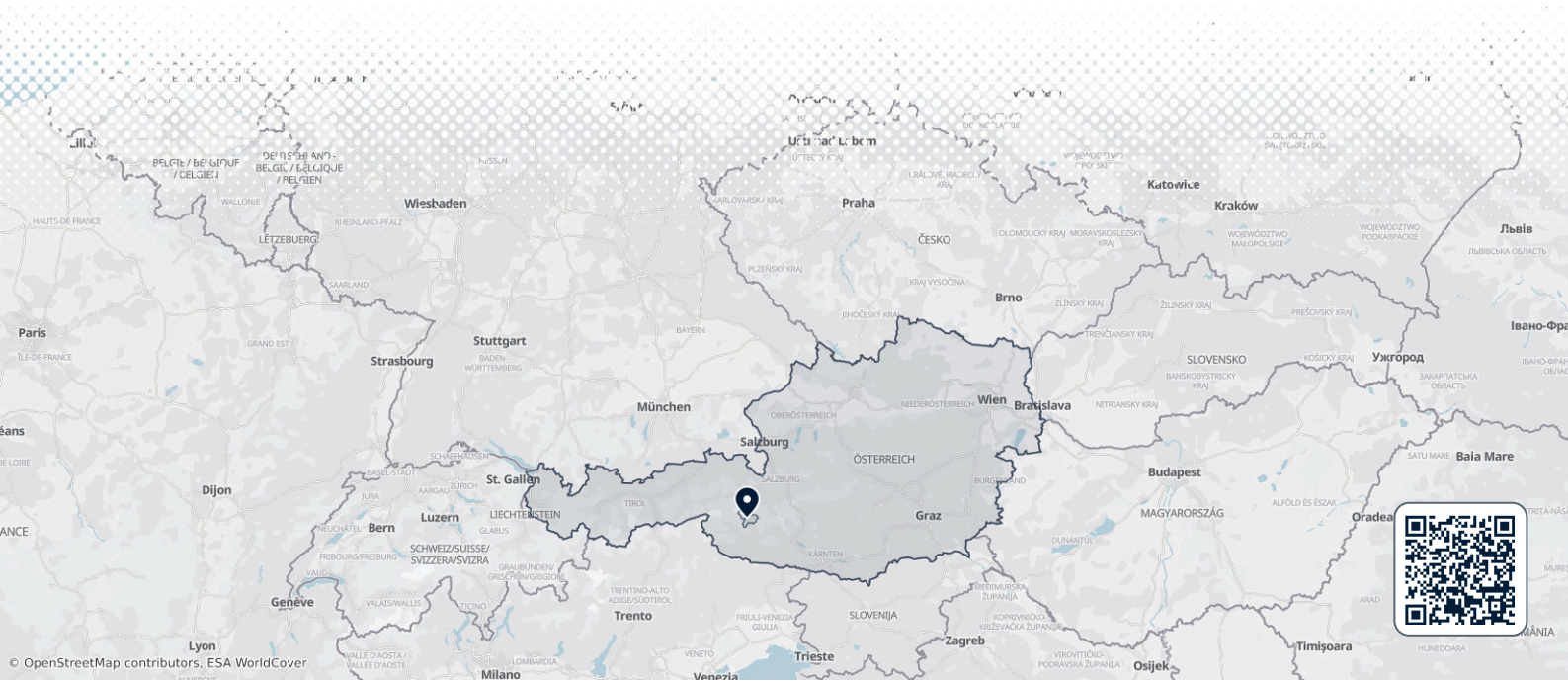


Heiligenblut

Carinthia · Austria

TRAVEL GUIDE

Tripomatic



Overview

Heiligenblut is a mountain village at about 1,300 m on the Carinthian side of the Hohe Tauern National Park. Its tall Gothic church spire stands in front of the Grossglockner, Austria's highest mountain at 3,798 m, and the view is one of the best-known in the Alps.

It is the end of the Grossglockner High Alpine Road and the start of the way up to the Pasterze glacier. The village suits hikers, drivers and photographers, and it has a small ski area.

