ACROSS THE TYROLEAN ALPS - SELF GUIDED WALKING HOLIDAY

Walk from Bavaria up over the high Austrian Tyrolean Alps to Innsbruck. Follow the high alpine route across the imposing Wetterstein and Karwendel massifs amidst a landscape of soaring, alpine peaks, deep gorges and rich, flower filled pastures.

Staying in rustic mountain hut accommodation in the shadow of the rugged summits you will awake to the crisp alpine air, invigorated and ready to explore this region rich in natural spectacles.

Commencing in the Bavarian mountain resort town Garmisch-Partenkirchen you are immediately immersed in high alpine landscape. Follow tunnels and canyons above turbulent waters that carve through the ‘Hell Valley Gorge’ and ascend via balcony trails to cross high alpine pastures leading you toward the mighty bulk of Zugspitze, the highest mountain in Germany at 2961m.

Take the ‘Kings Path’ leading you up to King Ludwig II’s Castle Schachen and traverse rugged rocky terrain beneath a mountain sunrise illuminating the surrounding peaks of the Wetterstein massif. Descend via a wild and idyllic gorge into Austria’s verdant Leutasch Valley, where the trail echoes to the sound of distant cow bells. Moving onward deep into the Karwendel Valley the rich floral Halleranger alpine pasture leads you onward into the Karwendel massif, the largest range of the Northern Limestone Alps with 125 peaks over 2000m, home to sure footed chamois and soaring golden eagles.

The alpine trail follows balcony paths through the Nordkette or ‘North Chain’ peaks and guides you to Hafelekar summit station, which at 2256m affords panoramic views down toward Innsbruck. Located in the broad Inn Valley between the high peaks there is much scope to explore the many attractions of Tyrol’s capital city and to toast your adventure with a tot of Stroh Rum or Tyrolean Schnapps.

Your holiday includes 2 nights accommodation in traditional 3 star hotel accommodation at Garmisch-Partenkirchen on a half board basis. While in the high alpine landscape you will stay for 3 nights in dormitory accommodation in cosy rustic mountain huts on a bed and breakfast basis. At Scharnitz and for your final night in Innsbruck you are accommodated in 3 star hotel accommodation on a half board basis. Baggage transfers are included apart from on day 3 and 4 when, due to a lack of road transport, it is necessary to carry a day pack containing your overnight requirements.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Traversing the Wetterstein massif to view the dominating peak of Mount Zugspitze
- Ascending the ‘Kings Path’ to overnight in the high alpine hut at Castle Schachen
- Reaching the summit of Hafeleker with panoramic views of the Karwendel massif
- Local cuisine including Knodel dumplings and home-made schnapps!
- Walking to the accompaniment of alpine cow bells as you cross rich alpine pasture

Summary

Tour: Across the Tyrolean Alps
Code: WASATA
Type: Self-Guided Walking Holiday
Price: See Website
Dates: Late June to late September
Days: 8 Days (5 - 6 Walking Days)
Nights: 7 Nights
Start/Finish: Garmisch-Partenkirchen/Innsbruck
Grade: Strenuous

Is it For Me?
A demanding adventure that takes you high into the mountain environment. If you are sure footed with a head for heights then this holiday will take you through an area of pristine high alpine landscape that will leave you invigorated and refreshed.

What’s Included?
Accommodation: 4 nights in 3 star hotels and 3 nights in mountain huts in dormitory style rooms.
Meals: 7 Breakfasts.

Code: WASATA
Days: 8 (5 Walking Days)
Nights: 7
ACROSS THE TYROLEAN ALPS

HUT TO HUT FROM GARMISCH TO INNSBRUCK

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ITINERARY - WASATA

Grade: Strenuous

DAY 1
Arrive Garmisch -Partenkirchen

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Route</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Arrive Garmisch-Partenkirchen and overnight Round trip walk to foot of Zugspitze - Overnight Garmisch-Partenkirchen</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Walk to Schachenhaus</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Walk to Schachenhaus</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Walk to Scharnitz</td>
<td>2.5-5</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Walk to Halleranger Alm</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Rest day or Karwendel summit walk</td>
<td>2.5</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Walk to Innsbruck</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Onward travel</td>
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Garmisch-Partenkirchen is located in Bavaria, South Germany and is easily accessible by train from both Munich (2hrs 30m) and Innsbruck in Austria (1hr 45mins). Innsbruck Airport is 56km away and is served by flights from the UK and the rest of Europe.

