes guests to its website. The traditional Hotel Antonius reopened as the trendy boutique hotel Soulsisters in May 2023 with a 1,000 m² wellness and spa area. Yoga in the Dark Room promises a new, even more intense experience. From the hotel and spa, guests enjoy beautiful views of Kaprun Castle. The Soulsisters' Secrets include events, movie nights and little surprises.

Where

Kaprun

When

Since May 2023

Web

www.soulsistershotel.at

Heavenly wellness:

Naturresort Puradies

Naturresort Puradies welcomes its guests on a quiet, sunny plateau in Leogang. New since June 2023 is the Heaven Spa with views of meadows, forests and the impressive Leogang Mountains. Within the bright ambience, on tucked away islands of peace, in cosy bunks or in front of a crackling open fire, guests can regenerate in the most blissful way. The hotel's existing wellness facilities include four saunas for adults, a water world with an outdoor infinity pool, a children's pool, the yoga studio and a fitness centre.

Where

Leogang

When

Since June 2023

Web

www.puradies.com

Luxurious place of longing:

Hotel Forstthofgut

Naturhotel Forstthofgut in Leogang, a 5-star hotel with the award-winning waldSpa, is one of the best-known hotels in Austria. One of the reasons for this is that host family Schmuck is always coming up with new ideas. The hotel lobby and 28 rooms have enjoyed a fresh look since August 2023. And Restaurant 1617 has been given a new concept and now invites you on a culinary journey through the more than 400-year history of the Forstthofgut with classics from Austrian cuisine.

Where

Leogang

When

Since June 2023

Web

www.forstthofgut.at

Attention to detail:

Hotel Edelweiss

After a major extension in 2018, Hotel Edelweiss in Großarl has once again invested heavily in its wellness and children's areas. 17 spacious suites opened in July 2023. They are between 45 m² and 100 m² in size and were created by redesigning 26 rooms. A special feature of the 100 m² suite is the jacuzzi on its 50 m² terrace. There is also the new Family Mountain Spa with an indoor pool, outdoor sports pool and children's pool. Highlights of the new children's and youth area include a children's cinema and an interactive wall.

Where

Großarl

When

Since July 2023

Web

www.edelweiss-grossarl.com

For free spirits:

Valamar Places

The first Valamar Places hotel in the Alps will open at the end of November 2023 in the former Marietta Hotel in Obertauern, where the Beatles stayed in 1965. The new Valamar Hotels brand is aimed at free spirits and mountain lovers who want to exchange ideas with like-minded people and immerse themselves in alpine culture. The hotel has 120 rooms for two to four guests which are 19 m² to 40 m² in size. There are also suites measuring up to 81 m². The restaurant serves international dishes with alpine influences and come evening you can hang out or "snowcialise" in the lounge bar, rooftop bar and entertainment area. Signature music line-up "Sounds of Places" presents DJs and live acts throughout winter.

Where

Obertauern

When

End of November 2023

Web

www.valamar.com

SALZBURGERLAND

New attractions:

Familienhotel Kesselgrub

With its riding stables and extensive programme for children and babies, Hotel Kesselgrub in Altenmarkt-Zauchensee is one of Austria's leading family hotels. From December 2023, the 4-star establishment will offer its guests even more attractions and comfort. New features include an indoor and outdoor pool, a water play park with slides, the Mountain Adults Spa with Skyroom, Kesselinos children's club, a bowling alley and a farm with ponies and animals to pet. The newly designed garden with quiet spaces and a natural bathing lake extends around the hotel.

Where

Altenmarkt-Zauchensee

When

December 2023

Web

www.kesselgrub.at
(German only)

Elegant wellness oasis:

Hotel Nesslerhof

The 4-star superior Hotel Nesslerhof in Großarl is currently being renovated on a large scale. Since summer 2023, the reception, restaurant and bar have radiated in a new, alpine-modern style. The 3,000 m² garden with a natural swimming pond has also been redesigned. A further extension with a two-story underground car park will open at the start of the winter season 2023/24. It houses 15 rooms and 14 suites in four different categories, from the 61 m² double room to the 90 m⁺ suite with sauna and whirlpool. All new accommodation units include a terrace or balcony.

Where

Großarl

When

December 2023

Web

www.nesslerhof.at

Tradition meets modernity:

Aparthotel Bad Radkersburg

A new, modern apartment hotel opened in Bad Radkersburg in the Styrian Thermen- and Vulkanland in April 2023. There are 26 bright, classically and timelessly furnished studios and apartments on site and rooms overlook the swimming pool with sun terrace. Guests enjoy breakfast in the historical part of the building at the lovingly restored Gwölb tavern, which serves selected wines and Heurigen specialties from midday onwards. In terms of location, Aparthotel Bad Radkersburg is right on the Mur Cycle Path and the Parktherme thermal spa is just a ten minute walk away.

