

Austria - Lake Walking in the Salzkammergut 2025

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 you explore the Salzkammergut region, displaying some of Austria’s most spectacular scenery. You 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 km; up 250m, down 250m)

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.

Day 3 Wolfgangsee to Bad Ischl

(approx. 4.5 hours; 12 or 15,5 km (around a little lake), up 300m, down 350m – 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 Buerlstein to the lake promenade of Strobl. By coach into the ancient Imperial summer residence Bad Ischl.

Day 4 Rest day in Bad Ischl

approx. 1,5 hours; 4 km; 150m up, 150m down

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 to 5 hours; approx. 11 km; up 50m and down 50m)

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. If you want to walk a little higher, you can hike on the spectacular mountain trail of the “Eternal Wall”.

Day 6: Roundtrip Hallstatt

(4,5 hours; approx. 12 km; up 400m and down 100m + 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. 18 km; up 300m and down 200m)

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 2025

€860 per person sharing - Season 1: 3rd – 25th May, 15th September – 5th October
€910 per person sharing - Season 2: 26th May – 15th June, 1st – 14th September
€1020 per person sharing - Season 3: 16th June – 31st August

€270 single room supplement (if travelling with others)

Self guided tour can start any day from 3rd May – 5th October (arrival date).

TOUR PRICE INCLUDES

- 7 Overnights incl. Breakfast in 3*** Hotels and Country Hotels with breakfast
- Luggage transfer
- Welcome briefing
- Ferry fare Wolfgangsee and Hallstättersee
- 1 Valley cable car fare Salzbergbahn Hallstatt
- 1 Train ride from Hallstatt to Bad Goisern
- 1 Train ride from Bad Goisern to Bad Ischl
- 1 Salzkammergut Erlebnis Card (reductions for cable cars, thermal bath Bad Ischl, salt mine Hallstatt, Boat rides etc.)
- Route description
- Detailed travel documents 1x per room (German, English, French)
- App for Navigation and GPS-data
- Service hotline

Optional Extras:

Transfers from/to airport/station Salzburg upon request

We can also organize extra nights upon request

Wolfgangsee 3***

Season 1: €85 per person sharing / €130 single room
Season 2: €95 per person sharing / €140 single room
Season 3: €105 per person sharing / €150 single room

Bad Ischl 3***

Season 1: €105 per person sharing / €185 single room
Season 2: €115 per person sharing / €185 single room
Season 3: €125 per person sharing / €195 single room

Bad Goisern 3***

Season 1: €90 per person sharing / €130 single room
Season 2: €90 per person sharing / €130 single room
Season 3: €100 per person sharing / €140 single room

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

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.