



# TOURS FOR EPICURES



ACROSS ALL THE MOUNTAINS

*Real driving fun  
for explorers*



GROSSGLOCKNER  
3.798 m

GROSSES WIESBACHHORN  
3.564 m

JOHANNISBERG  
3.452 m

EDELWEISSPITZE  
2.971 m

PASSHÖHE WOCHTOR  
2.704 m

FUSCHER TORL  
2.428 m

KAISER-FRANZ-JOSEF'S-HÖHE  
2.369 m

PIFFKAR  
1.620 m

HEILIGENBLUT AM  
GROSSGLOCKNER  
1.301 m

FUSCH AN DER  
GROSSGLOCKNERSTRASSE  
815 m

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



Historic border stones as companion  
with Brennkogel (3,018 m) in the background.



---

## CONTENTS

---

Breakdown emergency call, contact, opening hours	<i>Page 4-5</i>	Nockalm road	<i>Page 49</i>
Things to know	<i>Page 6</i>	Addresses: Sleeping & eating in the mountains	<i>Page 57</i>
5 tips to drive on alpine panoramic roads	<i>Page 7</i>	<b>TOUR 3:</b> Through the Nocky Mountains	<i>Page 58</i>
Grossglockner High Alpine Road	<i>Page 9</i>	Villach Alpine Road and Goldeck Panoramic Road	<i>Page 67</i>
Addresses: Sleeping & eating in the mountains	<i>Page 23</i>	Addresses: Sleeping & eating in the mountains	<i>Page 73</i>
<b>TOUR 1:</b> Across the Grossglockner	<i>Page 26</i>	<b>TOUR 4:</b> Curve-adventure in the tri-border area	<i>Page 74</i>
Gerlos Alpine Road	<i>Page 35</i>	Publication details	<i>Page 82</i>
<b>TOUR 2:</b> The big 6 Passes Tour across the Gerlos pass	<i>Page 40</i>		

# ARE YOU STILL DRIVING OR ARE YOU ALREADY ENJOYING?

---

*Men and motors – this love story is over a century old.  
This love is based on the desire to travel: To feel the wind,  
to see the landscapes pass by and the experience the high  
mountains of Austria. To stop wherever one likes.  
To keep driving as long as one wants.*

---

3



Today, the car or the bike is a symbol for freedom. Did you know that the famous architect and designer of the Grossglockner High Alpine Road, Franz Wallack, travelled with an open roof his entire life: In this way, he was always close to nature and also to the seasons in his favourite convertible (BMW 327/28) or on his Indian Scout!

We have put together four pleasure tours for you, which Franz Wallack would have liked too. You travel through four Austrian federal provinces to Italy. They literally carry you away over “across all the mountains” and across our most beautiful panoramic roads: The Grossglockner High Alpine Road, the Gerlos Alpine Road, the Nockalm road and the Villach Alpine Road with a detour of the Goldeck Panoramic Road.

*Enjoy each tour and »experience «  
the »Alpine Austria«*

Grossglockner (3,798 m)



The Nockalm road has over 52 turns, which are called "Reidn" in Carinthia.



Austria's highest mountain and the biggest glacier of the Eastern Alps – the Pasterze Glacier.

## THE ROADS AT A GLANCE

*You will find the exact GPS data for all the pleasure tours offered in the brochure on our website – [www.grossglockner.at](http://www.grossglockner.at).*

*In case of breakdowns on the roads, please contact our information and toll gates. Breakdown assistance through ÖAMTC (Austrian automobile club):*

*Phone no. 120 or [www.oeamtc.at](http://www.oeamtc.at) or ARBÖ (Austrian automobile club):*

*Phone no. 123 or [www.arboe.at](http://www.arboe.at)*

---

**Please note that:**

- Short-term road closures caused by the bad weather can be inquired over the phone or you can find it on our website - [grossglockner.at](http://grossglockner.at)
- You will find our safety tips on page 6 and 7 of the brochure.

## GROSSGLOCKNER HIGH ALPINE ROAD

*grossglockner.at*

### VALLEY LOCATIONS:

Fusch a.d. Grossglocknerstrasse (Salzburg), Heiligenblut am Grossglockner (Carinthia)

**CONTACT:** Toll gate and information desk Ferleiten, phone no. + 43 (0)6546 / 650

Heiligenblut toll gate phone no. +43 (0)4824 / 2212

**OPENING HOURS:** Beginning of May until 31st May: 6 am to 8 pm

1st June to 31st August: 5 am to 9.30 pm

1st September to the end of October/starting of November: 6 am to 7.30 p

→ Last admission is 45 minutes before night closure.

### OPENING HOURS OF THE EXHIBITIONS:

Daily from 10 am to 5 pm, Haus Alpine Naturschau from 9 am to 5 pm

**MISCELLANEOUS:** Overnight accommodation options are available along the road. (refer to p. 23)

**GEODATA:** Ferleiten toll gate: *47°10'5.75"N ~ 12°48'49.88"E*

Heiligenblut toll gate: *47°2'42.38"N ~ 12°51'17.51"E*

GROSSGLOCKNER  
HIGH ALPINE ROAD

## GERLOS ALPINE ROAD

*gerlosstrasse.at*

**VALLEY LOCATIONS:** Krimml (Salzburg), Zell am Ziller (Tyrol)

*wasserwelten-krimml.at*

**CONTACT:** Gerlos toll gate, phone no. +43 (0)6564 / 7261

WasserWelten Krimml, phone no. +43 (0)6564 / 20113

**OPENING HOURS:** The road is open year-round.

### OPENING HOURS OF THE WASSERWELTEN KRIMML:

From 1st May to 27th October open daily from 9 am till 5 pm, last admission 4.30 pm

**GEODATA:** Gerlospass toll gate: *47°14'12.82"N ~ 12°9'30.34"E*

WasserWelten Krimml: *47°12'50.57"N ~ 12°10'10.26"E*

GERLOS  
ALPINE ROAD

## GOLDECK PANORAMIC ROAD

*goldeck-panoramastrasse.at*

**VALLEY LOCATIONS:** Zlan (Carinthia)

**CONTACT:** Zlan toll gate, phone no. +43 (0)4761 / 296

### OPENING HOURS:

From the beginning of May to mid/end of October daily from 8.30 am to 5 pm.

**GEODATA:** Zlan toll gate: *46°44'31.39"N ~ 13°33'4.27"E*

GOLDECK  
PANORAMIC ROAD

## NOCKALM ROAD

*nockalmstrasse.at*

**VALLEY LOCATIONS:** Innerkrems, Ebene Reichenau (both in Carinthia)

**CONTACT:** Innerkrems toll gate, phone no. +43 (0)4736 / 265

Ebene Reichenau toll gate, phone no. +43 (0)4275 / 7494

**OPENING HOURS:** The road is open daily from the beginning of May to the end of October.

There is a motorcycle-driving ban from 6 pm to 8 am.

**MISCELLANEOUS:** Overnight accommodation options are available along the road. (refer to p. 57).

**GEODATA:** Innerkrems toll gate: *46°58'4.64"N ~ 13°43'32.95"E*

Ebene Reichenau toll gate: *46°53'4.17"N ~ 13°51'1.57"E*

NOCKALM ROAD

## VILLACH ALPINE ROAD

*villacher-alpenstrasse.at*

**VALLEY LOCATIONS:** Villach-Mölttschach (Carinthia)

**CONTACT:** Mölttschach toll gate, phone no. +43 (0)4242 / 55309

**OPENING HOURS:** The road is open year-round.

There is a motorcycle-driving ban from 8 pm to 7 am.

**GEODATA:** Mölttschach toll gate: *46°36'4.16"N ~ 13°48'42.58"E*

VILLACH  
ALPINE ROAD

## FELBERTAUERN ROAD

*felbertauernstrasse.at*

**VALLEY LOCATIONS:** Mittersill (Salzburg), Matrei (East Tyrol)

**CONTACT:** Road hotline 0 to 24 hours: Phone no. + 43 (0)4875/8806-11

**OPENING HOURS:** The road is open year-round and accessible round the clock.

FELBERTAUERN  
ROAD



# THINGS TO KNOW

## DISCOUNTS

We offer discounts to certain club-members or card holders of different region and guest cards. Find out more from your host or from your holiday region (e.g. Kärnten Card, Salzburger Land Card, Zell am See-Kaprun Card, Motorradland Kärnten, Hohe Tauern National Park Sommercard Mobil, Moho motor bike hotels etc.). Special discounts for E-vehicles. Discounts (pre-booked tickets for cars and motorbikes) are also available for customers of ÖAMTC, ADAC, ARBÖ etc. Economic combo-tickets are for example the round trip tickets for Grossglockner High Alpine Road and Felbertauern road or the TOUR-Ticket (especially for motorbikes). The panoramic roads ticket for Carinthia is available exclusively at the Motorradland Kärnten-Hotels.

## ONLINE-TICKETING

This is brand new for the Grossglockner High Alpine Road Online-tickets. More information log on to [grossglockner.at](http://grossglockner.at)

## FACEBOOK, INSTAGRAM, YOUTUBE & CO

Always stay well-informed about the current events on our roads. Also we are pleased to read your posts of Facebook & Co. You can find videos of the safety tips for motorbike riders on Youtube. There are WLAN points along the Grossglockner High Alpine Road. Simply ask for it!

## SERVICE FOR MOTORBIKE RIDERS

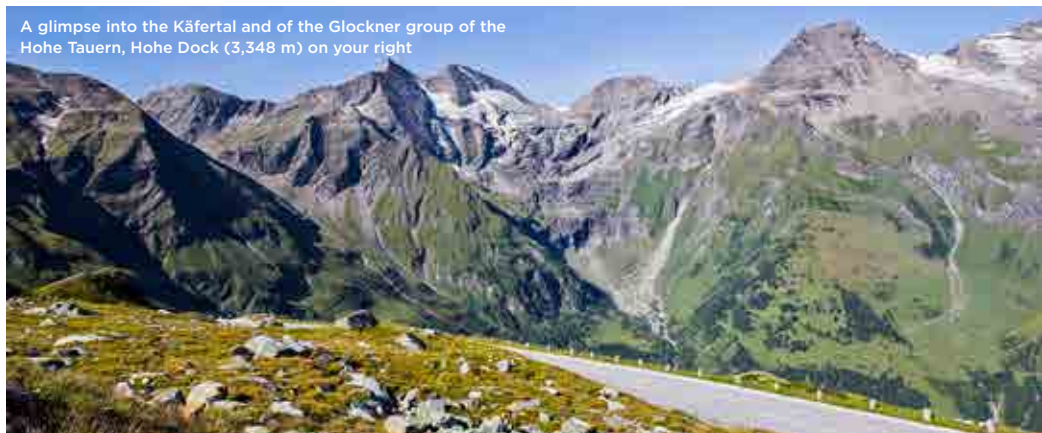
We are eager to offer high safety standards and lot of comfort to the motorbike riders. We have provided the following on our roads:

- o Biker Points, Biker parking areas and Biker Safes
- o Protection against sharp-edged crash barrier posts
- o Use of pavements with maximum tyre grip during road surface renovation
- o GPS tours to download on our website



Video "Safety tips for bikers"

A glimpse into the Käfertal and of the Glockner group of the Hohe Tauern, Hohe Dock (3,348 m) on your right



# 5 TIPS TO DRIVE ON ALPINE PANORAMIC ROADS

1

## *Adjust your driving style to the road conditions.*

There are advices for all our tours: For some roads good stamina, driving skills and/or the mountain experience is necessary especially for motorbike drivers.

In order to enjoy the tours to fullest, you should make sure that you don't overestimate yourself.

---

3

## *Keep in mind the road opening hours.*

Not all our roads are continuously open: There is a ban on night-journeys on some roads due to ecological reasons. Get information about the opening hours in good time and consider it in your schedule

---

4

## *Drive thoughtfully and avoid making any noise.*

You shall be amid a high-ranking protected zone. Please avoid any unnecessary noise and please respect the subjective feel of security of the other road users, specially during the overtaking manoeuvres.

---

2

## *Stay informed about the weather forecasts.*

The weather can change quickly in the mountains and in the high mountains regions. Snowfall or severe thunderstorms are not uncommon: Also there can be a strong drop in the temperature within an extremely short time. Inform yourself in advance about the weather and take a look at our Webcams. Bring warm clothes.

---



5

## *Take care of the brakes.*

In case of driving through the passes and Alpine roads, check the brake fluid before the journey and change, if required. On steep descending slopes change to the second gear, at times also to the first and use the exhaust brakes. Drivers of automatic cars should set the gear shift to manual or the set the level 1-2-3. Tip: Study the operating manual carefully.

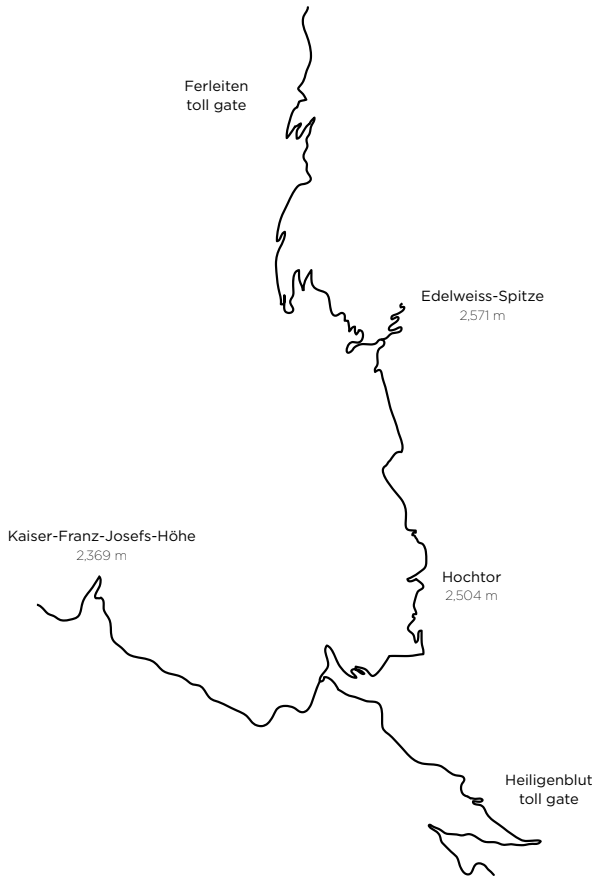
---



The original cobblestone pavement is still preserved on the road to the Edelweiss-Spitze (2,571 m).







# QUEEN OF THE MOUNTAIN PASSES

*The Grossglockner High Alpine Road is the most beautiful and most famous panoramic road in Europe. Over 48 kilometres and 36 turns bring you above 2,500 metres in the high mountains and offer undreamt views.*

# AMAZING HIGH MOUNTAINS

---

*Calling the Grossglockner High Alpine Road a romantic scenic road would be inappropriate. It is too impressive for that and also high – almost breathtakingly high. Nothing for laggards, but for all, who want to know how really thin air gets above 2,500 metres. And for those, who want to be very close to the highest mountain in Austria.*

**B**eforehand: Different rules prevail in the high mountains. Romance gives way to purism. It is barren up there; the long winter and the icy temperatures leave the road only late in the spring. A metre-high snow walls – milled from the road in a week-long work by brave men – greets the first tourist of the year.

The surrounding three-thousanders are often covered in snow for the whole year. If there are summerlike temperatures in the valley, there can be an icy breeze on the **Grossglockner High Alpine Road**.

---

In cooperation with the ÖAMTC, the highest road safety training of the Alps for bikers is offered here. Also for non-members. ([www.oeamtc.at/fahrtechnik](http://www.oeamtc.at/fahrtechnik))

## **ON THE WAY TO THE GLACIER**

It is the terrific world of the ibexes, the chamois and the Alpinists. And all those lucky people, who have very comfortably climbed up turn after turn to the Edelweiss-Spitze with its 2,571 metres or to the Kaiser-Franz-Josefs-Höhe with its 2,369 metres.

