

Winter Holidays 2023/24 in St. Anton am Arlberg/Tirol

Feeling on Top of the World

St. Anton am Arlberg, 1st December 2023: a new winter season begins in the birthplace of alpine skiing! With over 300 kilometres of marked downhill runs as well as 200 kilometres of back country variants, the mountain village at the heart of "Ski Arlberg" ranks as one of the largest ski resorts in the world. Winter holidays in the Stanzer Valley region are characterised by many other superlatives, including the huge choice of fabulous cuisine which ranges from traditional Tyrolean fare to one of the most elevated award-winning restaurants in Europe, or what is probably the most legendary downhill race in the Alpine region. With a route that encompasses some 1,350 metres in elevation difference and seven-and-a-half kilometres in distance, "The White Thrill" does more than justice to its name and enjoys an awesome reputation amongst ski freaks. On 20th April 2024, participants and spectators can look forward to an "anniversary of madness" on the last weekend of the ski season (ends: 21st April), when this iconic race celebrates its 25th jubilee. For all those who would like to spend their holidays in St. Anton am Arlberg before then, the climate-friendly and comfortable train journey to the highest ICE train station in the world, located directly at the village centre, is well worth looking into. More comfort on the slopes is also assured in winter 2023/24 with the new 8-seater Albonabahn I gondola in Stuben, which can be reached from the Alpe Rauz hub and transports guests up the Albona in weatherproof conditions. www.stantonamarlberg.com

Stanton Ski Open – 1st -3rd December 2023

St. Anton am Arlberg starts the winter of 2023/24 in style at the traditional Stanton Ski Open from 1st to 3rd December 2023 with concerts on three stages and an assortment of food trucks. Local cover and emerging bands, DJs and artists such as Bavarian singer-songwriter, Oimara, ensure a festival atmosphere on Friday and Saturday. At Arlberg Safety Camp and in cooperation with St. Anton am Arlberg Mountain Rescue Service, an avalanche safety presentation and practical training are planned (registration required). Throughout the opening weekend, guests can test the latest models from leading ski and snowboard manufacturers on the slopes of the largest inter-connected ski area in Austria free of charge. Click [here](#) for the Stanton Ski Open 2023 programme.

Ski Show "Schneetreiben - The Snow Must Go On" – 30th December 2023

A ski slope as a gigantic outdoor cinema, 150 performers on skis in a fast-forward performance of the history of winter sport: St. Anton am Arlberg Tourist Board, together with Skischule Arlberg and the Arlberger Bergbahnen Cable Car Co present the 45-minute long Ski Show, "Schneetreiben - The Snow Must Go On," in the Karl Schranz Finish Stadium on 30th December 2023. From 8th January 2024, the show is performed every Wednesday at 21 hrs, admission is free. Those wanting to enjoy the spectacle in more exclusive style, can follow the colourful events from the comfort of the Show Lounge, or "open-air" on the stadium roof. Limited tickets cost € 35.- per person, which includes a buffet and drinks.

Jubilee Finale - "The White Thrill" on 20th April 2024

A spectacular ski race traditionally brings the ski season to an end in St. Anton am Arlberg. On 20th April 2024, the "White Thrill" downhill race will have participants' muscles screaming in protest, when 555 athletes from all over the world hurtle simultaneously down 7.5 kilometres of unprepared slopes to the valley after a mass start from the Valluga Ridge. Olympic ideals and great ambitions provide an eclectic mix here: as some contenders have their sights on a medal, while others enjoy the hullabaloo at a more leisurely pace. The White Thrill takes place for the 25th time in 2024.

Special Offers & Packages

“Take the Nightjet to the snow - comfortable and eco-friendly

Austrian Rail (ÖBB) is again offering special combined tickets for guests from certain regions in winter 2023/24. Holidaymakers can travel comfortably to St. Anton am Arlberg from Hamburg, Düsseldorf, Amsterdam, Vienna or Graz without having to worry about traffic. The Nightjet Combi-Ticket includes the (return) train journey in the ÖBB Nightjet, including seat reservation, a 3 to 6-day lift pass, as well as transfer to the desired hotel in the Tyrolean mountain village. For more information and bookings, please visit: kombitickets.railtours.at

Mountain Media Center – ski holidays to go

Whether attached to your chest, as an extension of your arm, or mounted in classic style on your helmet: from the end of January to the end of March 2024, holidaymakers can once again capture their fun on the slopes in St. Anton am Arlberg with the latest action camera models and free of charge. The pros from Mountain Media Center then edit the recorded sequences and transform them into a personal video with soundtrack, which is available to download or view on YouTube. The daily “Sun & Snow Report“ for the Tyrolean region also makes use of the roughly one-minute clips.

