

Walking Austria's Salzkammergut

Trip Code: SGS L

Version:



WALK & TREK



SELF-GUIDED



LEISURELY



HIGHLIGHTS

- Visit the Imperial Villa and Hotel Austria where Emperor Franz Joseph proposed to Elizabeth of Bavaria
- Swim in the crystal clear waters of Wolfgangsee
- Stay in colourful alpine villages and enjoy the warm Austrian hospitality
- Discover the World Heritage town of Hallstatt and panoramic views from the Skywalk

AT A GLANCE

- 6 days walking and sightseeing
- Daily departures available
- Join at / End in Abersee or St. Wolfgang

ACCOMMODATIONS & MEALS

[VIEW DATES, PRICES & BOOK YOUR HOLIDAY HERE](#)

Introduction

As the summer residence for Emperor Franz Joseph and Elizabeth of Bavaria for over 60 years, and with salt mining in the area dating back to the Celtic period, the Salzkammergut offers beautiful scenery as well as a deep and rich culture just waiting for you to explore on this one-week self-guided walking holiday.

Located less than an hour from Salzburg, the Salzkammergut has long been the playground for Salzburg's residents including the famous musician Mozart. Known as Austria's Lake District, the region offers wonderful easy walking surrounded by high peaks and beautiful crystal clear lakes. Walk through scenes straight from the Sound of Music - beautiful green pastures strewn with colourful wild flowers in the spring - and stay in quaint alpine towns ready to embrace you with a warm alpine welcome. On this holiday you will explore Lake Wolfgangsee and Lake Hallstättersee, stay in the Imperial summer residence of Bad Ischl and discover the fascinating salt mining heritage of the UNESCO town of Hallstatt. We have hand-selected wonderful family-run 3-star and 4-star alpine hotels for your holiday, all recognised for their warm hospitality and superb locations. With two nights in each hotel you will have plenty of time to enjoy the pretty towns of Abersee, Bad Ischl and Bad Goisern, and the flexibility of being on a self-guided walking holiday means you will have plenty of opportunities to sample local delicacies such as Goulash in one of the excellent restaurants.

Is this holiday for you?

This holiday has been specially designed for walking at a relaxed pace around the spectacular Salzkammergut mountains and lakes. This trip is ideal if you love being in the mountains yet don't feel the need to hike the highest peak in sight. This self-guided walking holiday is all about gentle low-level walks interspersed with visits to cultural sites, sampling fantastic food, and enjoying the beautiful clear blue lakes whether by taking the cruise ferry, hiring a boat or swimming after a day of walking. You will stay in highly rated 3-star hotels all chosen for their excellent locations and warm alpine welcomes. Routes are well marked for easy navigation, and are on well-established paths covering average distances of 13km per day with some ascents, however these are no more than 450m.

Itinerary

Version:

Holiday Information

What's Included

- All accommodation as described
- Meals as described in the Meal Plan
- Self-guided information pack containing your map and route notes
- Luggage transfer
- Welcome meeting
- Boat on Wolfgangsee
- Boat on Hallstättersee
- Valley cable car Salzbergbahn Hallstatt
- Train from Hallstatt to Bad Goisern and from Bad Goisern to Bad Ischl
- Salzkammergut Erlebnis Card (offering reductions on many local attractions)
- Navigation App and GPX tracks available

What's not Included

- Travel insurance
- Travel to/from Lake Wolfgangsee
- Visas (if applicable)
- Tourist taxes may apply and are usually under 5 Euros per person per night
- Bus ride Strobl to Bad Ischl (approx. 5 Euros)
- Some meals as described in the Meal Plan
- Personal equipment
- Any additional activities/excursions indicated as optional

Your Self-Guided Pack & Route Notes

Each self-guided holiday comes with comprehensive route notes and a map or pocket guidebook of the area you are exploring. The route notes contain information about the places you will visit and the local transport you might need, along with the detailed route notes for your daily walks or cycle rides. We even include some tips for the best places to stop for lunch.

