



# bregenzerwald

**Media Information**

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**Winter 2019/20**

**VOR  
ARL  
BERG**

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## Information & Service

The contents of this compilation were collected in June and July 2019 and any changes made known to us have been integrated since then. The contents are based on our own research and information provided by the partners.


### Press text online


You can download the entire text online at [www.bregenzerwald.at/en/media](http://www.bregenzerwald.at/en/media)


### Photos online

You can find a selection of matching photos – to be used in a touristic context and only in conjunction with a report about the Bregenzerwald – at [www.bregenzerwald.at/en/media](http://www.bregenzerwald.at/en/media)

### Bregenzerwald Tourismus - Social Media

 [www.instagram.com/visitbregenzerwald](https://www.instagram.com/visitbregenzerwald) | #visitbregenzerwald | @visitbregenzerwald

 [www.facebook.com/visitbregenzerwald](https://www.facebook.com/visitbregenzerwald)

 [www.youtube.com/bregenzerwaldtourism](https://www.youtube.com/bregenzerwaldtourism)

### Available brochures

- The **Bregenzerwald Travel Magazine** (German only) appears twice a year – once in the summer and once in the winter – with around 60 pages of edited stories and reports. Regional and international authors report on people in and from the Bregenzerwald and about those things which give them pleasure and joy. The Bregenzerwald Travel Magazine is available online at [www.bregenzerwald.at](http://www.bregenzerwald.at). The website is also home to some of the magazine stories in English.
- The **Bregenzerwald Travel Guide** is published at the same time as the Travel Magazine every six months (winter and summer). The winter edition contains useful information about skiing areas, ski passes, ski schools and winter sporting activities – from cross-country skiing through to winter hikes, culture, architecture, culinary delights and wellness offers.

### Research trips

Would you like to see the Bregenzerwald for yourself? Please feel free to contact Mag. Cornelia Kriegner.

### Contact for media enquiries

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## Bregenzerwald in Vorarlberg

**The Bregenzerwald is located in the most westerly part of Austria, in the state of Vorarlberg. Close to Lake Constance, a neighbour of Germany, Switzerland and the Principality of Liechtenstein. Thanks to its location on the northern edge of the Alps, the diverse wintery worlds are blessed with an exceptional amount of snow.**

If you value a sense of homeliness, diversity on a small scale, imaginative architecture and cuisine, the Bregenzerwald is the perfect holiday destination for you. You can perfectly combine enjoyable exercise in the wintry countryside with inspiring and pampering elements.

### **Creative enthusiasm**

About 32,000 people live in the Bregenzerwald, in 23 villages in total. The Bregenzerwald locals have always made sure that their living space is carefully designed. The villages are strikingly attractive. The exciting combination of old and new wooden architecture takes you by surprise. You will also come across many and interesting new buildings in the skiing areas. The accommodation and food are of high quality. In the well-tended inns and restaurants, the chefs are masters of peppering up regional specialities, making them into magnificent creations. Milk products and cheeses such as the famous Bregenzerwald alpine- and mountain cheese come from farms and Alpine dairies in the Bregenzerwald.

### **Snowy slopes**

Skiers appreciate the sporty, friendly skiing areas in the Bregenzerwald. All skiing areas in the Bregenzerwald, in the neighbouring Großes Walsertal, Tyrol's Lechtal and several skiing areas in the Allgäu region in Germany are connected by the 3Valley ski pass. The 3Valley ski pass holders are also entitled to discounted day tickets for the SKI Arlberg skiing area. There is usually a good covering of snow; thanks to its position on the northern edge of the Alps, an above-average amount of snow falls in the Bregenzerwald. This is also to the advantage of ski tourers and variation skiers.

**NEW** The old two-seater chairlift in Oberdamüls was replaced with a six-seater chairlift last winter.

**TIP** Skiers can take the 'Auenfeldjet' to Lech Zürs from Warth-Schröcken, part of the Ski Arlberg network. Thanks to new cableways, which are connecting all skiing areas on the Arlberg, this cable car is opening up access to the largest connected skiing area in Austria, enabling skiers to move freely from Warth-Schröcken via Lech Zürs to Stuben and St. Anton.

### **Rambling and well-being**

There are also plenty activities on offer for those who find winter enjoyment away from the piste. Winter hiking paths guide you through picturesque landscapes and to lovely viewpoints. Cross-country ski courses follow rivers, penetrate woods and take you across white plateaus. If you prefer, you can hike through the wintery valleys on snow shoes. There are toboggan runs aplenty. The wellness hotels offer baths, massages and all sorts of pampering treatment, including for day visitors.

### **Cultural life**

The various cultural locations – from hotels and inns, right through to museums – also host events in the winter. Insights into cheese-making and handiwork skills are offered by the members of the KäseStrasse Bregenzerwald.

The Werkraumhaus in Andelsbuch has been functioning as a showcase for the innovative Bregenzerwald artisanship and as a meeting place since the summer of 2013. The hall-like building was designed by the famous Swiss architect Peter Zumthor.

**Get in the mood and take a piece home with you:**

What's it to be: culinary delights, skin care or a piece of craftsmanship? Presents to take back to your loved ones which are typical of the Bregenzerwald are:

- The delicious alpine- and mountain cheese which is produced in small alpine dairies and on alps. The Käsehaus in Andelsbuch is open seven days a week. The cheese is also available in the alpine dairies, in farm shops and in the Käsekeller in Lingenau
- Delicious treats and care products made from sheep's milk – from yoghurt to cheese, through to hand cream – from the Gmeiner family sheep's milk farm in Bizau
- Mixed spices, home-made produce, beautiful and practical things for your kitchen and table from Frau Kaufmann in Egg
- A wide selection of honey specialities, fine spirits, chocolates and skin care products from Bentele Genuss in Alberschwende
- Spirits produced from mountain herbs, made by Löwen Bergbrennerei in Au-Rehmen. The shop and the café in the Gasthof zum Löwen in Au-Rehmen, a listed building, is open from Wednesday to Sunday between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m.
- Fine-quality brandies, spirits and liqueurs from the Maan fine brandy producers in Alberschwende
- The extravagantly produced herb salt made by well-informed women out of 14 hand-picked herbs and medicinal plants from the nature experience in Holdamoos (available from the Sennhaus Au-Rehmen)
- High-quality vegetable oils including linseed oil and sesame oil as well as rarities such as tomato seed oil and chilli seed oil from the Ölmanufaktur Krumbach
- Pieces of furniture and textiles from the Werkraum craftspeople from the Bregenzerwald. Practical and decorative objects are available in the Werkraumhaus in Andelsbuch, such as felt swings for toddlers, wooden chopping boards, coasters made from felt, etc.
- Pepper mills made of local wood, designed and produced by carpenter Bernhard Domig from Langenegg, available from the Werkraumhaus in Andelsbuch
- Mattresses, slatted frames and bed linen made of natural materials, made by Andrea Hager/WOLENA from Schoppernau
- Wooden clogs and cowskin boots by shoemaker Devich from Hittisau
- Classic wooden sledge named 'Ländle-Rodel' by the Bereuter family from Alberschwende
- Whey cosmetics by Family Metzler from Egg in the Bregenzerwald (see page 27 for further details)
- Pampering treatment from the range of cosmetics and skin care products by Susanne Kaufmann (Hotel Post Bezau) – the ingredients are organically farmed or come from wild harvesting (see page 27 for further details)

## Selection. The ski resorts

**From the gentle pistes marked blue through to the demanding slopes with black markings, skiers in the Bregenzerwald's skiing regions have at their disposal the slopes they desire. Thanks to its link to the Ski Arlberg region, Warth-Schröcken is part of the largest connected ski area in Austria.**

Ongoing investments and the professional maintenance of the pistes ensure a high level of comfort and safety in all skiing areas. There is at least one ski school in every skiing area. The services on offer range from courses for beginners and advanced learners alike, ski guiding and guided tours for off-piste skiers and ski tourers. Several skiing areas offer guided tours on certain dates throughout the whole of the winter. You can reserve individual guided tours at any time. The 3Valley ski pass is valid in all skiing areas and on the ski buses (see page 8).

### Vast: Damüls-Mellau

**Characteristic:** The skiing area – judged a 'in a class of its own' with five stars by the world's biggest testing portal [www.skiresort.de](http://www.skiresort.de) – is accessible from two villages. Mellau is located in the valley, whereas Damüls is located at an altitude of 1,432 metres. Skiers and freeriders appreciate the impressive panorama and the sheer endlessness of the ski slopes as well as the great combination of sunny south-facing slopes and north-facing slopes assured of snow. In Damüls, you hit the slopes as soon as you step out of your front door. From Mellau, skiers take the Mellaubahn, a ten-seater cable car, to reach the skiing area in a matter of a few minutes. The valley station is home to a sports shop with ski rental and ski depot facilities, the ski school and a restaurant with après-ski bar. Children up to the age six who cannot (yet) ski are cared for in the guest kindergarten in the new mountain station.

**NEW** Since last winter a six-seater chairlift replaced the two-seater lift in Oberdamüls near the church.

**Parks and slopes:** The Snowpark Damüls is a hotspot on the freestyle scene. It comprises the Mainpark, the RagazProline the Ugapark with the All-Mtn-Line and the Kids' snow park. Moreover, the park plays host to events of both a sporting and an entertaining nature throughout the whole of the winter. The Easy Cheesy Land with fun park, located between Rosstelle and Gipfelbahn in Mellau, is the perfect practice area for newcomers to freestyle skiing and snowboarding.

#### Tips:

- The around three-hour **Ski Rundtour (circular tour)** takes visitors through the entire ski area and to special stations. Stops are particularly worthwhile at two vantage points with impressive views.
- The terrain which makes up the Damüls mountains is perfect for freeriding and ski tours. Fantastic deep snow slopes and attractive routes abound. You get the best views from the vantage points located at an altitude of up to 2,000 metres.
- Visitors can measure their speed and have their photos taken for analysis at the speed track. There's also a parallel slalom slope with video analysis and a photo point at the Sunnegg mountain station that offers a view of the Damülser Mittagsspitze.

