

## What's New in Winter 2021/22 in Vorarlberg

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## 1. Winter in Full Swing

**Vorarlberg is one of the birthplaces of Alpine skiing, where the art of gliding down the slopes has been cultivated and consistently improved since the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. This small region in the west of Austria has brought forth innovations such as heated seats on chairlifts, to name but one. Visitors have ample choices when it comes to enjoying Vorarlberg's winter wonderland – from groomed slopes to ski touring, from freeriding to cross-country skiing, from winter hiking to snowshoe tours. And the winter season also has pleasurable experiences in store beside the spectacular landscape – architectural and cultural attractions as well as culinary delights await.**

### **Ski Destination Vorarlberg – plenty of variety within easy reach**

Vorarlberg looks back on a long tradition as a pioneer of alpine skiing – more than 110 years ago, the very foundations of Alpine skiing were laid here at the Arlberg. Since then, the mountains have been developed on a human scale. Most ski areas extend up to snow-sure altitudes of 1,400 to 2,400m. Taking home a plethora of new impressions is an easy feat in Vorarlberg. Distances are short, regional ski passes offer plenty of flexibility, and an excellent network of regular train and bus services or ski shuttles makes it easy to move around.

The winter landscape skiers will encounter is truly spectacular. From the mountain terminals in Damüls-Mellau and on Diedamskopf in Bregenzerwald, you can see as far as Lake Constance, while on the Arlberg, in Montafon, in Kleinwalsertal, Brandnertal and Klostertal, sweeping vistas of the mountains of Vorarlberg and its neighbouring countries unfold. In Kleinwalsertal, skiing fun is truly “boundless”, as the ski area encompasses pistes in both Austria and in Germany. Ski Arlberg, which straddles Vorarlberg and Tirol, is the currently largest interconnected ski area in Austria. The Silvretta Skisafari takes skiers from Montafon to Tirol and back again.

Variety also means that Vorarlberg's ski areas feature slopes to accommodate all levels of proficiency. Many ski resorts also offer varied combinations of groomed and ungroomed runs, and distances are short, which is an added bonus. Some villages, such as Oberlech, Damüls-Mellau im Bregenzerwald and Brandnertal, are perfect ski-in – ski-out destinations. [www.vorarlberg.travel/skiing](http://www.vorarlberg.travel/skiing)

### **More fun activities in the snow**

On the winter hiking trails criss-crossing all of Vorarlberg, you can choose between cleared or groomed trails. Various locations offer guided snowshoe tours throughout the day and even at night. Bregenzerwald and Brandnertal boast plenty of attractive cross-country destinations, while Vorarlberg's highest cross-country trails can be found on Silvretta-Bielerhöhe in Montafon, at 2,032m altitude. Toboggan runs are widely available and always worth a try. Some are even illuminated for night-time fun. Or you might fancy going out on a husky sledge trip or spending a night in an igloo high up in the mountains.

### **Architectural and cultural attractions**

A traditional Vorarlberg timber house here, a state-of-the-art new build there – made from timber, too, it goes without saying – this surprising mix of a traditional and contemporary design is a feature typically encountered in many towns and villages. Vorarlberg, this small region at the westernmost tip of Austria, has long become an acclaimed showcase of contemporary (timber) architecture in the Alps.

No matter where, in small villages or in ski resorts, examples of noteworthy contemporary architecture range from cableway terminals to mountain-top restaurants and lodges to hotels, some of the most outstanding among them the ski lodge “Der Wolf”, the Balmalpe restaurant in Lech Zürs am Arlberg, the valley and mountain terminals of the Mellau cableway in Bregenzerwald, the Frööd restaurant in the ski area of Brand im Bregenzerwald, the Alpine sports centre in Schruns in Montafon or the mountain terminal of the Nebelhornbahn cableway in the cross-border ski area of Kleinwalsertal-Oberstdorf. [www.vorarlberg.travel/architecture](http://www.vorarlberg.travel/architecture)

