



# Press Kit

Winter 2018/19



**Press information  
Obertauern**

**Winter 2018/19**

**Obertauern winter season – at a glance**

**Address**

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Internet: [www.obertauern.com](http://www.obertauern.com)

**Location:**

Obertauern lies 90 km south of Salzburg. Altitude 1,740 m, ski area from 1,630 to 2,313 metres. Distances: Munich 220 km, Vienna 320 km

**By road:**

On the Salzburg-Villach Tauern Motorway to the Graz junction, from there take the B99 main road to Radstadt, then follow signs to Obertauern (20 kilometres).

**By rail:**

Radstadt (20 km) is the nearest railway station, directly from there by bus to Obertauern.

**By air:**

The nearest airports are Salzburg (90 km) and Klagenfurt (140 km), with a reasonably priced shuttle connection to Obertauern. Affordable flight connections, including TUIfly from several German, Dutch and Belgian cities to Salzburg and Klagenfurt. Munich airport is 220 km away from Obertauern.

**Accommodation:**

There are about 150 hotels, inns, guesthouses, holiday apartments and 6 youth hostels of all price categories in Obertauern.

**Winter season:**

Expected season start: November 21, 2018, lifts in operation until May 1, 2019

**Lifts:**

26 cable railways and lifts with a capacity of over 50,000 persons per hour:

- 1 eight-person rotating cabin railway
- 2 combined row-of-eight open-chair/10-person enclosed-gondola lift
- 6 six-seat coupling chairlifts
- 1 eight-seat chairlift
- 4 four-seat coupling chairlifts
- 4 four-seat chairlifts
- 2 double chairlifts
- 6 tow lifts

**Runs:**

There are about 100 kilometres of runs, of which according to international standards 61 kilometres are declared easy (blue trail signs), 35 kilometres as medium (red trail signs) and 4 kilometres as difficult (black trail signs).

**NEW!****Plattenkarbahn:**

Combined installation with 8-seat chairs and 10-seat gondola cabins, made of high-quality natural materials, e.g. grey loden cloth and leather.

**Ascent and descent for non-skiers:**

Grünwaldkopfbahn and Zehnerkarbahn also transport people without ski equipment (guests of the restaurant with a panorama terrace)

**Good Morning Obertauern:**

Lift operation every Wednesday from 8.30 am for the Gamsleiten I six-seat chairlift, Achenrain coupling chairlift and the Zehnerkar cable railway.

**Night Skiing:**

The Edelweiß coupling chairlift is available for night skiing every Monday and Thursday from 7 pm to 10 pm.

The trail length is 1.5 kilometres. Tickets valid for at least 1.5 days can be used. The Salzburg Super Ski Card is not valid for night skiing. Information: Edelweiß coupling chairlift, Plattenkar ticket office, phone: +43-(0)6456-722118

**Trans-regional ski-passes:**

The Obertauern ski pass valid for at least 1.5 days is also valid for the Grosseck/Speiereck ski resort at Mauterndorf/St. Michael in the Lungau area, about 15 km away. The resort has 10 cable railways and around 50 kilometres of runs at altitudes between 1,000 m and 2,400 m).

**LUNGO: Lungau – Katschberg – Obertauern network:**

Lift tickets from two days are valid for night skiing in Obertauern.

**Salzburg Super Ski Card**

Snow pleasures with the world's largest ski-pass association, with ski passes ranging from 3 to 14 days. Season tickets and seasonal subscriptions also available.

**Ski bus:**

All Obertauern guests can use the bus free of charge from Untertauern to Tweng. Those with an Obertauern ski pass marked "Bus" can use the bus free of charge as far as Radstadt and Mauterndorf. If you have the Salzburg Super Ski Card, you can use buses free of charge for alpine sports.

**Race tracks with time measurement:**

Sonnenlift 3, Schönalmbahn, Schrotteralmliift, Kirchbühellift

**Race tracks with speed measurement:**

Zentralbahn, Grünwaldkopfbahn



### **Super Seven:**

The seven highest points in the Obertauern ski circuit with selective descent at respective lift facility (marked with S7 signs):

- Seekareckbahn
- Panoramabahn
- Hundskogelbahn
- Plattenkarbahn
- Schaidbergbahn
- Gamsleitenbahn 2
- Zehnerkarbahn

### **The Tauern round:**

26 cable railways and lift facilities are positioned all around the community and form a unique ski arena. The red Tauern round runs clockwise, the green Tauern round runs anticlockwise. The cleverly arranged system offers the possibility to ski the entire Tauern round from a single facility and return to the same starting point. Your car is also on holiday during your stay. The lifts can be directly reached on skis from the hotels. Spacious ski bridges have been erected for crossing the road.

