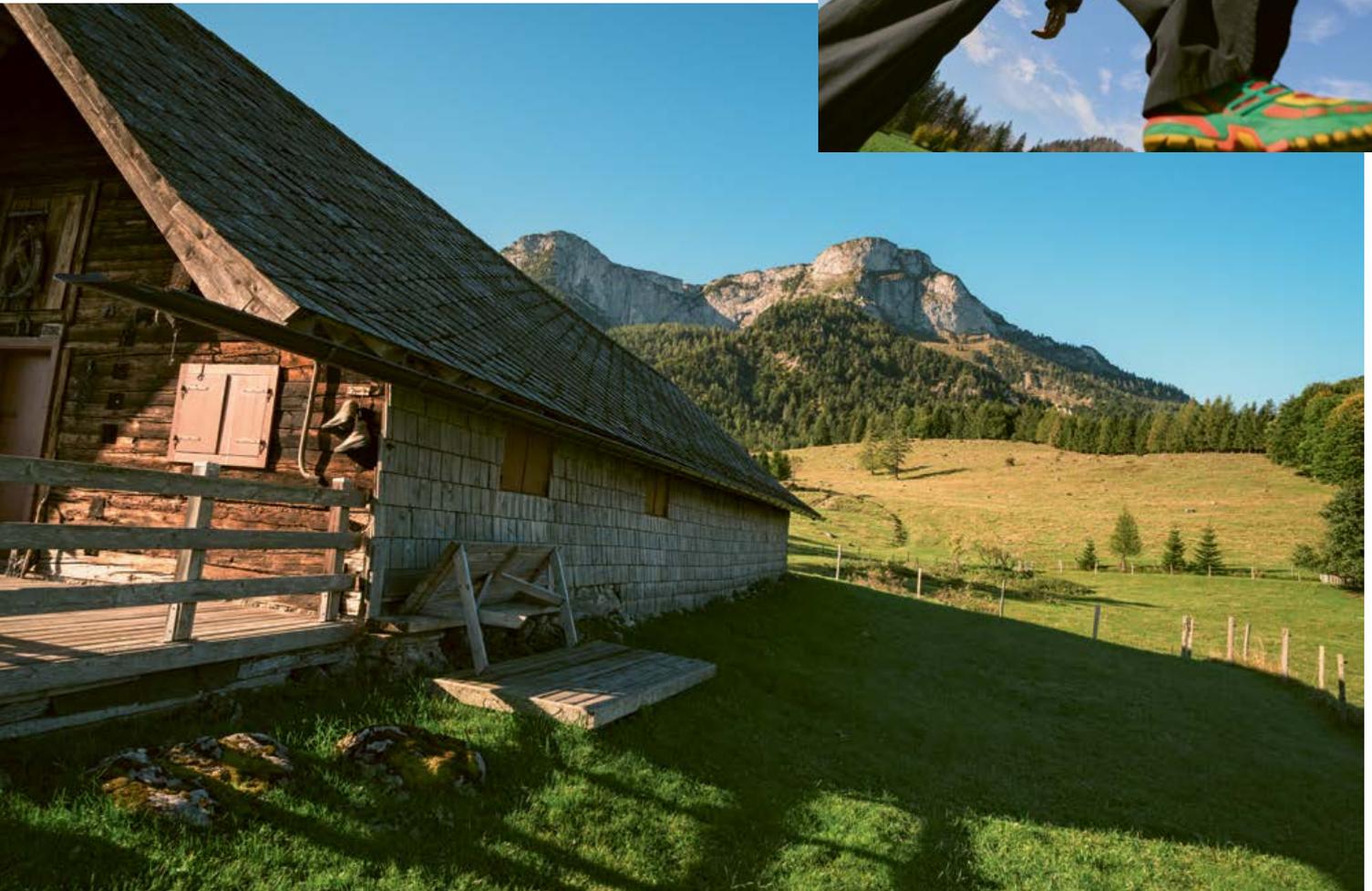


# Hiking



Hiking is in fashion. Across all generations. Walking amidst nature delights the senses, ignites the body and promotes well-being. Austria's outdoors can be experienced 365 days a year – spontaneous, authentic and excitingly different. Hiking can also serve as a stepping stone for more, which is why this year's focus is on unique and new experiences that invite discovery and adventure. Slow tourism – profound, individual experiences with and within nature – have been high on guests' bucket lists of late. But the combination of moderate exercise and culinary indulgence is extremely popular too. Austria's tourism professionals are thus expanding the already extensive range of offerings year after year. Long-distance hiking trails with spectacular views and meaningful experiences for body, mind and soul are added. Themed walks, puzzle rallies, escape trails and interactive hikes get the whole family involved, whilst culinary paths enhance physical and mental well-being. Hiking quality seals and the hiking village certifications underline quality and expertise.

## BURGENLAND

### Three Vineyards Circular Route

The 14 km Three Vineyards Circular Route launched in Southern Burgenland in autumn 2025. This delightful route leads to the Eisenberg, Csaterberg and Deutsch Schützen vineyards, with information boards listing which wine taverns and places to take a break are open along the way. Hikers can also learn more about the region and its characteristics at seven information stations.

[burgenland.info](http://burgenland.info)

## CARINTHIA

### New hiking villages



Gurk, Sankt Urban and Guttaring in the Central Carinthia region have extended the choice of certified hiking villages since autumn 2025. Hüttenberg is to be certified in 2026. The region is also aiming to obtain the European Hiking Quality Label, with the corresponding certification to take place during the course of 2026.

[visitcarinthia.at](http://visitcarinthia.at)

