

Press release



**SCHLADMING
DACHSTEIN**
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www.schladming-dachstein.at/press

FACTS & FIGURES

THE SCHLADMING-DACHSTEIN REGION AT A GLANCE

 **9** ski mountains

 **230** kilometres of pistes

up to **430** kilometres of cross-country
(of which 220 km in Ramsau am Dachstein) including high-altitude trail on the Dachstein glacier

2,071 rental properties & **31,985** beds available
Winter 2023/24



of the ski region

Schladming 4-mountain ski area with 4 ski mountains and 123 kilometres of pistes.

3.9 million overnight stays per year

13 municipalities make up the Schladming-Dachstein Adventure Region



77 lifts



100 ski huts



9 toboggan runs



6 funslopes and snowparks

TOP source markets



The Top Events of Winter 2024/25

November 22 to 24, 2024 | Advent on the Talbach

The event series known as »Schladming Christmas in the Mountains« runs from November 22 to December 24, 2024, turning the Advent season into a truly magical run-up to the big Christmas holidays. Visitors are greeted by an array of highlights and contemplative events, including "Advent on the Talbach," "Advent Magic in the Gorge," and exhibitions of Nativity scenes.

November 30 to December 8, 2024 | Advent on the Pürgg

On the first two Advent weekends, the romantic village of Pürgg transforms into a festive "Nativity scene." A unique Advent market even extends into the houses, never failing to enchant visitors year after year.

December 6 to 8, 2024 | Ski Opening 2024 – "The Grand Festival"

For the first time, Ski Opening Schladming-Dachstein brings together three international superstars in the course of one weekend at Schladming Planai Stadium. On December 6, 7, and 8, 2024, Bryan Adams, Sting, and Simply Red will each perform their own unique concerts.

December 20 to 21, 2024 | FIS World Cup in Ramsau am Dachstein

This winter, Ramsau am Dachstein will once again host the world's best male and female Nordic all-rounders. The competitions at this 1999 World Championship venue have been a permanent fixture of the World Cup calendar in the Nordic Combined for years.

January 10 to 12, 2025 | Dachsteinlauf 2025

The Dachsteinlauf presents a diverse program, including races for children and even a "Culinary Run." Numerous competitions ensure that cross-country skiers of all ability levels – from true pros to hobby skiers and pure nature lovers – will find the course and challenge that's ideal for them.

16.01.2025 | Ski Cross World Cup 2025

On January 16 and 17, 2025, the finals of the Ski Cross World Cup races for both men and women will take place at the Cross Park on the Reiteralm. The course is sporty and challenging - with exciting duels from start to finish guaranteed.

January 28 and 29, 2025 | FIS Night Giant Slalom and Night Slalom for Men

Before the legendary Nightrace (January 29) on the Schladming Planai, the international giant slalom elite will also stage a nighttime spectacular of their own for the thousands upon thousands of spectators to enjoy.

April 2 to 6, 2025 | Puntigamer Ski World Championship for Musicians

From Wednesday, April 2 to Sunday, April 6, 2025, the 32nd Puntigamer Ski World Championship for Musicians will again feature live musical entertainment at ski huts on the Planai, Hochwurzen, and Reiteralm. A great party atmosphere will also return to the giant marquee at WM Park Planai.

www.schladming-dachstein.at/events

Ski Opening “The Grand Festival 2024”: Bryan Adams, Sting, and Simply Red Kick Off the Winter Season in Schladming-Dachstein

The Styrian tourism region and concert promoter Klaus Leutgeb are definitely raising the bar with “The Grand Festival 2024” from December 6 to 8, 2024.

The Austrian tourism region of Schladming-Dachstein is kicking off this year's winter season with three international top acts, once again becoming THE event hotspot for up to 45,000 guests. Bryan Adams, Sting, and Simply Red are the global stars who will be amping up the finish area in Schladming's Planai Stadium, worthy successors, indeed, to last year's show put on by Robbie Williams. None of the three have ever shared the stage, not even on consecutive days as will be the case in December.

