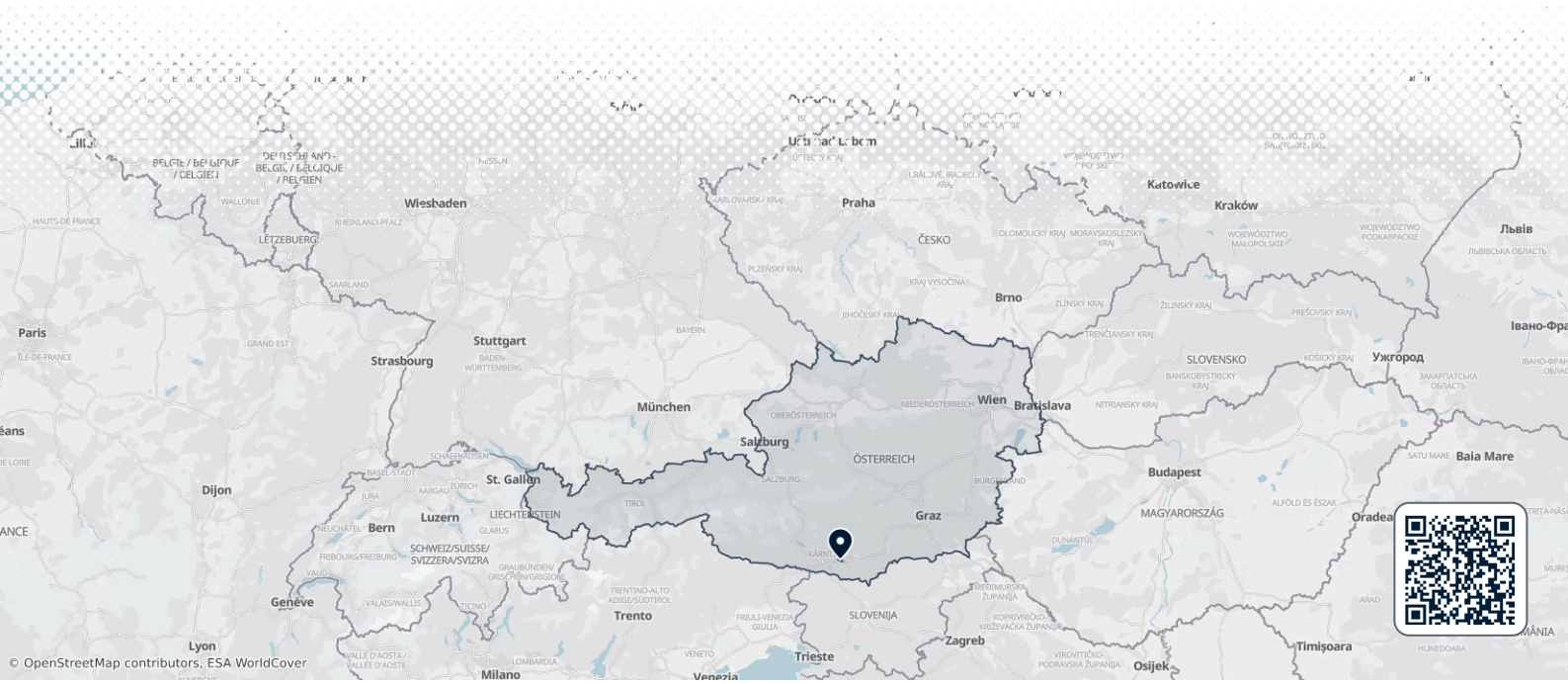


Pörtschach am Wörther See

Carinthia · Austria

TRAVEL GUIDE

Tripomatic



Overview

Pörtschach am Wörther See is a lakeside resort on the north shore of the Wörthersee in Carinthia, about 15 minutes from Klagenfurt. It has a long tradition as a summer resort, with a tree-lined promenade, historic villas and a warm, clear lake.

The village is elegant and relaxed rather than loud. It is known for its flower-lined lakeshore, its cafes and its swimming spots. Famous guests, including Johannes Brahms, stayed here in the 19th century.