### **Tauern round for kids:**

The well-known and popular Tauern round is in duplicate for children and teenagers, tailored to the abilities and fitness of young skiers.

As counterparts to the tried and tested Tauern round for grown-ups, smaller children can frolic on the "Bobby round", named after local mascot Bobby, while more advanced kids and teens will be hitting "My Track". On both rounds, a fun park, a time-measuring track, a ghost train and a wave-track encourage the young guests to share their Obertauern experiences under the Hashtag #LOVEOBERTAUERN.

### **Skiing schools:**

Ski- & Snowboardschule Silvia Grillitsch & Partner

Phone: +43-(0)6456-7462

Ski- & Snowboardschule Frau Holle

Phone: +43-(0)6456-72009 10

Skischule Koch

Phone: +43-(0)6456-72285

Ski- & Snowboardschule Krallinger

Phone: +43-(0)6456-72007

Ski- & Snowboardschule Top

Phone: +43-(0)6456-7678

Skischule und Freeride Center NAC

Phone: +43-(0)664-1634927

Snowboardschule Blue Tomato

Phone: +43-(0)6456-20036

Langlaufschule Gnadenalm Simon

Tel.: +43-(0)664 4139518

### **Snowbiking:**

Snowbikeschule Koch, Hermann Koch

Phone: +43-(0)6456-72285

**Snowkiting:**

Snowkite-Schule "Hang on", Florian Schmaldienst  
Phone: +43-(0)699-14612666

**Ski-jumping:**

Skisprungschule Florian Greimel  
Phone: +43-(0)650-3422897

**Ski touring:**

On request at the skiing schools

**Snowpark:**

THE SPOT park at the Kehrkopf four-seat chairlift offers "beginner lines", "rails", boxes and jumps for snowboarders and freeskiers.

**Ice climbing**

When the temperatures drop way below zero the Johannes Waterfall freezes and provides perfect conditions for ice climbing.  
CSA Skischule Silvia Grillitsch, Phone: +43-(0)6456-7462

**Segway tours in winter:**

CSA Skischule Silvia Grillitsch, Phone: +43-(0)6456-7462

**Through the winter wonderland on an electric fat bike:**

CSA Skischule Silvia Grillitsch, Phone: +43-(0)6456-7462

**Cross-country skiing:**Hundsfeld Trail, 6 km (medium):

This sunny cross-country trail begins north of the sports centre. The most beautiful part of this trail crosses the nature reserve of the Hundsfeld moor and ends with an exhilarating and fast downhill run towards the sports centre. A further entry point to this trail is next to the kiting area.

World Cup Trail, 10 km (medium-difficult):

The entry point to this beautiful 10 km trail prepared for the intermediate cross-country skier is situated behind car park P2 (behind Zehnerkarbahn). It leads from the top of the pass to the Felseralm and back. This cross-country trail is just right for extremely fit cross-country skiers.

Gnadenalm Trail, 15 km (easy, medium-difficult):

The start is about 5 km north of Obertauern at the Gnadenalm. The trail is suitable for both beginners and experienced skate and classic skiers. Also to be reached with the ski bus.

Twenger Au Trail

This 23 km cross-country trail connects Tweng with Mauterndorf. The entries are at the "Franzbauer" in the centre of the village Tweng, at the timber stockyard in the Lantschfeld valley near Tweng, opposite the "Purnbauer" in Vordertweng and at the bus stop "Maly".

Taurach Trail

This 13 km long cross-country ski trail connects Untertauern and Radstad.

**Tobogganing:**

A 1.5 km toboggan run, toboggan hire and toboggan taxi are situated directly at the Gnadental (also night tobogganing). Phone: +43-(0)6456-7351.

The toboggan run (5 km) on the levelled forest path begins at the Südwienerhütte. Towards the end of winter as the temperatures rise, tobogganing is on request:  
Phone +43-(0)664-3436342

**Horse-drawn sleigh rides:**

At the Landhotel Postgut in Tweng +43-(0)6471-20206 and at the Gnadental +43-(0)6456-7351

**Biathlon:**

The biathlon shooting range at the Gnadental is open to everyone. No previous experience required. Ideal for corporate and incentive events.

For introductory courses and shooting range reservations, call +43-(0)6456 20085.

**Airboarding:**

Headfirst on their stomach, airboarders shoot down towards the valley on shock-absorbing high tech air-pillows. This spectacular sport requires bravery and agility. Phone: +43-(0)6456-7462

**Child care:**

Kinderland Obertauern: the little ones are cared for by qualified staff. For children from the age of 10 months, lunch on request.

