

"hello salzburg" combines the top tourist destinations of the Town and the Province of Salzburg

If you want to get to know Salzburg, you need to visit these sights – a mixture of museums, palaces and fortresses, wonders of nature and monumental Alpine buildings offer visitors unique insights into Salzburg's natural environment, history, culture, architecture, science and technology. All of these promise a fascinating experience for the whole family.

These eleven features – the most-visited destinations in the Town and the Province of Salzburg – attract more than 3.3 million visitors annually. Their variety reflects Salzburg's cultural and natural legacy, offering visitors the opportunity of experiencing the diverse facets of the Province.

The range of attractions described by "hello salzburg – Salzburg's top tourist destinations" is a varied as Salzburg itself. When you've seen them all, you've seen not only the best of Salzburg, but also some of the most important sights in Austria. At each one there are all kinds of new things to learn – guaranteeing unforgettable moments for all the family. New additions are always being made to the existing features and special exhibitions regularly organised.

hello salzburg – Salzburg's top sights

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Media information

Hohensalzburg Fortress

With more than 1.3 million visitors annually, Hohensalzburg Fortress is not only the symbol and landmark of Salzburg, but also its most popular tourist destination. Started in the 11th century, it was extended over the years to become one of the **largest fortress complexes in Europe**. Art history has much to offer here, particularly in the state-rooms in the "Hoher Stock", which – with the "Goldene Stube" – are amongst the **finest secular Gothic rooms in Europe**. From the Fortress, the visitor has a 360° panoramic view over the town and far beyond.

The latest highlight offered on Hohensalzburg Fortress is the detailed panorama tour, from the salt store via the "Reckturm"[warrior's tower] through the historic parapet walk and up to the famous "Salzburger Stier" [bull], a huge mechanical organ. This new tour is devoted to spectacular views, taking visitors up to the highest point of the Fortress, where a breathtaking view over town and mountains awaits them. In addition, the tour gives fascinating insights into the history of the Fortress – ranging from centuries-old legends to the dark side of the edifice. Walk-in artistic installations, imaginative peep-shows and an attractive booklet make the tour an experience for all the senses – appealing to young and old alike.

The highlights include a multi-media magic theatre, where visitors can enter the world of Prince-Archbishop Leonhard von Keutschach. The exhibition in the armoury will be new to many visitors; for centuries, ordnance, armour and small-arms were stored here for emergencies. Over time, these armaments were either sold or disappeared into the murky underground of history. A new exhibition tells the story of the weapons, armour and small-arms in the Fortress. Using interactive models, visitors can try out the various possibilities for attack and defence in a mediaeval fortress. Since summer 2023, visitors in the outdoor area can take part in historical play-acting. New, fun Fortress games bring history alive, in an open-air course, for couples or groups of all ages.

Open all year | Festungsbahn/funicular railway | www.festung-hohensalzburg.at

Media information

Salzburg DomQuartier – more than just a museum

The DomQuartier has restored the architectural unity formed by the Cathedral and the Residenz buildings. Comprising four museums, it makes impressively clear the enormous power exerted by the Salzburg prince-archbishops over a period of 1,300 years. The baroque building complex in the heart of the Old Town is the authentic place to experience the UNESCO World Heritage site, and is considered a Gesamtkunstwerk [total art-work] combining architecture, art and music, unique in Europe. The DomQuartier houses valuable exhibits from the rich art collection of the Province, the Archdiocese of Salzburg and St Peter's Archabbey. It includes the state-rooms of the Residenz and the Residenzgalerie, leads over the Cathedral arcade terrace into the North Oratory and through the organ loft to the Cathedral Museum with the Cathedral treasure, on to the reconstructed archiepiscopal Cabinet of Curiosities, the Long Gallery and St Peter's Museum. The highlight in 2024 – the 10th anniversary of the DomQuartier – is the prestigious guest exhibition by the Vienna Art History Museum: The Colours of la Serenissima. Venetian masterworks from Titian to Canaletto (until 6 January 2025). From 2025, the concert programme will be expanded under the title 'Date with Mozart': concert afternoons to fall in love with in the state rooms of the Residenz zu Salzburg. Every Thursday and Friday from 4 pm. After all, the Residenz is the place for which Mozart composed his music and where he himself regularly performed.