## LOWER AUSTRIA

### Mountain Escape Gemeindealpe Mitterbach



A new escape trail opened on the Gemeindealpe Mitterbach in summer 2025. "The Secret of the Gemeindealpe" invites over 14s and adults to solve a mystery in small groups of two to eight people. The aim is to find missing Felix Kronthaler, who left only a short voice message with cryptic clues. To complete the task, you need a mobile phone and the game backpack, which is available at the valley station of the Gemeindealpe chairlift. The trail takes around four to six hours to complete, with an actual walking time of about one and a half hours. The path is accessible from spring to autumn and the chairlift operates from the second week of May.

[gemeindealpe.at](http://gemeindealpe.at)

### Hiking with Hypershell Pro

The Villach – Faaker See – Ossiacher See region has been using a new technology for hiking enthusiasts with low stamina or minor limitations since 2026. With the help of a Hypershell Pro, they too can enjoy nature hikes. The innovative exoskeleton is attached to the legs and hips and supports movement, from moderate assistance in Eco mode to stronger support in Fitness or Hyper mode. You can hire the Hypershell Pro in the Dreiländereck hiking and ski area. There are also going to be guided hikes with the opportunity to give the exoskeleton a go.

[visitvillach.at/en/mountain-experience.html](http://visitvillach.at/en/mountain-experience.html)

> LOWER AUSTRIA

## Extension of the Luchs Trail in Ötscherland



The long-distance Luchs Trail, created by ARGE, leads through three internationally recognised protected areas: Kalkalpen National Park, Gesäuse National Park and the Dürrenstein Wilderness Area. From the beginning of the 2026 hiking season, it will boast 13 (as opposed to 11) daily stages. The new trail sections lead through the Mostviertel, first from the mountaineering village of Lunz am See via the pass to the hiking village of Lackenhof/Ötscher, and then through the breathtaking Ötscher ravines to the Ötscher-Basis Nature Park Centre in Wienerbruck. This means that the long-distance trail will now take hikers from Reichraming in Kalkalpen National Park across 245 challenging km and around 12,000 m of altitude difference through the impressive forest landscapes in eastern Austria. [luchstrail.at/en/](http://luchstrail.at/en/)

