**Saalbach-Hinterglemm**

**Categories**

**Good For**

Beginners

Intermediates

Snowboarders

Families

Après ski

**Data**

**Beginner Runs**

34

**Intermediate Runs**

28

**Advanced Runs**

6

**Total Runs**

68

**Lifts**

55

**Chairs**

18

**Drags**

22

**Gondola Cable Cars**

15

**Parks**

2

**Pipes**

0

**Weather**

**Annual Snowfall**

9m (29ft).

**Overview**

Saalbach-Hinterglemm ski resort has one of Austria's biggest ski areas on its doorstep with some of the finest intermediate pistes anywhere in the Alps. These ski slopes are located on both sides of the Glemm Valley, which enables skiers to easily complete a circuit of what the resort calls its ‘Ski Circus’ in a day.

At one end is the main resort of Saalbach, a classic Austrian village with an onion-domed church, cobbled streets and a lively night-time scene; at the other, about 4km (2.5 miles) away, is the smaller and more relaxed village of Hinterglemm.

Together, the settlements make an upmarket (but surprisingly youthful) spot that is also linked to Leogang, a detour from the main circuit with its fantastic long pistes straight down into the trees.

**Location**

Saalbach-Hinterglemm is located in the Glemm Valley, which is within the Zell am See region in the Austrian Kitzbühel Alps. The ski resort is within 90 minutes' drive of Salzburg.

**Website**

http://www.saalbach.com

**Piste Map**

http://www.saalbach.com/fileadmin/user\_storage/saalbach\_com/Downloads/Winterpanorama2012\_13.pdf

**Hit The Slopes**

More than 90% of the ski area in Saalbach-Hinterglemm ski resort is rated intermediate or easy, so this is a place for letting the skis run through delightful tree-lined scenery on mainly south-facing slopes.

Taking on the Ski Circus circuit makes for a great day’s skiing, with lunch taken at one of the 44 mountain restaurants, including many delightful old huts.

Otherwise, it’s possible to concentrate on just one area – better skiers use Schattberg Ost, where the 4km (2.5 miles) Nordabfahrt is a fast, steep black with constantly changing conditions. The World Cup downhill on Zwölferkogel is enjoyable too, and it's here that good skiers can make their own fun on copious off-piste terrain.

There are also three terrain parks here, and the ski resort as a whole works well for snowboarders with the easy-to-ride lift network and a variety of runs for all levels.

Saalbach-Hinterglemm is also a resort where skiers and boarders can get back up the slopes quickly. In fact, there are more comfortable, high-capacity gondolas and high-speed chairlifts here than any other single resort on the planet.

Although Saalbach-Hinterglemm ski resort is not high, an ever-increasing amount of snowmaking (now covering 90% of the slopes) keeps everything going so long as it’s cold enough for the guns to operate. Saalbach's south-facing nursery areas can get slushy at the start and end of the season, but Hinterglemm's slopes are north facing, ensuring greater reliability in snow cover.

The ski season in Saalbach-Hinterglemm runs from early December until early April.

**Saalbach-Hinterglemm**

**Resort**

1000

**Base**

930

**Top**

2095

**General**

**Beyond The Slopes**

Saalbach-Hinterglemm is not really a place to visit for those who either don't ski, or those who like to fill the time between ski days with lots of other activities.

There are, however, the usual ski town options of tobogganing, bowling and sleigh rides to keep all ages entertained; while many of the bigger hotels have pools and spas.

The resort does, however, host an annual calendar of events ranging from winter sports competitions to live music. Among the most famous of these is Rave on the Snow, a yearly electronic music festival every December featuring DJs and live bands.

**Family Fun**

Nine ski schools operate here, with lessons offered to children aged four and above. Crèches are limited to hotels, but can be excellent – such as the one at the Hotel Theresia (tel: (06541) 74140; [www.hotel-theresia.com](http://www.hotel-theresia.com)). Many of the larger hotels have pools and playrooms.

**Retail Therapy**

This is not a place for all-out shopping. There are a handful of boutiques and ski shops in Saalbach along its pedestrianised high street, but prices tend to be keener in less-busy Hinterglemm. Those looking for local products will find purveyors of handmade chocolates, knitwear and wood carvings in both villages.

