

PRESSEKIT OBERTAUERN

WINTER 2023/24

Location

Obertauern is located 90 kilometers south of Salzburg at 1,740 meters above sea level, in the midst of the Hohe Tauern mountains around the Radstädter Tauern Pass. Austria's snowiest ski area starts at 1,630 meters, and reaches up to an altitude of 2,313 meters. 8 kilometers to the north is the village of Untertauern at 1,009 meters. On the south side of the pass, Tweng at 1,233 meters in Salzburg's Lungau region is also 8 kilometers from Obertauern.

Local peculiarities

Due to its geographical location, Obertauern is fortunate to receive large amounts of snow from the north as well as snowfall from the south. Coupled with its high altitude, this makes Obertauern the snowiest winter sports resort in Austria. Another special feature: the mountains around Obertauern form the shape of a bowl. This means that you can find slopes of all exposures, and if you want you can ski all day in the sun.

Season duration

The winter season 2023/24 starts on November 24, 2023, season end is May 1, 2024.

Season start with Austropop superstars

Traditionally, the opening of the season in Obertauern is celebrated with a musical highlight. On December 2, Pizzera and Jaus rap, sing and play on the open air stage in front of Obertauern's imposing mountain backdrop.

Accommodations

In Obertauern there are around 150 hotels, guesthouses, youth hotels, vacation apartments, private rooms, apartments and self-catering huts. Of these, 3 hotels have 5 stars, 9 hotels belong to the 4-star S category, 26 hotels are classified with 4 stars, 20 hotels and guesthouses with 3 stars.

Lift facilities

26 cable cars and lifts are arranged around the village to form a ski circus. The red Tauern circuit runs clockwise, the green Tauern circuit counterclockwise, so you can ski the whole Tauern circuit from one lift.

Tauernrunde and return to the starting point. The car can be left during the winter vacation, because the lifts can be reached directly from the hotels with skis. It is Ski In & Ski Out. 11 different entry points to the ski area, prevent long queues at the lifts.

Cable cars and lifts

26 cable cars/lifts and 11 boarding points across the entire region guarantee relaxed mountain ascents at any time of day:

- 1 eight-cabin gondola lift
- 2 8/10 combination lifts with 8-seater chair and 10-seater gondola
- 1 detachable eight-seater chairlift
- 6 detachable six-seater chairlifts
- 4 detachable quad chairlifts
- 4 fixed-grip quad chairlifts
- 2 double chairlifts
- 5 surface lifts and 1 magic carpet/ conveyor belt

Ascent and descent for non-skiers.

The Grünwaldkopfbahn, Plattenkarbahn and Zehnerkarbahn lifts also take non-skiers to the summits for sunbathing on the terraces of the mountain restaurants. With the Edelweissbahn only the ascent is possible.

Be the first on the slopes

On Wednesdays, lift operations at the Gamsleiten I six-seater chairlift, Achenrainbahn and the Zehnerkarbahn start as early as 8:30 am.

Slopes

Around 100 kilometers of slopes and plenty of open terrain cater to winter sports enthusiasts of all levels and abilities. 61 kilometers of the slopes are declared easy (blue slope boards), 35 kilometers medium (red slope boards) and 4 kilometers difficult (black slope boards) according to international standards. Piste signposts help skiers and snowboarders find their way around the ski area.

Super Seven

The 7 highest points in the Obertauern ski area and in addition a selective downhill run at the respective cable car facility (marked S7):

- Seekareckbahn
- Panoramabahn
- Hundskogelbahn
- Plattenkarbahn
- Schaidbergbahn
- Gamsleitenbahn 2
- Zehnerkarbahn

Tauernrunde

The lifts allow you to ski down all the slopes, either clockwise (red Tauernrunde) or counterclockwise (green Tauernrunde), until you arrive back at the starting point.

Kids

Throughout the winter season, children up to 5 years of age ski for free when accompanied by their parents.

Children's Tauernrunde

The well-known and popular Tauernrunde is also available in a double version for children and young people, adapted to their ability and condition. The "Bobby-Round", named after the snow bunny and local mascot "Bobby", offers variety and lots of fun for the younger children. The "My Track" round for the more advanced children and teenagers is exciting and challenging. On both Tauern laps, a fun park, a timed track, a ghost train and a wave track encourage young guests to share their Obertauern experiences under the hashtag #LOVEOBERTAUERN.

Bobby Land

Since 2019, the adventure area "Bobby Land" has been thrilling the little guests. While there are puzzles to solve in "Bobby's Monster Park" with its funny figures, there is a wave run and a course for the bigger kids. The children's igloo is another attraction, and kids can warm up in the recreation room. At "Bobby's Slalom" the little ski bunnies practice arcing in a playful way, in "Bobby's Ghost Train" in the fairy tale park at the Schaidbergbahn they ski through a mysterious cave.