Skiing in the morning and a trip to the museum in the afternoon? Easily done in Vorarlberg, where everything is within easy reach. Most museums will be open also during the winter season. When it comes to events, Vorarlberg’s motto is small, special and of superb quality. Lech Zürs am Arlberg, for instance, is opening the winter season with Fantastic Gondolas, a programme featuring spectacular light installations. “Firnklang Brandnertal” will have 9 live bands playing at 9 restaurants every Sunday in March 2022. In April, Tanzcafé Arlberg will bring swing, pop and jazz to Lech Zürs am Arlberg, ringing in the end of the winter season. [www.vorarlberg.travel/culture](http://www.vorarlberg.travel/culture)

### **Excellent cuisine**

Invigorating outdoor activity in the fresh winter air makes for a healthy appetite. So it is rather fortunate that Vorarlberg boasts a plethora of excellent restaurants, inns and lodges. The Gault Millau Guide has a whopping 80 hosts listed for Vorarlberg. Lech Zürs am Arlberg, which is home to 19 award-winning restaurants alone, can rightly claim the sobriquet of World Gourmet Village. But there is no shortage of places to turn to for exquisite culinary delights in the rest of Vorarlberg either. Award-winning or not – Vorarlberg’s chefs are absolute masters when it comes to conjuring up innovative dishes from mostly regionally sourced ingredients. [www.vorarlberg.travel/food-and-drink](http://www.vorarlberg.travel/food-and-drink)

### **Visiting Vorarlberg safely**

When you travel to Vorarlberg, you can always rely on enjoying top-quality food and accommodation as well as hospitality that puts your safety first. Attentive hosts in hotels, B&Bs, inns and restaurants – most of which are family-run – will offer you a heartfelt welcome and a pleasurable place to stay. For details on how to stay safe, and for the most recent updates on the Covid situation, please refer to [www.vorarlberg.travel/visiting-safely](http://www.vorarlberg.travel/visiting-safely)

## 2. Innovations & New Features for Cableways

### Valisera cableway, Silvretta Montafon

The end of February 2021 witnessed the Valisera cableway in Montafon closing down after 40 years of operation. At the start of the winter season 2021/22, it will be replaced by the Silvretta Park, which encompasses the new Valisera cableway, a hotel, restaurants, an Intersport store and an underground car park for 600 vehicles. [www.montafon.at/de/Magazin/Verbindung-neu-erleben\\_bba\\_104992](http://www.montafon.at/de/Magazin/Verbindung-neu-erleben_bba_104992)

### Zugerbergbahn cableway & Madlochbahn chairlift, Ski Arlberg

This winter, Lech Zürs am Arlberg will have two new means of transport whisking skiers up to the slopes even faster, without any waiting in line. The new Zugerbergbahn cableway, which features cable cars with a capacity of 10 persons and panoramic windows, runs from Zug up to the top of Zugerberg. The new Madlochbahn chairlift shortens the journey up to the mountain terminal at 2,466m altitude to a mere 5 minutes, offering weather protection hoods and heated seats for increased comfort. [www.skiarlberg.news/en](http://www.skiarlberg.news/en)

### Golmerbahn cableway, Golm ski area

The Golmerbahn cableway will start off the winter season 2021/22 with new 8-person gondolas which not only feature level walk-in, but also offer more headroom than the previous ones. Entries and exits will be made accessible for disabled persons, with passenger elevators being installed in Latschau and Matschwitz. 10 of the 110 gondolas feature the Golmi design. At the press of a button, Golmi and Golmine, the mascots of the Golm mountain, will tell children a story during the ride.

[www.golm.at/de/Blog/Erneuerung-der-Golmerbahn\\_bba\\_105530](http://www.golm.at/de/Blog/Erneuerung-der-Golmerbahn_bba_105530)

### Oberstdorf Kleinwalsertal cableways

The cross-border ski-region of Kleinwalsertal (Vorarlberg) and Oberstdorf (Bavaria) will see two new cableways with 10-person cable cars taking up operation in the winter season 2021/22. While both were being renovated in the previous winter season, they had not been in service yet. The Söllereckbahn cableway, which is accessible to disabled persons, takes winter sports aficionados up the mountain directly from the parking lot, saving skiers and snowboarders a long trip lugging their gear. The revamped Nebelhornbahn cableway now whisks visitors up to the Höfatsblick mountain terminal in one go, with no more need to transfer. [www.ok-bergbahnen.com/en](http://www.ok-bergbahnen.com/en)

