**Mayrhofen**

**Categories**

**Good For**

Beginners

Intermediates

Experts

Snowboarders

Families

Non-skiers

Après ski

Summer skiing

Snow reliability

**Data**

**Beginner Runs**

16

**Intermediate Runs**

24

**Advanced Runs**

5

**Total Runs**

45

**Lifts**

52

**Chairs**

17

**Drags**

27

**Gondola Cable Cars**

8

**Parks**

1

**Pipes**

0

**Weather**

**Annual Snowfall**

10m (32ft).

**Overview**

Mayrhofen is a comprehensive ski town of picturesque Tyrolean architecture and beautiful valley views. The village has a long history as a tourist resort that dates back more than a century; this is partly due to mountain sports, with attractions including summer climbing and hiking. But winter sports development has been a little more recent, with the first ski lifts installed in 1954.

Mayrhofen's comparatively low altitude may be a concern if global warming projections prove correct, but the lifts ascend fairly high into the mountains and the slopes have extensive snow-making coverage, so its future is not necessarily bleak.

The year-round resort – summer sports take over in the warmer months – is especially popular with the British and German markets, along with a large number of Dutch visitors – surprisingly less than 10% of guests here are Austrians. This constant flow of tourist business has helped Mayrhofen ski resort create an excellent tourism infrastructure, which many ski areas that can rely on only three or four months of steady income a year cannot match.

**Location**

Mayrhofen is located in the Tyrol's Ziller Valley, in the northwest of Austria.

**Website**

http://www.mayrhofen.at

http://www.mayrhofner-bergbahnen.com

**Piste Map**

http://ski3.intermaps.com/mayrhofen/skimap\_touch.asp

**Hit The Slopes**

Mayrhofen's ski area stretches to two extremes. On the one hand, the resort is one of the lowest in the Alps, but investment in some excellent high-speed, high-capacity chairlifts – added to some wise strategic planning – means skiers can ascend a world-class 2,370m (7,776ft) between late November and mid-April.

On the other hand, skiers can ski on the Tux glacier, one of the most snowsure ski areas in the world (and one of the few remaining that endeavours to open every day of the year). It is not possible to ski the full vertical in one go, however, as a short bus link needs to be made to travel to and from the glacier.

To make the most of this connection, skiers must opt for the full Zillertaler Superskipass (minimum duration two days), which is valid at ski areas in the increasingly lift-linked Ziller Valley. That means 178 lifts servicing more than 478km (297 miles) of trails.

If all that sounds a little daunting, it’s possible to just ski or board on the local Ahorn and Penken mountains. These peaks possess a wide range of skiing, from gentle, wide, family trails up to 5.5km (3.5 miles) in length, to the steepest slope adventure in Austria, the Harakiri, which has an average incline of 78%. Snowboarders and freestyle skiers, meanwhile, have the excellent Vans Penken Park to explore here.

Mayrhofen recently unveiled the Penken combi-lift, a world first where passengers have the best of both worlds and can travel either in an eight-seater chairlift or in a spacious 10-person gondola cabin that follows after every two chairs.

**Zillertaler Superskipass**

**Resort**

630

**Base**

580

**Top**

3250

**Mayrhofen**

**Resort**

630

**Base**

630

**Top**

2500

**General**

**Beyond The Slopes**

The Erlebnisbad pool (tel: (05285) 62559) in Mayrhofen is one of the best in any ski resort. It includes amazing slides up to 101m (335ft) in length and a high-quality spa. Also indoors, there’s a cinema, bowling alley, games room and tennis and squash courts to enjoy.

Outdoor activities include sleigh rides, ice skating, paragliding, ballooning, horse riding, toboggan runs and 45km (28 miles) of signposted and cleared winter hiking trails.

For something a little unusual, take a trip to the Sennerei Zillertal dairy (Hollenzen 116) on the outskirts of town. Here you can see the milk and cheese production process and to sample and buy its products – it's worth a visit if only to see the large model cows on the roof.

**Family Fun**

Mayrhofen has put a lot of effort into its facilities for families to complement its major on- and off-slope attractions. Wuppy's Kinderland (Waldbadstrasse 539; tel: (05285) 63612) is located in the leisure pool complex and accepts children aged from three months to seven years. It includes a ‘Sleeping Beauty house’ and other play areas, and has its own fully equipped kitchen and professionally trained staff. Older children aged four and older can join the ski kindergarten in one of the four ski schools.