Snowman Ticket - season ticket for 11 euros

Despite its sporting reputation, St. Anton am Arlberg is also geared towards younger guests with 130 kilometres of blue runs, as well as many designated nursery slopes. It is with good reason that kids who have learnt to ski here are considered to be particularly confident on the slopes. Children up to the age of 8 (born in 2016 or later) can use the Schneemannkarte (snowman ticket) for the whole winter for only 11 euros in the St. Anton am Arlberg ski area. Young skiers can look for hidden forest inhabitants and playfully learn the FIS skiing rules along the Hoppelweg Trail, together with ski school mascot, Hoppl the Hare.

Skiing and Alternatives

From leisurely to sporty - cross-country skiing on the Arlberg

St. Anton am Arlberg has a [cross-country ski network](#) that encompasses 40 kilometres with seven routes, which were awarded Tyrol's cross-country skiing seal of approval thanks to their snow reliability, variety and good signage. The circuit in St. Christoph (2.5 km) at 1,800 metres is characterised by short descents as well as a few ascents. One of the most beautiful trails in Austria starts to the west of Hotel Mooserkreuz and leads through the picturesque Verwall Valley to the Wagner Hut and Lake Verwall (10 km). The Stanzertal cross-country ski trail (22 km) runs alongside the Rosanna River from St. Anton via Pettneu and Schnann to Flirsch and back again and can be accessed from any point. Two shorter beginner and training circuits are also connected to this trail. In addition to the classic trail, all cross-country trails in the St. Anton am Arlberg region also have a skating variant.

Alpine wellness - 80 kilometres of winter hiking trails

Crunching snow under your feet, a pleasant mountain climate and altitude training all rolled into one: winter hikers have 80 kilometres of winter walking trails to choose from in and around St. Anton am Arlberg. Among the 17 [winter hiking trails](#) in the region, hikers with sturdy footwear can explore the mystical Verwalltal Valley (10-kilometre round trip), or the ice crystal strewn landscape of Erlen on the “Stanzertaler Rundwanderweg“ (Stanzertal circuit – 24-kilometre round walk). A shorter route leads to Gasthof Almfrieden (six kilometres), while the winter hiking trail at Galzig (one kilometre) can be reached by cable car. If you fancy sampling the inimitable delights of a rustic snowshoe hike through snow-covered landscapes, you are advised to book the services of a trained guide.

Springtime is touring time - for beginners and experienced skiers

From March onwards, St. Anton am Arlberg is blessed with the best conditions for excursions into the great white landscape, thanks in particular to “firn” snow - a very special type of snow that only exists in spring when the days get longer and warmer. Surrounded by the spectacular Arlberg mountain scenery, numerous variants and deep-snow descents in all degrees of difficulty await ski tourers until well into April, for example from the St. Anton district of St. Christoph to the Galzig (easy), from Mount Rendl to Kreuzjochspitze (moderate) or via Kartellsee Lake to the Darmstädter Hut (difficult), where you can also spend the night. State-certified mountain and ski guides provide newcomers with essential information about equipment, potential dangers and off-piste safety precautions. Experienced tourers are also recommended to avail themselves with the services of a guide for more ambitious routes. The weather and snow report as well as important safety information can always be found at www.stantonamarlberg.com.

Winter via ferrate climbing trail at Rendl - not suitable for inexperienced alpine enthusiasts

Strap your skis to your back and let the adventure begin: the starting point of one of Tyrol's most beautiful winter via ferrates can be found next to the top terminal of the Riffel II lift on Mount Rendl (2,645 metres), high above St. Anton am Arlberg. Secured in its entirety by steel rope, ski-touring fans can start the 850-metre-long high alpine ridge crossing from here, where views extend over the entire Verwallgruppe Mountain Range and Lechtal Alps - sometimes even as far as South Tyrol on clear days. The heart of every ski enthusiast will skip a beat once they arrive at the Rossfallscharte Ridge (2,732 metres), where the downhill run through backcountry terrain beckons. Guided tours and equipment can be booked at St. Anton am Arlberg ski schools.

Run of Fame Ski Circuit - in memory of the Arlberg legends

St. Anton, together with St. Christoph, Stuben, Lech, Zürs, Warth and Schröcken form Austria's largest inter-linked ski area and the fifth largest in the world. Holidaymakers can discover Arlberg's incredible skiing dimensions along the spectacular “Run of Fame” ski circuit. No matter where you access this ski tour - information boards and signposts that honour local skiing legends inform skiers about this 85-kilometre-long route and its 18,000 metres in elevation difference. The mountain station of Flexen cable car between Stuben/Rauz and Zürs also houses a "Hall of Fame", where visitors can experience historical moments and Arlberg ski stars in a free exhibition.