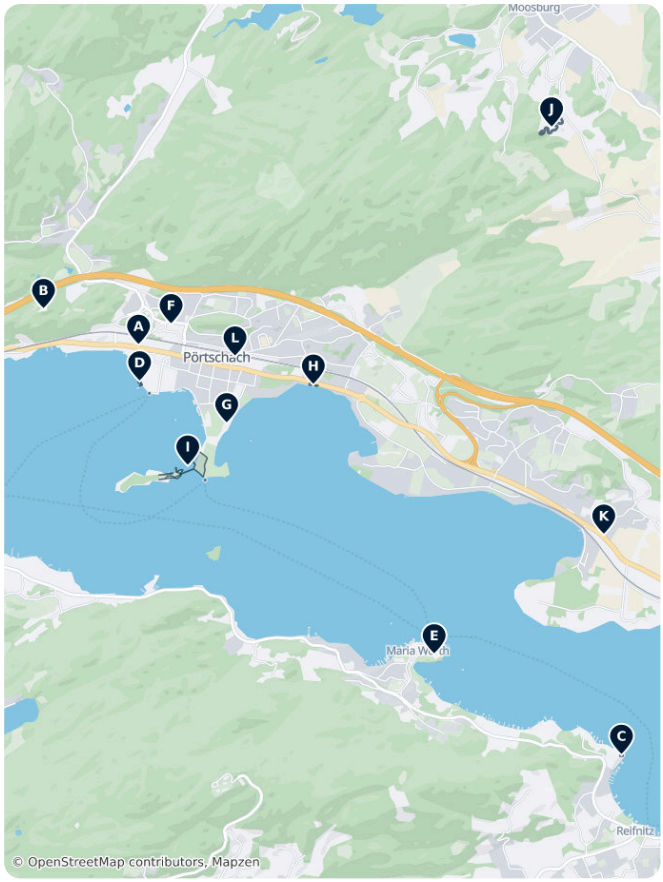
When to visit

June to early September is best for swimming, as the Wörthersee warms to over 25°C in summer. May and September are quieter and good for walking and cycling. Winter is calm, and many lakeside businesses close.

MONTH	CONDITIONS	DAY °C avg / max	NIGHT °C avg / min	
January	Poor Poor for watersports	4° / 10° Feels like 0°	-4° / -12°	Dry air · Calm winds
February	Poor Poor for watersports	6° / 14° Feels like 2°	-3° / -11°	Dry air · Calm winds
March	Good Good for cycling	11° / 18° Feels like 8°	1° / -6°	Dry air · Calm winds
April	Good Good for cycling	15° / 22°	5° / -1°	13 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds
May	Good Good for sightseeing	20° / 26°	9° / 4°	16 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds
June	Good Good for sightseeing	25° / 31°	14° / 8°	16 rainy days · Calm winds
July	Good Good for sightseeing	27° / 33°	15° / 10°	17 rainy days · Calm winds
August	Good Good for sightseeing	26° / 34°	15° / 10°	16 rainy days · Calm winds
September	Good Good for sightseeing	21° / 28°	11° / 5°	13 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds
October	Good Good for cycling	16° / 23°	7° / 0°	Dry air · Calm winds
November	Fair Fair for cycling	10° / 17°	3° / -4°	12 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds
December	Poor Poor for watersports	5° / 11° Feels like 2°	-2° / -10°	Dry air · Calm winds

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

Top sights



- The Wörthersee promenade is the heart of the village, with views over the lake.
- A Schloss Leonstain is a castle on a peninsula, now a hotel.
- B Burgruine Leonstein is a ruin on a hill above the village.
- C Schloss Reifnitz is a castle on the south shore of the lake.
- D Werzer's Badehaus is a historic bathing house from 1895.
- E Primus und Felician is a church in the old village of Pörtschach, on a hill.
- F Pfarrkirche Johannes der Täufer is a church near the lake.
- G Parkhotel Freibad, H Freibad Edelweiss and I Promenadenbad are lakeside bathing areas.
- J Sommerrodelbahn Moosburg is a summer toboggan run in Moosburg.
- K Napoleonlinde is an old lime tree on a hill walk.
- L Galerie is a small art gallery.