Bryan Adams will open the concert series on Friday, December 6. He will perform both his popular hits and tracks from his new album, which was written during the pandemic. On Saturday, December 7, Sting will perform with his new band, showcasing some of his greatest hits. Mick Hucknall of Simply Red will be on tour and celebrating his 40th anniversary on stage. Fans will even be treated to a preview on December 8 in Schladming.

That said, for the very first time, three international superstars will launch the winter season in Schladming over three consecutive days. The Schladming-Dachstein tourism region, the Schladming 4-Mountain Ski Area – home to the Hauser Kaibling, Planai, Hochwurzen, and Reiteralp – and concert promoter Klaus Leutgeb will be raising the bar to a whole new level thanks to “Ski Opening - The Grand Festival.”

Schladming-Dachstein Tourism Region offer Guests Top-Quality Experiences

"With Bryan Adams, Sting, and Simply Red, we are welcoming three world stars to Schladming this year whose success stories span generations," says Mathias Schattleitner, Managing Director of the Schladming-Dachstein Tourist Office. "This long-term positioning at the very peak of their profession is only possible thanks to a constant focus on quality and delivering top performances. Which is the same standard we hold ourselves to, here in the Schladming-Dachstein Tourism Region, where, together with our strong partners, we will continue to focus on offering our guests high-quality experiences time and time again."

More Than 230 Kilometers of Perfectly Groomed Slopes on Nine Ski Mountains

Guests in the Schladming-Dachstein Region can enjoy more than 230 kilometers of perfectly groomed slopes on nine different ski mountains. 77 state-of-the-art cableways and ski lifts, as well as over 100 ski huts, complete the exciting picture. The heart of the region is the Schladming 4-Mountain Ski Area, the largest contiguous ski area in the region, with 123 kilometers of interconnected slopes.

Special packages for “The Grand Festival 2024” including tickets as well as accommodations in the immediate region are available online: www.schladming-dachstein.at/skiopening

Innovations for Even Greater Convenience: What's New in Winter Season 2024/25

New 10-Person Gondola Connects Schladming with Rohrmoos

At the outset of the 2024/25 winter season, a new gondola connection from Schladming to Rohrmoos will replace the old 2-person chairlift. The new state-of-the-art 10-person cable car is designed to carry as many as 2,400 people per hour. Thirty panoramic gondolas provide top-notch comfort. Additional needs, such as safe transportation for children as well as alternative sports equipment, have also been addressed. A first at the 4-Mountain Ski Area: Skis can actually be taken inside the gondola and stowed there. This speeds up and simplifies the boarding and disembarking process significantly, improving convenience for families with small children in particular.

New "Kaiblinggrat 8-Person Chairlift" – the Most Powerful Chairlift in Styria

As of winter season 2024/25, winter sports enthusiasts on the Hauser Kaibling, the highest mountain in the Schladming 4-Mountain Ski Area, will have use of a brand-new chairlift. With a capacity of 3,600 people per hour, it will transport passengers up to the summit plateau at 1,870 meters above sea level at a speed of six meters per second. This makes the new "Kaiblinggrat 8-Person Chairlift" the most powerful chairlift in Styria. The ride on one of the 68 state-of-the-art 8-person seats, equipped with all-weather hoods, heated seating, and individual footrests, will take just under 4.5 minutes. Also new: lift entry via a conveyor belt with a lift table at the end that rises 15 centimeters, thus helping children under 1.25 meters (4 ft 1in) in height to get seated comfortably and safely.

Further Upgrades to the Children's Ski-Lift Network on the Riesneralm

The Riesneralm has made significant investments in expanding the interlinked pistes for kids. With the new "KISI-DONNER," a 168-meters-long conveyor lift, as well as the new ski school center in the middle of the children's ski area, little skiers and snowboarders can enjoy maximum comfort under professional supervision. Two gateways to the children's ski area ensure a smooth start to their skiing fun. Additionally, a spacious, publicly accessible lounge area near the Tellerblitz will be available. New restroom facilities, snack vending machines, and a relaxation area for mothers with young children – including a diaper-changing station – complete the wide range of amenities.