#### Dates and meeting points:

- The lifts operate daily between 6 December 2019 and 19 April 2020.
- The The Damüls Nostalgie Ski Race will be taking place for the second time on 29 March 2020. Skiers wearing nostalgic clothes or traditional Dirndls and Lederhosen will be competing against each other in three different tournaments.

- The Vorarlberg **FIS Ski Museum in the parish house** in Damüls provides insights into the history of skiing. The 'Kulisse Pfarrhof' is also the venue for cultural events in summer.
- The M1 in the valley station of the Mellaubahn is a popular meeting place for indulging in a spot of après ski. It hosts live music at the weekend.  
Slopes above Damüls are home to Heikes Schirmbar as well as to the Hotel Alpenstern, featuring the 'Lila Pause' après-ski bar and the 'Alpenkluft' dance bar. The 'S'Scharfe Eck' or 's Damülser Après Ski', at the Uga valley station in Damüls is the perfect way to finish off a day's skiing.

[www.damuels-mellau.at](http://www.damuels-mellau.at)

## Varied: Warth-Schröcken

**Characteristic:** The high-altitude skiing area assured of snow is popular amongst off-piste skiers and fans of ski touring alike. Skiers can access Lech Zürs am Arlberg with the 'Auenfeldjet'. An additional plus point for three years, thanks to new cableways, all skiing areas on the Arlberg are now connected, enabling skiers to move from Warth-Schröcken via Lech Zürs to Stuben and St. Anton. Guests in Warth-Schröcken have a choice of lift tickets: they can choose between the ski pass for Warth-Schröcken alone and the 3Valley ski pass for the regions of Bregenzerwald, Großes Walsertal, Lechtal and skiing areas in the Allgäu (Germany). Holders of 3Valley ski passes can also purchase a discounted Ski-Arlberg ski pass for single days. Alternatively, guests in Warth-Schröcken can buy the Ski-Arlberg ski pass which is valid for the entire Ski Arlberg area comprising 305 km of pistes.

**Parks and slopes:** Attractions include the ski-movie track next to the Steffisalp-Express, the giant slalom racing track next to the Sonnencruiser lift, the secured high-speed downhill run next to the Kuchllift and the Steffisalp fun slope.

### Tips:

- The black pistes on the **Salober Northface** are just the job for those who love it really steep. The gradient of the black slope 253 'Ochsenkopf' exceeds 70 percent.
- The Dorfbahn was a new feature as of winter 2017/18. It quickly transports skiers from the centre of Warth to the skiing area.

### Dates and meeting points:

- The **season opening** will be celebrated from 6 to 8 December 2019.
- 'Snow & Fun' with skiing fun and music enjoyment is going to be the motto from 13 to 15 December 2019.
- '**Ski & Concert**' is the name of the game every Saturday between February and April 2020 on the open-air stage at the Sporthotel Steffisalp.
- Live bands and DJs provide entertainment every Saturday between 11 January 2020 and the end of the season in the **S1 Ski Lounge**.
- Two-day **SAAC Camps** for off-piste skiers are held several times over the course of the season. Participation is free for holders of a ski pass.
- The **Freeride-Festival** will be held on 7 and 8 March 2020.
- Nostalgie Gaudi (Nostalgia and Fun) is going to be the motto to end the season from 17 to 19 April 2020.

[www.warth-schroecken.at](http://www.warth-schroecken.at)

## Great views: Au-Schoppernau/Diedamskopf skiing area

**Characteristic:** The Diedamskopf skiing area, popular amongst advanced skiers and families with children who can ski alike, is well-known for its magnificent mountain panorama, its innovative snow sports school including a children's adventure land, and the great opportunities it affords snowboarders. The valley station of the Diedamskopf cable car is located in Schoppernau and is easily accessible by taking the ski bus. Even in the winter months the summit of the Diedamskopf, which is only a few minutes' walk from the mountain station across a winter hiking path, functions as the base for paragliders and hang-gliders.

**Parks and slopes:** The Pleasure Diedamspark is located close to the mountain station. The terrain features suitable rails, boxes and kickers for snowboarders and free skiers of all skill levels. The fun slope featuring waves, jumps, a tunnel and snail promises fun for the whole family. Skiers can have their very own giant slalom racing video made on the ski movie track on the Breitenalpe.

### Tips:

- Two years ago, the Diedamskopf cable cars implemented a sustainability initiative and installed an **e-station** with five pumps and ten charging stations next to the valley station.
- Those in good shape choose the 10-kilometre long **Diedams downhill run** into the valley, featuring a difference in altitude of 1,250 metres.
- The weekly **guided technical tours** of the stations of the Diedamskopf cable car afford interesting insights and background information.
- Two evenings a week, you can take the Grunholz lift in Au to **ski** and toboggan **by floodlight**.

### Dates and meeting points:

- The skiing area opens on 8 December. The lifts operate daily between 14 December 2019 and 13 April 2020.
- To indulge in a spot of après-ski, meet up at the Ski Inn next to the valley station of the Diedamskopf cable car or enjoy a glass of wine at the 'Vinothek FranzMichl' in the heart of Schoppernau.

[www.diedamskopf.at](http://www.diedamskopf.at)

## The family-friendly skiing areas

**Andelsbuch/Bezau:** The skiing area on the 'Niedere' features no fewer than nine lifts. The slopes are accessible via chairlift from Andelsbuch or via cable car from Bezau as far as Baumgarten mountain station, which features a panorama restaurant. The skiing area is popular amongst alpine skiers and deep snow skiers alike. When the snow conditions are right, skiers can choose between several attractive deep snow slopes. Winter hikers and snow-shoe hikers enjoy trips out on the Niedere. / [www.bergbahnen-andelsbuch.at](http://www.bergbahnen-andelsbuch.at) // [www.seilbahn-bezau.at](http://www.seilbahn-bezau.at)

**Schwarzenberg-Bödele:** A lovely view of the Rhine Valley, Lake Constance and across the Bregenzerwald is revealed from the 'Bödele'. Choose any one of ten lifts. The slopes are suitable for both advanced skiers and those new to the sport. Ski huts with a nostalgic flair are the perfect spots for taking some refreshment. / [www.boedele-info.at](http://www.boedele-info.at)

**Egg-Schetteregg:** In a tranquil side valley, accessible by car or bus from Egg-Großdorf, is the ski area featuring six lifts. The pistes are clearly laid out and wide, and are equipped with a piste



guidance system for children. 'Schettis Kinderland' with a magic carpet, ski carousel, igloo, tubing lane, etc. is free of charge. / [www.schetteregg.at](http://www.schetteregg.at).

**Hittisau/Riefensberg, Hochhäderich:** Located above Hittisau/Riefensberg is the Alpenarena Hochhäderich featuring five lifts, cross-country ski runs and lovely winter hiking paths. The Almhotel Hochhäderich with its spacious sun terrace functions as the central meeting place. [www.alpenarena.com](http://www.alpenarena.com)

**Riefensberg-Hochlitten:** The family skiing area has four tow lifts. Three different racing tracks are available for private races, including one FIS-homologated slalom run for ladies and gents. / [www.skilifte-hochlitten.com](http://www.skilifte-hochlitten.com)

**Varied: 3Valley ski pass and Ski Arlberg ski pass**

Designed for skiers spending more than 2.5 days in the Bregenzerwald, the 3Valley ski pass offers you a variety of elements to ensure your skiing enjoyment. The 3Valley ski pass is valid for all skiing areas in the Bregenzerwald and in the neighbouring regions of Groß Walsertal, Allgäu in Germany and in the Lechtal in Tyrol. Holders of the ski pass can also use the ski buses which easily link the individual skiing areas.

Holders of the 3Valley ski pass can also travel to Lech Zürs am Arlberg and, hence, ski in the Ski Arlberg area for a supplement. / [www.3taeler.at](http://www.3taeler.at)

→ **Made-to-measure – SKI Bregenzerwald:** the deal includes four nights' accommodation from Sunday to Thursday, or three nights' accommodation from Thursday to Sunday in the accommodation category of your choice at selected partner establishments and the 3Valley ski pass valid for three days. Book the package deal from Sunday to Thursday and stay for four nights but only pay for three! The offer is available between 5 January and 12 April 2020 (except 20 February to 1 March 2020) from € 354 in a hotel with half-board. Alternatively, you can stay in a holiday apartment. / [www.bregenzerwald.at/en/winter-ski-bregenzerwald](http://www.bregenzerwald.at/en/winter-ski-bregenzerwald)

→ **Made-to-measure – the skiing week Bregenzerwald:** The package deal includes seven nights' accommodation for the price of six in an establishment of your choice in a selected partner hotel as well as the 3Valley ski pass for six days. The package deal is available between 4 January and 11 April 2020 (except 22 to 29 February 2020), from Saturday to Saturday, for the price of € 641, in a hotel, including half board. Also available is accommodation in a holiday flat or a bed and breakfast. / [www.bregenzerwald.at/en/skiing-week-bregenzerwald](http://www.bregenzerwald.at/en/skiing-week-bregenzerwald)

**Dance-inspired: the Ski! project's skiing courses**

The Ski! project offers a different approach to skiing, in the form of an innovative teaching concept inspired by contemporary dance. Ski-filled days start and end in the practice room. The stuff you learn there forms the basis for more agile manoeuvres on the slopes, enabling a skiing technique which is gentler on your body. Skiing courses for all levels are held in Au-Schoppernau and the skiing area of Diedamskopf: also available are skiing and physiotherapy courses for returnees – particularly following breaks or injuries. Also on offer are courses for ski tourers and freeriders. / [www.skiprojekt.at](http://www.skiprojekt.at)

## Variety. Freeriding and skiing tours

**Deep snow and nothing but tranquillity all around: variation skiers and ski tourers discover the terrain away from the prepared slopes. The best option is to take a tour in the company of an informed expert. The ski schools offer courses for beginners and experts alike. Suitable package deals can be booked at Bregenzerwald Tourismus.**

### **Pleasurable: variation skiing**

Variation skiing is the pleasurable, leisurely form of skiing on unprepared slopes. Most ascents are taken by lift, and then you ski off piste. For variation skiing, the skier needs to have the necessary skills, the correct equipment and a local guide.

