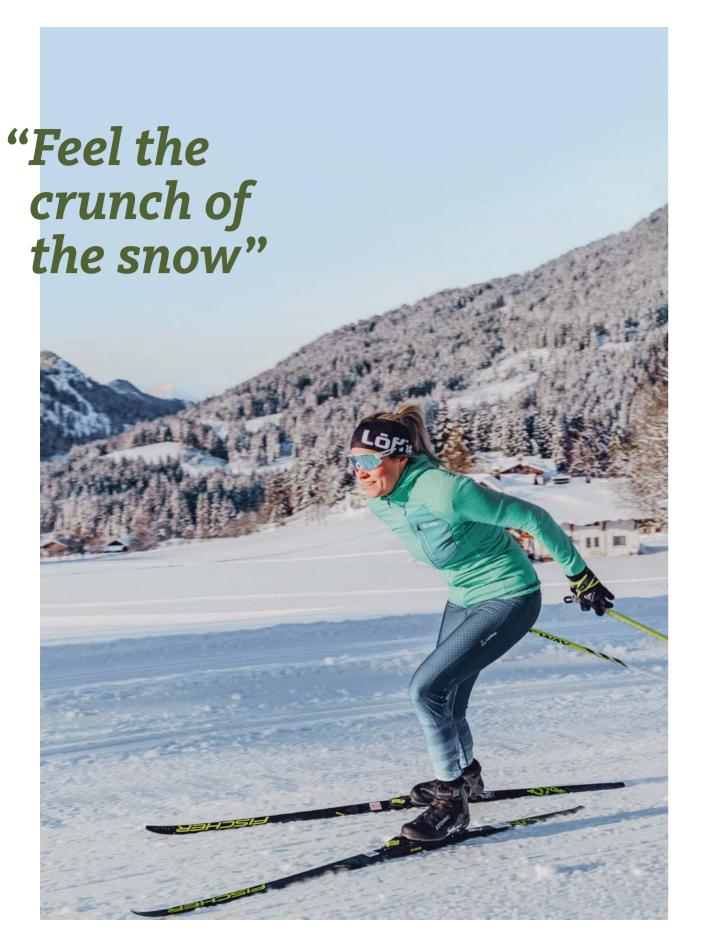


WINTER MAGAZINE 2023/24

ENGLISH VERSION



FOREWORD





We are there for you, ready to fill your vacation with unforgettable moments.

Our magazine gives you a taste of just how diverse and vibrant
the Schladming-Dachstein region truly is.

listening snow crystals, tracks in the snow, the irresistible aroma of Kaiserschmarren, and a romantic horse-drawn carriage ride with the family. The triumph of reaching the summit on a ski tour with your companion, the adrenaline rush of the Nightrace, and the relaxation of a flickering fireplace in your cozy accommodation. Skiing in combination with a wellness pampering with your best

friend, top-notch cuisine, and soulsoothing stops for refreshments at cozy mountain huts. Schladming-Dachstein is so much more than just another holiday destination. A fact confirmed by our guests, who travel varying distances from all corners of the globe, time and again, to experience an unforgettable winter holiday. To immerse themselves in Styrian culture, rural life, an atmosphere of sincere trust and genuine hospitality. To dive into a world we locals are immensely proud of. A world we eagerly want to share with as many as possible. That's why giving our guests a warm welcome and ensuring their comfort during their stay is so close to our hearts. To help achieve this, we've created the "Für Dich" magazine. As

the name suggests, it's designed to include everything you need to know. We wish you much joy in reading and even more fun and enjoyment as you experience it all firsthand. And of course, we wish you a restful and unforgettable stay. If you have any further questions, we are always there for you!



**Executive Director Mathias Schattleitner** 

and the entire Schladming-Dachstein Tourism Office team

We're there for you.



# Winter taken to new heights

Experience winter sport of the finest and boundless fun on the pistes in the Schladming-Dachstein holiday region.



# Winter charm on a horse-drawn sleigh

Biting cold and mystical silence. Riding through the region in the back of a horse-drawn, you will immerse yourself in a winter fairytale.



PAGE

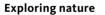
# Pure power

Are you looking for a generous range of cross-country skiing trails in an impressive landscape? Then this is the place to be.

PAGE

# Robbie rocks the Planai

The legendary ski opening is back! On December 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>, Robbie Williams will set Schladming abuzz.



On the following pages, you will find helpful outdoor tips and exciting tours through nature.

# **Contents**



Does Jerusalem artichoke soup with Schladminger beer sound enticing? On our culinary pages, you will find complete information and lots of other delectable tips!











2 culinary initiatives

SCHLADMING-DACHSTEIN
ALPINE CUISINE BY RICHARD RAUCH &
SCHLADMING-DACHSTEIN GENUSSPARTNER

1 UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITE Dachstein Glacier

schladming-dachstein
Customer
Club

businesses and Congress Schladming

ECO-CERTIFIED

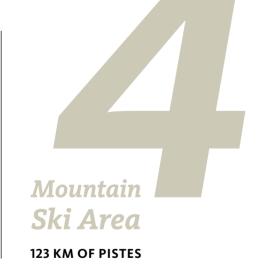
FIRST WORLD CUP RACE

Ski World 2 ALPINE | 1 NORDIC Championships

Nightraces

DOUBLE NIGHT SPECTACULAR
ON THE PLANAI





81 ski lifts

420 km of ski trails



300
km winter hiking paths



100 mountain huts

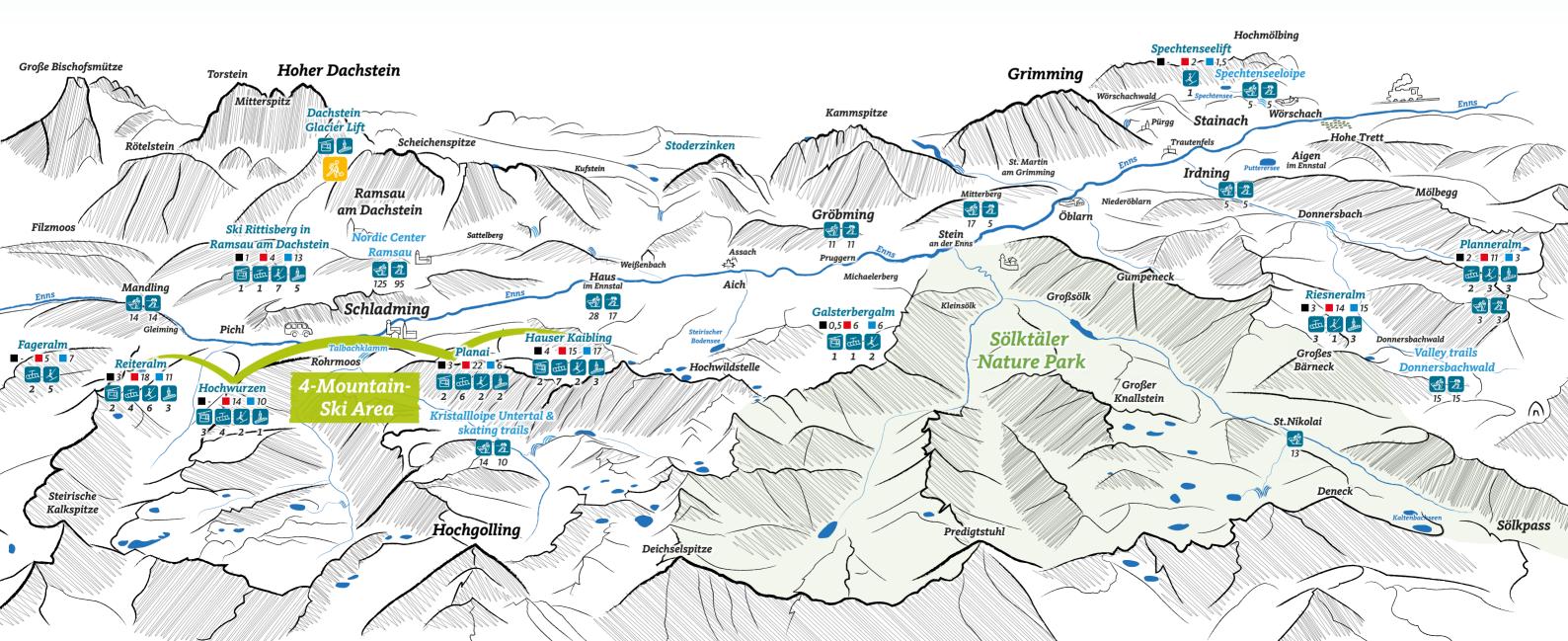


100% winter happiness

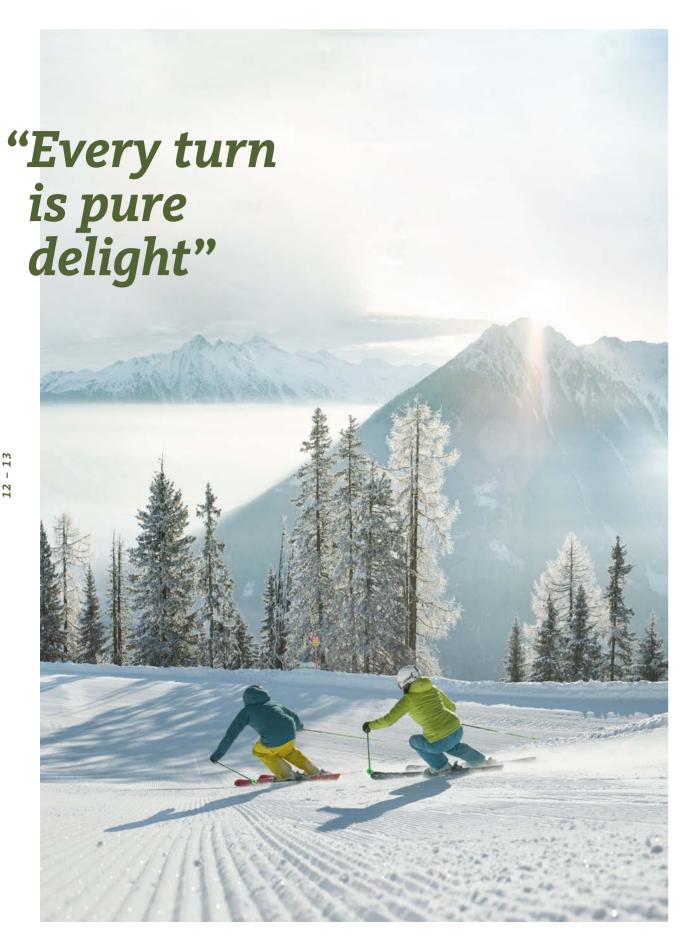
# Boundless

# Symbols











Everything is set for your ultimate ski vacation. Picture this: 230 kilometers of impeccably groomed pistes, 81 state-of-the-art gondolas and chairlifts, and over 100 ultra-cozy ski huts. The winter offerings in the Schladming-Dachstein region are as diverse as they are captivating. And the "icing on the cake" for unlimited fun on the slopes? The Schladming 4-Mountain Ski Area!