The DomQuartier also includes historic venues where secular and sacred music were performed. The archiepiscopal court musicians, who included Wolfgang Amadé Mozart, composed music for these places and themselves performed there. Thus, together with Mozart's birthplace and the family residence, the DomQuartier is the principal original Mozart location.

Open all year (closed on 24 December) | Audio-guide in 10 languages, for children in German, English and Italian | www.domquartier.at

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Hellbrunn Palace and Trick Fountains

Magic grottos, treacherous fountains and a real unicorn – the visitor to Hellbrunn Palace and its trick fountains should be prepared for surprises. Over 400 years ago, Prince-Archbishop Markus Sittikus had this pleasure palace and park built to entertain his guests. This playful spirit is still present in Hellbrunn. With its concealed jets, water-operated figures and countless surprises, these **unique trick fountains** are an absolute magnet for some 300,000 international visitors annually. The **interactive exhibition** GrandDelight: The unexpected world of Markus Sittikus gives entertaining details about the history of Salzburg.

Open 29 March – 2 November 2025 | Audio-guide in 15 languages | Exclusive themed tours on request

www.hellbrunn.at

Salzburg Open-air Museum – explore Salzburg's rural past

With an area of 50 hectares [about 125 acres] and a 7km-long network of walks and hiking trails, the Salzburg Open-Air Museum is one of the most popular local recreational destinations at the gates of Salzburg. More than 100 historical original buildings – from all over the province and dating from over six centuries – can be visited in this beautiful area – including farmhouses, mills, a private brewery, a grocer's shop, a smithy and a cobbler's workshop. All the buildings are set within a mosaic of flowering meadows, small ponds and shady woodland. Thus the site has a **natural diversity** equal to any in Europe, and has been declared a European nature reserve (Natura 2000 "Untersberg Vorland"). The historical 2km-long narrow-gauge railway is a special magnet for visitors. Special exhibitions and a variety of events are organised throughout the season. The new "info-check" audio-guide ("Nachgucker") helps visitors of all ages to find things that have almost been forgotten.

Open 19 March - 11 November | Guided tours in English and German | programme of events | handcraft demonstrations | www.freilichtmuseum.com

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Salzburg Salzwelten (salt mine Salzburg) & Celtic Mountain

The adventure begins with a **ride on the mine train** deep into the Dürrenberg, then down two wooden miners slides and along mysterious right into the heart of the mountain. A journey through four epochs takes you from modern mining methods and salt production, back through the splendid baroque era into the dark Middle Ages and finally to the Celtic miners. You cross a mystic salt lake on a raft, into the glittering world of baroque Salzburg.

On the site, use the Salzwelten-App (with virtual adventure games and AR function) to explore the **Kelten.Erlebnis.Berg** together with the SALINA Celtic village, the new salt manufactory and a themed playground.

Open daily all year round (maintenance and repairs 7 Jan – 31 Jan 2025) | Guided tours in English and German | Audio-guide in 17 languages | www.salzwelten.at

Hohenwerfen Fortress

Towering above the Salzach valley is Hohenwerfen Fortress, **one of the best-preserved late-mediaeval edifices**: a mighty fortified castle with typical turrets, embrasures and machicolations. There is a drop tower with wall 4m thick, a dungeon, a torture chamber, parapet walks and a 14m-high bell-tower. A fortress guide in historical costume offers fascinating insights into the "chivalric" life in the fortress. There's a rally quiz for children and an audio-guide in six languages. The highlights include daily demonstrations with birds of prey in the **historical falconry**. Besides special exhibitions, a programme of events offers plenty of variety for the whole family, and an exciting rally quiz through the grounds. New highlights are the renovated chapel and the current special exhibition *Mythos Jackl* – witches and wizards in Salzburg.

"Jackl the sorcerer" was Jakob Tischler or Jakob Koller, a Werfen craftsman with a band of followers. On four floors of the historic armoury, visitors are plunged into the world of witches and wizards – ranging from the events surrounding the Salzburg witch trials right up to present-day witch cults throughout the world. The exhibition is spellbinding, with authentic and sometimes macabre exhibits, multimedia installations and legendary figures.