Where

Bad Radkersburg

When

Since April 2023

Web

www.aparthotel-badradkersburg.at
www.dasgwoelb.at
(German only)

STYRIA

On the slopes:

Villa Alpin

In December 2023, a former bed and breakfast that has been restyled under the name Villa Alpin will open in Großarl. It boasts 20 brightly furnished rooms and suites at a 4-star level. They are between 21 m² and 45 m² in size and all have a balcony. From the valley station of the Panorama Lift just 100 m away, guests can reach the slopes of the Großarlal-Dorfgastein ski area and Ski amadé in a flash. After skiing you can relax in the wellness area with sauna or treat yourself to a drink at the in-house bar B3.

Where

Großarl

When

December 2023

Web

www.holiday-grossarl.at
(German only)

Historical jewel:

the Podenhaus

The Podenhaus is located in the middle of Bad Aussee. Its history goes back to the 14th century. After a two-year renovation, the historic jewel reopened in new splendour in March 2023. The wooden floors, plastered walls and original ceilings were preserved as much as possible in the 11 rooms and apartments. The interior design combines old and new, with many pieces of furniture and antiques that have been in the Podenhaus for decades having been lovingly restored. Fresh accents are set by modern yet classical upholstery, minimalist side tables and box spring beds or modern four-poster beds made of iron.

Where

Bad Aussee

When

Since March 2023

Web

www.podenhaus.at

Refreshed:

Hotel Der Hechl

The traditional Hotel Der Hechl at the foot of the Tauplitz ski area has been transformed in recent years. From Christmas 2023 there will be another set of new features. The entrance and some of the 20 rooms are getting a new look and the wellness area is being expanded to include a fitness and yoga room, among other things. Young guests can look forward to the new indoor playground.

Where

Tauplitz

When

December 2023

Web

www.hotel-hechl.at



STYRIA

Feel at home: Sloho Appartements

From winter 2023/24, the Sloho Appartements in Hohentauern will provide even more comfort. The four Bergschau'n apartments each have a private sauna house and fenced garden. The holiday apartments are 62 m² in size and can accommodate two to four people. Guests who choose one of the other apartments measuring up to 94 m² can book exclusive use of the Sloho pine wood sauna for two hours.

Where

Hohentauern

When

December 2023

Web

sloho.at

Where families feel at home: JUFA Hotel

New JUFA Hotel Bad Radkersburg is opening on the site of the former spa centre in spring 2024. The family hotel will offer 89 rooms in the heart of the Styrian Thermen- and Vulkanland. The Parktherme thermal spa is just a few steps away and admission is included in your overnight stay. The building's fabulous past as a spa centre can still be felt and experienced, such as in the elegant foyer which now houses the hotel restaurant and a café with a wine lounge. Guests enjoy the mineral water from the original spring which is located on site and to which the city owes its "Bad" (bath) prefix. Everyone can join in here: the indoor and outdoor adventure play areas can also be used by non-hotel guests.

Where

Bad Radkersburg

When

From spring 2024

Web

www.jufahotels.com
(German only)

TIROL

For groups: Alplodge Schmirn

Alplodge Schmirn opened in the untouched Schmirntal, an excellent mountaineering village, in May 2023. The building, which has been completely renovated, is located at 1,422 m above sea level. It can accommodate up to 29 guests, making it ideal for large families or groups. There are ten double rooms, three single rooms and an apartment with two rooms. There are also two lounges, including a 100-year-old Tirolean pine parlour, and a large kitchen.

Where

Schmirn

When

Since May 2023

Web

www.alplodge.at
(German only)

With pizzazz: PhiliPop-Up Hostel

The 20 rooms surprise with retro charm and in the evening guests come together at the bowling alley. Guests are also welcome to help out at the hotel bar in the chilled Community Space or cook up a storm in the well-equipped shared kitchen. PhiliPop-Up has been bringing new life to former Gasthof Risserhof in Scharnitz near Seefeld since June 2023. And because nothing lasts forever, it's worth booking your stay at the PhiliPop-Up Hostel soon.

Where

Scharnitz

When

Since June 2023

Web

www.philipop-up.at
(German only)

Inviting: Ferienwohnungen Hautz

Family Hautz runs a coffeehouse in Kirchdorf and since August 2023 they have also been offering nine lovingly furnished holiday apartments. All are equipped with a bedroom, combined kitchen/living room with a sofa bed, bathroom and balcony. Natural materials create an inviting atmosphere. There is a sauna on site and guests can do laps in the 10 m pool in the garden come summer.

Where

Kirchdorf in Tirol

When

Since August 2023

Web

www.urlaub-hautz.at
(German only)

The perfect retreat: Hotel Panorama Royal

The family-run Hotel Royal in the spa town of Bad Häring has boasted a new, exclusive wellness paradise since August 2023. Covering an area of around 7,500 m², it promises guests a new era of well-being. The "High-End-Relaxing-World" nestles harmoniously into nature. The 700 m² water area includes a 25 m long sports pool, six saunas, a panorama park with natural pond, relaxation islands and designated energy spots. Treatments are offered at the medical spa and guests can also take part in the activity programme which includes yoga, meditation, Qi Gong and forest bathing.