**Splashing Out**

Spend an evening on the mountain. One option involves being taken on a snowcat, which growls through the forest to the Spielberghaus (tel: (06541) 7253; [www.spielberghaus.at](http://www.spielberghaus.at)). Another is a relaxed sleigh ride through the wilderness up to the Lindlingalm (tel: (06541) 7190); [www.lindlingalm.at](http://www.lindlingalm.at)). Both restaurants serve up hearty, traditional Austrian specialities in cosy settings. Afterwards, sated snowcat customers toboggan down the slopes, while those who arrived on sleighs will return back to the resort by the same means.

**Apres Ski**

Classic Austrian après-ski hedonism is on offer in Saalbach-Hinterglemm with beer, schnapps and dancing in ski boots common themes within the variety of bars and nightclubs.

As the lifts shut, try the bustling Hinterhagalm (Hinterhagweg 43; tel: (06541) 7212; [www.hinterhag.at](http://www.hinterhag.at)) or Bauer's Schialm (Skiliftstrasse 542; (06541) 621 3405; [www.bauers-schialm.at](http://www.bauers-schialm.at)) at the bottom of the slopes. The Goasstall (Reiterkogelweg 491; tel: (06541) 8705; [www.goasstall.com](http://www.goasstall.com)) above Hinterglemm is also a fun hangout for drinks, snacks and entertainment.

At night, there are plenty of options for those seeking to stay out until late. In Saalbach village, there's the Kuhstall bar (Dorfstrasse 212) with its live music, while over in Hinterglemm, there's the Harley Davidson-themed Road King (Dorfstrasse 129; tel: (06541) 7408) and the lively Tanzhimmel in Hotel Knappenhof (Dorfstrasse 140; tel: (06541) 6497; [www.apresworld.at](http://www.apresworld.at)).

But it's not all high-energy, drink-fuelled revelry. For example, the bar at the Hotel Theresia in Hinterglemm (tel: (06541) 74140; [www.hotel-theresia.com](http://www.hotel-theresia.com)) is cool and relaxing with an Andy Warhol original on the wall.

**Eating Out**

There are dozens of restaurants in Saalbach-Hinterglemm, many with excellent Austrian specialities involving dumplings, noodles and game.

The culinary star is the Hotel Theresia with its modern take on cuisine in an eclectic setting – although many other restaurants in Saalbach-Hinterglemm are also of high quality. Peter's Restaurant (Oberdorf 177; tel: (06541) 6236; [www.hotel-peter.at](http://www.hotel-peter.at)) on Saalbach's main street, for example, is famed for its steak cooked on hot stones.

**Transport**

**Getting There**

Nearest airport: Salzburg Airport (SZG).

Distance to resort: 90km (56 miles).

Driving time: 1 hour 30 minutes.

Nearest railway station: Zell am See.

Distance to resort: 18km (11 miles).

Driving time: 20 minutes.

**Getting Around**

Buses, which operate between the two villages, are free with a lift pass.

**Hotels**

There are a number of upmarket hotels in Saalbach-Hinterglemm with great facilities and peaceful surroundings, the majority of which are located in Saalbach itself. Hinterglemm has a broader collection of hotels and apartments, which tend to be more moderately priced.

**Alpine Palace Hotel**

Located by the Reiterkogel cable car in Hinterglemm, the 5-star Alpine Palace Hotel offers a wealth of dining options and a wellness area with funky interiors.

**Category**

Luxury

**Thoroughfare**

Reiterkogelweg 169

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

Hinterglemm

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

XXX

**Country**

Austria

**Telephone**

(06541) 6346.

**Website**

http://www.wolf-hotels.at

**Hotel Haider**

Inviting and friendly, Hotel Haider is perfectly placed across from the lifts in Saalbach and offers accommodation in flats for two to six people.

**Category**

Cheap

**Thoroughfare**

Oberdorf 211

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

Saalbach

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

XXX

**Country**

Austria

**Telephone**

(06541) 6228.

**Website**

http://www.hotel-haider.at

**Alpenhotel**

Typically stylish for this part of the world, this Saalbach hotel is almost a village in itself with its piano and music bars, disco and several restaurants serving everything from Italian to Mexican food.

**Category**

Luxury

**Thoroughfare**

Unterdorf 212

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

Saalbach-Hinterglemm

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

XXX

**Country**

Austria

**Telephone**

(06541) 66660.

**Website**

http://www.alpenhotel.at