A whole pack of new winter adventures - out and about with huskies

In cooperation with Wild Paws Adventures, [guided husky tours](#) in the Austrian region of St. Anton am Arlberg complement the range of leisure activities offered to winter holidaymakers. Every Friday morning, animal lovers with or without kids can get acquainted with the charismatic canines before they head out together on sleds through the spectacular winter landscape of the Tyrolean mountain region. Wellnesspark Arlberg Stanzertal in Pettneu is the starting point, which is easily accessible via regular bus services that shuttle between St. Anton village centre and the neighbouring communities.

Locations and Opportunities

Verwall Valley and Wagner Hut - convivial venue in a winter paradise

Only a few minutes from the centre of St. Anton am Arlberg, visitors can "escape" and immerse themselves in the picturesque valley of Verwall. Wrapped up nice and toasty, you can explore the wintry recreation area by strolling, sledding, snowshoeing or cross-country skiing. The Wagner Hut, a welcoming social hub for locals and visitors alike, invites you to warm up and indulge in delicious refreshments. In addition to two homely dining lounges, a winter garden and terrace, the Wagner Hut is equipped with seminar and conference rooms and is open daily for guests in winter.

Just like in the good old days - Advent Magic in the Park

A festive spirit pervades the air in St. Anton am Arlberg even before the start of the ski season. On 3rd December 2023, the bells jingle for the first time at “Advent Magic in the Park”, where the Christmas trail winds gently through the park of St. Anton Museum and themed venues invite you to linger and sample local specialities, like traditional “Kiachla” (delicious fried pastry). Additional dates: 8th, 10th, 16th and 17th December 2023.

Homestead holidays - visit the Arlberg in a mobile home

Whether camping at ground level, a stylish road trip or some time out in alpine lodge ambience: St. Anton am Arlberg offers the very best conditions for holidays in mobile accommodation. Only a few kilometres from the "cosmopolitan village" of St. Anton am Arlberg, you will find an optimally equipped 4-star campsite in Pettneu. In addition to classic camping, [ArlBergLife Holiday Resort](#) offers apartments and three stylish lodges of 60 square metres each with kitchen, flat-screen TV, private garden with barbecue and private sauna

arl.park - indoor sports centre in St. Anton am Arlberg

Tennis, squash, bowling, climbing, bouldering: active holidaymakers can let off steam all year round in the state-of-the-art sports and climbing centre [arl.park](#) in St. Anton am Arlberg. Highlights include a diverse range of climbing opportunities in varying degrees of difficulty. There are around 80 square metres of bouldering space and 70 routes ready to be tackled by climbing enthusiasts. The adjoining trampoline hall extends the available facilities to a total of 1,000 square metres, including 14 trampolines, airtrack floor mats and a bagjump airbag with a freefall tower.

arl.flow - home of the yoga community

The yogi scene in St. Anton am Arlberg has grown considerably in recent years, thanks not only to the annual international Mountain Yoga Festival in late summer. In the Karl Schranz Zielstadion, local and visiting yogis have their own space for their sessions at [arl.flow](#). Alongside beginner and advanced courses on different yoga styles, the programme also includes children's yoga, meditation and relaxation sessions.

Arlberg WellCom and Wellnesspark Arlberg Stanzertal - relax with a view of the peaks

Relax your tired muscles and enjoy a refreshing dip at [Wellnesspark Arlberg Stanzertal](#) in Pettneu or at [Arlberg WellCom](#) in St. Anton am Arlberg. The latter regularly serves as a venue for sporting and international events. Moreover, numerous hotels in the Tyrolean holiday region offer wellness and therapeutic treatments for their guests.

Welcome reception, major events or ski races - St. Anton am Arlberg as a venue

Are you looking to host your own congress, meeting or corporate event in St. Anton am Arlberg? All that and more is possible. The cosmopolitan mountain village is home to multiple state-of-the-art [conference facilities](#) that can be combined with break-out activities in nature. Arlberg WellCom sets the standard with its spacious leisure and wellness landscape, its World Championship Hall and the neighbouring Karl Schranz Zielstadion, which, thanks to its gentle slope, merges almost seamlessly into the end of the ski slope. Additional locations include St. Anton Museum with its idyllic park facility or the Arlberg Auditorium with its typical Tyrolean charm. Thanks to its flagship railway station, St. Anton am Arlberg is connected to the international rail network and can be easily reached from cities such as Paris, Milan, Zurich, Brussels or Hamburg.

