

SKI TOUR FROM THE IFEN PARKING LOT TO THE HÄHLEKOPF



MEDIUM SKI TOURING



TOUR DESCRIPTION

Hählekopf – Stunning Ski Tour at the Western End of Schwarzwassertal

The Hählekopf, at 2,058 meters, marks the western “end” of the Schwarzwassertal and offers a fantastic ski touring experience. This broad mountain delights ski tourers with its ideally inclined slopes.

Despite the nearby ski resort at Ifen, the Schwarzwassertal remains surprisingly peaceful in winter, allowing you to fully immerse yourself in the quiet beauty of the season. Once you reach the summit, you’ll be rewarded with breathtaking views over the Kleinwalsertal, the Diedamskopf, Ifen, and Grünhorn. And finally, a fantastic descent awaits you.

The Schwarzwassertal is also popular with winter hikers. Especially on the first section up to just before the Alpe Melköde, more consideration is needed from both ascending and descending visitors to share the space respectfully. Beyond that point, there is plenty of room for everyone to enjoy nature.

Conscious nature experience means respectful coexistence among winter sports enthusiasts and towards the natural environment. The described route takes into account the designated forest and wildlife protection areas as well as wildlife resting zones within the Schwarzwassertal.

ROUTE DESCRIPTION

Ascent

The tour starts at the Ifen - Schwarzwassertal car park, which can be easily reached by bus (see "Arrival"). First we follow the forest path on the Schwarzwasserbach, following the winter hiking trail, until the Galtöde, the Alpe Melköde is in sight. After the board with the information about the wildlife sanctuary (please note), we climb the free slope to the right (avalanche line from the right) and turn left into the small aisle when the open area narrows (signs). We follow the best path through the forest aisle and climb straight ahead on the beginning of the open area to the Ifersguntalpe. From the Alpe we continue to climb towards the Hählekopf, which is already clearly visible. Depending on the local snow and avalanche conditions, we circumvent the summit slope a little sideways.

Descent

The descent is along the ascent lane. Once at the bottom we have to push a little further out of the valley.

RECOMMENDED EQUIPMENT

In particular the steep grass slopes in the upper area require a safe avalanche situation, so take the **avalanche report** into account! The specified GPS track is only a suggestion. No liability can be assumed for the correctness of the information. Away from secured pistes, everyone is responsible for finding out about alpine

↔ Distance

13.05 KM

🕒 Duration

3:20 H

⚡ Altitude meters

816 M

⚡ Highest point

2058 M

Condition

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■

Best season

JAN

FEB

MAR

APR

MAI

JUN

JUL

AUG

SEP

OCT

NOV

DEC

Sart: Hirschegg

Goal: Hirschegg

dangers, especially avalanches. Ski touring in alpine terrain is always at your own risk. Weather and snow conditions may make changes to the route necessary. For experienced ski tourers.

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

- 140 Alpine Emergencies Austria wide
- 144 Alpine Emergencies Vorarlberg
- 112 Euro-Emergencies (works with every mobile network)

www.vorarlberg.travel/safety-tips

Careful planning, study the avalanche report:(https://vorarlberg.at/web/land-vorarlberg/contentdetailseite/-/asset_publisher/qA6AJ38txu0k/content/lawinenwarndienst), for an avalanche emergency: avalanche transceiver, shovel and probe (standard), risk assessments on site always undertake, complete ski touring training.

FURTHER INFO & LINKS

Tips

Due to the longer approach through the initially flat Schwarzwassertal valley, an overnight stay at the Schwarzwasserhütte hut is recommended.

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?

For the planning of ski tours we recommend the maps of the German Alpine Club.

<div>Morning</div> <div></div> <div>6 °C MOUNTAIN</div> <div>11 °C VALLEY</div>	<div>Noon</div> <div></div> <div>6 °C MOUNTAIN</div> <div>15 °C VALLEY</div>	<div>Evening</div> <div></div> <div>6 °C MOUNTAIN</div> <div>13 °C VALLEY</div>
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