

WINTER 2026/27 ZELL AM SEE-KAPRUN

FROM THE REGION

408 kilometres of pistes with the Ski ALPIN CARD

The Ski ALPIN CARD offers winter sports enthusiasts an exceptionally diverse skiing experience in Zell am See-Kaprun: A total of 408 kilometres of pistes connects the Schmittenhöhe, the Kitzsteinhorn – Salzburg's only glacier ski resort – and the Skicircus Saalbach Hinterglemm Leogang Fieberbrunn. Numerous ski-in/ski-out options ensure particularly comfortable days full of variety on the pistes. Thanks to the high altitude and the glacier on the Kitzsteinhorn, the winter season in Zell am See-Kaprun starts particularly early and lasts well into May. Freeriders, freestylers, ski tourers, cross-country skiers, and winter hikers will also find a wide range of options off the classic pistes. Families can also look forward to numerous child-friendly activities and shared winter experiences.

Through the turnstile with your smartphone ticket

Alps at their very best – directly onto your smartphone: pass through the turnstile with your smartphone ticket in the Zell am See-Kaprun App. Simply download the Zell am See-Kaprun App, buy your smartphone ticket from the online shop, load it into the app and activate it, then walk straight through the turnstile.

Guest Mobility Ticket

The Guest Mobility Ticket entitles overnight guests to the use of all public transport in the federal state of Salzburg throughout their stay – from trains and Postbuses to the Pinzgau local railway. The ticket enables a comfortable, flexible, and sustainable journey to the region as well as local travel, making many winter activities easily accessible even without a car. The ticket is included from the first night of your stay, is valid on both the day of arrival and departure, and is issued directly at your accommodation either as a printed ticket or digitally via the Zell am See-Kaprun App.

KITZSTEINHORN

K-ONNECTION: Ski-in/Ski-out

During the peak season, the 12-kilometre-long K-ONNECTION cable car route connects the centre of Kaprun directly with the Kitzsteinhorn glacier ski resort via the Maiskogel family mountain. For winter sports enthusiasts, this means ski-in/ski-out access from 768 to 3,029 metres.

Snow parks

The snow parks on the Kitzsteinhorn are world-class and impress freestylers with their diverse set-ups. The first obstacles can be tackled in the Glacier Park on the glacier plateau at 2,900 metres as early as autumn. Easy Park, Central Park, and South-Central Park open a little later from December. In November, the superbly shaped Superpipe created by Olympic shaper Alli Zehetner and his team in the Sonnenkarbahn area on the Kitzsteinhorn draws the world's elite halfpipe riders to the glacier snow. During the annual Pipe Training Weeks, legendary names from the international freestyle scene use the massive halfpipe, with walls up to 6.5 metres in height, to prepare for competitions.

Guided ranger tours

The **Kitzsteinhorn Explorer Tour** takes you on an exciting journey of discovery with a National Park ranger, from the centre of Kaprun to TOP OF SALZBURG. The route offers fascinating stories and insights into the flora and fauna of the Kitzsteinhorn, as well as a ride on the 3K K-connection. Special Explorer cabins ensure an unobstructed panoramic view of the amazing high-alpine winter landscape.

The subsequent **National Park Gallery Tour** promises a mystical journey into the heart of the Kitzsteinhorn. The ranger provides fascinating insights into the history, technology, natural treasures, flora and fauna of the Kitzsteinhorn and the Hohe Tauern National Park at six stops.

ICE CAMP presented by Audi

At 2,600 metres, ice and snow form a fantastic work of art. Three igloos dominate the winter landscape on the Kitzsteinhorn from around mid-January to mid-April. They accommodate a setting that captures the spirit of the times. Ice sculptures, light installations, and sounds tell a new story, transporting visitors to a different world every year. It is an experience for all the senses that never fails to delight visitors. Alongside an Audi showroom, there is an ICE CAMP sun deck with a snack bar, sun loungers, chill-out music, and views of the summit. ICE CAMP Sounds – the trendy series of events featuring live acts – takes place on selected Saturdays in March and April.

SCHMITTENHÖHE

New Kapellenbahn chairlift

Following a long and careful planning and refurbishment process, the Kapellenbahn will open to skiers and snowboarders from December 2026 as one of the very first cable cars on the Schmittenhöhe. With shorter queuing times, a faster journey, easier access for children, and - above all - greater comfort, the new cable car will take winter sports enthusiasts up to 1,964 metres above sea level, thus to the Schmittenhöhe upper terminus and the Sisi Chapel. The previous Kapellenbahn chairlift will be reused in Romania.

“Schmitten Sound – Berg. Musik. Emotion.”

The Schmittenhöhe mountain enhances its winter specials with a unique experience and established event concept: the *“Schmitten Sound – Berg. Musik. Emotion.”* Live acts, international DJs, and regional artists bring musical diversity to the mountain – from mountain huts and restaurants to large open-air stages. A highlight is the New Year’s Eve party on the mountain.

