



A SAFE
BET FOR
WINTER



Vorarlberg in Winter

What's hot and what's ahead in 2020/21
Experience Vorarlberg real time #visitvorarlberg



How to Reach Vorarlberg

Vorarlberg is within easy reach on all routes and all means of transport. The system of public transport is extremely well developed. Train and bus services are closely dovetailed in the Vorarlberg Transport Network

Guaranteed Mobility

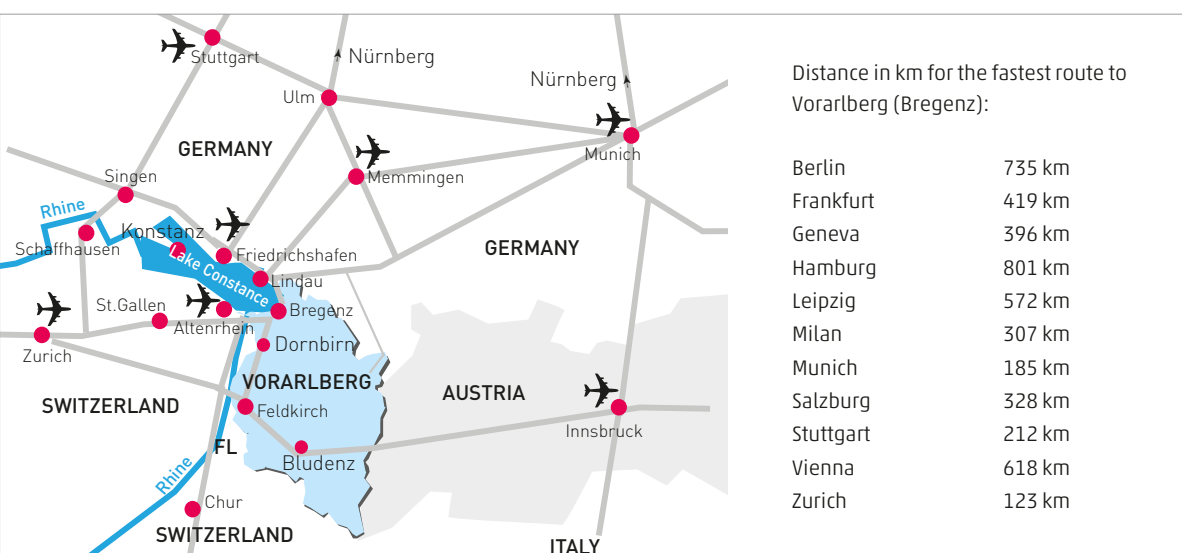
The regional buses and railways in Vorarlberg are modern and ultra-convenient, with high-interval schedules. Free use of public transport and ski buses upon presentation of your ski pass. A good reason to leave your car at home when on holidays. www.vorarlberg.travel/public-transport

... by rail

Austria: Good connections from eastern and southern Austria, also motorail and night trains (www.oebb.at).
Germany: via Lindau – Bregenz. Destinations in Bregenzerwald are within easy reach from the Oberstaufen railway station (e.g. from Berlin via Augsburg, continue by bus). The railway station you should head for when travelling to Kleinwalsertal is Oberstdorf/Allgäu (G). www.bahn.de
The nearest motorail stations are Munich and Lörzach. www.autoreisezug-planer.de
Switzerland: via Zürich–St. Gallen–Bregenz or Zürich–Sargans–Feldkirch (www.sbb.ch).

... by air

Die nächstgelegenen Flughäfen:
• Lake Constance-Airport Friedrichshafen, serving destinations from/to Germany.



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www.vorarlberg.travel/en, #visitvorarlberg

Vorarlberg – Snowy Sensations

Winter alters the pace of life in Vorarlberg in a miraculous manner. Whether fast-paced or laid-back: mellow landscapes clad in a white blanket, as well as boundless space, delight those heading for the snow. Indoors, an ambience of cosiness without worries or fear beckons. Museums showcase exhibitions. And the cuisine? As good as it gets!