Where

Bad Häring

When

Since August 2023

Web

www.panorama-royal.at



TIROL

High above: Das Central

From November 2023, guests of Hotel Das Central in Sölden will be able to swim above the rooftops of the village in a new 17 m infinity pool. 31 of the existing rooms and suites will also shine in new glory from October 2023. Highlights include the 52 m² Wellness Suites with their own sauna and 105 m² Penthouse Suites with an open fireplace in the living room. All rooms and suites are furnished with the finest fabrics and natural materials. Wood, stone, leather and loden create a warm atmosphere. The newly designed Event Cloud, in which up to 150 people can meet or celebrate, as well as the summit saunas, spa and bar on the fourth and fifth floors further take Das Central to the next level.

Where

Sölden

When

October/November 2023

Web

www.central-soelden.com

Traditional comfort: Henri Country House

Former Hotel Klausner in Kitzbühel will open under a new name and operators in December 2023. Henri Country House of the hotel group of the same name is located on the Kitzbüheler Ache river. After renovation it comprises 85 rooms and studios, most with balconies. The existing wellness area is being modernised and an indoor pool added. There will be a new Henri Lounge, spacious breakfast area and gym. The self-service "house kitchen" will offer snacks.

Where

Kitzbühel

When

December 2023

Web

www.henri-hotels.com

New perspectives: Hotel Böglerhof

Der Böglerhof in Alpbach has been a place of hospitality and encounters for centuries. The Duftner family is always coming up with new ideas to ensure that their guests feel completely at home. From winter 2023/24, the hotel will boast eight new suites with views across Alpbach. There will also be an additional swimming pool on the roof, an event sauna with panoramic windows, a sauna area, treatment rooms and a yoga room with a terrace. Carrying the Austrian Ecolabel, Der Böglerhof is also installing a new heat pump and expanding its photovoltaic system.

Where

Alpbach

When

December 2023

Web

www.boeglerhof.at
(German only)

VORARLBERG

Even more family-friendly: Aparthotel Kleinwalsertal

Since August 2023, the Aparthotel Kleinwalsertal in Mittelberg has been offering even more for families. The indoor pool and play arena have been renovated and there is a brand new Active Park. Features include a new swimming pool with counter-current system, massage jets and benches, a relaxation area with mountain views, an outdoor relaxation area, a spacious play area for children, a ball sports hall and table tennis courts.

Where

Mittelberg

When

Since August 2023

Web

www.aparthotel-kleinwalsertal.at

With rooftop pool: Genuss- & Aktivhotel Sonnenburg

The Genuss- & Aktivhotel Sonnenburg in the Kleinwalsertal is extending its wellness facilities. From winter 2023/24, hotel guests will be able to swim in the valley's first rooftop infinity pool. The water in the 10 m long and 4 m wide pool, which is to be open all year round, will be a pleasant 28 degrees in winter and around 23 degrees in summer. From here, guests will be able to soak up beautiful panoramic views.

Where

Riezlern

When

December 2023

Web

www.genuss-aktivhotel.com

New name, new level of comfort: Hotel Tradizio

The Wölger family of Hotel Neue Krone in Kleinwalsertal is modernising their establishment and has therefore decided to give the hotel a new name. As a tribute to the family's Italian roots, Hotel Tradizio will open its doors in December 2023. In addition to the 13 Krone rooms that were completely renovated in spring 2023, guests can expect 12 new Deluxe rooms from December 2023, each with more than 30 m² of living space. A new sauna and relaxation area with a steam and Finnish sauna has also been created. A delightful conservatory extends the restaurant.

Where

Mittelberg

When

December 2023

Web

tradizio.at
(German only)



VORARLBERG

Apartments instead of rooms: Hotel Alpenstüble

Until now, Hotel Alpenstüble was a down-to-earth bed and breakfast hotel with a wellness area. From December 2023, the property will only be offering apartments. There are 16 new accommodation units to choose from, ranging from 50 m² to 70 m². Because regionality is important to the hosts, they selected local workmen to carry out the renovation and design the furnishings. The breakfast service also incorporates regional suppliers.

Where

Mittelberg

When

December 2023

Web

alpenstueble.at

Extended: the Sonnenhof at Almhof Schneider

In Lech, the Schneider family of Hotel Almhof Schneider is renovating a historic Walser house that dates back to the 14th and 15th centuries. From December 2023, the Sonnenhof will be available to rent on a weekly basis. The quaint, two-story building includes six bedrooms, a fully equipped kitchen and a living room. There is a Finnish sauna in the basement. Guests of the Sonnenhof can also use all of Hotel Almhof's facilities.

