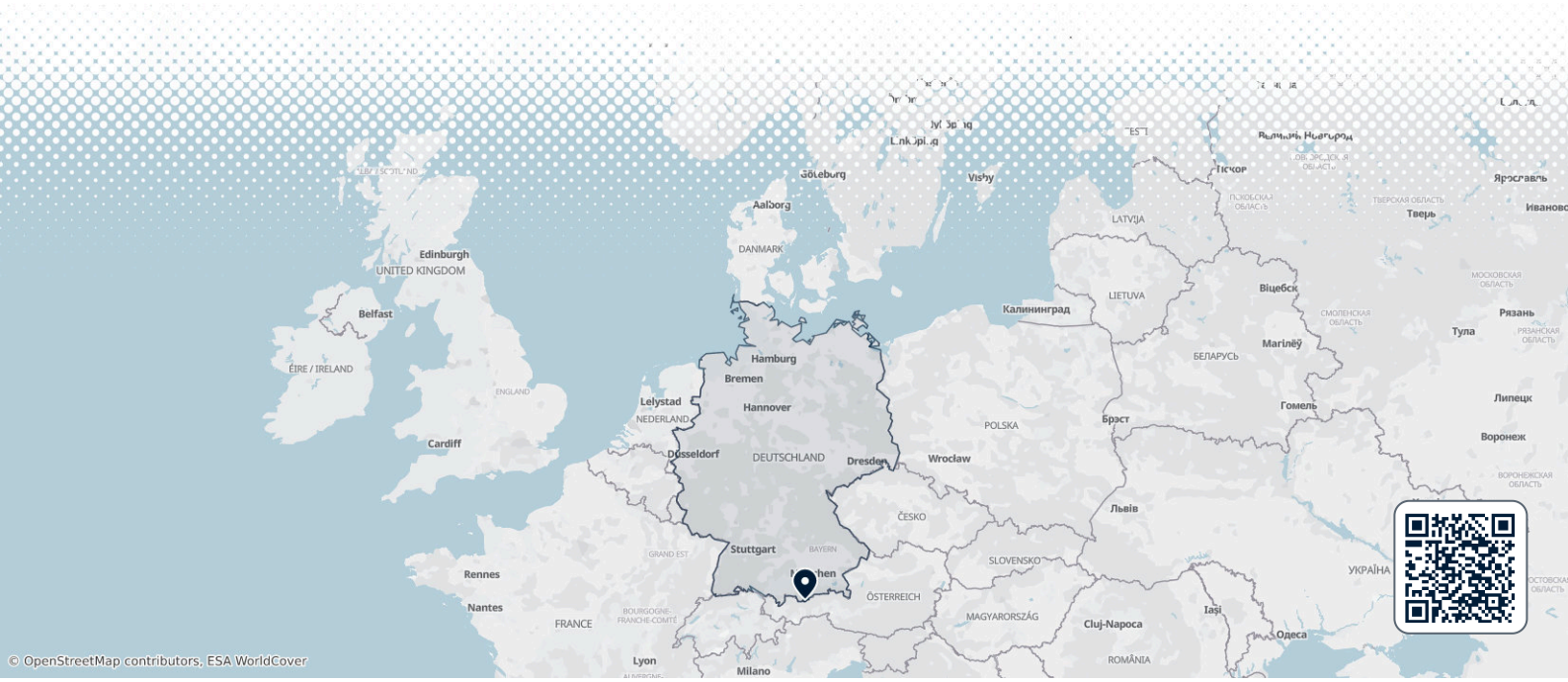


Mittenwald

Garmisch-Partenkirchen · Germany

TRAVEL GUIDE

Tripomatic



Overview

Mittenwald is a small Alpine town in the Isar valley, close to the Austrian border. The Karwendel and Wetterstein ranges rise on both sides.

The town is known for violin making and for painted house façades. It suits a quiet base for hiking in summer and winter sports in the cold months. One or two nights are enough for the town. Mountain walks can fill more days.

When to visit

Summer is the main season for hiking and for the lakes. Rain is frequent from May to August, so carry a waterproof jacket.