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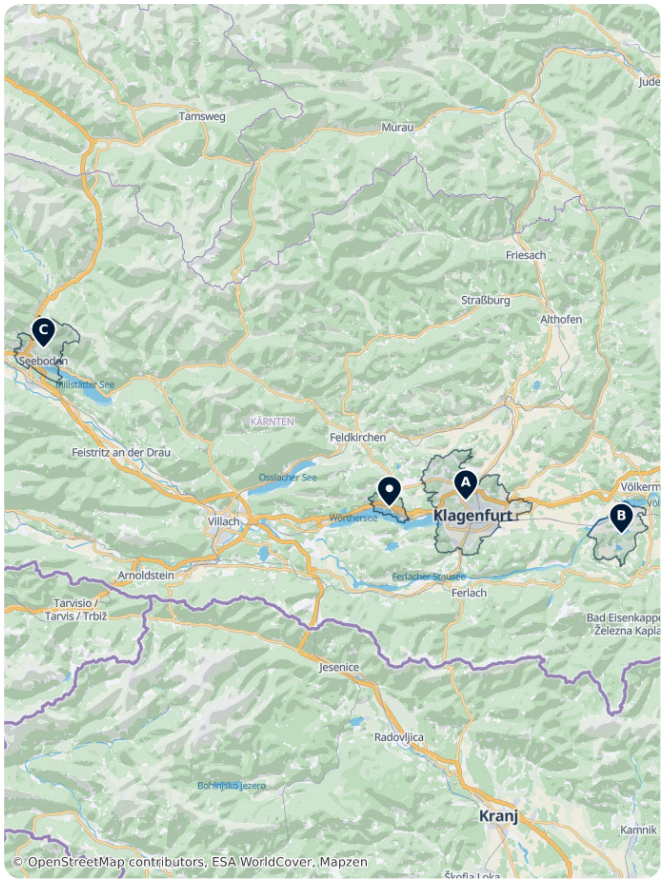
What to experience

- Swim in the lake.
- Walk the promenade.
- Cycle around the Wörthersee.
- Take a lake boat.
- Climb to the castle ruin.

Day trips

- A Klagenfurt is about 20 minutes away by car or train.
- Velden am Wörthersee is about 15 minutes away by car.
- Maria Wörth, with its church on a peninsula, is about 15 minutes away by car.
- The Pyramidenkogel viewing tower is about 20 minutes away by car.
- B St. Kanzian is about 35 minutes away by car.
- C Seeboden is about 1 hour away by car.



Where to explore

- Klagenfurt and St. Kanzian are the nearest preferred destinations.

Getting there

- By air: Klagenfurt Airport is about 20 minutes away by car.
- By train: Pörtschach has a station on the Klagenfurt–Villach line, with trains from Klagenfurt in about 15 minutes. Check times on ÖBB.
- By car: The A2 motorway and the Wörthersee road reach the village.

Getting around

The village is walkable, and a path follows the shore. Lake boats and local buses link the Wörthersee villages. Cycling is easy along the lake.

Getting around on foot & by bike

WALKABILITY

High

The village is small and flat, with a lakeside promenade linking the main sights.

CYCLING INFRASTRUCTURE

High

A lakeside path runs around the Wörthersee, and quiet back roads lead into the hills.

Driving

A car helps for the hills and other lakes. Parking is busy in summer. Winter tyres or chains are required in snow. Motorways in Austria need a vignette.

Food & drink

Carinthian food includes *Kärntner Kasnudeln*, filled pasta, and *Reindling*, a raisin yeast cake. The lake offers fresh fish such as whitefish. Lakeside cafes serve cakes and coffee.

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

Pörtschach is very safe. Watch the weather when swimming or sailing. Tap water is clean and safe to drink. The emergency number is 112. The mountain rescue number is 140.

History

Pörtschach grew in the 19th century after the Southern Railway opened in 1864 and brought summer guests from Vienna. Villas and bathing houses lined the shore, and Brahms stayed here in 1877 and worked on his Second Symphony. The village stayed a refined lake resort.