Courses for beginners and tours for more advanced skiers are offered by the ski schools.

Equipment can be rented in the local sports shops. Avalanche search equipment, a probe and a shovel are obligatory.

### **Individual: off-piste free-riding**

- Effortless ascents and long runs characterise the variation skiing days accompanied by Markus Moosbrugger, a ski and mountain guide at home in Schopfernau. The tours, which take between five and six hours, are available daily upon request. Participation costs from € 70 per person. / [www.mitmoses.at](http://www.mitmoses.at)
- Safe, accompanied off-piste skiing is also possible every Thursday (December to April) in the Damüls-Mellau skiing region. The tour offered by the ski school lasts around three hours, and is held with a minimum of three participants. The price: € 74 including rented avalanche search equipment, excluding ski pass. / [www.skischule-mellau.at](http://www.skischule-mellau.at)
- The freeriding course at the Skischule Damüls starts at 10 o'clock in the morning every Tuesday (24 December to 14 April). It costs € 100 per person and includes an avalanche transceiver (does not include a ski pass). / [www.skischule-damuels.at](http://www.skischule-damuels.at)

### **Enjoyable: freeriding in Warth-Schröcken**

Warth-Schröcken frequently functions as the venue for 'Freeride & Safety with SAAC' during the winter season. SAAC stands for 'Snow & Alpine Awareness Camps'. The agenda includes workshops to do with the subject of safety, freeride outings accompanied by the local guides, material tests and entertainment. The opening event is being held between 12 and 15 December 2019, with the follow-up event between 15 and 18 January 2020. A basic camp will be taking place from 21 to 22 March 2020, 2<sup>nd</sup> Step Camps are going to be available from 11 to 14 January and from 22 to 25 March 2020.

The freeride scene has a further meet-up on 7 and 8 March. At the greatest **FreerideFestival**, over 30 manufacturers present brand-new freeride skis and equipment for the 2020/21 season in the Festival Village next to the Steffisalp-Express. Includes free tests and the chance to talk shop. The supporting programme gives visitors the opportunity to trying things out for themselves: safety training and the chance to ski with the professionals on the loveliest free-ride slopes on the Arlberg as well as guided introductory tours including skiing technique are all available. / [www.warth-schroecken.at](http://www.warth-schroecken.at)

### **Impressive: take a skiing tour**

The Bregenzerwald is famous for its wide range of enjoyable skiing tours, comprising the very gentle through to the more arduous. Following an ascent on cross-country skis and skins lasting between two and five hours, the descent involves skiing down magnificent slopes in the great outdoors. You can rent the appropriate equipment such as touring skis and avalanche

search equipment from the local ski rental shops. The ski schools offer mountain and ski guides familiar with the features of the local terrain to guarantee your safety.

- The **Schröcken** Ski School will be organising skiing tours once a week for beginners and experts from December to the beginning of April. The ascents take between one and a half and three and a half hours. The tours cost from € 130 per person, including safety equipment. / [www.skischule-schroecken.com](http://www.skischule-schroecken.com)
- Ski and mountain guide Markus Moosbrugger will be available daily to accompany skiing tours in **Au-Schoppernau** on request. The day tours take between four and five hours. They cost from € 60 per person. / [www.mitmoses.at](http://www.mitmoses.at)
- Visitors may, for example, take part in guided skiing tours from 10 a.m. every Thursday (26 December 2019 to 16 April 2020) in **Damüls**. The tours cost € 100 per person for three or more participants (including avalanche transceiver). / [www.skischule-damuels.at](http://www.skischule-damuels.at)
- A taster skiing tour is available in **Mellau** every Friday (6 December 2019 to 19 April 2020). Participation in the four-hour programme costs € 95 per person, including avalanche transceiver. / [www.skischule-mellau.at](http://www.skischule-mellau.at)
- The **Schwarzenberg** Ski School also offers guided skiing tours across the Bregenzerwald region. / [www.skischule-schwarzenberg.at](http://www.skischule-schwarzenberg.at)

### **Eventful: Ski Ride Vorarlberg**

The 'Ski Ride Vorarlberg' guided trip makes it possible to experience Vorarlberg on skis in the matter of a week. Over the course of seven days, you experience skiing regions and ski off piste, from the Kleinwalsertal in the north through the Bregenzerwald and, across the Arlberg, into the Montafon in the south. The participants get to see Vorarlberg from a new perspective every day. The landscape and the views change from valley to valley. Despite the geographic proximity, differences in architecture, dialects and regional dishes also become apparent. 'Ski Ride Vorarlberg' is held for parties of up to six people in accordance with the group's individual requirements. The package deal includes accommodation, accompaniment by experienced guides, the lift tickets, transfers and luggage transport. / [www.vorarlberg.travel/skiride](http://www.vorarlberg.travel/skiride)

### **Up-to-date information: Vorarlberg avalanche warning service**

Before setting off on an off-piste outing, it is essential to find out about the latest snow conditions. The Vorarlberg avalanche warning system can be contacted by telephone, e-mail or Internet for the latest data: T +43 (0)5574 201 1588 (recorded message), [www.vorarlberg.at/lawine](http://www.vorarlberg.at/lawine), [www.snowsafes.at](http://www.snowsafes.at) (information app).

### **Tip Father Müller freeride tour**

Father Johann Müller from Warth was probably the first skier in the Bregenzerwald. During the 1890s, he had skis sent to him from Sweden in order to get about more easily and quickly on the Alpine territory between Warth-Schröcken and Lech Zürs. The five-hour tour accompanied by skiing guides from Warth's ski schools follows in the footsteps of Father Müller and takes you across the terrain. Participants should be experienced in deep-snow skiing. Safety equipment is obligatory. Participation costs € 85. / [www.warth-schroecken.at](http://www.warth-schroecken.at)

- **Made-to-measure ski tour package deal:** Climb the mountain without a care in the world, and weave your way down to the valley across fantastic deep snow slopes: mountain and ski guides accompany you to the loveliest places. You can book the right package deal for you comprising guided tours and accommodation in a hotel or mountain huts at Bregenzerwald Tourismus. / [www.bregenzerwald.at/en/skiing-tours-in-the-bregenzerwald](http://www.bregenzerwald.at/en/skiing-tours-in-the-bregenzerwald)

## Entertainment. Tips and activities for families

Families can choose from a selection of numerous supervised programmes and attractive offers in the Bregenzerwald. The range extends from torch-lit rambles through to visits to farms and barns. The younger guests playfully learn the art of skiing at the ski schools.

### Well supervised! Playful worlds of skiing for kids

The best way for children to learn to ski really fast is by taking advantage of the playful programmes offered by all ski schools in the Bregenzerwald.

- **Learning to ski with the magic wand** – four hours of one-to-one training, and children from the age of three can already ski the practice slope on their own. That is what is guaranteed by the ski school in Schwarzenberg, which has developed a special method. Should a child need support somewhat longer, the ski instructor practices with the child until the set objective has been achieved.
- Kids playfully take their first steps on skis in ‘Didiland’, part of the **Au-Schoppernau snow sports school**. There are three moving walkways, a carousel, shuggy boats, an igloo, a tent and lots more. The ski courses for older children include an adventure and safety programme with a barbecue in the tepee and snow-rafting. Kids can find out all they need to know about ‘safety in snow sports’ in the safety camps. The fun slope featuring waves, jumps, a tunnel and snail promises fun for the whole family.  
Didi’s kids’ adventure land in the mountain station is also home to a well-equipped guest kindergarten 300 m<sup>2</sup> in size. Children between three and eight years of age are looked after free of charge daily between 10 a.m. and 3.30 p.m., and can enjoy lunch together. There is a parent-child area for children up to three years of age.
- Pauli’s Ski Arena at Salober valley station in the **Warth-Schröcken** skiing area is the perfect training ground for young skiers. It has a children’s lift, three magic carpets, sliding hills and playgrounds such as the igloo building site.
- The **Spielhaus** is new since last year in **Damüls**. It is located on the top floor of the multi-purpose building Alpenrose, is open daily between 9 and 5 p.m. and free of charge. The kids get to play on the play area, and the parents have a lounge area of their own to relax in.
- The ski schools in **Damüls** and **Mellau** offer extensive service and supervision, from child-care through to children’s skiing courses including lunch supervision through to motorised sledge rides through Bunny’s driving track. In **Mellau**, two kindergarten teachers look after children from 1 to year. The service is free between Monday and Friday. On Saturdays, Sundays and bank holidays, supervision costs € 7.50 for a full day or € 5 for a half day.

### → **Made-to-measure – learning skiing with the Kids’ Snow deal**

A family skiing holiday is particularly worthwhile at certain times: between 11 and 18 January 2020, between 7 and 14 March 2020, between 14 and 21 March 2020, and between 21 and 28 March 2020, a four-day ski course and lift passes for six days are included in the accommodation rate for children between three and six years of age (born in 2014, 2015 or 2016). The only condition is seven nights’ accommodation accompanied by at least one adult. Furthermore, the tourist information offices in participating villages organise numerous children’s events such as lantern-lit rambles, visits to the farm and jolly torch-lit tobogganing. / [www.bregenzerwald.at/en/kids-snow-in-the-bregenzerwald](http://www.bregenzerwald.at/en/kids-snow-in-the-bregenzerwald)

### **Friendly: children's guidance system in Schetteregg**

The skiing area in Egg-Schetteregg is particularly popular amongst families with children. The freely accessible 'Schetti's Kids' Paradise' with ski carousel, magic carpet, igloo, climbing hill, tubing course, etc. is a major attraction. Additionally, every piste has its own mascot, and provides information regarding what the child must be able to do in order to ski on this piste. The offers range from the snowplough turn on the hedgehog circuit to safe curving on the bear slope through to dynamic carving on the lynx piste. / [www.schetteregg.at](http://www.schetteregg.at)

### **Hands-on experience on the farm in Egg**

The Metzler family in Egg has constructed the first open farm in Vorarlberg. In addition to the alpine dairy school and the modern building in which the Metzler family turns whey into cosmetics, you can also visit the impressive free-stall barn and an open goat shed with visitors' gallery. With this project, which bears the name NATURHAUTNAH (CLOSE TO NATURE), the Metzler family has created a place in which farming is performed in an energy-efficient, sustainable manner, and where visitors can experience and understand all farming processes up close. The project has already received several Austrian and international prizes. / [www.molkeprodukte.com](http://www.molkeprodukte.com)

### **Mysterious: Walking in the glow of lanterns**

Everything suddenly looks completely different in the dark and it's so romantic spending time outdoors in the light of lanterns.