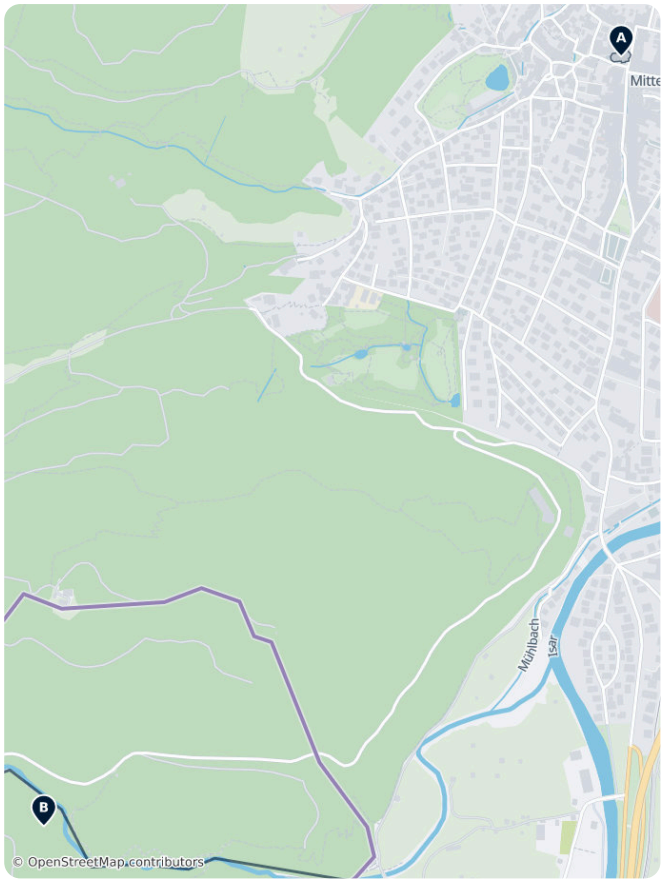
Winter brings snow and hard frost, and skiing. Snow is possible from October to April. The Karwendelbahn closes for a maintenance break each year, so check its opening times.

MONTH	CONDITIONS	DAY °C avg / max	NIGHT °C avg / min	
January	Great Great for skiing	2° / 8° Feels like -2°	-6° / -15°	13 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds
February	Good Good for skiing	4° / 12° Feels like 0°	-5° / -15°	12 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds
March	Fair Fair for skiing	8° / 16° Feels like 5°	-2° / -11°	15 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds
April	Fair Fair for hiking	13° / 21°	2° / -5°	14 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds
May	Fair Fair for sightseeing	17° / 24°	7° / 1°	20 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds
June	Good Good for sightseeing	21° / 28°	11° / 5°	21 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds
July	Good Good for sightseeing	22° / 29°	12° / 7°	21 rainy days · Calm winds
August	Good Good for sightseeing	22° / 29°	12° / 7°	19 rainy days · Calm winds
September	Good Good for sightseeing	18° / 25°	8° / 3°	15 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds
October	Good Good for hiking	14° / 22°	5° / -2°	13 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds
November	Fair Fair for skiing	8° / 16° Feels like 5°	-1° / -9°	13 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds
December	Good Good for skiing	3° / 9° Feels like -1°	-5° / -15°	13 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds

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

Top sights

- A St. Peter & Paul is a late Baroque church in the town centre. Its painted tower is the landmark of Mittenwald, and the ceiling frescoes are by *Matthäus Günther*.
- Many houses in the centre carry painted façades, a Bavarian style called Lüftlmalerei. The Hornsteiner Haus and the Hoglhaus are two examples.
- The Geigenbaumuseum in Ballenhausgasse explains the town's violin-making craft.
- The Karwendelbahn cable car reaches 2,244 m.
- Lautersee and Ferchensee are two small lakes west of the town. Lautersee lies on the slope of the Hoher Kranzberg.
- B Leutaschklamm is a gorge on the Leutascher Ache, near the border with Austria.



