**St Wolfgang**

**Categories**

**Good For**

Beginners

Intermediates

Families

Non-skiers

Après ski

**Data**

**Beginner Runs**

9

**Intermediate Runs**

8

**Advanced Runs**

1

**Total Runs**

18

**Lifts**

7

**Chairs**

1

**Drags**

6

**Gondola Cable Cars**

0

**Parks**

1

**Pipes**

0

**Weather**

**Annual Snowfall**

1.8m (3.5 ft)

**Overview**

St Wolfgang is not your regular ski resort: there’s no big ski centre next to the village and no short, ski boot shuffle to the slopes. But the beautiful 12km (7.5 miles) of shoreline along Lake Wolfgangsee has attracted poets and artists for centuries and it’s an inviting starting point for beginners.

Here, it’s a case of jumping on the ski bus each morning for a short ride to the nearby Postalm ski area, a spot ideal for beginners and early intermediates, but will have limited appeal for the experienced. There are, however, bigger areas available through a joint lift pass. The only question then is: why stay in St Wolfgang when you could just stay slopeside at one of them?

Well, St Wolfgang is a very appealing little town with an atmospheric centre and the wonderful Pilgrimage Church of St Wolfgang which houses priceless artworks. It is surrounded by enticing shops, cafés and restaurants, and has plenty to do when the ski boots are off.

**Location**

St Wolfgang lies on the northern shore of Lake Wolfgangsee in the Austrian Alps. The resort is close to Salzburg and is in the heart of the Salzkammergut region in northwestern Austria.

**Website**

www.wolfgangsee.salzkammergut.at

**Piste Map**

http://winter.postalm.at/skigebiet\_contents-39

**Hit The Slopes**

St Wolfgang’s Postalm ski area has one of the lowest altitudes for a major Alpine destination, so snow cover is only truly reliable between Christmas and late March. There is, however, limited snow-making in some key areas, which helps if natural snowfall falls short.

The Postalm area is a 20-minute bus ride from the town and has 17km (11 miles) of runs, a fraction of the amount of skiable terrain in most other resorts in the Alps. However, this is more than adequate for beginners, early-intermediates and undemanding skiers who may prefer having the small, unintimidating ski area all to themselves. There are nine blues and eight reds, while the only black run (the Rudi Nierlich 1 piste) takes up the full vertical of the area.

If conditions are good, more demanding skiers will find touring routes on the Postalm (or they can sign up for the Dachstein ski pass, which offers around 160km (100 miles) of pistes at multiple centres throughout the region. These resorts include Gosau and Zwölferhorn, but bear in mind the closest of these is an hour away by bus.

Back at Postalm, there’s a popular terrain park for freestyle skiers and boarders, and the area has three cross-country ski loops. These runs range in difficulty and length but can be tackled together in one 22km (14-mile) merged route – part of 40km (25 miles) of tracks in the wider ski area.

**St Wolfgang**

**Resort**

540

**Base**

1200

**Top**

1550

**General**

**Beyond The Slopes**

There are many activities in St Wolfgang, owing to the town’s year-round operations, with winter activities encompassing everything from sleigh rides, snowshoeing and snow tubing to the skilful sport of curling. Toboggans can be rented from the Strobler hut (near Parkarea 3), while other activities include tennis at the Vital Hotel Wolfgangsee (tel: +43 6138 22770; [www.tennis-hotel.at](http://www.tennis-hotel.at)).

Those in search of pure relaxation and a spot of pampering will find a number of top-class spa and wellness facilities open to the public in the resort’s various 4-star hotels. These invariably include indoor swimming pools and a range of treatments available to day-pass holders.

The majority of other activities are centred on the lake, from boating and waterskiing on it to paragliding above it.

**Family Fun**

St Wolfgang is a pleasant place to spend a family holiday, but there are pros and cons to a family stay in this resort.

On the one hand, families will enjoy being together in an area of great natural beauty, with high-value, family-friendly facilities and a small and unintimidating ski area. But on the other, expect to spend a chunk of the holiday walking around and on buses.

Also, there is no non-ski nursery provision for young children, although kids four and older can be catered for and taught to ski at the ski kindergarten (tel: +43 6137 6090) run by Gabriele Pilz at the Postalm ski area.

**Retail Therapy**

A long-standing regional shopping hub, St Wolfgang has a good selection of shops that can meet both holiday and retail therapy needs. There are a dozen or so gift shops to explore, as well as plenty of quirky and specialist stores run by local craftspeople and other artisans.

Fine examples include the glass studio Glasschleiferei Wipplinger (tel: +43 6138 28273) and the antiques shop Das Gwölb (also known as Zita’s) (tel: +43 66411 24384).