# Four is the magic number

The Hauser Kaibling, Planai, Hochwurzen, and Reiteralm make up the largest interconnected ski area in the region. In total, 123 kilometers of perfectly groomed slopes are waiting just for you. But as we all know, length isn't the only thing that matters. From a legendary World Cup hill and fun slopes to the innovative MusicPiste and SkiMovie run - this isn't just blockbuster entertainment, it's the real deal!

# Schladming 4-Mountain Ski Area

- 123 uninterrupted kilometers of pistes
- 1,300 snowmaking machines
- 50 ultramodern facilities
- 16 mountain highlights
- 3 kids' worlds and 7 ski schools

# Five for even more fun

Fageralm: Glorious slopes with natural snow and charming ski huts, true to the philosophy "Slow Down, Enjoy More."

Galsterberg: Ever skied through a Gallic village? Now's your chance!

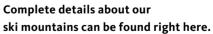
Rittisberg: Kali, the cute dinosaur mascot, invites youngsters to discover the biggest children's ski world in Styria, complete with 8 adventure slopes.

Riesneralm: A best-kept secret away from the busier slopes, featuring a steep Europa Cup hill and Austria's 1st children's ski swing.

Planneralm: Styria's highest ski village at an elevation of 1,600 meters is a true paradise for freeriders.









# Slopes with a sustainable future

By 2030 the Planai-Hochwurzen ski lift company aims to generate 10 to 15% of its total electricity consumption on its own. They've just completed their third photovoltaic facility. The company's commitment to a sustainable future is also reflected in smart snow-management practices, initial test runs of electric buses, and piste equipment powered by HVO fuels.



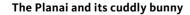
# Playground for the world

Mile upon mile of pure skiing pleasure awaits you on the slopes of the Planai and Hochwurzen.



# World-class skiing for everyone: Planai & Hochwurzen

This isn't just where the world's fastest skiers come together for World Cup racing – families also have the time of their lives here. While the grown-ups carve effortlessly down miles upon miles of slopes, the kids are thrilled to bits by adventure-filled hills of their own, while the numerous huts cater to appetites big and small.



The Planai is no stranger to world-class skiing. Its two Night-races over the formidable finish slope and 54 km of pistes in total are legendary. For the kids, the friendly bunny Hopsi definitely steals the show. In Hopsi's Winter Wonderland on the Planai, great adventures await the little ones – from traversing "Little China" to making a beeline for the "Croco

Trophy." The Planai has something for everyone: Funslope and Funcross courses offer steep turns and nifty snow waves for speed demons. The MusicPiste serenades graceful skiers with harmonious tunes. And for non-skiers, there's plenty of off-piste fun such as sliding, an indoor marble run, various climbing elements, and the Hopsi Winter Hiking Path.



# Hochwurzen: from dawn to dusk, and beyond

Over on the neighboring Hochwurzen, skiers, sledders, ski tourers, and winter hikers all find their "happy place". Broad, extended runs beckon during the day – while 3 km long Piste 33 invites you to try your hand at night skiing. Fun for all ages and skill levels is guaranteed on the Funslope. The 7 km natural sledge run enthralls the whole family with its many twists and turns, as well as breathtaking views of the region. And for winter hikers, the "Four Seasons Path" is a highlight of the season.



# A real highlight: Hauser Kaibling

Experience the pinnacle of skiing at the multiple award-winning Hauser Kaibling ski resort. Not only is it the ideal gateway to the 4-Mountain Ski Area, with an elevation of 2,105 meters it's also the ski area's highest mountain. You can count on outstanding snow conditions, top-notch panoramic views, 16 recommended ski huts, and numerous other highlights.

# The XXL Funslope

It's not just ultra-long; it's ultra-awesome. Stretching an incredible 1,460 meters, the Funslope on the Hauser Kaibling is one of Austria's longest. Discover moguls, snow tunnels, a giant snow spiral, speed boosters, and banked curves – more fun than you'd ever think possible. There's a "Snow Cop" to measure your speed, and the fun factor accelerates with each additional meter. So, how fast will you go?

## Wolli's Kids Park

Located directly at the base station of the 8-person gondola, Wolli's Kids Park welcomes all beginner skiers and snowboarders. A platter lift, 3 magic carpets, and easy slopes provide the perfect setting to prep for your skiing or snowboarding adventures. Two conveyor lifts are available for free – even without a ski pass. And for breaks in between, lots of fun elements are scattered throughout the park, while the Alm-ArenA offers a cozy refuge where you can enjoy tasty treats such as Kaiserschmarrn.









# Only the best is good enough: Reiteralm

All good things come in fours – and the westernmost member of the 4-Mountain-Ski Area promises to be just as much fun. Modern cableways whisk you straight up to the Reiteralm's snowy, sun-soaked, gloriously scenic winter sportsscape. You can look forward to lots of treats and a warm welcome.

## **Golden moments**

The early bird catches the snow at its early-morning best! Get off to a head start on a pristine piste every Saturday and Sunday as the mountain lifts start running at 7:45 a.m. Plus, the Reiteralm has been awarded the International Piste Seal of Quality in Gold, five times in a row – the only ski mountain in the European Alps to earn such a distinction.



## Bigtime skiing pleasure

While experts will relish the four black-rated slopes dubbed the "Black Quartet," beginners young and old can practice their first turns in the sunny children's area. For family-friendly fun and action, the public crosspark is a blockbuster. The racing course, on the other hand, is reserved for professionals, hosting national and international races for ski and snowboard crossers. But don't worry, you can still give "Cool Runnings" your best shot, a racing course open to everyone. And if you're looking for some Hollywood-style excitement, the permanent "Ski Movie" parallel course offers video recordings for free download.

### A heart for skiing

The "Heart of Styria" may well be the region's most beautiful photo spot, situated in a panoramic location at an elevation of 1,860 meters. As you take in the views of the Dachstein massif, the Ennstal valley, and the Tauern mountains, your heart will beat a little faster. For those who prefer to savor a few savory morsels, the numerous huts and slope-side bars under canopies serve plenty of food to please every palate. The Reiteralm has something for everyone.

# SKI AREAS



# Slow down, enjoy more: Fageralm

Relaxed enjoyment at its finest – the Fageralm is all about enjoyable, laid-back skiing on a sun-drenched plateau with gently undulating slopes, unique panoramic views, and ultra-friendly ski huts.

Located just 3 km from the Reiteralm, the Fageralm in Forstau is a special treat for pleasure-seekers and families, promising gloriously joyful hours in the snow. Special attractions such as the children's ski routes "Animals of Fager Forest", "Viking Route," and "Indian Trail," along with a moguls run and the Speedy & Boardercross courses, are sure to captivate the little ski enthusiasts especially.

# Ski Touring on the Piste

True to its motto, "Slow down, enjoy more," the Fageralm offers an enjoyable ski-touring experience right there on the ski slopes. Starting at the valley station in Forstau, you'll ascend roughly 850 vertical meters through stunning winter landscapes until you reach the Goliath Swing, where you will also be treated to breathtaking panoramic views.

# **Heights of Enjoyment**

At the highest, sunniest, and most scenic point of the Fageralm, 1,885 meters above sea level, you'll find a marvelous oasis that definitely lives up to its name – complete with a Goliath Swing, Goliath Lounge Chair, and Goliath Panorama. A space definitely designed for larger-than-life experiences.



# One mountain, lots of adventures: Galsterberg

Small, exquisite, diverse, and away from the hustle and bustle – welcome to the Galsterberg ski area. Whether gliding down pleasant pistes, riding the new 10-passenger gondola, having all kinds of fun in Galstiland, sledding or ski touring, there's something for everyone.

The new state-of-the-art gondola is in a league of its own with its comfortable cabins, short ride time, and perfect, panoramic views over the Schladming-Dachstein region. In just six and a half minutes, it carries you up to the mountain station, where 20 km of fantastic slopes await you with the full range of challenges.

### Galstiland

KinderLand on the Galsterberg is fully skiable and a real thrill for youngsters. Attractions include a wild boar hunt in the Little Gaul Park, an 85-meter magic carpet, and a wooden skidoo. Also, don't miss the three Funruns, complete with entertaining figures, exciting jumps, and multiple snow obstacles.

### Amazing choice

Young or old, daytime or nighttime, the curves of the five-kilometer-long natural toboggan run give thrill-seekers an adrenaline rush all the way from the mountain to the valley. At night, colorful lighting adds to the vibrant action. Ski tourers are also welcomed with open arms on the Galsterberg. Two routes for the ascent start directly at the valley station and lead up via marked trails, either through the forest or along the piste, to the mountain station of the Vorderkar chairlift at nearly 2,000 meters. If you appreciate pure nature, the Galsterberg's idyllic winter hiking trail will mesmerize you with enchanting winter landscapes.







# So much that's new: Ski Rittisberg

On the Rittisberg, even Kali, the cute dinosaur mascot, would be amazed at the recent transformations, including a new combo lift (10-passenger gondola and 6-seater chairlift), an alpine cross-country ski trail, and a new winter hiking path to the cross at the top of the mountain.

In Kali's world, boredom is simply never a factor. How could it be, since this is the largest kids' world in Styria? Youngsters get to zoom down 8 adventure slopes, whilst families encounter delightfully wide runs, a fairy-tale ski path, and a nearly 3.5-kilometer-long nighttime toboggan run. But that's not all. At Ramsau's biggest children's ski school on the Rittisberg, great fun is guaranteed at all times.

# The Perfect Mix for Winter Enjoyment

For more experienced winter athletes, steeper terrain beckons, and for the pros, a dedicated training piste has been created. To mark the ski area's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, a new combo lift up to the summit has also been unveiled. For the very first time, the pairing of a chairlift with gondolas now makes crosscountry skiing possible on the Rittisberg.

# Elating elevations for cross-country skiers

The new alpine ski trail, specially designed for "skating" and classic cross-country skiing, at 1,600 meters above sea level further expands the region's extensive trail network. It extends via a 5.5 km loop between the mountain station and the cross at the top.

# Hikes with a panoramic view

A track for winter and snowshoe hikers, running alongside the ski run, meanders through snow-covered forests, revealing breathtaking vistas at various points of the Dachstein massif and Enns Valley. The new trail and winter hiking route also leads to a number of huts: the Sonnenalm, Halseralm, and Rösteralm all welcome guests with regional delicacies and the warmth of a wood-burning stove.





## Ride Up in Comfort

The new combo lift now carries skiers, hikers, and cross-country enthusiasts all the way to the top in total comfort.





# All the best: Riesneralm

SKI AREAS

It's the hidden gem of the Alps, yet it has nothing to hide: the Riesneralm in Donnersbachwald.

For decades, it has stood out for its innovations and sustainable ideas, but most importantly for its motto,

"More Skiing – Fewer Lift Rides." This year, there's even a milestone to celebrate.

In Donnersbachwald, they know: a winter day is at its finest when the snow crunches beneath your feet – and you don't have to head straight back to the lift. The four snowy valley runs, dropping 900 meters in elevation and as much as 7 km in length, promise long-lasting fun on the slopes.



## **Dynamic Skiing**

Runs including "Die Sonnige" and "Die Schneidige", the occasionally straight-as-an-arrow, black-rated FIS Europa Cup hill, and the new, permanent race piste No. 13 get skiers' adrenaline pumping and hearts racing. At the base station, children and beginners simply love the "1st Austrian Children's Ski Bowl," featuring one of Austria's longest conveyor lifts and the top-tier ski school "Magic Snow." Away from the 32 kilometers of pistes, an amazingly large freeride area eagerly is there for you to enjoy.

