**Söll**

**Categories**

**Good For**

Beginners

Intermediates

Snowboarders

Families

Après ski

**Data**

**Beginner Runs**

76

**Intermediate Runs**

83

**Advanced Runs**

15

**Total Runs**

174

**Lifts**

91

**Chairs**

36

**Drags**

40

**Gondola Cable Cars**

15

**Parks**

3

**Pipes**

0

**Weather**

**Annual Snowfall**

7m (21ft).

**Overview**

Shortly before snowboarding burst onto the winter sports scene in the 1980s, Söll ski resort had taken the crown from Italy's Sauze d'Oulx as the party hotspot in the Alps, especially amongst young British skiers.

Although still one of the livelier choices in Alpine skiing, Söll now rarely makes the headlines for anything other than its traditional Tyrolean ambience and large, accessible ski area.

Like Sauze d'Oulx, Söll had a long history as a farming centre long before winter sports were even thought about. And, despite extensive growth as a tourist resort, Söll has kept a lot of its character by maintaining historic architectural standards, with the village still centred on its beautiful, old church.

Söll is one of nine villages with inter-linked ski areas that together form Austria's largest single ski area, the SkiWelt (Ski World). This vast domain provides ample opportunities for skiers and boarders of all levels.

**Location**

Söll is located in the Wilder Kaiser Alps region, within the province of Tyrol in northwest Austria. The resort is very close to the German border.

**Website**

http://www.skiwelt.at

**Piste Map**

http://www.skiwelt.at/en/skiwelt-wilder-kaiser-brixental-1.html

**Hit The Slopes**

A modern gondola close to the village centre is the access point for Söll's giant SkiWelt area, which has 279km (157 miles) of ski runs – more than 225km (140 miles) of which have snowmaking cover. These runs are served by a total of 91 lifts and more than 70 mountain restaurants; some facts that make impressive reading, even for the most widely travelled skiers.

On Söll’s local slopes, experts have four black runs to explore; while beginners have wide, sunny slopes on which to learn their craft at the top and bottom of the mountain. A special beginners-only lift ticket is available, although only if you are booked on a ski school course, which saves money for those who don't want the full SkiWelt pass (there is no Söll-only ticket). Intermediates will feel they can ski forever from Söll's central position within the ski area. There is a marked circuit of around 20 runs that is fun to do, but if the huge SkiWelt is not enough, the Ki-West gondola and short bus link connect the area to Kitzbühel's own large ski domain. When adding these slopes into the mix, there are more than 400km (250 miles) of mostly lift-linked pistes, making it one of the world's biggest ski domains.

If that's still not enough, a further option is the Kitzbüheler Alpen AllStarCard, which incorporates additional neighbouring areas to include more than 350 lifts and cable cars serving over 1,000km (625 miles) of runs. But note that these areas are not lift-linked, so a car or the use of bus connections is necessary.

The ski season in Söll generally runs from December until mid-April.

**Söll**

**Resort**

703

**Base**

650

**Top**

1829

**General**

**Beyond The Slopes**

Söll has a better than average range of off-slope activities for its size, with the likes of squash courts, a bowling alley and several health and beauty centres to enjoy. In addition, the Kaiserbad swimming pool complex (tel: (05358) 3811) offers a range of water-based fun in nearby Ellmau.

Outdoors, Söll has its own natural ice rink, which can be used for skating in the winter months. There is also the chance to have a go at curling, while the typical Alpine activities of snowmobiling, sleigh rides, snowshoeing and winter hiking are also available for most ages.

**Family Fun**

Söll ski resort is a good choice for families with its excellent facilities for children, friendly ambience, relaxed restaurants and wide, sunny slopes.

On the slopes, Skischule Söll-Hochsöll (Stampfanger 6; tel: (05333) 5454; [www.skischule-soell.com](http://www.skischule-soell.com)) has a ski nursery for children aged three to five and there are special ski school classes for older children. Children aged 12 months to four years can be looked after in the Snow Pirates KidsClub (Dorf 28; tel: (0664) 172 1963) at the top of the gondola in Scheffau.