When to visit

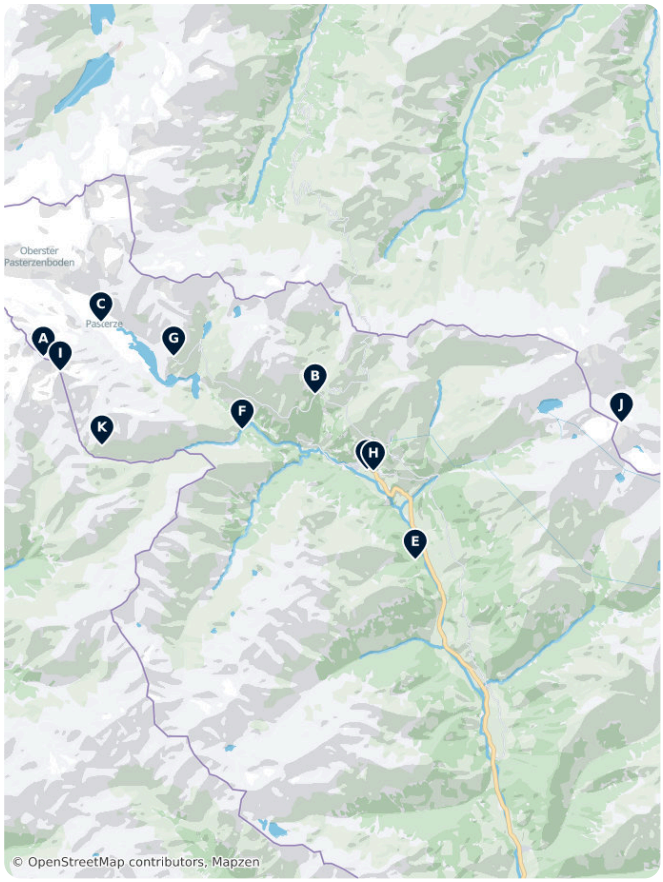
June to September is best for hiking and for the High Alpine Road, which is open roughly May to October or November depending on snow. September is clear and calm. Winter is for skiing and quiet walks, and the road is closed.

MONTH	CONDITIONS	DAY °C avg / max	NIGHT °C avg / min	
January	Great Great for skiing	0° / 5° Feels like -4°	-9° / -17°	12 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds
February	Great Great for skiing	1° / 7° Feels like -3°	-8° / -18°	Dry air · Calm winds
March	Good Good for skiing	5° / 12° Feels like 1°	-4° / -13°	14 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds
April	Poor Poor for hiking	10° / 18°	0° / -7°	16 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds
May	Fair Fair for hiking	15° / 22°	5° / 0°	21 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds
June	Good Good for sightseeing	19° / 25°	9° / 3°	22 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds
July	Fair Fair for sightseeing	21° / 26°	11° / 5°	23 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds
August	Fair Fair for sightseeing	21° / 26°	11° / 6°	21 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds
September	Good Good for hiking	16° / 23°	7° / 1°	16 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds
October	Fair Fair for hiking	12° / 19°	3° / -3°	14 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds
November	Fair Fair for skiing	5° / 12° Feels like 2°	-2° / -11°	14 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds
December	Great Great for skiing	1° / 6° Feels like -3°	-7° / -16°	13 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds

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

Top sights

- A Großglockner is Austria's highest peak, and Heiligenblut has the classic view of it.
- B Großglockner Hochalpenstraße is a famous panoramic mountain road to Salzburg, with many viewpoints.
- C Pasterze is the longest glacier in the Eastern Alps, reached from Franz-Josefs-Höhe, a viewpoint at the end of a side road.
- D St. Vinzenz is the Gothic pilgrimage church in the village, with a tall spire.
- E Jungfernsprung and F Leiterfall are waterfalls near the village.
- G Wilhelm-Swarovski-Beobachtungswarte is an observatory on the Franz-Josefs-Höhe road.
- H Haus der Steinböcke presents the Alpine ibex.
- I Erzherzog-Johann-Hütte, J Zittelhaus and K Salmhütte are mountain huts on high routes.
- L Hoher Sonnblick is a high peak with a weather station.