Those who have set out for a journey on the Grossglockner High Alpine Road, are set out for a trip through the climate and vegetation zones up to the Arctic: From the evergreen coniferous forest, through the mountain tundra and the moors right to the lichen tundra and the glacier.

Here in these allegedly barren nature, there are hidden treasures, which are extremely rare also in the Alps: The warm temperatures not only bring out the cute and no longer shy marmots out of their burrow but also the entire nature seems to be exploding. As if it exactly knows how little time it has. As short as the summer is.



### **VISUAL SCHOOL OF NATURE**

Thousands of animal species, many of which are strictly protected, find a pristine and safe habitat in the Hohe Tauern National Park. Some of them like golden eagle, bearded vulture or the Apollo butterfly can be seen with a little luck.

The Grossglockner High Alpine Road is a true “visual school of the high mountain nature”. The exhibitions along the road – like for example in the “Haus Alpine Naturschau” including Marmot Cinema or the Schöneck Naturschau emphasise on them more with its splendid Glockner Meadows.

The marmots, who were almost extinct in the Alps 150 years ago, are one of the favourite companions.

11

### **HOHE TAUERN NATIONAL PARK**

The Grossglockner High Alpine Road is 48 kilometres long and has over 36 turns: Once it goes right across the Hohe Tauern National Park, one of the biggest nature conservation areas in the mid-Europe. Yet the road is much older than the park: The road was opened in 1935, the national park exists since 1981.

Due to the continuous efforts of the architects and the Grossglockner Hochalpenstrassen AG, to incorporate the road as carefully as possible in the sensitive environment of the high mountains, there is priceless association. ▶

*via culinaria*  
GENUSSWEGE IM SALZBURGERLAND

GENUSS  
GUIDE  
JETZT GRATIS  
BESTELLEN



>> NEUE & ÜBERARBEITETE 4. AUSGABE

## FESTSPIELE DES GUTEN GESCHMACKS IM SALZBURGERLAND

220 kulinarische Empfehlungen vereint die Via Culinaria auf acht Genusswegen: Entdecken Sie junge Küchentalente und arrivierte Meister, urige Almhütten und modern interpretierte Gerichte sowie innovative Produzenten und ihre erstklassigen Erzeugnisse. In einem Land, das mit feinen Zutaten aus der Natur geradezu gesegnet ist.

Via Culinaria-Guide jetzt gratis bestellen: [VIA-CULINARIA.COM](http://VIA-CULINARIA.COM)

**SALZBURGERLAND TOURISMUS** / Wiener Bundesstraße 23 / A-5300 Hallwang bei Salzburg  
T +43 662/6688-44 / [info@salzburgerland.com](mailto:info@salzburgerland.com) / [SALZBURGERLAND.COM](http://SALZBURGERLAND.COM)



- › This is a unique opportunity for the visitors to experience the heart of a national park region, which would have remained inaccessible to them without the road.

### TRAVEL BACK IN TIME

The travelling highlights include not only the two access roads to the Edelweiss-Spitze and to the Kaiser-Franz-Josefs-Höhe, but also the seven-kilometres long panorama-section between 2,400 and 2,500 metres above sea level between the Fuscher Törl and Hochtörl. The following facts have been discovered during the construction of the road: People were already out and about in the high mountains much earlier. Old trade routes lead across the Tauern mountain range. A journey across the Grossglockner High Alpine Road is therefore always a trip into the past. A place's description and the name tell stories: A pilgrim lost his life on the Elendboden in a snow storm; the Kaiser-Franz-Josefs-Höhe and the Elisabethruhe am Glocknerhaus owe their names to the visit of the royal couple in the year 1856. As naturally the majesty of Vienna was curious to visit the majesty of the mountains: The emperor never stood on the top, but he climbed the "Hoher Sattel", which was immediately renamed to Kaiser-Franz-Josefs-Höhe.

### KAISER-FRANZ-JOSEFS-HÖHE

Even today it is the highest point of an excursion across the Grossglockner High Alpine Road: The Pasterze glacier - the longest glacier of the Eastern Alps - is at the visitor's feet and the Grossglockner appears to blaze everywhere. It is possible to watch every mountaineer with a naked eye from here, who climbs the 3,798 metres peak on the trail of the first climber Prince-Bishop Franz Xaver Graf von Salm-Reifferscheid. The Kaiser-Franz-Josefs-Höhe is the starting point for magnificent hikes on the high alpine Gamsgrubenweg with Glockner legends to the Wilhelm Swarovski Observatory or to the Pasterze glacier. Here one finds "Alpenliebe" one of the highest exhibitions for contemporary art, "Automobilausstellung", the highest held automobile exhibition in the world as well as the National Park Info-centre with the exhibition "Faszination Eis & Gletscher", the themed trail "Fels und Eis" and the Glockner Cinema. ■



The splendid Fensterbach waterfall on the glacier road in the direction of the Franz-Josefs-Höhe.

# A SHINING STAR

---

*The Grossglockner High Alpine Road is included in the most monumental landmarks of Austria since its opening on 3rd August 1935. It is under Monument Protection since 2015.*

The Grossglockner High Alpine Road is known as a masterpiece of the road construction in the Alpine high mountains. With its unique route the 48-kilometre-long road combines highest driving pleasure with a splendid nature experience.

The construction of the road was started in economically difficult times. In the young Austrian republic there was a mass-unemployment in the 1920s. A private car was considered as a luxurious pleasure however the central position of Austria in the “heart of Europe” was appreciated.

## THE LIFE’S WORK OF TWO MEN

Two men are inseparably connected with the Grossglockner High Alpine Road: The architect and designer Franz Wallack and the Salzburg Governor at the time Franz Rehr. They both made history with their life’s work. Before Franz Wallack started with the line routing of the road, he went on a study tour in order to inspect more than 40 Alpine passes and roads. At the end he concluded that: “Among all of the alpine roads, the Grossglockner High Alpine Road would not be a wallflower, but the brightest star”.

## A DISTINCTIVE ROAD BEAUTY

The first blasting for the Grossglockner High Alpine Road took place on 30th August 1930. With up to 4,000 men, – the so-called “Glockner labourers” – were engaged with 1.8 million working shifts for the construction of the six-metres-wide sandy road. In the 26 months of construction, 870,000 cubic metres soil



Franz Wallack,  
Builder of the road

and rocks were moved; 115,750 cubic metres of walling was created and 67 bridges were built. The total construction costs amounted to 85.2 million euros.

Even today the historical stone walls and the road boundaries are mostly preserved. The original cobblestone pavement is still preserved on the road to the Edelweiss-Spitze. And also the **road border stones** contribute to the distinctive road scene: They all are made of Granite and have the special “Glockner standard”.

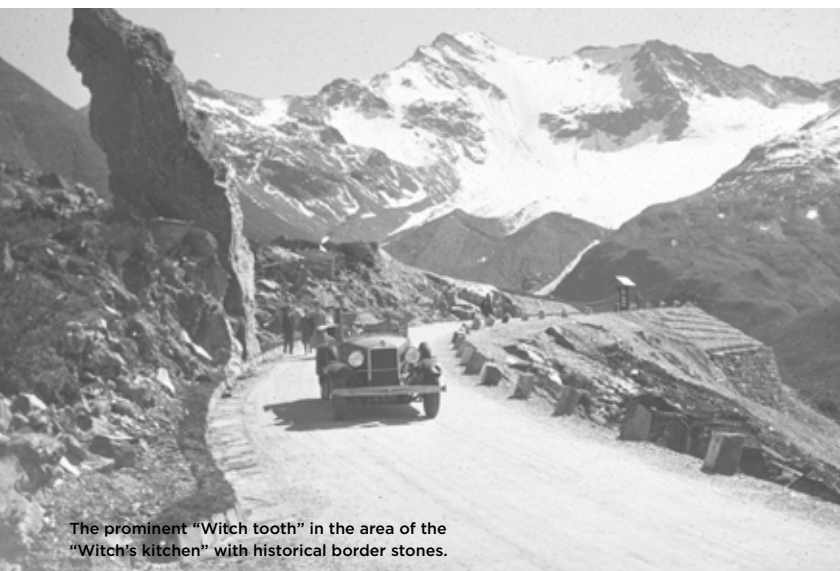
### **EXHIBITION “BAU DER STRASSE” (BUILDING THE ROAD)**

An original preserved barracks at the “Fuscher Lacke” mountain lake holds the permanent exhibition “Bau der Strasse”. This vividly documents the living conditions of the Glockner labourers and illustrates with original documents, plans, and newspaper articles how very much the building of the Grossglockner High Alpine Road preoccupied the people in Austria.

### **FROM A MONUMENT TO THE UNESCO-WORLD HERITAGE SITE**

Exactly at the time of its 80th birthday, the Grossglockner High Alpine Road was put under monument protection at the beginning of July 2015. All the national levels certified the road of the highest protection value. Thereby, an important milestone on the way to the UNESCO-world heritage site is mastered. ■

Approximately 12,000 border stones edge the road.



The prominent “Witch tooth” in the area of the “Witch’s kitchen” with historical border stones.



The “International Grossglockner Grand Prix” for veteran cars takes place every year in September.

The famous rotary snowploughs clear the road:  
The first visitor of the year may enjoy the metre-high  
snow wall along the road.





# FLAIR FOR SNOW

---

*One who likes snow, will love the Grossglockner High Alpine Road: From May onwards, one passes through metre-high snow walls and before Hochtator, summer snowball fights can be held.*

Their names are Paul, Jörgen, Ander, Oskar and Eisbändiger, they are equipped with 3 engines with 125 hp each and are – even though outdated – operational anytime. The rotary snowploughs of the Grossglockner High Alpine Road are considered by themselves as an attraction and are therefore under monument protection. They were developed and built by Franz Wallack at beginning of 1950s; they do an excellent job year in and year out.

The snow-clearance work on the Grossglockner High Alpine Road lasts between two and three weeks: Two troops with a total of twelve men go to work – a troop starts from south, the other from north. It is not a safe job as there are numerous avalanche spots along the road. Therefore there is always an experienced mountain guide within the lot: He knows the snow conditions at best and has experience of many years. If the situation gets tricky, snow slabs must be blasted and the avalanche must be triggered artificially. The “cutting” is a big event every year: Then both the troops meet at the peak of the Hochtator.

In this way, more than 600,000 cubic metres of snow is cleared from the roads every year. If these masses are piled up on a 120 m x 90 m big football field, the snow blocks would be more than 50 metres high. There is sufficient snow, also to “give away” some: If there is lack of snow in the major sporting events, the Grossglockner High Alpine Road helps them out. ■

Video: Snow clearance on the Grossglockner High Alpine Road.



In the area of the “Mesenaten” on the Carinthian side. The word Mesenaten is of Slav origin and means something like “swampy”.



## A GOOD WALK

18

*In pre-Christian times, traders and packhorse drivers crossed the Alps. The historic “Glockner route” led across the Hochtörl however not all the men were voluntarily out and about.*

All the exhibitions along the Grossglockner High Alpine Road can be visited without any charges. One of them is called “Passheiligtum Hochtörl” and is located exactly there: Directly at the south portal of the Hochtörl-tunnel, which also marks the border between Salzburg and Carinthia.

The exhibition gives special impressive glimpses in an age-old trade-route across the Alps, which at that time presented itself a lot more inhospitable. A bronze Roman figurine was found in the course of the road construction in 1933. It depicted Hercules, the most revered god of the trade and of the travellers. For many decades, the authenticity of the finding was questioned, till the middle of 1990s several excavations took place. Successfully: Approximately 200 Celtic and Roman coins as well as fragments of many other figurines were found. They clearly prove that here on above 2,500 metres above sea level there must have been a pass or mountain temple. ▶



[nationalpark-hohetauern.at](http://nationalpark-hohetauern.at)

# Genusswandern am Alpe-Adria-Trail



## Genusstipps am Trail Etappe 7: Zur guten Quelle

- Der Romantik-Gasthof „Zur guten Quelle“ verwöhnt mit Schöpfenbraten, Quellenpfandl und Obervellacher Alpenlachs.

## Etappe 8: Danielsberg

- Wo einst Kelten, Römer und Christen ihre Gotteshäuser errichteten genießt man heute feine Gerichte mit regionalen Produkten.



NPR Archiv Franz Gerdl, Klaus Dapra

## Nationalpark-Region Hohe Tauern

### Genuss am Wegesrand

Eine wilde Schönheit, besondere Vielfalt und genussvolle Kulinarik prägt während der ersten zehn Tagesetappen Österreichs neuen Top-Weitwanderweg, den es Alpe-Adria-Trail. Von der Franz-Josefs-Höhe am Fuße des höchsten Berges Österreichs, dem Großglockner, führt der Weg hinunter zum Pasterzengletscher, durch das Bergdorf Hei-

ligenblut, vorbei an den sanften Almen der Apriacher Stockmühlen, weiter durch die Groppensteinschlucht und hinunter nach Obervellach, an der Märchenburg „Falkenstein“ vorbei und wieder hinauf zum Danielsberg. Zahlreiche Almhütten, Gasthöfe und Einkehrmöglichkeiten laden zum genussvollen Verweilen.

## Hohe Tauern – die Nationalpark-Region in Kärnten

Hof 4, A-9844 Heiligenblut am Großglockner, Tel.: +43 4824 2700

[tourismus@nationalpark-hohetauern.at](mailto:tourismus@nationalpark-hohetauern.at) [www.nationalpark-hohetauern.at](http://www.nationalpark-hohetauern.at)



## » PRISONERS ON THE HOCHTOR

The exact period of mounting the figurine of Hercules, which can be dated long before the birth of Christ, is not clear. One thing is for sure that the coins were offerings of the travellers. Numerous other findings like spears, brooches, swords, necklaces and decorative places prove that men have moved across the high alpine pass together with the horses and mules. That they all were not voluntarily away, is proven by the finding of an eight-metres-long ankle chain: Prince-bishops of Salzburg declared the service in the galley as a punishment. Therefore, some could be released with the help of family or friends on the way to Venice.

## ON THE SAFE WAYS

Today, one has the best opportunity to volunteer to travel: The Grossglockner High Alpine Road offers wonderful opportunities to learn about nature on short, or longer, trails. Nature trails invite one to discover the flora of the Hohe Tauern National Park with its over 1,800 plant species. Eyebright, Hawkweed, Dandelions, Anthyllis, Bell flowers and Plantain grow at approximately 1,600 metres above sea level along the loop road that runs through the Pifflkar Special Protected Area. Cliff-settlers like lichen and moose, flowering plants like Ducat flowers, early thyme or the Alps-rock rose edge the road through the larch meadows. In the area surrounding the “Haus Alpine Naturschau” you get information about a nature trail across the “Welt der Flechten im Hochgebirge” (The Realm of Lichens in the High Mountains) and across the different types of rocks occurring in the Grossglockner area.

20  
Video: Historic  
Grossglockner  
High Alpine Road.



## “GAMSGRUBE” SPECIAL PROTECTED AREA

Unique in its offerings is the Gamsgrube trail to the Kaiser-Franz-Josefs-Höhe: Hikers can here explore the high mountain regions at the foot of the Grossglockner and explore high over the Pasterze glacier, in a gentle walk at almost 2,600 metres above sea level. The legend about the origin of the Pasterze glacier is impressively dramatised in the tunnels at the beginning of the high alpine path. The “Gamsgrube” special protected area behind the Hofmannshütte is off limits to visitors. Therefore: Stay on the trail! Here one finds the largest marmot colony in the Hohe Tauern, and the last good chance to see mountain goats. It pays to keep one’s eyes open for other alpine highlights, however: From the path one sees sand pyramids, cushion plants and unique flora such as the “Alpenbreitschote” (*Braya alpina*), often seen on





mountain peaks. At the end of the Gamsgrubenweg one encounters the “Wasserfallwinkl” with “Austria’s most beautiful refreshment area”.

