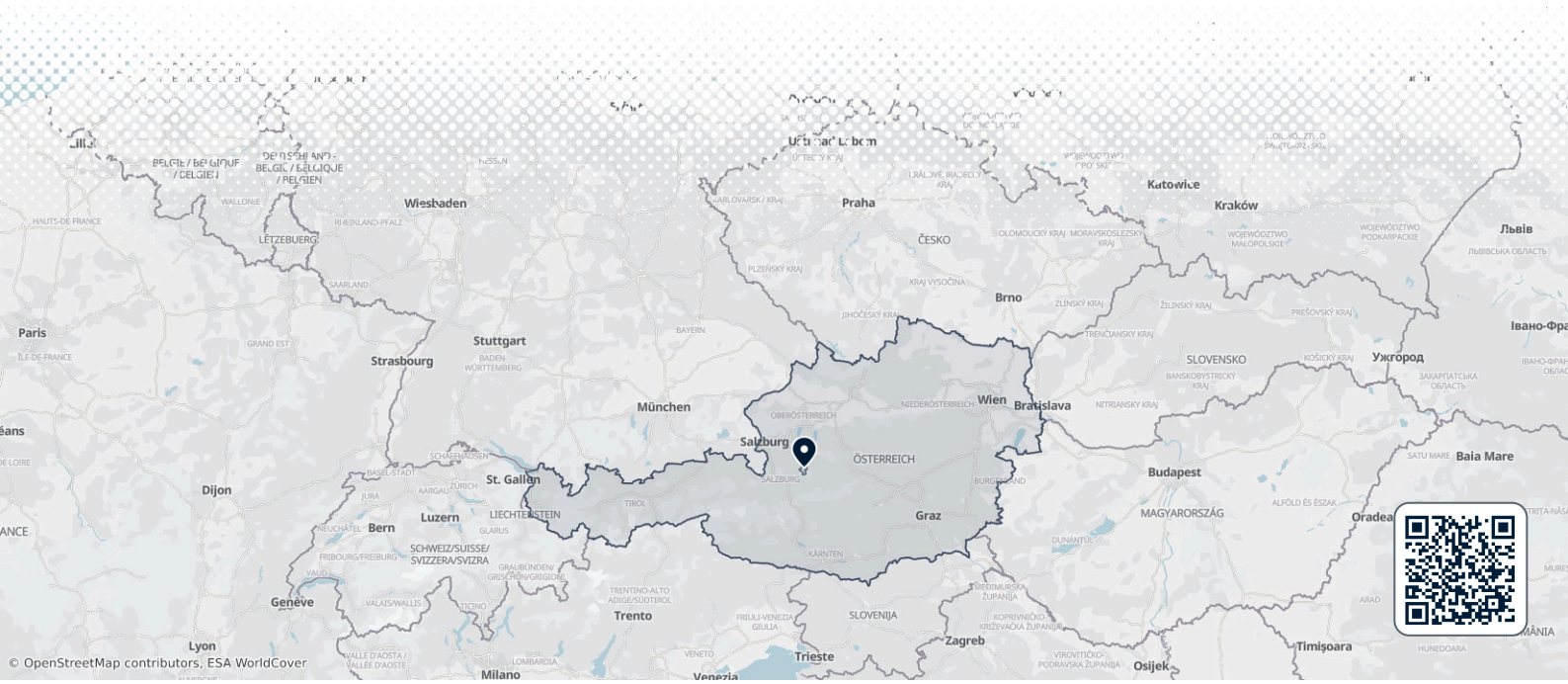


Hallstatt

Salzkammergut · Austria

TRAVEL GUIDE

Tripomatic



Overview

Hallstatt is a small village on the western shore of Lake Hallstatt, squeezed between the water and steep mountain walls. It is a UNESCO World Heritage site and one of the most photographed places in Austria. Salt mining here goes back more than 7,000 years.

The village is tiny and busy in high season. Come early or stay overnight to see it calm. Many visitors also use it as a base for the wider Salzkammergut lake region.

When to visit

May to October is the best time for walks, boat trips and mountain views. July and August are the busiest, and day-trip crowds peak at midday. Spring and autumn are quieter, and autumn colours are striking. Winter is cold and quiet, with some attractions closed or on reduced hours. Rain is frequent all year.