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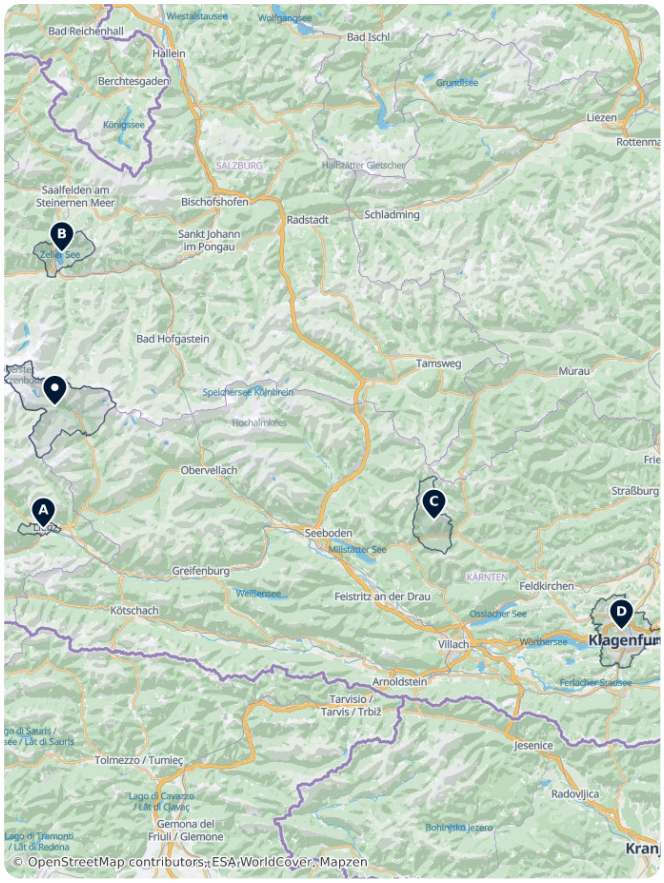
What to experience

- Drive the High Alpine Road.
- See the Pasterze glacier.
- Hike to a mountain hut.
- Visit the Gothic church.
- Ski the small local area in winter.

Day trips

- A Lienz is about 1 hour away by car.
- B Zell am See is about 1 hour 30 minutes away by car over the High Alpine Road in summer.
- C Bad Kleinkirchheim is about 1 hour 30 minutes away by car.
- D Klagenfurt is about 2 hours away by car.
- Franz-Josefs-Höhe is about 30 minutes away by car.



Where to explore

- Bad Kleinkirchheim, Weißensee and Seeboden are the nearest preferred destinations in Carinthia.

Getting there

- By air: Salzburg Airport is about 2 hours 30 minutes away. Klagenfurt is about 2 hours.
- By train: The nearest main station is Lienz. A bus then runs to Heiligenblut over the Iselsberg pass. Check train times on ÖBB.
- By car: Take the Iselsberg road from Lienz, or the High Alpine Road from the north in summer.

Getting around

The village is walkable. Buses run to the Franz-Josefs-Höhe road in summer. A car or the bus is the best way to reach the glacier viewpoint.

Getting around on foot & by bike

WALKABILITY

Moderate

The village is small, but trails and sights lie along the valley and up the mountain.

CYCLING INFRASTRUCTURE

Moderate

The Grossglockner road is a serious climb, and valley roads are easier.

Driving

The High Alpine Road is a toll road, with hairpin bends and steep grades, and it is closed in winter. Winter tyres or chains are required in snow. Motorways in Austria need a vignette, and the road toll is separate.

Food & drink

Carinthian food is hearty. Try *Kärntner Kasnudeln*, filled pasta, and *Frigga*, a pan dish of cheese and potatoes. Mountain huts serve soup and cakes.

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

Heiligenblut is very safe, but the high mountains are serious. Glacier travel needs a guide. Weather can change fast, and avalanche risk applies in winter. Tap water is clean and safe to drink. The emergency number is 112. The mountain rescue number is 140.

History

The village is named for a relic of holy blood said to have been brought here in the 10th century, and it became a pilgrimage site. Mountaineering took off after the first Grossglockner ascent in 1800. The High Alpine Road opened in 1935 and brought the area into mass tourism.

Country facts

Quick practical facts for Austria at a glance:

CURRENCY
EUR €

EMERGENCY
112

ELECTRICITY

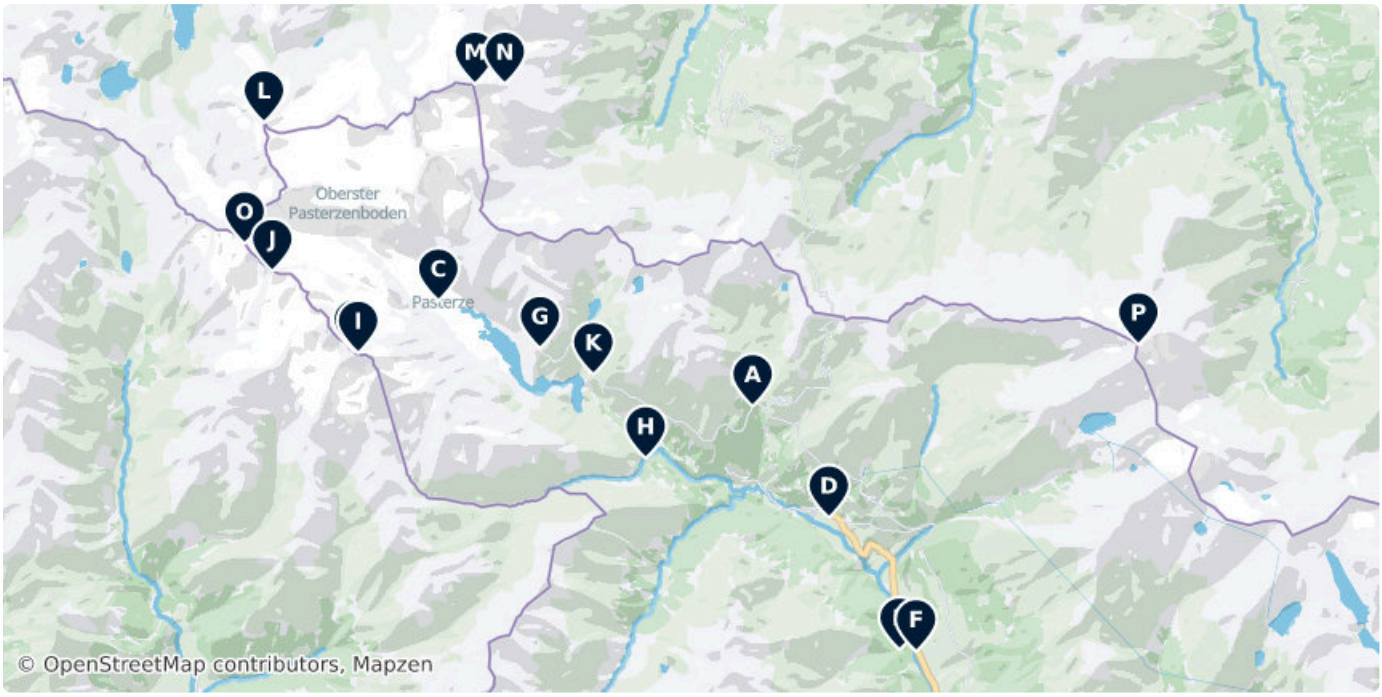
Type C / Type F
230 V · 50 Hz

LANGUAGES
German

TAP WATER
Safe to drink

Heiligenblut am Großglockner Must-Sees

This collection centers on the Grossglockner, Austria's highest peak at 3,798 meters, and the 8.4-kilometer Pasterze Glacier. The Grossglockner High Alpine Road provides access to the Franz-Josefs-Höhe viewpoint, while the village of Heiligenblut is defined by the 15th-century Gothic pilgrimage church of St. Vinzenz. The surrounding Hohe Tauern National Park features dramatic waterfalls like the 130-meter Jungfernsprung and numerous three-thousand-meter summits including Kleinglockner and Hohe Riffl.





A Grossglockner High Alpine Road

The Grossglockner High Alpine Road is the highest surfaced mountain pass road in Austria.

(Unnamed Road), 9844, Austria (47.06292, 12.81774)

May 01-Jun 15 Mo–Su	06:00–20:00
Jun 16-Sep 15 Mo–Su	05:00–21:30
Sep 16-Nov 01 Mo–Su	06:00–19:30

grossglockner.at/en/hochalpenstrasse/



B Grossglockner

The Grossglockner, or just Glockner, is, at 3,798 metres above the Adriatic, the highest mountain in Austria and the highest mountain in...

9981, Austria (47.07455, 12.69388)

grossglockner.at



C Pasterze Glacier

The Pasterze, at approximately 8.4 kilometres in length, is the longest glacier in Austria and in the Eastern Alps.

9844, Austria (47.08525, 12.72013)



D St. Vinzenz

A 15th-century Gothic pilgrimage church housing a relic of the Holy Blood, known for its iconic spire set against the mountain landscape.

41 Hof, Heiligenblut am Großglockner 9844, Austria (47.03937, 12.84140)



E Jungfernsprung

A 130-meter-high waterfall cascading over a steep rock face into the Möll Valley, associated with a local legend of a fleeing maiden.

9844, Austria (47.01145, 12.86338)



F Jungfernsprung

A roadside observation point offering direct views of the Jungfernsprung waterfall and the surrounding alpine scenery.

18 Aichhorn, 9844, Austria (47.01110, 12.86847)



G Franz-Josefs-Höhe

A multi-level parking facility located at 2,369 meters, providing primary access to the Grossglockner viewpoints and glacier trails.

(Unnamed Road), 9844, Austria (47.07522, 12.75172)

H Leiterfall

An alpine waterfall located along the hiking routes near the village of Heiligenblut.