**Retail Therapy**

Shopping is not a big activity in Söll, which has just 15 shops – around half of which sell skiwear and equipment. Among the others are a couple of small souvenir shops offering locally made Tyrolean crafts; in particular wooden carved items.

**Splashing Out**

Sign up for ‘Husky Day’ on Friday afternoons (register at least 24 hours in advance) to enjoy a dog sleigh ride and to learn more about the hardy breed – meet at the tourist information office (Dorf 84) in the village.

**Apres Ski**

Söll may have lost in part its wild reputation but it still has some of the best nightlife in the Alps; this is concentrated on about 10 lively après-ski bars and nightspots that are busy as soon as the lifts close.

Popular nightspots for après-ski in Söll include the raucous Moonlight Bar (Stampfanger 22; tel: (0664) 4036 006; [www.moonlightbar-soell.com](http://www.moonlightbar-soell.com)), the legendary and lively Whisky-Mühle (Dorf 89; tel: (05333) 5326; [www.whisky-muehle.at](http://www.whisky-muehle.at)), and Salvenstadl (Dorf 36; tel: (05333) 6373; [www.salvenstadl.at](http://www.salvenstadl.at)).

There are also plenty of alternative evening activities to try away from the bars, including floodlit toboggan runs and night skiing.

**Eating Out**

There are more than 30 restaurants in Söll, most of these are traditional Tyrolean (traditional huts). The Ager family's Dorfstub'n (Dorf 59; tel: (05333) 5907; [www.dorfstubn-soell.at](http://www.dorfstubn-soell.at)) and Söller Stuben (Dorf 120; tel: (05333) 5360) are both good choices for Austrian specialities.

Italian food is also well represented in the village, with Venezia (Dorf 112; tel: 05333 6191), Giovanni (Dorf 58; tel: (05333) 5705; [www.ristorante-giovanni.at](http://www.ristorante-giovanni.at)) and Hexenalm (Stampfanger 1; tel: (05333) 5544; [www.hexenalm-soell.at](http://www.hexenalm-soell.at)) all popular purveyors of pizza.

**Transport**

**Getting There**

Nearest airports: Salzburg Airport (SZG); Innsbruck Airport (INN); Munich Airport (MUC).

Distances to resort: 80km (50 miles); 80km (50 miles); 149km (93 miles).

Driving times: 1 hour; 1 hour; 1 hour 25 minutes.

**Getting Around**

A free ski bus (for lift pass holders and/or hotel guest card holders) operates around the resort. A small fare is charged for the bus service that operates to neighbouring villages.

**Hotels**

Most of the accommodation in Söll is made up of 3-star hotels, basic bed and breakfasts and guesthouses. In addition, there are also a large number of chalet-style buildings – although a surprising few of these are catered – and a handful of apartments.

**Hotel-Pension Huter**

Hotel-Pension Huter is a beautiful traditional chalet, just five minutes' walk from the resort centre and 100m (110 yards) from the ski bus stop.

**Category**

Cheap

**Thoroughfare**

Sonnbichl 9

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

Söll

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

XXX

**Country**

Austria

**Telephone**

(05333) 5121.

**Website**

http://www.hotel-huter.com

**Hotel Alpenpanorama**

One of the small number of 4-star hotels in Söll, Hotel Alpenpanorama is in a beautiful location and has its own café and patisserie selling homemade cakes.

**Category**

Luxury

**Thoroughfare**

Sonnbichl 18

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

Söll

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

XXX

**Country**

Austria

**Telephone**

(05333) 5309.

**Website**

http://www.alpenpanorama-hotel.at

**Hotel Feldwebel**

Centrally located, parts of this family-run hotel date back five centuries. This friendly establishment houses a well-regarded restaurant and a wellness centre.

**Category**

Moderate

**Thoroughfare**

Dorf 73

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

Söll

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

XXX

**Country**

Austria

**Telephone**

(05333) 5224.

**Website**

http://www.feldwebel.at