### TRAVELLING WITH RANGER

Those who would like to set out with a ranger, has an opportunity for this at the Kaiser-Franz-Josefs-Höhe. The ranger explains the legends, which trail around the Pasterze glacier and discuss the historic incidents: Such as the Glockner first ascents, the development of the alpinism in the region, the origin of the national park idea, about the mining industry in the Glockner area as well as about the mule tracks. They explain the mountain peaks and how they got their names and know the places, where special plants grow, which one cannot find alone. The current Ranger Programme can be found at [www.nationalpark-hohetauern.at](http://www.nationalpark-hohetauern.at) and [www.nationalpark.at](http://www.nationalpark.at) ■

**1** The marmots are the cute companions along the Grossglockner High Alpine Road.

**2** Hiking at the Gamsgrubenweg with fantastic Glockner sighting.

**3** The Margaritzen Reservoir with the view of the Johannesberg (3,453 m) in the foreground of the longest glacier in the Eastern Alps, the Pasterze glacier (approximately 8 km long).



# SLEEPING & EATING IN THE MOUNTAINS

*48 thrilling kilometres in the national park. Without a doubt the Grossglockner High Alpine Road is generally perceived as the Europe's most beautiful pass-road of the Eastern Alps.*

## NORTH (SALZBURG) from Ferleiten toll gate to Hochtor-North

### RESTAURANT LUKASHANSL 🍴

Ferleiten wildlife park  
Mayr-Reisch family  
Phone no. +43 (0)6546/220  
[info@wildpark-ferleiten.at](mailto:info@wildpark-ferleiten.at)  
[www.wildpark-ferleiten.at](http://www.wildpark-ferleiten.at)

### PIFFKAR

Glockner-Shop & Snacks  
[info@grossglockner.at](mailto:info@grossglockner.at)  
[www.grossglockner.at](http://www.grossglockner.at)

### HAUS ALPINE NATURSCHAU:

Glockner-Shop & Gastro  
[info@grossglockner.at](mailto:info@grossglockner.at)  
[www.grossglockner.at](http://www.grossglockner.at)

### 1 RESTAURANT FUSCHERTÖRL 🍴

→ *ex-Dr. Franz-Rehrl-Haus*  
Erika and Robert Sallaberger  
Phone no. +43 (0)6545/74 20 or  
+43 (0)676/610 04 11  
[grossglockner-restaurant@sbg.at](mailto:grossglockner-restaurant@sbg.at)  
[www.grossglockner-restaurant.at](http://www.grossglockner-restaurant.at)

### 2 EDELWEISSHÜTTE 🍴

Kurt Lederer family  
Phone no. +43(0)6545/74 25  
[edelweisspitze@aon.at](mailto:edelweisspitze@aon.at)  
[www.edelweisspitze.at](http://www.edelweisspitze.at)

### RÖMERHÜTTE

Wallensteiner family  
Phone no. +43 (0)664/750 11 901

### 6 RESTAURANT FUSCHERLACKE "MANKEIWIRT" 🍴

Herbert and Helene Haslinger  
Phone no. +43 (0)6545/67 79  
[info@fuscherlacke.at](mailto:info@fuscherlacke.at)  
[www.fuscherlacke.at](http://www.fuscherlacke.at)

## SOUTH (CARINTHIA) from Heiligenblut toll gate to Hochtor-South

### RESTAURANT TAUERNALM 🍴

Gerwald Wallner sen.  
Phone no. +43 (0)4824/20 59  
[office@tauernalm.at](mailto:office@tauernalm.at)  
[www.tauernalm.at](http://www.tauernalm.at)

### ALPENHOTEL WALLACKHAUS 🍴

Gerwald Wallner jun.  
Phone no. +43 (0)4824/22 23  
[info@wallackhaus.at](mailto:info@wallackhaus.at)  
[www.wallackhaus.at](http://www.wallackhaus.at)

### 3 MOUNTAIN HUT "MESENATEN" 🍴

→ *only overnight accommodation*  
Phone no. +43 (0)6546/600-14  
[hochwimmer@grossglockner.at](mailto:hochwimmer@grossglockner.at)  
[www.grossglockner.at](http://www.grossglockner.at)

### HOCHTOR

Glockner-Shop & Gastro  
[info@grossglockner.at](mailto:info@grossglockner.at)  
[www.grossglockner.at](http://www.grossglockner.at)

## GLACIER ROAD

### 4 RESTAURANT SCHÖNECK

Süntinger family  
Phone no. +43 (0)650/21 29 802  
[schoeneck@gmx.at](mailto:schoeneck@gmx.at)  
[www.gasthaus-schoeneck.at](http://www.gasthaus-schoeneck.at)

### GLOCKNER ALPINE DAIRY KNAPP-KASA

Ebner family  
Phone no. +43 (0)664/11 22 825

### KARL VOLKERT HAUS 🍴

Caecilia Seibald  
Phone no. +43 (0)4824/25 18  
[tonizuegg@aon.at](mailto:tonizuegg@aon.at)  
[www.grossglocknerblick.com](http://www.grossglocknerblick.com)

### 5 GLOCKNERHAUS-ALPINCENTER 🍴

Helmut Schlager  
Phone no. +43 (0)4824/24 666 or  
+43 (0)664/20 14 595  
[glocknerhaus-alpincenter@gmx.at](mailto:glocknerhaus-alpincenter@gmx.at)  
[www.glocknerhaus-alpincenter.at](http://www.glocknerhaus-alpincenter.at)

### PASTERZENHAUS 🍴

Franz Zlöbl  
Phone no. +43(0)4824/24 637 or  
+43 (0)676/46 27 387

### 7 KAISER FRANZ JOSEFS HAUS & PANORAMARESTAURANT

Alpine hotel Grossglockner  
Sauper family  
Phone no. +43 (0)4824/25 12  
[st.georg@zell-am-see.at](mailto:st.georg@zell-am-see.at)  
[www.grossglockner.co.at](http://www.grossglockner.co.at)

### GLACIER RESTAURANT FREIWANDECK (at the visitor centre)

Sauper family  
Phone no. +43 (0)4824/25 13  
[info@grossglocknergastbetriebe.eu](mailto:info@grossglocknergastbetriebe.eu)  
[www.grossglocknergastbetriebe.eu](http://www.grossglocknergastbetriebe.eu)





## GSCHLÖSSTAL, DER SCHÖNSTE TALABSCHLUSS DER OSTALPEN

Mit der neuen Trassenführung der Felbertauernstraße öffnet sich der Blick auf das bisher versteckt liegende Gschlößtal, das als schönster Talabschluss der Ostalpen gilt. Wer auf dem Weg in den Urlaub etwas Bergluft schnuppern will, sollte hier unbedingt eine Pause einlegen. Vom Südportal der Felbertauernstraße ist es nur ein Katzensprung bis zum autofreien Gschlößtal, das sich mit zwei Almdörfern, einer berühmten Felsenkapelle und drei Gasthäusern wunderbar für einen Zwischenstopp eignet. Das Gschlößtal ist mit seinen Dreitausendern und einem Gletscher inmitten des Nationalparks Hohe Tauern hochalpin und gleichzeitig durch einen Almweg leicht zugänglich. Mit etwas Glück können die Wanderer Murmeltiere oder sogar den seltenen Bartgeier entdecken, auf jeden Fall Alpenblumen und traumhafte Ausblicke.



## WEG FREI IN DEN URLAUB

**Der schönste Weg nach Osttirol führt über die Felbertauernstraße.** Die 36 km lange Nord-Süd-Verbindung zwischen Mittersill und Matrei in Osttirol bringt sie schnell und staufrei zu den schönsten Naturhighlights. Viel zu schade, um einfach durchzufahren! **Jetzt geht's rund:** die Felbertauernstraße führt gemeinsam mit der Großglockner Hochalpenstraße durch eine Bilderbuch-Gebirgslandschaft. Nutzen Sie die Vorteile des ermäßigten Glockner-Rundfahrt-Tickets. [www.felbertauernstrasse.at](http://www.felbertauernstrasse.at)

# SAFARI THROUGH THE HIGH MOUNTAINS

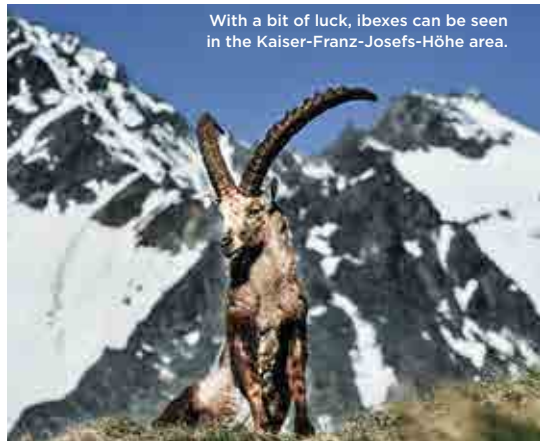
---

*Barren at the first glance, at the second glance endlessly rich: The high mountain is – as barren as it may appear – habitat for specific animals and plants.*

**LICHEN.** They have impressive names like *sporastatia testudinea*, *Foliose lichen*, *red tips* or *tundra sulphur lichen*. They grow on rock fragments, on the border stones and on trees and are more than 3,000 years old. They appear unimpressive at the first glance, but they are multifaceted in the growth and appearance.

**BUTTERFLIES.** The migration of the butterflies is almost unbelievable, which make it directly to the Hohe Tauern: The delicate creatures like the *Painted lady* or the *red Admiral* fly from the southern Mediterranean area to central Europe. The *Glockner's Meadows* at *Schöneck* are a true *Eldorado* for butterflies: Up to 700 species of butterflies are counted here.

**GRIFFON VULTURE.** With its giant wingspan of up to 2.80 metres, the griffon vulture, along with the golden eagle belongs to the largest birds in the Hohe Tauern. Around 60 to 80 vultures spend their summer here, during which their breeding grounds are on the Croatian islands.



With a bit of luck, ibexes can be seen in the Kaiser-Franz-Josefs-Höhe area.

**ALPINE IBEX.** The ibexes were extirpated from the entire Alps region at the end of the 18th century. Between 1960 and 1965 the first reintroduction in the Hohe Tauern was successful. Today again there are 1,100 of these magnificent animals.

**TURK'S CAP LILY.** On the *Pockhorn* *Wiesen* above the *Glacier Road*, there are about two-metres-high *Turk's cap lily*. Their flowers remind of a Turkish turban and they emit a heavy sweet fragrance in the evenings and in the night. ■





~TOUR 1~

ACROSS THE

# Grossglockner





TOUR 1

GROSSGLOCKNER  
HIGH ALPINE ROAD

# GROSSGLOCKNER-KING TOUR

---

*The exquisite tour around the highest mountain in Austria leads through three federal provinces and has the largest nature conservation area of the Alps – the Hohe Tauern National Park – as constant companion.*

Starting point is the nice little place Heiligenblut am Grossglockner [1] in Carinthia, from which it immediately goes to the famous Grossglockner High Alpine Road. Some pass roads are certainly steeper. Others are bold. And again some other have more serpentine roads. In spite of that nothing goes straight to the heart other than this route with views of the white three-thousanders and with the 36 perfectly planned turns, which – are divided in 48 kilometres to and fro – overcome an altitude difference of respectively around 1,000 metres.

In this way we enjoy the journey to the highest mountain of Austria to the full. Make a brief stop at the vantage point of Kasereck, marvel at the **Kaiser-Franz-Josefs-Höhe**, the ice mass of

the Pasterze glacier, cross the border to Salzburg in the Hochtortunnel and finally take the access road on the Fuschertörl to the 2,571-metres-high Edelweiss-Spitze [2]. This impressive road has six turns, all of them are quite sharp and on cobblestone pavement.

On the other hand, the descent into the Fusch valley proceeds quite smoothly. 14 turns, among them all sorts of alternating curves.

Sometimes wide, sometimes narrow. The consequences: If everything in the front is free, this is the finest stage, which the Austrian Alps have to offer to the sporty ambitious driver. We pass through the place Fusch a.d. Grossglocknerstrasse, drive counter clockwise around the Zeller lake and head for the pretty little town Zell [3]. ▶

---

The highest automobile and motor bike exhibition of the world shows here an exquisite collection of vehicles right from the beginning of the automobile and motor bike history till today.



View from the Edelweiss-Spitze of the Fuscher Lacke, the Mittertörl tunnel and the Brennkogel (3,018 m).



TOUR 1

GROSSGLOCKNER  
HIGH ALPINE ROAD



#### › OFF TO THE SOUTH

The federal road 168 with its smooth curves leads along the Salzach valley to the west. The panorama is splendid - the mountain peak of the Kitzbühel Alps on the right side and the white crown of the Grossvenediger mountain range on the left. The Grossglockner regions that developed during the previous ice age period belong to the core zone of the Hohe Tauern National Park. This is the area, in which the nature is allowed to develop freely and untouched.

Mittersill [4](#), the headquarters of the national park centre, emerges. The little town was always an important traffic junction for two routes, which are important even today - the east-west-direction through the Salzach valley and the north-south-connection through both the passes Thurn and Felbertauern.

In Mittersill, the federal road 108 forks at a right angle from the Salzach valley to the south. Better known as the Felbertauern road, it connects Salzach with the Drau valley since 1967 at a length of 65 kilometres. Wide and furnished with the perfect coating, driving the car and riding a bike on the Felbertauern road is a pure pleasure. We casually stride across the long drawn curves and can calmly enjoy the mountain panoramas that pass by. Like a saw the road bottles up in the mountains behind, the valley becomes narrower, its edges become steeper. Tunnels and galleries protect against rockfall and avalanches. The Felbertauern road leads from the core zone of the national park to the so-called outer zone and





further to East Tyrol. There the traditional management of the nature by the mountain farmers is allowed however all the huge technical projects are prohibited. In Matrei [5] we visit the National Park House.

### MEDITERRANEAN FLAIR

The previous curves of the **Felbertauern road** bring us down to Lienz [6]. Mediterranean wind blows here. After Lienz we follow the federal road 100 for a more couple of kilometres in order to turn to the Puster valley high mountain road [7]. The narrow, twisty little mountain road of 20 kilometres curls along the northern slope of the valley. Shortly after the village of Strassen we set the indicator to the left, pass through the Lesachtal and get the Gailbergsattel [8] in sight. Its basic parametres: 981 metres high, four serpentine roads in the south, ten in the northern side, a well-developed road. The consequences: Good overview, swift pace, pure driving pleasure. The following Drau valley is quickly crossed and we turn to the B 107 around five kilometres before Lienz, which brings us quickly and windingly to the 1,209-metres-high Iselsberg and into the Möll valley to Winklern [9]. The toll tower that was built in 1325 is a landmark of this historic city. Along the Möll we again go in the Hohe Tauern National Park. Majestically the white peaks are protruding in the sky. And it is there again immediately: The fascination, which has been with us continuously through this route through the Hohe Tauern National Park. ■

For Matrei in East Tyrol, a detour in the Gschlöss valley is worth it, the most beautiful location in Tyrol 2015.



# HIGHLIGHTS ALONG THE ROAD

○ In the **St.-Vinzenz-church in Heiligenblut**, a vial with a mysterious fluid is stored. According to the legend, it contains the holy blood of Christ.

○ Originally, **called as “Zelle im Pinzgau”**, the little town is renamed as Zell am See since 1810. In case you are carrying your swimwear – the lake has drinking water quality.

○ In **Mittersill**, the “Nationalparkwelten” and the new “360°-Nationalparkwelt” is worth a visit (refer to page 38). Eight topics with many **interactive stations** as well as one breathtaking panorama film of the mountain peaks of the Hohe Tauern are worth a visit.

○ In the **National Park House in Matrei**, there are exciting exhibitions and information. Central element is the water. It accompanies the visitor from the upper to the lower floor and spreads there on glass plates over the entire room.

○ **Lienz** with its main square seamed with historic buildings can fit anywhere in Italy. Also the climate contributes partly to the easy Lienz life – so many hours of sunshine like here, can be found hardly anywhere else.

This tour is a  
splendid combination of  
**DRIVING  
PLEASURE &  
THE BEAUTY  
OF NATURE**



The “Pasterze glacier wheel” in the glacier world of the museum depicts the changes of the largest Tauern glacier right from the Ice age to this day.