Paradise for Skiers:

The Schladming 4-Mountain Ski Area

The heart of the Schladming-Dachstein Region is the Schladming “4-Mountain Ski Area,” the biggest contiguous ski area in Styria. It spans the four biggest Styrian ski mountains – Hauser Kaibling, Planai, Hochwurzen, and Reiteralms – offering a total of 123 kilometers of interconnected skiing enjoyment encompassing 44 different cableways and ski lifts.

Hauser Kaibling

The Hauser Kaibling is the easternmost and, at 2,015 meters, the highest ski mountain in the Schladming 4-Mountain Ski Area. Here, skiers and snowboarders can choose from blue-, red-, and black-rated pistes, as well as slopes specially groomed for carving, deep-snow, and moguls. One outstanding highlight is the FIS World Cup downhill run into the valley. Less experienced skiers can always switch to an easier alternative route when encountering slopes that are overly challenging. Beginners will find a special highlight right next to the valley station of the 8-person gondola: A 24,000-square-meter winter adventure playground known as “Wolli’s Kids Park” invites beginners to try out and practice their newly acquired skiing skills with the help of a platter lift, three magic carpets, newbie-friendly hills, as well as elements intended for play and fun.

Planai

Whether you take skiing “seriously” or do it just for “recreational purposes,” everyone is in their element on the Planai. The legendary 4.6-kilometers-long FIS run from the summit down to the famous Planai finish slope is simply a must. Even if you take an ultra-laid-back approach to your skiing experiences, you will have plenty of other options. Our littlest ski munchkins will have the times of their lives at various stations inside Hopsi’s Winter Kinderland. The Funslope and Funcross runs, suitable for all ages and skill levels, promise sporty family fun away from the actual pistes. And if you simply want to gaze at glorious scenery, why not take a break on the three-kilometers-long winter hiking trail just below the summit.

Hochwurzen

Especially for guests staying in Rohrmoos, we can fairly claim you’ll be able to hop straight out of bed and hit the slopes! Simply leave your car in the parking area since most accommodations have direct access to the pistes. The Funslope offers a nice change of pace, catering to all ages and ability levels. A seven-kilometers-long toboggan run offers all the sledding enjoyment you could wish for. And for those who want to take a winter hike, the 4-Seasons Trail is tailor-made. You can walk it in either an up- or downhill direction, and it is approximately six kilometers long, leading between the summit of the Hochwurzen and Hotel Winterer, and the parking area for the Hochwurzen II quad chairlift.

Reiteralms

The Reiteralms is the western gateway to the Schladming 4-Mountain Ski Area. In recent years, it has established itself as the “training mountain of the world skiing elite.” The Reiteralms is the only ski area in Europe to have received the Piste Seal of Quality in Gold five times in a row as part of the prestigious international “Ski Area Test.” The Reiteralms Cross Park is an innovative additional feature that appeals to beginners and pros alike. It combines steep banked turns, jumps, waves, and lots of riding enjoyment on a 750-meter course. Every Saturday and Sunday, the first lifts ascend the mountain beginning at 7:45 am, for even longer skiing pleasure on weekends.

www.schladming-dachstein.at/en/winter

Small Ski Mountains for the Whole Family

Galsterberg

The new Galsterberg gondola, opened just last year, takes guests from the valley to the mountain station in just six and a half minutes. Waiting times are now a thing of the past. Thanks to broad glass frontage, passengers enjoy an impressive 360-degree panoramic view during their gondola ride. With padded individual seats and plenty of legroom, the 10-person gondola offers the highest level of comfort, able to transport up to 1,800 people per hour. Numerous easy slopes afford beginners, children, and families plenty of space to show off their skiing skills. The family highlight on the Galsterberg is the "Gallic Ski Village," with many attractions for big and small alike.

Rittisberg

An ultra-modern combo lift transports guests up the mountain with a mix of 10-person gondolas and 6-person chairlifts, meeting the diverse needs of practically all winter sports fans. Skilled skiers can ride the 6-person chairs up the mountain in total comfort and quickly return to the valley on their skis. Meanwhile, children, cross-country skiers, tobogganers, and winter hikers can all float up the Rittisberg in comfortable 10-person gondolas and start a winter adventure of their own from the top station. The Rittisberg offers excellent alternatives to alpine skiing for cross-country skiers, winter hikers, and snowshoers.