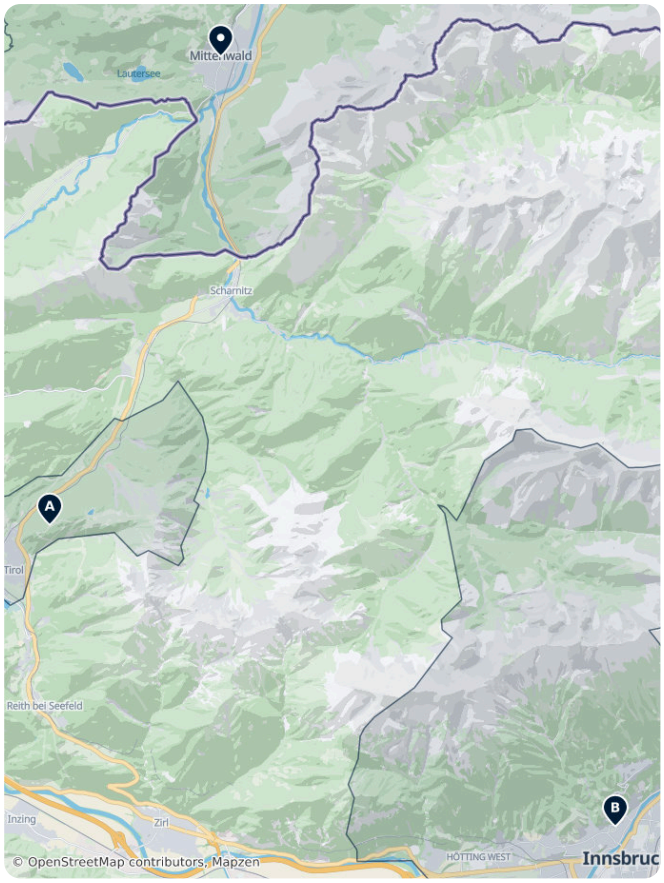
Mittenwald – Plan Your Trip
Turn the places from this guide into a real itinerary, with smart routing, time estimates, and everything you need for a perfect trip.
3M+ downloads · 4.6 stars · 15 years of trip planning
App Store · Google Play
Scan to download the app

What to experience

- In carnival season, masked figures called Maschkera walk through the town in wooden masks.
- Ski the Dammkar run. It is 7.5 km long.
- Swim in Lautersee on a warm day.
- Hike to an alpine hut such as the Brunnsteinhütte or the Mittenwalder Hütte.

Day trips

- A Seefeld in Tirol lies across the border in Austria, on the same railway line.
- B Innsbruck is the capital of Tyrol. The railway from Mittenwald runs there through tunnels and along steep cliffs.
- Walchensee is a large lake north of Mittenwald, in the Bavarian Alps.



Where to explore

- Garmisch-Partenkirchen is a larger resort town nearby. It has the Zugspitze cable cars and more places to eat and stay.

Getting there

- By air: Munich Airport is the main gateway. Innsbruck Airport in Austria is another option. Continue by train from either.
- By train: Regional trains link Munich, Garmisch-Partenkirchen and Mittenwald. The same line continues to Seefeld and Innsbruck. Search journeys on Deutsche Bahn.

Getting around

- Walking: The centre and the main sights are close together. The cable car, the lakes and the trailheads are on the edge of town or beyond.
- Buses: A hiking bus in summer and a ski bus in winter serve the region. Routes are listed on Alpenwelt Karwendel.

Getting around on foot & by bike

WALKABILITY

High

The town centre is compact. The cable car and the lakes are outside the centre.

CYCLING INFRASTRUCTURE

Moderate

Valley paths suit easy rides. Mountain routes are steep.

Food & drink

Menus follow Bavarian and Alpine traditions. Look for Knödel (dumplings) and Kaiserschmarrn (a shredded sweet pancake). Most restaurants and cafés are in the town centre.

What to eat & drink

LUNCH

Doner Kebab · Döner Kebab
A sandwich of roasted meat, salad, and sauce in flatbread, invented by Turkish immigrants in Berlin and now a national staple.

DINNER

Schnitzel
A thin, breaded and fried cutlet, usually pork, served with potatoes or fries and a lemon wedge.

Sauerbraten
A pot roast marinated for days in vinegar and spices before slow cooking, served with red cabbage and dumplings.

SNACKS & STREET FOOD

Bratwurst
A grilled or fried pork sausage, often served in a bread roll with mustard, sold at stands nationwide.

Currywurst
Sliced sausage topped with curry-spiced ketchup, a Berlin invention now popular across the country.

Pretzel · Brezel
A large, chewy salted bread pretzel, especially common in Bavaria, often eaten with butter or cheese.

SWEETS & DESSERTS

Black Forest Cake · Schwarzwälder Kirschtorte
A layered chocolate sponge cake with cherries, cherry liqueur, and whipped cream.

DRINKS

Beer · Bier
Germany brews hundreds of regional styles, from Bavarian Weissbier to Cologne's Kölsch, each tied to its home city.

Gluhwein · Glühwein
Mulled, spiced red wine served hot, a staple of winter and Christmas markets.

Apfelschorle
Apple juice mixed with sparkling water, the everyday non-alcoholic drink of choice.