## THE TOUR AT A GLANCE

**Route length:** approximately 320 kilometres

**Travel time:** approx. six hours

**With the car:** Terrific driving pleasure on very well developed roads.

**With the motorbike:** One should have some experience in the mountains for the Glockner stage otherwise it is also perfectly suitable for the beginner. Remember to bring warm clothes due to the enormous altitude difference.

**Highest point:** Edelweiss-Spitze, 2,571 metres.

**Special feature of the tour:** There are good reasons why the Grossglockner High Alpine Road is regarded as Europe’s most beautiful panorama road. Discounted round trip ticket of the Grossglockner-Felbertauern is offered.

**1** It is possible to get a wonderful view of the Grossglockner from the Glacier Road.

**2** Variety of flowers on the Piffkar.

**3** The Fuscher Törl is a memorial place for deceased workers.

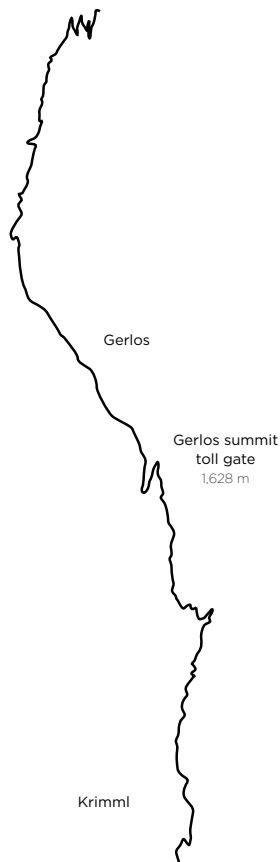
**4** “Cornering” fun from the very beginning to the end: Turn 2 on the Piffalm.





There are fabulous panoramic views from the Gerlos Alpine Road like here in middle of the Breitlahner fork (2,604 m) and the Achselkopf (2,667 m) and the divine beauty of the Krimml Achental.





# THE TYROL - SALZBURG CONNECTION

*The Gerlos Alpine Road bears the signature of Franz Wallack, the designer of the Grossglockner High Alpine Road. In eleven kilometres it leads from Krimml in Salzburg to Gerlos in Tyrol.*





Water as companion: The Krimml waterfalls (on the left side) and the Durlassboden reservoir (on the right side)

# GOLDEN “CURVACEOUS STAR”

*Once, the gold was carted across the Gerlos to the archbishopric Salzburg: Since 1962, the wonderful pass road with eight turns is a driving pleasure for the epicures.*

The Gerlos Alpine Road in the extreme west of Salzburg province is one of the most beautiful pass roads of the Alps. It leads into the midst of Hohe Tauern National Park, follows an ancient trade route and bears the distinctive signature of Franz Wallack.

In 1930s, the designer and builder from Vienna had bestowed the young Austrian republic with the Grossglockner High Alpine Road, a national monument. He proved his keen sense for a pristine design and lay-out of a road including the regional features with the Gerlos Alpine Road: Harmonic curves and perfectly produced views provide pleasure of getaway of a different class even fifty years after their opening.

## ON HISTORICAL TRACES

Franz Wallack was assigned the construction of the road in 1949, but the ground-breaking ceremony took place only eleven years later. The fragile financial situation of Austria in the post-war period had caused this delay. The road was opened on 1st December 1962.

Thereby, the route across the Gerlos was already an important route since the 17th century, which specially helped the prince bishops to prosper. Till 1803 the Zillertal belonged to the archbishopric of Salzburg: In 1630 a rich find of gold was made high above Zell am Ziller; the powerful rulers constructed a domestic road connection, which ran neither through Tyrol nor Bavarian soil: In the summer of 1631 the three-and-a-half-metres wide road was ready, so that a carriage driven by four horses could cross Gerlos.

## JOURNEY WITH PERSPECTIVE

Today the 7.5-metres-wide and 11-kilometres-long Gerlos Alpine Road runs with its 558 metres in altitude and eight turns with a maximum gradient of nine percent up to the province's frontier on the Gerlos. The highest point with 1,628 metres above sea level is reached at Gerlos Pass, the so-called Pinzgauer Höhe. The entire route offers stunning view of the surrounding mountains, the gigantic Krimml waterfalls, also of the Salzach valley in Salzburg and the Zillertal Alps in Tyrol.

Regular stops and pulling up is strongly recommended: For example, in the parking area of viaduct 6 or on the summits for small hikes in the moors (Nature Conservation Area). Waterfall hiking is also recommendable based on the WasserWelten Krimml by the foot of the road. In the winter the Gerlos Alpine Road leads right into the ski paradise "Zillertal Arena" with 51 mountain lifts and 143 runway kilometres. The entire route between both valley locations i.e. Krimml (Salzburg) and Zell am Ziller (Tyrol) is 38 kilometres. ■

The "Krimmler Wasserfestspiele" (Krimml water festival) take place in the east centre from May to October several times every day.



# SOMMERURLAUB À LA CARTE



nationalpark.at

## NATIONALPARK SOMMERCARD MOBIL

100%



UMWELTFREUNDLICH

HOHE  
TAUERN

www.nationalpark.at

### NEU AB SOMMER 2016

Die **NEUE Nationalpark Sommercard MOBIL** ist Ihre Premi-  
umcard für den Sommerurlaub!

Eine von mehr als **60 Attraktion täglich kostenlos nutzbar.**

Von 1. Mai bis 31. Oktober ist die neue Nationalpark Som-  
mercard MOBIL bei den teilnehmenden Beherbergungsbe-  
trieben im Übernachtungspreis inbegriffen.



### NATIONALPARKWELTEN MITTERSILL

Durchwandern Sie zehn faszinierende Naturräume und lernen Sie dabei die  
außergewöhnliche Vielfalt im Nationalpark kennen. **Täglich 09:00 – 18:00**  
**Uhr. Freier Eintritt mit der neuen NATIONALPARK SOMMERCARD.**



### NATIONALPARKRANGER

Ihre Erfahrung und ihr Wissen über die einzigartige **Hochgebirgsland-**  
**schaft des Nationalparks Hohe Tauern** geben die Ranger gerne an ihre  
Gäste weiter.

HOHE  
TAUERN  
DIE NATIONALPARK-REGION

Ferienregion Nationalpark Hohe Tauern

5730 Mittersill | Tel. +43 (0)6562 40939 | [ferienregion@nationalpark.at](mailto:ferienregion@nationalpark.at)  
[nationalpark.at](http://nationalpark.at)

# REFRESHING JAUNT

*The 380-metres-high Krimml waterfalls and the modern WasserWelten are the two lovely excursion places, which are located immediately at the foot of the Gerlos Alpine Road.*

One can already spot the white, foamy splatter of the Krimml waterfalls: It is considered as one of the highest waterfalls of its kind in Europe and is a real force of nature. Starting point of a visit are the modern WasserWelten (Water worlds); from its panoramic terrace visitors can already enjoy the spectacular view of the waterfalls. The hike lasts for one and half hours across the four-kilometres-long waterfall route. Whoever finds it too much can also reach the Kürsingerplatz on the valley fall in ten minutes.

Water in its different facets is the topic of the WasserWelten (opened in 2013). They see themselves as an innovative and interactive adventure centre, at which the sensory experience of the wet element is the focus. The exhibition area with its thrilling experiments and water cinema is dedicated to knowledge transfer. The visitors can participate actively in the outdoor area: Funny games ensure lot of fun with the wet element. Heart of the WasserWelten is the modern waterfall centre: The “Aquaszenarium” is one of its kind project show in Austria, for which the visitor undertakes an interactive journey through the four worlds of the Krimml waterfalls. ■

In the Krimml WasserWelten the water has become a unique attraction. Whether it is natural spectacle Krimml waterfalls, waterfall centre, “Aquaszenarium” or “Aquapark” – the experience concept ensures a new perspective to the force of the water.







- TOUR 2 -

THE BIG 6 PASSES TOUR

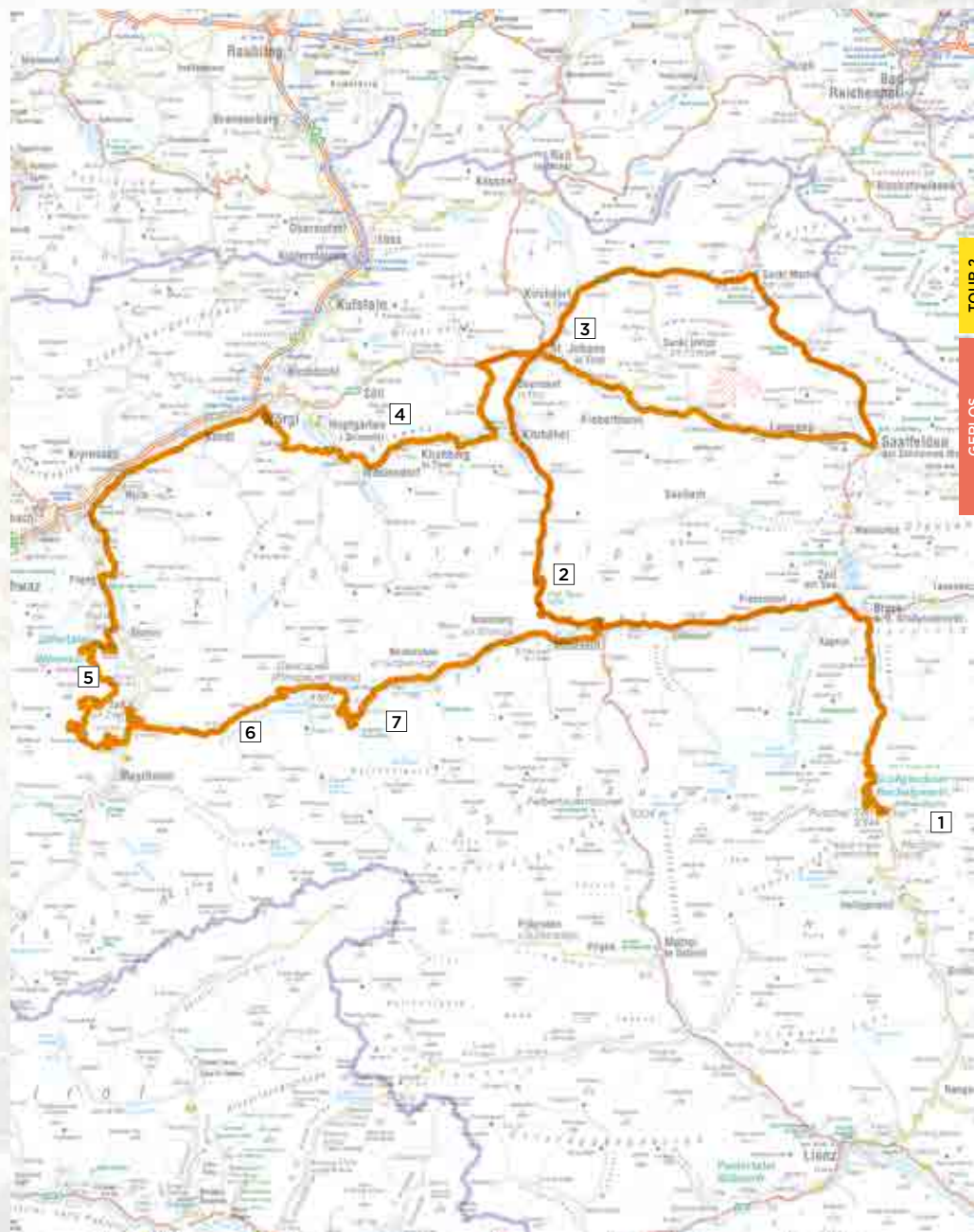
# *across the Gerlos Pass*







M 1:700 000



TOUR 2

GERLOS  
ALPINE ROAD

# STORY BOOK

# TOUR TO GERLOS

---

*This tour across six passes is packed with scenic and historic-cultural highlights. Gems, churches, little towns and museums but also impressive forces of nature like the highest waterfalls in Europe are en route. The Gerlos Alpine Road is the crown.*

This tour starts directly at the Grossglockner High Alpine Road: We have used the option and have spent the night at the highest point **1** – the Edelweiss-Spitze. In a small house just for us. And we rolled down the Grossglockner High Alpine Road after a magnificent sunrise and a hearty breakfast and through the Fusch valley towards Bruck a.d. Grossglocknerstrasse. There we turned left, followed the widely curved path of federal road 168 through the **Pinzgau Salzach valley** and took the course to-

wards the Thurn pass in Mittersill **2** up into Tyrol. The 1,274 high pass sounds anything but spectacular yet the route should not be underestimated.

A group of bends behind Mittersill is followed by several quick kilometres, on which one can easily speed up. Again a handful of turns and then the summit appears. The descent to Kitzbühel has two special features – turns that can be passed through rapidly and the view of Kitzbühel and the Kitzbüheler Horn with their typical radio antenna.

We travel further to the baroque towns St. Johann in Tirol **3**, in order to take a big loop towards East and back to the province of Salzburg. There are Fieberbrunn, Griessen pass, Saalfelden, Luftenstein pass, Lofer and Strub pass together with a never-ending serpentine route.

---

Event tip: Every year in the month of June, the biggest Triumph tridays in the world take place in Neukirchen. [www.tridays.com](http://www.tridays.com)



### THE PURE FEAST FOR EYES

Back in St. Johann we steer towards the junction to Wörgl. The Hahnenkamm mountain lift remains on the left side as we are going further in the Brixen valley [4]. The following three kilometres are a pure feast for the eyes: The road smoothly curves through the valley floor and allows extensive views of green mountain slides, idyllic villages and grazing cows.

A narrow secret path brings us from Hopfgarten along the left side of the slope across Niederau towards Wörgl. The following stage through the Inn valley is also a visual treat. The B 171 is rather low-key in the matters of turns; the panoramic views attract all the more attention, which open on the left side of the Kitzbühel Alps and on the Rofan mountains on the right.

Just before Brixlegg there is an option to cross the Inn and travel to Kramsach. The local “Museum Tiroler Bauernhöfe” (Museum of Tyrolean Farms) is an experience for not just the lovers of the old walling. One should definitely not miss the opportunity to visit Rattenberg, the smallest town in Austria. At the entrance of the pedestrian zone there is a big parking area and one can easily take a round tour through this fascinating, medieval town. >

Skilfully designed route: The turn at “Schönmoos”.



The highest point of the road is reached at the Gerlos Pass, the so-called Filzsteinalpe, at 1,628 above sea level.







The Krimml waterfalls can be seen from each parking area along the Gerlos Alpine Road.

- › In Stass we leave the Inn and turn into the Zillertal. With around thirty kilometres, it is not the longest but the most-famous side valley of the Inn. For more than 150 years, the main source of income here is the tourism. And hence we roll across the perfectly maintained asphalt and devote ourselves completely to the beauty of the valley: The glistening glacier of the Kitzbühel Alps dominate the valley floor, on whose slopes the settlements, mountain farms and chapels have nestled.

### **BEST OF ALL: GERLOS ALPINE ROAD**

In Ried awaits a real Tyrolean treat- the 37-kilometre-long Zillertal high road [5]. Its climb is steep, its bends are narrow and a clear view is hard to find. In many cases the route runs along the unsecured abyss and requires a good vehicle control.

After Zell am Ziller we finally look forward to the highlight of this tour - to the romantic **Gerlos Alpine Road** [6].

Initially there are many turns along the mountain flank, passing the Durlassboden reservoir and the Gerlos pass sign. The Gerlos road then follows the most beautiful eleven kilometres of this Alpine route designed in 1949 by the Glockner road-builder Franz Wallack. We take the road, which curls like an unwound string across the Gerlosplatte (Gerlos plain) and then take an extensive stop to visit the Krimml waterfalls and the WasserWelten [7].

The final stage of this day brings us back via Mittersill and Bruck to the Grossglockner High Alpine Road. ■

The moorland in the nature conservation area “Sieben Möser Gerlosplatte” and the leisure area around the Durlassboden reservoir invite us for a short walk.