Garmisch-Partenkirchen is a mountain resort on the border of Germany and Austria, at the foot of the Alps and the perfect place to commence your adventure into the high alpine landscape. Our local representative will meet you at your hotel in Garmisch at 6pm for a welcome meeting. They will provide maps and answer any last minute questions you may have.

Overnight: Garmisch-Partenkirchen - 3 Star hotel

Hotel - Vier Jahreszeiten or Garmischer Hof

DAY 2
Round trip high altitude walk to the foot of Zugspitze

Your high alpine walk starts with an ascent up through the rugged tunnels and canyons of the Höllentalklamm or ‘Hell Valley Gorge’. Walking above the turbulent waters you come out at the Höllentallanger mountain hut which provides panoramic views across to the dominating peak of Zugspitze, Germany’s highest mountain at 2961m.

Crossing the rich alpine pastures you ascend a balcony trail high above the gorge to Kreuzberg, famous as the site of the 1936 Winter Olympics. Here you may rest and enjoy the mountain vista before taking the cable car back down to Garmisch-Partenkirchen for a well earned glass of Weißbeir.

Walk: 10.9km, 5 hrs, 950m ascent

Overnight: Garmisch-Partenkirchen - 3 Star hotel

Hotel - Vier Jahreszeiten or Garmischer Hof

DAY 3
Walk to Schachenhaus

Your day starts with another exhilarating gorge ascent into the Wetterstein massif and a steep climb brings onto the Koenigsweg ‘King’s Path’ leading to Castle Schachen. Built by King Ludwig II in the 19th century the modest exterior hides an elaborately decorated interior. The adjacent alpine botanical garden cultivates over 1,000 plant species from the Alps to the Himalayas. Both the castle and the gardens are worthy of exploration before you continue your ascent to your traditional alpine mountain hut for the night.

Note: It is necessary to carry a day pack on day 3 and 4 containing all your overnight requirements. Your main luggage will be transferred on to Scharnitz.

Walk: 9.5km, 4.5 hrs, 1,500m ascent

Overnight: Schachenhaus (alpine hut accommodation - dormitory)

DAY 4
Walk to Scharnitz

Awake to clean crisp air amidst the high mountain landscape to view the sun rising above the ridges and peaks illuminating the valleys in hues of deep red and orange. Ascending the pass into Austria you are surrounded by classic alpine vistas with sky scraping summits and deep lush valleys drawing you further into the Massif.

The route traverses rugged rocky terrain before descending into the idyllic Leutasch Valley where the route is lined by summer flowers. Here you have a relaxing days walk to enjoy the surroundings and listen to the distant cow bells echoing across the mountain pasture.

Passing through a further rugged gorge you finish you day at the town of Scharnitz. Originally fortified by the Romans protecting the trade route across the Alps, it is now better known as the gateway to the Karwendel Alpine Reserve. The largest national park in Austria, the sheer mountain sides are home to sure footed ibex and chamois.

Walk: 17.9km, 7.5 hrs, 1,280m ascent

Overnight: Scharnitz - 3 star hotel.

DAY 5
Walk to Halleranger Alm

You start today with a short road transfer deep into the heart of the Karwendel Valley. Relaxed walking is the order of the day as you follow the route through the alpine flora rich Halleranger alpine pasture. You may spot golden eagle and buzzard circling high above the valleys as you enjoy the panoramic views of the Karwendel massif. If you are feeling energetic you may wish to tackle a climb of Sunntiger Spitze at a heady 2321m.