Skiers in motley colours carve their trails in the snow, enjoy the peace and serenity of winter hiking or snowshoe rambling. The crisp air is invigorating, winter wonderland enchants. What a pleasure to experience winter in Vorarlberg in Austria's very west in its most pristine and comfortable form. Always, of course, in strict compliance with all health measures required by the current times and listed in Winterkodex Vorarlberg.

Vorarlberg ticks all the boxes when it comes to perfect winter days. For this compact state, winter has long been a truly special season.

Here, on Arlberg mountain, is where alpine skiing was literally born. In all of Vorarlberg's regions, an abundance of snow makes for perfect conditions for winter sports of any kind – even more enjoyable when you have so much open space all around you. Imaginative programmes invite you to experience winter at its very best: early-bird ski outings, guided tours heading for deep powder, snowshoe rambles to destinations of special interest, toboggan safaris, or hiking in the company of llamas or huskies. You will be out and about exclusively in small groups, with personalised, attentive service.

In that way, it is easy to get acquainted and try out new things at your own pace. Vorarlberg has always enjoyed a high level of sophistication. On the sun terraces, small, exclusive concerts are performed during after-ski hours in intimate settings. A string of museums keep their doors open also in winter. Why not have a look around the villages, which have retained their cosy rustic charm? The typical timber architecture in traditional or contemporary design can be found in many places and is well known to turn heads. The hotels are small and medium-sized, with a pleasant personal feel. Like most

inns and restaurants, they are largely family-run, often by generation after generation.

Wherever you stay or dine, your hosts are committed to high standards of quality, a refined atmosphere, and safe hospitality. Food around here is notoriously tasty, relying on regional produce from local farms and delicatessen manufacturers. Winter in Vorarlberg is bliss, that is a safe bet!

www.vorarlberg.travel



Six Inviting Regions

There are six holiday regions in Vorarlberg. While every one of them has a distinctive character of its own, they share many common features: the ski areas boast state-of-the-art lifts and cable cars and perfectly groomed runs. Several ski schools offer courses for beginners and advanced skiers, for on-piste skiing and freeriding. Guided ski tours, winter hikes and snowshoe rambles are organised at many places.

World-famous: Lech Zürs am Arlberg

Where alpine skiing was literally born, you can today enjoy excellent runs and free-ride slopes in Austria's largest interconnected ski area. Lech Zürs am Arlberg is among the leading winter sports destinations in the Alps. Expect superior standards of quality, from luxury hotels to holiday apartments. An array of cultural and music events spice up the winter season.



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Joie de vivre: Bregenzerwald

Bregenzerwald offers varied skiing, beauty to behold, fine dining and comfortable lodging. The practical 3-valley ski pass interconnects all ski areas. From Warth-Schröcken you can take the ski shuttle to Lech Zürs am Arlberg. The mix of old and new (timber) architecture in the villages and up on the mountains is eye-catching. 12 themed "Design Trails" will let you gain an understanding of local architecture and design.



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Inspiring: Bodensee-Vorarlberg

Lake Constance and its surroundings offer a perfect blend of urban culture and winter fun. The ski areas are within easy reach by bus and train from the cities of Bregenz, Dornbirn, Hohenems and Feldkirch. The region's smaller ski resorts are literally at your doorstep. Why not spend an inspiring hour exploring a museum? Or listening to small-scale concerts and plays performed in intimate settings?



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Family-friendly: Brandnertal, Alpenstadt Bludenz, Klostertal, Grosses Walsertal

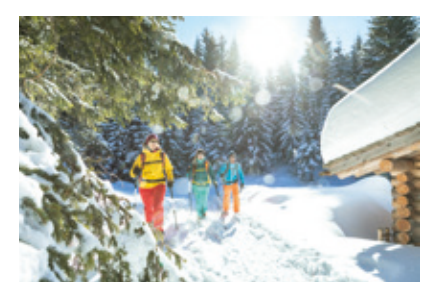
Brandnertal and the Sonnenkopf ski area are filled with fun and adventure for families, with opportunities for skiing, snow-shoe rambling or high-adrenaline tobogganing. The Grosses Walsertal biosphere park subscribes to eco-friendly winter sports close to nature. If you want to explore several ski areas, choose Alpenstadt Bludenz as your base.