# HIGHLIGHTS ALONG THE ROAD

---

○ Above **Kitzbühel**, on a sunny slope of the Bichlalm you can find the Sonnberg restaurant. The innkeeper Rosi Schipflinger can not only sing but she can also whip up Tyrolean delicacies on the table.

○ At St. Martin bei Lofer a detour to the baroque **pilgrimage church Maria Kirchenthal** – an apparent isolated gem at 880 metres above sea level.

○ The highlight of the **baroque town St. Johann in Tirol** is its majestic main square with the decanal church “Maria Himmelfahrt”. There should be definitely a stop here.

○ The **Krimml waterfalls** are the highest waterfalls of their kind in the Europe: From 380 metres the water thunders in the depth: A real force of nature. [www.wasserfaelle-krimml.at](http://www.wasserfaelle-krimml.at)

○ In the **WasserWelten Krimml** the water has become a unique attraction. Whether it is waterfall centre, panoramic terrace, “Aquaszenerium” or “Aquapark” – the experience concept ensures a new perspective to the force of the water. [www.wasserwelten-krimml.at](http://www.wasserwelten-krimml.at)

---

46

**1** One can even sail, surf and bath on the Durlassboden reservoir.

**2** At info centre “via-duct 6”.

**3** “Aquaszenerium” in the WasserWelten Krimml.

**4** The farmers’ autumn festival is a highlight in the rural liturgical year in Krimml.

**5** Relaxed on the panoramic terrace of the WasserWelten.



2



A tour to the  
splendid  
**WASSERWELTEN  
IN KRIMML.**

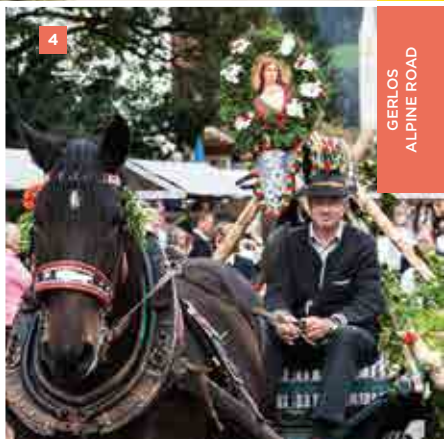


TOUR 2

3



4

GERLOS  
ALPINE ROAD

5



## THE TOUR AT A GLANCE

**Route length:** approx. 420 kilometres

**Travel time:** approx. eight hours

**With the car:** The entire tour is flawless except for some parts of the narrow Zillertal high road.

**With the motorbike:** Pure scenic beauty, large part of the route runs through the well-developed roads. The Glockner road crossing and the Zillertal high road require some experience of mountains.

**Special feature of the tour:** The harmonic to travel and scenic unique Gerlos Alpine Road.

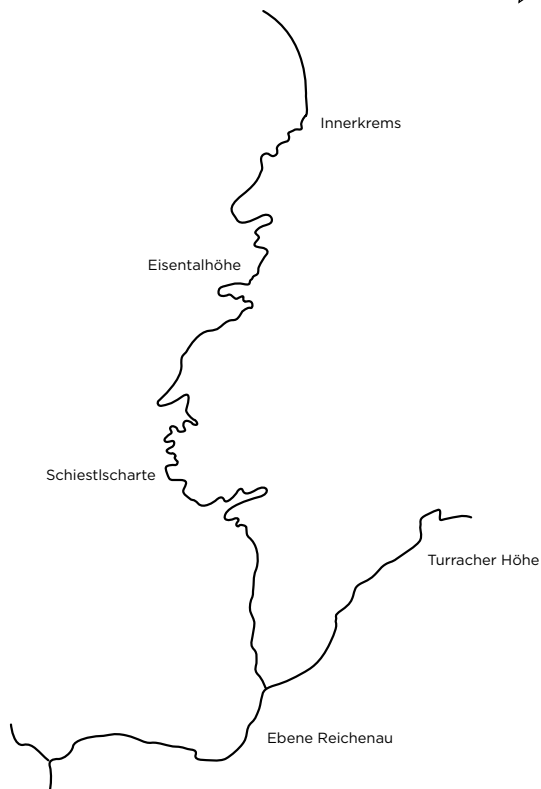




The Schiellscharte offers a wonderful view of the south and of the Windeben lake.







# THE CHARMING UNDER THE ROADS

*The magical-mystical Nockalm road is a 34-kilometres-long challenge to discover the beauty of a unique natural landscape. 52 turns connect the two valley locations Innerkrems and Ebene Reichenau in a constant up and down.*

# THE GREEN SIDE OF THE ALPS

---

*With Eisentalhöhe and Schiestlscharte respectively at 2,000 metres above sea level, the Nockalm road shows two driving highlights at the same time. It curls in between the UNESCO-Biosphere Reserve Nockberge with their soft-green peaks. Alpine roses and mountain huts take care of the additional romance.*

The Nockalm road is an ideal road for romantics, nature lovers and hikers, for lovers and also for families: The eyes are pleased to see soft, up-to-the peak-green mountains, the blooming alpine roses and clear woods. Even though the road is more than 2,000 metres high – and that up to almost 34 kilometres twice – the Alps appear to have lost their rugged look here in Carinthia. The cool grey and the ice-blue rocks are no longer leading; green has become the dominating colour. Interrupted by the powerful pink of the blooming alpine roses in the month of June and the magical yellow-red colouring of the forests in the autumn.

## **A RETROSPECT OF AN UNIMAGINABLE FOREIGN TIME**

On a literally **soft tour** the road twists with the 52 turns (“Reidn”)

and the constant up and down through the UNESCO-Biosphere Reserve Nockberge. The Nock Mountains are of wild nature and cultural area at the same time: Men, farm and wild animals live here since centuries side by side. From the geological point of view the Nock Mountains – the highest peak is Rosennock with 2,440 metres – are a geological rarity and unique in the Alpine Region.

## **BIOSPHERE RESERVE CENTRE IN NOCKALMHOF**

Through exhibition and 3D film in the Biosphere Reserve Centre Nockalmhof we can experience and understand the Fauna and >

---

The Nockalm road was opened in the year 1981: While constructing the road, greatest importance was given to the preservation of the natural environment.

The alpine farming has a long tradition in the Nock Mountains: The mountain huts and the grazing livestock are travel companions.

NOCKALM ROAD





A glimpse of the Nockalm road in the direction of Ebene Reichenau in the south.



Unique fossil exhibition "Fossilized worlds" in the Biosphere Reserve Centre



› Flora and also the history of the Nock Mountains with all our senses. In the Carboniferous period, about 300 million years ago, the Nock Mountains formed a flat level, which was pushed through by big rivers. Natural forests of enormous horsetail and gigantic 30 m high ferns formed an impermeable jungle. Metres long, fossilized remains of these forests are on display in the Nockalmhof. This unique **exhibition** also displays the best fossil findings from Carinthia in perfectly prepared, metres high plates – pure geological history. While the exhibition “fossilized worlds” allows a glimpse in the past with the help of valuable fossil finding, the monumental 3D film throws light on the present life of the people and animals in the Nock Mountains. Both the offers are naturally freely available.

---

52

---

Since 2012 the UNESCO-Biosphere Reserve Nockberge is one of the five reserves in Austria.

### **WISHES IN THE WIND**

Along the Nockalm road the various exhibitions and special attractions invite you with a free of cost entry so that you would set aside your vehicle and explore the area on foot: It would be a shame to simply race across the road without looking left and right. For example in the Pfandlhütte, there is an exhibition about “wild animals” that gives a good insight in their living environment. On Zechernalm an Alpine Farming Museum is set up; the children, however, love the huge playground “Marmot Lair”. A wonderful sensory and interactive exhibition about “Trees as survivors” has been arranged at the Grundalm.



In the Glockenhütte, at the 2,024-metres-high Schiestlscharte, a natural history exhibition informs about the special features of the region with a multi-vision show. Up here, another attraction should be explored: One who rings the Wunschglocke (wishing bell) in Schiestlscharte, is allowed to know whether his wish spoken in the wind shall come true or not. The legendary Karlbäd is also worth a detour: House and spa guests enjoy the ancient larch tubs healing techniques with radon-bearing spring water in the more than 300 years old "Bauernbad", which is heated with the help of ferrous and sulphurous conglomerate stones.

### **DELICIOUS CARINTHIAN KITCHEN**

Carinthian noodles, Ričet, hand-made cheese or Reindling: The **Carinthian kitchen** is famous for their delicacies, which are also served along the Nockalm road. Each address has their own delicacies on the menu cards: From the home-made mountain cheese at Penkerhütte in Innerkrems to the char breeding in Ebene Reichenau.

There is an individual culinary guide for the Nockalm road, which can be order free of cost at [nockalmstrasse.at](http://nockalmstrasse.at).

An insider's tip on culinary art is the rustic Heiligenbachhütte with its pretty smorgasbord in butter moulds, dollies and wall coverings. The home-made specialities are also served in Tangernerhütte, which is a bit outside the Nockalm road. The hike to that place takes about 25 minutes. The gourmets are excited about the snacks specialities with new different cheese types, bacon and liver sausages, liqueur and Kaiserschmarrn. The kitchen of Karlbäd is again very well known for fish and game dishes, roast port and Kasnudeln.

### **THE NATURE BLOSSOMS RARELY**

The wonderful natural landscapes of the Nock Mountains invite for small walks and good long hikes. The theme trails like the "Weg der Elemente" (Road of elements), the round trail "Alpine Lebensgemeinschaften" (Alpine symbiotic communities) around the Windeben lake or the "Silva Magica" - the unique global experience and adventure area to the topic natural beings - are worth a detour during an excursion. A unique speciality of the Nock Mountains are the rare Alpine valerian blooms, which are allowed to be picked and collected by some Carinthian families only. They are processed for famous personal-care products. ■



# DIE NATUR ERLEBEN IM UNESCO *Biosphärenpark Nockberge*



## **INTAKTE NATUR UND GELEBTE TRADITION: EIN ERLEBNIS ZU JEDER JAHRESZEIT**

Egal zu welcher Jahreszeit man die zauberhafte Welt der Nockberge besucht, der Biosphärenpark bietet immer eine vollgefüllte Schatzkiste an Erlebnissen.

Der Biosphärenpark Nockberge ist ein seltenes Naturidyll inmitten der österreichischen Alpen. Verteilt auf die Länder Kärnten, Salzburg und die Steiermark umfasst er ein Gebiet von über 1.500 Quadratkilometern. 2012 wurde das Gebiet rund um die Nockberge von der UNESCO zum Biosphärenpark ernannt. Um die Menschen nachhaltig auf die intakte Natur und gelebte Tradition zu sensibilisieren, wird das überlieferte Wissen aus Generationen in Schulen weitergeben.

## **SEHEN, VERSTEHEN UND SCHÄTZEN LERNEN**

Die unglaubliche Vielfalt der unverfälschten Landschaft zieht einst wie heute naturverbundene Gäste aus aller Welt an. Im Sommer laden kilometerlange Wanderwege zu Erkundungstouren zu Fuß oder mit dem Mountainbike ein. Ausgebildete Biosphärenpark-Ranger versprechen zudem einzigartige Erlebnistouren für die ganze Familie. Im Winter kann man die schlafenden Nocken im Rahmen von Ski- oder Schneeschuhtouren genießen. Auf Schritt und Tritt begleiten einen in den Nockbergen auch immer die Wahrzeichen der Region - Zirbe und Speik.

Für Genießer hält der Biosphärenpark in den Hütten und Gasthäusern der Region viele besondere kulinarische Schmankerln bereit.



biosphären  
park  
nockberge

## **BIOSPÄHÄREN-PARK-VERWALTUNG NOCKBERGE**

A-9565 Ebene Reichenau 117  
Tel.: +43(0)4275/665, Fax: +43(0)4275/7089  
E-Mail: [nockberge@ktn.gv.at](mailto:nockberge@ktn.gv.at)  
Web: [www.biosphaerenparknockberge.at](http://www.biosphaerenparknockberge.at)

# HIKE AND CELEBRATION

---

*The UNESCO-Biosphere Reserve Nockberge is a splendid hiking region for the entire family but there is one more place for celebrating and enjoying. Our recommendations!*

## SUMMIT OF PEITLERNOCK

While wandering through the Nock Mountains, the hikers discover numerous trails of the former mining era in the region: There are still remains like for example blast furnaces or overgrown heaps of slag on the way to Peitlernock. From the initial point it runs across the Bärengrubenalp to the 2,240-metres-high peak.

The descent takes place through a small ridge walk to the Pernaunock (2,292 m), to the Weisscharte and across the alpine pastures back to the initial point of the hiking.

**Duration:** approx. 3,5h  
**Altitude difference:** 600m  
**Difficulty level:** average  
**Starting point:** Turn above the Nockalmhof

## CIRCULAR TRAIL OF GRÜNLEITENNOCK

On this easy circular trail, the marmots are the constant companions: They blow their warning whistles loudly. It starts at the Pfandlhütte, from where the road leads to of 2,160-metres-high and always well frequented Grünleitennock. We take the same way back or across Grünleitenscharte to the lonely Friesenhalssee and further to the Zechneralp and to the Nockalm road.

**Duration:** approx. 3h  
**Altitude difference:** 300m  
**Difficulty level:** average  
**Starting point:** Pfandlhütte

## SINGING, RINGING NOCKALM ROAD

**At the beginning of July** the impressive “Alpine Rose Festival” takes place in the Nockalm road: The visitors expect a varied programme with music, children’s entertainment and special Nockalm delicacies

You will find the latest schedule at [nockalmstrasse.at](http://nockalmstrasse.at)

## NOCKALM ROAD FESTIVAL IN THE AUTUMN

Each year in September, the hosts of the Nockalm road invites for the traditional Nockalm road festival with music and culinary art between the municipalities of Innerkrembs and Ebene Reichenau. ■

1



2



3



4



5





# SLEEPING & EATING IN THE MOUNTAINS

*Along the Nockalm road, there are many comfy  
huts and cosy mountain inns for culinary stop,  
for an overnight stay or an entire holiday.*

## SEQUENCE FROM NORTH TO SOUTH.

### **PENKERHÜTTE**

Penker family  
Phone no.  
+43 (0)664 / 49 57 209  
[penkerhuette@gmx.at](mailto:penkerhuette@gmx.at)  
[www.penkerhuette.at](http://www.penkerhuette.at)  
.....

### **JAUCHZA-HÜTTE**

Phone no.  
+43 (0)664 / 88 69 67 21  
[office@jauchza-huette.at](mailto:office@jauchza-huette.at)  
[www.jauchza-huette.at](http://www.jauchza-huette.at)  
.....

### **2 NOCKALMHOF**

Phone no.  
+43 (0)662 / 873 673  
[info@nockalmbhof.at](mailto:info@nockalmbhof.at)  
[www.nockalmbhof.at](http://www.nockalmbhof.at)  
.....

### **1 HEILIGENBACHHÜTTE**

Dullnig family  
Phone no.  
+43 (0)4735 / 281 or  
+43 (0) 664 / 34 30 939  
.....

### **PFANDLHÜTTE**

Phone no. +43 (0)4736 / 22 125  
[info@pfandlhuette.at](mailto:info@pfandlhuette.at)  
[www.pfandlhuette.at](http://www.pfandlhuette.at)

### **4 ZECHNERALM**

Frühauf family  
Phone no.  
+43 (0)4736 / 304  
[gsthaus@zechneralm.at](mailto:gsthaus@zechneralm.at)  
[www.zechneralm.at](http://www.zechneralm.at)  
.....

### **EISENTALHÖHE FARM SHOP**

DI Andreas Paul Irsa  
Phone no.  
+43 (0)4732 / 23 24 or  
+43 (0)676 / 94 27 126  
[irsa.andreas@aon.at](mailto:irsa.andreas@aon.at)  
[www.eisentalboebe.at](http://www.eisentalboebe.at)  
.....

