

Schladminger Tauern High Trail Infos A-Z

A

ARRIVAL

Public transport

International intercity and express trains stop at the train station in Schladming.

More information is available at www.oebb.at. The hiking bus takes you from the train station to the starting point at the valley station of the Hochwurzen summit cable car or to the accommodation in the valley.

Public transport in Schladming

From Schladming with the Planai-Hochwurzen Bahnen bus to the valley station of the Hochwurzen summit lift or to the accommodation in the valley. www.planaibus.at

Getting there by car

From Schladming drive towards Rohrmoos and at the roundabout there continue straight on to the valley terminal of Gipfelbahn Hochwurzen cable car.

ALTERNATIVE ROUTES

In case of bad weather, snowfall, snowfields, or poor fitness, it is recommended to choose an alternative hiking trail. There is an alternative route for every day's stage, which also takes you to the next hut you have booked.

B

BUS

Please refer to ARRIVAL

C

CAMPING

However, it is necessary to ask the respective landowners whether this is possible, to avoid conflicts with other interests in land use. In nature conservancies camping in general is not allowed, which is the case at stages 4 (Klafferkessel) and alternative stage 5 (Planai High Trail) of the 5-day tour and stages 5 to 7 (in the nature reserve Söltkäler) of the 7-day tour to St. Nikolai.

CANCEL THE TOUR

If you should interrupt the tour and do not need the hut reservations, please inform the hut owners. This gives the huts planning security and prevents unnecessary searches. Please note that if you need the mountain rescue services, you may incur high additional costs (helicopter flight minutes, etc.).

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CONSTITUTION

Are you in the right constitution to tackle the hike? Remember, you have to be in shape before you head into the mountains, and not to get in shape through the hikes there. The trails in the Schladminger Tauern range are among the most beautiful tours in the Schladming-Dachstein region. However, the routes also challenging for hikers. Thus, sure-footedness, good physical condition and a head for heights are prerequisites, not to mention the right equipment of course.

CABLE CARS

Gipfelbahn Hochwurzten cable car

Starting point of the first stage – Hochwurzten High Trail

Operating times: <https://www.planai.at/de/sommer/sommerbetriebszeiten>

Gipfelbahn Planai cable car

Ending point of the alternative stage on the last day – Planai High Trail

Operating times: <https://www.planai.at/de/sommer/sommerbetriebszeiten>

CATTLE

Never leave the marked paths, respect the animal habitats, grazing areas and plants.

D

DOGS

A part of the Schladminger Tauern high trail leads through an area in which dogs are not allowed. So, dogs cannot be taken along on this multiple day tour.

DESCENT TO THE VALLEY

From each of the huts you can take a trail down to the valley with a bus connection afterwards and a walking time of 2.5 hours.

DURATION

The stated walking times are based on a formula of the standard specification DIN 33466.

In one hour, a hiker walks:

- 300 meters in vertical ascent
- 500 meters in vertical descent
- 4 kilometers in distance

The actual walking time is calculated the following way: first, walking time for vertical ascent/descent and horizontal distance is calculated. Then, taking the half of the smaller of the two sums and adding it to the bigger sum, gives you the total walking time.

Example

Vertical ascent: 900 m $900 \text{ m} / 300 \text{ m} = 3 \text{ h}$

Distance: 8km $8 \text{ km} / 4 \text{ km} = 2 \text{ h}$

Calculation: $2,0 \text{ h} \times 0,5 = 1,0 \text{ h} + 3,0 \text{ h} = 4,0 \text{ h}$

Result: The total walking time for this hike is 4h.

Source: AV-Wegekonzept, edition November 2009

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DROPOUT OR INTERRUPTION OF THE TOUR

If you should interrupt the tour and do not need the hut reservations, please inform the hut owners. This gives the huts planning security and prevents unnecessary searches. Please note that if you should need the mountain rescue services, you may incur high additional costs (helicopter flight minutes, etc.).

We ask for your understanding that a cancellation may result in costs.

E

ENDING POINT

If you take the original tour, the last day of hiking ends at Steirischer Bodensee Lake in the Seewigtal. From there you can take the hiking bus back to Schladming / Rohrmoos.

EQUIPMENT

A good backpack is helpful, while headwear, gloves, a warm jacket and pants should be included in your basic gear. Waterproof shoes, sunglasses, sun block and plenty to drink are essential. You should also include a flashlight, maps, knife, and a small first-aid kit. Especially when it comes to multi-day hikes, keep what you are carrying as compact as possible, so that it is easy to carry even over the course of several days.

EMERGENCY

Please refer to SAFETY INFORMATION.

