

Summer in the Ötztal:

Leisure time and unlimited mountain exploration!

250 peaks higher than three thousand meters make a wonderful backdrop for unlimited summer holidays full of superlatives with plenty of adventures and recreation, white waters and crystal clear lakes. What's best, the ultimate Ötztal Card grants a variety of discounts, including countless Ötztal highlights and special package deals for families, gourmets and sportsmen at real bargain rates.

Watch out mountaineers: The Alps have a challenging new Haute Route – the scenic Ötztal Trek featuring 22 stages and 15 alternative routes with no less than 30,000 meters altitude gain and a total distance of 400 kilometers. The majestic Ötztal Alps make an outdoor paradise not only for expert alpinists and advanced climbers but also for more leisurely walkers and ambitious mountain bikers: some 1,300 kilometers of perfectly signposted hiking trails and 700 kilometers of breathtaking mountain bike routes are spread all over the valley's summits, slopes and plains.

Colorful landscape full contrasts

Tirol's longest Alpine valley stretches 67 kilometers southwards between the Ötztal autobahn exit and the upper valley with the biggest glacier ski area in the Eastern Alps. Throughout the summer a variety of highlights are scheduled within the valley's eight lovely holiday resorts - Haiming, Sautens, Oetz, Umhausen, Längenfeld, Sölden, Vent and Obergurgl-Hochgurgl. They all have a very special flair, ranging from sporty and stylish tourist centers to secluded mountain villages off the beaten tracks where you can still spend authentic summer holidays amid unspoilt nature.

The villages are spread over three terraced areas with different altitudes. Therefore the contrasts are really unique! Right at the entrance to the valley you can discover Haiming's Apple Route, the central Ötztal boasts lush green meadows and fields, and in the upper part you find the mountain villages of Vent and Obergurgl-Hochgurgl at almost 2,000 meters above sea level, embedded in flowering Alpine pasturelands. Obergurgl has the most beautiful Alpine Rose fields in early summer, marsh marigolds and magic blue gentian cover the entire landscape of awesome beauty. Additionally the air is crisp and clean, almost pollen-free and therefore ideal for allergy sufferers thanks to the immediate vicinity of the glaciers.

Nature trails & culture paths

Even more breathtaking nature experiences can be made on guided theme hikes to the Ötztal Nature Park where rare herbs and medicinal herbs can be found or where nature fans enjoy bird watching in high Alpine regions. Interesting archaeological routes take you to the former hunting grounds and Stone Age shepherd places, following the tracks of Ötzi the Iceman who was discovered by chance at the nearby Hauslabjoch ridge in the border area between the Ötztal and South Tyrol.

The wonderful Ötzi Village in Umhausen displays everyday life and work in the Neolithic period, providing a great variety of information on Ötzi and his fellows. While the high-altitude pasturelands and grazing areas in the surroundings of Vent or Hochgurgl give an insight into the daily life on a farm in the 21st century.

Ötztal water games

The splendid Stuiben Falls - Tirol's biggest waterfall – feature a total height of 159 meters. A wonderful trail along the waterfall takes passionate walkers to the nearby via ferrata towering high above the rushing mountain waters. From five panoramic platforms hikers can watch this nature spectacle close-by. Real dare devils should not miss an exciting river rafting tour on the Ötztaler Ache brook, across the Imster Schlucht gorge or on the river Inn. Trend sports such as rafting, canyoning, kayaking or canoeing are scheduled here!

The mighty and healing power of water can be experienced at the ultimate Aqua Dome, Längenfeld's Spa Center offering plenty of get-wet fun and healing spas for the whole family. Passionate swimmers or fishing fans are strongly recommended to head for the picturesque Piburger See near Oetz, one of Tirol's warmest swimming lakes.

A wonderful dragon's land for kids

Water and adventure parks, outdoor swimming pools, journeys back in time at the Ötzi Village, Freizeit Arena leisure center in Sölden and Aqua Dome Alpine Spa are top-notch attractions for families and young guests. The little green dragon Tabaluga stands for unlimited holiday fun throughout the Ötztal Valley. An entertaining program is scheduled all summer long (booking required one day in advance) – such as doing crafts, swimming, visiting the Ötzi Village, searching for gold nuggets, taster climbing, llama trekking to Alpine pastures or adventurous cave trekking. Lunchtime snacks are available for € 4, sometimes drinks are already included. What's best, Ötztal Card holders enjoy a 10% discount on all Tabaluga activities.

One valley, one card

The convenient Ötztal Card can be purchased for three, seven or ten consecutive days between June and September - for children and adults alike. This ultimate holiday pass comprises 40 attractions and highlights throughout the valley. Discounts are granted for Tabaluga and Nature Park programs. Furthermore a wide range of summer mountain lifts, hiking shuttles, public bus lines, swimming pools, recreational centers, museums and toll roads – such as the Glacier Road or the Timmelsjoch High Alpine Road - are already included.

Alpine glow on your doorstep

All those who follow the call of the mountains in the morning, make it in time to witness the awe-inspiring sunset in the upper Ötztal Valley. Glacier fields covered in white during the day are colored in red when the last sunrays touch them.

Of course, the Ötztal is also easily accessible: either by car via A12 Inntal Autobahn (exit Ötztal) or via Garmisch-Mittenwald-Seefeld or Garmisch-Fernpass-Imst. All trains stop in Ötztal Bahnhof. The nearest airport is in Innsbruck from where the Ötztal Shuttle service takes you right to your hotel's doorstep.

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