(47.05192, 12.78450)



I Kleinglockner

At the height of 3,770 metres the Kleinglockner is the third highest mountain summit in Austria.

9981, Austria (47.07418, 12.69522)



J Romariswandköpfe

A double-peaked mountain in the Glockner Group, featuring summits at 3,511 and 3,508 meters along the main Tauern ridge.

9981, Austria (47.09147, 12.66859)

K Glocknerhaus

An alpine inn and mountain hut situated at 2,132 meters along the Grossglockner High Alpine Road, operated by the Austrian Alpine Club.

33, 9844 Heiligenblut am Großglockner, AT (47.06967, 12.76826)

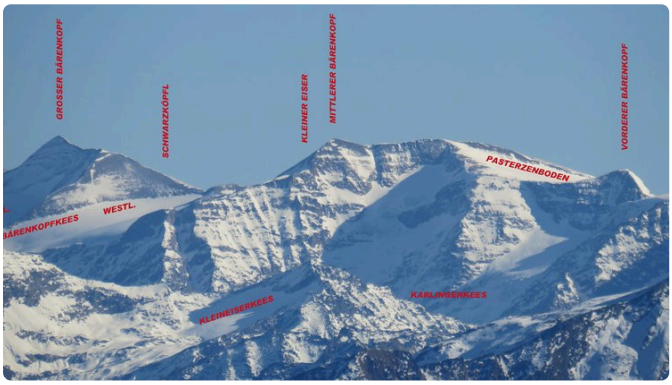
glocknerhaus.net, +43 4824 24666



L Hohe Riffl

A 3,338-meter-high glaciated peak located in the Glockner Group of the Hohe Tauern range.

5723, Austria (47.12286, 12.66602)



M Großer Bärenkopf

The Große Bärenkopf or Weißer Bärenkopf is a twin-topped mountain in the Glockner Group in the Fuscher/Kapruner Kamm of the High Tauern, a...

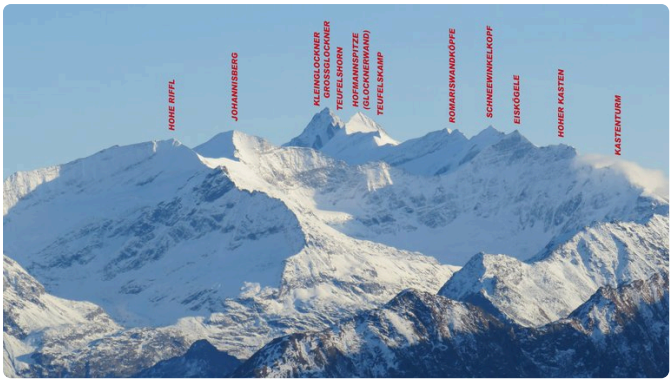
5672, Austria (47.13100, 12.73154)



N Hohe Dock

The Hohe Dock lies in the Austrian federal state of Salzburg and, at 3,348 metres, is one of the highest peaks in the Glockner Group.

5672, Austria (47.13100, 12.74079)



O Schneewinkelkopf

A 3,476-meter summit situated on the ridge between the Grossglockner and the Romariswandköpfe.

9844, Austria (47.09732, 12.66001)