- Night tours are available in **Mellau** every Thursday (12 December 2019 to 16 April 2020). The lantern walk starts at eight in the evening. The programme, which takes around one and a half hours, is free of charge.
- The cultural-historical walk by lantern light through **Bezau** takes visitors to the 'Deerofu' (the Oven) every Wednesday (end of December 2019 to the beginning of April 2020). The around one-hour walk concludes with a small drink at this lovingly restored barn, which was once used as a drying oven by the whole village. The cost to take part in the walk is € 5, it's free for children.
- Hiking guide Marianne will be telling stories during the one-hour lantern walk in **Egg-Großdorf**. The evening excursion is particularly popular with families and starts at 6 p.m. every Tuesday from the end of December 2019 to the end of March.

### **Interesting: life on the farm with the animals**

- The **Meusburger Family** in Egg invites visitors to take a look at the modern free-stall barn where cows and their calves are made to feel particularly comfortable. Those interested can also take a look at the cheese store. The farm shop offers delicious food from the farm. The farm is open to visitors every Saturday from 9.30 a.m., from 28 December 2019 until the middle of March 2020.
- Both children and adults are able to experience life on the **Bertsch Family** farm in Mellau up close. Visitors may also help feed and milk the animals and learn more about the farmers' day at the stable. The farm will be open every second Monday from the middle of December 2019 to the middle of April 2020.
- At the **adventure farm in Au-Schoppennau**, visitors can pet the animals and watch the farmers as they feed, groom and milk the animals. Meet at 5.30 p.m. every Tuesday in front of Au-Rehman church between 31 December 2019 and 7 April 2020. Length of visit: 1 hour, free of charge.
- Take a guided tour of a sheepfold at 4 p.m. every Friday in Au-Schoppennau (2 January to 9 April 2020). Over the course of the ninety-minute programme, participants find out interesting facts about sheep and the processing of wool, they can breathe in the fragrance of the mountain hay and listen to an exciting story about sheep. Kids from the

age of four can participate. A small sheep's wool cushion, one drink and 'sheep biscuits' are included in the price of € 8 per person.

**Welcoming: St. Nicholas on the 'Wälderbähnle'.**

Chug along on the Bregenzerwälder Museumsbahn (Museum Railway) through the romantic winter landscape and even receive a gift: St. Nicholas will be travelling on the 'Wälderbähnle' several times a day with a little gift bag for every child from 29 November to 8 December 2019. The journey leads from Bezau to the Schwarzenberg / Andelsbuch-Bersbuch station where children can enjoy a little snack with St. Nicholas before returning to Bezau on the Museumsbahn. / [www.waelderbaehnle.at](http://www.waelderbaehnle.at)

## Quiet. Hiking trails and cross-country trails

The magic of the tranquil winter landscape can be experienced in very different ways. By taking winter hikes and snow-shoe hikes, indulging in cross-country skiing and tobogganing. Anyone wishing to try out something new tries their hand at husky-drawn sledging, spends the night in an igloo or floats through the air on a paraglider.

### Lively: Weave your way across the cross-country ski runs

All in all, the Bregenzerwald has a network of cross-country ski runs 320 km in length. They take you across river meadows, snow-covered forests, across expansive fields, past birch groves and past typical shingled houses. In Sulzberg and Hittisau, you cross the border into the Allgäu, in Bavaria.

The largest cross-country skiing areas are those in Hittisau-Balderschwang (80 km), Au-Schopperrau (63 km) and Sulzberg-Oberreute (40 km). Thanks to its connection to the West Allgäu network of cross-country ski runs, cross-country skiers in Sulzberg can access over 100 km of cross-country ski runs. Choose from skating cross-country runs and classic runs.

**Nordic Sport Park Sulzberg:** It accommodates 20 km of cross-country ski runs, the village lift and a tobogganing slope for the little ones, a kiosk, a connection ski run to the panorama ski run on the ridge of Sulzberg and well-tended winter hiking paths. A 4-km long stretch is floodlit between 5 and 8.30 p.m. from Monday to Friday. The cross-country biathlon school offers cross-country skiing courses. / [www.sulzberg-bregenzerwald.com](http://www.sulzberg-bregenzerwald.com) and [www.kreativbewegen.at](http://www.kreativbewegen.at)

→ **Made-to-measure – Cross-country skiing in Bregenzerwald:** this package provides an insight into the many different options that are available for cross-country skiing in the Bregenzerwald. It includes a freely selectable number of overnight stays in the accommodation of your choice, a cross-country ski pass, a two-hour cross-country skiing course with a certified cross-country skiing instructor and a cross-country skiing tour on the most beautiful cross-country ski runs in the Vorderbregenzerwald that lasts several hours. Visitors may also opt for biathlon to try this sport in place of the tour. The package is available for booking (snow conditions permitting) between 10 December 2019 and 28 February 2020. / [www.bregenzerwald.at/en/cross-country-skiing-in-the-bregenzerwald](http://www.bregenzerwald.at/en/cross-country-skiing-in-the-bregenzerwald)

### On target: try your luck as a biathlete

The combination of a racing pulse with precision is what makes the sport of biathlon so special. Anybody who's interested can try their hand at this combination of cross-country skiing and shooting at the biathlon facility in the Nordic Sport Park Sulzberg. Courses for individuals, group courses and specially arranged programmes are available, e.g. with obstacle course. Dates and prices on request. / [www.kreativbewegen.at](http://www.kreativbewegen.at)

### NEW: Kästle Nordic Ladies Days

The Bregenzerwald is for the first time going to be the venue of a Kästle cross-country skiing weekend for women. Simply try it out and enjoy spending time out in nature will be the motto for the event. With this in mind, women from '8 to 88' will be able to enjoy technical training courses in Hittisau, either in the classical or skating styles, from 10 to 12 January 2020. 'Kreativ bewegen' trainers will be offering tips on how best to easily glide across the snow with others on the cross-country skiing tours. The women will be setting off using the latest cross-country equipment by the well-known ski brand of Kästle. The participants will be able exchange ideas and experiences over a meal at lunchtime and in the evening. The package with two overnight stays in s'Matt 3 in Lingenau, two-day cross-country skiing training, rental equipment, trail fee and meals is available for € 399 per person in a double room. / [www.ladiesdays.at](http://www.ladiesdays.at)

### **Breakneck: Tobogganing into the valley**

Be it during the day or in the evening: there are numerous toboggan runs to choose from. The toboggan runs are usually accessible by road or lift. Some are even floodlit.

- The 2.5-kilometre-long natural toboggan run in **Damüls** is always a popular destination. It's illuminated every Wednesday and Friday from 7.30 p.m. to 9.30 p.m. Visitors can get to the starting point by taking the Uga chairlift.
- Visitors in **Mellau** are able to enjoy the two kilometre-long 'Dosegg' toboggan run, which has an 800-metre-long stretch that's illuminated.
- The Grunholzlift, which is located directly in the village in **Au-Schoppernau**, will take tobogganists upwards. The toboggan run Gschwend in Schoppernau is 1.4 kilometres quite long.
- Visitors may enjoy the 1.7-kilometre-long natural toboggan run in **Bezau** until 11 o'clock at night every day. The toboggan run from Baumgarten to the Sonderdach is three kilometres long. Visitors can take the cable car to the starting point where toboggans are also available for hire.
- **Schröcken** invites visitors to its toboggan evening on the two-kilometre-long run from 5.15 pm to 7.15 pm every Wednesday. A toboggan bus runs between the finish and start every 20 minutes. Toboggans are available for hire at the starting point. The bus and toboggan trip costs € 4 with hire toboggan or € 3 without hire toboggan.

### **Scenic: Snow-shoe hikes**

In many villages, hiking and mountain guides take guests on snow-shoe hikes. It is worth it: guided by an expert, you quickly learn how to walk in snow shoes, and safely arrive at places you would never have discovered on your own. Here is a selection:

- **Snow-shoe hike in the Lecknertal by the light of the full moon:** In the three nights of the full moon (10 January, 8 February and 9 March 2020), in the stillness of the night, participants hike on snow shoes, under the expert guidance of Helga Rädler. The hike leaves Hittisau village fountain at 8 p.m., takes 1.5 hours and costs € 25 per person (including rental of snow shoes and sticks). / [www.kulturinbewegung.at](http://www.kulturinbewegung.at)
- **Mellau – adventure snow shoe hike with Erwin:** the four-hour hike leads into the romantic Mellental and to the mountain pasture settlement of Dös. A little refreshment will be available at the rustic Döser hut. The hike takes place every Wednesday from 18 December 2019 to 8 April 2020 and is available for € 55 per person, including rental equipment and small snack. / [www.mellau.com](http://www.mellau.com)
- **Diedamskopf snow-shoe tour:** Au-Schoppernau snow sports school organises a snow-shoe hike followed by a toboggan ride into the valley. Meet at 9.30 a.m. on Thursdays for the six-hour trip. Including cable car ticket, rental snow shoes and toboggan, the hike costs from € 75 per person. / [www.schneesportschule-bregenzerwald.at](http://www.schneesportschule-bregenzerwald.at)
- **Bezau – high-altitude hike in Baumgarten:** The high-altitude hike with a view sets off at 10 a.m. every Friday. Take the Bezau cable car to the mountain station and continue by snow shoes to the Niedere Höhe. Participation in the around two-hour programme is free of charge (except rental shoes and cable car). / [www.bezau-bregenzerwald.com](http://www.bezau-bregenzerwald.com)
- **Schwarzenberg – snowshoe hike into the nature reserve:** Daniel, the guide, takes visitors on tours through the Fohramoos nature reserve in the Bödele recreation area, starting at 9 a.m. every Wednesday (beginning of December to middle of March). The blanket of snow conceals a largely intact upland moor that is lined by bog forests. The 2-hour tour may be combined, if desired, with a stop-off at one of the ski huts in the Bödele recreation area. The tour takes place from four participants and costs € 25 per person (incl. hire snow shoes). / [www.skischule-schwarzenberg.at](http://www.skischule-schwarzenberg.at)