Where

Lech

When

December 2023

Web

www.almhof.at

Uncomplicated: Fairrooms

Fairrooms in Raggal in the Großes Walsertal Biosphere Park offer 20 rooms at affordable prices and 24-hour self-check-in. The rooms were renovated a few months ago and there will be further changes from December 2023. The dining room, bar, fitness room and games room will show off a new look. The host family is also updating the panoramic sauna and ski and bike room. A new addition is the "Stüble" (= little room), which can be hired for birthday parties and other occasions.

Where

Raggal

When

December 2023

Web

portal.gastfreund.net

New apartments: Hotel Gretina

Hotel Gretina opened in Bezau in the Bregenzerwald in 2017. The host family has now taken over the neighbouring building and is setting up two 60 m² apartments and a 45 m² studio. All three units can accommodate two people each. The large apartments are on the first floor and have a loggia. The studio has a garden area. The new apartments should be ready from January 2024.

Where

Bezau

When

January 2024

Web

hotel-gretina.at

More room to unfold: Hotel Gasthof Hirschenn

Host family Fetz of the Hirschen in Schwarzenberg has big plans. Since spring 2023, six rooms and suites present themselves in a new style. In the next phase, 21 rooms will be transformed into 12 spacious apartments. Next to the elegant Bregenzerwald house with a history that dates back to the 17th century, a bathhouse with saunas and an outdoor pool are being built. The surrounding garden further entices guests to stay a while. The new apartments are scheduled to be completed in May 2024.

Where

Schwarzenberg

When

From May 2024

Web

www.hotel-hirschen-bregenzerwald.at

VIENNA

Have a right royal stay: Park Hyatt Vienna

Since September 2023, the luxuriously furnished Royal Penthouse Suite has been available for bookings at the Park Hyatt Vienna in the heart of Vienna. At 820 m², Hyatt claims it to be the largest hotel suite in Austria. The bedrooms and living areas are spread over two levels. There is also a gym and fully equipped kitchen. Guests reach the suite via a private lift and can enjoy views across Vienna from four terraces. The suite can also be hired for events with up to 80 guests.

Where

Vienna

When

Since September 2023

Web

www.hyatt.com



VIENNA

Oasis of calm in the city: voco Vienna Prater

After extensive renovation, the former Austria Trend Hotel will reopen in November 2023 under a new name: design hotel voco Vienna Prater now belongs to the InterContinental Hotels Group (IHG). The 4-star hotel has 141 modern rooms and suites. Guests can relax and enjoy in the Vienna Vibes restaurant, on the terrace with garden pavilion or in the Blue-bird Bar. There is also a working lounge, three meeting rooms and a gym.

Where

Vienna

When

November 2023

Web

www.ihg.com

New look: Hilton Vienna Danube Waterfront

Vienna's only hotel that is located directly on the Danube is having a refresh. The Hilton Vienna Waterfront with 367 rooms has been undergoing comprehensive renovation since May 2023 and will shine in new splendour from the end of 2023. All of the guest rooms, conference rooms, the executive lounge, terrace and wellness area as well as the restaurant and bar will have a new, modern look. The designs by London-based THDP are inspired by the history of the building and traditional Viennese style.

Where

Vienna

When

End of 2023

Web

www.hilton.com

INFORMATION

Find more newly renovated hotels online.

press.austria.info



PERSONALITIES



Bread baking in Austria. © Austria National Tourist Office, Achim Meurer

CARINTHIA

Fish expert Martin Müller

Martin Müller discovered his passion for fishing as a child. Although no one in his family had ever fished and he didn't eat his first fish until he was 21, Martin was determined to one day work with fish. As part of his ecology studies, he collected vast amounts of fish data, evaluated them, and became a fish expert. The fish ecologist, limnologist, fish farmer, professional fisherman and fish processor has been studying fish and their habitat at Lake Weissensee in Carinthia for almost two decades. Together with his wife Barbara, Martin has set himself the goal of harmonising fishing tourism, lake fishing and fish ecology. A further goal is to prevent the extinction of lake trout at Lake Weissensee and progressively convert sustainable thinking into sustainable actions.

Web

weissenseefisch.at
(German only)

Boat builder Michael Winkler

Bootsbau Domenig has been manufacturing wooden boats in Neusach by Lake Weissensee for two generations. Michael Winkler took over his father-in-law's company in 2006 and has been producing and selling keelboats and flatboats ever since. Depending on the type of boat, it takes between 14 working days and five weeks to complete. In addition to building boats, Michael Winkler specialises in the repair and maintenance of wooden boats. And the in-houseboat rental at "Haus am Mühlbach" by Lake Weissensee is not only available to those staying at the bed and breakfast. During the summer season you can choose from electric, rowing, and pedal boats or canoes.