### Let's celebrate

On this mountain, there's never a dull moment. The Riesneralm never fails to captivate skiers with its smart slopes, autonomous energy supply, and its own hydroelectric plant to power the snowmakers. This year, it's all about celebrating its milestone 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The festivities kick off with Summit Advent, known locally as "Auffi fåhrn zum Owi'kemman." Look forward to concerts in the newly constructed KEGELståd'l at the mid-station and countless other highlights.

# Truly delightful: Planneralm

Perched at the highest elevation of any ski village in Styria, even the snow feels more at home on the Planneralm. Thanks to its prime location, this alpine paradise boasts more snowfall than most other regions in Upper Styria, guaranteeing prime winter conditions until after Easter.



For over 110 years, the Planneralm has been Styria's emblem of reliably abundant snow – both on and off the slopes. Whether you're a child who loves playing in the snow, or you're attracted to some fluffy powder snow for some freeriding or touring, or simply someone who enjoys a tranquil hike along idyllic winter trails, this place definitely has you covered.

Needless to say, you can expect perfect skiing conditions on the 16 km of pistes, thanks to an innovative natural snow concept combined with modern snowmaking technology using pure meltwater. This means you'll be carving down crisp slopes from day one of the preseason until well into springtime. With elevations ranging from 1,600 to 2,200 meters, you can enjoy a good winter even in April.

# NEW

# Online Early Bird Bonus

When you're buying your ski pass, it really pays off to act quickly! With the Online Early Bird Bonus, you can secure your ski pass in the webshop at a lower price than at the ticket office. The earlier you buy, the cheaper the ticket.

Online prices vary depending on the season, purchase price, and demand. Load your ticket onto an old keycard or pick it up from a vending machine at the ski resort. The bonus is valid both on daily and multi-day passes.

# Cancelation guarantee for online tickets

Want to play it safe? Then add cancelation protection for just € 2.50 per ski ticket per day when purchasing your ski pass. In that way, you can get a full refund for your purchase, no questions asked, if you cancel up to two days in advance.



For complete details and to purchase tickets, click here.



# Glacie 14 Reloaded

A new era is dawning this winter on the Dachstein Glacier.

Though alpine skiing on the mountain is coming to an end, as of next spring, completely new ways to experience the Dachstein will open up.



Proof that every end is but a new beginning, the Dachstein Glacier is setting an impressive example. Earlier this year, the lift operators announced the end of Alpine skiing on Styria's highest mountain. The Dachstein Glacier Lift is also taking a winter break, paving the way for brand-new ways to enjoy the "Fascination of the Dachstein" next spring.

Since 1969, the Dachstein Glacier has been a skiing magnet, drawing thousands of visitors year after year. Moving forward, the focus will shift to experiencing the glacier itself and its awe-inspiring natural landscape. The first step in this new Dachstein era is renovation of the aging mountain station of the Dachstein Glacier Lift.

Sustainability is at the forefront. Solar panels on the exterior will generate up to 80% of the mountain station's energy. Inside, natural materials like loden, stone, and wood do their part to create a cozy ambiance.

From 2024, the emphasis will be on experiencing nature and the panoramic views. Expanded winter hiking and ski touring options will play a big role, as will the popular glacier crossing on alpine skis to Obertraun, and the classic Edelgriess route to Ramsau.

The mountain station will also offer several new attractions in future, such as a panoramic bar overlooking the glacier, a redesigned restaurant, and Styria's highest event location. Outdoor additions will complement existing attractions like the Skywalk, suspension footbridge, and Ice Palace.

# More Info for You

Find complete details about changes on the Dachstein here.





**SPORTS CLUBS** 



"The enthusiasm for skiing in this area is simply incredible," said Bavarian slalom skier Linus Strasser in a TV interview after his victory in the legendary Schladming Nightrace 2022. This fervor doesn't come from nowhere - skiing is essentially part of the DNA of the people living in the Schladming-Dachstein region. Local winter sports clubs make a crucial contribution to this.

ur focus is on introducing children to winter sports, primarily aiming to instill a joy for it. For those with loftier ambitions, this also lays the groundwork for a potential future in competitive skiing, although that's not our main focus," explains Reinhard Kornberger, chairman of the Pichl-Reiteralm Winter Sports Club. "We also explore other forms of physical activity - like ball games, rope skipping, gymnastics, as well as swimming and climbing in the summer. Laying a broad athletic foundation is important to us," adds Gudrun Fischbacher from the Ramsau am Dachstein Winter Sports Club, summarizing the philosophy underlying their youth work in Nordic skiing. The efforts of these two clubs are representative of many other excellent initiatives in the winter sports clubs and ski schools of the Schladming-Dachstein region. We had a look behind the scenes at the youth activities of these two clubs.

# For Nordic skiing, the emphasis is on play and fun.

In the cross-country skiing mecca of Ramsau am Dachstein, up to 80 children aged between three and 14 regularly meet for training, with the focus squarely on playful group activities. This can take many forms depending on the season. A warm summer's day might be used for communal swimming, while a gloriously sunny autumn day may see them take a scenic mountain hike. This same playful approach also dominates in cross-country skiing. For instance, ball games are played on cross-country skis in the Ramsau World Championship Cross-Country Stadium. About 80 children are organized into six groups, all of which are led by young, committed coaches from within the club. Additionally, they have specific trainers both for biathlon and the Nordic combined.

# "Sports for All" bears fruit

The "Sports for All" project, initiated in 2016 by the Pichl-Reiteralm Winter Sports Club, has a similar approach. Here, too, children ages four to 14 are introduced to various forms of physical activity in playful ways. The focus in winter is not limited to alpine skiing but also includes alternatives like snowboarding, freestyle, Telemark, and short carving. The close relationship which the people from this small town have with their club is evidenced by one remarkable ratio: out of about 900 residents in total, 450 are club members. Currently, the Pichl-Reiteralm Winter Sports Club has about 100 children on their youth programs.

Chairman Kornberger emphasizes, "The most important thing is to get young people into sports. Our 'Sports for All' project has been very successful in this regard over the past few years. Of course, we're thrilled if someone later makes the jump into competitive skiing or even the World Cup. But we're just as happy when someone in adulthood decides it's time to give back to the club and actively lend a hand." This can take many forms - around 50 races are held on the Reiteralm each winter, and every contribution is much appreciated.





# Innovative events foster club spirit

The Pichl-Reiteralm Winter Sports Club promotes the idea of "one big winter sports family" through two innovative events. First, there's Women's Day, explicitly aimed at local women. On this day, experienced coaches work together with female athletes to fine-tune their skiing technique. The highlight of the day of skiing is a fun closing competition. About 85 children from the club took part in the most recent Kids' Day. This special day encourages a collective, adventure-filled day on the slopes. Each child receives a participation "swag bag", while the closing race focuses not on speed, but on consistency. Both the Women's Day and the Kids' Day aim to make the climax of the club year – the Club Race – a memorable highlight for the entire "winter sports family." This has been highly effective, and the effectiveness of the approach can be seen in the figures for 2023, when 245 club members took part.









# Corporate events: crucial for the club's budget

Despite a high proportion of volunteer work, the dedicated nurturing of young athletes comes with considerable effort and substantial costs. That said, generating income is essential for winter sports clubs. One way to do this is by organizing races for companies. "Our club hosts between ten and twelve such competitions each season," reports Hansjörg Stocker, president of the Schladming Winter Sports Club, adding, "Companies wishing to hold a race on the Hochwurzen or Planai can book a tried-and-tested package from us, in close cooperation with the Planai-Hochwurzen Lift Company, including everything a good race requires, from start numbers and timekeeping, to gate judges and slip crews. The team from our club ensuring that every event runs smoothly and involves at least 17 people. The courses are suitable for all skill levels. I am convinced that corporate races can also make a significant contribution to team-building. The unique blend of fun and ambition always captivates the participants."

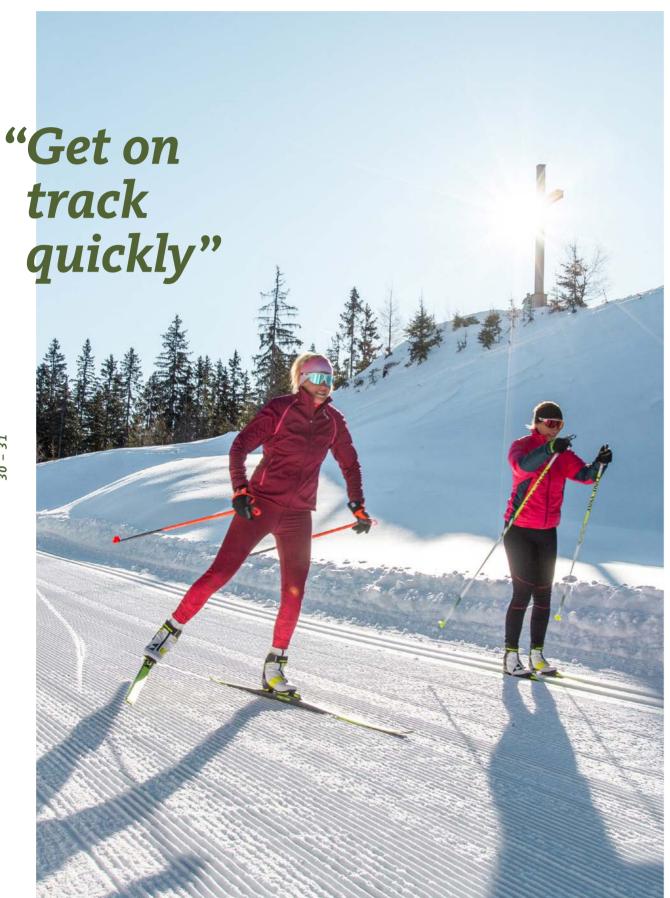


# **Sport unites**

Races and teambuilding events bring different generations and nations together.







# Cross-Country 512345000 Paradise

Meet Julia and Sophie, two athletic young women from Bavaria who've never been on cross-country skis despite being captivated by the sport's graceful movements through snow. They've decided it's high time to get a taste of the action. Where better to start than in Austria's cross-country skiing mecca, Ramsau am Dachstein?

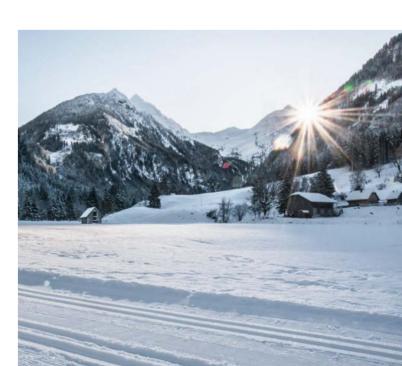
ood morning! We're the two from Munich starting the 'skating' course today. We're supposed to pick up our rental gear here," say Julia and Sophie as they enter a sports shop in Ramsau. Their visit has been arranged by the local cross-country skiing school, and Hans, the salesperson, immediately knows just how to outfit them. Cross-country skiing basically doesn't require much - just breathable athletic wear, skis, boots, and poles. But the devil's in the details: The skating skis need to be tailored to both height and weight. The boots should be snug and extend above the ankle, and the poles should reach up to the chin. For classic technique, the parameters are slightly different. "Have a great time on the trails, and feel free to reach out if you need anything else," Hans comments as he says goodbye to his two customers, who are heading straight to the Ramsau World Championship Cross-Country Stadium.