> LOWER AUSTRIA

## Hiking Quality Seal for the Wachau World Heritage Trail



The Wachau World Heritage Trail was awarded the Austrian Hiking Quality Seal in November 2025. The certification report summarises it as a high-quality hiking product with 14 stages that cover around 180 km, which impresses with its well thought out, attractive route and excellent information material. The trail that connects 14 municipalities of the UNESCO World Heritage Site on both sides of the Danube leads mostly through unspoiled landscapes. An interplay of meadows, forests, orchards and traditional terraced vineyards showcase the region's distinctive natural features, with the trail's careful handling of nature highlighted as a further bonus.

[donau.com/en/wachau-world-heritage-trail](http://donau.com/en/wachau-world-heritage-trail)

## Two new hiking villages in the Ybbstal Alps

From the start of the 2026 hiking season there will be six certified hiking villages in the Mostviertel, thanks to newly added Gaming-Lackenhof/Ötscher and Ybbsitz. The hiking village Gaming is situated at 430 m above sea level on an old trade route that once led from the Styrian Erzberg to the foothills of the Alps. The Ötscher village of Lackenhof lies at 810 m above sea level in a side valley at the foot of the Ötscher. And Ybbsitz is characterised by its vibrant blacksmithing tradition, which continues to shape the region to this day.

[mostviertel.at](http://mostviertel.at) (German only)

## UPPER AUSTRIA

### New long-distance hiking trails in the Hausruck region



Spring 2026 will see the launch of two new long-distance hiking trails in the Hausruck region in the heart of Upper Austria. The HausruckRing and SteigerPfad are each around 90 km long and can be completed in five to seven stages. Both bring aspects of regional history and culture to life, with the SteigerPath focusing on the history of lignite mining, which was once of great significance here. Sustainability and mobility played a central role in the design. There are 15 train stations and stops to start or end day trips along the way. There are also plenty of places to stop for a bite to eat or overnight stay.

[tourismus-hausruckwald.at](http://tourismus-hausruckwald.at) (German only)

## > LOWER AUSTRIA

### New pilgrimage route: Bernhardiweg in the Waldviertel



The new Bernhardiweg circuit has been leading 125 km from Zwettl Abbey through ten abbey parishes in Zwettl, Schweiggers, Weitra, Großschönau and Groß Gerungs since autumn 2025. The trail, which is named after St. Bernard of Clairvaux, invites you to explore the impressive landscape of the Waldviertel, seek spiritual reflection and discover the historical, cultural and culinary specialities of the region. Churches, chapels and sites of great natural beauty accompany you along the way, as does the "Treat yourself!" guiding principle. The length and number of stages can be determined flexibly, with the route designed so it can be completed in four, five or six days. Pilgrim-friendly establishments invite you to take a break along the way. [waldviertel.at/pilgern-bernhardiweg](http://waldviertel.at/pilgern-bernhardiweg) (German only)

### Wilheringer Pilgrim Trail



The new Wilheringer Pilgrim Trail will be accessible from May 2026. The 132 km long route, divided into six stages, leads from the Danube near Linz through the Mühlviertel to the Vltava in the Czech Republic. It thus also connects the Cistercian monasteries of Wilhering and Vyšší Brod, which share a history spanning centuries. 14 churches invite you to stop and reflect along the way. Pilgrims can begin their journey at any point along the route and also hike the stages individually. [wilheringerweg.at](http://wilheringerweg.at)

## Milchkannenweg adventure trail

The new adventure trail at the mountain station of the Donnerkogelbahn in Annaberg/Lungötz – Dachstein West will combine exercise, play and views from summer 2026. Oversized milk cans, a motor skills course, viewing platform, various marble runs and loungers make the trail an experience for families and all ages.  
[dachstein.at/en/summer](https://dachstein.at/en/summer)