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Special winter moments: Montafon

Each day in Montafon is full of special moments. Content after spending hours in the bracing air, you stop at one of the many mountain lodges, revisiting the day's memorable moments on the slopes, on a ski tour or snow shoe ramble, all while looking forward to relaxing hours and heart-warming encounters. Reliving the day in your mind, in joyful anticipation of the next, enriched by once-in-a-lifetime moments in the mountains.

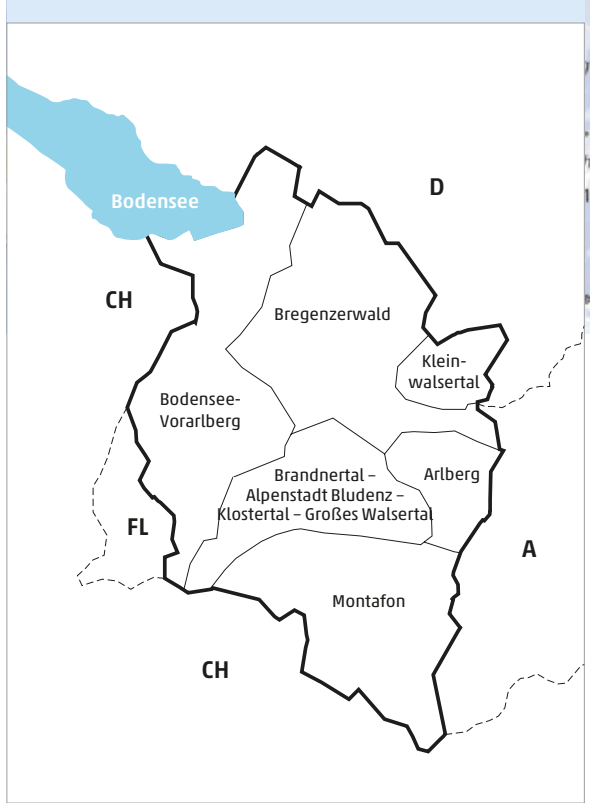


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Traffic restrictions

The following roads are closed during the winter months:
Silvretta high alpine road via Bielerhöhe. Secondary roads: usually the L 198 Lechtalstrasse (Lech-Warth) and the L 51 Latenser Strasse (Innerlaterns-Furka pass-Damüls). Partially closed depending on weather conditions: Riedberg pass (between Hittisau and Balderschwang/Allgäu).



More information?

We will readily send you information on special themes or brochures and accommodation directories of the different holiday regions free of charge. Don't hesitate to order.

Social Media


You can experience Vorarlberg in real time on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, Youtube and Pinterest. Go to www.vorarlberg.social and see the social media community's take on Vorarlberg. For useful information and special offers, consult the Social Guide. [#visitvorarlberg](https://www.instagram.com/visitvorarlberg) [#myvorarlberg](https://www.facebook.com/visitvorarlberg) [#winterkodexvorarlberg](https://www.twitter.com/visitvorarlberg)





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Dashing Downhill

Right and left, left and right, straight down for a stretch, narrow bends, wide curves. The magic of etching your own trail into the fresh snow, choosing your own rhythm and pace! Winter wonderland is so enchanting that you gladly pause to absorb what is around you.

The cradle of skiing, brimful with snow

Vorarlberg is a premier ski destination. For over 110 years, the art of skiing has been practised here. The foundations of alpine skiing were laid on the Arlberg, today Austria's largest interconnected ski area. The topographic conditions are ideal, whether in Lech Zürs am Arlberg, in Montafon, Brandnertal or Klostertal, in Bregenzerwald or Kleinwalsertal. Some two thirds of Vorarlberg are situated more than 1,000 m above sea level. Many ski areas reach altitudes of 1,400 to 2,400 metres. The valleys and mountain ranges structure the landscape into compact, pleasantly sized natural spaces. Owing to Vorarlberg's favourable location on the Northern rim of the Alps, there is always an abundant cover of natural snow.