You can expect to receive your Self-Guided Pack containing your route notes, a map or guidebook, and all your relevant documents, no later than 3 weeks before your holiday start-date. We will send your documents using a signed-for courier so that you can track your package and know that it is safely on its way to you. For bookings of more than 4 people we will send an additional Self-Guided Pack. If you do not need this additional pack please inform our Sales Team. Your pack will be sent to the lead booker, so please remind them to pack it before setting off.

Should your self-guided trip be part of a longer adventure requiring you to leave home more than three weeks before your holiday start-date, please inform our Sales Team so that we can make alternative delivery arrangements.

GPS Travel App

This holiday includes a GPS navigation app, which contains the routes for you to follow each day, as well as attractions, coffee stops and points of interest along the way. The app does not need to have Wi-Fi connection to work, you simply follow the instructions we provide you to download the app to your personal smartphone device before you leave home and you are ready to go.

While the travel app is running, your phone battery charge can be consumed faster than normal, so we strongly recommend that you pack a power bank with you just in case you require it.

Self-Guided Families

Our Self-Guided Holidays are perfect for your next family holiday and are suitable for children of all ages.

Our partner hotels and accommodations are able to provide cots for young children, and some offer family rooms. We can also arrange hire of children's bikes and tag along bikes for most of our self-guided cycling trips and with trips such as Lake Constance and the Danube offering routes on designated cycle paths you can rest assured in keeping your family safe.

As a parent we trust that you know your own child's capabilities, so please read the itinerary details to ensure the distances covered each day are suitable for your family. If this is a first time walking or cycling holiday for your family, a centre-based trip is a fantastic option as it allows you to easily opt out of a day's walking if a day of building sand castles, swimming in the pool, or visiting museums is calling instead.

Please discuss this further with our Sales Team who will be happy to assist in picking the best trip for your family.

Joining Arrangements & Transfers

The trip starts and ends at your hotel in Abersee or St. Wolfgang depending on your accommodation. All of our self-guided holidays are sold on a land only basis allowing you the flexibility to choose the travel method which best suits you. The nearest airport for this trip is Salzburg Airport, followed by Munich Airport, both served by many departures from UK regional airports.

If you are flying into Salzburg, you can take the public bus to Salzburg's main bus terminus from where you can then take a direct bus to Abersee, or a bus to St Wolfgang with a change in Strobl. The whole journey takes around an hour and half, and buses depart hourly.

If you are flying into Munich, the train journey to Salzburg central station adds around two and half hours to your journey to Abersee or St Wolfgang. Salzburg's bus terminus is next to the central station.

The Austrian Federal Railway (ÖBB) offers a useful app for planning your journey on their public transport network. Visit <https://www.oebb.at/en/fahrplan/fahrplanauskunft/scottymobil> for more information.

You can reverse the routes above if flying back out of the airport at which you arrived.

It is also possible to travel flight-free from the UK by making use of the Eurostar to connect to the rail network in mainland Europe. The seat61.com website is a useful resource for rail planning.

Meal Plan

This trip is on a bed and breakfast basis to allow you the most flexibility during your holiday.

Special Diets

Whilst we can cater for vegetarians, albeit sometimes with a more limited choice, we cannot always provide for special diets. Due to the nature of some of the trips that we operate and the countries in which we operate them, it can be very hard (and sometimes impossible) to cater for a wide range of dietary choices and you may have to supplement your meals with food/snacks from home. If you have specific dietary requirements please do speak to our sales team and they will be able to advise you whether or not we will be able to offer your specific choice. Please note that we are unable to provide separate menus and cannot accept liability for any problems arising from special dietary requirements or intolerances.

Food & Water

Water from the taps is perfectly drinkable on this holiday - please use this to fill your personal bottles for your daily activities. We do not encourage the purchase of single-use plastic bottles.

Food in Austria is a hearty affair with many stews, schnitzel and delicious desserts on offer to fuel all those walks amongst the beautiful alpine peaks. When you think of Austrian cuisine goulash, Apfelstrudel and the yummy chocolate Sachertorte for which the country is famed spring to mind. Yet there is a plethora of history behind these national favourites and many more.