## 3. Investments & New Features in Hotels and Restaurants

### NEW ACCOMMODATION PROVIDERS & RESTAURANTS

#### Spycher, Riezlern

In Riezlern in Kleinwalsertal, Benjamin Riezler has built 3 holiday homes referred to as “Spycher”, the old Walser term for the timber huts in which people used to store their agricultural bounty in the old days. Narrow and high, the new “Spycher” homes reflect the traditional building style, while using material such as timber, unfinished steel, concrete and glass. Each of the 3 holiday homes caters for 2 persons and features a “Chammera” (bedroom), a “Stube” (living room) with “Chuche” (kitchen), a stone pine sauna and a large panoramic window with mountain views. [www.spycher.at](http://www.spycher.at)

### **Haistall Apartements, Mittelberg**

In Mittelberg in Kleinwalsertal, the Fritz family have converted a former hay barn into 3 apartments varying in size between 46 and 103m<sup>2</sup>. Hardwood floors and wooden furniture make for a homely feel, and the “hay barn” is located conveniently close to skiing slopes, cross-country and hiking trails.

[www.haistall.at](http://www.haistall.at)

### **Haller’s Posthaus, Riezlern**

New holiday home right in the centre of Riezlern, featuring seven bedrooms for up to 20 persons. Scheduled to be opened in December 2021. More details to follow. [www.posthaus.cc](http://www.posthaus.cc)

### **Berghaus Schröcken, Schröcken**

In Schröcken, the Schwarzman family are set to open Berghaus Schröcken in July 2022. The stylish new build with special appeal for winter sports lovers and hikers consists of three buildings. Amenities will include “Alwins Stammtisch”, a small inn, as well as a spa area and an outdoor pool. Upon final completion, Berghaus Schröcken will feature 22 studios and 18 apartments appointed with wooden furniture and Alpine materials, but 2 apartments, 2 chalet apartments for up to 20 guests, and 2 self-catering houses for up to 16 guests are available already in the winter season 2021/22.

[www.berghaus-schroecken.at](http://www.berghaus-schroecken.at)

### **Hirschberghütte, Bizau**

Newly built and with a new access road, the solid timber mountain hut on the Hirschberg mountain near Bizau im Bregenzerwald can accommodate up to 8 persons. It comes not only with a well-equipped combined kitchen and living room, but also features a tree house and a large well for cooling your feet or getting adept at some Kneipp curing. All in all, the guest house is the perfect setting for spending peaceful and relaxing holidays on the Hirschberg. [www.berghuetten-bregenzerwald.at](http://www.berghuetten-bregenzerwald.at)

### **Hotel Alpstadt, Bludenz**

In December 2021, the Wilfinger family are set to open the hotel “Alpstadt” in the Alpine town of Bludenz. Centrally located, the timber new build, which was designed by Vorarlberg architect Johannes Kaufmann, will be seven storeys high and offer 65 rooms. Amenities include seminar rooms, a restaurant, and a rooftop terrace with fabulous mountain views. [www.alpstadt.com](http://www.alpstadt.com)

### **PURE Resort, Schruns**

The PURE Resort in Schruns will feature 28 apartments and penthouse suites as well as 14 hotel rooms, plus a heated outdoor pool, sauna, steam room and relaxation area. The PURE Resort is being built by Silvretta Montafon in cooperation with the Dutch PURE Resorts Group. The opening is scheduled for December 2021. [www.pure-resorts.com/schruns](http://www.pure-resorts.com/schruns)

### **St. Josefsheim eat & stay, Schruns**

A hostel for Schruns – with the start of the winter season 2021/22, the listed building, which formerly housed the St. Josefsheim maternity ward and hospital, will turn into an eat & stay accommodation for adventurous teens and young adults. The design and the decor are based on Montafon traditions as well as on the building’s special history. The restaurant on the ground floor is bound to become the new go-to place in the village, with a menu heavily leaning towards bread, wine and coffee.

