# SKI TOUR: FROM BAAD TO THE HÖFERSPITZE



MEDIUM

SKI TOURING



## TOUR DESCRIPTION

At the far end of the Bärgunt Valley, the Höferspitze (2131 m) rises with an impressive steep summit slope (approx. 350 meters) that promises plenty of downhill fun. However, this mountain should not be underestimated and should only be tackled under safe and stable snow conditions.

The tour starts in Baad, which is also a popular winter hiking destination. Especially on the lower section up to the Bärgunthütte, ski tourers are asked to show consideration for other winter sports enthusiasts and nature lovers, particularly during the descent. Please follow posted signage for route guidance. This ensures a safe and enjoyable experience for all. Ski tourers are requested to use the ungroomed "Panoramaweg" (formerly known as "Brunnenweg") for both ascent and descent. If this trail is closed due to avalanche danger, all users must switch to the lower, groomed trail along the Bärguntbach stream. On such days, especially cautious and respectful behavior is essential – including reduced speed or walking if necessary – to ensure the safety of everyone on the trail.

"Experience nature consciously" stands for mutual respect among winter sports enthusiasts and toward the natural environment. This tour has been designed to respect the designated forest-wildlife conservation zones in the Bärgunt Valley, ensuring a responsible and nature-friendly winter experience.

### **ROUTE DESCRIPTION**

#### Ascen

The tour starts in the mountain village of Baad, which can be easily reached by bus (Walserbus from Oberstdorf). First we follow the winter hiking trail in the direction of Bärgunttal until a junction. There we keep to the left and continue on the "Brunnenweg" (not scattered). After about 30 minutes we reach the Bärgunthütte, which is also open in winter. From here we largely follow the course of the summer path. We only change the route after the second steep step. While the summer trail leads towards the Hochalppass, we turn west between 1,800 and 1,850 m above sea level. The steep eastern slope is now up to the northern ridge of the Höferspitze. You will soon reach the summit on the narrow ridge.

## Descent

The easier descent is along the ascent track. In safe conditions, there is also a steep descent (almost 40 degrees) directly from the summit over the eastern flank. When you arrive at the Bärgunthütte, take the Brunnenweg branching off to the right (not strewn) back to Baad.

#### 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



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

Stop frequently and look up at the sky. With a bit of luck you can see the only breeding pair of golden eagles in the Kleinwalsertal. The Bärgunttal is his preferred district center.

#### **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.

Morning 6 °C MOUNTAIN

13 °C VALLEY

Noon 5 °C MOUNTAIN 15 °C VALLEY

Evening 5 °C MOUNTAIN 13 °C VALLEY