# Immense trail network

# of stunning scenery

In Ramsau am Dachstein, the distance between sports shops and cross-country trails is conveniently short - naturally so, given that the sport and its local infrastructure developed in parallel. The Nordic Ski World Championships in 1999 marked a significant milestone for the town. Ever since, Ramsau has been one of Europe's most renowned cross-country skiing centers. The region offers a total of 220 kilometers of trails

catering to skiers of all levels: 125 kilometers are designed for classic cross-country skiing, and 95 kilometers for skating all freshly groomed daily. The imposing Dachstein massif looms large over the landscape, with most trails offering a spectacular view of its towering southern walls and equally impressive neighboring peaks.







# Skating or classic:

With some practice, regardless of your chosen technique, you'll be gliding through the snowy countryside in no time. It keeps you fit and leaves lasting impressions.



# With assistance from a pro, getting started is easy

Julia and Sophie, already enjoying the stunning vistas, meet up with Kurt at the Ramsau World Championship Cross-Country Stadium. A well-conditioned and wiry individual, he greets them with a firm handshake, a warm smile, and the customary local greeting: "Griass enk!" Having had little to no experience with skiing, the young women are very much novices in the sport. They have, however, been ice-skating a few times. "That's a great starting point for learning the skating technique," Kurt says optimistically, adding, "I'm confident you'll be gliding elegantly through the stadium in no time." After going over some basics about equipment, the lesson kicks off.

"Let's start without poles. Position your skis in a V-shape and shift your weight to one leg. Then push off with the inner edge of your ski to the other leg, initiating a skating motion." Julia and Sophie practice diligently. They start off a bit wobbly but soon find their rhythm. The two-hour introductory sessions fly by. Over three consecutive days, they learn five different skating strides, enabling them to navigate any terrain on the trail. Before wrapping up the first day, Kurt offers a crucial piece of advice: "First, focus on getting the leg movements right and practice a lot without poles. Add them only when your leg movements have become almost automatic."

# Rewarding goals:

## Rittisberg 1500 and the Dachstein Run

After two more days of instruction, during which Julia and Sophie manage to acquire a passable skating technique, they set their sights on the pinnacle of their cross-country skiing holiday - quite literally. They are drawn to the alpine Rittisberg 1500 trail, which might just as easily be called the "Dachstein View Trail" or "The Amazing Scenery Trail." The panoramic vistas of the Dachstein and adjacent mountains are what make this trail so extraordinary. Taking the Rittisberg Combo Lift to the trailhead, the lift ticket also serves as their trail pass. "This is unbelievably beautiful," marvels Sophie. "We're so lucky to have discovered this amazing sport," Julia agrees as they glide over freshly groomed snow under perfect weather conditions. On their way back down, they're already forging plans for next winter. "I'd love to enter the Dachstein Run. The beginners' 10 K race would be perfect for us," suggests Julia. Sophie chuckles and raises the stakes: "Next winter the beginners' distance, and the winter after that, the full 42 kilometers!"

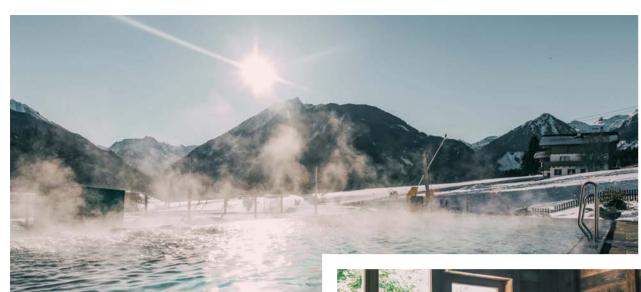


# More Info for You

Here you can find out all about the trail choices in Ramsau am Dachstein and the entire Schladming-Dachstein region, the Dachstein Run, and the Rittisberg 1500 alpine trail.











# An ideal combination: cross-country skiing and sauna

"And now, to recharge our batteries, how about heading to the sauna and indoor pool?" suggests Sophie. Julia nods in agreement. Yet again, Ramsau shines as a hub where everything is within easy reach, exemplified by the Dachsteinbad – a sprawling aquatic center spanning 430 m² of water alone – located right next to the World Championship Cross-Country Ski Stadium. For those who live for the heat, this place is heaven on earth. The 600 m² sauna complex features a Finnish sauna, a bio herbal sauna, an infrared cabin, and a misty steam grotto. "This is a perfect place to wind down after sport. We can relax our muscles and bask in the soothing warmth. How about giving the herbal bio sauna a try?" Julia asks. Sophie nods, and they both round off their active day by unwinding in the sauna and indoor pool.

# Our Tip for You

After a strenuous day of sports in the Schladming-Dachstein region, regeneration is crucial. Two indoor pools and multiple establishments with wellness areas are available for hours of pure relaxation – no hotel stay required. Learn more about your indoor pool and day-spa options in the region.





In December 2022, the Falkensteiner Hotel Schladming, part of the Premium Hotels Collection by Falkensteiner Hotels & Residences, celebrated its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Since the beginning of 2023, Sonja Zöpfl, an experienced and affable Styrian, has taken the helm, excited to welcome new faces as guests of the hotel.







he hotel seamlessly blends Alpine tradition with modern lifestyle. Its architectural charm features a cozy, contemporary-yet-vintage look, enhanced by a prominent use of wood, creating a snug atmosphere within its walls perfect for escaping the outside world.

The Acquapura SPA is an ideal sanctuary. Spanning over 1,500 square meters, this wellness area with a panoramic view features various relaxation rooms with water beds, mountain hay, infrared cabins, a Finnish sauna, steam and bio saunas, and a beautiful garden. A special highlight awaits you in the form of soothing "Schladminger Alpine Wellness" treatments.

International." A varied breakfast buffet with live cooking ensures a great start to your day. In the evening, five harmoniously coordinated courses are served, perfectly complemented by a selection of both national and international wines.

In the cozy "genießBAR" with a view of the Planai finish slope,

The relaxation continues with the culinary offerings. Restau-

rant Steirer serves dishes true to the theme "Authentic. Styrian.

In the cozy "genießBAR" with a view of the Planai finish slope, delicious snacks and drinks are available from 10:30 a.m. onwards. Nothing stands in the way of a successful business lunch, a leisurely coffee break, or mellow after-work drinks.

Relaxation, sports, and indulgence – Falkensteiner Hotel Schladming delivers on this combination for a truly unforget-table experience.

Discover a wide range of highlights from an event location for parties,
Sunday brunch, and live music in the genießBAR to Day SPA, Full Moon Late Night
SPA, special events, and more – secure your personal escape from the daily grind.



FALKENSTEINER HOTEL SCHLADMING\*\*\*\*S
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www.falkensteiner.com/schladming



# Wonderland

The 13 towns and villages between Mandling and Trautenfels offer everything you need for a fantastic winter vacation. Surrounded by a mountainous landscape that's second to none, you'll enjoy nature at its very best. Whether you prefer alpine or cross-country skiing, a winter hike or snowshoeing, it's a place that'll definitely warm your heart.

himmering white peaks, untouched snowscapes, and tranquil mountain forests: the Schladming-Dachstein region reveals a unique charm during wintertime. From the world-championship-caliber slopes of the famous ski town of Schladming, to the excellently groomed cross-country trails in Ramsau am Dachstein, and the snow-covered valleys and enchanting villages of the Enns Valley: The 13 towns and villages in of the region give you so much to discover, complete with superb accommodation and and mouthwatering culinary delights. The local towns and villages have put together 13 tips to make your winter in this region a truly special experience.





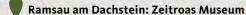


# Schladming

The Talbachklamm - mystically illuminated, glistening ice and snow sculptures shaped by Mother Nature herself. Magical moments in a winter wonderland along the rushing







Located in the old "Pehab Barn," this museum brings the unique history of Ramsau am Dachstein to life. Our younger guests are guided through the house by our adorable mascot "Klaus the Mouse."



Haus im Ennstal: Winter Sports Museum

Take a trip back in time to explore the origins of winter sports and tourism. From hunting and logging to recreation and sports competitions, the exhibits cover it all.



# Aich: Steirischer Bodensee

Where can you unwind, switch off, and recharge? The answer is clear: during a stunning winter walk along the shores of the Steirischer Bodensee in Aich.



# Michaelerberg-Pruggern: Michaelerberg Ski Tour

The Michaelerberghaus is not just the end point of this particular tour, but also a popular end point in general, greeting you with an enticing selection of refreshments. The groomed trail from the starting point is open for you every day.



# Gröbming: Tonschn-Leitn

Our magic carpet on the "Tonschn-Leitn" is a winter highlight for many kids. Whether it's their first time on skis or simply sledging, great fun is guaranteed.



# Mitterberg-Sankt Martin: cross-country circuit

Beautifully tracked loop on the Mitterberg, leading from Kaindorf via Zirting, Gersdorf, and Dorf, then to Matzling, St. Martin am Grimming, Tipschern and Lengdorf, then return.



# Sölk: Christmas magic in St. Nikolai

After Saturday Advent services, the village invites everyone for a cozy gathering at refreshment stands around the Mesnerhaus. On Christmas Eve, the life-sized Nativity scene is opened.



# Öblarn: Ice Skating with a View

The artificial ice rink in Öblarn promises fun for the whole family, a marvelous wintertime experience at the foot of Grimming mountain. So, lace up your skates and hit the ice!



# Irdning-Donnersbachtal: 50 years of the Riesneralm

The festivities kick off with a mountain Advent celebration known as "Auffi fåhrn zum Owi'kemman," which resumes after a 3-year hiatus. A concert by the Poxrucker Sisters on Saturday, December 9, 2023, at the newly built KEGELståd'l mid-station is certain to enchant us all.



# Aigen im Ennstal: Putterersee

Winter wonderland on the shores of Putterersee! Experience the Christmas season in Aigen! The village square next to St. Florian's Church invites you to chill and soak in the atmosphere, especially during the most peaceful time of the year.



# Stainach-Pürgg

The Spechtensee lift in Wörschachwald is an insider tip for family skiers. A cross-country trail promises even more fun, while outstanding country inns invite you to pause and enjoy. More details at: www.spechtenseelift.at



# Wörschach: Wintry Cross-Country Enjoyment

This trail takes you through a romantic natural landscape, past the Wörschach Moor, all the way to Weissenbach/Liezen. With sufficient snow on the ground, this is a true delight. Breathe in, breathe out ... and feel NATURE in its purest form!

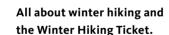
# Wind Ticket Hiking Ticket

To help you reach your destinations in the region effortlessly, a special ticket just for winter hikers allows you to use a wide range of buses and mountain lifts.

inter hikers, we've got you covered. The mountain lifts in the Schladming-Dachstein region have introduced the Winter Hiking Ticket. With this all-inone pass, you can ride 20 mountain lifts and the regional ski buses, making it easier than ever to get to the starting points of the most scenic winter hikes.