→ **Made-to-measure – Active winter in Bregenzerwald:**

The Bregenzerwald is particularly easy and delightful to discover between 5 January and 15 March 2020. The offer includes 3 or 4 nights' accommodation in an establishment of your choice, a guided snow-shoe hike with tobogganing, and all rental equipment. Book the deal from Sunday to Thursday and pay for 3 nights instead of 4. The snow-shoe hike is always held on Tuesdays and Fridays. The deal costs from € 180 in the holiday apartment, excluding board, or from € 290 in a hotel including half-board. / [www.bregenzerwald.at/winter-aktiv-bregenzerwald](http://www.bregenzerwald.at/winter-aktiv-bregenzerwald)

**Leisurely: winter hiking**

Walking through the white, wintery world is a very special joy. Especially when you have so many paths to choose from. The travel guide describes the loveliest paths, which are all signposted in pink, making them easily visible in the snow. They are suitable for hikes between 1 and 4 hours, and range from the sunny Sulzberg up to the Diedamskopf at 2,000 m and into the Hochtannberg area (Warth-Schröcken).

→ **Made-to-measure - long winter hikes in the Bregenzerwald:**

You hike through the wintery Bregenzerwald at your own pace. Three enjoyable days' hiking, two nights' accommodation in each of two different hotels and luggage transfer are included in the Winter Hiking Package Deal available between 5 January and 15 March 2020. The price includes four nights' accommodation with half-board in selected three and four-star hotels, luggage transfer from hotel to hotel as well as pick-up and drop-off to and from Bregenz or Dornbirn train station. The package deal is available from € 504 per person in a double room including half board, and from € 552 per person in a single room. / [www.bregenzerwald.at/en/winter-hiking-in-the-bregenzerwald](http://www.bregenzerwald.at/en/winter-hiking-in-the-bregenzerwald)

**NEW: Weird: Die Georunde Rindberg in Sibratsgöll**

This trail makes the power of nature visible and tangible at 13 stations: the round trip takes participants to the Parzelle Rindberg (Rindberg Lot), where a few years ago mountain slopes started to slip, which left a mark on the landscape. The hike, for example, takes in 'Felbers schiefes Haus' ('Felber's Crooked House'). The former holiday home slipped 18 metres during the landslide without suffering considerable damage. The save to walk on property bears witness to the events of the forces of nature and is home to the 'Gewaltige Natur' ('Powerful Nature') exhibition, which introduces visitors to the Nagelfluhkette Nature Park. Artistically designed installations for which the artists were awarded the Austrian State Prize for Design in 2017 also used the landslide as the subject for their creations. The route was extended by five stations in autumn 2019. One is the carefully restored and stabilised Wendelinkapelle (Wendelin Chapel). The landslide caused it to slip by around 40 metres. But it is now accessible again and its slanted position is a permanent reminder of the natural phenomenon. Hikers may take a break on the inclined chairs in front of the little church and enjoy the magnificent view. The Georunde Rindberg (Geological Circuit) is not groomed in winter and can only be used with snowshoes. / [www.bewegtenatur.at](http://www.bewegtenatur.at)

**Nordic: touring with huskies**

Marc Van Landeghem lives in Schoppernau with his 14 huskies. His tours start on the Hochtannbergpass near Warth-Schröcken and in Schoppernau. From here, visitors may travel with Marc's team of dogs across the snowy hills in the idyllic landscape. The trip takes one and a half to three hours, depending on the trail, and costs from € 300 for two. It's also possible to

take part in a two- to three-hour snowshoe hike where a husky accompanies each hiker. This tour will take place from four people and costs € 70 per person (with hire snowshoes).

/ [www.huskytouren.at](http://www.huskytouren.at)

#### **Four-legged: hiking with dogs**

Dogs also enjoy the snow. Their owners must, however, observe a few rules. They are **obliged to keep their dogs on leads** throughout the entire region: Au, Bezau, Bizau, Damüls, Langenegg, Langen (for attack dogs), Riefensberg, Schoppernau, Schwarzenberg and Sibratsgfall. They are also obliged to keep their dogs on leads in certain municipal areas: Egg, Hittisau and Schröcken.

There is currently **no obligation to keep dogs on leads** in Alberschwende, Andelsbuch, Doren, Lingenau, Krumbach, Langen, Mellau, Reuthe, Schnepfau, Sulzberg and Warth.

Dogs with muzzles and on leads are permitted on **public buses**. Tickets must also be purchased for dogs.

#### **Arctic: build an igloo**

- Equipped with saws and shovels, participants set off from **Hittisau** in order to build an igloo in the middle of a winter landscape. The programme starts at 9 a.m., and participants return to the village at 5 p.m. – or spend the night in the igloo. Participation costs € 65 per person or € 80 including accommodation, dinner and breakfast. / [www.bewegend.com](http://www.bewegend.com)
- Visitors are also able to try their hand at building an igloo with the experts from the Aktivzentrum Bregenzerwald around **Schnepfau**. Equipped with GPS and snowshoes, they may go off on an expedition. The igloo is built before nightfall. The minimum number of participants is six. / [www.aktiv-zentrum.at/de/winter/iglubau](http://www.aktiv-zentrum.at/de/winter/iglubau)

#### **Idyllic: Through the snow on a horse and carriage**

Tucked up warm, you could plump for sliding across the snowy landscape on a horse-drawn sleigh. You can find all providers of horse-and-carriage rides in the Bregenzerwald Winter Travel Guide or our website [www.bregenzerwald.at](http://www.bregenzerwald.at). You can also contact the local tourist information offices for options.

#### **Airy: The dream of flying**

Anyone wishing to make their dream of flying come true can find one of Europe's best flying areas in the Bregenzerwald, which is even popular during the winter. The 'Niedere' close to Andelsbuch and Bezau and the Diedamskopf close to Au-Schoppernau all offer the perfect conditions. Tandem flights are available from the Bregenzerwald flight training school. / [www.gleitschirmschule.at](http://www.gleitschirmschule.at)

## Inspiration, building culture and craftsmanship

**The Bregenzerwald is widely known for its surprising blend of old and new wooden architecture and for its innovative craftsmanship. Entitled 'Umgang Bregenzerwald', village walks offer insights into special design features. The Werkraumhaus in Andelsbuch sees itself as a showcase for modern craftsmanship. Several hotels and holiday homes combine traditional and the modern features as well.**

### Contemporary architecture

Glass and wood are the building materials favoured by contemporary architects. Wood has always been used as a building material in the Bregenzerwald, since it grows in abundance in the forests. And so architects and craftsmen in the Bregenzerwald have acquired exceptional skills in dealing with wood. Then as now, they go to great lengths to ensure that the wood is cut at the right sign, and to leave it to dry out slowly in order to then process it in accordance with its true nature. The sun and the rain give the façades their colour over the years.

The new buildings are plain, occasionally even bordering on the provocative, with an amazing wealth of spatial and functional qualities. The high demands made on the aesthetics go hand-in-hand with those made on energy efficiency and sustainability. Renewable energy is used on a wide scale for heating and hot water: In many of the 23 villages, biomass power stations provide houses, hotels and restaurants with energy from the renewable raw material of wood. Wood chips and saw mill residue are used to heat rooms and water. In this way, businesses save a considerable amount of electricity and thousands of litres of heating oil every year. The considerably fewer CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and the short transport distances are also good for the environment: after all, heating material made from wood is plentiful in the Bregenzerwald. The ecologically valuable and practical building materials as well as the conscious use of energy have a pleasant effect on the indoor climate, for example.

Since the new houses are based on the principles of ancient building tradition, a stimulating dialogue arises. Private houses, hotels and public buildings built according to modern standards can be found in all the villages.

### **TIP Umgang Bregenzerwald**

How come the Bregenzerwald looks the way it does? What are the values and ideas behind that which the beholder sees and feels in the villages and the surrounding countryside? Twelve design paths provide the beholder with insights into the enthusiasm with which the locals of the Bregenzerwald go about their creative art. Six paths are passable on foot in the winter, since they are cleared or are winter hiking paths, i.e. those in Andelsbuch, Bizau, Hittisau, Krumbach, Mellau and Schoppernau. The local tourist information offices can be contacted about the suitability of the paths in the winter in the other villages.

Around 10 modest, rust-coloured columns on each path draw the walker's attention to a building, to the artificial landscape, to details pertaining to craftsmanship or ecological details, to facets of artistic, culinary or touristic creations. Step by step, the beholder is granted insights into creative work in the Bregenzerwald, and discovers why things look the way they do. An accompanying folder and a book provide information about details, from the historic backgrounds through to the multi-faceted variants of the practical implementation.

Guided tours on the 'Design Trails' are held at 9.30 a.m. on Fridays between January and April. Each trip focuses on a different village. /

[www.bregenzerwald.at/en/thema/architecture/bregenzerwald-umgang](http://www.bregenzerwald.at/en/thema/architecture/bregenzerwald-umgang)

### **Craftsmanship and the 'Werkraum Bregenzerwald' (crafts studio/space)**

The close, productive interplay between architecture and craftsmanship enjoys a long tradition in the Bregenzerwald. Many of the architects come from families of craftsmen, or are themselves trained craftsmen. This has a stimulating effect on the cooperation. Joiners, carpenters, smiths, stove fitters and painters are not simply the 'skivvies' – they are specialised partners in the development of the best solution. And so, parallel to the new architecture, an independent, design-orientated craftsmanship culture has developed in the Bregenzerwald, whose works are popular both at home and abroad.