Web

bootsbaudomenig.at
(German only)

Beer brewer and innkeeper Uli Bacher

His grandparents and parents were master brewers, so Uli Bacher also completed the master brewer programme. Immediately afterwards, in 1998, he took over the traditional inn "Die Gartenrast" in Radenthein from his parents. Uli set up the Shilling brewery in an old bus garage next door to the inn in 2014. Here he brews three different beers using energy from the in-house biomass plant: Shilling Hell, Shilling Granat and Shilling Nock Ale. There are also seasonal specialties such as a lentbeer and the full-bodied "Hirbest", a strong beer for the autumn festivals. Uli offers guided tours and tastings for small groups where you can try the award-winning beers such as "Gartenrast", accompanied by regional and international dishes.

Web

shilling.at
(German only)

CARINTHIA

Dairyman and mountain farmer Michael Kerschbaumer

Michael Kerschbaumer originally wanted to work in education, but over time he developed the desire to get into organic farming. And because you can achieve more together than alone, he came up with the idea of founding a cooperative. This is how the organic cheese dairy "Kaslab'n" was created in 2015. The cooperative was initially formed by four farms, but in the meantime 20 farmers deliver their organically certified hay milk to Kaslab'n in Radenthein by Lake Millstätter See. From spring to autumn, their cows and goats graze on the meadows and alpine pastures of the Nockberge. In winter they eat hay. Because for the Kaslab'n producers one thing is certain: the best cheese can only be made from the best organic hay milk. The range includes around 22 varieties such as Emmentaler, hay flower cheese, semi-hard cheeses, and goat's cheese. Visitors are welcome in the modern dairy during regular opening hours.

Web

www.kaslabn.at
(German only)

UPPER AUSTRIA

Christmas decoration collector Franziska Winder

Decades ago, Franziska Winder received a box of Christmas decorations from her mother, which was when her collection began. She stored the treasures from Austria, South Tirol, Germany, and the Czech Republic in boxes at home. In 2005, after her children had moved out, Franziska fulfilled her dream and opened a Christmas Museum in Bad Hall in the Mühlviertel. The museum can only be visited on guided tours. For Franziska, this is the best way to show people her treasures and tell them all about their origin and significance.

Web

www.muehlviertel-almfreistadt.at
weihnachtsmuseum.jimdo.free.com
(German only)

Baker and innkeeper Franz Leitner

Franz Leitner, a qualified baker, decided to open an inn one day. His idea was to renovate the "Meierhof" at Prandegg Castle in Schönaun im Mühlkreis and set up a tavern on the wonderfully located square. The problem was that only the foundations remained of the property which was built in the 17th century. But the residents of Schönaun were thrilled about his plans. Together they began the renovation in autumn 2007. Thousands of hours of work later, in May 2008, Gasthof Taverne zu Prandegg celebrated its opening. Franz has been looking after his guests ever since. He still bakes the "Prandeggerl" bread himself using the Meierhof's oven. And at Christmas time he makes traditional "Kletzenbrot" fruit bread which is extremely popular with the locals.

Web

www.taverne-prandegg.at
(German only)

SALZBURGERLAND

Wooden ski designer Rupert Thurner

Gifted carpenter, passionate skier, and innovative spirit: Rupert Thurner embodies all of this. The founder of Skimanufaktur Thurner in the Hochkönig region had the vision of building skis that not only meet the trend towards individuality, but also combine tradition with craftsmanship in a unique way. His handmade skis made of wood have now become a cult. Among other things, Rupert developed a new type of short ski that, with touring bindings and skins, is suitable for both ski touring and powder skiing. He offers two-day workshops for anyone who wants to build their own personal skis.

Web

thurner-skimanufaktur.at
(German only)

Luger Noah Kallan

You could say that young luger Noah Kallan from Eben im Pongau was born with his talent. His father Roland Kallan began his career at the bobsleigh club in Hütttau at the age of six. For decades he took part in European and World Championships where he was able to celebrate a total of five World Cup podium finishes. Today Roland is president of the Salzburg Bobsleigh Association, chairman of the Bobsleigh Club Hütttau and coach of his son Noah, whose talent he encouraged from an early age. Noah, now 17, has made it onto the Junior World Cup podium four times so far and is well on the way to following in his father's footsteps.

Web

www.bloghuette.at

TIROL

Museum director Edith Hessenberger

Who are we? Where do we come from? These are the type of questions that cultural scientist Edith Hessenberger seeks to answer. She grew up in a mountain village in SalzburgerLand. After her school years she moved to Vienna and Innsbruck, where she studied European ethnology and geography. Since 2019 she has been managing director of the then newly founded Ötztal Museums. The "valley's historical memory archives" combine three exhibition venues: the Tower Museum in Oetz, the Local Heritage and Outdoor Museum in Lehn and the neighbouring Memory Archives. It is important to Edith to establish the Ötztal Museums as places where people meet and to create space for exchange. This is achieved, among other things, with an extensive educational programme, picture walks that can be accessed online and the "Wortspenden" project which collects words from the Ötztal dialect.