Arriving at Halleranger Alm at the headwaters of the Isar river you stay for 2 nights in cozy alpine hut accommodation, perfectly situated for exploring the Karwendel Massif.

Walk: 5.6 - 19km, 2.5 - 5hrs, 550 - 800m ascent

Overnight: Halleranger Alm (alpine hut accommodation - dormitory)

DAY 6
Rest day or summit tour of Karwendel massif

Today you have the choice of a well earned rest day at your alpine hut amongst the high peaks of the Karwendel massif or, for the energetic a summit trek. Whichever you choose you will surely enjoy the natural spectacle that abounds.

Walk: 4.6km, 2.5hrs
Overnight: Halleranger Alm (alpine hut accommodation - dormitory)

DAY 7
Walk to Innsbruck

The route leads you up a balcony path traversing several ridges to lead you in the Nordkette or ‘North Chain’ peaks. A real highlight of your trip is reaching the summit station of Hafelekar at 2256m. Face south and you may gaze down at Innsbruck, capital of the Tyrol, in the Inn Valley far below. To the north you are presented with breathtaking views back across the Karwendel massif. From this point you can relax and board the Hafelkarbahn cable car to glide majestically down to Innsbruck.

Roam the winding medieval lanes of the 800 year old town suffused with the spirit of the Hapsburg dynasty. You will surely wish to sample the famous Tyrolean speciality of ‘speck’, aromatic Austrian smoked and cured hams, possibly with a glass of schnapps before setting off to take in the Nachleben (nightlife) against a backdrop of alpine peaks.

Walk: 12.2km, 6hrs, 650m ascent
Overnight: Innsbruck - 3 star hotel

DAY 8
Onward Travel

Your trip across the Tyrolean Alps finishes after breakfast, though you may wish to add further nights to enjoy the many attractions that Innsbruck has to offer. There are excellent onward travel connections with flights from its international airport and long distance rail services to major European cities.

Additional Nights and Extensions

You can add additional nights at any point along the walk, please contact us for more details.

Tailor Made Holidays

We are always more than happy to tailor our standard itineraries to suit. Just let us know what you would like and we will be happy to arrange a tailor made walking holiday.

TOUR INFORMATION

Grade & Fitness

This walking holiday is graded strenuous. The itinerary involves high alpine distance walking with steep ascents and descents along mountain paths, which can be rocky and exposed in nature. This requires prior experience and a good head for heights. You should be an experienced walker and have a good level of walking fitness to get the most from this holiday.

Navigation

The routes on this walk are sign posted and we provide you with detailed picture route notes to follow at each step.

Accommodation

We specifically select your accommodation to ensure that you enjoy every minute of your stay. They all offer a warm welcome to walkers, traditional hospitality and delicious local food. We aim to give you an authentic experience and use traditional cabin hut accommodation in the mountains where the sleeping arrangements are in dormitories. The hotels in Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Schmirnitz and Innsbruck are on a 3* basis with en-suite rooms.

Alternate accommodation

During high season, you might be booked into a different accommodation which is not listed in the description, and the start or end of some of your walking routes may be slightly altered. Any alternative accommodation will be of the same or better standard as those described and details will all be sent to you.

Single Rooms

If you require single rooms within your party when staying in the hotels we would be happy to accommodate you although there is a single room supplement payable.

Solo Walkers

This holiday is not available for solo walkers due to the remote alpine nature of the walk.

Meals

A delicious breakfast is included each morning. Lunches, while not included may be picked up in the villages before setting off. Dinner is not included so you are free to choose from the available options each night.

Baggage Transfer

Your bags will be transferred between your accommodation as per your itinerary. On day 3 (Garmisch-Partenkirchen to Scachenhaus) and day 4 (Schachenhaus to Schmirnitz) it is necessary to carry a day pack containing your overnight requirements. We ask you to limit your luggage to one bag of up to 20kg per person.

Equipment

Your information pack has a detailed equipment list which includes standard walking gear such as good walking boots or shoes, warm and waterproof clothes and a day pack.