MONTH	CONDITIONS	DAY °C avg / max	NIGHT °C avg / min	
January	Poor Poor for watersports	4° / 10° Feels like 0°	-4° / -12°	14 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds
February	Poor Poor for watersports	5° / 13° Feels like 2°	-3° / -12°	13 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds
March	Poor Poor for hiking	9° / 18°	1° / -7°	15 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds
April	Good Good for hiking	15° / 23°	5° / -2°	15 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds
May	Good Good for sightseeing	20° / 27°	9° / 4°	20 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds
June	Good Good for sightseeing	23° / 30°	13° / 8°	21 rainy days · Calm winds
July	Good Good for sightseeing	25° / 31°	15° / 10°	22 rainy days · Humid air · Calm winds
August	Good Good for sightseeing	25° / 31°	15° / 10°	20 rainy days · Humid air · Calm winds
September	Good Good for sightseeing	20° / 27°	11° / 5°	16 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds
October	Good Good for hiking	16° / 23°	7° / 0°	14 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds
November	Poor Poor for hiking	10° / 18°	2° / -6°	14 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds
December	Poor Poor for watersports	5° / 11° Feels like 2°	-2° / -12°	15 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds

Climate data: NASA POWER (MERRA-2) · 1996–2025

Top sights

- A Salzwelten Hallstatt is one of the oldest salt mines in the world. A funicular climbs to the mine, and the tour includes a miners' slide.
- B Hallstatt Skywalk is a viewing platform high above the village, reached by the same funicular.
- C Beinhaus is the bone house near the church, with painted skulls.
- D Pfarrkirche Maria am Berg is the Catholic church on the slope above the lake.
- E Evangelische Kirche Hallstatt is the Protestant church by the water, with a tall tower that appears in many photos.
- F Welterbemuseum Hallstatt explains the prehistoric Hallstatt culture and local archaeology.
- G Hallstätter Gletscher is the glacier on the Dachstein plateau, reached from Obertraun by cable car.



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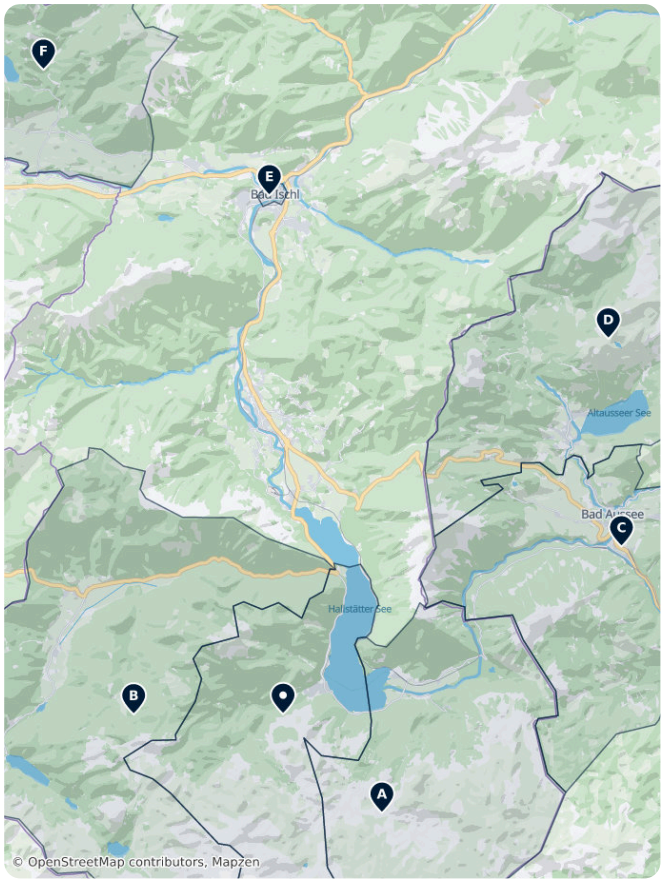
What to experience

- Take a boat trip on the lake at sunset or early morning.
- Walk the Salt Trail through the forest above the village.
- Visit the Dachstein ice caves and the 5 Fingers viewing platform from Obertraun.
- Rent a kayak or paddle board on calm days.
- Stay overnight to see the village without the day crowds.

Day trips

- A Obertraun is the gateway to the Dachstein cable car and ice caves, about 10 minutes away by bus.
- B Gosau is a quiet valley with lakes under the Dachstein, about 40 minutes by car.
- C Bad Aussee and D Altaussee offer lake walks and salt mine tours, about 40 minutes by car.
- E Bad Ischl is a spa town with the imperial villa, about 30 minutes by car.
- F St. Wolfgang has a pilgrimage church and lake views, about 1 hour by car.
- Salzburg is about 1 hour 15 minutes by car or 2 hours by train and bus.