Riesneralm

The Riesneralm in Donnersbachwald is home to the very first KinderLand in Austria. On an area equivalent to roughly seven soccer fields, five hills and five lifts offer ideal conditions for young ski enthusiasts. With 32 kilometers of pistes, the Riesneralm also boasts ample space for adults. True to their motto "Fewer Lift Rides, More Skiing," four ultra-long ski runs drop all the way down to the valley. The "SkiMovie Race Hill" excites skiers with its cameras and whole new perspectives. In the KISI children's ski area, you will discover a brand-new permanent race hill. The "MAKIA. SKI Performance Center" right by the valley station of the Panorama 6-Seater Lift offers ski coaching up to professional standards.

Planneralm

As the highest ski village in the region, the Planneralm has always prioritized natural, top-quality snow conditions. Year after year, the diverse and ever-changing snows at elevations between 1,600 and 2,200 meters provide a fresh and exciting experience for everyone. Whether kids are playing or sledding in the deep snow, skiers are hitting the slopes, or freeriders and ski tourers are exploring the open terrain, there is something here for everyone. Families, especially, simply love the Planneralm for its child-friendly lifts and very reasonable prices.

Ramsau am Dachstein

The Ramsau am Dachstein ski region is home to the biggest ski network for kids in all of Styria. In "Kaliland" and on seven spaciouly designed Kali slopes, the little dudes can playfully immerse themselves in the world of skiing, accompanied by Kali, the cuddly mascot of this winter sports resort. The Rittisberg offers a wide range of pistes with varying levels of difficulty. Families can enjoy broad slopes, a fairytale ski trail, and a 3.5-kilometers-long toboggan run. Experienced skiers can also venture out into steeper terrain, and a dedicated practice slope has been created for the pros.

Perfect Cross-Country Trails for Leisure Skiers and Top Athletes

With 420 kilometers of trails, the Schladming-Dachstein vacation region offers a unique range of opportunities for cross-country skiers.

Ramsau am Dachstein

In Ramsau am Dachstein, leisure skiers and top athletes will all find the trail that's perfect for them. 125 kilometers are tracked for classic cross-country skiing, and 95 kilometers for "skating" technique, all freshly groomed every single day. Most trails treat XCers to a magnificent view of the mighty southern face of the Dachstein, the highest mountain in Styria. A little to the southwest of the World Championship Stadium, near the storage reservoir, "Kali's Cross Park" opened its doors in winter 2023/24. Here, cross-country skiers of all ages can work on their skiing technique as they explore a variety-packed course.

The "Höhenloipe" on the Rittisberg has been accessible using the new combo lift for several years now. This 5.5-kilometers-long loop connects the area between the top station and the summit cross. The trail is designed to offer great views of the Dachstein mountains, the Ramsau plateau, and the Schladminger Tauern range. And located at an even higher elevation: Dachstein Glacier. There, at 2,700 meters above sea level, you will not only discover the highest cross-country ski trail in the region, but also the longest glacier trail in the world..

For an authentic World Cup atmosphere, we suggest the guest biathlon, a sport that has become one of the hottest trends in this region. At the biathlon stadium in Ramsau am Dachstein, you can try your hand at this fascinating sport. Under the guidance of experienced coaches, you will be able to learn the correct breathing and shooting techniques, and put your accuracy to the test.

XC Trails in the Valley and Donnersbachwald

In addition to the cross-country skiing paradise of Ramsau am Dachstein, there is much to discover in other areas of the region as well. The "Valley Trails" range in difficulty from ultra-laid-back to true insider tips for ambitious athletes; in other words, yet another valuable addition to the cross-country skiing opportunities in Schladming-Dachstein. Particularly impressive: the aptly named Crystal Trail in Untertal, which runs alongside the crystal-clear waters of the Untertalbach. The Spechtensee Trail is also idyllic, circling a secluded moorland lake near Wörschachwald. For those seeking peace and relaxation whilst cross-country skiing, the trails in Donnersbachwald are a perfect choice.