Getting to Garmisch-Partenkirchen

Garmisch Partenkirchen is located in Bavaria, South Germany, it has a railway station and is easily accessible by the following:

By Air - You can either fly into Munich Airport (Germany) or Innsbruck Airport (Austria). Both airports serve airlines both internationally and local.

From Munich Airport - You can take a train directly from the airport to Munich and then a direct train to Garmisch (2hrs 30mins). Please visit the DB Bahn Website to check times.
TRAVEL INFORMATION

From Innsbruck Airport - You can catch a direct train to Garmisch from Innsbruck (1hr 45mins). Please visit the [DB Bahn](https://www.db.de) Website to check times.

Onward Travel from Innsbruck

By Air - Bus route F connects Innsbruck main station with the airport main building. The journey takes about 20 minutes

By Train - Innsbruck Hauptbahnhof provides rail services to locations throughout Austria and Germany. Please visit the [DB Bahn](https://www.db.de) Website to check times.

Travel Insurance

It is a condition of booking with us that you have suitable travel insurance that covers you for cancellation, curtailment, illness or injury. It is always advisable to book insurance as soon as you confirm your holiday.

Price

Please refer to our website for up to date prices.

Availability

This walking holiday is available from late June to late September. If the group size is less than 4 people then the holiday can only start on Sundays due to baggage transfer restrictions.

Included

- Accommodation for 4 nights in comfortable 3* hotels (Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Scharmitz and Innsbruck).
- Accommodation for 3 nights in traditional alpine huts in dormitory style rooms.
- 7 breakfasts
- Luggage transport as per itinerary: Necessary to carry a day pack containing all overnight requirements for Scachenhaus.
- Welcome meeting and briefing on evening of day 1 (6pm).
- Detailed pictured route descriptions with maps and a pre departure information pack.
- 24-hour assistance by phone.
- Downhill cable car ticket to Kreuzberg.
- Downhill cable car to Innsbruck.
- Transfer from Scharmitz to Karwendel.

Excluded

- Flights and transfers to first / from last accommodation.
- Travel to the start and form the end of the walk.
- Travel Insurance.
- Entrance fees to gorges.
- Personal expenses such as drinks, phone calls, extra transfers, tips, etc.
- Any visitors’ taxes.
- Any items not mentioned in the program.

Optional Extras

- Single room supplement(s) if applicable.
- Additional nights during the holiday.

Once you have read all the information in this factsheet or our website and would like to go ahead with your booking you can book securely online at [www.macsadventure.com](http://www.macsadventure.com) or by telephone on +44 (0) 141 530 8886

Financial Security

In accordance with "The Package Travel, Package Holidays and Package Tours Regulations1992" all passengers booking with Macs Adventure Ltd are fully protected for the initial deposit and subsequently the balance of all monies paid to us, including repatriation if required (this insurance will not cover repatriation to the country of origin for the passengers outside of the EU), arising from cancellation or curtailment of your travel arrangements due to the insolvency of Macs Adventure Ltd. There is no requirement for Financial Protection of day trips, and none is provided. This insurance is only valid for packages booked that DO NOT include flights. Consumer aware: Your booking is insured by IPP Ltd and its panel of insurers.

This insurance is only valid for passengers who book and pay directly with/to Macs Adventure Ltd. For further information please go to [www.ipplondon.co.uk](http://www.ipplondon.co.uk). This Insurance has been arranged by International Passenger Protection Limited and underwritten by Insurers who are members of the Association of British Insurers & Lloyds Syndicates.

BOOK WITH CONFIDENCE

Macs Adventure Holidays is a Member of ABTA. ABTA and ABTA Members help holidaymakers to get the most from their travel and assist when things don’t go according to plan. We are obliged to maintain a high standard of service to you by ABTA’s Code of Conduct. For more information on ABTA, the Code of Conduct and the arbitration scheme available to you if you have a complaint, contact ABTA, 30 Park Street, London SE1 9EQ, tel 020 3117 0581 [www.abta.com](http://www.abta.com)