Variety is the spice of winter

The landscape is awe-inspiring and imposing, but not as craggy as might be expected at such altitudes. There is plenty of space for a perfect mix of gentle and demanding runs. The ski schools offer ski courses and private lessons for beginners and proficient skiers alike. Playful learning is the motto at the ski nurseries. The little ones can practise their first turns in fun-filled ski bunny land, while their more experienced counterparts gather in fun parks and get a kick out of speedy curves and daring jumps.

Deep powder or firm

Some ski areas offer a wide choice of groomed and ungroomed deep powder runs and firm descents. Whether you opt for a ski tour or some freeriding in open terrain, for safety reasons, we strongly recommend booking a guide to accompany you. Not only are they familiar with the terrain, but they are also able to expertly assess the snow conditions.

Gliding cross-country

Gliding gently uphill and downhill on cross-country skis holds a fascination of its own. There is a wide choice of classic and skating trails in all regions. You can find Vorarlberg's highest cross-country trails at the Silvretta-Bielerhöhe heights at an altitude of 2,032 m in Montafon. The cross-country border trail from Hittisau to Balderschwang (Germany) is approx. 50 km long. The Nordic Sport Park Sulzberg in Bregenzerwald boasts 40 km of cross-country trails (20 km classic and 20 km skating). A part of the trail is even illuminated at night-time from Mondays to Fridays. Moreover, there is a biathlon range, which you try wupon prior registration.

For more information see
www.vorarlberg.travel/skiing

Winter – interactive

The Vorarlberg State Tourist Board has panoramic maps of the ski resorts, and current snow and avalanche reports. Plus useful tips and hints about events and activities such as winter hiking, cross-country skiing or tobogganing. With the Vorarlberg App you can download everything onto your smartphone.
www.vorarlberg.travel/app (in German only)

Rambling through the Snow

What is the sound of snow? And what does crisp winter air feel like? What is lurking behind the next bend? Anyone who sets out to explore winter in sturdy boots or on snowshoes, is as close to nature as it gets and bound to discover many unknown things. The soothing effect of winter tranquillity, for instance. The pleasant stimulation of body and mind by physical exercise.

Signposted trails

Serene and enchantingly beautiful, that is the face of winter you will experience on a hike. All regions boast winter hiking trails, either fully groomed, or flattened to allow easy walking when wearing mountain boots. If necessary, you can always grab a pair of poles. The destinations include panoramic lookouts or mountain-top inns beckoning to weary winter enthusiasts. Several villages offer guided winter hikes, either during the day or at night-time with torchlights.

Sunny heights

Take in the jaw-dropping views, soak up the sun, and escape the mist occasionally pooling down in the valley during winter: several lifts and cable-cars offer special tickets for high-altitude walkers. They are valid either for one ride up and down the mountain, or on several days. The so-called "pedestrian tickets" are also a good choice if you want to take time out on one of the sun terraces at a mountain restaurant.

In Lech Zürs am Arlberg, a 7-day sun pass takes winter hikers to sunny heights. There is a lovely circular trail for instance at Rüfikopf. The Montafon sun pass is valid on three or more days of your choice. It even includes a deckchair on the sun terraces of selected mountain-top inns. The Bezaun cable-car offers mountain and valley rides for winter hikers in Bregenzerwald. The hiking trails start at the middle terminal and at the mountain terminal at a ridge called "Miedere". Kleinwalsertal has the GUT pedestrian ticket for 7 or 14 days on sale. It is valid for rides on all lifts and cable-cars, as well as for the bus service connecting Kleinwalsertal with Oberstdorf.