Phone: +43 6456 725224, [www.kinderbetreuung.cc](http://www.kinderbetreuung.cc), [kinderbetreuung@sbg.at](mailto:kinderbetreuung@sbg.at)

**For kids and teens throughout the winter season:**

Free skiing for children up to five years

- Bobby's Snow Adventure package, including skiing or snowboarding classes are available between January 12 to February 2, 2019, as well as from April 6 to 13, 2019.

Playful introduction to winter sports at the [Bibo Bear family ski park](#).

Kids' igloo, haunted ski house: Can be entered on skis.

Avalanche safety training, Telemark skiing, ice climbing

Freestyle/freeride college and courses

**Press contact partner:**

Mario Siedler, Managing Director of the Obertauern Tourist Office

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### **On top with high levels of snow safety**

#### **Obertauern scores with diverse offerings for the entire family**

*Legendary Bavarian politician Franz Josef Strauß supposedly once quipped: "Up is where I'm at. If I happen to be down, then down is up." In Obertauern there is no such thing as down. Here, everything is somehow "on top": The name, the ski resort, the après ski.*

The renowned ski resort near Salzburg loves to brag about its location: 90 kilometres from Mozart's birth town, located between Vienna and Munich and easily accessible from both cities. Thanks to quick and affordable flights to Salzburg and Klagenfurt and the convenient airport shuttle from and to Obertauern – also known as Austria's snow bowl – is a popular destination which basically allows you to "fly right in... to the snow." From the centre of town located at 1,740 m, pistes radiate out like the spokes of a gigantic wheel, covering mountain slopes up to an altitude of 2,313 m.

Thanks to the unique weather conditions in the Tauern mountains, snow clouds coming from the north as well as from the south bring their fluffy white splendour to Obertauern. Often, the first snow falls in October and stays until May, lasting as long as seven months. The guarantee of snow in Obertauern has been proven in a study published by ski tourism researcher Günther Aigner in 2016. With an average maximum snow depth of 264 centimetres, Obertauern is number one on the list for guaranteed snow of the seven leading Austrian winter sports destinations.

#### **The legendary Tauern round: You say you want a ski revolution?**

The walls of many homes and hotels are still lined with photographs depicting the Beatles wildly racing down the slopes of Obertauern. The Fab Four are partly responsible for Obertauern's international fame which has been steadily growing over the past decades. But what probably contributed even more to Obertauern's mythical reputation as true ski haven is the near perfect layout and network of lifts.

You can "ski in or ski out" from any location in the village. Strap on your skis and a couple of turns later, you will find yourself swooshing down a slope. The lifts are set up in a way that enables skiers to explore all the pistes in either a clockwise or counter-clockwise direction, ultimately returning them to their starting point. The "Tauern round" is the name of this unique skiing circuit which includes 26 modern cable cars and ski lifts that connect approximately 100 kilometres of slopes.

For children and teens there are two versions of the popular Tauern round, adapted to their levels of skills and fitness. As counterparts to the tried and tested Tauern round for grown-ups, smaller children can frolic on the "Bobby round", named after local mascot Bobby, while more advanced kids and teens will be hitting "My Track". On both rounds, a fun park, a time-measuring track, a ghost train, a kids' igloo and a wave-track encourage the young guests to share their Obertauern experiences under the Hashtag #LOVEOBERTAUERN.



### **Tip-top adventure even for the kids**

Obertauern is more than just a playground for young urban people – the special Obertauern feeling attracts all age groups, which is demonstrated by the many families with children you see on the pistes and in the hotels. There are seven skiing and snowboarding schools in town that all tend especially to younger, novice skiers. At the Bibo Bear family ski park, children are playfully introduced to snow and skis. There are three slopes available for different aptitude levels.

More advanced kids who are already comfortable on skis can look forward to approximately 60 kilometres of easy slopes and an extraordinary surprise: A kids' igloo and, at the foot of the Schaidbergbahn in Fairytale Park, a spooky haunted ski house await to be explored. For non-skiing children, there is a kindergarten – the Kinderland Obertauern – with trained personnel. Parents are guaranteed a quiet and carefree holiday, whether they enjoy winter sports or wellness.

### **Smooth or bumpy but always truly adventurous**

Once skiers and snowboarders have retired to the après ski spots in town, a completely different spectacle begins. Countless snowcats start whirring up and down the slopes, smoothing and roughing up the surfaces so that winter sports lovers may find perfectly prepped slopes the very next morning. In contrast to the smoothly groomed slopes, the Gamsleiten 2, one of the steepest mogul slopes in all of Europe, offers a defiant challenge and adventure for the best of the best amongst skiers and snowboarders.