Web

www.oetztal.com

TIROL

Farmer and hut owner Jakob Prantl

Who would decide to run an alpine hut that doesn't serve fries or cola? It was always clear to Jakob Prantl that he wanted to offer guests something special at his hut. On the Gampe Thaya, 2,000 m high above Sölden, visitors are meant to take their time: for conversations, for the views of the 3,000 m peaks all around, for the food on their plate. Most of the products come from the valley or from Jakob's own production. This includes the meat from his Tyrolean Grey cattle and the cheese which is made right there on the alpine pasture from their milk.

Web

www.soelden.com

The youngest five-toque chef Benjamin Parth

Benjamin Parth is considered an exceptional talent. In 2019, renowned gourmet guide Gault&Millau named the young man "Austrian Chef of the Year". In 2023, the guide awarded him 19 out of 20 possible points and thus five toques. This makes 35-year-old Benjamin currently Austria's youngest award-winning chef at this high level. The master chef grew up in Ischgl. He perfected his craft at top restaurants in Italy, France, Spain, and Denmark. At the age of 19, he decided to become a chef at his parents' hotel, Hotel YSCLA. He has been carrying out his role with flying colours, imagination, and the desire to continue learning ever since.

Web

www.yscla.at

The "Futterkutter" Georg Waldmüller

Born in Innsbruck, Georg Waldmüller studied architecture and worked as a carpenter and DJ. One day he had the idea of opening a bistro in Innsbruck with his friend Martin Schümborg. Since October 2018, the original plan has been replaced by a delivery bicycle, the so-called "Futterkutter". In the spirit of sustainability, the Futterkutter offers meals in jars with a refundable deposit. There are three different dishes every day, including a vegetarian and a vegan one. The selection ranges from soups and salads to stews and curries. The Futterkutter team reuses the empty jars of course. There are now two Futterkutter in use. They are located in two different spots in the city at lunchtime and are very popular.

Web

www.futterkutter-innsbruck.at
(German only)

The eight plateau pioneers

How can we contribute towards the sustainable development of our region? Eight residents from the Seefeld region have been dealing with this question for several years. The pioneers include hoteliers and employees of Tourism Association Seefeld and Karwendel Nature Park. Together they are developing an ambitious framework for the sustainable development of the Seefeld region. The focus is on analysing the CO2 footprint and then developing a reduction plan for the next five and ten years. Measurable indicators should make it possible to measure and control the respective reduction processes.

Web

www.seefeld.com

Krautinger distiller Maritta Thaler

Even Maritta Thaler admits the first sip takes a bit of getting used to. The certified fine brandy sommelier is talking about "Krautinger". The schnapps made from turnips is exclusively distilled in the Wildschönau, a secluded high valley in the Kitzbühel Alps. At 28 years old, Maritta is Wildschönau's youngest Krautinger distiller. She has plenty of experience though, as her father Josef Thaler, who runs the Steinerhof in Oberau, introduced her to this special art. It is tradition in the valley for this knowledge to be passed down within the family, which is why each Krautinger has its own distinct taste. So, what is it that Maritta likes so much about this extraordinary schnapps? "The combination of craftsmanship and coming together," says the young woman happily.

Web

www.tirol.at
(German only)

VORARLBERG

Photo historian Mathias Kessler

"When the memory dies, a piece of history and culture also disappears." With this in mind, photographer Mathias Kessler decided to leave New York where he had lived and worked for nearly 25 years to restore and preserve the legacy of his grandfather Karl Max Kessler, who also took pictures in his home of Austria's Kleinwalsertal region. Over 10,000 negatives from 1907 to 1960 had to be viewed, restored, and digitised. The images provide an intimate insight into the past – into the landscape and traditions, the beginnings of skiing and touristic development of the Kleinwalsertal. In addition, the newly founded Karl Max Kessler Archive has launched an artistic residency programme. Vorarlberg photographer, artist and curator Arno Gisinger will kick things off and the results will be on display from around October 2023.

Web

fotokessler.org

VORARLBERG

Organic chef and nature lover Andreas Ziep

Andreas Ziep describes his cuisine as "consciously natural and sensual". He has been running the kitchen at Naturhotel Chesa Valisa in the Kleinwalsertal, one of Vorarlberg's two organically certified hotels since June 2022. Andreas, who comes from Ulm in Germany, feels closely connected to the Kleinwalsertal and its mountains. He has lived here since he was 13 years old. Andreas finds relaxation and inspiration in nature, be it in the hotel garden where vegetables, fruit and herbs thrive or on one of his favourite mountains. Andreas sources ingredients that do not grow on site from producers in the surrounding area, transforming them into clear, creative dishes with the help of his team. The combination of regional and modern cuisine with international touches is well received by guests and employees alike.