140 – for alpine emergencies, nationwide in Austria

112 – European GSM emergency number

ENVIRONMENT & PROTECTED AREAS

The tour runs through the following protected areas:

- Nature park Sölk­täler
- Nature protection area Krakau-Schöder
- Nature protection areas Klaffer­kessel and Riesachtal in the Schladminger Tauern range
- Fauna-Flora-Habitat area Schladminger Tauern
- Special Protection Area Niedere Tauern

In these protected areas, the following rules apply:

- Please, do not walk off the trails.
- No camping in nature reserves!
- Please, keep quiet.
- Please refrain from collecting stones or minerals.
- Please, do not pick mushrooms or plants.
- Keep the environment clean. Please, do not litter.
- Please, do not feed wild animals.
- Do not make open fires.
- Please, do not release animals or plants into the wild.
- Keep dogs on a leash.
- Please, do not start model airplanes, kites or drones.
- In any case, please respect local advice for nature conversation.

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G

GPS data and orienteering

Available GPS data - just like hiking maps - is only guidance for orientation and can never depict a trail exactly with all its details. Especially at exposed or dangerous spots it is essential to judge on site how to proceed. Walking times calculated by non-hiking platforms like Google Maps are no solid planning criteria for a hiking tour! Download link for GPS-data of the tour: <https://goo.gl/gaxcNS>

H

HIKING MAPS, GUIDE BOOKS & LITERATURE

- Hiking map Schladming, 1:25.000, available at the tourist office Schladming-Dachstein.
- Hiking map Schladming-Dachstein, 1:50.000, available at the tourist office Schladming-Dachstein.
- Guide-book Dachstein & Schladminger Tauern by Herbert Raffalt, available at the tourist office Schladming-Dachstein (only in german).

HIKING SEASON

We recommend the hike within the season between begin of July until mid of September. Depending on the snow conditions you have to expect snowfields. (crampons may be needed).

HUTS

Refreshment stops and mountain huts/refuges along the Schladminger Tauern High Trail:

- | | |
|--|-------------------|
| • Hochwurzehütte | +43 3687 61 177 |
| • Ignaz-Mattis-Hütte (Schutzhütte) | +43 664 42 33 823 |
| • Giglachseehütte (private, overnight stay possible) | +43 664 90 88 188 |
| • Keinprechthütte (Schutzhütte) | +43 664 43 30 346 |
| • Landawirseehütte (Schutzhütte) | +43 676 77 85 375 |
| • Gollinghütte (Schutzhütte) | +43 676 53 36 288 |
| • Preintalerhütte (Schutzhütte) | +43 664 14 48 881 |
| • Hans-Wödl-Hütte (private, overnight stay possible) | +43 664 76 38 908 |

K

KIDS

Kids, who want to go on this difficult hike, should have hiking experience in the mountains. We also recommend a minimum age of 15 years. Sure-footedness, a good physical condition, a head for heights and the right equipment are the basic requirements to discover the Schladminger Tauern high trail. The trail takes you through alpine terrain and partially is secured with steel ropes. Those sections are in very exposed terrain and are suitable for experienced hikers only.

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L

LUGGAGE TRANSPORT

It is not possible to book a luggage transport.

LUNCH PACKAGE

You will get your first packed lunch including the lunchbox and the drinking bottle 0.75l at the accommodation in the valley. We recommend taking at least one additional filled drinking bottle with you for the hiking tour.

M

MARKER

Large parts of the Schladminger Tauern High Trail are a part of the **Central Alpine Trail No. 02**. Therefore, most of the route has the number „702“. (7 in the beginning stands for the “Niedere Tauern” mountain range). Exceptions are the Hochwurzen High Trail (1st day of the hike) with #60 and #773 and the hike Steirischer Bodensee (5th day of the hike) with #782.

MONEY

Mostly, the mountain huts accept cash payment only.

MOUNTAIN GUIDES

- Berg- und Abenteuerschule, Bergführer Heli Rettensteiner +43 664 95 05 363
- Berg- und Skischule Monte Krahe, Bergführer Gerhard Resch +43 664 14 00 439
- Alpenschule Schladming, Bergführer Herbert Raffalt +43 664 89 80 895
- Alpenschule Dachsteinguides, Bergführer Oliver Stocker +43 664 78 17 434
- Bergführer Schladming, Patrick Laszlo +43 664 42 51 234
- IN A TEAM (mountain hiking guide) +43 664 75 10 5005

N

NATURAL RESERVE

Please refer to ENVIRONMENT & PROTECTED AREAS.

O

OVERNIGHT STAY AT THE HUTS

At your arrival at the huts, we kindly ask you to register with the host at the hut, also if you already have a reservation. This way, they can plan accordingly and make sure that everybody who has a reservation has arrived and gets the reserved space.

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OVERNIGHT STAY IN THE VALLEY

If you arrive after 6 p.m., please contact your accommodation in the valley.

Contact details can be found in your booking confirmation.

P

PARKING

You can park your car at the Hochwurzen valley station car park. Please inform the cash point or the parking attendant that your car will be parked for several days.

Alternatively, you can park near the Planet Planai valley station (multi-storey car park Planai or car park P3). The costs for this are around € 9.00 per car and night. Registration and payment take place at the Infopoint Planai. From the Planai (Planet Planai bus stop) or P3 (Rathausplatz stop) the hiking bus also goes to the Hochwurzen valley station. If you have also booked accommodation in the valley, you can park your car there on request.