Over 300 kilometers of trails are beautifully maintained, even in winter – cleared, groomed, or simply maintained. This ensures you can stroll through the winter landscapes with ease, all the while soaking in the majestic natural and cultural scenery of the Schladming-Dachstein region, complemented by the mountain panoramas of the Dachstein massif and the Schladminger Tauern peaks. The ticket allows you to use up to three cableways per day.







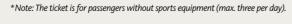
More Info for You

# on the following lifts and buses:

- · Planai: Planai Gondola, Planai West
- Hochwurzen: Rohrmoos I and II, Summit Lift, Obertal Lift, Hochwurzen I and II
- Galsterberg: Gondola Lift
- Reiteralm: Silver Jet, Preunegg Jet, DSL Reiteralm I (Pichl), Sepp'n Jet, Gasslhöhebahn II
- Fageralm: Forstaubahn, DSL Jägerlift
- Hauser Kaibling: 8-Person Gondola, Quattralpina, Tauern Gondola, Höfi-Express I

# Additionally, this ticket also covers the following buses and toll roads:

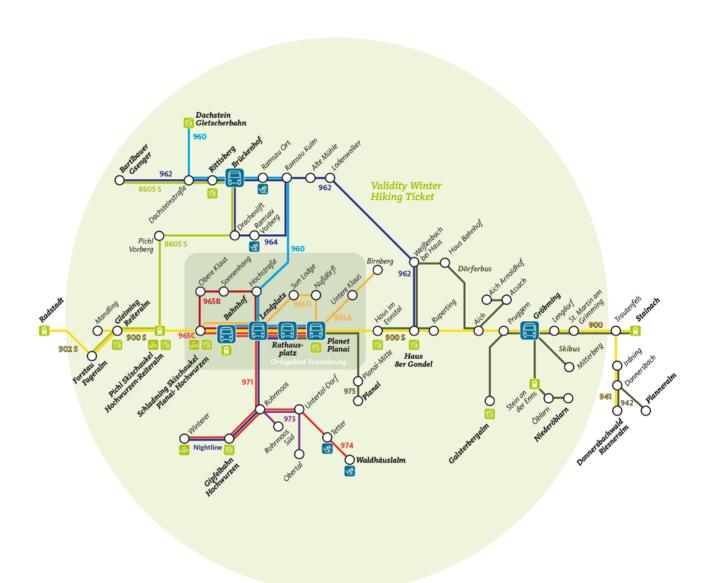
- Local buses operated by the Planai-Hochwurzen Lifts in the Schladming and Rohrmoos-Untertal area (excluding the "Nightline")
- Schladming Citybus
- Ski buses operated by the Schladming-Dachstein Region





# Let's take a stroll!

In addition to the 300 km of groomed trails, many unmaintained paths are still easily walkable.



# Overview of Bus Lines

900 S	Ski bus 4-Mountain Ski Area	974	Schladming - Rohrmoos - Hochwurzen -
900	Schladming – Gröbming – Stainach – Irdning		Untertal – Waldhäuslalm
902 S	Radstadt – Forstau – Reiteralm Silver Jet	975	Schladming – Planai
941	Stainach – Irdning – Donnersbachwald/Riesneralm	965 A	Citybus Schladming Untere Klaus
942	Irdning - Donnersbach - Riesneralm/Planneralm	965 B	Citybus Schladming Obere Klaus
960	Schladming – Ramsau village – Dachstein Glacier Lift	965 C	Citybus Schladming – Ski Area shuttle
962	Ramsau Hierzegg – Ramsau village – Ramsau Rössing – Weissenbach	965 D	Citybus Schladming
964	Ramsau Vorberg	Village bus	Aich/Weissenbach/Ruperting – Hauser Kaibling
8605 S	Ramsau – Pichl-Vorberg – Pichl – Reiteralm Silver Jet	Ski bus	Gröbming – Pruggern – Galsterbergalm
971 & 971N	Schladming – Rohrmoos – Hochwurzen – Untertal village	Ski shuttle bus	Niederöblarn
	(971N not included with the Winter Hiking Ticket)	Ski shuttle bus	Mitterberg – Gröbming
973	Obertal/Rohrmoos-South – Rohrmoos town center	Ski shuttle bus	Stainach – Gröbming



- Night sledding on the Rittisberg | 3.0 km
- Natural sled run on the Planneralm | 1.0 km



Whether it's day or night, sledding has always been a hit in the Schladming-Dachstein region. No wonder - with 10 different toboggan runs, the area offers more than enough options for delightful sledding adventures with the whole family. The fun lasts particularly long on the Hochwurzen near Schladming, home to one of the longest toboggan runs in the Alps.

even-year-old Jana was a bit nervous at first, her eyes wide as saucers as she peered through the gondola window, watching as they floated farther and farther up the mountain. For her older brother Theo, it wasn't so much nervousness but rather sheer anticipation that lit up his face. Grinning, he clutched one of the sleek sleds that a friendly staff member had handed them near the base of the cableway. Soon, they would be zooming down the mountain. Today was a day that would be highlighted by sledding on the Hochwurzen.

Right by the mountain station of the Hochwurzen lift, a very special natural toboggan run begins. It winds its way down to the valley, accessible both day and night. For Jana, all these details were quite irrelevant for a few seconds. She sat on her sled, eyeing the slope in front of her with a mixture of excitement and trepidation. The snow sparkled in the sunlight like a mound of jewels, and behind it, the Dachstein massif shone in radiant white. Brother Theo was already set to go on his own sled. Their dad did one last check, positioning himself behind Jana on the sled. Helmet, ski goggles, gloves - all in place. They were ready for "take off".

"On your sleds, get set, go!" their dad shouted. And off they went. Jana's initial nervousness quickly turned into pure joy. The cold wind whipped against her face as she let out a loud cheer. Curve after curve, they zoomed towards the base station, the snowy forest racing by them. For a moment, Jana even thought the fun would never end. But eventually, the finish line came into view, and soon enough the family found themselves in one of the many cozy huts, hands wrapped around mugs of hot cocoa. With flushed cheeks, Jana and her brother Theo chatted excitedly about their ride. For Jana, one thing was clear: this would definitely not be her last sledding adventure.

# More Info for You

Here you can find out all there is to know about the region's ten toboggan runs and all the places where you can rent ultra-sleek sleds.







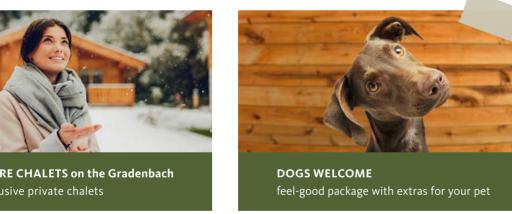
















# Schladming partements

Want to enjoy a memorable stay in Schladming? Make sure you reserve your perfect holiday stay at Schladming Appartements now.





Click here for more details.



n today's world, space and time are in short supply. So we offer you both at Schladming, and you can look forward to a perfectly care-free getaway: spacious holiday accommodation - both inside and out. Plus, we dedicate our time to ensuring the total well-being of our guests. Forget travel blogs, Instagram posts, or ads; nothing tops the invaluable insider tips from our local, young team. Thanks to our innovative work schedule and extensive digitalization, we now have even more time to focus on what matters most: ensuring your perfect stay with us!

Sustainability is close to our hearts, and we are continually striving to do better. Our commitment? To minimize our carbon footprint through new eco-friendly services and the use of regional products - all without compromising your personal comfort and quality.

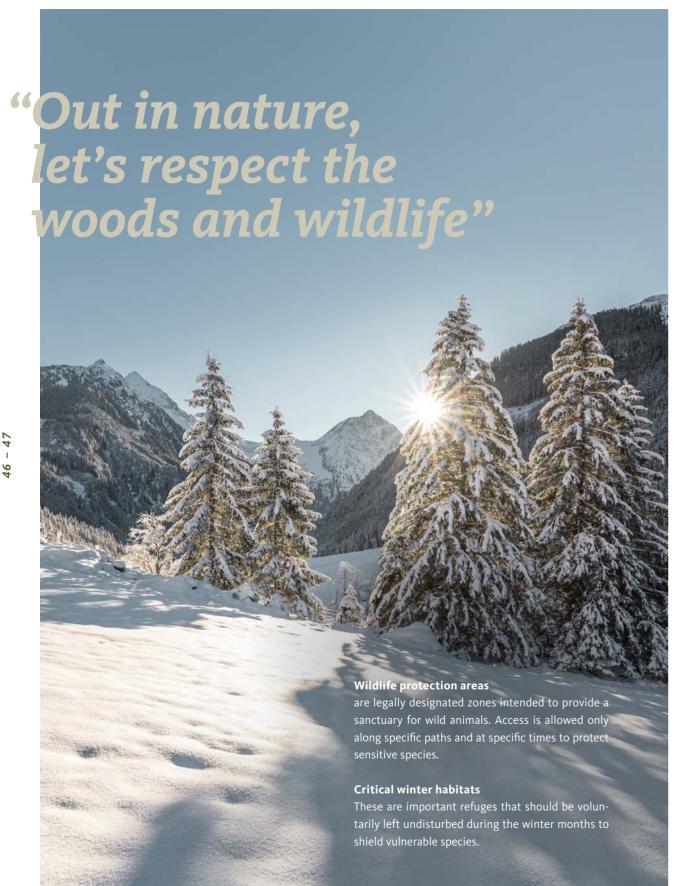
Our brand-new option: Basecamp Reiteralm – the epicenter of cool vacations. Located right at the Reiteralm base station, it's ideal for ski-in and ski-out. This is where young people and families, who are fans of sports and adventure in "Alpine boho" style, will find their ultimate home base. So, pack your skis and your adventurous spirit - and prepare for an unforgettable vacation!



24/7 on-site service | Adventure Shop Bonus Ticket | Summer Ticket included breakfast boxes | free train-station pickup Secret deals | free cots and high chairs



SCHLADMING APPARTEMENTS Erzherzog-Johann-Straße 248A | 8970 Schladming T. +43 3687 22818 | office@schladming-appartements.at www.schladming-appartements.at



# In gentle ways

The region offers countless opportunities for nature-based adventures. On the following pages, you'll find three tour recommendations. But before you embark, be aware: sensitive habitats must be protected to sustain wildlife and maintain a balanced ecosystem. Let's be mindful and respect nature. It'll make a big difference.

uiet spaces and safe retreats are crucial for sensitive wildlife like deer, chamois, and various grouse species. The Styrian project "Stay on Track" calls for collective responsibility towards nature. It aims to demonstrate that Styria's mountainous regions can accommodate both nature enthusiasts and wildlife, though this requires mutual respect and understanding. The first step has been to identify and establish wildlife protection areas and critical winter habitats.

Information about the location of these zones is clearly marked on site with signs and markers. The collected geodata is shared through the platform "Digitize the Planet" and integrated into popular outdoor apps like "Bergfex" and "Outdooractive", clearly identifying these areas.

# How you can help wildlife survive the winter

The forest is home to wood grouse and deer, along with other sensitive species. Stick to designated routes and avoid wildlife feeding areas.