“The Spot” is a popular snowpark skiers and snowboarders love to hang out at. From beginner lines to rails, all the way to boxes and jumps, it offers everything the shredder's heart desires. Snow-kiters have also discovered the amazing characteristics of Obertauern. For people just getting into this trending sport, there is even a snow-kite school.

### **Many top-notch attractions**

The après ski and nightlife scene in Obertauern is also vibrant. DJs from major European cities pump up the crowds in the clubs. More laid back guests and true connoisseurs can indulge themselves at the many alpine restaurants offering hearty fare. At this year's legendary Ski-Opening concert on December 1, 2018, WANDA will give their utmost and get all the Obertauern fans going. The traditional Krampus parade of hundreds of Krampus figures and the Ö3-Party will be held on December 8, 2018.

Guests who come to Obertauern in December 2018 can experience the Tauern Advent for the first time. The highest-situated Advent market in the state of Salzburg is debuting this year. It will be held from November 29 to December 22, 2018, Thursday to Saturday, from 4 pm to 21 pm. The stands will be offering local delicacies, natural and hand-crafted products. Music, readings, fairy tales for children and other programme items conjure up a magical Christmas atmosphere.

The season starts winding down in April with the biggest treasure hunt in the Alps – the Gamsleiten Criterion from April 5 to 7, 2019 – until even the last locations finally close for the year by May 1. The great thing about all this is: There is a huge variety of offers and activities to choose from, but you can also just relax and do nothing. For guests who are exhausted after a long day on the slopes, the hotel sauna or a cosy spot next to the fireplace may just be the most perfect place on earth. Being on top of the world can also be quite strenuous.



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### **Obertauern – the ultimate freeriding playground**

#### **Explore Austria's "snow bowl" in all directions**

*Imagine the exhilarating feeling of dashing down steep, powdery slopes, tackling rough terrain and jumping cliffs... That's what freeriders dream of. That's what they call "freedom". Be the first to leave your mark, master the art of cliff dropping, land in exquisite Champagne powder – brought to you by Obertauern.*

The "snow bowl" in the state of Salzburg is a favourite destination for off-piste skiers who prefer to choose their routes themselves and – respectfully – tackle whatever challenges nature throws their way. Snow is guaranteed from November till April, providing a wide range of freeriding options with varying degrees of difficulty, from gentle slopes for novices to wicked steeps and challenging drops for the more experienced.

Newbies should try the slopes around the Hundskogelbahn; pros will find exciting routes on the Zehnerkar or the Seekarspitze. Or check out Gamsleiten-Nord, the deep powder snow sister of the legendary Gamsleiten 2 slope, and venture through an excitingly narrow corridor.

Information boards at the freeride checkpoints at the Hochalmbahn and Kringsalmbahn cable car stations show maps of all routes as well as all relevant information such as current avalanche advisories, temperatures, snow depths, dangerous slope exposures and the locations of avalanche beacons. Safety takes top priority in Obertauern, both on and off the slopes. This is why the local ski schools offer freeriding courses that teach novices how to plan their routes, how to act in unsecured terrain, what they need to know about snow and avalanches, as well as how to correctly use an avalanche transceiver, a probe pole and snow shovel. Each year, Obertauern offers a free two-day avalanche camp, organised by SAAC (Snow & Alpine Awareness Camps): An ideal course for ski mountaineers, which offers extensive theoretical safety lessons and also practical training for off-piste skiers. These camps, which are held all over Austria, are led by mountain guides and snowboard professionals.

Wherever your freeride takes you in the Tauern circuit, your home base or designated après-ski venue is never far. From any point in Obertauern, located at the centre of the "snow bowl", the pistes and modern lift facilities are always only a few swerves away. Obertauern is also renowned for its après-ski events, parties and live concerts.

From the grand winter opening in late November, featuring special guests and renowned DJs, to the Gamsleiten Criterion in April – the biggest treasure hunt in Austria – entertainment never ceases. Dance the night away to club music played by DJs from all over Europe. Or simply enjoy the rustic flair and cuisine of traditional alpine huts. Whatever suits your mood. The "Powder Snow Weeks" from January 12 to February 2, 2019 offer freeriders the ideal opportunity to take advantage of Obertauern's excellent qualities.



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**Obertauern**

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## **Obertauern is Austria's snowiest winter sports destination**

**Scientific findings confirm: Obertauern has the greatest snow depths in Austria**

The term "guarantee of snow" is an extremely popular advertising claim. Reliable snow means reliable income and secures the livelihood of numerous winter sports resorts in the Alps. Many regions, however, rely on extensive artificial snowmaking to keep this promise. At an altitude of 1,740 metres, Obertauern is the highest located winter sports resort in the state of Salzburg and has always prided itself on its natural snow reliability – a feature which has now practically been scientifically proven and state-certified. Günther Aigner, the renowned ski tourism researcher, has found that Obertauern has the greatest snow depths in Austria.

