



Salzburg & Salzburgerland

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Best Places to Eat

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Best Places to Sleep

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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, held from late July through August. Head for high-altitude hiking in the limestone Tennengebirge and Dachstein ranges and the glacier-capped Hohe Tauern National Park, or chill lakeside 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 Festung Hohensalzburg (p229) Surveying Salzburg from atop its clifftop fortress.

2 Eisriesenwelt (p252) Going subzero in the world's largest ice cave in Werfen.

3 Schloss Hellbrunn (p265) Getting drenched by fountains at this opulent palace.

4 Schloss Mirabell (p231)

Singing 'Do-Re-Mi' in these exquisite gardens.

5 Salzwelten (p251) Delving into the depths of a salt mine in Bad Dürrnberg.

6 Grossglockner Road (p265) Driving helter-skelter on this high-alpine road.

7 Felsentherme (p261) Bathing in the healing waters.

8 Krimmler Wasserfälle (p267) Hearing the thunder of Europe's highest waterfall.

9 Kitzsteinhorn Glacier (p257) Hiking and snowball fighting on this 3029m glacier.

10 Pinzgauer Spaziergang (p263) Coming face-to-face with Austria's Alpine giants.