# On and above the tree line

Keep your distance from clumps of trees and individual trees – this is where the black grouse resides.

Above the tree line, you'll find chamois, ibex, and ptarmigan, especially in the depths of winter. Avoid ridgelines and exposed summits during early morning and late afternoon.

# **Timing**

Wild animals need undisturbed periods of rest. Avoid twilight hours for your tours and refrain from nighttime adventures completely.

# Put your dog on a lead

Unleashed dogs severely stress wildlife. That said, always keep your dog on a lead.

# **Protect young forests**

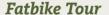
Avoid ascents or descents through reforested or younggrowth areas (trees up to 3 meters in height).

## Think before you park

Use designated parking areas and make sure not to block any access or forestry roads.







DIFFICULTY
easy
3 h

DISTANCE
11 km
300 m

EXPERIENCE
LANDSCAPE

CONDITION



**TECHNIQUE** 



# Guided Fatbike Tour to the Halseralm

### Your destination

Halseralm, elevation 1,200 meters

### Your journey

Setting off from the Ramsau Cross-Country Stadium, this gently ascending route takes you towards the Rittisberg. You'll pass the Greimelbacherhof and continue into an area of alpine pastures on the Rittisberg. This tour sticks entirely to maintained paths for winter walking and sleigh rides. Your climb will take about 90 minutes, culminating at the region's oldest mountain hut, the Halseralm where you'll have ample time to unwind over a cup of tea, a toasted sandwich, or even some delicious Kaiserschmarrn. The descent takes you back to Ramsau across the gentle ski slopes.

# **Tour highlights**

Cycling through a snow-laden landscape is a memorable experience in its own right. Combining this with the rustic warmth of the Halseralm makes this tour an absolute must-do for all cyclists.

# Equipment

We provide a fatbike or E-fatbike, along with a suitable helmet.

## What to wear

Functional, layered outdoor active wear is recommended (akin to cross-country skiing or ski touring attire). Don't forget ski goggles, warm gloves, and perhaps a backpack.



# Winter Hike

DIFFICULTY DURATION
moderate 2½ h

DISTANCE ELEVATION CHANGE
5.3 km 300 m

EXPERIENCE LANDSCAPE
TECHNIQUE CONDITION





### Your destination

The Schönwetterhütte, elevation 1,442 meters, is a hikers' refuge inside Sölktäler Natural Park. Easily accessible, it is a popular choice year-round.

## Your journey

Start from "Parkplatz Koller." You'll find this parking area by turning left off the Sölkpassstrasse L 704, about 300 meters before reaching Schloss Grosssölk. You will first pass by the Koller hill farm, immediately followed by a stretch through some woodland, where you will step into a tranquil winter world, far removed from all the hustle and bustle. Your trail is wide, clearly marked, and not too steep. As you approach your destination, the views out towards the Dachstein massif become increasingly spectacular.

# Tour highlights

A winter hike to the Schönwetterhütte offers you the chance to find tranquility, savor nature with each breath, and treat yourself to authentic regional cuisine. Most of the delightful dishes served are sourced from the host Brugger family's own farm. Foodies rave about their wood-fired lamb or pork roasts.

## Points to consider

Particular consideration should be given to wildlife living in wooded areas. Always stay on the marked paths and respect the designated quiet zones for wildlife.



# Ski Tour

DIFFICULTY DURATION
moderate 5h

DISTANCE ELEVATION CHANGE
14.9 km 1,100 m

EXPERIENCE

LANDSCAPE

TECHNIQUE

CONDITION





# Your destination

The Wölzer Tauern with the prominent Grosses Bärneck, towering at 2,071 meters. Your journey begins in the idyllic mountain village of Donnersbachwald, elevation ca. 1,000 meters.

### Your rout

Set out from the parking area in the center of the village. First strap your skis over your shoulder and cross the bridge. Passing by Kinderhotel Stegerhof, continue straight ahead until you reach the start of the toboggan run. Here, it's time to attach your skins and trek along the groomed forest road, which is also a toboggan run, up to the Vordere Mörsbachalm at around 1,300 meters. Now it's time to catch your breath at the Mörsbachwirt inn.

The initial stretch serves as a good warm-up. Next, head south to the Hintere Mörsbachalm, around 1,500 meters above sea level. Now, the surrounding peaks come into view. Beyond the hunting lodge, and after a significant left-hand curve, a broad mountain cirque greets you. However, don't enter it completely, but turn east and climb steeply to a pronounced ridgeline. Continue via a slight incline until you reach the summit. If you still have any energy left, you can also add the adjacent peak of the Kleines Bärneck to your route.

For the descent, briefly head west after the summit cross, and then (only in safe conditions!) ski steeply down into the cirque, finally retracing the same route as your original ascent.

## Tour highlight

The magnificent views from the summit are truly mesmerizing, as is Gabi's famous Kaiserschmarrn at the Mörsbachwirt – neither of which you'll ever get your fill of.

## What to look out for

The slopes are mostly northeast- to northwest-facing. The best time for this ski tour is mid-winter to early spring. A solid understanding of avalanche safety is a must.



Navigating the mountains comes with its share of responsibilities. Since its founding in 1980, ORTOVOX has been committed to preparing outdoor enthusiasts as well as possible for the challenges of the alpine world. Besides developing groundbreaking products, ORTOVOX's SAFETY ACADEMY offers unique and comprehensive safety education for all mountain athletes.



## Be aware of avalanches and their causes

Understanding avalanche risks is one of the most complex aspects of mountain sports. While some dangers are predictable, avalanches can be quite enigmatic. The platform offers a thorough overview of the basics to help you make a "Go" or "No-Go" decision for your planned tour.

# Basic tour planning and ski-touring equipment

A well-thought-out tour plan is fundamental for safety. You need to decide upon a destination that is ideally suited to the weather conditions and the abilities of your group. This course gives you a concise overview of all the equipment you'll need, from hardware to emergency equipment and clothing.

# Risk management in open terrain and snow profiles

From avalanche transceiver checks in the field to on-the-spot verification of your original planning assumptions. Learn what you can glean from a simple glance at the snow, and how to sample and interpret a snow profile perfectly.

# Rescuing each other, first aid and getting professional help

If an unexpected avalanche occurs, everyone must know exactly what to do. The training platform goes into every facet of avalanche rescue in detail.







# Unique HOLDE HOLDE STATE OF THE STATE OF THE

When celebrity chef Richard Rauch works with regional chefs to concoct new dishes, the result is nothing short of Michelin-star quality. But what's the secret behind this extraordinary concept, and at which chalets can you indulge your taste buds?

inest ingredients. Regional quality. A dash of professionalism. And top-notch culinary skills. When Richard Rauch works with local innkeepers and cooks, the outcome is an unparalleled blend of dishes. It's a mixture of tradition and modernity, a collection of local ideas infused with international flavors, spices from around the world, and regional natural products. In short, it is an epicurean delight for all senses, reconceived twice a year for lovers of exceptional Alpine cuisine.

## More Than Just the Usual Fare

The aroma of freshly chopped herbs fills the air as Richard Rauch effortlessly wields a pan filled with hot clarified butter. "Some dishes demand a traditional touch, while others instantly transform with modern ingredients into a burst of flavor," says the Michelin-starred chef. Since the summer of 2019, he's been conjuring up unique Alpine cuisine for the Schladming-Dachstein region, working closely with about 15 participating cooks from mountain chalets, each of whom brings their own ideas and experiences into the mix. Consequently, every summer and winter season promises a new culinary feast across the various chalets. It's not just a treat for the taste buds; the presentation of each dish is also a feast for the eyes. In Schladming-Dachstein, one thing is very clear: too many cooks don't spoil the broth - they elevate it beyond the mundane to offer far more than just French fries or a plate of spaghetti. No gourmet experience would be complete, of course, without a



perfect drop of wine. In an annual collaboration with Wein Steiermark, a red and a white wine are handpicked during a wine tasting for recommendation to diners at participating chalets.

Moreover, the Schladming-Dachstein Genusspartner have joined forces in yet another culinary project. This aims to bring direct marketers together with gastronomy and lodging businesses to further highlight the region's culinary diversity. Each of these partners undergoes regular quality and origin verifications by the AMA Culinary Region, guaranteeing regional production and the highest quality standards.

# Did you know that...

# ... there is an Alpine Cuisine Check-In Challenge?

Visit any 4 of our participating Alpine Cuisine chalets, and you could win a Schladming-Dachstein Alpine Cuisine cookbook by Richard Rauch or a voucher for two Alpine Cuisine dishes of your choice. All you need to do is download the app, become a Customer Club member, dine in at the chalets, and collect valuable discount points!

# ... there is an Alpine Cuisine cookbook with recipes to cook at home?

If you'd love to savor those extraordinary gourmet-quality, Alpine-style dishes even after your unforgettable stay in the Schladming-Dachstein region, then snap up a cookbook from our webshop. Cook up a storm in your own kitchen while daydreaming about the culinary highlights of your next vacation in our region.

# ... participating businesses are quality- and origin-certified?

All of our Schladming-Dachstein Genusspartner businesses are certified, regularly vetted for quality and origin by the AMA Culinary Region. This guarantees that the ingredients are either Austrian or sourced directly from our region. We bring only the best to your plate – both in terms of taste and quality.

# ... our culinary guide informs you about the mouthwatering highlights of the Schladming-Dachstein region?

Our region offers an extensive range of culinary delights. This guide helps you find the perfect fit for your taste buds. You will also be able to browse tips on "Shopping Regionally."



# Our Tip for You

Bring home more delectable recipes from our region with the Schladming-Dachstein Alpine Cuisine cookbook. Order it now in our webshop.







# More Info for You

Find complete details about Schladming-Dachstein Alpine Cuisine by Richard Rauch here.





# Our Culinary Highlight

# STADTHOTEL BRUNNER Hauptplatz 14 | 8970 Schladming

Your boutique hotel for mind, body, and soul in the center of Schladming. Our health-conscious kitchen crafts traditional, vegetarian, and vegan delights using local ingredients.



Here are more details about Schladming-Dachstein Culinary Partners.

# Super REGIONE TARESTONE TA

Unbeatable combination to enjoy at home: Jerusalem artichoke meets local brew.

Jerusalem artichoke soup with Schladminger beer and chips of Jerusalem artichokes



# Our culinary tip for you

For a perfectly foamy soup, mix a pinch of lecithin into the soup.

# Ingredients for 4 servings

# Jerusalem artichoke soup

100 g butter, 2 onions, 600 g Jerusalem artichoke 1 parsley root (or ¼ celery root) 300 ml Schladminger beer 2,5 l vegetable broth 500 ml heavy cream 40 ml apple cider vinegar salt, cayenne pepper

# Jerusalem artichoke chips

5 Jerusalem artichokes, 500 ml corn-germ oil

### Preparation

To make the Jerusalem artichoke soup, start by peeling and finely chopping the onions. Sauté them in butter until translucent. Peel the parsley root and Jerusalem artichokes, add them to the onions, and sauté until lightly browned. After about 10 minutes, deglaze the pan with malt beer and allow to reduce. Add vegetable broth and simmer for another 10 minutes. Stir in the heavy cream and cook for an additional 3–4 minutes. Season the mixture with salt and cayenne peper. Use an immersion blender to blend the soup until smooth, and then strain it through a fine sieve.