His survey is based on roughly 100 years' worth of snow depth measurements conducted by Austrian State Hydrographic Services. Aigner compared data of the past 30 years for the seven only Austrian states in which winter sports are possible. Then he determined the snowiest spot in each individual state. With a mean maximum snow depth of 264 centimetres, Obertauern is by far the best ranking location. The second-best location, in the Arlberg region, has an average snow depth of 197 centimetres – that's a whole 25% less than Obertauern. Aigner's research also shows that, statistically, the snow depths in Obertauern have not changed in 108 years. There is thus no indication that the snowfall in Obertauern might decrease over time. And that means: Obertauern's guarantee of snow is not just a marketing claim, it is a scientifically proven fact.

Günther Aigner's entire study "Die jährlichen maximalen Schneehöhen von Obertauern im Vergleich mit den schneereichsten Wintersportorten Österreichs" (Comparing the maximum annual snow depths in Obertauern and the snowiest winter sports destinations in Austria) is available on request.

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### **Obertauern – A perfect winter wonderland** Six months of guaranteed snow in the highest ski resort in Salzburger Land

*"Fifty Shades of White" would be a suitable title for Obertauern's success story. The little village in the state of Salzburg has been a favourite skiing hotspot for decades. Snow is the leading character in the prolonged chapters of winter in Obertauern. And it has many names and faces: Champagne, firn, flaky powder, hard-packed etc. Throughout the winter season, skiers and snowboarders can rely on superb snow conditions. From day one of the winter season in November all the way till the Sun & Fun week around May 1.*

The guarantee of snow in Obertauern has been proven in a scientific study published by ski tourism expert Günther Aigner in 2016, who evaluated the snow quantity data collected by the National Hydrographic Institute of Austria (Österreichische Hydrografische Landesdienste). With a mean maximum snow depth of 264 centimetres, Obertauern is by far the best ranking location. Snow fans can breathe a sigh of relief: According to the scientist Günther Aigner, there is no trend towards decreasing volumes of snow to be recognised based on the analysis of snow depths in Obertauern over the 108 years leading up to 2016. This great news is also highly appreciated by Maria Höfl-Riesch, three-time Olympic Champion and snow ambassador of Obertauern, who privately loves taking her swings in the alpine mountain world of Austria's snow capital.

Obertauern's ideal location in the middle of the mountains, where the centre of town is encompassed with 100 kilometres of slopes, gives it the reputation of the ski capital of Austria. The famed Tauern round makes it possible to circle Obertauern tracing the rim of the bowl. The challenging Super Seven tour encompasses the seven highest destinations of the ski area that can be reached through lifts and skis.

The winter wonderland stretches to heights of 2,313 m and offers fantastic views. Thanks to Obertauern's "ski in, ski out" concept, busses or cars can remain in the garage during your stay because the slopes are just a few steps away from your front door. With the 26 modern cable cars and lifts, there are never any waits, not even on weekends. There is no need to cross the ocean in order to enjoy Champagne powder because in Obertauern extremely dry ice crystals offers winter sport enthusiasts and freeriders perfect skiing conditions starting in late November. For those looking for a special challenge, the 45-degree incline of Gamsleiter 2 provides one of the steepest mogul slopes in the Alps.

During the Sun and Fun Weeks from March 22 to April 13 and from April 24 to May 1, 2019, winter sport enthusiasts will find sunny slopes with excellent snow conditions. There is no better way to bid farewell to the long ski season in Obertauern. The ski cottages are open until early May. There are also many attractive arrangements available.

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### Family-friendly skiing programme for youngsters in Obertauern

#### Skiing courses, accommodation and more starting at € 225 for junior snow sports fans

*When you are young, learning is easy and fun. This is something we see again and again in Obertauern, the skiing and snowboarding hotspot in the state of Salzburg. To help little beginners develop their skiing and snowboarding skills playfully and efficiently, Obertauern offers special "Bobby's Snow Adventure" deals at very reasonable and family-friendly terms.*

All around Obertauern sensational slopes promise endless skiing fun. There are two different junior Tauern rounds specially tailored to the skills and fitness of children and teenagers. They are designed in such a way that they can be used by youngsters without the need for parents or ski instructors.

