

"STEINBOCK TRAIL: GRAND CLASSIC LOOP"

HARD CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING



TOUR DESCRIPTION

Steinbock Trail – Scenic and Snow-Sure Cross-Country Skiing in Kleinwalsertal

The Steinbock Trail stands out for its high snow reliability. Centrally located, it offers a stunning winter experience with trail sections running through the Gemstel Valley and the Derra Valley, surrounded by an impressive alpine landscape.

Covering around 14 kilometers, the trail starts at the entrance to Mittelberg, continues through Böldmen and Baad, and leads into the Derra Valley. Several loops take skiers across the Birkenwies, the Gemstelboden, and through the Wiesele area.

The entire trail network is groomed for classic cross-country skiing only.

There are six loop options plus a practice area:

- Birkenwies Loop (2.2 km / 43 m elevation gain)
- Böldmen–Baad Loop (7.5 km / 144 m elevation gain)
- Derra Loop (1.6 km / 51 m elevation gain)
- Weiher Loop (3.3 km / 61 m elevation gain)
- Wiesele Loop (3.6 km / 79 m elevation gain)
- Ahorn Loop (4.8 km / 147 m elevation gain)

The intermediate to advanced loops can be skied individually or combined into longer tours. A nearly 4 km section (Wiesele Loop) is covered by artificial snow, ensuring reliable skiing conditions even in periods of low snowfall.

Trail access points are located at Birkenwies, the Weiher car park, in Baad, at the Aparthotel, and in Mittelberg/Tobel.

ROUTE DESCRIPTION

To warm up, you head slightly uphill from the Böldmer level, along the towering mountains. You cross the Breitach river for the first time, and then it accompanies you throughout the rest of your journey. Travel along the partly frozen stream and into the snowy Gemsteltal valley. The old Walserhaus invites you to take a rest, but the trail leads gently further along the Breitach into the mountain village of Baad. Up to here, you've done a few metres in altitude, your heart is beating in the background, your breathing remains steady and in harmony with your heart. Baad offers plenty of rest opportunities, and you can feel the closeness, but also the security, of the mountains. A small loop leads continually upward to the turning point. The subsequent descent gives you the feeling of freedom. The valley opens up and gives you new power and energy.

FURTHER INFO & LINKS

Tips
For the small appetite - right next to the trail: Gemstelhof-Laden, Café Malefitz, Aparthotel, Café Baad Grund, Kuhstall & Alpenhotel Widderstein.

Further links
How do you consciously experience nature?

↔ Distance

14.22 KM

🕒 Duration

3:45 H

⚡ Altitude meters

218 M

⚡ Highest point

1266 M

Condition

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Best season

JAN

FEB

MAR

APR

MAI

JUN

JUL

AUG

SEP

OCT

NOV

DEC

Sart: Mittelberg

Goal: Mittelberg

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 **-5 °C**
MOUNTAIN
 **2 °C**
VALLEY

Noon **-3 °C**
MOUNTAIN
 **8 °C**
VALLEY

Evening **-3 °C**
MOUNTAIN
 **5 °C**
VALLEY