[www.silvretta-montafon.at/en](http://www.silvretta-montafon.at/en)

### **AlpinResortMontafon, Gargellen**

In Gargellen in Montafon, the new AlpinResortMontafon, located directly on the ski slope, will open in December 2021. The resort comprises three apartment houses with 60 comfortably furnished apartments in nine different categories. In the reception area is the lobby with parlor. There guests can enjoy their breakfast. Culinary theme evenings take place several times a week.

[www.alpinresortmontafon.eu](http://www.alpinresortmontafon.eu)

### **NIGHT INN, Feldkirch**

Night Inn is the name of the hotel newly opened in July 2021 in Feldkirch's urban development area around the railway station. The contemporary building housing a breakfast café is within easy walking distance from the station and about 800m from conference and event centre Montfort House. All 150 rooms are allergy-friendly and come with a writing desk and a coffee maker. The hotel's special features include a terrace, a ski storage room and a car rental office. [night-inn.com/hotels/feldkirch](http://night-inn.com/hotels/feldkirch)

### **FIRMAMENT, Rankweil**

July 2021 marked the opening of the "Firmament" in Rankweil, a lifestyle and business hotel featuring a restaurant, a vinothèque for wine tasting and rooms for events for up to 800 participants. Guests have a choice of 143 rooms, suites and long-stay apartments. Every month, the restaurant's show kitchen hosts a different up-and-coming chef from the Brotherhood of Culinary Chefs' Association who will take guests on a culinary journey to their respective home regions, with the sommelier selecting the best wine accompaniment from the in-house vinothèque. Food and wine to take away is also on offer. [www.firmament.at](http://www.firmament.at)

### **Peterhof, Furx**

In December 2021, the newly built inn Peterhof plus 10 chalets will open in Furx, a hamlet belonging to the village of Zwischenwasser, situated at an altitude of 1,140m. The solid timber structures cum underground car park were designed by well-known Vorarlberg architects Baumschlager Eberle. Whether seated inside the restaurant or outside on the terrace – each of which has capacity to accommodate 100 persons – guests will be able to enjoy the fabulous view. The chalets, each equipped with panoramic windows and saunas, are 90m<sup>2</sup> in size. [peterhof-furx.at](http://peterhof-furx.at)

### **Arla Luxury Home, Lech am Arlberg**

Sophisticated chalet architecture meets contemporary Alpine interior design and craftsmanship – the exclusive Arla Luxury Home can accommodate up to 12 guests. Three bespoke apartments with luxurious bathrooms, large living and dining areas with open fireplaces and outdoor decks afford vistas of Lech. In addition, the Arla Luxury Home offers two spa areas with sauna, steam room and relaxation area, a multifunctional yoga room and two ski storage rooms, not to mention a party room equipped with multimedia system, private movie theatre, bar, darts and pinball machines. [arlalech.com/en](http://arlalech.com/en)

### **Restaurant Walkerbach, Lech am Arlberg**

The new cosy restaurant in Oberstubenbach with its sun-soaked terrace serves up traditional fare and Austrian local specialties. [www.lechzuers.com/en/walkerbach-restaurant](http://www.lechzuers.com/en/walkerbach-restaurant)

### Almrausch, Lech am Arlberg

In Lech am Arlberg, the boutique Chaelt Resort Almrausch will open in winter 2021/22. The house with its wooden facade is located right next to the ski slopes and has five elegant apartments ranging sizes from 82.5 to 122.5 m<sup>2</sup>. All apartments have a terrace. [www.almrausch-lech.com](http://www.almrausch-lech.com)

### Tian at the Hotel Edelweiss, Zürs am Arlberg

"Tian on ski vacation in Zürs" is the name of the new restaurant at Hotel Edelweiß in Zürs am Arlberg, the first vegetarian restaurant in the Arlberg region. Tian chef Paul Ivic, awarded a Michelin star and four Gault Millau toques for his vegetarian gourmet cuisine, brings his "Chef's Garden Sharing" concept, already known in Vienna and Munich, to the mountains for the first time.