**Retail Therapy**

As befits one of the larger resorts in the Alps, there is a selection of more than 100 shops in Mayrhofen. As well as the inevitable extensive choice of ski shops, there's a good selection of craft and souvenir retailers selling local needlework, wood carving and woollen goods. Beyond this normal ski resort selection are fashion boutiques, photographic stores, book shops, a florist and a jewellers.

**Splashing Out**

Three different companies, including Flugtaxi Mayrhofen (tel: (0664) 205 5011; [www.tandemfunflights.at](http://www.tandemfunflights.at)), are keen to take visitors on tandem paragliding descents from the peaks above the resort. A video film of each heroic descent is provided on completion to relive the exhilarating experience.

**Apres Ski**

Mayrhofen attracts a young, lively crowd and a more mature clientele, but it’s big enough to comfortably cater to both simultaneously with a dozen busy night spots.

The Funky’s and Rockstar Palace (Scheulingstrasse 371), Scotland Yard Pub (Scheulingstrasse 372; tel: (05285) 62339; [www.scotlandyard.at](http://www.scotlandyard.at)), Brück’n Stadl (Ahornstrasse 850; tel: Tel. (05285 62232; [www.brueckenstadl.at](http://www.brueckenstadl.at)) and Piccadilly (Scheulingstrasse 370; tel: (0650) 341 7751; [www.piccadilly-pub.com](http://www.piccadilly-pub.com)) are among the best venues for animated après-ski in Mayrhofen. There is also the WinWin Casino (Am Marienbrunnen 346; tel: (0505) 777 2010) for those who fancy a flutter.

The giant Strass Hotel (Hauptstrasse 470; tel: (05285) 6705; [www.hotelstrass.com](http://www.hotelstrass.com)) has six different bars. These include a sports lounge with events on the big screen, The New Speakeasy Arena nightclub, a laid-back lobby bar, an après-ski ice bar, a terrace bar with live Tyrolean music and even a water-themed aqua bar.

Back on the slopes, Mayrhofen’s White Lounge (tel: (05285) 62277) igloo hotel hosts a party every Tuesday in its funky ice bar.

**Eating Out**

There are more than 40 places to eat in Mayrhofen; most of these are family-run, traditional restaurants in the hotels serving good, hearty Tyrolean and international cuisine.

The Gasthof Perauer (Ahornstrasse 854; tel: (05285) 62566; [www.perauer.at](http://www.perauer.at)) is located right next to the Ahorn cable car and features both a traditional *stüberl* (Tyrolean inn) and a high-quality restaurant serving Austrian and European cuisine.

Away from local delicacies, the Pramstaller family's restaurant and pizzeria in the Gasthof Edelweiss (Scheulingstrasse 352; tel: (05285) 62208; [www.restaurant-edelweiss.at](http://www.restaurant-edelweiss.at)) is among the better quality Italian options.

**Transport**

**Getting There**

Nearest airport: Innsbruck Airport (INN).

Distance to resort: 70km (43 miles).

Driving time: 50 minutes.

Nearest railway station: Mayrhofen.

Distance to resort: Within the resort.

**Getting Around**

A valid ski pass entitles visitors to use the local ski buses running between the Ahorn, Penken and Horberg lifts. There is also an express ski bus from Mayrhofen direct to Horbergbahn.

**Hotels**

Mayrhofen is a picturesque town with a traditional village feel and beautiful Tyrolean architecture that includes a mix of hotels, attractive catered chalets and apartments. There is a wide range of choices to suit all budgets, from self-catering options and cheap bed and breakfasts to more luxurious hotels.

**Hotel Maria Theresia**

Built in a beautiful wooden chalet style, this hotel houses a sauna and solarium and can be found in the centre of the resort.

**Category**

Moderate

**Thoroughfare**

Dursterstrasse 227

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

Mayrhofen

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

XXX

**Country**

Austria

**Telephone**

(05285) 62433.

**Website**

http://www.hotel-maria-theresia.com

**Sporthotel Manni**

This family-run 4-star hotel in the heart of Mayrhofen offers a traditional ambience and luxury spa. Its highlight is an outdoor pool on the roof with stunning mountain views.

**Category**

Luxury

**Thoroughfare**

Hauptstrasse 439

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

Mayrhofen

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

XXX

**Country**

Austria

**Telephone**

(05285) 633 010.

**Website**

http://www.mannis.at

**Hotel Garni Pöll**

The centrally located Hotel Garni Pöll is a small, traditionally designed bed and breakfast with an additional two-bedroom apartment.

**Category**

Cheap

**Thoroughfare**

Förstersteig 231

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

Mayrhofen

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

XXX

**Country**

Austria

**Telephone**

(05285) 62412.

**Website**

http://www.hotel-poell.at