For the Jerusalem artichoke chips, thoroughly wash the Jerusalem artichokes and slice them into thin round slices using a slicing machine. Soak the slices in warm water for 10 minutes to leach out any bitterness. Drain them in a colander and spin dry using a salad spinner. Heat the oil to around 170 °C (340 °F). Deep-fry the chips in the hot oil until golden brown. While frying, make sure to stir the chips occasionally with a slotted spoon for even cooking.

Remove the chips with a slotted spoon and allow to drain on a tray lined with paper towels.

# Steiner 1888

It's never quiet at the STEINER1888 factory; the air is filled with steam, hissing, clattering, and vibrations. There's always something exciting happening! For over 130 years, this family-run business has been crafting the finest clothing fabrics made from pure wool and fine animal hair, as well as upholstery, luxurious wool blankets, and unique home accessories – all using traditional artisanal methods.







## High-tech meets craftsmanship

How do you manufacture modern-day textiles with 19<sup>th</sup>-century machinery? And on behalf of some of the most renowned designers in the world, no less? You'll find out during a tour of Wollwelt. Watch our skilled workers up close and gain exclusive insights into how we master the challenge of creating Loden fabrics for today's consumers using machinery that goes back two centuries. Here, coarse wool is transformed into this fine, durable fabric, which not only features in Steiner1888's own interior and fashion collections but also graces high-end garments from international fashion powerhouses like YSL, Chanel, Louis Vuitton, Burberry, and Jil Sander.

### In the thick of it

Experience the entire production process first-hand: the scent of damp wool, the clatter of looms, and the heat and steam as wet Loden is kneaded through the fulling mill. It takes a whole 40 steps to transform raw wool into a cozy blanket!

## Arnold Schwarzenegger and the fulling mill

The highlight of the tour is the fulling mill, tirelessly in operation since 1888. Steiner1888 is the last company to still use this ancient piece of machinery to full the unique Schladminger Loden. Even Arnold Schwarzenegger sports a Schladming jacket made from Loden that came out of this very machine.

# More Info for You

Public tours on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m., and group tours for 10 or more. Bookings required. Special tours for people with disabilities upon request.

# Duration: ca. 1 hour | Cost: €10 for adults, €5 for children

Discounts available with the Salzburger Sportwelt Card & Schladming-Dachstein Sommercard. Free admission with the Steiermark Card.



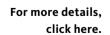
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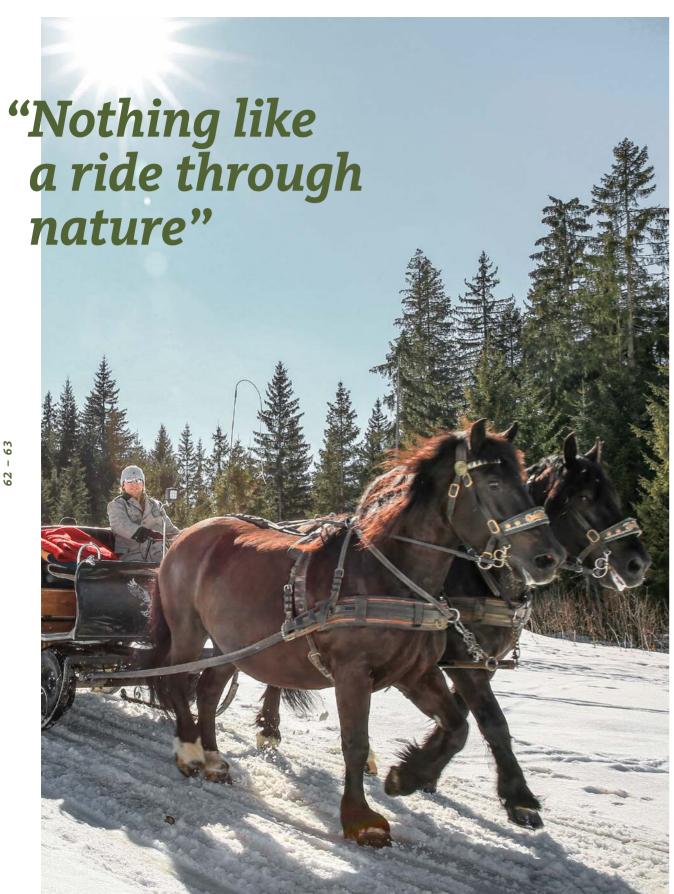
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For some, happiness is literally found on horseback. For many of our winter visitors, it's discovered while bundled up behind a team of horses - in a horse-drawn sleigh, to be precise. That's because a ride through a magical winter landscape provides countless moments of pure delight.

iting cold. Mystical silence. On the horizon of the winter landscape, a horse-drawn carriage appears. The soft jingle of sleigh bells pierces the winter stillness. Warm air steams from the animals' nostrils, forming little clouds in the frigid air. The carriage driver expertly issues specific commands through calls or flicks of the reins, and the carriage glides almost effortlessly over the snow - a truly enchanting

sight that you can enjoy throughout the Schladming-Dachstein region every winter. And it's not just a spectator sport; there are numerous local providers offering carriage rides. Whether you opt for a scenic ride in idyllic Obertal, at the foot of the Dachstein in Ramsau, or a romantic journey in Styria's Untertal, this unforgettable experience makes you lose all sense of time and space. It's as integral to a relaxing winter vacation as snow is to the Dachstein Glacier.

## Tradition meets technology

Sleigh rides for tourists have a long history in the region, dating back to the Industrial Revolution in fact. Machinery, cars, and other technologies initially pushed horses and carriages into the background. However, as tourists increasingly delighted in this traditional form of winter transportation, carriage-driving regained its importance, and horse breeding in

the region saw a significant resurgence after years of decline. Local farmers could earn extra money by offering tourist rides during the winter months. Originally, so-called "holiday sleighs" with beautiful brass fittings and jingling bells were used to transport affluent tourists. More and more horse farmers specialized in this service, and soon over 50 sleighs were carrying tourists just in Ramsau am Dachstein alone. Initially,

> one-horse carts were used, but inventive young farmers soon built two-horse carriages with two rows of seats for about five passengers, and later even with three rows for eight passengers. At first, it was possible to explore the landscape solely on the sleigh runners gliding over the snow. But with advanced snow removal and modern road construction, an important adaptation was needed: wheels that could be used on parts of the road where runners didn't stand a chance. Even today, it's an impressive feat to observe, as the carriage driver swiftly

cranks down the wheels in order to navigate sections of roadway and snow-free ground. Thanks to this clever invention, it became possible to offer sleigh rides even in milder winters and well into the spring. Later, summer carriage rides were introduced - carriages, not sleighs, are drawn by the horses in summertime.







"Discover the region in a horse-drawn sleigh"



## Craftsmen and experts

Over the years, the culture of horse-drawn carriage and sleigh rides has given rise to a number of experts who have proven their mettle in either the construction and restoration of carriages and sleighs or the complexities of horse care. Back in the day, the wagon-maker and blacksmith often shared adjoining workspaces, collaborating closely in the intricate craft of sleigh construction. Some seasoned coachmen are well-versed in both domains and know from experience that not every carriage is compatible with every team of horses. You could say that these two elements need to form a perfect symbiosis for the ride to be enjoyable for guests, coachmen, and horses alike. One local business, Gerhardter Edelstahltechnik GmbH, has even has even creates two sleighs, replicating historic metal frames for sleighs that are now gracing our beautiful snowy roads. However, most of the sleigh-making expertise is based in other regions. By the late 60s, several sleighs from Tyrol had made their way to us. The latest sleighs currently operating in Ramsau am Dachstein predominantly come from Poland. Though restoration work on the carriages and sleighs is

often carried out by local blacksmiths or the coachmen themselves. A true connoisseur in the field of coachmanship is undoubtedly Hans Stocker from the Zechmannhof estate, who was involved from the very beginning. "I remember as a boy riding to church on what was known as a 'pendulum sleigh.' On weekdays, we'd always travel with heavy bells so that those coming in the opposite direction could hear us. It's wonderful that this mode of transportation has become a cherished tradition and continues to thrive in our region, thanks to tourism," says the Ramsau native, who is also extremely knowledgeable when it comes to horse breeding. If you're eager to take a magical journey back in time on a horse-drawn carriage, the Schladming-Dachstein region is undoubtedly the place to be.







# Rocks the Planai

After a three-year hiatus, the much-anticipated ski-season opener is back this winter. On December 7th and 8th, no less a figure than global superstar Robbie Williams will set the Schladming-Dachstein region abuzz with two electrifying concerts.

hat do Pink, David Guetta, Martin Garrix, and Seeed have in common? They've all kicked off the ski season in the Schladming-Dachstein region at least once. Since 2007, the annual ski opening event at the foot of the Planai has been a showcase for top international artists. Every December, against a backdrop of stunning Alpine vistas, everyone gets together to celebrate a spectacular musical extravaganza.

With that three-year interruption now history, the much-anticipated concert extravaganza is making a comeback this winter – and it's coming back in a big way. On December 7 and 8, 2023, superstar Robbie Williams is stopping by Schladming to kick off the ski season with not one, but two concerts, each expected to draw around 15,000 fans to the Planai Stadium.

At 49, the British sensation becomes the latest addition to a long list of superstars who have graced the stage at the ski opening. The tradition began back in 2007 with Pink, followed by renowned DJs like David Guetta, Swedish House Mafia, and Martin Garrix, as well as bands such as OneRepublic, Seeed, and Die Toten Hosen. The ski opening had to take a three-year break due to the COVID-19 pandemic, but with Robbie Williams headlining, this year's much-awaited comeback is poised to be a smashing success. Williams, who is currently on a world tour, already visited the Reiteralm in July to get a first-hand look at the spectacular mountain backdrop where he'll be performing this winter.

But it's not just the mountain scenery that's a highlight of this year's ski opening: the stage itself is set to be a showstopper in its own right. Cutting-edge stage technology featuring a hundred square meters of artfully integrated LED walls, an array of spotlights, and a perfectly choreographed pyrotechnic and laser show will transform Planai Stadium into the ultimate concert arena.

The stage show, the region's majestic mountains, and of course, headline act Robbie Williams himself, are the key ingredients ensuring that this year's ski opening in the Schladming-Dachstein region will be remembered for many years.



# **Guarantee Your**

# **Tickets Now**

Kick off winter with us and experience Robbie Williams live at the Planai Stadium.









# More Info for You

Learn more about the National Special Olympics Winter Games here.



# Great Great Atlactes

The 7<sup>th</sup> National Special Olympics Winter Games are set to be a landmark event in the Schladming-Dachstein region, marking the third "Celebration of Inclusion" after hosting the World Winter Games in 1993 and 2017. Just like the legendary Planai Nightrace, this event promises thrilling moments and a flood of emotions.

he Special Olympics Winter Games are so much more than just sports competitions. They're an emotional fireworks show, a glorious celebration of community, and a festival of inclusion! From March 14 to 19, 2024, this one-of-akind event will make its return to Styria. True to the stirring

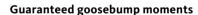
theme "Together Without Limits," the 7th National Special Olympics Winter Games will see over 1,100 mentally disabled athletes compete in ten winter sports for those much-coveted medals. But that's just the tip of the iceberg: Around 400 coaches and approximately 600 volunteers will accompany the athletes on this incredible journey. Together with the audience, they'll create an atmosphere filled with genuine, honest enthusiasm.