The children's winter sports programme is named after its official mascot Bobby, the white snow hare. Youngsters under six can sign up for Bobby's Snow Adventure for €225 per participant. The adventure package includes a skiing course for five full days or a snowboarding course for five half days, a ski pass for the duration of the course, rental equipment for six days, free accommodation in the parents' room with the same boarding type as the adults plus transfer to and from Salzburg Airport. In addition, the little "snow angels" can participate in the general kids' entertainment programme for free. If desired, lunch supervision can be booked individually.

For children aged 6 to 14, the Snow Adventure deal costs €305 and includes the above skiing and snowboarding lessons, rental equipment and a 15% discount on airport transfer. Accommodation is booked separately – establishments participating in Bobby's Snow Adventure offer very attractive package deals for guests of that particular age group.

Bobby's Snow Adventure can be booked for any week between January 12 and February 2, 2019, or between April 6 and April 13, 2019, up to seven days before arrival. Skiing and snowboarding courses start on Sundays or Mondays. Bobby's Snow Adventure partner hotels can be found at [www.obertauern.com](http://www.obertauern.com).

All of the ski schools have their own training areas for introducing children in a playful way to skiing and snowboarding. They have different equipment including magic carpets and one ski school even has a mini skidoo course. At the end of the ski or snowboard courses the kids can show what they have learnt in a race.

Families can take advantage of dedicated areas for children, such as the Bibo Bear family ski park, as well as child care and babysitting services, which guarantee a relaxing and sporty family vacation in Obertauern. The one of a kind haunted ski house is a spooky, dark cave, which can be experienced on skis. The kids' igloo is also a popular attraction for the young guests. As a première this winter 2018/19, at selected hotels **CYBEX** pushchairs equipped for snow can be tested free of charge. The winter hiking trails of Obertauern provide the ideal test conditions.



The great location of Obertauern makes it a wonderful choice especially for families. Lift facilities are always only a few swerves away from any hotel, so you'll never have to wait for the next ski bus, or drag your heavy equipment for miles – an asset that people with kids can really appreciate.

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### **Magical winter nights in Obertauern**

#### **The romantic alternative to party life and fun in the snow**

Awesome vibes at après ski events hosted in alpine chalets, spectacular live performances by top musical acts, prolific DJs and DJanes in the clubs and dancing the night away – these are the images that come to mind when envisioning a winter night in Obertauern. But there is also a quiet and romantic side to the “snow bowl” of the Salzburger Land, away from the glittering party life.

Take a short stroll and leave the winter hotspot on the Radstädter Tauern-Pass behind, and you will be rewarded with a stunning view of the starry night sky. At an elevation of 2,000 m above sea level, the night sky is so clear, stellar constellations rarely seen from big cities suddenly appear in all their glory. This is also a perfect opportunity for parents to point out the Milky Way to their kids. Every Monday and Thursday, a stellar escapade awaits skiers on the 1,500 m long slope of the Edelweissbahn. Its four-person chairlift operates late on these two evenings, from 7 pm to 10 pm, and lights the way for a special skiing experience under the stars.

If you are in the mood for an exceptionally romantic night, you can enjoy being whisked off into a winter wonderland on a horse drawn carriage ride on the Gnadenalm. Cuddled up in blankets, experience the full “two horse power” pulling you into the winter night. Behind every curve, a new extravagant view awaits you: Solemn trees turned into majestic statues of snow and a babbling brook under canopies of ice. After a ride brimming with wonderful impressions, sleigh voyagers can enjoy the end of the night in the Gnadenalm restaurant. The trip lasts roughly one hour and goes from the Gnadenalm to the Hintergnadenalm and makes its way back through the valley on the other side of the snowy mountain pasture. The last trip starts at 9 pm.

Even without a horse, the area around the Gnadenalm can also be explored on sleds. Every night you can take a ride on a floodlit 1.5 km long natural toboggan piste which ends right next to the Gnadenalm. To save energy on the climb to the top, you can take advantage of the “Skidoo-Sled-Taxi.” Sleds are also available for rent. Whether by sun or moonlight – tobogganing is always a wonderful winter endeavour.

Beyond the diverse array of pistes and freeride slopes, Obertauern also offers a winter wonderland that can be accessed in hiking boots or snow-shoes. The ski schools offer snowshoe classes and guided winter or snowshoe expeditions. At night, hikers are led by the flickering glow of torches and are rewarded for their endurance with a stop-in at a rustic alpine cottage.



Guests who arrive at Obertauern between the start of the season and Christmas can enjoy the Tauern Advent. The highest-situated Advent market in the state of Salzburg is celebrating its debut this year with grand opening festivities. The market will be held from November 29 to December 22, 2018, Thursday to Saturday, from 4 pm to 21 pm. The stands will be offering local delicacies, natural and hand-crafted products. Music, readings, fairy tales for children and other programme items conjure up a magical Christmas atmosphere.