### **3 KARLBAD**

Aschbacher family  
Phone no.  
+43 (0)664 / 96 83 927 or  
+43 (0)664 / 96 83 926  
.....

### **TANGERNERHÜTTE**

Göschl family  
Phone no. +43 (0)664 / 530 95 12  
[siegfried.goeschl@gmx.at](mailto:siegfried.goeschl@gmx.at)  
.....

### **STANGALMHÜTTE**

Ewald Brence  
Phone no. +43 (0)680 / 120 81 83

### **STEIGERHÜTTE**

Leitner family  
Phone no.  
+43 (0)664 / 14 77 437  
.....

### **WOLITZENHÜTTE**

Marianne Kohlmayer  
Phone no.  
+43 (0)664 / 46 48 431  
.....

### **5 GLOCKENHÜTTE**

René Seitner  
Phone no.  
+43 (0)4279 / 72 13  
[office@glockenhuette.com](mailto:office@glockenhuette.com)  
[www.glockenhuette.com](http://www.glockenhuette.com)  
.....

### **PRIESSHÜTTE**

Christian Gruber  
Phone no.  
+43 (0)664 / 210 67 73  
[priesshuette@gmx.at](mailto:priesshuette@gmx.at)  
[www.priesshuette.at](http://www.priesshuette.at)  
.....

### **SIGIS NATURSAIBLING**

Siegfried Gruber  
Phone no.  
+43 (0)4275 / 23 138 or  
+43 (0)664 / 396 55 48  
[info@natursaibling.at](mailto:info@natursaibling.at)  
[www.natursaibling.at](http://www.natursaibling.at)



- TOUR 3 -

THROUGH THE

# *Nocky Mountains*





TOUR 3

NOCKALM ROAD



The nature trail "Alpine Lebensgemeinschaften" leads around the Windeben lake.





# TRIP INTO THE COUNTRY

*On this tour we cruise proceeding from the Möll valley through the UNESCO-Biosphere Reserve Nockberge, where we pamper ourselves in a good Carinthian way in numerous alpine huts and restaurants. Through the Lungau we reach Salzburg's famous winter sport resorts and then we have to decide between the two variants for the return journey.*

We leave the Glockner region on the federal road 107 through the Möll valley in the southern direction and enjoy the soft curves of the roads, which follow the course of the Möll. If the weather is on our side, the view is magnificent – the three-thousanders of the Hohe Tauern on the left and right side, the barely lower peaks of the Kreuzeck mountain range are in front of us. The place name signs of Winklern and Obervellach pass by. The castle Falkenstein and the castle Groppenstein tower high over the Möll valley [1]. We take a look at the Drauhofen castle and then roll through Spittal [2]. Its landmark is Schloss Porcia (Porcia castle) one of the most significant Renaissance buildings out of Italy.

A narrow byroad bring us to curvy region above the lake bed on the western peak of the **Millstatt lake** to Gmünd, where the route latches on to the federal road 99 for a couple of kilometres.

## UNESCO-BIOSPHERE RESERVE

On Krems bridge in Carinthia we turn right and turn to the highlight of this round: the wonderful romantic Nockalm road [3]. The almost 34-kilometres-long panoramic road is lined uniquely and exclusively with alpine pastures and rest points. Designed in 1971 and inaugurated in 1981, Nockalm road curves in 52 turns (it is called as "Reidn" in Carinthian) and endless curves between the toll ▶

- › gates of Innerkrems and Ebene Reichenau through the “Nocken”. That is the name for dome-like and the grassy peaks, which rise like green table mountain from the ground. The first stop is the Biosphere Reserve Centre in Nockalmhof on “Reidn” 10: Then we turn up to the highest point of the road at a leisurely pace, the 2,042-metres-high Eisentalhöhe. The numerous exhibitions and theme trails take place along the route. On the 2,024-metres-high Schiestlscharte you should definitely ring the **legendary Wunschglocke (wishing bell)**, before you reach civilisation in

---

Ebene Reichenau again.

According to the legend a Carinthian dairymaid had hanged a consecrated bell to the fence: Since then no weather witch has dared to cross Schiestlscharte.

### QUICKLY THROUGH STYRIA

The journey almost seamlessly continues in a northward direction to cross the Turracher Höhe Pass (1,795 m) **4**. Couple of turns uphill, couple of turns downhill, the remaining are round, even curves. The parking area on the Turracher lake is a perfect spot for a break: From here to Predlitz, for eleven kilometres we are on Styrian soil, before we go further to Salzburg. We turn through the Mur valley across Tamsweg till Mauterndorf, where we turn towards north to the federal road 99. We cross the Radstädter Tauern Pass with the winter sports resort in Obertauern and then reach the Pongau district in Salzburg. Through Altenmarkt and Wagrain we arrive in the little town St. Johann and further to Bischofshofen.

---

62

From the Eisentalhöhe (2,042 m) the pace is quick downhill in the southern direction.



There awaits the next driving treat – the crossing of the Dienten Sattel **5** at the feet of the mighty Hochkönig mountain. The East-west direction fits perfectly as the eastern side has more curves and a higher gradient. The entire route comes with a pleasure factor. In the lower section the journey goes through fast turns on non-slip tarmac, followed by the first groups of bends leading up the Dienten Sattel. In the little town of Dienten we detour in the southern direction and reach the Salzach valley in Lend. From here we have two alternatives for the return journey. The first across the Bruck back to the Grossglockner High Alpine Road.

### **ALTERNATIVE THROUGH THE GASTEIN VALLEY**

The second variant brings us back through the Gastein valley to the starting point. The speciality of this route is the Tauernschleuse **6**, where cars and motorbikes are loaded on the trains. With the train it goes from Böckstein to Mallnitz. The trains run every half hour, the travel time is a few minutes.

One who decides to opt for the second option, enjoys the Gastein valley with its world-famous Spa resort Bad Gastein **7**, where Kaiser Wilhelm I., Kaiser Franz Joseph I., Sisi and Bismarck have already taken treatment. In Obervellach we turn into the already known Möll valley and head back to the Glockner region through Rangiersdorf and Grosskirchheim. ■

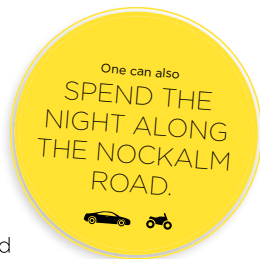
With the constant up and down the Nockalm road leads to the soft turns through the UNESCO-Biosphere Reserve Nockberge.







# HIGHLIGHTS ALONG THE ROAD



○ The **Biosphere Reserve Centre Nockalmhof** on the Nockalm road was opened in 2012 and showed the fossil exhibition “fossilized worlds” that is unique throughout Austria. The visitor can see a new multimedia and 3D-cinema and is also invited to experience and understand the Flora and Fauna of the Nock Mountains.

○ If you want to have lunch in Carinthia, you should definitely try a traditional “Carinthian frigga” once. It is a hearty **bacon-cheese-omelette**.

○ The **castle Mauterndorf** overlooks the city majestically on a rock; today it is an enjoyable museum for young and old.

○ Landmark of the pretty little town St. Johann im Pongau is the parish church St. Johannes, also known as “**Pongauer Dom**”.

○ Wagrain is one of the seven “Silent night” places in Salzburg: The composer of the **world-famous Christmas carol**, Joseph Mohr, worked here as vicar. This is the native place of the poet Karl Heinrich Waggerl, whose home houses a museum today.

○ Commonly known as “**Monte Carlo of the Alps**”, Bad Gastein is 1,000 metres high in the middle of the Hohe Tauern, also famous for the warm, radon-containing thermal water.

## THE TOUR AT A GLANCE

**Route length:** Variant 1 through Bruck an der Glocknerstrasse: approx. 330 km. Variant 2 through the Gastein valley and the Tauernschleuse: approx. 360 km.

**Travel time:** approx. up to eight hours

**Characteristic:** A perfect tour for driving not only for cars but also for motorbikes, pure pleasure tour on well-developed roads. However, one should have decent stamina for the high amount of curves.

**Highest point:** Eisentalhöhe (Nockalm road), 2,042 m.

**Special feature of the tour:** The unique, set apart from the world - Nockalm road.

**1** Driving pleasure through the Carinthian Nock Mountains.

**2** The legendary Wunschglocke (wishing bell) in the Schiestlscharte.

**3** The alpine roses start to bloom from the month of June.

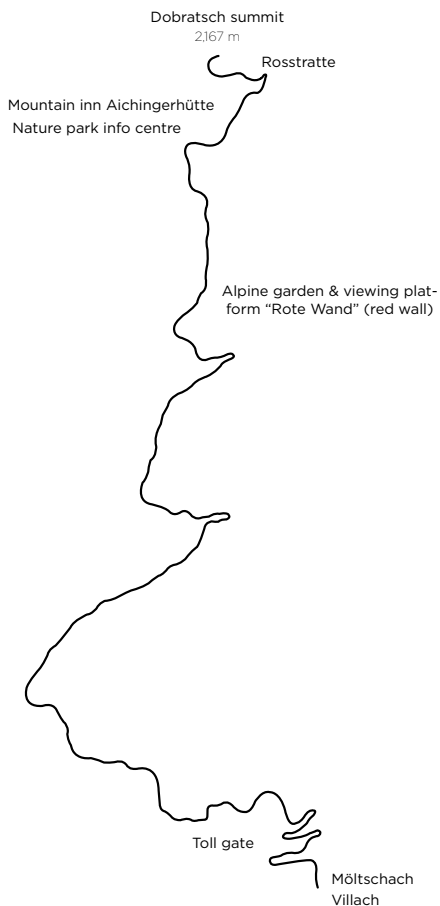
**4** The “Alpine valerian” is a botanical treasure.

**5** The exhibition “Fossilized worlds” in the Biosphere Reserve Centre Nockalmhof.



From the Villach Alpine Road you can see as far as Slovenia and Italy.





# THE SIGHT OF THE SOUTH

*On the 16.5-kilometres-long Villach Alpine Road, one swings high in the sky like a bird. The international views included.*

# THE ROAD OF THE HIGH-FLYERS

---

*The Villach Alpine Road waits with superlatives for: For example the largest landslide area of the Eastern Alps, one of the largest bird migrations and two of the highest churches in Europe.*

68

Preferably one would like to do the same as the impressive raptors: As if being guided by an internal program, they fly coming from the north to the Dobratsch, use the thermal lift to rise up to 3,500 metres and glide effortlessly through the Tarvisio gate until they reach the Italian Po valley. What unfathomable feat that the **griffon vultures, honey buzzards and imperial eagles**

---

Each August, the so-called "Raptor weeks" take place in the Dobratsch nature park.

accomplish. Not only the ornithologist and nature-park rangers are fascinated by the spectacle - each year the flight of the raptor across Dobratsch: There are around five to seven thousand raptors, which fly over the marked peak from mid-August.

## **MASTERPIECE OF THE AUSTRIAN ARCHITECTURE**

The Villach Alpine Road does not drive up that high not nearly as the other Pass roads and it also does not look nearly as spectacular as the others. Yet it has an unbelievable appeal: Its southern flair, its interesting history, the hiking possibilities, the views of lakes and mountains as well as the rich fauna and flora of the Dobratsch nature park make it one of the most popular tourist destinations. The initial plans for the touristic infrastructure of Dobratsch started in 1896, yet the panoramic roads opened only in 1965. Already back then it was praised as "a masterpiece of Austrian architecture".





## FLOWERS, ROCKS, BIRDS

The Dobratsch nature park is the Carinthia's oldest nature conservation area with a unique variety of plants and animals. Especially the birds appear to be at ease around the 2,167-metres-high Dobratsch. With a little luck one can see the black grouse, the capercaillie, Alpine swifts, Citril finches and rare species of tits. The "Rote Wand" (red wall) was at least twice the size of the site of a large rockfall: In 2015 there was a demolition of rocks again. The sedimentation area – the "Schütt" – is today under nature conservation. Around 800 alpine plants of three climate zones are thriving in the area of 10,000 m<sup>2</sup> in the Alpine garden "Villach Alps" (1,483 m). The exhibition „Rulers of the skies – the bird life of the Dobratsch nature park" in Aichingerhütte has extraordinary variety of the birds found in the region. >

Carinthia's best vantage point: The Dobratsch (2,167 m) is the summit of the "Villach Alpine Road".

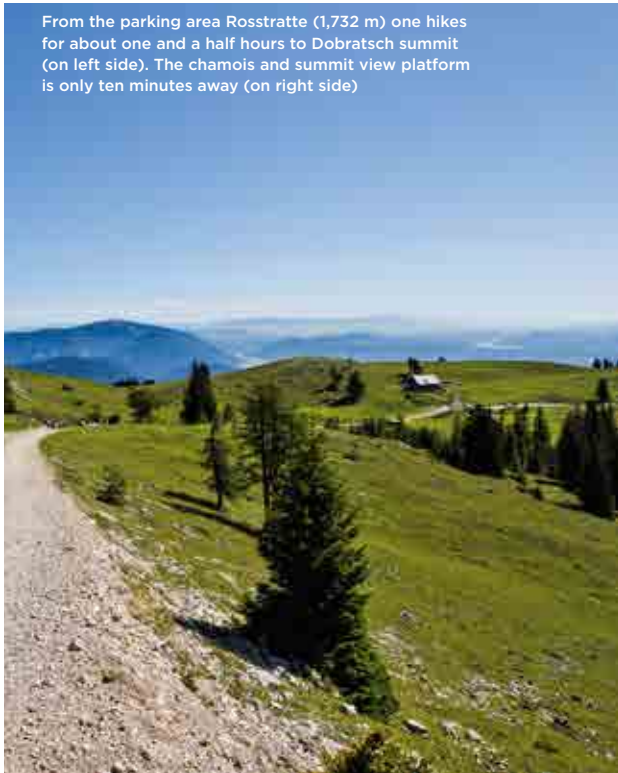


**KÄRNTEN**  
Motorradland

# Südlust

Der klimatisch begünstigte, sonnige Süden Österreichs bietet puren Motorradgenuss zwischen Bergen und Seen. Drei Länder (Österreich, Italien, Slowenien) und Kulturen in unmittelbarer Nähe ermöglichen grenzüberschreitende Touren auf bestens beschaffenen, verkehrsarmen und sicheren Panoramastraßen. 24 auf Motorradfahrer spezialisierte Hotels sind auf die Ansprüche der Motorradgäste bestens eingestellt.

From the parking area Rosstratte (1,732 m) one hikes for about one and a half hours to Dobratsch summit (on left side). The chamois and summit view platform is only ten minutes away (on right side)



VILLACH  
ALPINE ROAD

### › GLIMPSES INTO THE COUNTRY

The **Villach Alps**, as the Dobratsch also known as, fascinates us by its magnificent views of Gail valley, the Karawanks, the Julian and Carnic Alps. The impressive viewing platforms also include the Dreiländerblick (tri-border view) at 1,307 metre above sea level and the viewing platform “Rote Wand” (red wall) with a view of the gigantic rockfall of 1348.

Event tip:  
Almkirchtag  
(patronage fair)  
on 15th August  
with mountain fair,  
dance and music

### HIGHEST CHURCHES IN EUROPE

Numerous rest areas, thematic playgrounds and adventure parks, huts and mountain inns line with the excursion road. On Rosstratte – the end point of the road for the vehicles – the geological nature trail “From the sea to the mountain” invites us to a time travel. Even the parts of a former reef and a lagoon with fossilized corals, mussels and marine gastropods along the way can be gazed at. The hikers can expect numerous marked ways like for example to the Dobratsch peak and to two of the highest churches in Europe, the “Deutsche Kirche” (German church) constructed in 1682 and the “Windische Kirche” constructed in 1690. Art works ›



# Naturpark Dobratsch

**NATUR  
SCHAU  
PLATZ**

**Der Naturpark Dobratsch ist 7250 Hektar groß und besteht aus Landschafts-, Natur- und Europaschutzgebieten.**

Die Kulturlandschaft wird geschützt und soll so erhalten werden. Trotzdem ist es möglich, den Naturpark mit allen Sinnen zu erfahren. Er trägt zur Sensibilisierung für Nachhaltigkeit und Natur wie auch zur Sicherung der Lebensqualität bei.

