



Austria - Lake Walking in the Salzkammergut 2018

Self guided – 8 days/7 nights



Easy – Moderate 7 nights

The magnificent landscape of the Austrian Alps is truly one of the world's special treasures. On this tour we explore the Salzkammergut region, displaying some of Austria's most spectacular scenery. We hike along good walking trails and small paths and discover some special gems only reachable by foot – a real treat! It is easy to understand why this area has been designated a UNESCO heritage site, as we move through the stunning landscape, where high mountains plunge into glittering lakes, creating almost fjord-like scenery.

Relaxed walking on good walking trails. Daily distances up to 5 hours and the height difference is quite low. We presume that you are in good health and demand enough endurance for distances up to 15 km. Please note that some parts also may lead on small paths. This tour combines pleasant walking with culture and points of interest. Very good walking trails, suitable for families with children.

TOUR ITINERARY

Day 1: Individual arrival at Abersee/Wolfgangsee

Day 2: Round trip St. Wolfgang-St. Gilgen

(approx. 3,5 hours; 10,5 km; up and down to the lake level- 354m ascent)

Take the boat to St. Wolfgang. On your walk along a walking trail to Falkenstein rock wall you enjoy beautiful views of the lake. An idyllic path along the lake takes you into Mozart village St. Gilgen. Return by boat.

Escape the Crowds

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Day 3 Abersee/Wolfgangsee to Bad Ischl

(approx. 4.5 hours; 12 or 15,5 km (around a little lake), ascent 395m – back to lake level)

From St. Wolfgang on Saddle walk to lake Schwarzensee. Here the lake cabin of Lore is worth a stop for the delicious home made snacks. Via Wirer gorge into the valley and around Buerglstein to the lake promenade of Strobl. By coach into the ancient Imperial summer residence Bad Ischl.

Day 4 Rest day in Bad Ischl

Use the free time to explore the many points of interest in Bad Ischl. “Kaiservilla” Emperor Franz Josef’s summer residence, Café Zauner with famous delicacies, the thermal spa, there is a wide choice of things to do.

Day 5: Bad Ischl to Bad Goisern

(3, 5 hours; approx. 10,5 km; up 260 m and down 180 m)

Salt always has been an important source of income in Salzkammergut. The oldest brine pipeline of the world leads from Hallstatt’s salt mine to the salt works in Bad Ischl. Walk along the promenade into Kaltenbachau, a site of Imperial pleasures as horse races, picnics and rendezvous. On brine pipeline trail to Bad Goisern, the gateway to UNESCO heritage Hallstatt.

Day 6: Roundtrip Hallstatt

(4,5 hours; approx. 15 km; up 455m and down 90m + cable car)

Continue on brine pipeline trail to the salt mountain in Hallstatt (salt mine dates back to Celtic times). Here you enjoy a scenic view of the lake and Dachstein massif. Plan a visit of the salt mine, enjoy the views from the top of Rudolf’s Tower and visit the excavation sites. A boat carries you across the lake back to Bad Goisern.

Day 7: Bad Goisern – Abersee/Wolfgangsee

(5,5 hours; approx. 20 km; up 210m and down 140m)

By train to Bad Ischl. You walk along the romantic Sissi-Path to the tiny lake Nussensee then along river Ischl back to Lake Wolfgangsee. Through nature reserve Blinkingmoos along the lake to Abersee.

Day 8: Individual departure or extended stay

PRICES AND DATES 2018

€495 per person sharing - season 1: 21 April – 20 May & 17 September – 7 October
€525 per person sharing - season 2: 21 May – 30 June & 1 September – 16 September
€555 per person sharing - season 3: 1 July – 31 August

€125 single room supplement:
€135 half board supplement (min 3-course menu) - optional

Self guided tour can start any day from 14 April to 8 October 2017.

***4 night tour option also available**

TOUR PRICE INCLUDES

- 7 Overnights incl. Breakfast in 3*** Hotels and Country Hotels
- Luggage transfer
- Welcome meeting
- Cruise fare Wolfgangsee, Hallstaettersee
- Bus fare Strobl – Bad Ischl
- Train fare Hallstatt - Bad Goisern and Bad Goisern – Bad Ischl
- Valley fare cable car Salzbergbahn Hallstatt
- Salzkammergut Erlebnis Card
(reductions for cable cars, thermal bath Bad Ischl, salt mine Hallstatt, boat rides, etc.)
- Detailed route instructions
- Carefully elaborated route
- 1x Hiking-Backpack per room
- Service-Hotline

Any visitor taxes not included in tour price!

We can also organize extra nights upon request

Wolfgangsee 3***

Bad Ischl 3***

Bad Goisern 3***

WHAT TO BRING

Your enjoyment of your walking holiday will be greatly helped by having the right gear. The following list should help you in planning your packing for your trip.

Footwear: Good footwear is vital for a happy walking holiday! We recommend waterproof, breathable, walking boots with good ankle support. Boots which are “broken in” (i.e. not brand new), teamed with **well fitting hiking socks** will keep your feet snug and dry and help to avoid blisters.

Hiking Clothes

We recommend the “onion look” of layering clothing as the best protection against heat/cold:

- Base Layer –this layer should not retain moisture but transport it away from the skin (there are lots of “wick away” fabrics now on the market.
- Insulation layer – this layer should stop you from losing body heat – fleece is ideal
- Outer Layer – this layer should keep you dry even in a downpour! A waterproof, breathable jacket and over-trousers are as important as your comfy boots. You should bear in mind that clothing tends to lose its “waterproofness” over time so if you have had your gear for many years it might be time to treat yourself with a trip to an outdoor store!
- Walking trousers/ shorts (avoid denim)
- Warm hat and gloves for chilly mornings or high mountains
- Sun hat
- Walking stick/pole (a great help on uneven terrain)

Daypack - a small comfortable rucksack to carry the bits and pieces you will need during the day:

- Water bottle/flask
- Moleskin/plasters/”second skin” – ward off any impending blisters before they become a problem!
- Sun screen
- Camera
- Binoculars
- Waterproof map case
- Mobile phone

GENERAL INFORMATION

Money - The unit of currency is the Euro (€), 100 cent = € 1.

Travel Insurance - It is essential to take out holiday insurance to cover cancellation, personal accident, illness, or loss of possessions.

Travel

By train to Salzburg, by coach to Wolfgangsee or Abersee (approx. 1 hour). Or by train to Bad Ischl and by coach to Wolfgangsee (approx 30 min.). Pick up service from the bus stop by the hotel.

Transfers from/to airport/station Salzburg available upon request.

Parking: mostly free hotel car park available, no reservation required. Public Car park €30 per week.