PACKAGE

Designed to accompany the 5-day tour along the Schladminger Tauern High Trail, the tourist office Schladming-Dachstein offers a special package. In addition to 4 nights at mountain huts, the package also includes 3 nights at an accommodation in the valley along with all the fantastic benefits of the Schladming-Dachstein Sommercard.

https://www.schladming-dachstein.at/en/service/infos-from-a-z/Package-Schladminger-Tauern-High-Trail_az_1074411

PLANNING

Never take a hike in the mountains without careful planning.

Obtain all necessary information in advance, especially regarding what to expect during your tour: trail conditions, hazards, potential difficulties etc. The hosts at the mountain refuges are also a good source of information. They know the area very well and can give you advice and tips. Never hesitate to ask if you are uncertain about the further route of your tour!

S

STARTING POINT

The hike starts at the starting point at the Hochwurzen summit cable car valley station, which can be reached by bus or car.

SAFEGUARDING BY STEEL ROPE

Various sections along the Schladminger Tauern High trail are safeguarded with steel ropes fixed to the rock. There is no need to bring a rope or climbing equipment.

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SAFETY INFORMATION

For multi-day tours in alpine terrain, good physical constitution, as well as experience in alpine terrain are essential. Especially in late summer it is very important to pay close attention to weather conditions. Changes in weather patterns, quick falls in temperature, thunderstorms, wind, fog and snow are some of the dangers that can be encountered on a hiking tour. Hosts of alpine huts and mountain refuges have a lot of experience in the mountains and can give good advice about weather and the trails. Poor equipment, overestimation of one's own capabilities, carelessness, poor personal constitution and/or wrong judgement can lead to critical situations. In case of thunderstorms: avoid summits, ridges and steel ropes.

In case of emergency

Dial 140 – for alpine emergencies – nationwide in Austria

Dial 112 – European GSM emergency number

SCHLADMING-DACHSTEIN APP

The Schladming-Dachstein App is a good service for your holiday in the region. You can even download the routes for the tour and use them offline while you are in the mountains.

https://www.schladming-dachstein.at/en/service/digital-services/schladming-dachstein-app?_ga=1.71795285.718251993.1475499181

SLEEPING BAG

It is recommended to take hut sleeping bag with you. The huts offer blankets and pillows.

SNOWFIELDS

Especially at the beginning of the season, residual snow fields are to be expected - in certain locations even the whole summer. Therefore, always inform yourself about the current weather conditions and take them into account when planning your tour. Please also remember that in higher altitudes weather falls can occur within a short time. In case of bad weather, snowfall, snowfields, or poor fitness, it is recommended to choose an alternative hiking trail. There is an alternative route for every day's stage, which also takes you to the next hut you have booked.

SINGLE STAGES from Hochwurzen to Steirischen Bodensee

- 1st stage: along Hochwurzen Höhenweg to Ignza Mattis Hütte / Giglachseehütte
- 2nd stage: via Rotmandlspitze to Keinprechtthütte
- 3rd stage: via the ridges of Trockenbrotscharte and Gollingscharte to Gollinghütte
- 4th stage: via Klafferessel plateau to Preintalerhütte / Waldhornalm
- 5th stage: via Hans-Wödl-Hütte to Steirischer Bodensee Lake

An additional night along the 5th stage at the Hans-Wödl-Hütte is possible on request.

Alternative and further hiking trails on the last day: Hike over the Planai Höhenweg to the mountain station of the Planai gondola lift (very exposed) or hike to the Neualm, over the Kerschbaumeralm and Riesachsee to the Seeleiten car park or direct descent via Riesachsee to the Seeleiten car park.

If desired, the high trail can also be hiked in the opposite direction.

The following link gives you an accurate description of the individual stages:

<https://www.schladming-dachstein.at/schladming-tauern-high-trail>

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SCHLADMING-DACHSTEIN SUMMERCARD

If you book the whole package of the tourist office Schladming-Dachstein, you will get the Schladming-Dachstein Sommercard. The card is valid during the time you stay in the valley, the time you spend on the mountain is not included. On the arrival day at the accommodation in the valley the card is valid from 1 pm, the following days it is valid the whole day. If you do not book a night in the valley after your hike you get Sommercard only for the nights before the hike. Thus, costs for cable-car or bus for returning from the mountains are not included in the package.

If you abort the hike and you take a taxi or the bus, the costs are to be paid for yourself.

V

VIRTUAL VIEW OF THE HIGH TRAIL

The following link provides a virtual view of the high trail and the single stages:

https://vonoben.schladming-dachstein.at/sommer/index.php?_ga=2.10225654.2109907514.1571814574-137292925.1571814574

W

WASHING ON THE MOUNTAIN

Showers are available on the huts. The costs are to be paid on site.

WEATHER

Obtain the latest information about weather conditions.

Never feel bad about interrupting a tour for safety reasons.