**Ischgl**

**Categories**

**Good For**

Intermediates

Experts

Snowboarders

Après ski

Snow reliability

**Data**

**Beginner Runs**

14

**Intermediate Runs**

42

**Advanced Runs**

13

**Total Runs**

69

**Lifts**

45

**Chairs**

25

**Drags**

13

**Gondola Cable Cars**

7

**Parks**

1

**Pipes**

1

**Weather**

**Annual Snowfall**

Unavailable.

**Overview**

Ischgl is one of Austria’s most successful ski areas of the past few decades, having built a strong reputation for its reliable snow cover, extensive terrain and full-on après ski scene.

The last two aspects of its successful appeal are highlighted by the resort’s three annual music concerts, which has attracted the likes of Elton John, Lionel Richie and Rihanna to Ischgl’s open-air Top of the Mountain stage. The concerts traditionally take place at the start and end of the season, bringing tens of thousands of skiers and boarders to the resort during periods where other areas are struggling to get business - if they’re open at all.

The ski area, one of Austria’s largest, extends right over the border to Samnaun in Switzerland. Facilities at the resort are good, with yearly investment in modern lifts, and there’s also one of the world’s most powerful snowmaking systems in place - ensuring slopes are covered even if Mother Nature doesn’t play ball.

The resort itself has a compact centre lined with shops, restaurants and hotels with the snow front running parallel to the heart of the village, conveniently this means most accommodation options are only a short walk from the lifts.

**Location**

Ischgl is located in the Paznaun region of the Austrian Tyrol province. The resort is on the Western border of Austria and offers skiing into Switzerland. Paznaun is located in the Silvretta mountain chain.

**Website**

http://www.ischgl.com

**Piste Map**

http://www.ischgl.com/de/active/skigebiet/pisten-anlagen/skiguide-interaktiv/pistenplan

**Hit The Slopes**

Ischgl has some of the longest and most snowsure slopes in the Alps, and is open from late November to early May each ski season. The ski area here is the largest in the eastern Alps and is well connected to the village by a selection of high-speed, high-capacity gondolas.

On the mountain, the heart of the ski area is Idalp with several large restaurants and the main nursery slopes, which are served by several easy-to-use lifts (including a conveyor-style carpet lift). Much of the terrain is up above the treeline and most of it consists of long, wide cruising trails up to 7km (4 miles) in length. However, lower runs cut down through the forest and high Alpine bowls that are ideal for powder lovers.

Snowboarding is very big in Ischgl too, and the terrain and uplift is ideally suited to boarding with a large terrain park containing 30 features, a major halfpipe and a boardercross course.

There are 200km (125 miles) of linked skiing between Ischgl and Samnaun in Switzerland, but the Silvretta ski pass also includes the neighbouring ski areas above the villages of Galtür, Kappl and See, which are linked by a bus service. The total area encompasses 370km (232 miles) of trails. There are also some great cross-country routes in the area.

**Ischgl**

**Resort**

1377

**Base**

1377

**Top**

2872

**General**

**Beyond The Slopes**

Although skiers and boarders might find Ischgl’s routine of skiing all day and partying all night pretty exhausting, the resort does have extensive non-ski facilities to fill the hours in between runs.

Indoors, there is a swimming and fitness complex that offers discounted admission to holders of ski passes valid for three days or longer. There are also indoor tennis courts at Galtür, a nine-pin bowling alley, films shown in the Silvretta Centre, an art gallery and two museums.

Back outdoors, there’s an ice rink, sleigh rides, cleared winter paths and an excellent toboggan run.

**Family Fun**

Ischgl's Gästekindergarten ski school is located up on the mountain at the Silvretta cable car top station, so it’s convenient for all levels of skier with the beginner slopes nearby, and also non-skiers wanting to see their little ones make their first tumbles and turns on the slopes. It’s open from 1000 to 1600 daily and accepts children of any age.

Children aged three and over can opt to join Ischgl’s ski kindergarten (tel: +43 5444 5377), which has its own separate fun learning area. Full day cover with lunch is available on request. Off the slopes, Ischgl has good facilities for families, with a popular adventure swimming pool complex and plenty of family-friendly restaurants.

**Retail Therapy**

Compared to other ski resorts, there is an above average choice of shops in Ischgl, which cover all holiday requirements and provide a good range of fashion and gift shopping opportunities.

One unique opportunity is to ski over the border into Switzerland carrying a backpack and shop in the glittering duty-free shops of lift-linked Samnaun. The ski run down into the village is called the ‘Duty-Free Run’ as it provides slopeside duty-free shopping for low-priced jewellery, fashion, electronics and, of course, alcohol and cigarettes. There are also half a dozen duty-free petrol stations in the village. However, there are limits to the amount shoppers can purchase and exceeding this could mean having to pay tax upon re-entry to the European Union when skiing back to Ischgl.

**Splashing Out**

The Silvretta area has 74 peaks in total and good skiers and boarders can try ski touring with an expert, such as mountain guide Stefan Jungmann (tel: +43 664 179 6389). The ski touring season lasts from February until May and Silvretta is particularly good for ‘extreme’ skiing because there are few crevasses and, of course, Stefan knows where they all are.

**Apres Ski**

Ischgl has worked hard to build a reputation for its lively après ski scene, and is now right up there with the likes of St Anton and Solden as boasting of the best après-ski scenes in the Alps.