# Ski competition and snowshoe racing in the Schladming-Dachstein region

Anyone who experienced the 2017 Special Olympics World Winter Games will undoubtedly have fond memories. Those Games went down in history as a celebration of pure joy, mutual respect, and active inclusion. The theme "Heartbeat for the World" powerfully demonstrated that sports know no boundaries, connect people, and overcome barriers.

This magical atmosphere is set to return to Styria in 2024. Schladming and Ramsau am Dachstein are among the host sites, alongside Graz and Seiersberg-Pirka. Alpine skiing competitions will be held in Schladming, while Ramsau am Dachstein will feature Nordic skiing events and the spectacular

snowshoe racing. All participants will strive to live up to the Special Olympics oath: "I want to win! But if I can't win, then I'll give it my best effort!"



The sports program promises excitement and thrills, framed by vibrant opening and closing ceremonies as well as the traditional Torch Run. Here's a tip for you: attend one of the many award ceremonies and let the athletes' joy rub off on you! Nicole Koch, National Director of Special Olympics Austria, is convinced: "A stay in the Schladming-Dachstein re-

gion is unforgettable in itself. Add the National Winter Games to your itinerary, and you'll take home even more memories – because where there's Special Olympics, you'll find unparalleled emotions, sheer joy, and heartwarming moments."



Just about two months before the Special Olympics Winter Games light up Schladming, the night will come alive once more with the iconic Nightrace. Following its successful world premiere last winter, this skiing spectacle under the stars will return again in its new double-header format. The sequence of the races has changed: On Tuesday, January 23, 2024, the Night Giant Slalom will take place. The following day features the traditional Night Slalom. Hansjörg Stocker, President of the Schladming Winter Sports Club, is thrilled: "After hosting the world's first Night Giant Slalom in World Cup history last winter at short notice, receiving acclaim from all corners, our team is committed to making the 2024 Nightraces exactly what thousands of fans expect: two thrilling races and probably the coolest ski party of the entire winter."





# **Barrier-Free Holidays** with Freizeit PSO

Freizeit-PSO (PSO stands for Para-Special Outdoor Sports) is an association that offers people with special needs the chance for a barrier-free holiday in the Schladming-Dachstein





# Twice the excitement

The cheers from 50,000 fans will once again send tremors around the legendary Planai finish slope - not once, by twice: both for the Slalom and the Giant Slalom events.



Secure your Nightrace ticket now. For complete details about the Nightrace and ticket sales, click here.





# Exents in Winter



# Christmas season in Schladming-Dachstein

Every year, childlike anticipation fills the air as the holiday season approaches. The scents of Christmas and soulful carols gradually draw you closer to the most peaceful time of the year. Christmas markets open their doors, where you'll find superb craftsmanship, homemade goods, and cherished traditions that bring wonder to people's faces. Snowflakes and wintry landscapes set the perfect mood. There's no doubt about it: twinkling Christmas markets, captivating Nativity exhibits, traditional Krampus parades, idyllic winter walks, stirring concerts, and unique customs all add that extra magic if you are looking to fully immerse yourself in the Christmas season.

# Öblarner Krampusspiel – UNESCO Cultural Heritage

Things that used to be almost routine are now becoming quite out of the ordinary, since many have vanished over time. One of the last Styrian folk plays, known as the Öblarner Krampusspiel, is set to take center stage again on **December 2, 2023,** on the main village square in Öblarn. This Krampus performance promises an eerily beautiful experience and has been on UNESCO's Cultural Heritage List since 2014.





# Planai-Classic

Austria's favorite winter rally for classic cars will be taking place from **January 11 to 13, 2024**. The drive through wintry Ennstal poses an exciting challenge for the 50-car starting field, both in terms of navigation and driving skills. The motto, "Driving like in Grandma's days," emphasizes the joy of drifting without electronic aids, further adding to the immense public interest in the event.



# **Dachsteinlauf**

From **January 12 to 14, 2024**, the Austrian holiday region of Schladming-Dachstein will once again become an international hub for cross-country skiing enthusiasts. The event formerly known as Tour de Ramsau will be held this winter under the new name "Dachsteinlauf." You can expect not just a new name for this popular cross-country skiing event, but also a fresh, new course layout.

# ISMF Ski Mountaineering World Cup

On March 2 and 3, 2024, we'll be welcoming the crème de la crème of the international ski mountaineering scene to Austria for the ISMF World Cup. Set in the cauldron-like atmosphere of Schladming – where the Alpine World Cup also hosts its legendary Nightrace – the Sprint and Vertical races promise high levels of excitement. Once again, the Planai serves as the venue for a remarkable winter sports event.



# 31st Puntigamer Folk Musician Ski World Championships

From **April 3 to April 7, 2024**, the 31st Puntigamer Folk Musician Ski World Championships will take place, kicking off five days of stellar events with the popular opening open-air concert being held at Stockers Erlebniswelt in Rohrmoos. The musical entertainment at the ski chalets of the Planai, Hochwurzen, and Reiteralm has become an indispensable part of the event. It will be a great atmosphere from Friday to Sunday in the big festival marquee at WM Park Planai during the Winter Festival. As always, there will been an exciting contest for the Puntigamer Folk Musician Ski World Championship, where fun takes center stage on piste #32 on the Hochwurzen.







# Cultured Getaways

If you're looking to immerse yourself in local culture, Schladming-Dachstein offers abundant opportunities.

ooking for a moment of quietude in one of the local churches? Interested in exploring a historic castle? ■ Want to dive into local traditions with a museum visit? Or maybe you're even contemplating a retreat to a monastery? In the Schladming-Dachstein region, art and culture have ample room to breathe. Alongside traditional sites, there are also plenty of events to immerse yourself in the local way of life - such as cultural festivals, heritage events, and live musical performances.







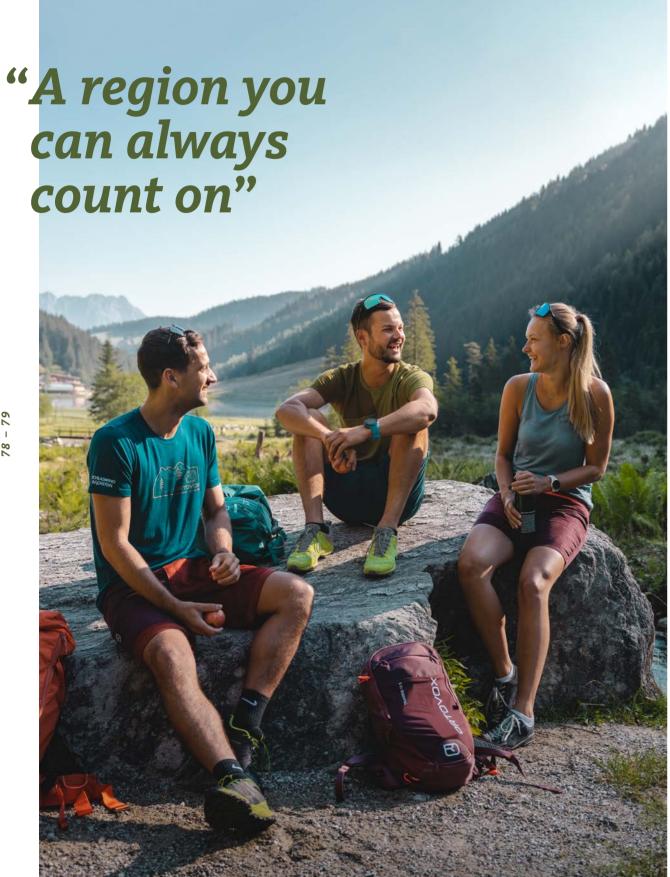


The cultural landscape of Schladming-Dachstein is increasingly focused on preserving and promoting the region's artistic and cultural heritage. To give you a diverse experience, various sectors collaborate to unite different cultural offerings. The aim is not just to be comprehensive but also modern and creative. That's why the special LEADER funding program supports new ideas and innovative cultural projects in the Ennstal-Ausserland area.

Find more info about our cultural landscape here.







# Summer for you

High peaks, fresh alpine air, and lush valleys: a summer in the mountains promises true relaxation! Whether you're looking to recharge amidst nature, explore culinary delights, or forge cherished memories with your family, it's the countless small moments that make your summer vacation truly special.

urrounded by magnificent mountain formations and numerous valleys, Schladming-Dachstein is distinguished by its unique natural diversity. Authenticity, tradition, and hospitality are hallmarks of this region situated in Styria's Ennstal Valley, between the Dachstein and Grimming. This colorful tapestry of landscapes and local inhabitants is also reflected in the wide array of recreational activities. An extensive network of hiking trails, as well as cycling and mountain biking routes, leads you to the area's scenic highlights. Additionally, the eight "adventure mountains" guarantee plenty of excitement for young and old. The Schladming-Dachstein Sommercard offers several advantages, whilst over 90 mountain chalets provide perfect locations for a welcome break and lovely refreshments.





# Schladming-Dachstein Sommercard (Summer Ticket)

From May 17 to November 3, 2024, enjoy free use of mountain lifts and buses, admission to swimming lakes and museums, and many other benefits. The Sommercard is automatically included whenever you stay at one of the partner establishments in our region.



HOLIDAY PLANNING

# to Schladming





# Want to find out more about our wonderful region?

Book your vacation in Schladming-Dachstein now and choose your ideal accommodation online. From cozy bed-and-breakfasts to exclusive hotels, there's something here for everyone. Online booking is a breeze, and you can even earn valuable Bonus World points while you're at it.

This is where you'll find accommodation.



# You've booked? Then make your journey sustainable.

All aboard for the next stop on your winter vacation! Rail travel is a traffic-free and stress-free way to reach us, allowing you to fully appreciate the stunning landscape along the way. ÖBB's Eurocity and Intercity trains run through the Ennstal Valley every two hours, and there are direct connections from many Austrian cities.

# **Our Tip for You**

The whole world is going electric. So, if you're planning to arrive in your electric vehicle, you'll be pleased to know that the region already has 50 electric charging stations – with more on the way!



This is where you can find out about rail travel to our region.



# App Your Way to Happiness

Say goodbye to chaotic vacation planning. With the Schladming-Dachstein app as your travel companion, the possibilities are endless and planning mistakes are a thing of the past.

Get crucial updates on the ski resorts, current weather conditions, and book your ski tickets right there in the Ski amadé Ticket Shop. Stay on top of things during your stay with the app – from bus schedules and open restaurants to upcoming events.

The icing on the cake: Become a part of the Schladming-Dachstein community by registering for our Customer Club. Collect points that you can exchange for exclusive rewards in our Bonus World.

We look forward to delighting you.





# Legal note

Publisher: Schladming-Dachstein Tourist Office, Managing Director Mag. (FH) Mathias Schattleitner, Ramsauerstrasse 756, 8970 Schladming

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Gender-neutral terminology has been used, whenever possible, throughout this magazine.

Titles and designations are intended to reference all genders. The magazine contains paid content.

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