Around 100 of the most innovative craftsmen – from the joiner through to the textile designer – have joined forces in the Werkraum Bregenzerwald. As a joint platform, the Werkraum organises exhibitions, competitions, lectures, and is dedicated to research and development. In late 2016, the Werkraum was included in UNESCO's international Register of Good Safeguarding Practices for the preservation of intangible cultural heritage.

#### **TIP The Werkraumhaus**

The Werkraumhaus opened in the centre of Andelsbuch in the summer of 2013. The building, which sees itself as a showcase for craftsmanship and design in the Bregenzerwald and as a meeting place, was designed by the famous Swiss architect Peter Zumthor.

The hall-like construction has a simple, spacious and transparent design. A glass façade surrounds the exhibition and events space, which covers 700 m<sup>2</sup>, and which is structured by 14 hinged columns made from wood and three concrete towers. The flat roof is a grid construction made from wood. Changing exhibitions are held throughout the year in the Werkraumhaus for information and dates). The Werkraumhaus also accommodates a shop where visitors can purchase Werkraum products, and a restaurant. The Werkraumhaus is open from Tuesday to Saturday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. / [www.en.werkraum.at](http://www.en.werkraum.at)

#### **TIP BUS:STOP Krumbach**

An exciting project was concluded in the spring of 2014 in Krumbach. The village of Krumbach invited renowned architects from around the world to design seven bus stops – known in the local dialect as 'Wartehüsle'. Since then, the new bus stops have not only been delighting the visitors who actually use them as bus stops, but have also been attracting the admiration of numerous fans of architecture from near and far. The seven participating architects come from Russia, Norway, Belgium, Spain, Chile, Japan and China, and each worked with a different firm of architects from Vorarlberg on a partnership basis. / [www.krumbach.at](http://www.krumbach.at)

## Sustainability for the environment.

**The careful use of available resources enjoys high standing in Vorarlberg and the Bregenzerwald. Biomass power plants provide cosy warmth in many places.**

### Renewable energy

Hydroelectric power is the most important source of energy in Vorarlberg. The Vorarlberger Kraftwerke AG (VKW) and the Illwerke operate numerous hydroelectric power stations with various outputs. 5 of which are located on the Bregenzerache in the Bregenzerwald. The power station in Andelsbuch is architecturally interesting and accessible as part of guided tours. The Art Nouveau building was constructed in 1908 and, in its day, was one of the largest, most modern power stations of the Austro-Hungarian monarchy.

Several producers from the whole of Vorarlberg supply electricity produced from renewable energy to Ökostrom GmbH, a subsidiary of VKW. In addition to water, biomass and the sun are used as sources of energy. Biomass power stations heat the rooms and the water of many of the 23 villages. Many accommodations are also connected. These biomass power stations generate energy from wood, available in abundance in the Bregenzerwald.

Energy-saving measures and further hydroelectric power projects aim to ensure that Vorarlberg will be energy autonomous by 2050.

### For the good of sustainability

The municipal biomass heating plants are also complemented by many privately run biomass heating plants such as those operated by the Gesundheitshotel Bad Reuthe, Wellnesshotel Warther Hof in Warth, Almhotel Hochhäderich and Hotel Am Holand in Au. The Gesundheitshotel Bad Reuthe, for instance, needed 200,000 litres of heating oil per year until it installed its own heating plant. That's now been completely replaced by biomass.

Numerous other hotels in the Bregenzerwald also apply environmentally aware measures. The village of **Damüls** is indicative of how committed the people in the Bregenzerwald are to the modern way of heat generation: around 95% of all private dwellings and hotel establishments in the catchment area of the biomass power station heat using biomass. **Au-Schoppernau** offers guided tours of the local biomass power plant as part of its weekly programme.

### Charging stations for electric cars

The number of charging stations for electric cars is growing constantly. They can be found at tourist offices, hotels and the valley station of the Diedamskopfbahn cable car in Schoppernau and the one in Bezau.

### Saving and protecting

The northern part of the Bregenzerwald, known locally as 'Vorderwald', is one of the energy model regions of Austria. The eight communities have joined up to make the '**Energy region of the Vorderwald**', and are dedicated to a future-compliant climate and energy policy. Their topics include energy efficiency, the promotion and the use of renewable sources of energy, the promotion of energy-conscious companies and environmentally friendly mobility.

Four communities are **e5 communities**: Doren, Langenegg, Krumbach, Hittisau, Sulzberg and Egg. They are particularly committed to energy efficiency and climate protection, with Langenegg taking on the role as trailblazer. The community has already received several awards for its activities. Langenegg has made its commitment visible in the form of an artistically designed 'Energy Trail' and 'Energy Portals'.

## Meeting points for culture vultures.

Exhibitions also held in the winter provide insights into historical and current topics. Concerts and reading salons extend a warm invitation to wind down eventful days in style. An exceptional cinema shows arthouse films. The Schwarzenberg Advent gets you in the mood for Christmas.

### Atmospheric: Schwarzenberg Advent

The 'Schwarzenberg Advent' (between 21 November and Christmas) is considered particularly atmospheric. This is thanks in no small part to the setting – the picturesque village of Schwarzenberg with its houses under a preservation order. The agenda includes a concert by the 'Wiener Streichersolisten' (1 December 2019), the arts and crafts Christmas market (29 and 30 November 2019), a concert with the Trio Toccata (14 December 2019) and a concert with the Brassclub (19. December 2019). / [www.schwarzenberg.at](http://www.schwarzenberg.at)

### Well-designed: Werkraumhaus in Andelsbuch

Changing exhibitions can be seen throughout the year in the Werkraumhaus in Andelsbuch, built by the well-known Swiss architect Peter Zumthor.

The Werkraumhaus, which is also home to a shop and a bar, is open from ten in the morning to six in the evening from Tuesday to Saturday. / [www.en.werkraum.at](http://www.en.werkraum.at)

### Diverse: Angelika-Kauffmann Museum Schwarzenberg

'Wem gehört das Bödele?' ('Who owns the Bödele?') is the question that the exhibition that is to be staged from 9 February to 31 October 2020 will be asking. The Bödele is the local recreation area in the Rhine valley for the city of Dornbirn. But it belongs to the municipality of Schwarzenberg in the Bregenzerwald. The Bödele generally appears to be characterised by contrasts: holiday homes owned by factory owners and protected moorland, luxury hotels and alpine economy, World Cup downhill skiing championships and family skiing areas, motorcycle racing and meditating in the ashram.

Living culture of the past is on show in the historical part of the museum that is housed in the 450-year-old Bregenzerwälder Haus. The museum is open from 2.00 to 5.00 p.m., from Fridays to Sundays. / [www.angelika-kauffmann.com](http://www.angelika-kauffmann.com)

### Ambitious: Frauenmuseum Hittisau

The Frauenmuseum (Women's Museum) in Hittisau, which won the Österreichischen Museumspreis (Austrian Museum Prize) in 2017, is a fine example of modern wooden architecture by the architectural duo that is [cukrowicz.nachbaur](http://cukrowicz.nachbaur). It's the only museum dedicated to women in Austria and makes the cultural work of women visible. The museum presents changing exhibitions that take cultural-historical, contemporary artistic as well as social and political topics as their themes. A team of women from Hittisau intensively explore the subject matter presented at the exhibitions and convey it in a direct and authentic style. The museum is open from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Wednesdays and from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. from Thursdayss to Sundays. / [www.frauenmuseum.at](http://www.frauenmuseum.at)

### Amazing. Franz Michael Felder Museum

Franz Michael Felder (1839-1869) was a farmer, writer and social reformer and is one of the most historically significant personalities from the Bregenzerwald. The exhibition in the centre of Schoppernau is an exploration of his short life – he died at only 30. Excerpts of his work, original documents, audio stations, quotations and pictures are exhibited.

The opening times: Monday from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m., Thursday from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m., Friday from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m., Sunday from 9.30 a.m. to 11.30 a.m. (closed on public holidays). / [www.au-schopperau.at](http://www.au-schopperau.at)

### **Nostalgic: Vorarlberger FIS Skimuseum Damüls**

These days, the former presbytery in Damüls is home to a small museum which deals with the history of the village and winter sports. It is now an official FIS ski museum. An exhibition on 'Pioneering spirit. How people shaped tourism' is held between 17 December 2019 and 17 April 2020. The presbytery is open between 3 and 6 p.m. on Tuesdays and Fridays, as well as upon request. / [www.damuels.at](http://www.damuels.at)

### **Lively. Music salons**

Once upon a time, it was the 'five-o'clock-tea' which offered refined entertainment after a day on the slopes: now it is the music salons held in the evening by various hotels.

- An inside tip: selected jazz, blues, rock and new folk music ensembles play in the Hotel Gasthof Hirschen in Schwarzenberg every Thursday (December to March) under the motto 'Wäldnerness'. / [www.hotel-hirschen-bregenzerwald.at/en](http://www.hotel-hirschen-bregenzerwald.at/en)
- Hotel Gasthof Krone in Hittisau organises the 'Literature on Saturday afternoon' events every quarter. Literary delights are presented from 3.30 p.m. This is accompanied by tea, coffee and cake. / [www.krone-hittisau.at](http://www.krone-hittisau.at)
- 'Krone trifft Kunst' is the motto of the concerts given by young artists studying at the Vorarlberg State Conservatory and playing music in Hotel Krone in Au. Moreover, hotelier Walter Lingg regularly extends an invitation to participate in guided tours including an organ concert in Au's village church. / [www.krone-au.at](http://www.krone-au.at)

### **Lively: après-ski in Warth-Schröcken**

Skiing days are rounded off with music and cultured après-ski at the Hotel Steffisalp in Warth. Rock and pop acts, blues and Irish Folk, live, attract skiers from 3 p.m. every Saturday to the open-air stage located at an altitude of 1,495 metres between 8 February and 11 April 2020. / [www.skiandconcert.at](http://www.skiandconcert.at)

Additionally, the S1 Ski-Lounge invites you along to indulge in some après-ski with live music every Saturday from 11 January to the end of the season. / [www.s1skilounge.at](http://www.s1skilounge.at)

### **Original: Andelsbuch railway station**

Andelsbuch railway station was built over a century ago. It is one of the last remaining historical railway buildings of the former Bregenzerwald railway.