Where to explore

- Obertraun, Gosau and Bad Ischl are the closest towns in the same lake region.

Getting there

- By air: The nearest large airports are Salzburg, about 1 hour 15 minutes by car, and Munich, about 3 hours.
- By train: Hallstatt station is across the lake from the village, and a short ferry is timed with the trains. Trains from Attnang-Puchheim connect to the line. Check times on ÖBB.
- By bus: Buses run from Bad Ischl and Salzburg during the season.
- By car: Cars are not allowed in the village centre for most visitors. Use the large car parks at the entrance. They fill early in summer.

Getting around

The village is small and best on foot. Lanes are steep and cobbled. A funicular takes you to the salt mine. Boats cross the lake and make short trips. Ferry and bus connections link the village to the station and nearby towns.

Getting around on foot & by bike

WALKABILITY

Moderate

The village is tiny and walkable, but lanes are steep and cobbled, and it is crowded in summer.

CYCLING INFRASTRUCTURE

Moderate

Lakeside roads and paths are scenic, but the terrain is hilly and traffic in the village is limited.

Driving

Parking is limited and strictly managed. Park at the entrance car parks and walk in. The road along the lake is narrow and busy at peak times. Public transport and the lake ferry are often easier than driving.

Food & drink

Fresh lake fish, especially char and trout, are local favourites. Try *Kaiserschmarrn* and apple strudel in the village cafes. Salt from the mines appears in local gifts. Restaurants cluster around the market square, and prices are higher than elsewhere in the region.

What to eat & drink

DINNER

Wiener Schnitzel
A thin, breaded and pan-fried veal cutlet, traditionally served with potato salad or parsley potatoes and a wedge of lemon.

Tafelspitz
Boiled beef in broth, served with roast potatoes and a sauce of apples and horseradish — a favourite of Emperor Franz Joseph.

Viennese Goulash · Wiener Saftgulasch
A rich beef stew slow-cooked with onions and paprika, typically served with a bread dumpling or bread roll.

SNACKS & STREET FOOD

Käsekrainer
A grilled pork sausage studded with melty cheese, a classic order at Vienna's ubiquitous Würstelstand (sausage stands).

Sausage Stand Snack · Würstel vom Würstelstand
Grilled or boiled sausages (Bratwurst, Frankfurter, Bosna) served with mustard, bread and a pickle from street kiosks.

SWEETS & DESSERTS

Apfelstrudel
Thin pastry rolled around spiced apples, raisins and breadcrumbs, usually served warm with vanilla sauce or cream.

Sachertorte
A dense chocolate cake with a thin layer of apricot jam under a dark chocolate glaze, famously served with unsweetened whipped cream.

Kaiserschmarrn
A fluffy shredded pancake caramelised with sugar and dusted with icing sugar, served with plum or apple compote.

Marillenknödel
Apricot dumplings wrapped in potato or quark dough, rolled in buttery breadcrumbs — a Wachau and Viennese summer specialty.

DRINKS

Viennese Melange · Wiener Melange
The signature Viennese coffee: espresso topped with steamed milk and milk foam, the centrepiece of coffeehouse culture.

Grüner Veltliner
Austria's flagship crisp, peppery white wine, widely poured in Vienna's Heuriger (wine taverns).

Sturm
A cloudy, lightly alcoholic partially-fermented grape must, available only for a few weeks in autumn.

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Safety & health

Hallstatt is safe. The main risk is crowding on narrow lanes and wet cobbles. Weather in the mountains changes quickly, so check forecasts before going up. Tap water is clean and safe to drink. The emergency number is 112.

History

People mined salt in Hallstatt more than 7,000 years ago. The Hallstatt culture of the early Iron Age is named after the finds from the cemetery above the village. Salt remained the economic base for centuries. The area was listed as a UNESCO World Heritage site in 1997 as the Hallstatt-Dachstein Salzkammergut cultural landscape.

Country facts

Quick practical facts for Austria at a glance:

CURRENCY

EUR €

EMERGENCY

112

ELECTRICITY



Type C / Type F
230 V · 50 Hz

LANGUAGES

German

TAP WATER

Safe to drink

Hallstatt Unmissables

This collection highlights the historical and geological significance of Hallstatt, a UNESCO World Heritage site. It features the world's oldest salt mine, Salzwelten, and the 13th-century Rudolfsturm defense tower. Architectural landmarks include the Neo-Gothic Lutheran church and the Catholic Church's Bone House, which contains over 1,200 hand-painted skulls. The Salzbergbahn funicular provides access to the Skywalk observation platform and the Hallstätter Marienaltar, an important piece of late Gothic religious art housed within the mountain-side parish church.