For more information see
www.vorarlberg.travel/winter-hiking

Family Winter Fun

When did you last build a snowman, enjoy a snowball fight, or swoosh down the hill on a toboggan? What about conjuring up a beautiful snow angel or writing messages in the snow? Reviving old traditions or exploring new frontiers – there are countless ways of spending diverting and educational winter days in Vorarlberg in the company of the ones you love.

Happy Tobogganing

In all of Vorarlberg's regions there are signposted toboggan runs. Some are even floodlit for night-time tobogganing. Vorarlberg's longest floodlit night-time toboggan run in St. Gallenkirch-Garfrescha in the Montafon is 5.5km. Twice a week, the 3-km natural toboggan run at Golm opens at night, just as the 2.5 km run in Damüls.

The Alpine Coaster Golm is a toboggan run on tracks and open all year round. The toboggan safari in the Brandnertal runs in different variants from the mountain terminal of the panorama lift down to Brand or Bürserberg and promises extra-long fun. On the 1-km long "Zipfelbob" bobsleigh run, which is illuminated at night time and groomed with artificial snow, you can have the time of your life riding from Oberlech down to Lech.

Llama Hiking

Horst Kuster and his llamas take hikers at Innerberg in Montafon on an ever-so-scenic tour. The animals carry the luggage and guide you safely through the snow. En route, the party can learn interesting details about the region's past and present.

Say Hello to Goats, Sheep & Cows

The Metzler family in Egg runs Vorarlberg's first open farmhouse where you can visit the playpen for cows and goats. On your visit, you will learn many interesting facts about sustainable husbandry and agriculture. Scottish highland cattle look forward to visitors in Lech Zürs am Arlberg. Meet close-up with cows and sheep at the adventure farm in Au-Schoppengau in Bregenzerwald and at Gschrüëlbhof in Kleinwalsertal.

Eager Experimentation

A museum where you are allowed, even meant, to touch everything? This is reality at the inatura – nature show in Dornbirn, where you can crawl into a fox's den, pet fish, experiment in the Science Centre, and learn playfully how the human body works.

Art and Culture Hands-on

Watching, painting, tinkering, listening: Kunsthaus Bregenz and the *Vorarlberg Museum* organise playful activities for children. In the Jewish Museum Hohenems, special stations for kids illustrate Jewish life today and yesterday.

Family-friendly Accommodation

Families are greeted with a warm welcome all over Vorarlberg. A string of specialised children hotels have teamed up under the Top Family Hotels brand you will come across in restaurants and inns, at museums and sites worth visiting. They all have long-standing experience as family hosts and offer all common services and facilities, child-minding and supervised activities included.

For more information see
www.vorarlberg.travel/family-holidays

winterkodex vorarlberg

A visible and hands-on safety concept for winter tourism in Vorarlberg

Dazzling nature and inspiring culture, charming traditions and foodies' delights – whoever has discovered the appeal of Vorarlberg is bound to return. Austria's westernmost province is now gearing up for an unusual winter: The Winterkodex Vorarlberg joins forces and measures so that you can spend carefree and, most importantly, safe holidays.

Vorarlberg acts in concert

In a joint effort, the state of Vorarlberg and its tourism stakeholders have drawn up a comprehensive strategy for winter. The Winterkodex Vorarlberg is to offer high-level safety to all guests with a dovetailed concept. They should feel in good hands, no matter where: at their hotel or inn, in lifts or gondolas, or when discovering their holiday region.

Strong destinations – safe businesses – healthy guests

The Winterkodex Vorarlberg is built on three pillars: strong destinations, safe businesses, and healthy guests. The policies which have been elaborated are uniform for all of Vorarlberg, they go beyond what is required by law, and are geared to visitors' movements at their destinations.

Find all information about the Winterkodex Vorarlberg:
winterkodex.vorarlberg.travel/en

The pillars of the Winterkodex Vorarlberg

Booking without worries – Covid-19 cancellation insurance for guests

You can book your winter holidays in Vorarlberg without having to worry. Many accommodations in Vorarlberg have already revised their cancellation policy. Together with the free corona travel insurance offered by the State of Vorarlberg, this ensures a high degree of safety for every booking.