In recent years, the building has been carefully renovated. Under the motto of 'arrivals, stays and meetings', the culture club hosts events such as concerts, readings and exhibitions all year round. / [www.bahnhof.cc](http://www.bahnhof.cc)

### **Complex: Jöslar in Andelsbuch**

Inn and cinema – the 'Jöslar' in Andelsbuch sees itself above all as a meeting place. Breakfast is served at the inn on Friday and Saturday mornings – with advance reservation – while warm sandwiches are available later on. DJs provide lively entertainment on some of the evenings. 'GaumenKino' is on the programme every first Sunday in the month. This is where three fine courses are served to accompany the presentation of cinematic delights. / [www.joeslar.at](http://www.joeslar.at)

## Treats. Cheese and delicacies

The Bregenzerwald has a considerable number of excellent restaurants and eateries for guests who enjoy fine dining in a harmonious setting. Cheese specialities, especially the aromatic alpine and mountain cheeses, are typical of the region. Visitors who like to combine exercise with regional delights will definitely enjoy one of the culinary winter hikes that are on offer.

### With nature. For the good of nature.

Agriculture in the Bregenzerwald forms the backbone for the maintenance and the upkeep of the cultivated landscape. The basis of this – and what makes it special – is the three-layer cultivation of the fields, which has been practiced for centuries. Once the snow has melted, the cattle graze on the valley pastures. Then they go up to the mountain pasture, a kind of half-way station, then up to the high mountain pastures in mid-summer, and back down to the barn in stages. The advantage of this ‘nomadism’ is, in addition to maintaining the cultivated landscape, the optimum use of the fields. Moreover, the alpine pastures, with their many herbs, offer the healthiest possible diets for dairy cows. This makes for particularly delicious, aromatic milk – the perfect base for the tasty Bregenzerwald alpine cheese.

Safeguarding the future of closely-structured farming – a farmer has an average of 29 cows – is important for many branches in the Bregenzerwald. Hence, cooperation between the farming community, tourism and commerce is accordingly close. Initiatives such as the KäseStrasse Bregenzerwald make a valuable contribution towards this. There is a great awareness of using high-quality foods made on the farms. Equally great is the range of products: from excellent cheeses to delicious yoghurts, meat and bacon specialities, through to schnapps, and cosmetics made from whey.

In spring 2011, the three-stage farming method in the Bregenzerwald was inscribed in the list of **Intangible Heritage of Humanity by UNESCO**.

### Cheese specialities

The **Bregenzerwald alpine- and mountain cheese** – a tasty hard cheese whose flavour intensifies the longer it matures – is the showpiece of all the cheeses. The cheese is produced in 15 village dairies and, in the summer months, on around 70 alpine pastures. The local specialities include unpasteurised-milk Emmenthal, camemberts, small cheeses made from cow’s, sheep’s and goat’s milk, as well as Bachensteiner, a fine red, semi-soft cheese. Practically unknown outside of Vorarlberg is the so-called ‘Alpzieger’ made from whey, which owes its typical green colour to over 40 different herbs. A particular rarity is the ‘Gsig’ or ‘Sig’, whose brown colour means that it is also extolled as Bregenzerwald chocolate. It is caramelised lactose you can eat neat or which can be used to pep up desserts.

### The Bregenzerwald KäseStrasse (Cheese Route)

The KäseStrasse isn’t a street or a road in the usual sense: it is a union of experts from various disciplines. Throughout the whole year, the members – including alpine dairies, cheese restaurants, farms selling their produce directly from the farm – organise events, invite people to tasting sessions, and initiate the uninitiated into the secrets of cheese production. In addition to restaurants and alpine dairies, stations along the KäseStrasse include: the modern cheese cellar in Lingenau, where several thousand blocks of alpine cheese are left to mature, the cheese house in Andelsbuch, open seven days a week selling the entire range of cheeses and delicacies from the Bregenzerwald, the alpine dairy school in Egg, where you can make your own cream cheese in a blitz course. [/www.kaesestrasse.at](http://www.kaesestrasse.at)



### **Lingenau cheese cellar**

Prepare to be amazed if you take a look into the modern cheese cellar in Lingenau – almost 33,000 loaves of cheese are stored here to mature. From your space in the foyer, you can watch a robot looking after the cheese. Each loaf is individually lifted from the 55-metre long shelves made from spruce wood, brushed with salt water, and replaced. A small shop is also housed there. / [www.kaesestrasse.at](http://www.kaesestrasse.at)

### **Rehmar Sinnhus**

The Alpine dairy in Rehmen has acquired an experienced Alpine dairyman in the form of Hermann Berchtold. He makes his blocks of cheese the traditional way, using cheese wires and cheese cloths – the way cheese is produced practically only in the Alps these days. In addition to the tasty Alpine cheese in various stages of maturity, Hermann Berchtold sells ‘Seagen’, a type of whey soup. It is rich in lactoprotein, is low in fat and is a great supplier of protein.

### **Excellent restaurants**

The following restaurants and inns have received awards from Gault Millau:

- In Au: Hotel Krone in Au
- In Bizau: Biohotel Schwanen, the only establishment around focusing on Hildegard von Bingen
- In Hittisau: Hotel Gasthof Krone and Romantikhotel Das Schiff
- In Krumbach: Restaurant s’Schulhus and Gasthof Adler
- In Langenegg: Hotel Krone
- In Lingenau: Hotel Wälderhof
- In Schwarzenberg: Hotel Gasthof Hirschen, Restaurant Gasthof Adler and Gasthaus Alte Mühle

### **TIP Sonntagsgasthaus (The Sunday restaurant)**

The Adler in Großdorf is only open on Sundays. Fans of cooking – amateur cooks and professional chefs from near and far – prepare their favourite dishes and serve up a three-course meal. Home-made bread and cake made according to the best-kept family recipes are par for the course at the Adler. Selected specialities from Italy – the second home of host Irma Renner – are also on the menu. / [www.adler-grossdorf.at](http://www.adler-grossdorf.at)

### **TIP Culinary winter hikes**

Bregenzerwald Tourismus offers packages for different culinary rambles. The day tours, available individually from Bregenzerwald Tourismus, include breakfast, lunch and dessert, with each course being served in a mountain inn or restaurant. You can choose from hiking routes in Hittisau/Hochhäderich, Mellau-Bizau-Bezau and Sibratsgfäll-Schönenbach. The day tours cost from € 45 per person. / [www.bregenzerwald.at/en/culinary-winter-hikes-in-the-bregenzerwald](http://www.bregenzerwald.at/en/culinary-winter-hikes-in-the-bregenzerwald)

### **„Frau Kaufmann kocht“. Cooking and dining together**

Regional and seasonal specialities, prepared according to old recipes with a contemporary twist: this is the topic of the series of cookery courses by Karin Kaufmann. For her cookery courses, Karin Kaufmann has transformed the typical, lovingly renovated Bregenzerwald Engel inn in Egg into a cookery school. Several courses per month are held. Karin Kaufmann in the ‘Engel’ has also established her own shop in which she offers selected and home-made products as well as kitchen accessories which she has developed in cooperation with Bregenzerwald craftsmen, such as a sieve for Backerbsen (soup pearls). An online shop is available via the website. / [www.frau Kaufmann.at](http://www.frau Kaufmann.at)

**Moor restaurateurs, Krumbach**

Krumbach opened up its moors in 2009. Four restaurateurs from Krumbach saw this as the perfect excuse to dedicate themselves to the subject of moorlands. As 'moor restaurateurs', they offer their guests guided tours, cookery courses and moorland days. At least one dish related to the moors is included on their menus throughout the year. This is accompanied by a seasonal moor drink which, with its various fragrances and aromas from the moor, is a pleasant surprise. / [www.krumbach.at](http://www.krumbach.at)

**Sutterlüty supermarket chain: regional and climate-neutral**

The Sutterlüty commercial enterprise, running 24 shops in Vorarlberg, has its headquarters in the Bregenzerwald. Cooperation and networking with regional partners as well as sustainability play an important role for the family-run company. The shelves hold around 3,000 products from Vorarlberg and the area around Lake Constance, making up around one-third of the turnover. The company builds its shops itself in accordance with green building standards. Sutterlüty is the first climate-neutral commercial enterprise globally, as of 01.01.2016. The company has set itself the objective of becoming the supermarket with the smallest ecological footprint by 2025. / [www.sutterluey.at](http://www.sutterluey.at)

## Well-being. For body and soul

The health and wellness hotels in the Bregenzerwald offer soothing programmes and treatments. Some wellness areas are also open to day visitors. Nourishing products are created from herbs, whey and honey.

### The health experts

Fife Bregenzerwald hotels specialise in classic spa and health programmes.

- In the Gesundheitshotel Bad Reuthe, in addition to other remedies, freshly-cut mud is used. / [www.badreuthe.at](http://www.badreuthe.at)
- Therapeutic fasting and base fasting are offered by Pension Engel in Hittisau. / [www.fastenkur.at](http://www.fastenkur.at)
- Detox and wellness programmes according to the teachings of Hildegard von Bingen are available in Biohotel Schwanen in Bizau. / [www.schwanen.at](http://www.schwanen.at)
- Health training is offered by the Hotel Quellengarten in Lingenau. / [www.quellengarten.at](http://www.quellengarten.at)

### Wellness with a view

Several of the Bregenzerwald wellness hotels have built new spas in recent years, in the style of modern Vorarlberg architecture.