A Hallstatt

Historical administrative building located on the town's central market square.

158 Seestraße, Hallstatt 4830, Austria (47.56179, 13.64939)

Mo–Tu	08:00–12:00, 14:00–17:00
We–Fr	08:00–12:00

hallstatt.ooe.gv.at, +43 6134 8255-0



B Skywalk Hallstatt

Observation platform positioned 350 meters above the village, providing views of Lake Hallstatt and the surrounding Dachstein mountains.

1 Salzberg, 4830, Austria (47.56120, 13.64354)



C Bone House

Small ossuary housing skulls bizarrely painted with flowers and names. Don't get yourself distracted and note its Gothic frescoes.

Kirchenweg 40, 4830 Hallstatt, Austria (47.56322, 13.64872)

kath.hallstatt.net/gr-gott/, +43 61348279



D Salzwelten Hallstatt

The world's oldest salt mine, featuring a 7,000-year history, an underground salt lake, and a 64-meter wooden slide used by miners.

3 Salzberg, 4830, Austria (47.56224, 13.63893)

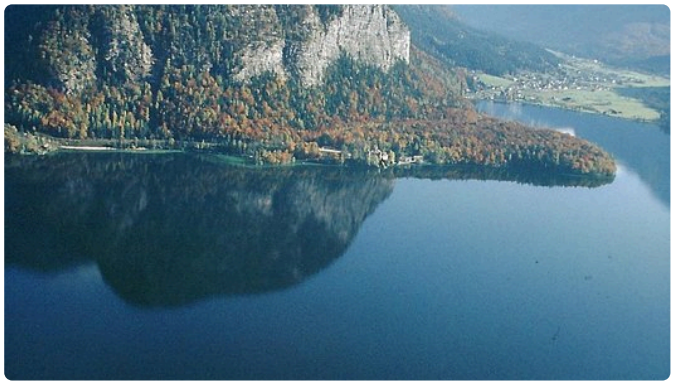
salzwelten.at, +43 (0) 6132 200 2400



E Evangelische Kirche Hallstatt

19th-century Neo-Gothic Lutheran church located on the lakeshore, known for its slender spire and prominent position in the town's skyline.

61 Marktplatz, Hallstatt 4830, Austria (47.56270, 13.64954)



F Rudolfsturm

Medieval defense tower built in the late 13th century to protect the salt mines. It currently houses a restaurant.

Panoramabrücke, 4830 Hallstatt, Austria (47.56108, 13.64308)



G Hallstatt Museum

The Hallstatt Museum is a museum in Hallstatt, Upper Austria, that has an unrivalled collection of discoveries from the local salt mines...

Seestraße 56, 4830 Hallstatt, AT (47.56195, 13.64894)

museum-hallstatt.at, +43 6134 8280 15



H Salzbergbahn Hallstatt

Funicular railway connecting the village to the salt mine area and the Rudolfsturm observation point.

Salzbergweg, 4830 Hallstatt, Austria (47.55638, 13.64509)



I Hallstätter Marienaltar

Significant late Gothic winged altar located in the Catholic Parish Church, featuring detailed wood carvings from the early 16th century.

164 Friedhof, Hallstatt 4830, Austria (47.56342, 13.64891)

Christian Heritage Sites

Hallstatt's religious landscape is defined by its dramatic Alpine setting and centuries of salt-mining history. This collection includes the iconic 19th-century Lutheran church on the lakefront and the late Gothic Catholic Parish Church, known for its 16th-century winged altar. Significant sites extend from the 12th-century ossuary, housing over 1,200 painted skulls, to the Baroque Calvary Hill complex and the high-altitude Dachstein Chapel situated at 2,203 meters near the Simony Hut.





A Evangelische Kirche Hallstatt

Neo-Gothic Lutheran church built in 1863. Its slender spire is a primary landmark of the Hallstatt lakefront, constructed after the Edict of Tolerance permitted Protestant places of worship.

61 Marktplatz, Hallstatt 4830, Austria (47.56270, 13.64954)



B Dachstein Chapel

The Dachstein Chapel is located immediately next to the Simony Hut in the Dachstein Mountains.