**For more information:** Tourismusverband Obertauern, Phone +43-(0)6456-7252, email: [info@obertauern.com](mailto:info@obertauern.com), website: [www.obertauern.com](http://www.obertauern.com)

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**Press information  
Obertauern**

**Winter 2018/19**

**Insanely cool, that's for sure!**

**Rock band WANDA kicks off the ski season in Obertauern on December 1, 2018**

Winter sports lovers can take the German lyrics "Du wirst von Sternen high" (You get high on stars) quite literally in Obertauern. Way up there, not only the stars will shine brighter against the dark night sky, but the brilliant rock stars of WANDA, the cult band of the Austrian indie rock scene, will light up the audience with their live performance, up close and personal. From November 30 until December 2, 2018, the snowiest holiday destination in Austria will kick off the winter season, culminating on Saturday, December 1, with a grand opening concert featuring WANDA.

Every year Obertauern invites top-notch superstars to hit the open-air stage set against the backdrop of the breath-taking mountain range and get winter sports enthusiasts tuned for the upcoming fantastic ski season in Austria's "snow bowl". Vienna band WANDA topped the charts in 2014 with their debut album "Amore", garnering platinum awards with their albums "Bussi" and "Niente", pocketing several local awards, all the while giving a hundred concerts as a playful encore.

Accordingly, the ski season launch motto in Obertauern is "Bussi, Baby" (Kiss me, baby), spiked with loads of sing-along, dancing and celebration, when the musicians of WANDA perform their latest hits: "Columbo", "0043" and naturally "Weiter, weiter".

As another highlight of the ski opening concert in Obertauern, JOSH., singer/songwriter and storyteller from Vienna will have a rendezvous with Miss "Cordula Grün". His famous song took Austria as well as Germany by storm since its release in June this year. Let's see if he will also introduce some songs from his actual debut album.

Anyone that can't wait to see Marco Michael Wanda, JOSH. and his bandmates live should circle December 1 as well as September 1 in their calendars in bright red, as the latter date will see ticket pre-sales open at the Tourist Office Obertauern and at [www.obertauern-tickets.com](http://www.obertauern-tickets.com).

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**Press release  
Obertauern**

**Winter 2018/2019**

**First.Track Event in Obertauern with Maria Höfl-Riesch**  
**To hold the pole position on the piste, it is well worth getting up earlier.**

Laying the first tracks in the freshly prepped virgin snow at dawn before anyone else, is a dream of many a skier. Nothing to be heard but the swooshing of your skis on a compact blanket of snow against the silence of the mountain ridge, its solemn peaks glistening in the first rays of sunlight. A perfect moment to feel at one with yourself in time and space. In Obertauern, the snow bowl in the Salzburger Land, this wish came true at the inaugural First.Track Event on 13 December 2018. And best of all: the snow ambassador of Obertauern herself, Maria Höfl-Riesch, was along for the ride.

The multiple Olympic medallist and world champion enjoys sharing her enthusiasm for Austria's winter holiday resort with the highest snow guarantee with fellow ski fans, escorting them to a spectacular skiing experience. Accompanied by several locals and Maria Höfl-Riesch, the First Trackers enjoy taking the premier turns of the day.

As the slopes slowly begin filling up, the time has come for an exclusive cottage brunch. Savouring a second breakfast of delicious Salzburg specialties together in the cosy warmth, guests can now engage in talks with local celebrities and then share the adventure - with friends at home, who are maybe just getting out of bed.

Those inclined, may use hashtags #früherdudeln (tootle earlier), #höherdudeln (tootle higher) or #längerdudeln (tootle longer), as the First.Track Events are co-sponsored by Obertauern and Almdudler, the Austrian classic among refreshment beverages. After all, the winter season in Obertauern commences earlier and lasts longer than in many other ski resorts and the snow guarantee is higher anyway. A boost for longer lasting skiing pleasure is provided by the caffeinated alternatives of the popular herbal soft drink.

Additional First.Track dates are 17 January, 14 February, 21 March, and 18 April 2019. A limited number of tickets for the First.Track Events are available as package deal starting at EUR 99 at <http://www.obertauern-shop.at/>. This is where you will also find the respective meeting points and mountain inns.

**Further information at:** Tourist Office Obertauern, Pionierstrasse 1, 5562 Obertauern, telephone +43-(0)6456-7252, [info@obertauern.com](mailto:info@obertauern.com), [www.obertauern.com](http://www.obertauern.com).