Ob als Erholungsraum oder Entdeckungsreise für all jene, die die Natur begreifen und erleben wollen. Die Vielfalt des ältesten Naturschutzgebietes Kärntens (seit 1942) ist mehr als Freizeit-, Kultur- und Bildungserlebnis.

Der Naturpark lässt tief in sich eintauchen, sich mit allen Sinnen erfahren und macht die Natur so zu einem Teil eines jeden Besuchers.





› made of stone monolith, namely a sky disc from Nebra and a sundial, to read the seasons, month, day and hour from the position of the sun, are new experience for the visitor on Rosstratte. On the chamois and summit view platform, one can often see chamoises in their natural habitat.

### DETOUR TO THE GOLDECK PANORAMIC ROAD

Only around thirty kilometres north of Villach, the Goldeck Panoramic Road that was opened in 1981 invites us to a further 14.5-kilometres-long curvy venture: From Zlan there are ten turns to the 1,883-metres-high Carinthian Sportberg. Apart from splendid views, a vast hiking network invites the visitor to explore Goldeck on foot. The homely-cosy Mähderhütte is worth a culinary stop. ■



VILLACH  
ALPINE ROAD

## SLEEPING & EATING IN THE MOUNTAINS

**VILLACH ALPINE ROAD**  
Sequence from the bottom up

**DOBRATSCH GIPFELHAUS** 📞  
(former Ludwig-Walter-Haus)  
Phone no. +43 (0)720/350 340  
[info@gipfelhaus-dobratsch.at](mailto:info@gipfelhaus-dobratsch.at)  
[www.gipfelhaus-dobratsch.at](http://www.gipfelhaus-dobratsch.at)

**1 AICHINGERHÜTTE** 📞  
Dagmar and Roland Ausserwinkler  
Phone no. +43 (0)4242/20 693 or  
+43 (0)664/52 43 810  
[ausserwinkler@gmx.at](mailto:ausserwinkler@gmx.at)  
[www.aichingerbueette-dobratsch.at](http://www.aichingerbueette-dobratsch.at)

**3 DIE ROSSTRATTEN**  
Andrea Riedel  
Phone no. +43 (0)4242/219 517 or  
+43 (0)676/54 15 003  
[wirtin@rosstratte.at](mailto:wirtin@rosstratte.at)  
[www.rosstratte.at](http://www.rosstratte.at)

### GOLDECK ROAD

Sequence from the bottom up

#### RESTAURANT SONNENHOF

Alfred Winkler  
Phone no. +43 (0)4761/352

#### 2 MÄHDERHÜTTE

Willi Rauter  
Phone no.  
+43 (0)650/722 50 80

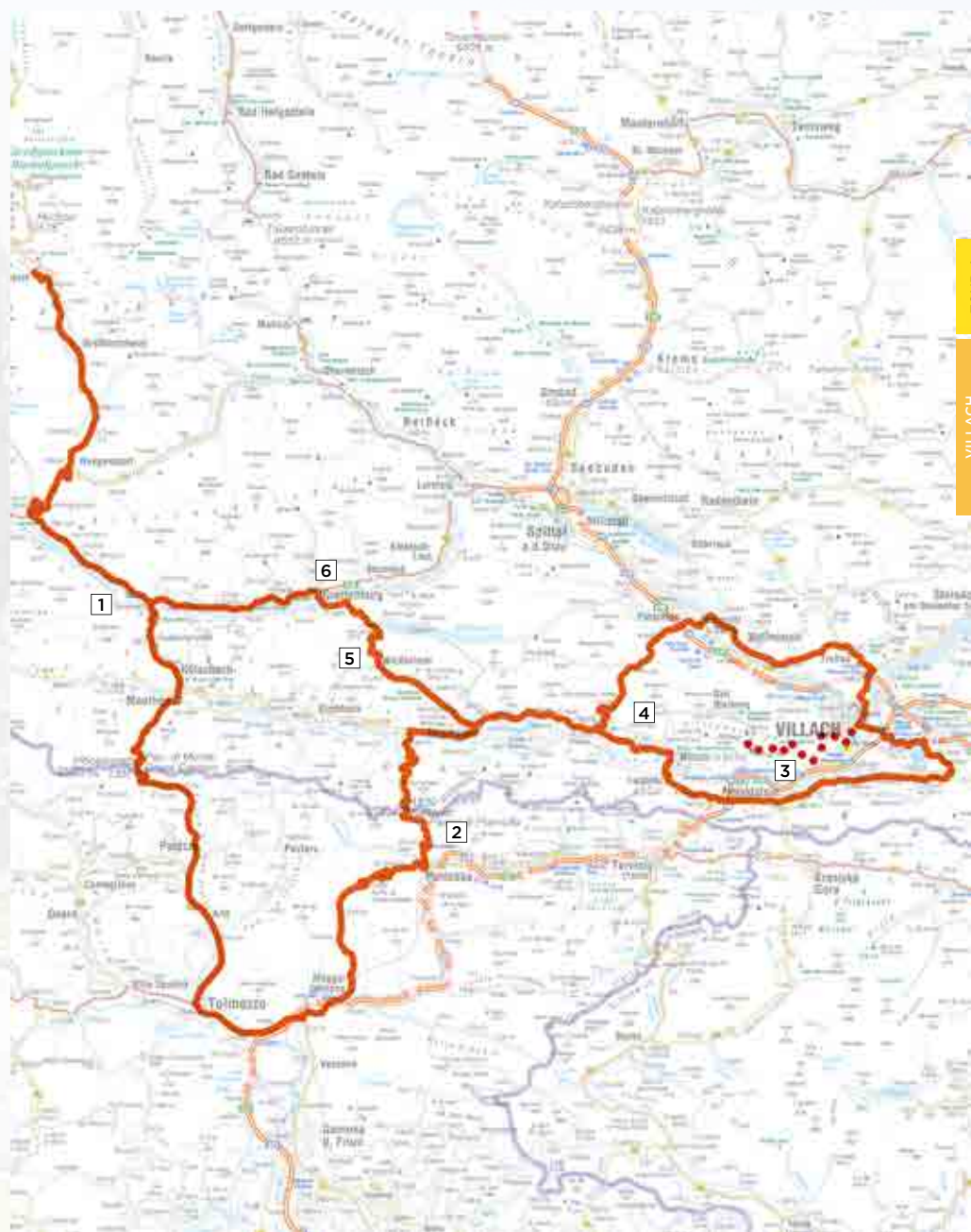
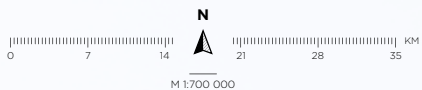


-TOUR 4-

CURVE-ADVENTURE IN THE

*tri-border area*





TOUR 4

VILLACH  
ALPINE ROAD

# THE SCENT OF THE SOUTH

---

*This all-round, international tour runs across steep Alpine passes in the southern direction to the Italian province Udine. In the picturesque Carinthian sea area, the splendid views of Austria, Italy and Slovenia open from the Villach Alpine Road.*

The motto is “heading south” right at the beginning and so we follow the easy-to-drive turns of the federal road 107 in the direction of Lienz starting from Heiligenblut am Grossglockner. Yet this time we ignore the capital city of East Tyrol situated to the right after crossing the Iselberg and roll across the splendidly built tarmac on the federal road 100 along the Drau valley. A route like built for warming-up. And it is good that way. As behind Oberdrauburg **1** awaits the first of many curve-adventures of the day for us – Crossing the two passes Gailberg (981 m) and Plöcken (1,357 m).

The beginners and experts can be equally happy as the entire route between Kötschach-Mauthen and Paluzza in the province Udine in Friuli Venezia Giulia is created in an utmost harmonic manner: Wide roads, neatly asphalted, moderate ascending and descending slopes, good overview, reduced traffic. As a result the bends can be taken smoothly. The mind has more time to appreciate the amazing views of the **Carnic Alps**. And you can already sniff the first southern scent. By the way: Those who are interested in history: the old displays from the Mountain warfare can be explored in the “open air museum 1915 – 1918” at the Plöcken pass.

## AN ALPINE CHALLENGE

After the Plöckensattel we cross the national border to Italy and drive down to Paluzza, one of these typical little Italian towns. >

---

Those who resort from Kaiser-Franz-Josefs-Höhe to the 700-kilometres-long Alps-Adria-trail to Triest also wander through the Carnic Alps.



The clear larch and spruce forest in the Dobratsch nature park offer a secure habitat for numerous wild animals.



TOUR 4

VILLACH  
ALPINE ROAD

- › Its landmark is the Moscarda tower, the remains of a defence facility built in the 13th century. The broadly curved road via Arta and Tolmezzo runs swiftly under the wheels before the next alpine double strike follows behind Moggio Udinese - Sella di Cereschiatis and Nassfeld pass [2]. If the journey across Sella di Cereschiatis (1,066 m) is a round, harmonic affair, crossing the Nassfeld pass (1,530 m) emerges as a challenge: narrow bends, crisp slopes, a lot of curves, a 180-degree-turn in the tunnel.

Back in Carinthia, in Tröpolach we make a right turn and latch back to the federal road 111, which brings us eastwards to Villach. Finally the higher gears can be used again and soon we can recognise the 2,162-metres-high **Dobratsch,**

The summit of the Dobratsch can be reached in about one and a half hour starting from the parking area of Rosstratte.

Villach's local mountain, on the left. That is our next destination. For that we pass through Villach, follow the sign "Villach Alpine Road" [3] and are immediately in the middle of this 16-kilometres-long route and its seven turns. Impressive views down to Villach and the surrounding lakes alternate with great "cornering" fun. When we arrive on top at the Villach Alpe, there are divine sights of the Julian and Carnic Alps.

### SWINGING TURNS UPHILL

Summer driving pleasure (left) with many options for stopovers, like for example the viewing platform "Rote Wand" (red wall) (right).

Back in Villach our route follows a bit of the Drau valley, forks in Feistritz a.d. Drau on the left and takes subsequently to the Windische Höhe Pass [4]. The mountain road stretches in swinging curves uphill and is in between bumpy and so narrow that two cars just manage to pass each other. One may say "small but powerful" to describe this little-known pass. By the way





its name has nothing to do with any winds but it refers to the former German-Slovenian language border that passed here – the Slovans were also called the “Windish”.

In St. Stefan we reach the picturesque Gail valley, following the river for a while towards west and turn right to Greifenburg from Hermagor. Now we may look forward to the next “cornering” fun as the 1,034-metres-high Kreuzbergsattel [5] is not far away. Initially a few harmless kilometres in Gitsch valley and then the neat road coils in big and small curves along the valley flank aloft. The relatively short summit route is crossed quickly and soon we roll through pretty Greifenburg [6] with its impressive castle.

The federal road 100, which runs through the Drau valley with its soft turns, hence comes just at the right moment after the curve-intensive central part of this tour. The summit of the Gailtal and Carnic Alps accompanies us and sets a perfect mood to conclude this tour. Crossing the Iselsberg we finally head back to the Glockner region. ■

Parking area 7 below the Aichingerhütte is a good starting point for a small walk or a hike.



# HIGHLIGHTS ALONG THE ROAD

---

○ The **open air museum 1915 – 1918** on Plöcken pass is the biggest museum of its kind in the world. It is opened from spring to autumn and exhibits displays, barracks, galleries and stands of the mountain warfare from 1915 to 1918. The entry is free.

○ A long stroll in the town is recommended in **Villach**. Wonderfully situated on the banks of Drau, extremely committed to environment protection Villach, glitters with its historic core that is ruled by its generous main square.

○ Higher up on the Villach Alpine Road one arrives at the **Goldeck Panoramic Road**. The 15-kilometres-long route starts to the north-west of Feistritz in Zlan and with its ten turns excites also the most experienced specialist of the Alps. One reaches the 2,142-metre-high Goldeck summit in 45 minutes on foot from the parking area.

○ A stop on the Villach Alpine Road at the **viewing platform “Rote Wand” (red wall)** with its splendid view of the rockfalls of 1348 and 2015 is also worthwhile. Not far from there around 800 alpine plants from three climate zones flourish on the 10,000 m<sup>2</sup> wide area of the alpine gardens.

○ Not only **the hang-gliders and para-gliders** will be happy in Greifenburg. The Mecca for the aerial sports people, is a real crowd magnet with its magnificent castle.

## THE TOUR AT A GLANCE

**Route length:** approx. 410 kilometres

**Travel time:** approx. eight hours

**Characteristic:** Versatile tour with different difficulty levels.

**With the car:** Apart from occasionally narrow pass roads, flawless journey.

**With the motorbike:** The southern part of Nassfeld pass requires a steady vehicle control otherwise it is pure driving pleasure.

**Highest point:** Rest station Rosstratte, Villach Alpine Road, 1,732 m

**Special feature of the tour:** Rosstratte in the Villach Alpine Road with relaxing loungers, stone monoliths, a sky disc from Nebra and a sundial.

---

The Goldeck Panoramic Road is one of the five worth seeing alpine roads of Grossglockner Hochalpenstrassen AG.

---

**1** The end point of the road, Rosstratte, ensures the best scenery.

**2** The geological nature trail “From the sea to the mountain” is located direct next to the children-adventure-playground.

**3** The blossom in the Alpine Garden (1,483 m).

**4** The Dobratsch nature park an Eldorado for amateur ornithologists.



1



Diverse tour  
through the  
**DOBRATSCH  
NATURE  
PARK.**

TOUR 4

VILLACH  
ALPINE ROAD

2



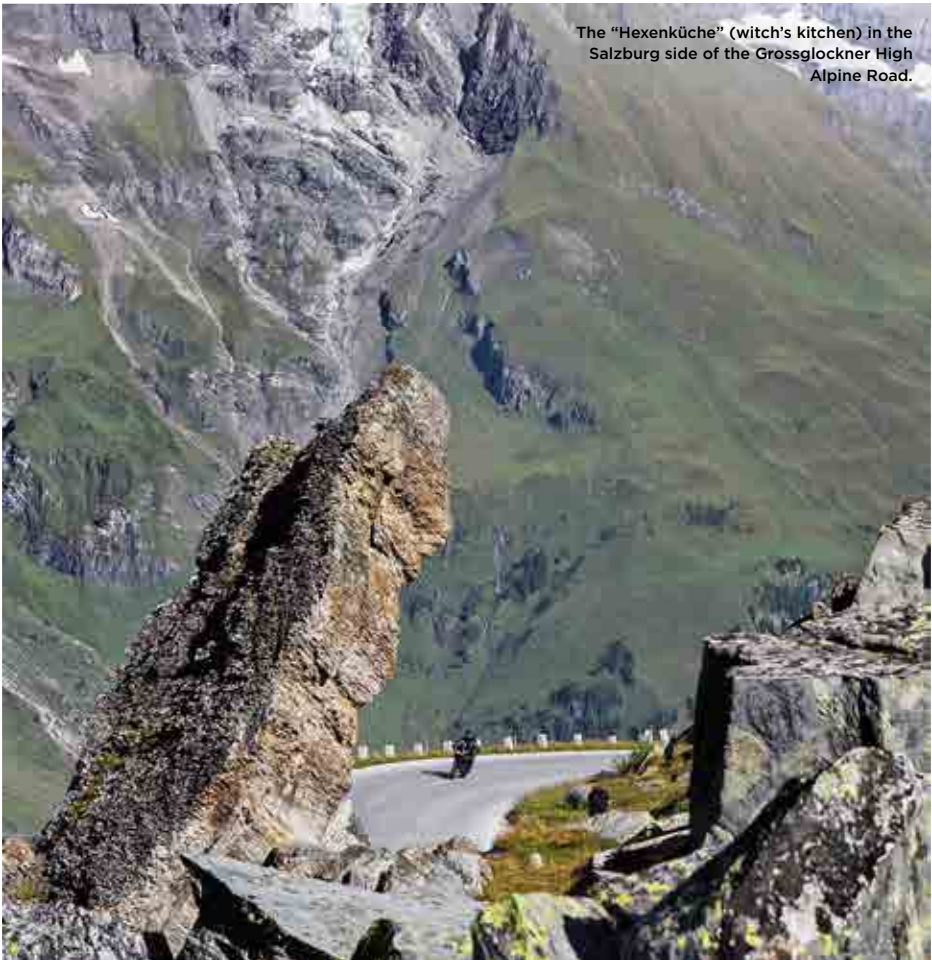
3



4



The "Hexenküche" (witch's kitchen) in the Salzburg side of the Grossglockner High Alpine Road.