Beginner area “Schmidolin’s Magic Carpet” at the areitXpress lower terminus

Located right next to the areitXpress lower terminus, the practice area offers ideal conditions for beginners. The extra-wide, gentle slope and the covered magic carpet ensure a safe and relaxed start. Ski school, ski rental, and restaurants are just a few steps away – perfect for families and beginners.

Ski’n’Brunch

During Ski’n’Brunch, early risers can hit the pistes, followed by a substantial breakfast every Thursday from 7 January to 11 March 2027 this winter. After the uphill ride on the Schmittenhöhe cable car, small, exclusive groups will be the first to enjoy the freshly groomed pistes during the golden hour – a tranquil mountain atmosphere, fresh morning air, and an amazing sunrise included. The subsequent brunch offers ample time to get interesting insider tips about Zell am See’s local mountain.

EVENTS IN WINTER

STAR ADVENT

20 November to 31 December 2026

Advent in Zell am See-Kaprun – magical moments straight out of a picture postcard! Many lovingly decorated huts invite visitors to a stroll. Wooden toys, fragrant mulled wine, freshly baked Christmas cookies, roasted almonds, and hand-knitted items create a festive atmosphere. The town centre of Zell is illuminated by wonderful light sculptures, animals, and instruments of Magical Light Parks by Lumagica. And all this right on the shores of the tranquil wintery Lake Zell. The Parish Advent on the Kirchbichl in Kaprun and the Star Advent Market at Kaprun Castle create a truly festive pre-Christmas atmosphere. Insider tip: the star-themed boat trips on Lake Zell. The magic of Advent can be experienced in a special way full of atmosphere from the water on selected dates from 29 November 2026 to 7 January 2027 – with St. Nicholas’ Day cruises and special trips also on Christmas Day, New Year’s Eve, and Epiphany!

www.zellamsee-kaprun.com/advent

A WEEKLY PROGRAMME FULL OF VARIETY

Mid-December to the end of March

On the piste, in the backcountry, or on pristine trails across fields, meadows, and through the forest: the weekly holiday programme has plenty to offer in winter. Together with trained guides, you'll embark on snowshoe hikes and freeride tours, take your first ski tour, try your hand at mogul runs, or visit markets full of atmosphere.

www.zellamsee-kaprun.com/winter-wochenprogramm

Note: Programme items will be continuously added throughout the autumn.

FAT ICE RACE

30 January to 31 January 2027

The FAT ICE RACE celebrates cars and their place in culture, uniting all those who today and in future share a passion for automotive excellence. This unique festival brings together various racing classes, including the distinctive tradition of skijoring. A diverse array of rare and exotic cars is also on display. International competitors take their racing machines to the ice at the event grounds near Zell am See airfield, delivering a spectacular show every winter. Visitors include numerous prominent figures from motorsport and the worlds of sports and entertainment. In addition to the thrilling races, there is also a comprehensive supporting programme.

<https://www.zellamsee-kaprun.com/fat-ice-race>

BALLOONALPS & NIGHT OF THE BALLOONS

30 January to 6 February 2027 | 3 February 2027

Spectacular views and unique 360-degree panoramas at dizzy heights await visitors at balloonalps in Zell am See-Kaprun from 31 January to 6 February 2027. Surrounded by glacier, mountain, and lake, the region will once again become a hotspot for ballooning and nature enthusiasts. During these international ballooning weeks, around 20 hot air balloons from seven countries will take to the skies and float above the majestic Alpine landscape. It remains to be seen whether and how many balloons will successfully cross the Alps this year. Thanks to ideal weather conditions, 15 hot air balloons managed to cross the Alps last year, landing near Lignano Sabbiadoro after a flight of approximately three hours. Crossing the Alps is an exclusive experience that is only possible with suitable thermal conditions during the winter months. This trip is only planned at short notice, as it depends in particular on a northerly foehn weather pattern with northerly winds of at least 80 km/h at an altitude of approximately 5,000 metres. If all conditions are met, the journey leads over majestic peaks such as the Grossglockner and Großvenediger, as well as across the Zillertal Alps and the Dolomites to the Po Valley.

Light show, ski show and more: The Night of the Balloons

One of the balloonalps highlights is the Night of the Balloons on Wednesday, 3 February 2027, which will illuminate Zell am See in vibrant colours. From 8pm onwards, illuminated balloons, exciting shows, and wonderful music will transform the piste above the cityXpress lower terminus into an extraordinary spectacle. Ski and snowboard instructors will trace a luminous path in the snow with torches, while vintage skiers will revive the skiing of yesteryear with their performance. Drinks, DJ music, and a fireworks display will complement the evening, providing a fitting finale to balloonalps 2027. Admission to the Night of the Balloons is free of charge.

<https://www.zellamsee-kaprun.com/balloonalps>