Austrian cuisine is symbolic of the former crownlands of its monarchy and its multi-cultural history with Hungarians, Bohemians, Slovaks, Poles, Croatians and immigrants from Dalmatia, Subcarpathia, Bukovina and Carnola all bringing their favourite recipes with them as they came to Vienna. The best of the best dishes have become fully integrated into the Austrian menu. Take Apfelstrudel for example, which originally came from Turkey after being adopted by Hungary along the way. Who would have thought this Austrian national dish was actually Turkish?

One of the best bits of this self-guided holiday is that we have created it on a bed and breakfast basis to give you the opportunity to discover the many delicious dishes of Austria.

Accommodation

Alpine hospitality is second to none and you are sure for a warm welcome in our carefully selected family-run 3-star and 4-star alpine hotels on this trip. All of the hotels on this trip have been chosen for their fantastic locations and character. Some also have spa and pool facilities, making them perfect for unwinding after a day of exploring. The hotels all offer a great breakfast buffet to fuel you for the day ahead and rooms are on a double or twin basis, typically with Austrian style twin beds as is traditional in this area (two beds within one bed frame and separate bedding).

It is possible to arrange additional nights' accommodation if you would like to enjoy this magnificent region a little longer - please speak to one of our Sales Team for further details.

During high season you may be booked into an alternative accommodation of a similar standard in the area.

Baggage Allowance

Your main luggage will be transferred between each of your hotels while you are out on your walks. We ask that you please ensure your luggage is under 20KG and that your luggage is ready for collection each morning. Luggage with wheels may be useful for this holiday. You will also need a daypack to carry your daily essentials with you.

General Information

Passport & Visas

Europe

Your passport must meet 2 requirements. It must be:

- less than 10 years old on the day you enter (check the 'date of issue')
- valid for at least 3 months after the day you plan to leave (check the 'expiry date')

For the latest details on visiting countries within the EU or the European Economic Area (EEA), please check the UK Government website

The information that we provide is for UK passport holders.

A passport with 6 months remaining validity at the end of your stay is generally required, and you should have at least 2 blank pages for each country that you visit.

For other nationalities, please refer to your own Government website for the latest information.

It is your responsibility to ensure that you have the correct travel documents including vaccinations and health certificates (*see Health & Vaccinations below*), **and visas for your holiday**. Please ensure that you check the [FCDO](#) for the latest advice for **each country visited** before travel.

Health & Vaccinations

Vaccinations:

You should be up to date with the routine vaccinations recommended in the UK for overseas travel.

You must also contact your doctor or travel clinic to check if there are specific vaccinations or other preventive measures that you need for the area you are visiting, in good time before you are due to depart.

On holidays to more remote areas you should also have a dental check-up.

It is your responsibility to ensure that you have the correct travel documents including vaccinations and health certificates.

Please check the [FCDO](#) and [Travel Health Pro](#). For all of your intended destinations for up-to-date advice.

Severe Allergies:

If you have a severe allergy please inform the KE office before you travel. We will do all we can to help, but we cannot guarantee an allergy free environment on KE trips.

Preparing for your Holiday

The advantage of a self-guided walking holiday is that you decide the pace, however getting some additional exercise before going on an active holiday makes a lot of sense. After all, the fitter you are, the more enjoyable your walks will be. You should be comfortable with walking for 3 to 4 hours for consecutive days. We suggest that you try to fit in a number of daily walks in hilly countryside before your trip, and it is always a good idea to spend some time walking in the footwear you are going to use on this holiday.

Climate

The Salzkammergut region is located in a temperate wet-warm-moderate alpine climate zone, making for warm summers perfect for exploring the mountains and lakes. Summer is the most popular time to visit the area as this is when there is the least rain, so the lakes are buzzing with people enjoying water sports and cooling off after a day of exploring.