Web

www.vorarlberg.travel

Ski pioneer Lothar Fetz

Lothar Fetz, who lives in Schwarzenberg in the Bregenzerwald, helped write Vorarlberg skiing history. He was a ski instructor for six decades and founded the Schwarzenberg am Bödele ski school more than forty years ago. Together with a friend he developed the "Magic Wand" method, which promises to teach children to ski in just four individual lessons. The courses that come with guaranteed success are now a model for many ski schools. The 80-year-old still enjoys skiing on the slopes of his home region, albeit without any official duties nowadays.

Web

www.vorarlberg.travel

Talented violinist and new director Matthias Honeck

Matthias Honeck, who grew up in Altsch, was born into the world of music. His father Manfred Honeck is one of the internationally best-known conductors. His uncle Rainer is concert master of the Vienna Philharmonic, and his aunt Sibylle plays in the orchestra of the Vienna Volksoper. In 2011, immediately after studying music in Vienna, Matthias Honeck became a member of the Vienna Symphony Orchestra and has been principal of the second violins for several years. He also plays in various chamber music ensembles. Since 2023, Matthias Honeck has had an additional role as artistic director of :alpenarte Schwarzenberg, which primarily focuses on young musicians. Together with his sister Anna Maria, who is responsible for artistic management, Matthias Honeck is planning new formats for this festival that incorporate visual arts, crafts, and cuisine.

Web

www.vorarlberg.travel
(German only)

Artist and globetrotter Bianca Tschaikner

Bianca Tschaikner opened her studio in Dornbirn in 2022. Here she creates illustrations, prints as well as tableware and sculptures made of ceramics and porcelain. She also holds workshops for children and adults and organises storytelling evenings. Her work incorporates inspiration from many countries. Bianca studied in Italy and Spain. On research trips through India, Pakistan, Indonesia, Iran, Malta, and Jordan she searched for stories from everyday life and mythology and explored regional narratives. She is particularly interested in the lives of women, which she addresses in many of her drawings and objects. Another specialty of the versatile artist are her illustrated maps.

Web

www.biancatschaikner.com

Puppeteer Christian Mair

Even as a child, Christian Mair wanted to become a puppeteer. He had been inspired by trips to the puppet theatre with his parents. But first he became an industrial foreman and worked for various Vorarlberg companies. Christian managed to fulfil his childhood dream around 30 years ago and has appeared regularly as a puppeteer and cabaret artist ever since. His "Oma Lilli" (Grandma Lilli) cabaret delights the audience just as much as his plays, presented with hand puppets and marionettes. One of his role models as a puppeteer was Arminio Rothstein, who was best known as "Clown Habakkuk" in Austria. Thanks to his friendship with Arminio's widow Christine, Christian was able to acquire puppets from the Rothsteins' extensive collection a few years ago. He exhibits the treasures at Haus Habakkuk in Bludenz, where he has also set up a puppet workshop.

Web

www.habakkuk.at
(German only)

INFORMATION

Over the past years we have portrayed many people who achieved something extraordinary and whose stories are worth telling. Meet locals who have mastered a special craft, preserved traditions or have come up with innovations.

www.austria.info/en/culture



CABLE CARS



Schmittenhöhe, View Sonnkogelbahn, Zell am See © Schmittenhöhebahn AG

SALZBURGERLAND

Limberg chairlift in Saalbach

At Skicircus Saalbach Hinterglemm Leogang Fieberbrunn, the new 8-seater Limberg chairlift will replace the previous 4-seater on the Schattberg. The new lift, equipped with weather protection hoods, is around 500 m longer than its predecessor and brings significantly more skiers up the mountain per hour. Thanks to the newly created lift route there will also be an additional slope.

Where

Saalbach

When

November 2023

Web

www.saalbach.com

Sonnkogelbahn on the Schmittenhöhe

The new Sonnkogelbahn in the Schmittenhöhe ski area in Zell am See is set to replace the 3-seater chairlift of the same name. The modern 6-seater chairlift with heated seats and weather protection hoods will increase comfort and shorten the journey time. What's special about the Sonnkogelbahn is that it can be used as a combination lift. In winter it operates as a 6-seater chairlift and in summer cabins transport hikers and families with children up the Sonnkogel.

Where

Schmittenhöhe / Zell am See

When

December 2023

Web

www.schmitten.at

Kieserlbahn in Großarl/Dorfgastein

The Großarl is upping its winter game with a major investment. The Kieserlbahn II will go into operation in the Dorfgastein – Großarl ski area from December 2023. It leads from Hochbrand to Kieserl at an altitude of 1,953 m. The new 10-person gondola lift opens up an area that was previously only accessible to ski tourers. The lifts on the Großarl and Dorfgastein sides come together at the new mountain station in the so-called "Bergland" near the Roslehenalm. Summit restaurant WOLKE7, a modern building made from local materials, will also be opening at the mountain station.