4830, Austria (47.50064, 13.62422)

C St. Michaels Kapelle / Beinhaus

12th-century Romanesque chapel housing the Hallstatt Ossuary. It contains over 1,200 skulls, many hand-painted with floral motifs and dates, a practice necessitated by the cemetery's limited space.

164 Friedhof, Hallstatt 4830, Austria (47.56364, 13.64869)



D Pfarrkirche Maria am Berg

Late Gothic pilgrimage church completed in 1505. It features a notable double-winged altar by Leonhard Astl and serves as the town's primary Catholic parish church overlooking the lake.

164 Friedhof, Hallstatt 4830, Austria (47.56342, 13.64883)

E Kreuzwegkapelle I

The first station of the Baroque Calvary Hill complex, dating to 1711. It is part of a series of chapels depicting the Passion of Christ.

52 Lahnstraße, Hallstatt 4830, Austria (47.55477, 13.64747)

F Kreuzwegkapelle III

The third station chapel along the Calvary path, featuring 18th-century Baroque architecture and religious artwork.

5 Lahnstraße, Hallstatt 4830, Austria (47.55319, 13.64829)

G Kreuzwegkapelle II

The second station of the cross on the ascent to the Calvary Church, built in the early 18th century.

60 Lahnstraße, Hallstatt 4830, Austria (47.55361, 13.64778)

H Kreuzwegkapelle IV

The fourth station chapel located on the steep path of the Kalvarienberg, leading toward the main hilltop church.

4 Salinenplatz, Hallstatt 4830, Austria (47.55226, 13.64898)

I Kalvarienbergkirche

Baroque church built in 1711 on the Kalvarienberg. It serves as the culmination of the Stations of the Cross and offers views over the Hallstatt roofscape.

(47.55215, 13.64860)

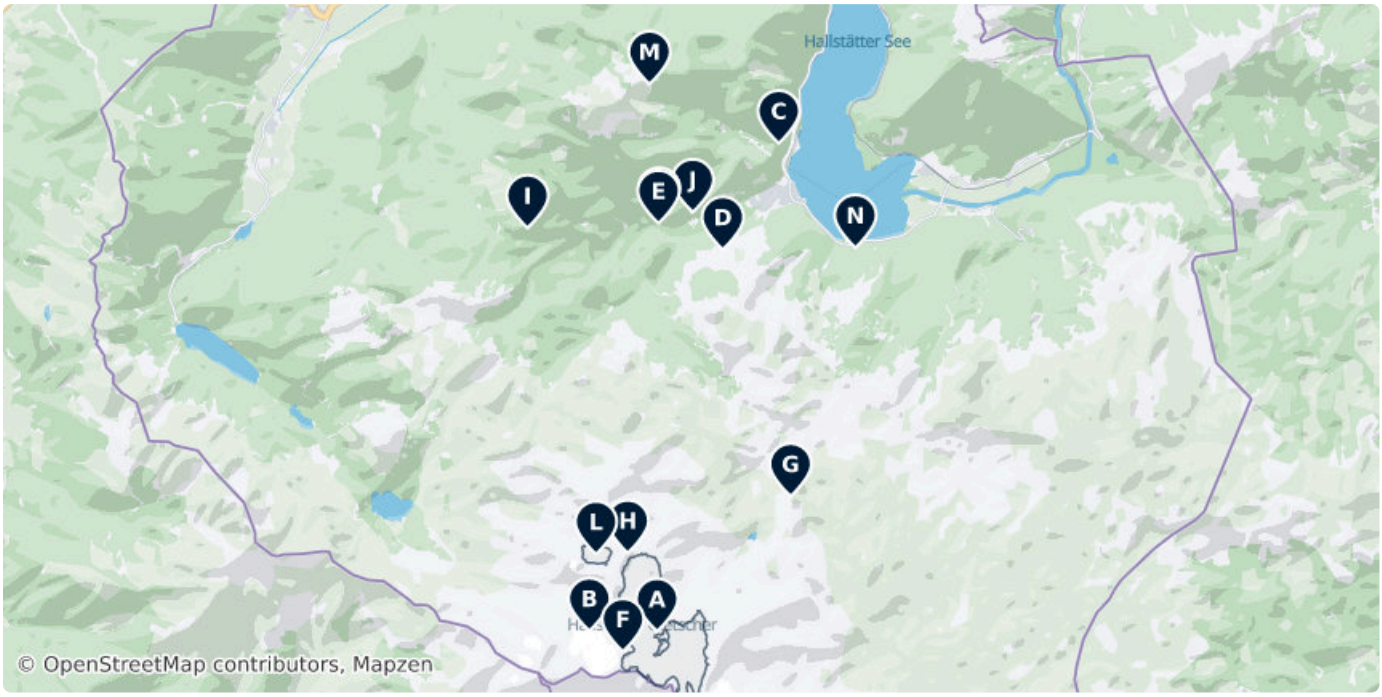
J Vesperbild-Kapelle

A small Baroque chapel on the Calvary Hill dedicated to the Pietà, also known as the Vesperbild.