However, spring and autumn are also ideal times for hiking here, despite being a little damper. The spring brings beautiful alpine flowers, and in autumn you can experience the stunning colours as the trees get ready for winter. In autumn, the lakes are lovely and warm too after soaking up the summer sun.

Travel Aware

As a reputable tour operator, KE supports the British Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office's '[Travel Aware](#)' campaign to enable British citizens to prepare for their journeys overseas. The 'Travel Aware' website provides a single, authoritative source of advice for all kinds of travellers and we recommend that before travel, all KE clients visit the official UK Government website at travelaware.campaign.gov.uk and read the FCDO Travel Advice for their chosen destination. North Americans can also check out the U.S. Department of State website: www.travel.state.gov for essential travel advice and tips.

KE treat the safety and security of all clients as the most important aspect of any trip we organise. We would not run any trip that we did not consider reasonably safe. Should the FCDO advise against travel for any reason, we will contact everyone booked to travel to discuss the situation. We receive regular updates directly from the FCDO and are in constant touch with our contacts on the ground. If you have any questions about government travel advice, please call our office.

Single Use Plastic

KE do not encourage the use of single use plastic items. We are ensuring that our agents all over the world are working together to reduce the problem and educate those around them. We are leading by example in our KE office by reducing our plastic use.

Books

The Radetzky March - Joseph Roth

The Sound of Music - Maria Augusta von Trapp

Travel Insurance

It is an essential condition of joining a holiday with KE Adventure Travel that you have a valid travel insurance policy to cover the cost of medical treatment and to protect the value of your holiday in the event of cancellation. When taking out insurance please ensure the policy you choose covers you for the activities and altitude included in your itinerary.

For appropriate insurance cover we recommend Campbell Irvine Direct. Please go to our [Travel Insurance](#) page for further information and to get a quote.

Equipment Information

Self Guided Equipment List

- Hiking boots with good-grip soles
- Hiking socks

- Long / short hiking trousers
- Functional base layer top and leggings
- T-shirts
- Fleece / extra warm layer
- Windproof jacket
- Waterproof jacket
- Waterproof trousers
- Hat, gloves, and neck gaiter
- Sunscreen
- Sunglasses
- Sunhat
- Small first aid kit inside your rucksack
- Water bottle or hydration pack
- Mobile Phone (ensure your data package covers your destination)
- Power bank
- Waterproof phone cover
- Camera (and batteries / memory card)
- Reusable sealable picnic boxes for picnics
- Reusable cloth bag for shopping to avoid the use of plastic bags

- Walking poles
- Headtorch with spare batteries
- Personal wash kit
- Your self-guided route notes
- Rucksack (approx. 20L)

Land Only Information

Please note that our 'from' price listed is based on 4 persons on twin or double occupancy, however we can quote for any number of travellers including solo travellers - contact our Sales Team for a quote.

When considering your travel dates, you might like to investigate any seasonal opening times of attractions and points of interest.

All of our self-guided holidays are sold on a Land Only basis allowing you the flexibility to choose the travel method which best suits you. You may even wish to make this holiday part of a bigger adventure or pair it with one of our other holidays. We can arrange additional nights' accommodation before or after your self-guided trip - please ask our Sales Team to find out more about this.

Our Sales Team will be happy to provide you with a quote for scheduled flights, or alternatively you may wish to book your own flights with a low cost carrier from your nearest regional airport.

Please DO NOT book your flights before you have received your booking confirmation and your deposit has been taken.

We offer some transfers to your accommodation from the nearest airports - please refer to the 'Joining Arrangements & Transfers' section for further details for this trip.

Why Choose KE

Why KE

We have designed this self-guided holiday with a relaxed pace in mind so you can absorb the alpine way of life, enjoy the Austrian coffee and cake culture and swim in the crystal clear lakes. The perfect introduction to alpine walking! Read KE's Tav Lane's account of discovering Austria's Salzkammergut. Fancy something a bit more challenging? Take a look at our Grade 4 trip in the Salzkammergut.

Please Note This document was downloaded on 13/06/2026 and the trip is subject to change