## Happiness trail

A new, lovingly designed themed trail is being created in Viehhofen, inviting people of all ages to consciously experience happiness: the Glücksweg (Happiness Trail). The just short of 1 km long walking trail between Hecherhütte and Rehbergalm combines nature with interactive elements and inviting rest areas. A large stained glass butterfly welcomes guests at the entrance to the trail and sets the tone for the experience. Several stations such as the wheel of fortune and wishing well invite you to stop, smile and join in along the way.  
[viehhofen.at/en/summer/hiking](https://viehhofen.at/en/summer/hiking)

## STYRIA

## Seven Elements long-distance hiking trail in the Gesäuse



The new Seven Elements long-distance hiking trail opened in the Gesäuse in autumn 2025. The spiritual long-distance trail leads for 126 km with an altitude difference of 6,100 m through the Styrian Eisenwurzen Nature and Geopark in seven days, through a landscape that offers space for tranquillity, a search for meaning and renewed energy. Wayside crosses, shrines and churches lend depth to the trail and invite you to stop and reflect along the way.  
[siebenelemente-derweg.at](https://siebenelemente-derweg.at)

## > STYRIA

## Revised Via Natura route



The Via Natura invites you on an approximately 127 km long journey of discovery through the Zirbitzkogel-Grebenzen Nature Park in the Murau region, divided into seven stages. Quiet forests, gentle alpine pastures, clear streams and impressive peaks accompany you along the way. There are some changes in store for the 2026 season, with the new route designed to create an even more harmonious link between experiences and landscapes. Updated, uniform signage makes it easy to find your way and new rest areas accommodate breaks.  
[steiermark.com](https://steiermark.com)

## Play stations at Hopsiland



For the past ten years, the Planai in Schladming has been turning into a colourful world of adventure for families with children in summer. To mark its 2026 anniversary, Hopsiland Planai is unveiling a new themed trail. The approximately 2 km circular trail starts in the bike area and leads past stations such as the North Pole, taking you all the way to the Weitmoos reservoir and back. Children are kept entertained with Hopsi's world tour and the creative play stations from around the globe, such as an oversized hiking boot with climbing and balancing elements in Europe, a giant spider with slides and swings in Australia or a huge telescope for climbing and spotting in Africa.  
[planai.at/en/activities/hopsiland-planai](https://planai.at/en/activities/hopsiland-planai)

## Grazer Bergland Trail



A new premium circular hiking trail has been running through the region north of Graz in six day-long stages since autumn 2025. The route passes historic castle ruins, a mysterious bear cave, majestic churches, the Cistercian Monastery Rein and the Austrian Open-Air Museum Stübing. Cosy huts, welcoming inns and top-class restaurants invite you to stop and refuel along the way. The Grazer Bergland Trail covers a distance of 103 km and around 4,300 m altitude difference. The daily stages range between 14 and 20 km. All start and finish points are easily reached by public transport, making it simple to organise accommodation and travel.  
**steiermark.com**

## TIROL

## Kaiserblüte star hike



On the new Kaiserblüte star trails, keen walkers can discover the five habitats of water, alpine pasture, forest, rock and moor around the Wilder Kaiser on six day hikes from summer 2026. The tours start and end in the valley where they connect with the region's free mobility services, meaning there is no need for overnight stays in huts. The individual hikes range from 10.5 to 21 km in length with difficulty levels of blue (= easy) or red (= medium).

**wilderkaiser.info**

## Cross-border hiking and cycling



In the Kufsteinerland region, a new 4.6 km long cycling and hiking trail will create a cross-border connection to the Bavarian network towards Schliersee and Tegernsee from spring 2026. The section runs from Langkampfen over the Drei-Brunnen-Joch to Thiersee and then on to Germany.