[www.edelweiss-arlberg.at/en/food/tian](http://www.edelweiss-arlberg.at/en/food/tian)

## CONVERSIONS/EXTENSIONS/MAJOR REFURBISHMENTS

### Kristberghüsli, Silbertal

Kristberghüsli, which belongs to Panoramagasthof Kristberg in Montafon, will open in December 2021, presenting a totally new look. The timber new build in contemporary Alpine style accommodates 2 to 5 persons. Special features include a low-temperature sauna and small south and east facing decks with a splendid view of the Rätikon and Verwall mountain ranges. [www.kristberg.at](http://www.kristberg.at)

### Ski- & Wanderhotel Jägeralpe, Warth

By early December 2021, Ski- & Wanderhotel Jägeralpe will have revamped its 3-storey main house and restaurant, with new wood shingle cladding on the outside. The rooms and suites, all of which feature a balcony, will be appointed in contemporary Alpine "Walser" style, and a new outdoor pool will be added. A herbal studio will provide guests with an opportunity to learn more about herbs and spices and sign up for yoga courses, while the mountain atelier offers up everything needed to unleash the guests' artistic creativity. The old staff quarters will be replaced by new ones featuring an underground car park. [www.jaegeralpe.at/en](http://www.jaegeralpe.at/en)

### Alpin – Studios & Suites, Warth

The small Alpin hotel in Warth will have undergone a complete facelift by the winter of 2021/22. The rooms will be converted to studios with a kitchenette, a third floor will be added, not to mention a spa area and a sun deck. The hotel's heating system will be based on geothermal energy instead of oil. Belinda and Mathias Fritz will be running the hotel under the new name "Alpin – Studios & Suites".

[www.alpinwarth.at](http://www.alpinwarth.at)

### Lisas, Schröcken

Apartments Elisabeth in Schröcken in Bregenzerwald is undergoing total refurbishment only to reopen in the winter of 2021 under the new name of "Lisas". 6 double rooms and 6 apartments will be available, most of them featuring a balcony or a terrace. The breakfast room will be enlarged, and a 90m<sup>2</sup> spa area featuring a low-temperature sauna, a Finnish sauna and an infrared cabin will complement the facelift. [lisas-schroecken.at](http://lisas-schroecken.at)



#### Restaurant “das guat” at klostertalerhof, Kösterle am Arlberg

Tradition and modern amenities create a feel-good atmosphere. Novel ideas in a traditional setting. A committed team makes guests feel more than welcome. Enjoy the peace and quiet and regenerate your inner strength in the breathtaking mountain scenery of Arlberg and Klostertal. The hotel was reopened in December 2020 after a change of ownership. June 2021 saw the opening of the hotel’s restaurant, “das guat”, where Austrian culinary tradition meets contemporary international cuisine. [www.derklostertalerhof.com](http://www.derklostertalerhof.com)

#### Knappaboda, Lech am Arlberg

Come winter 2021/22, the Knappaboda will present a totally new appearance. A cosy apartment house with a difference – more space, more privacy and even more feel-good vibes. [www.knappaboda.com](http://www.knappaboda.com)

#### Travel Charme Ifen Hotel, Hirschegg

Since mid-August 2021, the 5-star Travel Charme Hotel Ifen in Kleinwalsertal boasts a new attraction – a 25m infinity pool provides guests with stunning mountain views. The pool is open year around. [www.travelcharme.com/en/hotels/ifen-hotel](http://www.travelcharme.com/en/hotels/ifen-hotel)

## 4. Tourism Awards

#### Tempel 74 - ICONIC AWARDS 2021: Innovative Architecture

In August 2021, apartment house Tempel 74 in Mellau in Bregenzerwald won the Iconic Award 2021 for outstanding design in not one, but two categories: Architecture Hospitality and Innovative Material. As a leading authority on design and architecture worldwide, the German Design Council acts as an interface between designers and the construction industry. Its awards constitute an independent and internationally recognised seal of approval for contemporary development and creative design. [www.tempel74.at](http://www.tempel74.at)