**Splashing Out**

Eurotherme (tel: +43 6132 2040; [www.eurothermen.at](http://www.eurothermen.at)) in nearby Bad Ischl is a traditional spa with modern facilities that incorporates a thermal spa, a large sauna area and a hot-whirlpool. The complex is open daily and is a 30-minute bus ride from St Wolfgang.

**Apres Ski**

Après-ski in St Wolfgang ranges from sophisticated hotel lounge bars to livelier venues.

Bar Grabovski (tel: (+43 664 183 4530) is firmly in the latter category. Open until 0400, it’s good for everything from cocktails and cigars to live music. Also open late is vivacious joing Kap Horn (tel: (0676) 455 4183;[www.kap-horn.at](http://www.kap-horn.at)), while the family-run pub Hannelore (tel: (06138) 3001) is more relaxed.

Don’t miss the live music at Weissen Rössl (tel: (06138) 2306; [www.weissesroessl.at](http://www.weissesroessl.at)). The famous 1920s operetta of the same name was written here.

**Eating Out**

There is a large choice of restaurants in St Wolfgang, though the majority are traditional Austrian establishments where meat and cheese dishes are plentiful. One local dish not to be missed is the scrumptious shredded pancake, *kaiserschmarrn* (‘fit for an Emperor’ desert).

Joseph's (tel: +43 6138 20460; [www.josephs.at](http://www.josephs.at)) is one of the best with a reputation for excellent regional recipes and service. The Hotel Försterhof (tel: +43 613 8253 5600; [www.foersterhof.at](http://www.foersterhof.at)) is also good for local specialities.

Gourmets should head for the award-winning Kaiserterrasse at the Hotel Im Weissen Rössl (tel: +43 6138 23060; [www.weissesroessl.at](http://www.weissesroessl.at)) by the lake.

**Transport**

**Getting There**

Nearest airport: Salzburg Airport (SZG).

Distance to resort: 55km (34 miles).

Driving time: 55 minutes.

**Getting Around**

A comfortable ski bus service operates from St Wolfgang to multiple ski areas, which are all accessible on one lift ticket. Beginner skiers and those happy with limited runs can go direct to the local Postalm area using the service, while the more advanced and demanding can continue on to Gosau which is around an hour away.

**Hotels**

Accommodation is primarily in the form of hotels in St Wolfgang, with a great choice ranging from 1- to 4-star properties. There are also smaller bed and breakfast pensions, plus around 300 beds available in apartment accommodation.

**Vital Spa Hotel Wolfgangsee**

A comfortable 4-star hotel with a spa on the edge of the village, Vital Spa Hotel Wolfgangsee has a strong tennis theme, with indoor and outdoor courts that has seen it be ranked among Europe’s top tennis hotels.

**Category**

Luxury

**Thoroughfare**

Au 53

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

St Wolfgang

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

A 5360

**Country**

Austria

**Telephone**

(+43 6138 22770.

**Website**

www.tennis-hotel.at

**Hotel Garni Buchinger**

This popular 3-star guesthouse is located on the edge of the town, overlooking the lake. Wi-Fi internet access is available throughout the hotel.

**Category**

Moderate

**Thoroughfare**

Ried 44

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

Ried

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

A 5360

**Country**

Austria

**Telephone**

+43 6138 2331.

**Website**

www.garni-buchinger.at

**Pension Waldhorn**

3-star Pension Waldhorn is a friendly, family-run guesthouse set in a traditional chalet at the foot of the Schafberg mountain. It has a handy location, just five minutes’ walk from the village centre.

**Category**

Moderate

**Thoroughfare**

Sternallee 150

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

St Wolfgang

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

A 5360

**Country**

Austria

**Telephone**

+43 6138 22050.

**Website**

www.pension-waldhorn.at

**Hotel Im Weissen Rössl**

This large, lakeside hotel covering 1.5 hectares (3.7 acres) has a great choice of 4-star rooms and suites, a gourmet restaurant and a superb spa.

**Category**

Luxury

**Thoroughfare**

Markt 74

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

St Wolfgang

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

A 5360

**Country**

Austria

**Telephone**

+43 6138 2306.

**Website**

www.weissesroessl.at

**Pension Wolfgangstuben**

While it may need a little update, this traditional guesthouse is clean, central and very affordable. Its onsite restaurant is also one of the more popular places to eat in town.

**Category**

Cheap

**Thoroughfare**

Markt 48

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

St Wolfgang

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

A 5360

**Country**

Austria

**Telephone**

+43 6138 2261.

**Website**

XXX

**Altroiterhof**

This large, family-friendly chalet offers pension-style accommodation on the slopes and overlooks the town and lake. Rooms here offer wonderful views, while a friendly service is provided by the Strobl family.

**Category**

Cheap

**Thoroughfare**

Au 6

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

St Wolfgang

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

A 5360

**Country**

Austria

**Telephone**

+43 6138 2912.

**Website**

www.altroiterhof.at