**kufstein.com**

## TIROL / SALZBURGERLAND / CARINTHIA

## Alpina Antica Trail



The Alpina Antica Trail launches in summer 2026 as a new transalpine long-distance route, covering more than 30 daily stages. The Austrian section spans around 300 km from Kössen in Tirol to Mittersill and Kaprun in SalzburgerLand, continuing via the Grossglockner High Alpine Road to Carinthia and then on to Italy and the Adriatic Sea. It mainly follows historic pack and trade routes. 21 stages with flexible accommodation can be booked at **bookyourtrail.com**.  
**alpina-antica-trail.com**

## Redesigned: the Wusel lake trail

The family-friendly Wusel lake trail by Lake Achensee will unveil a new design this summer. The 3.8 km trail runs right along the shore with 16 adventure and activity stations lining the path. At some of the stations, Achensee mascot Wusel the water spirit provides background information on nature, water and regional topics.

[achensee.com/en/summer/wusel-lake-trail/](https://achensee.com/en/summer/wusel-lake-trail/)

## “Tales from Oetz” discovery trail



From summer 2026, the new “Tales from Oetz” discovery trail will invite visitors to discover stories and legends that have shaped Oetz in the Ötztal. The interactive, digital adventure rally leads through the village, with short audio and video elements containing puzzles and tasks that can be accessed at ten stations along the way.

[oetztal.com](https://oetztal.com)

## Mobility-friendly hiking trail in the Ötztal

There will be a new short hiking trail in Oetz in the Ötztal from spring 2026, which will be easy for those using walking frames or wheelchairs to access. It leads from the central parking lot to the nearby bridge. The bridge was extended to a width of about 1.50 m in the middle, from where there is a beautiful view of the Ache and enough space for wheelchairs to turn.

[oetztal.com](https://oetztal.com)

## Trail running in Wildschönau

The Wildschönau is expanding its offerings for trail runners. Twelve newly developed routes will be available from March 2026. The easy village circuits with a length of 5.6 to 12 km and 185 to 390 m of elevation gain are suitable for beginners. There are also two easy mountain trails that lead to mountain huts. They are 10 and 14 km long and entail 490 and 770 m of altitude difference. Four medium trails, 13 to 20 km long, and three difficult trails complete the choice. On the most challenging trail, the trail runners cover 34 km and 2,500 m of elevation gain. Start and finish point is the Schönangeralm at 1,180 m above sea level.

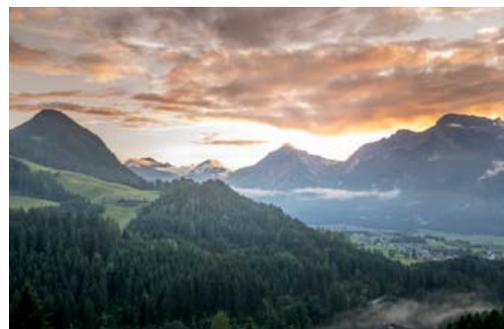
[wildschoenau.com/en/activities/trailrunning](https://wildschoenau.com/en/activities/trailrunning)

## Hike and solve puzzles

Two family-friendly hiking trails in Hochfügen and the Hochzillertal will offer multimedia digital experiences from summer 2026. Those who set out with the Locandy app can solve different tasks. It's all about the Almbtrieb cattle drives on the 7.3 km Four-Alms-March, whilst local wildlife is the focus of the 3.7 km Hubertus Wildlife Trail.

[best-of-zillertal.at/en/summer/hiking/themed-trails/](https://best-of-zillertal.at/en/summer/hiking/themed-trails/)

## Sunset hikes in the Alpbachtal



In addition to the popular sunrise rides to the Wiedersberger Horn in the Alpbachtal, two new atmospheric offerings will be available starting in summer 2026: From July 2026, nature lovers can take part in an easy sunset hike up to the Bischofer Joch on five selected dates. Also new is an alpine breakfast combined with a leisurely morning hike to the Pinzgerhof.

[alpbachtal.at](https://alpbachtal.at)