Mittenwald – Plan Your Trip
Turn the places from this guide into a real itinerary, with smart routing, time estimates, and everything you need for a perfect trip.
3M+ downloads · 4.6 stars · 15 years of trip planning
App Store · Google Play
Scan to download the app

Safety & health

Weather in the mountains can change quickly. Check the forecast before you go up, and carry warm and waterproof clothes. Some trails and huts are closed in winter.

History

Mittenwald lay on a trade route between Augsburg and Italy. From 1487 to 1679 the Bozner Markt, a large trade fair, was held here.

Violin making began in the 17th century with *Matthias Klotz*. A state school for instrument making opened in 1858.

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe stayed here in 1786 and called the town a living picture book. The railway to Garmisch-Partenkirchen and Innsbruck opened in 1912.

Country facts

Quick practical facts for Germany at a glance:

CURRENCY
EUR €

EMERGENCY
112

ELECTRICITY

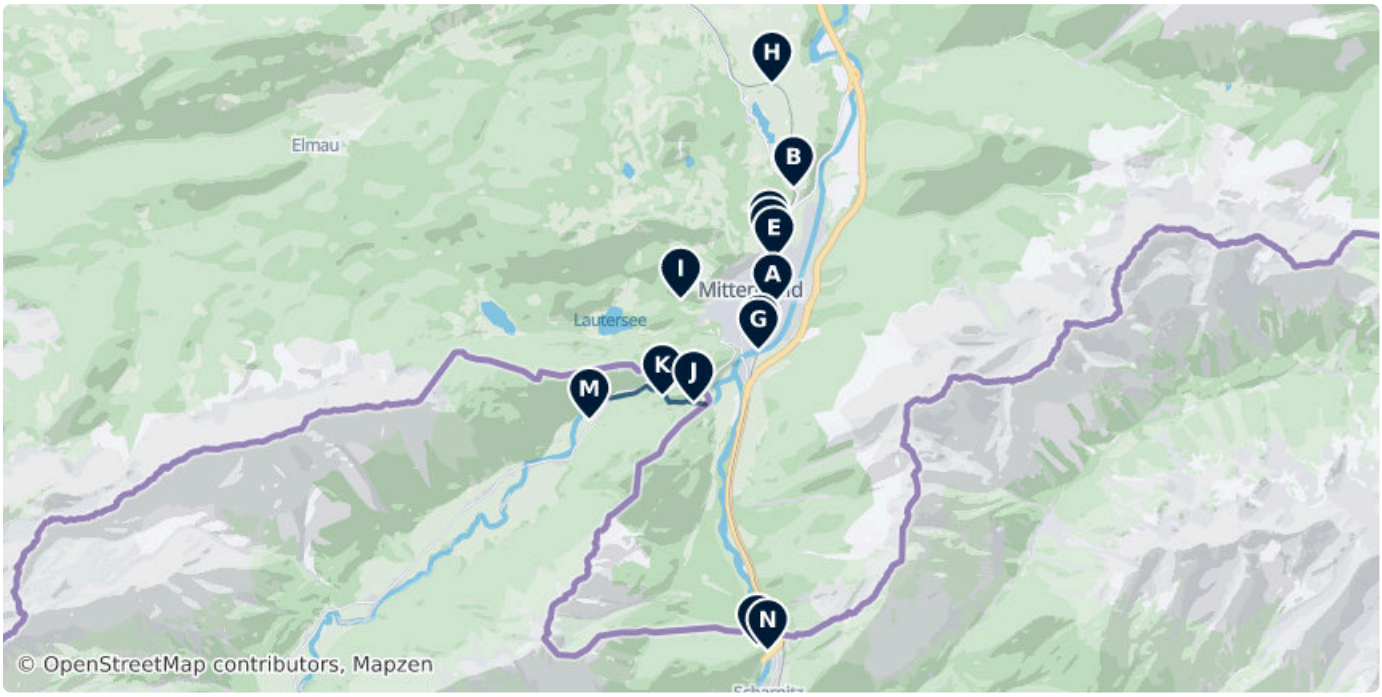
Type C / Type F
230 V · 50 Hz

LANGUAGES
German

TAP WATER
Safe to drink

Mittenwald Must-Sees

Mittenwald, situated in the Bavarian Alps, is defined by its 300-year-old violin-making tradition and the colorful Lüftlmalerei frescoes adorning its historic facades. This collection highlights the town's architectural heritage alongside the natural landmarks of the Karwendel range. Key sites include the dramatic Leutasch Gorge with its steel walkways and the Lainbach Waterfall. The area also preserves remnants of the Porta Claudia, a 17th-century fortification guarding the Scharnitz Pass, and the engineering of the Mittenwald Railway connecting Garmisch-Partenkirchen to Innsbruck.



