**St Anton**

**Categories**

**Good For**

Intermediates

Experts

Après ski

Snow reliability

**Data**

**Beginner Runs**

51

**Intermediate Runs**

47

**Advanced Runs**

13

**Total Runs**

111

**Lifts**

94

**Chairs**

11

**Drags**

32

**Gondola Cable Cars**

51

**Parks**

3

**Pipes**

1

**Weather**

**Annual Snowfall**

7m (23ft).

**Overview**

Few ski resorts can match St Anton's pedigree, with skiing having been founded here over a century ago when the Arlberg Ski Club was formed. Millions of skiers were taught the Arlberg technique, struggling to turn with knees and ankles locked together. Modern carving skis demand the opposite; but while ski design has been revolutionised, so has St Anton.

Changes that accompanied the staging of the Alpine World Championships in 2001 saw the railway line and station shifted so they no longer divide the town centre from the slopes. There has also been the modernisation of an ageing lift system – the state-of-the-art Galzigbahn gondola accesses the heart of the ski slopes, and both of St Anton’s ski sectors have been joined recently by an improved gondola link to Rendl. And off the slopes, the resort has opened a magnificent sports and fitness centre.

Despite these developments, the resort's soul remains unchanged. Each evening, its pedestrianised main street that’s lined with shops, hotels, bars and restaurants, is bustling with skiers and boarders euphoric after a hard day on some of Europe's most invigorating slopes.

**Location**

The Austrian resort of St Anton am Arlberg is in western Tyrol, at the eastern end of the Arlberg Tunnel, not too far from the border with Switzerland. Its highest peak is the Valluga at 2,811m (9,222ft).

**Website**

http://www.stantonamarlberg.com

**Piste Map**

http://www.stantonamarlberg.com/images/stories/panoramen/ski-panorama-jpg/PanoOst12-13\_CMYK.jpg

**Hit The Slopes**

St Anton has a reputation for rough, tough terrain; and there is certainly no shortage of challenges for experts, but also plenty of options for determined intermediates.

The skiing is split into two areas on each side of the valley and the resort, both accessed directly from the village. The main area is beneath Valluga, while the second smaller and quieter area is on Rendl, which is also home to a good terrain park.

For advanced skiers, there are exciting descents served by the Valluga and Kapall lifts. Some are left unmarked, such as the wide Mattun run, which is magnificent in fresh snow and not so steep that it cannot be tackled by intermediates.

Off-piste opportunities are extensive and varied, with a relatively low fear factor on Rendl to serious frighteners reached from Valluga – this area also opens up the wider Arlberg ski region, which includes skiing at neighbouring Lech and Zurs. The Arlberg region was further extended on the Lech/Zürs side from the 2013/14 ski season, with the addition of a new gondola and chairlift connection to the Warth and Schröcken areas. This means there are now 340km (211 miles) of slopes included in the Arlberg Pass.

Skiers should always go with a guide when venturing far from route markers. While intermediates should not be deterred, they should be aware that many of the resort's red and blue runs are steeper than average and are often mogulled.

There are several ski schools for beginners: the biggest are Skischule Arlberg (tel: (05446) 3411; [www.skischool-arlberg.com](http://www.skischool-arlberg.com)) and Skischule St Anton (tel: (05446) 3563; [www.skistanton.com](http://www.skistanton.com)), which were jointly opened but are separately operated.

The ski season in St Anton runs from the beginning of December to late April.

**St Anton**

**Resort**

1304

**Base**

1304

**Top**

2811

**General**

**Beyond The Slopes**

St Anton boasts the superb ARLBERG-well.com wellness centre (Hannes Schneider Weg 11; tel: (05446) 4000; [arlberg-well.com](http://arlberg-well.com)) that houses a pool, ice rink, saunas, massage services, solarium and fitness equipment. The multifunctional sports centre in the arl.rock complex (Bahnhofstrasse 1; tel: (05446) 2625; [www.arlrock.at](http://www.arlrock.at)) offers indoor tennis, squash, bowling, climbing, ice climbing and bouldering.

Another indoor activity – although less energetic – is a visit to the St Anton Museum (Rudi Matt Weg 10; tel: (05446) 2269), which sets out the history of the village and alpine skiing in the region.

Back on the snow, there are 70km (43 miles) of cleared winter hiking trails and 40km (25 miles) of cross-country trails to explore, as well as various toboggan runs in the ski area.

**Family Fun**

St Anton has a mixed appeal for families. The dispersed nature of the village and the hedonistic nightlife sometimes presents a challenge, but there is a good nursery/early learning area on the village side where the pistes from the Gampen and Galzig converge.

Both of the resort’s main ski schools, Skischule Arlberg (tel: (05446) 2526; [www.skischool-arlberg.com](http://www.skischool-arlberg.com)) and Skischule St Anton (tel: (05446) 3563; [www.skistanton.com](http://www.skistanton.com)) run kindergartens for children aged two-and-a-half to five years of age, as well as introductory ski lessons for three- to five-year-olds with races and ski parties. Older children can learn progressively advanced techniques and skills, including mogul skiing, racing, powder skiing and snowblading.