Adventures Away from the Pistes and Cross-Country Ski Trails

In the Schladming-Dachstein vacation region, winter can also be enjoyed away from the pistes and cross-country trails.

Snowshoeing and Winter Hiking

With around 300 kilometers of nicely maintained winter hiking and snowshoeing trails through snowy forests or around frozen lakes, the region reveals a very special side of itself. A winter hike around the Steirischer Bodensee or through the magical Talbachklamm near Schladming is particularly beautiful. The Stoderzinken near Gröbming is ideal for snowshoeing, treating you to magnificent views of the Enns Valley and the surrounding mountains. True winter tranquility awaits hikers on the Planneralm, where they can ascend to the remote Jochspitze, passing snow-blanketed expanses of pine trees along the way. The Winter Hiking Ticket is highly recommended, offering discounted lift fares on seven different ski mountains in the region.

Ski Touring

Ski tourers and freeriders can choose from more than 40 different routes in the Schladming-Dachstein region, ranging from easy beginner tours to real challenges for experienced alpinists. In addition to the ski touring areas in the Schladming Tauern range, Sölk­täler Nature Park is particularly renowned for its wide variety of routes. The Planneralm and Riesneralm in Grimming-Donnersbachtal also offer numerous skiing and freeriding tours. The Planai, Hochwurzen, and Galsterberg have dedicated touring ascents located adjacent to the actual pistes. The Riesneralm offers weekly ski-touring evenings when ski tourers have the pistes all to themselves. One very special experience—possible as of February – is a ski traverse of the UNESCO World Heritage Dachstein Glacier.

Ice Skating

Schladming-Dachstein actually has five different ice skating rinks. In Schladming, a 200-meter-long skating expanse with an extra loop offers plenty of space to glide across the ice with long, elegant strides. You can also enjoy idyllic skating experiences in Haus im Ennstal, Öblarn, and Gröbming. One true highlight is the Putterersee in Aigen im Ennstal, a lake which freezes over during the wintertime, offering the largest natural ice skating area in the entire Styrian region.

Horse-Drawn Sleigh Rides

In Ramsau am Dachstein alone, known as Austria's "most horse-friendly community," 25 providers offer the opportunity to experience the region in the most enchanting way imaginable. Snuggly wrapped up in a warm, cozy blanket, passengers can simply lean back in the sleigh, relax, and enjoy nature, while the majestic mountain panorama glides by like the pages of a fairytale, and the coachman shares an anecdote or two.

Fatbiking

Even in winter, bikers in Schladming-Dachstein don't have to forego their favorite sport. Thanks to fatbikes, equipped with wide, balloon-like tires, you can easily ride on trails covered deep in snow. These tires provide excellent control, making winter biking an exceptionally enjoyable experience. In the Styrian vacation region, you'll find the perfect tour to suit your requirements, whether you are looking for a leisurely ride on an E-fatbike or an all-out, adrenaline-pumping downhill adventure.

The Peak of Culinary Pleasure: Alpine Cuisine by Richard Rauch

Gourmet cuisine high up in the mountains – that's what awaits guests in the Austrian vacation region of Schladming-Dachstein this winter, as the area continues to make a name for itself with a strong focus on regionality and culinary excellence.

For five years now, 4-star chef Richard Rauch has been collaborating with hosts at the region's mountain huts, both in summer and winter, as part of the "Alpine Cuisine by Richard Rauch" program. The concept is simple: combine authentic local dishes and products with the culinary artistry of a 4-star chef. Rauch's creativity consistently results in a diverse and exciting array of dishes that showcase regional ingredients to the fullest.

Before the season starts, participating hut hosts take part in a workshop where multiple recipes are tested and perfected. The ingredients are predominantly regional, with some even sourced directly from the hosts themselves, such as wild game from their own hunting grounds, fresh goat cheese, and fillets of Arctic char.

The variety of menus at the huts further enhances the tourism experience in Schladming-Dachstein as a whole, something that guests – whether alpine skiers, cross-country skiers, or winter hikers – truly appreciate. The hut hosts prepare authentic dishes based on traditional recipes, also supporting the efforts of local food producers in the process.

www.schladming-dachstein.at/almkulinarik