#### PUBLICATION DETAILS

##### Editor and responsible for the contents:

Grossglockner Hochalpenstrassen AG,  
Rainerstrasse 2, 5020 Salzburg, Austria  
Phone no. +43 (0)662/873673-0,  
Fax +43 (0)662/873673-13  
info@grossglockner.at, www.grossglockner.at

##### Project management/general coordination:

Mag.a (FH) Patricia Lutz, Grossglockner  
Hochalpenstrassen AG

##### Editorial staff/text:

Mag.a Franziska Lipp,  
Text+Konzeption Salzburg

##### Design:

fredmansky

##### Maps/tour descriptions:

Klaus Hinterschuster, Road Concept  
Martin Schempp, Highlights Verlag

##### Photos:

Grossglockner Hochalpenstrassen AG, Hohe Tauern  
National Park Carinthia, Biosphere Reserve Nock-  
berge, Dobratsch nature park, Region Villach, tourism  
association of Krimml, ÖAV section Warnsdorf / Nuss-  
bauer, Grossglockner Grand Prix, Dr. Georg Kandutsch

##### Print:

Samson Druck

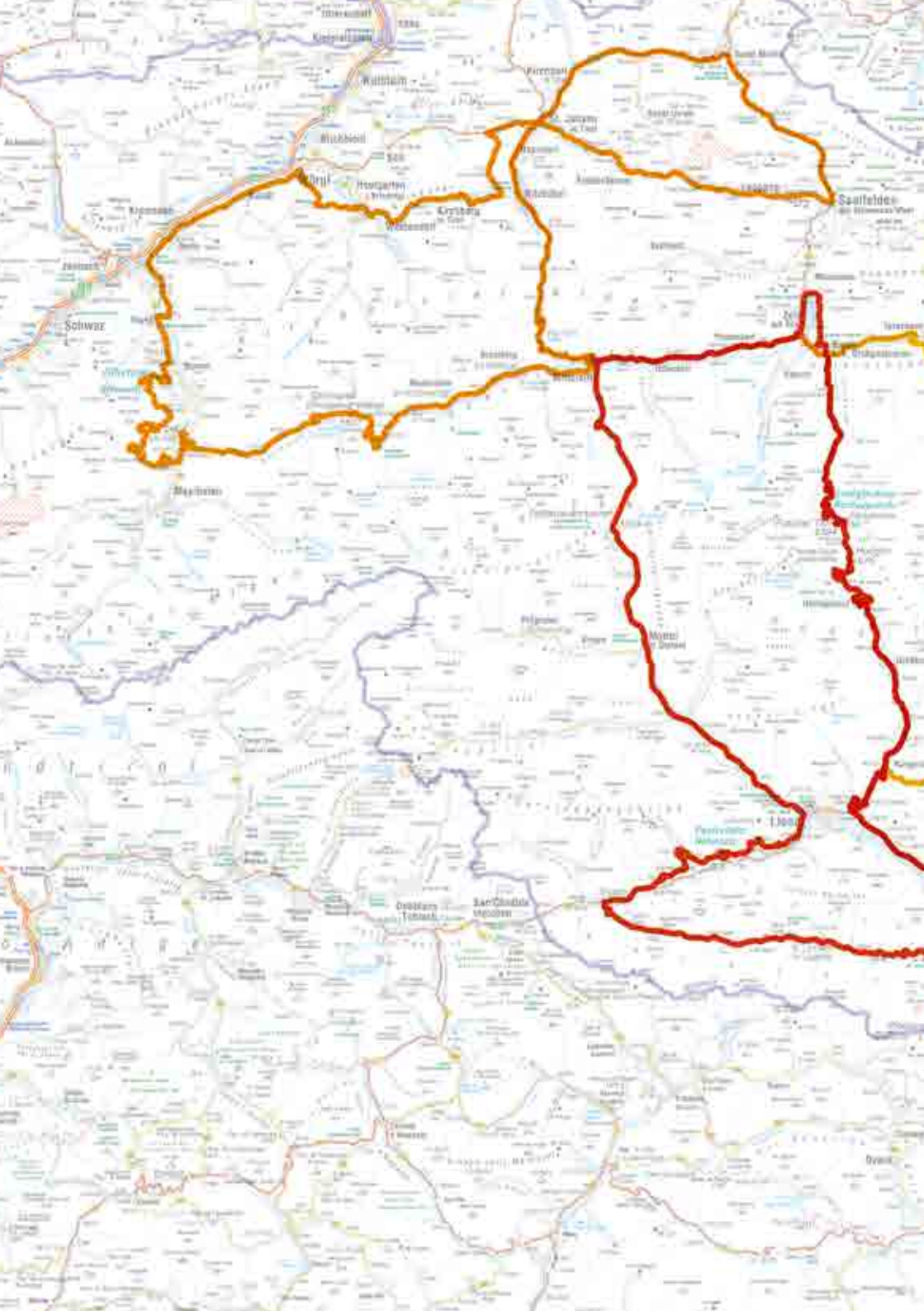
---

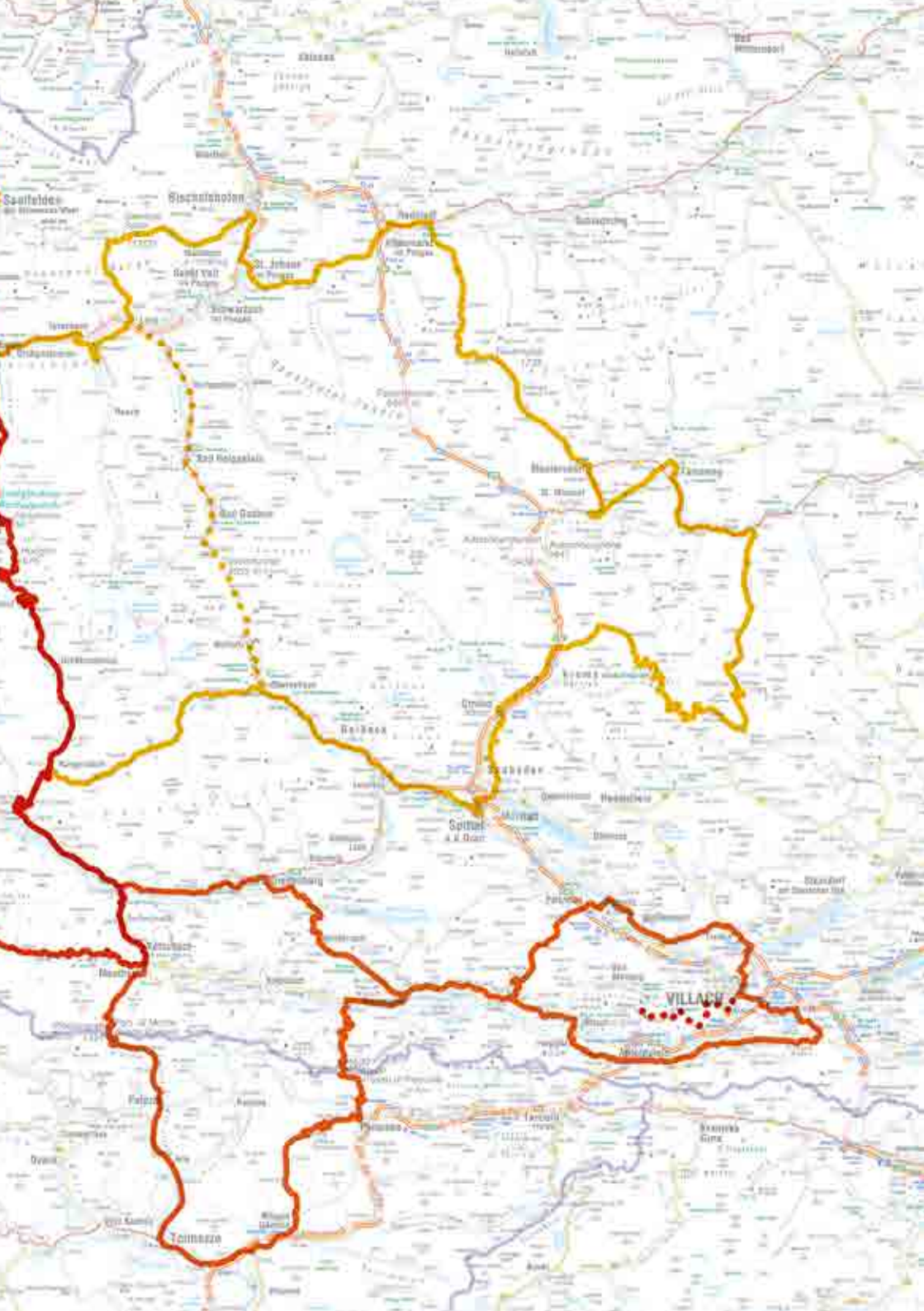
For the reasons of easier reading, a gender-specific  
differentiation is waived. The corresponding terms  
are valid within the line of equal treatment for both  
the genders.

Typing and printing errors reserved.

Dated: March 2016.









GROSSGLOCKNER  
3.798 m

JOHANNISBERG  
3.453 m

FUSCHERKARKOPF  
3.331 m

SONNENWELLEN  
3.261 m

PASTERZE

Kaiser-Franz-Josefs-Höhe



Fuscher Törl

10

Schöneck

Fuscher Lacke

von Kärnten SÜDEN  
from Carinthia SOUTH



9

Hochtor

8

7



Panoramabahn

12

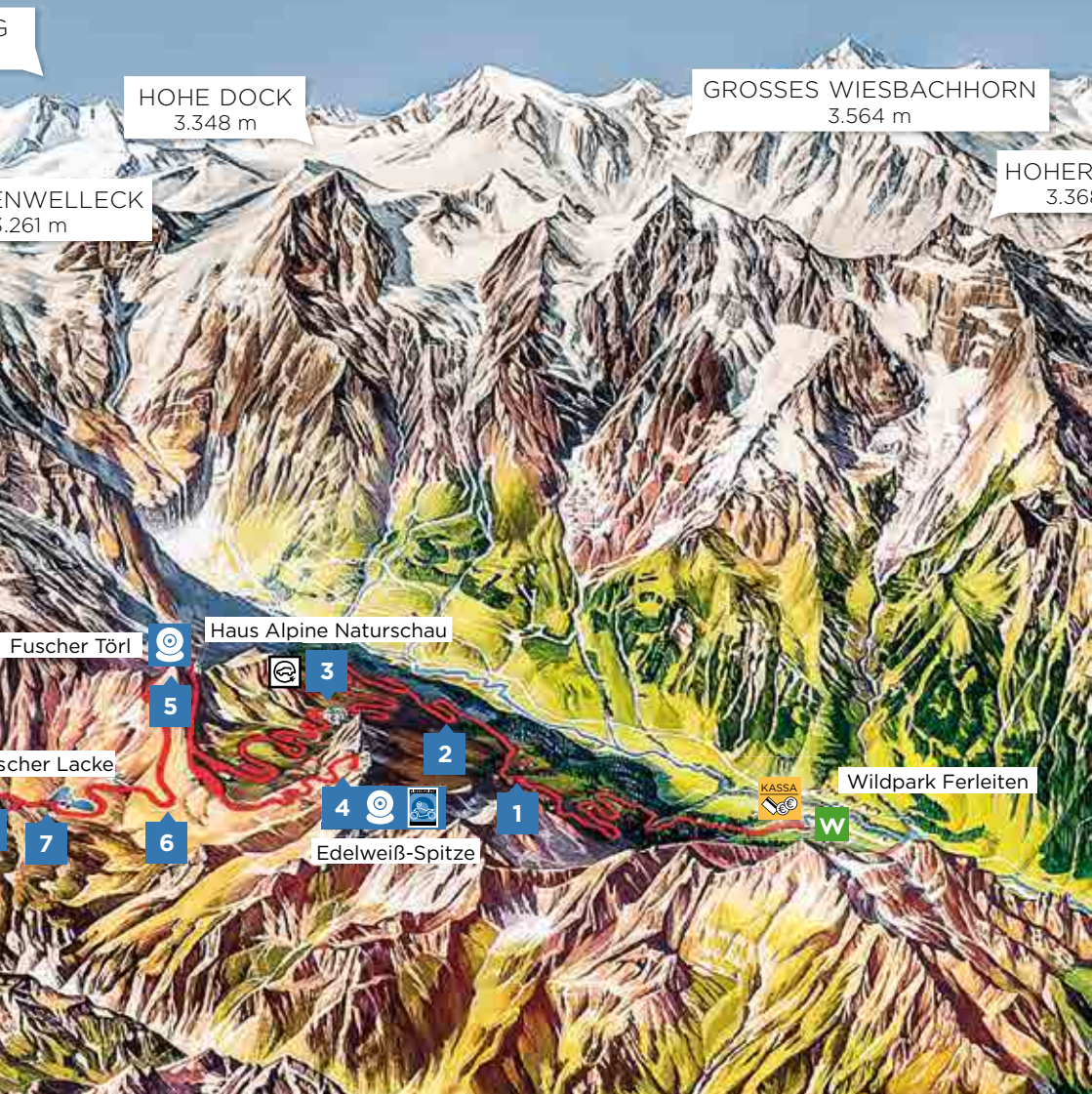


HEILIGENBLUT  
AM GROSS-  
GLOCKNER

### LEGENDS

- |                    |              |                                   |        |
|--------------------|--------------|-----------------------------------|--------|
| Wildlife preserve  | Restaurants  | Souvenirs                         | Bus    |
| Themed playgrounds | Restrooms    | Gas station                       | Webcam |
| Explore nature     | Bikers Point | Barrier-free facilities           |        |
| Cashpoint          |              | electric vehicle charging station |        |





HOHE DOCK  
3.348 m

GROESSES WIESBACHHORN  
3.564 m

HOHEWELLECK  
2.261 m

HOHE...  
3.36...

Fuscher Törl

Haus Alpine Naturschau

Fuscher Lacke

Wildpark Ferleiten

Edelweiß-Spitze

1 Piffkar 1,620 m

2 Hochmais 1,850 m

3 Haus Alpine Naturschau  
(Alpine nature exhibition) 2,260 m

4 Edelweiss-Spitze 2,571 m



5 Fuscher Törl 2,428 m

6 Raptor information

7 Fuscher Lacke 2,260 m

8 Geological nature t







TENNEN  
3,800 m

OLPERER  
3,476 m

GERLOSPASS  
1,628 m

KAPRUN

**von Salzburg/Bayern NORDEN**  
from Salzburg/Bavaria NORTH

FUSCHERTAL

FUSCH AN DER  
GROSSGLOCKNERSTRASSE

BRUCK AN DER  
GROSSGLOCKNERSTRASSE

m  
centre 2,320 m  
2 m  
rail 2,290 m

-  
-  
-  
- 

- 9** Hochtorn 2,504 m
- 10** Schöneck 1,953 m
- 11** Kaiser-Franz-Josefs-Höhe 2,369 m
- 12** Kasereck information centre, 1,911 m

-        
-    
-        
- 





WASSER  
WELTEN  
KRIMML

## GROSSGLOCKNER HOCHALPENSTRASSEN AG

Rainerstrasse 2, 5020 Salzburg, Austria  
Phone: +43 (0)662 / 873673-0  
info@grossglockner.at

WITH THE FRIENDLY ASSISTANCE OF