Winter companion – Contact tracing

Inns and restaurants must record contact data, so that, if and when necessary, the infection chain can be traced and broken quickly. Easy and simple, a digital guestbook accompanies guests, staff and locals through winter – all that is needed is a QR scan.

Quality assurance - Covid-19 officers at all businesses

Tourist businesses - accommodations, inns and restaurants, lifts and cable cars, ski schools and tourist organisations – must appoint a Covid-19 officer. The Covid-19 officer is to make sure that the prescribed prevention and hygiene concept is implemented, and at the same time acts as contact for guests, staff members and the authorities.

Testing for guests

Wherever you are staying, you will be able to check your body temperature at all times, contactless and free of charge. During the entire winter season, we also provide easy-to-access PCR testing facilities in all winter sports regions (subject to a fee).



Exploring Museums and Exhibitions

If you want to combine action-packed days of winter fun with visiting museums and exhibitions, then Vorarlberg is your perfect choice. Distances are pleasantly short. Cities such as the state capital of Bregenz are within easy reach by bus or train. In the valleys and villages, there are many interesting sites worth seeing, from contemporary art and crafts to lores of long-gone times.

Past and Present

In Bregenz, exhibitions in the "vorarlberg museum" are devoted to historic and contemporary times. The building is an architectural gem in itself: more than 16,000 concrete flowers adorn the facade. From the special viewing room on the 4th floor, you can enjoy sweeping views over the city and Lake Constance.

Contemporary Art

Designed by the renowned Swiss architect Peter Zumthor, Kunsthaus Bregenz (KUB) is one of Europe's leading exhibitions halls for contemporary art. KUB hosts varying exhibitions which are mostly devoted to a particular artist's oeuvre. The architecture of the building is worth exploring, too.

Hittisau Women's Museum

In changing exhibitions, Austria's only women's museum takes up themes particularly relevant for women, portraying their various tasks, history, art and artisanry. The museum is accommodated in a modern timber building right in the centre of Hittisau.

Winter Sports & Museums

Three museums in Lech Zürs am Arlberg all portray the village and its history. The Huber-Hus Museum, a beautifully renovated 16th century building, sheds light on earlier times. The Kastle Museum is dedicated to the famous ski brand, and the Hall of Fame celebrates the pioneers of skiing in the Arlberg region. The latter two small museums are right in the ski area. Not to miss: the FIS ski museum at Kulisse Pfarrhof in Damüls in Bregenzerwald.

For more information see
www.vorarlberg.travel/culture

Winter Worlds – The Vorarlberg Journal

Vorarlberg was literally born with a passion for winter sports. Some 110 years ago, the first ski course ever in the Alps was held on the Arlberg mountain. In the new Vorarlberg Journal, the reigning freeride world champion portrays her favourite runs. A manager of the ropeway company explains how a cable car works. The current Journal edition also features ski guides, lodge-keepers, mountain rescuers and ecologists alongside a toboggan builder and a biologist who watches birds wintering in the Rhine delta.

The New Vorarlberg Journal is available free of charge with the Vorarlberg Tourist Board at
www.vorarlberg.travel/magazine



Delicious Treats

Fresh, regional and refined, that is the hallmark of star-studded Vorarlberg inns and restaurants. In many ski lodges and mountain-top inns, you can enjoy delicious treats, largely prepared from regional delicacies. Many hotels and hosts specialise in truly pampering their guests. Most wellness areas have been newly built or upgraded in recent years.

All that cheese

When in Vorarlberg, what is a must-try? First and foremost, cheese, the best-known speciality around: alp cheese, manufactured from premium summer milk hailing right from one of many alpine pastures. The selection includes mountain cheese, which comes in mild to spicy varieties, depending on how long it has ripened, Emmental, fresh cheese from cow's, sheep's or goat's milk, creamy camembert, or "Montafon Sura Kees", an aromatic low-fat variety. Cheese is also a staple ingredient for cooking, notably in cheese dumplings (called Kässpätzle or Käsknöpfle in some regions), a favourite dish fancied by locals and many a visitor alike.