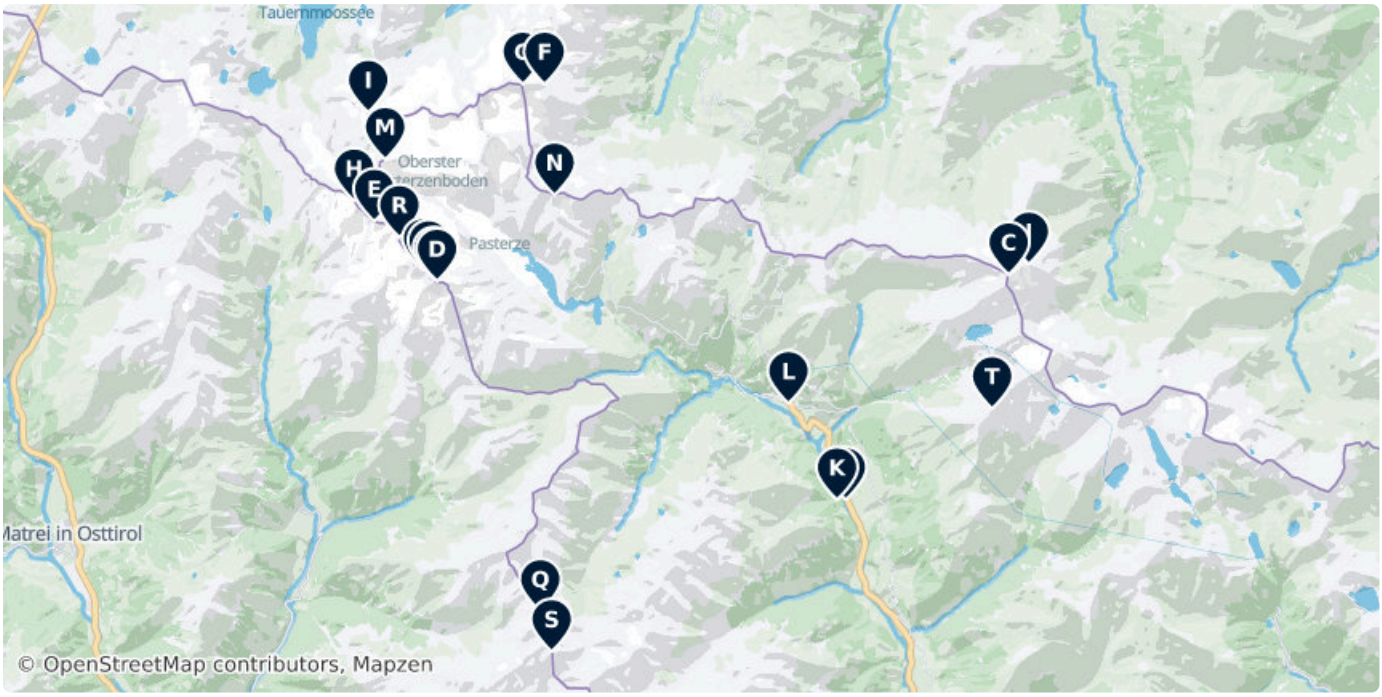
P Hocharn

Hocharn is the highest mountain of the Goldberg Group in the High Tauern range of the eastern Alps.

5661, Austria (47.07600, 12.93746)

Majestic Mountains and Peaks

This collection highlights the prominent summits of the High Tauern range surrounding Heiligenblut. It features the Grossglockner, Austria's highest peak at 3,798 meters, alongside the Kleinglockner and the expansive glaciers of the Glockner Group. The list includes technical ridges like the Glocknerwand and accessible landmarks such as the Jungfernsprung waterfall. These peaks span the Glockner, Goldberg, and Schober groups, offering diverse geological formations and critical alpine habitats within the High Tauern National Park.





A Grossglockner

The Grossglockner, or just Glockner, is, at 3,798 metres above the Adriatic, the highest mountain in Austria and the highest mountain in...

9981, Austria (47.07455, 12.69388)

grossglockner.at



B Jungfernsprung

A 130-meter high waterfall near Heiligenblut. According to local legend, a maiden jumped from the cliff to escape a hunter and was safely carried to the valley floor by angels.

18 Aichhorn, 9844, Austria (47.01110, 12.86847)



C Hocharn

Hocharn is the highest mountain of the Goldberg Group in the High Tauern range of the eastern Alps.

5661, Austria (47.07600, 12.93746)



D Kleinglockner

At the height of 3,770 metres the Kleinglockner is the third highest mountain summit in Austria.

9981, Austria (47.07418, 12.69522)



E Romariswandköpfe

Twin-peaked mountain in the Glockner Group reaching 3,511 meters, located on the main ridge of the High Tauern.

9981, Austria (47.09147, 12.66859)



F Hohe Dock

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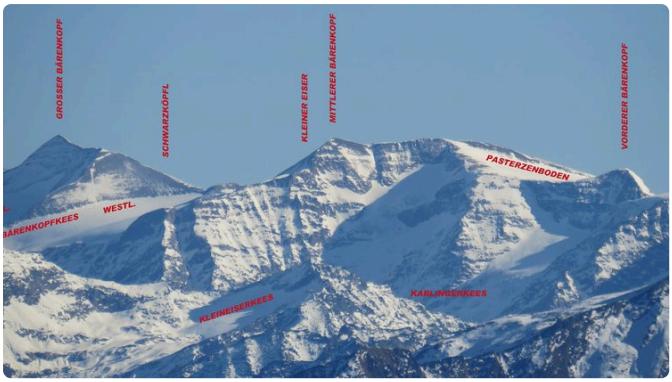
5672, Austria (47.13100, 12.74079)



G Großer Bärenkopf

The Große Bärenkopf or Weißer Bärenkopf is a twin-topped mountain in the Glockner Group in the Fuscher/Kapruner Kamm of the High Tauern, a...