4830, Austria (47.55186, 13.64665)

Dachstein Natural Wonders

The Dachstein Mountains surrounding Hallstatt feature a dramatic karst landscape shaped by ice and water. This selection highlights the region's geological diversity, including the Hallstätter Glacier—the largest in the range—and the Großer Gosaugletscher. The area is home to extensive cave networks like the Hirlatzhöhle and powerful water features such as the 95-meter Waldbachstrub waterfall in the Echerntal valley. These landmarks offer a direct look at the glacial history and alpine topography of the UNESCO World Heritage region.





A Hallstätter Glacier

The Hallstätter Glacier is the largest glacier in the Dachstein Mountains.

4830, Austria (47.48172, 13.61478)



B Großer Gosaugletscher

One of the primary glaciers on the Dachstein massif, notable for geological evidence of the transition to the post-glacial period approximately 10,000 years ago.

4825, Austria (47.48180, 13.59819)

C Kaiser Franz Josef Förderstollen

Historic salt mine transport tunnel named after Emperor Franz Joseph I, part of the extensive mining heritage and brine pipeline system in the Hallstatt region.

(47.56257, 13.64468)

D Hirlatzhöhle

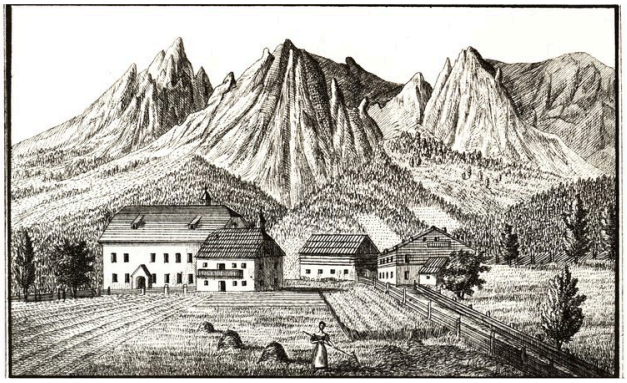
The Hirlatzhöhle is a cave in the Dachstein massif in the municipality of Hallstatt in the Upper Austrian part of the Salzkammergut.

4830, Austria (47.54498, 13.63095)

E Waldbachstrub

Dramatic 95-meter-high waterfall in the Echerntal valley where the Waldbach, Lauterbach, and Mühlbach streams converge.

Gangsteig, 4830 Hallstatt, Austria (47.54932, 13.61514)



F Niederer Dachstein

High-altitude peak in the Dachstein massif with an elevation of 2,934 meters.

4830, Austria (47.47837, 13.60642)



G Taubenkogel

The Taubenkogel is a 2,301-metre high peak in the Dachstein Mountains of Upper Austria, northeast of the Hallstätter Glacier.

4830, Austria (47.50410, 13.64758)

H Niederes Kreuz

Mountain peak in the Dachstein range reaching 2,651 meters, located in the vicinity of the Hallstätter Glacier.

4830, Austria (47.49471, 13.60762)

I Geisswände

Steep limestone rock faces rising above the Echerntal valley, characteristic of the region's rugged karst topography.

(47.54856, 13.58299)

J Schleierfall

Waterfall in the Echerntal valley characterized by a thin, veil-like cascade over the limestone cliffs.

(47.55118, 13.62356)

K Waldbachstrub

Impressive waterfall in the Echerntal valley where three mountain streams meet and drop 95 meters over the rock face.

Gangsteig, 4830 Hallstatt, Austria (47.54979, 13.61529)

L Schneelochgletscher

Small glacier situated in the high-altitude terrain of the northern Dachstein Mountains.

4825, Austria (47.49453, 13.59980)

M Schutzhöhle

Natural cave formation located in the limestone massif overlooking the town of Hallstatt.

(47.57237, 13.61294)

N Kessel

Periodically active karst spring and cave located on the western shore of Lake Hallstatt.

(47.54528, 13.66350)

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