Regional and seasonal

For many years, chefs have been closely cooperating with local farms and delicatessen manufacturers. Wherever possible, they use regional and seasonal produce. Tasty souvenirs are on sale at on-farm shops, delis, cheese manufacturers, and dairy farms, amongst others.

Fine Dining

Food in Vorarlberg is a happy marriage of rustic local fare and creative cuisine with a modern twist. Alongside Kässpätzle, Riebel is one of the heartier traditional staples. People have Riebel, a form of polenta prepared from a mix of cornmeal and wheat semolina, mostly for breakfast. Creative light dishes feature on many menus, especially in a string of inns and restaurants that have won awards and toques.

Vorarlberg boasts typical drinks, as well: in addition to fruit juices and beer from regional breweries, Vorarlberg is famed for "Subirer", an exquisite brandy distilled from the modest must pear.

Soothing & Pampering Holidays

If you want to give yourself a treat while on holiday, Vorarlberg's Feel Well hosts are your destination of choice. They offer fasting regimes, soothing mud baths, weight-loss and beauty programmes, relaxing days of indulgence, and nature-based activities. Most modern, light-flooded wellness and spa areas stun by their harmonious look and feel. Several wellness hotels have a day spa to unwind and relax.

For more information see
www.vorarlberg.travel/food-and-drink

Contemporary and Creative

Vorarlberg looks different compared to other Alpine regions. The reason? The blend of traditional and contemporary architecture. From lift stations to hotels, from tables to lamps, design in Vorarlberg is modern, innovative and trailblazing. Vorarlberg's architects and craftspeople set new standards and what they create fits seamlessly into the surroundings.

Exploring the Bregenzerwald Villages

"Ungang Bregenzerwald" is the name of 12 new village tours, which, in an entertaining fashion, illustrate the lively sense of design and creativity of the Bregenzerwald people. Information columns draw attention to architecture, craftsmanship, the cultural landscape and culinary specialities. An accompanying folder and a book are available at the local tourist offices and at many hotels. Guided visits are organised twice weekly.

Marvelling at Modern Artisanry

The Werkraum Building in Andelsbuch in Bregenzerwald is a genuine eye-catcher. Designed by the famous Swiss architect Peter Zumthor, it features themed exhibitions on crafts and architecture, as well as changing presentations of products manufactured in the workshops of the partner businesses. It also accommodates a shop and a café.

Lingering in the Skyspace Lech

This walk-through piece of art in Oberlech/Tannegg was designed by the US-American artist James Turrell. Accessible through a tunnel, you reach the underground exhibition and light space. Up above, a skylight affords views of the outside world, opening up new ways, with every visit, to perceive the sky and the way the light penetrates into the room. When it is dark outside, a light installation makes the room appear totally different.

Standing Atop a Ski Jump

Austria's then largest ski jump in the 1930s used to stand in Tschaggins, only to be closed down in later years. A few years ago, a new ski jump centre with four jumps was built. On a guided visit you can learn more and take a look from high up above.

Headline-hitting Bus Stops

They are immensely popular, not only among passengers waiting for a bus. Seven original bus stops, called *Wartehäusle* (waiting house) in local dialect, have become a tourist magnet in Krumbach in the Bregenzerwald. The project called Bus:Stop Krumbach comprises designs by seven renowned architecture firms from Russia, Norway, Belgium, Spain, Chile, Japan and China. Each was assisted by a Vorarlberg partner architect or crafts business in a joint venture.

Architectouring

11 half-day or full-day tours invite travellers with an interest in architecture to embark on a journey of architectural discovery. For more details check out the pocket folder and the free app. The tour themes are: "Public Spaces", "Timber & Material", "Innovation & Craftsmanship", "Art & Culture", "Old & New", "Nature & Landscape" and "Getting Things Done – The Maker's Choice".

For more information see
www.vorarlberg.travel/architecture