5672, Austria (47.13100, 12.73154)



H Schneewinkelkopf

A 3,476-meter peak in the Glockner Group, positioned on the ridge between the Romariswandköpfe and Johannisberg.

9844, Austria (47.09732, 12.66001)



I Hohe Riffl

A 3,338-meter summit in the Glockner Group, featuring a prominent glaciated north face and views over the head of the Stubach valley.

5723, Austria (47.12286, 12.66602)

J Grieswies-Schwarzkogel

A 3,116-meter peak in the Goldberg Group of the High Tauern, situated on the border between Carinthia and Salzburg.

5661, Austria (47.07912, 12.94605)

K Jungfernsprung

Vantage point overlooking the 130-meter Jungfernsprung waterfall as it plunges into the Möll Valley.

(47.01106, 12.86468)

L Kirche und Großglockner

Iconic viewpoint in Heiligenblut providing the classic alignment of the St. Vincent pilgrimage church against the backdrop of the Grossglockner.

(47.03892, 12.84413)

M Johannisberg

The Johannisberg is a 3,453 metres high mountain in the Glockner Group of the High Tauern, a mountain range of the Central Eastern Alps in...

9844, Austria (47.10928, 12.67323)



N Fuscherkarkopf

The Fuscherkarkopf, sometimes also written Fuscher-Kar-Kopf in German and formerly also called the Fuschereiskarkopf, is one of the twin...

5672, Austria (47.09905, 12.74498)

O Teufelshorn

The Glocknerhorn and Teufelshorn are two nearby mountain peaks in the Glockner Group in the Austrian Central Alps in the central part of...

9844, Austria (47.07664, 12.69169)

P Glocknerwand

The Glocknerwand is a mountain in the Glockner Group in the Austrian Central Alps in the central region of the High Tauern.

9981, Austria (47.07724, 12.68929)

Q Roter Knopf

The Rote Knopf is the second highest mountain in the Schober Group within the High Tauern in the Austrian Alps.

9844, Austria (46.97879, 12.73896)

R Teufelskamp

A 3,511-meter elevation on the Glockner ridge, located within the glaciated terrain of the High Tauern National Park.

9981, Austria (47.08680, 12.67925)

S Gößnitzkopf

Gößnitzkopf is a mountain in the Schober Group of the Hohe Tauern range.

9844, Austria (46.96721, 12.74379)