Country facts

Quick practical facts for Austria at a glance:

CURRENCY
EUR €

EMERGENCY
112

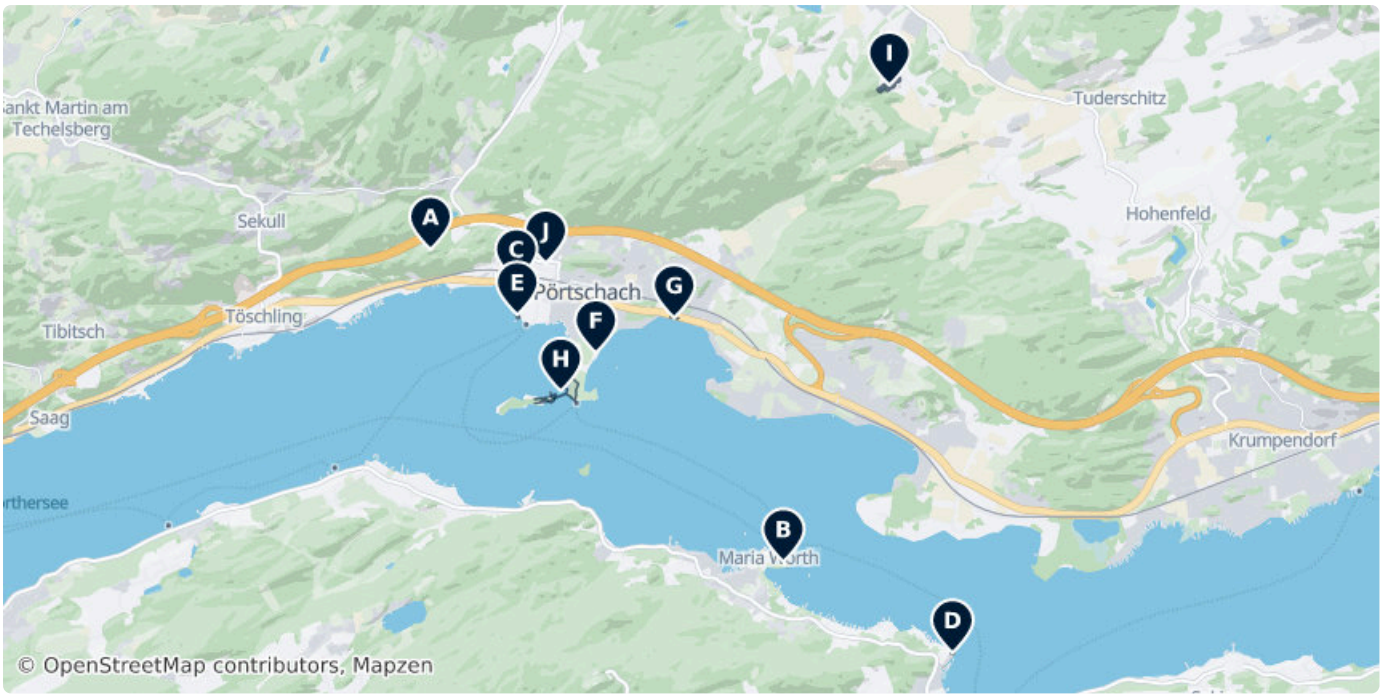
ELECTRICITY

Type C / Type F
230 V · 50 Hz

LANGUAGES
German

TAP WATER
Safe to drink

Top sights





A Burgruine Leonstein

Burgruine Leonstein is a medieval castle in Carinthia, Austria.

9210, Austria (46.63898, 14.12914)

leonstein.poertschach.net

B Pfarrkirche Hll. Primus und Felician

2 Pfarrplatz, Maria Wörth 9082, Austria
(46.61750, 14.16451)



C Schloss Leonstain

Hauptstraße, 9210 Pörtschach am Wörther See, Austria (46.63675, 14.13774)



D Schloss Reifnitz

2 Schloßweg, 9081, Austria (46.61124, 14.18146)

E Werzer's Badehaus (anno 1895)

Pörtschach am Wörther See 9210, Austria (46.63448, 14.13784)

F Parkhotel Freibad

(46.63187, 14.14572)

Mo–Su Open 24/7

G Freibad Edelweiss

106 Hauptstraße, Pörtschach am Wörther See 9210, Austria (46.63427, 14.15357)

Mo–Su Open 24/7

H Promenadenbad Pörtschach

(46.62924, 14.14220)

Mo–Su 09:00–19:00

I Sommerrodelbahn Moosburg

(46.65027, 14.17514)

J Parish church Saint John Baptist

11 Kirchplatz, Pörtschach am Wörther See 9210, Austria (46.63804, 14.14070)

DATA SOURCES

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