



Salzburg & Salzburgerland

Includes ➔

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Best Places to Eat

- ➔ Magazin (p234)
- ➔ Gasthof Schloss Aigen (p232)
- ➔ Obauer (p244)
- ➔ Mayer's (p254)
- ➔ Lutter & Wegner (p258)

Best Places to Stay

- ➔ Haus Ballwein (p228)
- ➔ Hotel & Villa Auersperg (p228)
- ➔ Bio-Hotel Hammerhof (p245)
- ➔ Pension Hubertus (p251)
- ➔ Hoteldorf Grüner Baum (p258)

Why Go?

One of Austria's smallest provinces, Salzburgerland is proof that size really doesn't matter. Well, not when you have Mozart, Maria von Trapp and the 600-year legacy of the prince-archbishops behind you. This is the land that grabbed the world spotlight and shouted 'Visit Austria!' with Julie Andrews skipping joyously down the mountainsides. This is indeed the land of crisp apple strudel, dancing marionettes and high-on-a-hilltop castles. This is the Austria of your wildest childhood dreams.

Salzburg is every bit as grand as you imagine it: a baroque masterpiece, a classical-music legend and Austria's spiritual heartland. But it is just the prelude to the region's sensational natural beauty. Just outside the city, the landscape is etched with deep ravines, glinting ice caves, karst plateaux and mountains of myth – in short, the kind of alpine gorgeousness that no well-orchestrated symphony or yodelling nun could ever quite capture.

When to Go

- ➔ Prices peak in family-friendly alpine resorts during winter, from December to early April. Salzburg twinkles at its Christmas markets. In January orchestras strike up at Mozartwoche, while hot-air balloons glide above Filzmoos' summits.
- ➔ Summer sees room prices soar in Salzburg and nosedive in alpine resorts from June to September. Book months ahead for the colossal feast of opera, classical music and drama that is the Salzburg Festival from late July to August. Head for high-altitude hiking in the limestone Tennengebirge and Dachstein ranges, and the glacier-capped Hohe Tauern National Park, or lakeside chilling in Zell am See.
- ➔ Shoulder-season months April, May, October and November bring few crowds and low room rates. Salzburg hosts Easter classical-music festivals.



Salzburg & Salzburgerland Highlights

- 1 Surveying the baroque cityscape of **Salzburg** (p218) from the heights of Festung Hohensalzburg.
- 2 Going subzero in the frozen depths of Eisriesenwelt in **Werfen** (p243).
- 3 Getting drenched by the fountains at **Schloss Hellbrunn** (p240).
- 4 Singing 'Do-Re-Mi' in the gardens of Schloss Mirabell in **Salzburg** (p218).
- 5 Donning a boiler suit for a ride at the Salzwelten salt mine in **Bad Dürrnberg** (p241).
- 6 Buckling up for an alpine roller-coaster ride on **Grossglockner Road** (p246).
- 7 Bathing in the healing, radon-laced waters of **Bad Gastein** (p256).
- 8 Hearing the thunder of Europe's highest waterfall, Krimmler Wasserfälle, in **Krimml** (p255).
- 9 Being awed by alpine views on the high-altitude **Pinzgauer Spaziergang** (p253).