- The spa in the '**Die Wälderin**' hotel is spacious, bright and brand new. The hotel located near the Mellaubahn's valley station was reopened in autumn 2018. / [www.diewaelderin.at](http://www.diewaelderin.at)
- Made from wood, with lots of glass and the best view nature has to offer. The **Sonne Lifestyle Resort** in Mellau, with its spacious comfort-zone spa. / [www.sonnemellau.com](http://www.sonnemellau.com)
- The view from the Da Vinci Spa in the **GAMS zu zweit \*\*\*\*Superiorhotel** in Bezau extends across to the heart-shaped pond in the romantic garden. / [www.hotel-gams.at](http://www.hotel-gams.at)
- 'Luxurious simplicity' is what you get at **Hotel Post Bezau by Susanne Kaufmann**. / [www.hotelpostbezau.com](http://www.hotelpostbezau.com)
- Relax in the Sky Spa in the **Hotel Krone in Au** and enjoy the view of their natural surroundings. / [www.krone-au.at](http://www.krone-au.at)
- The family-friendly **Hotel Adler** in Au offers a 1,000 m<sup>2</sup> wellness area with pool, children's pool and four saunas. / [www.adler-au.at](http://www.adler-au.at)
- **Wellnesshotel Linde** in Sulzberg, open and bright with a view as far as Lake Constance, offers relaxation in its Sunset Spa. / [www.wellnesshotellinde.at](http://www.wellnesshotellinde.at)
- Host family Metzler at the **Romantikhôtel Das Schiff in Hittisau** provides high quality not only when it comes to culinary matters: the extended relaxation area with outdoor pool, saunas, steam bath and garden is the perfect place to fully relax. / [www.schiff-hittisau.com](http://www.schiff-hittisau.com)
- The **Damülser Hof** spa area comprising swimming pool, panorama sauna and much more covers an area of 1,500 m<sup>2</sup>. / [www.damuelsershof.at](http://www.damuelsershof.at)
- **SteffisSpa** in Sporthotel Steffisalp in Warth is stylishly modern. / [www.steffisalp.at](http://www.steffisalp.at)
- Guests at **Wellnesshotel Warther Hof** may relax in an area sized 2,000 m<sup>2</sup> that is home to an indoor pool, an outdoor pool that is heated all year round and a large sauna world with panoramic sauna and relaxation rooms. / [www.wartherhof.at](http://www.wartherhof.at)
- The **Jägeralpe Ski & Hiking Hotel's** sports house in Warth boasts a 20-metre-long sports pool, five saunas, three relaxation rooms and a fitness room. / [www.jaegeralpe.at](http://www.jaegeralpe.at)
- The adventure pool at the **Hirschen Wohlfühlhotel** in Schoppernau offers a view of the natural landscape. / [www.hirschen.at](http://www.hirschen.at)
- Guests to the **Hotel St. Hubertus** in Egg-Großdorf can relax and swim with views of the mountains and to the south. / [www.sthubertus.at](http://www.sthubertus.at)

### **Namaste in the snow**

Whether at the end of a day of skiing, after a winter hike or to get in the mood for the evening: yoga teacher Claudia Jochum offers relaxing and regenerating yoga classes. The lessons are held in the workshop at the Hotel Gasthof Hirschen in Schwarzenberg. Those wishing to join in must register by 1.00 p.m. on the same day at the latest. Yoga practice will be taking place from 5.00 p.m. to 6.00 p.m. on 27 December 2019, on 3, 10, 17 and 24 January, on 7 February and on 6, 13 and 20 March 2020. / [www.erlebe-yoga.com](http://www.erlebe-yoga.com)

### **Cosmetics from nature**

Natural remedies and beauty products look back on a long tradition in the Alpine region. That's why three experts have drawn on ancient knowledge and combined it with modern expertise.

- The **Metzler Family** rediscovered an old natural remedy in whey. Whey is a by-product of cheese-making, it's free from fat and protein and contains many nutrients and vitamins. The innovative family business produces fine body-care products and powders from whey that are also available for purchase online. / [www.molkeprodukte.com](http://www.molkeprodukte.com)
- **Susanne Kaufmann** has developed her own range of cosmetics. Clear visuals and essences from nature local to the Bregenzerwald region characterise her products. They are available for purchase at Hotel Post Bezau by Susanne Kaufmann, which Susanne Kaufmann runs, at the Werkraumhaus in Andelsbuch, at various partners in Germany and other countries as well as from the online shop. / [www.susannekaufmann.com](http://www.susannekaufmann.com)
- The **Bentele Family**, at home in a new building with visitor centre in Alberschwende for the last two years, produces the WERBINA honey-care range. The honey the family uses and lovingly processes by hand is sourced from its own bee colonies. Honey is very well tolerated by the skin, revitalises and exudes a pleasant fragrance. / [www.gsiberger.at](http://www.gsiberger.at)

### **Make your own soap**

You have the chance to make your own soap in Au-Schoppernau. Selected fats and oils, sodium hydroxide and spring water from Schoppernau serve as the basis. Flowers and herbs from the garden of the head of the workshop and from surrounding mountain pastures are what give the bars of soap their colour, texture, caring and soothing characteristics. The workshops are held at 7.30 p.m. every Tuesday between 21 January and 24 March 2020, and last two and a half hours. Participation including ingredients and manuscript featuring recipes costs € 45 per person. / [www.au-schoppernau.at](http://www.au-schoppernau.at)

**APP TIP:** Where is the next chemist's? Which medical practices are open, and where is there a physiotherapist close by? The answers to these questions are available from the free 'Wälderdoc' app, which can be downloaded from [www.waelderdoc.at](http://www.waelderdoc.at).

## What does the summer 2020 have in store?

**Schubertiade Schwarzenberg:** Between 20 and 28 June 2020, and again between 22 and 30 August 2020, a multitude of concerts and master classes will be held as part of the Schubertiade Schwarzenberg. Excellent artists will be giving concerts in the Angelika Kauffmann Hall. Schubertiade package deals including hotel and concert tickets can be booked at Bregenzerwald Tourismus. / [www.schubertiade.at/en](http://www.schubertiade.at/en) and [www.bregenzerwald.at/en](http://www.bregenzerwald.at/en)

**Bregenz Festival:** The opera 'Rigoletto' by Giuseppe Verdi is being hosted on the floating stage by the Bregenz Festival between 22 July and 23 August 2020. Operas, orchestra concerts and various other performances can be seen and heard in the Festival Theatre and in other venues. [www.bregenzerfestspiele.com/en](http://www.bregenzerfestspiele.com/en)

**Mountain experiences all-inclusive:** In the Bregenzerwald, hiking paths lead you to the loveliest spots, and relate histories along the way. Atmospheric events are regularly held on the mountains. The Bregenzerwald Guest-Card is your 'ticket' to these mountain experiences. It is your unlimited ticket to take the cable car as often as you like, is valid for environmentally-friendly rides on the public buses, and is your permit to refreshing, relaxing times in the outdoor swimming pools. The Bregenzerwald Guest-Card is available to all visitors who spend at least three nights in the Bregenzerwald in participating 24 villages (between 1 May and 31 October 2020). It is included in the accommodation price. / [www.bregenzerwald.at/en/bregenzerwald-guest-card](http://www.bregenzerwald.at/en/bregenzerwald-guest-card)

## Overview of the Bregenzerwald

<b>Location</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ North-easterly part of the state of Vorarlberg, between Lake Constance and Arlberg</li> </ul>
<b>Size</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 550 km<sup>2</sup>, 23 villages with about 32,000 inhabitants</li> </ul>
<b>Accommodation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 16,000 beds, from the 4-star hotel through to the farm,</li> <li>▪ 6 campsites (Au, Bezau, Lingenau, Riefensberg, Egg-Schetteregg, Sibratsgfäll)</li> </ul>
<b>Skiing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Bregenzerwald: 88 lifts and cable cars and 247 km of pistes (of which 93 km are blue, 120 km are red, 34 km are black)</li> <li>▪ Three large skiing areas: Warth-Schröcken (in conjunction with the Ski Arlberg Skiraum, more than 300 kilometres of pistes), Damüls-Mellau (more than 100 kilometres of pistes), Diedamskopf (40 kilometres of pistes)</li> <li>▪ Five family-friendly, smaller ski areas: Egg-Schetteregg, Bödele Schwarzenberg, Hochlitten-Riefensberg, Hochhäderich Hittisau-Riefensberg, Niedere Andelsbuch-Bezau</li> <li>▪ 3Valley ski pass: valid for all skiing areas in the Bregenzerwald, the Große Walsertal, Lechtal and several resorts in Allgäu (GER). Discounted Arlberg ski pass for the holders of the 3Valley ski pass.</li> </ul>
<b>Snow boarding</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Damüls-Mellau: Snowpark Damüls</li> <li>▪ Diedamskopf Au-Schoppernaut: Diedamspark</li> <li>▪ Warth-Schröcken: Funslope-Steffisalp</li> </ul>
<b>Ski and snowboard schools</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 13 ski schools</li> <li>▪ 4 guest kindergartens</li> </ul>
<b>Ski buses</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Free in most towns and villages to holders of ski passes or guest cards. Local buses operate in Au-Schoppernaut, Warth-Schröcken, Damüls and Mellau.</li> </ul>
<b>Ski rental</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Specialist sports shops in 11 villages (in Diedamskopf/Au-Schoppernaut, Damüls, Mellau, Warth, Schröcken, Riefensberg/Hochhäderich and Schwarzenberg/Bödele these are located right next to the valley stations of the cable cars)</li> </ul>
<b>Cross-country skiing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 320 km of cross-country ski runs</li> <li>▪ Cross-country schools</li> </ul>
<b>Winter hiking</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 310 km of prepared, sign-posted winter rambling paths</li> </ul>
<b>Indoor sports</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 1 indoor tennis courts (Bezau)</li> <li>▪ Bowling alleys, billiards</li> <li>▪ Climbing hall (Dornbirn)</li> </ul>
<b>Outdoor sports</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 1 paragliding school</li> </ul>
<b>Wellness</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 3 public swimming pools and wellness centres (Gesundhotel Bad Reuthe, Vitalhotel Quellengarten in Lingenau, Wellnesshotel Linde in Sulzberg)</li> </ul>
<b>Museums and exhibitions (also open during the winter)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Werkraumhaus in Andelsbuch</li> <li>▪ Vorarlberger FIS Skimuseum Damüls</li> <li>▪ Franz Michael Felder Museum in Schoppernaut</li> <li>▪ Women's Museum Hittisau</li> <li>▪ Angelika-Kauffmann Museum in Schwarzenberg</li> </ul>