Night skiing

Every Monday and Thursday from 7 to 10 p.m., the Edelweissbahn is open for night skiing. The length of the slope is 1.5 kilometers. Cards with a validity of at least 1.5 days are accepted; the Salzburg Super Ski Card is not valid for night skiing. Information: Edelweissbahn, Plattenkar ticket office, phone +43-(0)6456-722118.

Timed runs

Sonnenlift 3, Schönalm lift, Schrotteralm lift, Kirchbühell lift.

Speed measurement sections

Central lift with photo equipment, Grünwaldkopf lift.

Supraregional ski passes

The Obertauern ski pass, valid for 1.5 days or more, is also valid in the Grosseck-Speiereck ski area in Mauterndorf/St. Michael in Lungau, about 15 kilometers away (10 cable cars, about 50 km of slopes, from 1,000 m to 2,400 m).

LUNGO: tariff association Lungau - Katschberg - Obertauern: Lift tickets from 2 days are valid for night skiing in Obertauern.

Salzburg Super Ski Card: For the world's largest ski pass association, there are ski passes for 3-14 days, a season pass and/or the season choice subscription.

Ski bus

All guests of Obertauern can use the bus from Untertauern to Tweng free of charge. For owners of the Obertauern Ski Pass (or the Salzburg Super Ski Card) even the bus rides between Mauterndorf and Radstadt are free of charge. Ski schools

- Ski & Snowboard School Silvia Grillitsch & Partner, T.: +43 (0)6456-7462
- Ski & Snowboard School Frau Holle, T.: +43 (0)6456-72009 10
- Koch Ski School, T.: +43 (0)6456-72285
- Krallinger Ski & Snowboard School, T.: +43 (0)6456-72007
- Top Ski & Snowboard School, T.: +43 (0)6456-7678
- Local Guides am Tauern, ski school and freeride center, T.: +43 (0)664-1634927
- Snowboard School Blue Tomato, T.: +43 (0)6456-20036
- Cross-country skiing school Gnadenalm, T.: +43 (0)664 4139518

Snowbiking

Snowbiking School Koch, Hermann Koch, T.: +43 (0)6456-72285

Snowkiting

Snowkite school "Hang on", Florian Schmaldienst, T.: +43 (0)699-14612666

Ski tours

On request at the ski schools.

Ice climbing

The Johannes waterfall is perfect for ice climbing when frozen. CSA Ski School Silvia Grillitsch, T.: +43 (0)6456 7462.

Segway and electric fatbike tours in winter

Extraordinary riding experiences in wintry Obertauern on Segway tours or in the saddle of an electric fatbike. CSA Ski School Silvia Grillitsch, T.: +43 (0)6456 7462.

Cross-country skiing/winter hiking trails

Hundsfeldloipe, 6 kilometers (medium): North of the sports center is the entry point for the sunny cross-country trail. It leads across the nature reserve of the Hundsfeld moor and ends after a rapid descent back at the starting point. Another entry point is located in the immediate vicinity of the kite site.

World Cup cross-country ski trail, 6 kilometers (moderately difficult): It starts behind the parking lot P2an of the Zehnerkarbahn. The trail leads from the top of the pass to the Felseralm and back. For cross-country skiers with a lot of stamina.

Gnadenalmloipe, 20 kilometers (easy-medium-difficult): The entrance to this fantastic high-altitude cross-country ski trail is located about 5 kilometers north of Obertauern at the Gnadenalm and offers all levels of difficulty in "skating" and "classic style". It can also be reached by ski bus.

Cross-country ski trail Twenger Au: The 23 kilometer long trail connects the villages of Tweng and Mauterndorf. Entrances: Franzbauer in the center of Tweng, at the lumber yard in Tweng Lantschfeld, opposite the Purnbauern in Vordertweng and at the Maly bus stop.

Cross-country ski trail Taurach: This 12-kilometer trail connects Untertauern and Radstadt.

Tobogganing

A 1.5 kilometer long run with toboggan rental and toboggan cab (Skidoo) is located directly at the Gnadenalm (also night tobogganing). T. +43 (0)6456-7351. The natural toboggan run (5 km) on the leveled forest path starts at the Südwienershütte. When it gets warmer at the end of winter, you can get up-to-date tobogganing info on T. +43 (0)664-3436342.

Horse-drawn sleigh rides

At the Landhotel Postgut in Tweng, T. +43 (0)6471-20206, and at the Gnadental, T. +43 (0)6456-7351.

Biathlon

At the biathlon shooting range at the Gnadental everyone can try this sport, previous experience is not required. Ideal for company and incentive events. Taster courses and shooting range reservations under T. +43 (0)6456 20085.

