ROUNDTOUR ELFER



HIKING





TOUR DESCRIPTION

The tour leads from the Mittelberg district of Schwendle, climbing moderately on an alpine path, past the Wiesalpen mountain pastures, into the Wildental valley. Below the Fluchtalpe, the mountain path leads to the right of the stream towards the waterfall and up into a large cirque bordered by the Elferkopf and Schafalpenköpfe peaks. From there, the trail climbs steeply and challengingly over a scree field towards the Kemptner Scharte. Sure-footedness and a head for heights are required here. From the Kemptner Scharte, the trail descends to the Mindelheimer Hütte, which is a good place for a short break. From there, the trail climbs gently in a high alpine environment characterized by rocky and boulder terrain to the saddle, from where the trail branches off to the right to the summit of the Walser Geißhorn. The descent is again characterized by mountain meadows, passing three alpine huts. After the Obere Gemstelhütte, the stony hiking trail, briefly secured with wire ropes in a gorge, leads through a belt of mountain pines down to the Hintere Gemstelalpe. From here, a wider alpine path leads past Bernhards Gemstelalp and through the Gemsteltal valley to the Mittelberg district of Bödmen.

ROUTE DESCRIPTION

From the starting point at the car park in Schwendle a moderately ascending trail leads us into the Wildental. From the Fluchtalpe we keep right and follow the stream upwards towards the waterfall. The path is steep and demanding. When the Kemptener Scharte (wind gap) is reached, we descend to the Mindelheimer Hütte. From there we follow the so called Schwabengrat to Geißhornjoch. Right hand is the summit of the Geißhorn. The path leads us on serpentines to the Sterzer Hütte and past the "Sterzer Seele" to the Obere Gemstelhütte. The descent is via the Hintere Gemstelalpe; just before the hut a boulder field has to be crossed. At the end of the valley at the river mouth, we follow the Breitach downriver to the Schwand bridge. After 10 minutes we return on the asphalt road to the starting point.

RECOMMENDED EQUIPMENT

EMERGENCY: 140 Alpine Emergencies Austria wide 144 Alpine Emergencies Vorarlberg 112 Euro-Emergencies (works with every mobile network) www.vorarlberg.travel/sicherheitstipps

The hiking trails in the Wildental are very popular. For the sake of the hikers no cyclists go to the Wildental. Thank you for your understanding. Güterweggenossenschaft Mittelberg - Wildental

Weather-appropriate clothing and sturdy footwear. Hiking poles recommended.

FURTHER INFO & LINKS

Tips

With a bit of luck, you may even see ibexes on this tour.

Thanks to the overnight accommodation at the Mindelheimer Hut, the tour can also be divided into two stages. With an overnight stay, or for particularly fit mountain hikers, the summit ascent to the 2,366-metre-high Walser Geißhorn can also be done in one day. However, the



Sart: Mittelberg

Goal: Mittelberg

duration from the Geißhornsattel to the summit should not be underestimated. Those who decide to climb to the summit will be rewarded with an impressive 360-degree view.

Further links

How do you consciously experience nature?

Nature is so much more than the backdrop for unforgettable mountain experiences. It is a habitat for animals and plants. It provides drinking water and supplies us with high quality food. Not only does it provide valuable raw materials such as wood, it also protects against avalanches and mudslides and regulates the climate. It is up to us to support nature in everything that it does for us. One thing is certain, together we can achieve more:

Smart in NATURE

CONSCIOUS together

EXPERIENCE foresight

Smart in NATURE

Take a deep breath and recharge your batteries, be outside and feel free. When we enjoy nature, we are guests in the living room of shy animals and rare plants. If you behave smart, they will be happy to share their living space with you in the future too.

Stay on paths and marked routes

If you follow the marked paths and routes, you are sure to come to new favorite places. In this way you also respect protected areas, because many animals and plants need special protection. Especially in winter, any disturbance unnecessarily costs the wild animals the strength they need to survive.

Avoiding twilight times

Standing on a mountain at sunrise is a special experience. The morning and evening hours are also the time when most wild animals are in search of food. If they are disturbed, they get stressed. If it cannot be avoided, please stay on the marked path, do not use a bright headlamp and enjoy the silence.

Stay clean & take rubbish with you

It goes without saying: You take rubbish with you again, on the mountain and in the valley. Please also organic waste, because it is composted much more slowly at altitude. You can dispose of the rubbish properly at home or in your accommodation - please remember that there are no rubbish bins in public spaces in Kleinwalsertal.

On the natural toilet

If you are looking for a quiet place, please be at least 50 m away from water. Bury excrement or cover it with a large stone. Use fallen leaves or recycled toilet paper and put the paper back in the trash bag.

On tour with a dog

Are you always in control of your four-legged partner, even if he gets his nose for marmots, deer or other wild animals? You are both on the safe side on a leash. Keep dogs on a short leash near grazing cattle. If an attack by a grazing animal is foreseeable: leash off immediately. There are numerous dog stations in the valley for the disposal of dog bags. The farmers and alpine farmers thank you because manure in meadows and fields contaminates the feed and makes grazing cattle sick.

CONSCIOUS to each other

Consideration for other athletes and those looking for relaxation

Everyone loves to enjoy a special piece of earth for themselves. But most of the time we are not traveling alone. No problem, because there is enough space. Allow time, open the way in an accommodating manner, provide support when someone needs help and always give a smile. So nothing stands in the way of friendly cooperation and relaxed enjoyment of nature.

Appreciating the preservation of the cultural landscape

Alpine landscapes are touching with their contrast: Imposing peaks and natural forests alternate with gentle valleys, well-tended meadows and pastures. In the Kleinwalsertal too, this delightful landscape at three altitudes is no coincidence, but the result of an interplay of natural and cultural landscapes. Behind this is the work of farmers, alpine and forestry as well as hunters. With their work, they ensure that the attractiveness of the recreation and leisure area and the diversity of species are preserved. We already say thank you if we stay on the marked trails and enjoy regional products.

EXPERIENCE farsighted

Safe on tour - for you and others

Whether on a ski or snowshoe tour in winter or on a mountain tour in summer, anyone who is out and about in alpine terrain has to be well prepared. This includes careful information and tour planning as well as the right equipment. Correctly assessing alpine dangers requires a lot of knowledge and experience. Why not learn from professionals and go on tour with one of the experienced guides?

Nature experience map, scale 1:12,000; Kleinwalsertal tour map (with hiking guide), scale 1:25,000; DAV hiking map, scale 1:25,000; the respective cards are available for a fee in the Walserhaus Hirschegg.

Morning 6 °C
MOUNTAIN

13 °C
VALLEY

Noon

5 °C MOUNTAIN 15 °C VALLEY Evening 5 °C MOUNTAIN

13 °C VALLEY