**Retail Therapy**

There are numerous clothes boutiques and sports shops in St Anton, as well as a good range of places to hunt out the perfect gift in the pedestrianised centre of the village, where you can pick up traditional Austrian woollen jackets among other local nick-nacks. The sports shops also offer excellent quality on rental equipment for skis, boards and boots.

For something a little bit different, take home rowan berry or quince brandy, fruit liquors, or Alpine herbal spirits in decorative bottles from the Drinks Company (Dorfstrasse 27).

**Splashing Out**

For a different viewpoint of the resort, try paragliding over spectacular scenery with Flight Connection (tel: (05524) 8439; [www.fca.at](http://www.fca.at)). The company has more than 20 years of experience and offers teaser, basic and tandem flights, as well as paragliding licence courses for the more advanced.

**Apres Ski**

Before you have even reached the bottom of the mountain, there's the infamous Krazy Kangaruh (Mooserweg 19; tel: (05446) 2633; [www.krazykanguruh.com](http://www.krazykanguruh.com)), a popular haunt for young skiers and boarders. Located on the piste just above the resort, it’s definitely not for those in search of a quiet drink.

Other après-ski choices in St Anton include the bustling Mooserwirt (Unterer Mooserweg 2; tel: (05446) 3588; [www.mooserwirt.at](http://www.mooserwirt.at)) ski lodge and the trendy Anton Bar (Hannes Schneider Weg; tel: (5446) 2408).

Much of the revelry centres on Dorfstrasse, where you’ll discover Bar Cuba’s (Dorfstrasse 33; tel: (0664) 652 3886; [www.barcuba-stanton.com](http://www.barcuba-stanton.com)) cocktails, panini and pies; Alibi’s (Dorfstrasse 78; tel: (0664) 542 5417; [www.alibi.am-arlberg.info](http://www.alibi.am-arlberg.info)) music and draft beers; and The Kandahar (Dorfstrasse 50; tel: (05446) 30260; [www.kandaharbar.com](http://www.kandaharbar.com)), which has a nightclub and serves Thai and Indian food.

**Eating Out**

There's a wide choice of restaurants in St Anton serving food ranging from traditional Austrian dishes (such as venison and Wiener schnitzel) to the more exotic, including Indian and Mexican.

The Hospiz Alm (tel: (05446) 3625; [www.hospiz.com](http://www.hospiz.com)) at St Christoph, with its extensive wine cellar, is a wonderful spot for lunch – its popularity means it's best to book ahead. Evening favourites include Hotel Raffl’s St Anton Hof’s restaurant Raffl Stube (tel: (05446) 2910; [www.antonerhof.at](http://www.antonerhof.at)) for regional dishes; or the Skiing Buddha (Bahnhofstrase 1; tel: (05446) 26252; [www.skiingbuddha.at](http://www.skiingbuddha.at)) at the arl.rock for flavoursome for Thai food.

**Transport**

**Getting There**

Nearest airports: Innsbruck Airport (INN); Friedrichshafen Airport (FDH), Memmingen Airport (FMM), Zurich Airport (ZRH).

Distance to resort: 100km (62 miles); 130km (81 miles); 170km (106 miles); 200km (125 miles).

Driving times: 1 hour; 1 hour 45 minutes; 2 hours; 2 hours 30 minutes.

Nearest railway station: St Anton am Arlberg.

Distance to resort: Within the resort.

**Getting Around**

Ski buses run during the day, and there are buses to transfer visitors to and from the multitude of restaurants and bars come nightfall. Neighbouring Lech and Zürs (covered by the Arlberg lift pass) can be reached by car, via a frequent bus service, or on skis with local guides.

**Hotels**

Accommodation in St Anton is housed in a mixture of traditional and modern buildings, with a wide variety of categories from cheap and cheerful apartments to more luxurious 4- and 5-star hotels. There are also further options on the slopes and villages around the main centre.

**Goldenes Kreuz**

Five minutes from the village centre and a short distance from the Nasserein gondola, Goldenes Kreuz provides good value accommodation with the bonus of a sauna and a relaxing lounge area.

**Category**

Cheap

**Thoroughfare**

Dorfstrasse 83

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

St Anton

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

XXX

**Country**

Austria

**Telephone**

(05446) 22110.

**Website**

http://www.goldeneskreuz.at

**Skihotel Galzig**

A few metres from the Galzigbahn lift and the pedestrian area, this bed and breakfast hotel has sleek furnishings and a cosy ambience.

**Category**

Moderate

**Thoroughfare**

Hannes-Schneider-Weg 5

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

St Anton

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

XXX

**Country**

Austria

**Telephone**

(05446) 42770.

**Website**

http://www.skihotelgalzig.at

**Hotel Raffl's St Antoner Hof**

Antiques sit alongside contemporary objects and the bedrooms (most with balconies) are traditionally clad with wood at Hotel Raffl’s St Antoner Hof. Guests at this 5-star hotel can unwind in the indoor pool, sauna and Turkish bath.

**Category**

Luxury

**Thoroughfare**

Arlbergstrasse 69

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

St Anton

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

XXX

**Country**

Austria

**Telephone**

(05446) 2910.

**Website**

http://www.antonerhof.at