Airboarding

Lying on their stomachs, head first, airboarders whiz downhill. Their high-tech air cushion cushions bumps, but the spectacular sport still requires courage and skill. T.: +43 (0)6456-7462.

Snowbikes and toboggan taxi

For a change from skiing and snowboarding, Obertauern also has something for young guests: try out snowbikes, get to know cross-country skiing on trails suitable for beginners, or go on a tobogganing excursion with parents - including a ride on the Skidoo. The speedy ride on this high-horsepower toboggan cab is a particularly impressive vacation experience for the kids.

Families with small children can also test CYBEX baby carriages with suitable snow equipment free of charge in selected hotels. Obertauern's winter hiking trails are the ideal test tracks, and the huts along the way are welcome occasions for a leisurely stop.

Helicopter sightseeing flights and transfers

The helicopter charter company "SennAir" offers sightseeing flights for up to five people lasting 15 to 60 minutes, gourmet and adventure flights to Annaberg with a culinary stopover at the Winterstellgut as well as transfer flights from Salzburg, Munich, Venice or a departure point of your choice to Obertauern.

Specials for families

Bobby's snow adventure package

With "Bobby's snow adventure" Obertauern has an attractive vacation offer for families. On selected dates - during the winter vacations as well as before and after - they receive many services at a favorable package price.

Service for families with small children

At partner establishments, house guests can borrow CYBEX strollers with snow equipment free of charge to test them out on the winter hiking trails of Obertauern.

BobbyTV for the little ones

BobbyTV offers playful infotainment via animated films for the next generation of skiers. The 7 episodes on topics such as slope rules, proper warm-up and the formation of snow are broadcast via the local panorama channel.

The right photo for Instagram or simply to remember

The #Loveobertauern picture frame and the highest panoramic swing on the Schaidberg as well as the 360° viewing platform on the Hundskogel provide the best motifs for Instagram or to remember a beautiful winter vacation.

The Beatles in Obertauern

In March 1965, guests and locals were amazed when the most famous band in the world were in Obertauern to film their song "Help". A Beatles statue on the Kirchbühel lift and a replica of the grand piano in the center of town commemorate those days. Both are popular backdrops for vacation photos.

Highlight events in the 2023/2024 season

- Start of season: probably November 24, 2023
- SKIOPENING: December 1 - 3, 2023
- TAUERNADVENT: the highest Christmas market in the province of Salzburg, November 24 - December 17, 2023; open Friday and Saturday from 4:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.-Sunday from 3:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
- X-MAS.TRACK: December 28, 2023
- POWDER.TRACK: January 11, 2024
- VALENTINE.TRACK: February 14, 2024
- FAMILY.TRACK: March 14, 2024
- SPRING.TRACK: April 4, 2024
- LADIES' KIT DAY #SHESKIS: April 6, 2024
- GAMSLEITEN CRITERIUM "THE ORIGINAL" - Austria's biggest treasure hunt in the snow: April 12 - 14, 2024.

The white splendor of the winter fairy tale

With the first snowflakes in late autumn, a new winter fairy tale begins in Obertauern every year. Snow-covered peaks and a majestic natural landscape covered in a white mantle provide a unique backdrop from November to May. The copious natural snow is thanks to a special weather constellation in the Tauern mountains, where snow clouds from the north and south meet and spread the white flakes abundantly over Obertauern. According to a study published in 2016 by Tyrolean ski tourism researcher Günther Aigner, Obertauern leads the ranking of the seven winter sports resorts in Austria with 264 centimeters of average maximum snow depth.

Around to the right or left: the legendary Tauern circuit

From the village center at 1,740 meters above sea level, the slopes in Obertauern reach up to 2,313 meters. Thanks to "Ski in - Ski out", the direct access from the vacation accommodation into the white pleasure, winter sports

enthusiasts reach the perfectly prepared slopes in the shortest possible time. The lifts are designed in such a way that all slopes can be skied either clockwise or counter-clockwise.

Seven ski and snowboard schools for the kids

There are good reasons why families with children in particular are drawn to Obertauern every winter. For beginners, the region offers seven ski and snowboard schools that lovingly take care of the little ski bunnies. Appropriately, the adventure area "Bobby Land" opened in 2019, where they playfully learn how to ski. Advanced skiers prefer the Bibo Bär family ski park with three different slopes of varying difficulty, while all kids who are already confident on skis or snowboards can take to the slopes, which are marked blue as easy, for around 60 kilometers.

Awe-inspiring: Gamsleiten 2

It is the ultimate challenge for all those who are looking for that special kick - the "Gamsleiten 2". As one of the steepest slopes in Europe, even expert skiers and snowboarders have respect for the deep black run, as the slope can only be groomed at irregular intervals due to the weather conditions, making it a great challenge time and time again. When there is fresh snow, the whole run becomes a long powder run. Already the ascent with the nostalgic 2-seater chairlift is an experience in itself.