Open April – beginning of November | Audio-guide in 11 languages, own children's Audio-guide & children's puzzle rally | Lift | www.burg-hohenwerfen.at

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Eisriesenwelt – ice caves

The *Eisriesenwelt* [ice-giant world], at an altitude of over 1,600m, high above the Salzach Valley, is **the largest ice-cave in the world**. The guided tour takes visitors just over a kilometre, with a difference in height of 134m. The temperature is always around 0°C. 1,400 steps lead through the huge caverns inside the Tennen mountain range, through narrow passages emerging into a wonderland of magical natural sculptures. The only light comes from the visitors' carbide lamps and from magnesium strips occasionally lit by the guide to show the extraordinary ice formations. The cave was first explored and described by Anton Posselt in 1879. Now visitors number around 170,000 annually.

Open beginning May – end October | Guided tours in several languages | cable car |

www.eisriesenwelt.at

Grossglockner High Alpine Road

The Grossglockner High Alpine Road is one of the most **fascinating and beautiful excursion destinations and scenic roads** in all of Europe. Discover the heart of the High Tauern National Park and experience the uniqueness and the myth of the **highest mountain in Austria**. Over 36 bends, it leads up to an altitude of 2,571m, to the Pasterze, the longest glacier in the Eastern Alps. On the way - into one of the largest protected natural Alpine areas – you can see over thirty-three-thousanders, thundering waterfalls, marmots and summer snow-fields. The Edelweiss Spitze is the **highest peak in Austria accessible by car**. Along the 48km-long road, interesting themed nature trails, exhibitions (free of charge), playgrounds, restaurants and viewpoints invite the visitor to stop for a while. The Grossglockner High Alpine Road is one of Austria's most popular destinations, and as a national monument, it is under a preservation order.

The day ticket includes entrance to all exhibitions, nature trails and a guided tour of the panoramic route round the Kaiser-Franz-Josefs-Höhe with a National Park ranger (daily from mid-July until the end of September, at 10.30 am and 1.30 pm).

Open from the beginning of May until the end of October (depending on weather conditions) |

www.grossglockner.at

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Kaprun high mountain reservoirs

Among the highest Alpine peaks, the Wasserfallboden and Mooserboden reservoirs are surrounded by snow-covered glaciers. The high Alpine power plant, which went into operation in the 1950s, gave rise to the **"Kaprun myth"**. With more than 120,000 visitors a year, the Kaprun high mountain reservoirs have since become one of the classic destinations of Salzburg's summer tourism. After a spectacular ascent with **Europe's largest open slant lift**, visitors are given a rare view behind the scenes of electricity generation. The daily guided tours of the **dam wall** leads you inside the 107m-high Moosersperre. In the *Electricity Adventure World* exhibition explains the history of the power plant construction and details on sustainable water power. The impressive mountain scenery, varied hiking trails, **the world's highest fixed climbing route on a dam**, an interactive children's educational trail, the cosy **Fürthermoar Alm** and a regional culinary offer invite you to discover, linger and enjoy.

Open end of May – mid-October | Ascent by transfer bus and slant lift | free audio-guide |
www.verbund.com/kaprun

Krimml Worlds of Water

The Krimml waterfalls are the largest of their kind in Europe and the fifth-highest in the world. A visit to this natural spectacle starts at the modern Krimml Worlds of Water, an innovative adventure center which includes the waterfall center with the WasserWunderBar, shop, panorama viewing terrace and Aquascenario. This **projection show, unique in Austria**, takes visitors on a multi-media, interactive underwater journey amid lifelike illusions. The "Faces of Water" exhibition shows the various manifestations of water, and the outdoor Aquapark offers all kinds of opportunities for discovery and recreation. The combi ticket includes entrance to the waterfalls and the Worlds of Water and a place in the P4 and P5 car park (P5 only for car).

Open 1 May – 27 October | www.krimmler-wasserwelten.at

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Mauterndorf Castle Experience

Mauterndorf Castle, in the Lungau region of Salzburg, was once an important toll station, built from the beginning of the 13th century onwards. Today it is a hands-on museum for the whole family, with all kinds of interactive stations and scenes from the age of Archbishop Leonhard von Keutschach, who used the castle as his summer residence. There is a special audio-guide tour for children, in 9 languages. The 44m-high castle keep, over 700 years old, is **unique in Europe** for its excellent state of preservation and accessible as part of a tour. The Lungau Landscape Museum is also housed in Mauterndorf Castle. A further highlight has been added to the recently revitalised former castle park: an authentic drawbridge linking past and future.

Open Christmas – Easter Tuesday – Friday and daily from 1 May to 31 October | audio-guide in 9 languages | www.burg-mauterndorf.at

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