



TOUR DESCRIPTION

The winter hike leads from the Ifen valley station past the Herzsee lake along a gently ascending path along the Schwarzwasserbach stream to the end of the Schwarzwassertal valley and the Alpe zur Melköde. From here, the somewhat steeper ascent to the Schwarzwasserhütte follows, always with a magnificent view of the Hoher Ifen in the north, Steinmandl, Grünhorn in the west and the Ochsenhofer Köpfe in the south. The return to the valley follows the same route.

ROUTE DESCRIPTION

The hike begins with a slightly uphill path along the wild and romantic Schwarzwasserbach to Melköde (approx. 1 hour). From here the steeper ascent to the Schwarzwasserhütte takes place. In another hour of walking, 275 meters of altitude are overcome. You walk through an untouched landscape with a wonderful view of the Hohen Ifen in the north, Steinmandl, Grünhorn in the west and the Ochsenhofer Köpfe in the south. The way back to the valley follows the same route. A special kind of nature experience.

RECOMMENDED EQUIPMENT

EMERGENCY CALL: 140 Alpine emergencies throughout Austria 144 Alpine Emergencies Vorarlberg 112 Euro emergency call (works with any mobile phone / network) www.vorarlberg.travel/security-tips Sturdy footwear and weather-appropriate clothing. Hiking poles are recommended for steeper sections.

FURTHER INFO & LINKS

Tips
The Schwarzwasserhütte is open in winter; we recommend stopping off at the Schwarzwasserhütte for a delicious Kaiserschmarrn.

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.

↔ Distance

9.74 KM

🕒 Duration

4:30 H

⚡ Altitude meters

354 M

⚡ Highest point

1625 M

Condition

Best season

JAN

FEB

MAR

APR

MAI

JUN

JUL

AUG

SEP

OCT

NOV

DEC

Sart: Hirschegg

Goal: Hirschegg

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