Deep snow runs of all levels of difficulty in Obertauern

The ideal combination of open terrain away from the slopes and fantastic natural snow conditions is what freeriders* and other deep snow enthusiasts rave about in Obertauern. The altitude is one advantage. Another is the orientation of the slopes. Because the mountains form the shape of a bowl all around, Obertauern has slopes in all exposures to offer. Those who want to enjoy the sun early in the morning start on the east side. Those who want to be waist-deep in jam-dry powder until the very end simply stay on the north-facing slopes.

The best spots and tours are known to the local ski guides, who are also valuable advisors on the subject of safety off the groomed slopes. The boards at the freeride checkpoints at the mountain stations of Hochalmbahn and

Kringsalmbahn help you decide on the right tour. Information such as the current avalanche warning level, temperature and snow depths, dangerous slope exposures and checkpoints for avalanche beacons, the orientation aids so important in the search for buried victims in the event of an avalanche, can be found here, and the avalanche beacon checkpoints are located on the east, north, south and west slopes. The local ski schools offer freeride courses in which tour planning, the correct behavior in unsecured terrain, snow and avalanche awareness as well as the use of the avalanche transceiver and the handling of

probe and shovel are taught. Dates for free SAAC avalanche camps can be found at the office of the Obertauern Tourism Association.

The first track belongs to early risers

Setting the first track on the freshly groomed slope or in the deep snow off-piste is always a special, because rare, experience for skiers and snowboarders. Not so in Obertauern. There, the First. Track events are absolute highlights. Together with locals, winter sports enthusiasts* are on their way to the snow-covered peaks early in the morning at 7:30 a.m., where they enjoy not only a dream view of Obertauern, but above all the anticipation of the first track on freshly groomed slopes.

It all starts on December 28, 2023 with the X-Mas.Track. In the new year, the Powder.Track follows on January 22, 2024, as well as the Valentine.Track for "snow bunnies" in love on February 14, 2024. Up the mountain it goes on March 14, 2024 with the Family.Track, while the first rays of spring can be savored with the Spring.Track on April 4, 2024.

At www.obertauern-tickets.com, interested parties can find detailed information as well as the exclusive tickets for the First.Track events: for EUR 99 excl. ski pass and for EUR 158 incl. ski pass. Who wants to be present, should hurry up, the tickets are strictly limited and fast fully booked! The package also includes a backpack filled with Obertauern goodies.

On a culinary voyage of discovery in huts and restaurants

Obertauern is not only privileged because of its snow safety, the density of culinary offerings is also impressive. In the snow-covered winter landscape, more than 50 huts and restaurants serve their guests the diversity in the Salzburger Land. Great importance is attached to regional products, which are combined in a refined and varied way. Local specialties are on the menus as well as extraordinary gourmet creations.

Whether traditional Kasnock'n, a hearty Frittaten soup, tasty Germ-knödel or the inevitable Kaiserschmarrn: the cuisine of Obertauern is honest and down-to-earth, imaginative and varied, but always authentic. The numerous gastronomic establishments in the region offer their guests a culinary spectrum for all demands and expectations in a cozy atmosphere. Grandiose views of Zehnerkar Spitze, Hundskogel and Co. come free of charge.

In addition, the oldest ski hut in Austria belongs to Obertauern. The Achenrainhütte on the Gamsleiten has been around for almost 100 years.

Largest treasure hunt in the Alps and sun skiing in Obertauern.

Gold digger atmosphere in Obertauern as another highlight of a long winter season: on April 13, 2024, at the 16th edition of the Gamsleiten Criterium, Austria's largest treasure hunt in the snow, more than 1,000 "diggers" will once again dig for 30 buried boxes with precious contents. The main prize the participants are after is a BMW with a minimum value of €55,000, the car key of which lies in one of the deeply buried treasure chests. The other caskets contain attractive non-cash prizes and travel vouchers. Two paths lead to the staked out area of the treasure hunt above the "Gamsleiten 2" valley station. After the start signal, numerous participants plunge from above into the steep slope of the legendary mogul slope before feverishly beginning to dig up the terrain. The rest, who prefer to avoid "Gamsleiten 2", set off on foot from the valley station. What unites all is the luck to have snatched one of the desired and limited participation tickets. These are available at a price of €60 at the Obertauern Tourist Office or online.

For Obertauern fans, participation in the treasure hunt can be ideally combined with a few sunny skiing days in Austria's "snow bowl". The highest winter sports resort in Salzburger Land guarantees first-class snow conditions and hut operation until May 1, 2024.

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