**Obergurgl**

**Categories**

**Good For**

Beginners

Intermediates

Experts

Snowboarders

Families

Snow reliability

**Data**

**Beginner Runs**

14

**Intermediate Runs**

16

**Advanced Runs**

5

**Total Runs**

35

**Lifts**

24

**Chairs**

7

**Drags**

10

**Gondola Cable Cars**

7

**Parks**

1

**Pipes**

0

**Weather**

**Annual Snowfall**

4m (13.2ft).

**Overview**

Obergurgl has the longest ski season of any non-glacier ski resort in Austria, opening in mid-November and enjoying a near six-month season through to the following May. This is in part down to its altitude – it’s one of the highest traditional villages in Europe.

The village is in fact made up of three parts, all of them quite small although Obergurgl itself is the largest with several dozen hotels and a handful of shops and restaurants. Hochgurgl above is an enclave of mostly ski-in/out luxury hotels, and there’s also tiny Untergurgl below.

The vast majority of accommodation at the resort is 4- or 5-star and both village and ski slopes, mostly served by fast high-capacity chairlifts and gondolas, ooze quality. There’s been skiing here for more than 70 years and in the summer the pass over to Italy which is closed in the summer re-opens to traffic.

Obergurgl is closely allied with the neighbouring and much larger resort of Solden, with which it shares the Otztal lift pass.

**Location**

Obergurgl is located in the Ötztal Alps in the province of Tyrol in western Austria. The village is close to the border with Italy.

**Website**

http://www.obergurgl.com

**Piste Map**

http://www.obergurgl.com/urlaub/files/OG/WI/Skigebietsplan+Obergurgl-Hochgurgl,method=render,prop=data.pdf

**Hit The Slopes**

Obergurgl has one of the longest ski seasons and earliest starts to the winter in the Alps for a resort without a glacier, thanks to the high elevation of the ski area and 90% snowmaking coverage on its slopes. It typically opens in mid-to-late November and stays open until the beginning of May.

Apart from this snowsure status, Obergurgl's ski area is known for its open, snowy slopes and its excellent modern lift system that’s dominated by seven gondolas and several six-seater chairlifts. This makes queues a rarity and getting about easy for boarders, with few drag lifts to negotiate.

One of these lifts is the 3.6km-long (2.2 miles) Top Express gondola, which connects Hochgurgl and Obergurgl's ski areas. The lift ascends high above the Königstal and Verwalltal valleys, revealing stunning Alpine scenery on the panoramic ride.

There are runs for all ability levels on both sides of the ski area. Beginners and novice skiers will find terrain best suited to them accessed from the Gaisberg and Mahdstuhl lifts. There is also a choice of two ski schools in Obergurgl ski resort for those wishing to learn or to brush up on their skills.

Intermediates will be drawn to the Festkogl ski area on the Obergurgl side, as well as the Schermerspitze trail; while the 8km (5 mile) run down from the Wurmkogl to Pill is the longest.

For experts, the Hohe Mut black piste (number 11) in Obergurgl is regarded as the most challenging; while there’s also a challenging mogul piste (number 27) down from Top-Wurmkogl II in Hochgurgl. Additionally, there are plenty of off-piste and ski touring opportunities to tackle with a guide.

**Obergurgl**

**Resort**

2150

**Base**

1930

**Top**

3082

**General**

**Beyond The Slopes**

Obergurgl's off-slope activities are dominated to some extent by the 4- and 5-star hotels, nearly all of which offer their own swimming pool and often a range of spa facilities. So for many people, it is a case of skiing all day and then relaxing in their hotel in the evening.

Other attractions in the resort include a bowling alley, darts, billiards, indoor golf and a library. Outdoors, there's ice skating, curling, horse riding, snowshoe hikes and 13km (8 miles) of cleared winter paths for rambling. There are also a number of cross-country trails to explore in the area.

**Family Fun**

As befits a classic ski resort, Obergurgl has a natural, wholesome ambience that is perfect for families. On the slopes, the comfortable and fast lift network minimises stressful situations. Off the slopes, most of the hotels are well equipped for families with good facilities, including swimming pools.

There's no nursery provision, although those aged three and up are welcome at Bobo's Kinder-Club (tel: +43 5256 6305; [www.skischule-obergurgl.com](http://www.skischule-obergurgl.com/)), which is the ski kindergarten organised by the ski school. Children aged five and over can join the main ski school.

**Retail Therapy**

Shopping is limited with only a dozen or so shops in Obergurgl, most of which sell sportswear and equipment. There is a handful of boutiques, however, as well as a grocery store and souvenir outlets, but serious shoppers will need to travel down the valley to Innsbruck.

**Splashing Out**

Enjoy a round of indoor golf at 2,200m (7,217ft) above sea level on the golf park owned by the Hotel Riml in Hochgurgl (tel: +43 5256 6261; [www.hotel-riml.com](http://www.hotel-riml.com/)). The high-tech facility caters for all ability levels, from complete beginners to professionals. Golfers can also improve their swing in front of screens displaying a choice of 54 of the most beautiful golf courses in the world and there is also a putting green. After a good round or two, relax in the Putt-in rustic golf bar on site.