## Press information Obertauern

Winter 2018/2019

### **13 is the new lucky number for treasure hunters in Obertauern** **The biggest treasure hunt in the Alps & sunshine ski packages in the snow bowl**

True ski and snowboard fans wish winter would never end. Long after snowdrops and crocuses have begun blooming in the valley, they still find themselves drawn to the snowy summits. Obertauern is the perfect choice, as the highest located winter sports resort in the state of Salzburg guarantees **premium snow conditions and open chalets till 1 May 2019**.

Picture the 'Gamsleiten 2' – startlingly steep and mysteriously empty. But not for long. As soon as the start signal is given, over 1,000 happy treasure hunters who were lucky enough to have scored a ticket, will be weaving down the legendary slope to a designated area above the valley station to begin feverishly digging up the lot. Roughly 30 treasure chests will be hidden in the snow, all containing great non-cash prizes and premium travel vouchers. But naturally what everyone is really after is the jackpot: Keys to a **brand new BMW X2**, buried in one of the treasure chests deep down under the snow.

This year's 13th edition of the beloved **Gamsleiten Criterion, Austria's largest treasure hunt in the snow**, will take place on April 6th. **Limited tickets** are available for €50 at the Tourist Office Obertauern or online at [www.obertauern-tickets.com](http://www.obertauern-tickets.com).

On the eve of the treasure hunt, on 5th of April, the starting numbers will be raffled off at the big Gamsleiten party with Ö3 Disco.

During the **Sun & Fun weeks**, from 24 April through the end of the season on 1 May, snow and sun galore are affordable for everyone thanks to all-inclusive package deals. It has become a tradition in Obertauern to not let winter sneak off quietly and discreetly, but to give it a loud send off with lots of music, feel-good parties and an awesome hidden treasure hunt.

Attractive all-inclusive offers make the sunshine skiing on the 100 perfectly groomed slopes in Obertauern known as **the snowiest winter sports resort in Austria** even more enticing. What's special: Snow Bunny "Bobby" eagerly awaits families with kids up to their 15th birthday: **Bobby's Snow Adventure** is offered weekly from Saturday to Friday, from 12th January to 2nd February and 06 to 13 April 2018 and is an exciting training package for kids, including ski lessons, a ski pass, rental equipment and much more. This offer is available for €225 for children up to the age of 5 year-olds and for €305 for 6 to 14-year-olds.

**Further Information:** Tourismusverband Obertauern, Pionierstraße 1, 5562 Obertauern, Austria, Telefon +43-(0)6456-7252, [info@obertauern.com](mailto:info@obertauern.com), [www.obertauern.com](http://www.obertauern.com).

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**Press Release  
Obertauern**

**Winter 2018/19**

## **#SHESKIS for Pink Ribbon**

**Atomic #SHESKIS event on March 30<sup>th</sup> in Obertauern, Austria**

Be part of the #sheskis family!

Strong women cannot be stopped, even more so when it comes to their passion for skiing. This is why highly motivated women will once again explore the slopes of Austria's snowiest ski resort when the Atomic #SHESKIS event takes place in Obertauern for the third time on March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2019. At the same time, this concentrated women's power will reinforce the support for a good cause.



Photo credit: ATOMIC

On March 30<sup>th</sup>, top athletes including Marlies Raich, Michaela Kirchgasser and Hannah Köck will conquer Obertauern's pistes together with passionate skiers while enjoying the indescribable feeling of freedom as they glide across the slopes. Once a year Obertauern invites women to this #SHESKIS event in collaboration with Atomic to ski as well as relax and enjoy the event itself. This year's event will take it to the next level by bringing all of the event's aspects together for **charity**, as the #SHESKIS family's donations will support the **Pink Ribbon** initiative.

Pure emotion while skiing in the sun, inspiring encounters, and lots of fun are what this year's participants can expect from the event.

The #SHESKIS day obviously starts with sports, as soon as the participants are equipped with **Atomic's test skis**, as the athletes will reveal their best tips and tricks throughout several



stops along the slopes. To ensure that everybody enjoys themselves right from the start, the first stop will be at the legendary **Gamsmilchbar**, where Doris Kiefhaber, the President of Pink Ribbon, welcomes the skiers.

After a nice **breakfast with traditional veal sausages on the lodge's terrace** it is time for sports. After skiing with the athletes, the ladies meet again at Kringsalm for the "**Atomic Aperitif**" where they relax and recharge with the **#SHESKIS for Pink Ribbon Menu**.

The final highlight of this special day is a musical surprise guest and a raffle for valuable prizes including Atomic skis, season tickets as well as packages for the Gamsleiten Kriterium.

For more information about the #SHESKIS event and to register for the event itself please go to [www.atomic.com/sheskis](http://www.atomic.com/sheskis)

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