#### Fuchsegg Lodge Resort: best architects 22 award

The Fuchsegg Lodge Resort in Egg-Schetteregg took its inspiration from traditional Alpine hut settlements. Opened in October 2020, the sustainably built resort encompasses six independent buildings, among them three lodges with 30 units for about 60 guests, a sauna building, a “Tenn” or barn building with an underground car park and an inn with seminar rooms, which is accessible to the public. Vorarlberg-based firm Ludescher + Lutz Architekten, which designed the whole ensemble, won the “best architects 22 award” for it. This award is one of the most prestigious architectural awards in Europe and a benchmark for high-end architectural design. [www.fuchsegg.at](http://www.fuchsegg.at)

#### Vorarlberger Holzbaupreis 2021 – „Vorarlberg Timber Construction Award 2021“

Every two years, the vorarlberger holzbau\_kunst association awards the Vorarlberger Holzbaupreis (“Vorarlberg Timber Construction Award 2021”). Prizes and recognitions are awarded to wooden buildings in different categories. In the category "commercial building", recognitions in 2021 went to the Enz campsite in Dornbirn, which built two single-story wooden pavilions as an entrance, and to the Tempel 74 apartment building in Mellau for its detailed new construction. In the category "multi-family house", the staff house of the Hotel Biberkopf in Warth, a stacking of 43 wooden modules, received recognition. The new entrance area of the Lochau Strandbad lido, which also houses the changing rooms, toilets and a café, received recognition in the "Public Building" category. The vacation home "Unser Vorsäß" in Schwarzenberg, which was rebuilt in an exemplary manner, received

recognition in the "Renovation" category, as did the mountain hut Totalphütte at the foot of the Schesaplana in Brandnertal, which was destroyed by an avalanche and rebuilt.

[www.holzbaukunst.at/events-aktivitaeten/holzbaupreis-2021](http://www.holzbaukunst.at/events-aktivitaeten/holzbaupreis-2021) (in German)

For further cultural and tourism awards, please visit

[www.vorarlberg.travel/en/activity/award-winning-architecture-for-culture-and-tourism](http://www.vorarlberg.travel/en/activity/award-winning-architecture-for-culture-and-tourism)

## 5. New Offers & Products Available in Vorarlberg

### ON AND OFF THE SLOPES & OTHER WINTER ATTRACTIONS

#### Talabfahrt Gaschurn, Montafon

The new downhill run in the Silvretta Montafon ski area will make skiers' hearts beat faster. The new "Piste 60", which runs from the mountain terminal of the Versettla cableway down to the valley terminal in Gaschurn, passing the midway terminal, used to be accessible only for ski touring. Groomed all the way and equipped with snow canons, the new run, several segments of which lead through the forest, is now an attractive alternative when weather conditions are less than ideal and visibility on the mountain is limited. [www.talabfahrtgaschurn.at](http://www.talabfahrtgaschurn.at)

#### Guided nature hikes in the wintery landscape, Kleinwalsertal

How do plants and animals cope with winter? On Mondays, nature guide Diana Eckhoff provides answers to this question on a guided winter hike. From the Walserhaus in Hirschegg, participants will walk into the seemingly silent forests of wintery Kleinwalsertal, passing brooks along the way. Diana will help you sharpen your senses and show you how nature is still teeming with life even while many think it has gone into hibernation. [www.kleinwalsertal.com/en/Search-and-book/Travelshop/Winter\\_experiences/Experience-Winter-with-a-Nature-Guide](http://www.kleinwalsertal.com/en/Search-and-book/Travelshop/Winter_experiences/Experience-Winter-with-a-Nature-Guide)

#### Burmi's winter rendezvous, Kleinwalsertal

At given dates, Burmi, the mascot of Kleinwalsertal, invites guests to round off their day at the camp fire, warming themselves with a "Burmi potion" straight from the cauldron. If you are lucky, Burmi the Marmot will drop by in person to help with making snow angels and building snowmen. The grand finale has everybody striking out together in search of Burmi's secret treasure. [www.kleinwalsertal.com/en/Activities/Family/Winter-fun-for-kids](http://www.kleinwalsertal.com/en/Activities/Family/Winter-fun-for-kids)