Where

Großarl/Dorfgastein

When

December 2023

Web

www.skigastein.com

STYRIA

Wildkopfbahn on Turracher Höhe

On the Turracher Höhe, the new Wildkopfbahn will replace the previous T-bar lift, making waiting times when changing from one side of the ski area to the other a thing of the past. The 6-seater chairlift has weather protection hoods and an automated safety bar system. The new lift stations are equipped with photovoltaic modules. Thanks to the extended lift route, the new Wildkopfbahn mountain station is at level with the Zirbenwaldbahn mountain station. Once at the top, skiers can wind their way down the slope by the Wildkopfbahn into the valley or switch to the Zirbenwaldbahn or onto the slopes by the Turrachbahn.

Where

Turracher Höhe

When

From the start of winter 2023/24

Web

www.turracherhoehe.at

TIROL

Wilde Krimml X-Press gondola lift in the Zillertal Arena

The new 10-person Wilde Krimml X-Press gondola lift in the Zillertal Arena ski area offers a weather-independent and comfortable connection between Zell and Gerlos. It replaces the old 4-seater chairlift with a middle station and leads directly from the Krimmlalm to the Übergangsjoch. Without stopping at the middle station, skiers can get to the slopes more quickly. The attractive new lift also makes an architectural statement, with the new valley and mountain stations having been planned by internationally renowned architects Snøhetta.

Where

Skigebiet Zillertal Arena

When

December 2023

Web

www.zillertalarena.com

Mitterleger chairlift in the Zillertal Arena

Even more comfort awaits guests in the Königsleiten ski area, which is part of the Zillertal Arena. The 2-seater Mitterleger chairlift is being replaced by a 6-seater high-speed chairlift with weather protection hoods and heated seats. The new Mitterlegerbahn will open up attractive slopes above Königsleiten for skiers.

Where

Skigebiet Zillertal Arena

When

December 2023

Web

www.zillertalarena.com

Komperdellbahn in Serfaus-Fiss-Ladis

In the Serfaus-Fiss-Ladis ski area, the new Komperdellbahn with 10-person cabins and barrier-free access will replace a 6-person gondola lift. The cable car runs on a new route with a middle station. The cabins are particularly large and offer space for all kinds of winter sports equipment. In summer, guests can also transport buggies or wheelchairs. The new valley station which has been integrated into the landscape houses a large ski depot, ski rental with a shop and rooms for the cable car operations.

Where

Serfaus-Fiss-Ladis

When

December 2023

Web

www.serfaus-fiss-ladis.at

Galtbergbahn in Fulpmes

The new 10-seater Galtbergbahn gondola lift in the Schlick 2000 ski area near Fulpmes connects the Fronebenalm with the Bärenältern above the Galtalm. The large panoramic windows of the gondolas, equipped with loden seats, offer impressive views of the surrounding mountains. According to the operators, the almost noiseless and environmentally friendly direct drive saves up to nine percent of energy. The gondola lift replaces the Galtalm drag lift and significantly extends the route. It brings a major improvement in quality and comfort for all skiers, but especially for beginners and ski schools.

Where

Fulpmes

When

December 2023

Web

www.stubai.at

6SB Trattenbach and 6SB Gauxjoch in Kitzbühel

The KitzSki area is replacing two outdated ski lifts, the F6 Gauxjoch and the F7 Trattenbach, with modern 6-seater chairlifts. By doing so, KitzSki is not only improving comfort, but also forging ahead with a project that ticks all the boxes of sustainability. All construction machines ran on HVO diesel fuel (=hydrogenated vegetable oil) and the operations buildings will be equipped with photovoltaic systems. The new lift routes also make more sense than the previous ones from an ecological and geological perspective.

Where

Jochberg, KitzSki

When

December 2023

Web

www.kitzski.at
(German only)



TIROL

Modernisation of the Ehrwalder Almbahn

The Ehrwalder Almbahn will have some new features from winter 2023/24. Its valley station is being modernised and extended. A new ticket office area, ski depot and shop are being added. A lift and escalators to the cable cars are also being built. The bus stop in front of the building is being covered and there will be an underground car park. The artificial snow system is being renewed and there have been modifications to the slopes as well. From this winter, the mountain station will house a new training room for apprentices and a larger piste maintenance garage for snow groomers.

Where

Ehrwald, Zugspitze

When

December 2023

Web

www.almbahn.at
(German only)

VORARLBERG

Albonabahn I in Stuben am Arlberg

In the Ski Arlberg ski area, the new 8-seater Albonabahn I monocable gondola will replace a double chairlift on almost the same route. The new lift offers skiers more comfort and a piste connection to Alpe Rauz as well as the ski areas of St. Anton, St. Christoph, Zürs and Lech. The mountain station is moving about 200 m down towards the valley and will be located right next to the Albona Mitte mountain restaurant.

Where

Stuben

When

November 2023

Web

www.stuben-arlberg.at

INFORMATION

More about cable cars in Austria can be found online.

press.austria.info



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Break in the Ski Juwel Alpbachtal Wildschönau region
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A family at Ski Juwel Alpbachtal Wildschönau
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