Sustainability and Service

Built on tradition and commitment - KLAR! region Arlberg Stanzertal

St. Anton am Arlberg's environmental commitment includes various ecological measures and projects - from alternative energy generation and waste disposal to nature-friendly piste maintenance. Eco-friendly electricity was generated as early as 1921 with the first local hydroelectric power plant, and St. Anton am Arlberg has been entirely self-sufficient in terms of energy supply since 2006. The recently built local heating network with an annual heat output of 16.5 GWh, to which more than 80 company buildings are already connected, has also already saved more than 4.35 million litres of heating oil and thus 11,600 tonnes of CO2 emissions since its completion in November 2020. As an officially recognised [KLAR!](#) model region (climate change adaptation model region), the environmentally conscious population of St. Anton am Arlberg is working intensively on various sustainability and climate protection projects and is currently in the second phase of a nationwide programme. As part of the "So fährt TIROL 2050" project, St. Anton am Arlberg is also actively involved in the transition to electromobility as a key technology for the transport revolution.

Arlberg hydropower makes St. Anton self-sufficient

A unique, but certainly not the only sustainable project in the holiday region is provided by the Kartell power plant. In 2005, the Kartell power plant was expanded and put into operation. The lake of the same name holds circa eight million cubic metres of water and generates around 33 million kilowatt hours of electricity per year. The entire storage volume is used again by the existing Rosanna power plant, making St. Anton am Arlberg entirely self-sufficient in terms of power supply since 2006. St. Anton am Arlberg also operates a biomass heating plant with wood chips, which is designed for up to 80 residential units and is planned to be further expanded in future. The plant is also connected to a solar power and water heating system.

Eco-friendly snow cannon cycle

A total of 88 percent of the pistes in St. Anton am Arlberg can be prepared with artificial snow. The crystals that cannons blow into the ski area are even cleaner than natural snow, as they consist only of drinking-quality water and air. These strict regulations apply to the whole of Tyrol, according to which no chemicals may be added. As the artificial snow melts and then flows into the streams and rivers in spring, it is returned to nature. The river water in turn supports power generation in the valley, which is used again the following winter to power snowmaking equipment – thus completing the eco-friendly cycle. Following the principle of "as much as necessary, as little as possible", piste maintenance machines record the exact snow depth in real time by means of an integrated GPS system and thus help with optimising the snowmaking process even further, making it more efficient and nature-friendly.

New rail connection – ICE intercity trains direct to the village centre

"Ski Express Tirol" reached a new milestone in winter 2022/23: an ICE train travelled for the first time directly from Hamburg via Munich to St. Anton am Arlberg. "When St. Anton's former visionaries built the Arlberg railway line and our station, they were certainly not aware of its future significance. 140 years later, both are more important than ever in terms of sustainability. We are therefore delighted to be able to take another step towards climate-neutral travel with the new direct ICE connection from Hamburg", tourism director Martin Ebster explains. With the arrival of the first ICE 1201 train, St. Anton am Arlberg, situated 1,303 metres above sea level, is now officially home to the world's highest ICE station, with steadily expanding services.

Train travel to the village centre

St. Anton am Arlberg in Tyrol is considered an attractive destination for rail travellers from all over Europe. The mountain village is a Railjet station, which welcomes seven direct connections a day from Vienna and Zurich. St. Anton am Arlberg Tourist Board operates the local station counter as an additional service centre. Alongside selling tickets, the centre functions as an information office, providing advice and other services to guests. Thanks to the cooperation with ÖBB (Austrian Rail), the Tourist Board can look after arriving visitors even more professionally and personally. Guests, in fact, don't need a car in the entire holiday region: buses shuttle regularly to and from all areas of the village and surrounding regions in the Stanzer Valley. Those staying directly in St. Anton am Arlberg can make the most of the convenient location and access everything on foot. Since summer 2022, holidaymakers have enjoyed using the new GreTA (Green Travel Alternatives) tool to coordinate their journey from the first to the last metre, with a view to minimising their carbon footprint

Overview of the preliminary winter dates:

01.-03.12.2023	Stanton Ski Open and start of the winter season
from 03.12.2023	Advent Magic in the Park, then on 8 th , 10 th , 16 th and 17 th December 2023
27.12.2023	Wiltener Boys Choir Concert
30.12.2023	"Schneetreiben – The Snow Must Go On", every Wednesday from 10 th January 2024
03.01.2023	Arlberg New Year's Concert
20.04.2024	"The White Thrill" Ski Race
21.04.2024	End of the winter season

Details subject to change.