A Mittenwald

Bavarian village center characterized by 18th-century Lüftlmalerei frescoes and a 300-year history of violin making. It serves as a primary access point for the Karwendel Alps and regional hiking trails.

Bahnhofplatz, 82481 Mittenwald, Germany (47.43986, 11.26562)

B Mittenwald Railway

The Mittenwald Railway, popularly known as the Karwendelbahn, is a railway line in the Alps in Austria and Germany.

St2542, 82481, Germany (47.45486, 11.26956)

C Mittenwald Railway

The Mittenwald Railway, popularly known as the Karwendelbahn, is a railway line in the Alps in Austria and Germany.

4 Sonnleiten, Mittenwald 82481, Germany (47.44799, 11.26498)

D Mittenwald Railway

The Mittenwald Railway, popularly known as the Karwendelbahn, is a railway line in the Alps in Austria and Germany.

40 Partenkirchner Straße, Mittenwald 82481, Germany (47.44698, 11.26512)

E Mittenwald Railway

The Mittenwald Railway, popularly known as the Karwendelbahn, is a railway line in the Alps in Austria and Germany.

22 Schöttlkarstraße, Mittenwald 82481, Germany (47.44578, 11.26587)

F Mittenwald Railway

The Mittenwald Railway, popularly known as the Karwendelbahn, is a railway line in the Alps in Austria and Germany.

51 Mühlenweg, Mittenwald 82481, Germany (47.43466, 11.26318)

G Mittenwald Railway

The Mittenwald Railway, popularly known as the Karwendelbahn, is a railway line in the Alps in Austria and Germany.

51A Mühlenweg, Mittenwald 82481, Germany (47.43409, 11.26291)

H Mittenwald Railway

The Mittenwald Railway, popularly known as the Karwendelbahn, is a railway line in the Alps in Austria and Germany.

9a Buckelwiesen, 82481, Germany (47.46821, 11.26549)

I Lainbach-Wasserfall

Natural cascade reached via a forest path following the Lainbach stream. The trail connects the town center to the Lautersee and Ferchensee mountain lakes.

(47.44061, 11.24823)

J Leutaschklamm Wasserfall

A 23-meter-high cascade situated at the mouth of the Leutasch Gorge. It is accessible through a bridge system near the historic Austrian-German border.

Klammgeistweg, 6105 Leutasch, Austria (47.42741, 11.25067)



K Leutasch Gorge

The Leutasch Gorge is a gorge near Mittenwald and Unterleutasch in the Bavarian-Tyrolean border area through which the Leutascher Ache...

Klammgeistweg, 6105 Leutasch, Austria (47.42825, 11.24474)

seefeld.com/de/die-leutascher-geisterklamm.html



L Porta Claudia

The Porta Claudia is a former fortification at the Scharnitz Pass, where the valley of the River Isar narrows near the village of Scharnitz...

6108, Austria (47.39627, 11.26266)



Ⓜ Porta Claudia

The Porta Claudia is a former fortification at the Scharnitz Pass, where the valley of the River Isar narrows near the village of Scharnitz...

272a Schanz, 6105, Austria (47.42520, 11.23094)

Ⓝ Porta Claudia

Strategic overlook providing views of the 17th-century valley fortifications at the Scharnitz Pass, originally constructed to protect the Tyrolean border during the Thirty Years' War.

(47.39564, 11.26468)

DATA SOURCES

Map data	© OpenStreetMap contributors, ESA WorldCover, Mapzen
Data	© OpenStreetMap contributors, Wikidata, Wikipedia, Tripomatic, Official websites

IMAGE CREDITS

- Leutasch Gorge — ""Geisterklamm" near Mittenwald (Germany) and Unterleutasch (Austria)" by Marius Hoch, CC BY-SA 3.0
- Porta Claudia — "Ruine Porta Claudia in Leutasch." by Alletto, CC BY-SA 3.0 at
- Porta Claudia — "Ruine Porta Claudia in Leutasch." by Alletto, CC BY-SA 3.0 at

A free travel guide — not for sale. Travel guide generated with AI on November 22, 2026. Text and layout by Tripomatic, licensed under CC BY-SA 4.0. Map data © OpenStreetMap contributors, available under the ODbL. Photos are under their own licences, as credited on this page.