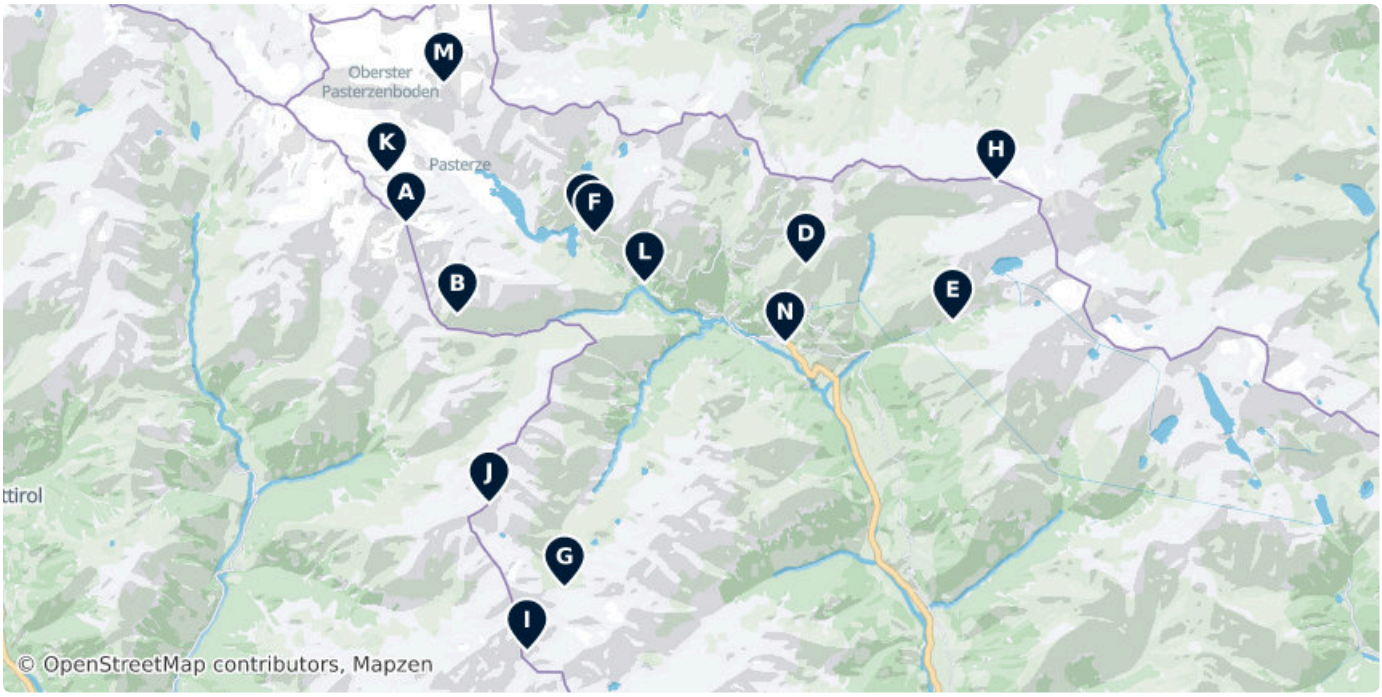
T Sandkopf

A 3,090-meter peak in the Goldberg Group, reachable via alpine hiking trails from the Zirknitz valley.

9844, Austria (47.03744, 12.93045)

Alpine Huts and Shelters

This collection features essential mountain accommodation within the Hohe Tauern National Park, centered around the Grossglockner. It includes Austria's highest refuge, the Erzherzog-Johann-Hütte at 3,454 meters, alongside historic Alpine Club (ÖAV) huts like the Salmhütte. The list spans from fully-serviced mountain inns accessible via the High Alpine Road to remote emergency bivouac boxes in the Schober Group, providing critical shelter for mountaineers and hikers traversing these high-altitude glaciated landscapes.





A Erzherzog-Johann-Hütte

Austria's highest mountain hut at 3,454 meters. Located on the Adlersruhe, it serves as the primary base for the final ascent of the Grossglockner.

36, 9844 Heiligenblut am Großglockner, AT
(47.07001, 12.70157)

erzherzog-johann-huette.at, +43 4876 8500



B Salmhütte

Alpine refuge situated at 2,644 meters in the Glockner Group, managed by the Vienna section of the Austrian Alpine Club.

44, 9844 Heiligenblut am Großglockner, AT
(47.04698, 12.72061)

C Glocknerhaus

Mountain inn located along the Grossglockner High Alpine Road, managed by the Klagenfurt section of the Austrian Alpine Club.

33, 9844 Heiligenblut am Großglockner, AT (47.06967, 12.76826)

glocknerhaus.net, +43 4824 24666

D Spatzl Alm

Regional restaurant and alpine hut offering traditional mountain cuisine.

9844, Austria (47.05956, 12.85005)

E Alpengasthof "Alter Pocher"

Mountain restaurant and alpine hut located in the Fleißtal valley.

(47.04541, 12.90457)

alterpocher.at

F Karl-Volkert-Haus

Mountain hut located near the Grossglockner High Alpine Road at an altitude of 2,140 meters.

35, 9844 Heiligenblut am Großglockner, AT (47.06741, 12.77150)

G Elberfelder Hütte

Alpine hut in the Schober Group, managed by the German Alpine Club's Elberfeld section.

9844, Austria (46.97789, 12.76042)

elberfelderhuette.com, +43 4824 2545

H Otto-Umlauft-Biwak

Emergency bivouac box at the Krumlkeeskopfscharte, managed by the Klagenfurt section of the Austrian Alpine Club.

9844, Austria (47.08082, 12.92067)

I Gösnitzkopf-Biwak

Bivouac shelter located in the Schober Group on the border between East Tyrol and Carinthia.

9844, Austria (46.96182, 12.74652)

J Gernot-Röhr-Biwak

High-altitude bivouac box managed by the Lienz section of the Austrian Alpine Club.

9844, Austria (46.99926, 12.73239)

K Glocknerbiwak

Emergency bivouac shelter located within the high-altitude Glockner Group.

9844, Austria (47.08262, 12.69442)

L Bricciuskapelle

Mountain chapel and shelter located along the Haritzersteig hiking trail.

(47.05496, 12.79015)

M Oberwalderhütte

Category I mountain hut situated on the Großer Burgstall at 2,973 meters, managed by the Austria section of the ÖAV.

Winkl 37, 9844 Heiligenblut am Großglockner, AT (47.10530, 12.71561)

alpenverein.at/oberwalderhuette/, +4348242546

N Heiligenblut Nationalpark Lodge

Public transport stop and shelter serving the National Park Lodge in Heiligenblut.

30 Hof, Heiligenblut am Großglockner 9844, Austria (47.03979, 12.84231)

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