The entertainment begins straight after the slopes close with a number of busy venues opening out on to the base of the runs. The Schatzi Bar, run by the Hotel Elizabeth, is perhaps one of the most infamous, with table dancers and cheap beer.

If you stagger on to the Main Street The Trofana Alm at the back of the Trofana Alm Hotel has a two-storey drinking hall that’s rammed with happy après skiers most evenings.

With more than 40 bars dotted throughout the resort, you really are spoilt for choice when choosing a spot for your evening tipple. However those who prefer a glass of wine to a stein of cheap lager should try the Romantic Champagner Alpine Lodge (tel: +43 5444 5633; [www.romantica.at](http://www.romantica.at)), which is said to sell more champagne per year than any other bar in Austria.

Later on, Pacha (tel: +43 5444 522 6202; [www.pacha.at](http://www.pacha.at)) is one of the most popular late night clubs.

**Eating Out**

Similar to the resort’s choice of bars, there are around 40 restaurants in Ischgl, the majority of which are within the main hotels and serve Austrian and international cuisine.

The Hotel Sonne’s restaurant Sunn Alm (tel: +43 5444 5302; [www.sonne-ischgl.at](http://www.sonne-ischgl.at)) has a wide range of dishes from its international menu, and also offers live music, adding to the ambience.

For more casual dining, Salz und Pfeffer (tel: +43 5444 5918; [www.adler-ischgl.at](http://www.adler-ischgl.at)), serves excellent pasta dishes, as well as salads for the more carb-conscious, while the Hotel Gramaser’s Grill Alm restaurant (Dorfstrasse 97; tel: +43 5444 5293; [www.ischgl.cc](http://www.ischgl.cc)) is a good one for carnivores, priding itself on its steak.

Among the top gourmet offerings are Paznaunerstube in the 5-star Hotel Trofana Royal (tel: +43 5444 600; [www.trofana-royal.at](http://www.trofana-royal.at)) and the Stüva restaurant in the Gasthof Yscla (tel: +43 5444 5275; [www.yscla.at](http://www.yscla.at)); both come highly rated by the Gaut Millau guide.

**Transport**

**Getting There**

Nearest airport: Innsbruck Airport (INN).

Distance to resort: 100km (62 miles).

Driving time: 1 hour 10 minutes.

Nearest railway station: Landeck

Distance to resort: 30km (18 miles).

Driving time: 30 minutes.

**Getting Around**

Most of central Ischgl is easy to walk around and has developed alongside the ski slopes; therefore skiers and boarders can get onto the mountains from various points and don’t need to travel to a central point. A ski bus service runs along the valley providing a regular link to the neighbouring ski areas included on the area pass.

**Hotels**

There are as many guesthouses, bed and breakfasts, apartments and hotels in Ischgl as there are days in the year. Together, they offer more than 11,400 guest beds – contributing to Ischgl being one of Austria’s biggest resorts.

**AlpVita Piz Tasna**

Located above the village centre, 150m (500ft) from the lifts, the modern AlpVita Piz Tasna hotel has a good wellness facility and it’s possible to ski right up to the door.

**Category**

Moderate

**Thoroughfare**

Stockwaldweg 5

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

Ischgl

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

A 6561

**Country**

Austria

**Telephone**

+43 5444 5277.

**Website**

http://www.piztasna.at

**Hotel St. Nikolaus**

The family-run 3-star Hotel St Nikolaus is situated far enough away from the main street’s bars and clubs that you can enjoy a quiet night’s sleep, but close enough that the resort’s main amenities are just a short walk away. Services here include free Wi-Fi for guests and on-site restaurant serving Italian and local fare.

**Category**

Moderate

**Thoroughfare**

Kirchenweg 8

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

Ischgl

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

A 6561

**Country**

Austria

**Telephone**

+43 5444 5247.

**Website**

http://www.stnikolaus.at

**Fliana**

This centrally located 4-star hotel is located just 20m (65ft) from the lifts. The Fliana also benefits from a beautifully presented on-site bar and wellness area with indoor pool.

**Category**

Luxury

**Thoroughfare**

Fimbabahnweg 8

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

Ischgl

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

A 6561

**Country**

Austria

**Telephone**

+43 5444 5543.

**Website**

http://www.fliana.com/

**Trofana Royal**

This 5-star superior hotel in Ischgl offers remarkable levels of luxury and high gourmet standards, reflected in its three Gault-Millau ‘toques,’ one Michelin star, and two Relax-Guide ‘Lillies’ – a unique feat in Austria.

**Category**

Luxury

**Thoroughfare**

Dorfstrasse 95

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

Ischgl

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

A 6561

**Country**

Austria

**Telephone**

+43 5444 600.

**Website**

http://www.trofana-royal.at

**Hotel Jägerhof**

This central family-owned 4-star hotel features excellent wellness facilities and has a homely atmosphere.

**Category**

Moderate

**Thoroughfare**

Eggerweg 11

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

Ischgl

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

A 6561

**Country**

Austria

**Telephone**

+43 5444 5206.

**Website**

http://www.jaegerhof-ischgl.at

**Hotel Garni Pfeifer**

Even some of the more basic Ischgl hotels are rather nice, and Garni Pfeifer is a prime example. Among the facilities on offer here is a bijou sauna to ease any post-ski aches.

**Category**

Cheap

**Thoroughfare**

Bichlweg 2

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

Ischgl

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

A 6561

**Country**

Austria

**Telephone**

+43 5444 5400.

**Website**

http://www.hotel-pfeifer.com