**Apres Ski**

There’s a choice of traditional jolly Austrian après ski or more sophisticated lounge bar soirees at Obergurgl – in either case you’re most likely to find yourself in a hotel bar of one sort or another.

Toni's Almhütte in the Hotel Olymp (tel: +43 5256 6491; [www.olymphotel.at](http://www.olymphotel.at)) is a favourite spot when the lifts close. Located on the slopes, the bar is housed within an atmospheric 400-year-old stone and wood-clad building.

For something a little different, the Nederhütte (tel: +43 664 400 7149; [www.nederhuette.at](http://www.nederhuette.at/)) provides a spectacular après-ski show four evenings each week, where the owner and his family play different instruments and sing.

Other activities include bowling or a trip down the toboggan run, which winds from the Hochgurglbahn top station to the base terminal in Pill.

**Eating Out**

In the evenings, most of Obergurgl’s 20 or so dining options are to be found within hotels. Tyrolean specialities are the norm, but being this close to Italy means that pizza and pasta are also a local forte.

The Restaurant Romantika in the Hotel Madeleine (tel: +43 525 663 550) is a top choice for pizza with its own wood-fired pizza ovens, while Salz & Pfeffer (tel: +43 5256 6454; [www.thecrystal.at](http://www.thecrystal.at) ) in the Crystal hotel is a good choice for Austrian delicacies and international cuisine.

A weekly event that usually draws the crowds is the Wednesday night show at the Hohe Mut Alm (tel: +43 525 663 9632; [www.hohemutalm.at](http://www.hohemutalm.at)) combining live music with fondue.

During the day time, a visit to the Top Mountain Star restaurant, some 3,000m (9,843ft) above sea level at the top of the Wurmogel lift is a must. Here spectacular views are paired with high calibre cuisine. The restaurant is run by the 5-star Top Hotel in Hochgurgl ([www.tophotelhochgurgl.com](http://www.tophotelhochgurgl.com)).

**Transport**

**Getting There**

Nearest airport: Innsbruck Airport (INN).

Distance to resort: 94km (59 miles).

Driving time: 1 hour 30 minutes.

**Getting Around**

Central Obergurgl is compact and it's possible to walk between most points. A bus service links Obergurgl to neighbouring Solden, with which it shares a joint lift pass valid between five and 14 days. The ticket is not fully interchangeable but allows holders based in one resort a single day of skiing in the other resort during its validity.

Night-time traffic is banned in Obergurgl and reduced traffic zones have been enforced in certain areas.

**Hotels**

Obergurgl is a traditional-style village with most of the accommodation in the form of hotels and apartments. The hotels in Obergurgl are of a high quality, most of them being 4-star rated or above.

**Haus Alpenblick**

Modern and affordable with spacious rooms and a hearty breakfast, Haus Alpenblick is located in a quiet position at the back of the resort, a short stroll from the nearest lift.

**Category**

Cheap

**Thoroughfare**

Gurglerstrasse 83

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

Obergurgl

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

A 6456

**Country**

Austria

**Telephone**

+43 5256 6767.

**Website**

www.alpenblick-obergurgl.com

**Hotel Bergwelt**

A 4-star hotel with spa, Hotel Bergwelt is a member of the Small Luxury Hotels of the World group. Family-run with excellent service standards, the hotel also benefits from a popular on-site restaurant.

**Category**

Luxury

**Thoroughfare**

Kressbrunnenweg 9

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

Obergurgl

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

A 6456

**Country**

Austria

**Telephone**

+43 5256 6274.

**Website**

www.hotelbergwelt.com

**Hotel Madeleine**

Centrally located and family-run, the Hotel Madeleine is a traditional ‘chalet-style’ establishment that includes an on-site restaurant and wellness facilities.

**Category**

Moderate

**Thoroughfare**

Gurglerstraße 116

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

Obergurgl

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

A 6456

**Country**

Austria

**Telephone**

+43 5256 63550.

**Website**

www.hotel-madeleine.com

**Sporthotel Ideal**

A friendly 3-star hotel in Hochgurgl with an excellent slopeside location and a great spa.

**Category**

Moderate

**Thoroughfare**

Hochgurglerstrasse 2

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

Obergurgl

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

A 6456

**Country**

Austria

**Telephone**

+33 5256 6290.

**Website**

http://www.sporthotelideal.at

**Top Hotel Hochgurgl**

The resort's sole 5-star establishment is known for the spectacular panoramic views from its terrace and its homemade apple strudel, amongst other delights.

**Category**

Luxury

**Thoroughfare**

Hochgurglerstrasse 8

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

Obergurgl

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

A 6456

**Country**

Austria

**Telephone**

+33 5256 6265.

**Website**

http://www.tophochgurgl.com

**Bergresidenz Mühle**

A comfortable pension located midway between Obergurgl and Hochgurgl, Berresidenz Mühle is linked to both villages by a complimentary shuttle bus.

**Category**

Moderate

**Thoroughfare**

Gurglerstrasse 83

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

Obergurgl

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

A 6456

**Country**

Austria

**Telephone**

+33 5256 6767.

**Website**

http://www.hotel-muehle.at/en/bergresidenz-muehle/bergresidenz.html