#### Culinary pleasures tours Alpenregion Vorarlberg

During the winter season, Brandnertal, Klostertal and the biosphere park Großes Walsertal skilfully combine the pleasures of spending time in nature and tasting culinary delights. Savouring fresh mountain air and taking in splendid mountain vistas, participants walk or ski from one stop to the next where friendly hosts wait with tasty regional fare. [www.vorarlberg-alpenregion.at/en/culinary-culture/culinary-hiking-in-alpenregion-bludenz.html](http://www.vorarlberg-alpenregion.at/en/culinary-culture/culinary-hiking-in-alpenregion-bludenz.html)

### Tasting tour of Bludenz

Experiencing history up close and getting to know the people behind the restaurant scene all while being offered fancy tidbits and tasters – this is what this special tour of the Alpine town of Bludenz is all about. In the wake of three successful events in the summer, a winter version will now be available upon request. Stops along the way include “Weinpunkt”, a small, but exquisite wine store, Café-Restaurant Eichamt, a restaurant providing training for young people, and Café Konditorei Fritz, a Bludenz stalwart. [www.vorarlberg-alpenregion.at/de/services/naschrunde-durch-bludenz.html](http://www.vorarlberg-alpenregion.at/de/services/naschrunde-durch-bludenz.html)

### Bonus weeks in Brandnertal

“Schneejuchee”, which translates roughly as Hooray to the Snow, will be the buzzword for guests staying in Brandnertal from 8 to 29 January 2022, during which period they can benefit from discounts on ski passes and attractive offers for winter hikers. From 5 to 27 March 2022, the “Firnwochen” – a reference to the firned up snow or névé found typically in the spring – will not only provide discounted ski passes, but also a range of fitness and cultural offers away from the slopes.

[www.vorarlberg-alpenregion.at/en/brandnertal](http://www.vorarlberg-alpenregion.at/en/brandnertal)

### Seven Summits Freetour Mellau, Bregenzerwald

Seven Summits Freetour Mellau, a combination of freeriding and ski touring, will be on offer for the first time ever in the winter season 2021/22. During 3 days, participants will climb 7 summits with a professional guide and enjoy marvellous downhill runs in deep powder snow. Tours will be organised from 27 to 29 January and from 21 and 23 March 2022. Group sizes are 4 to 6 persons, accompanied by one guide. It is also possible to book the tour at a date of your choice, for single days only or with a private guide for the total haul. [www.skischule-mellau.at/en/specials/ski-tours](http://www.skischule-mellau.at/en/specials/ski-tours)

### Schwarzenberg – Wildlife and nature in wintertime – snowshoe hike, Bregenzerwald

The Foramoos upland moor area with its gnarled birches, low-growing fir trees and snow-covered mountain pine forests has a mystical atmosphere, with animal tracks the only traces in the virgin snow. It is into this world of peace and calm that hiking guide and herbalist Katharina Moosbrugger will take interested guests on Saturdays from December to March. During the two-hour guided tour, she will give participants the low-down on the local wildlife and their survival strategies during wintertime.

[www.naturerfahren.at](http://www.naturerfahren.at)

### Culinary winter hikes in Bregenzerwald – two new itineraries

The culinary winter hikes guests can book with the Bregenzerwald tourism office at a date of their choice are enjoyable on more than one level. Step by step from dish to dish, those appreciating some outdoor exercise will be taken from one course to the next, starting with breakfast, followed by lunch and then another stop for dessert, each meal being prepared in mountain inns or restaurants. Starting in winter 2021/22, two new routes – in Sulzberg and in Damüls – have been added to the ones in Mellau-Bizau-Bezau and Sibratsgfäll-Schönenbach, bringing the total up to 4 culinary winter hikes to choose from. [www.bregenzerwald.at/en/culinary-winter-hikes-in-the-bregenzerwald](http://www.bregenzerwald.at/en/culinary-winter-hikes-in-the-bregenzerwald)

## ARTS & CULTURE

### Baroque Era Master Builders Museum in Au, Bregenzerwald

In the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries, master builders, stucco artists and craftspeople from Bregenzerwald had a hand in erecting close to 800 Baroque buildings in Southern Germany, Switzerland and Alsace. For the most part, these were churches and monasteries, but there were palaces, manor houses and town houses among them as well. Many of these master builders and craftspeople came from Au, where a guild had been formed.

The new museum in Au-Schopperrau now places a spotlight on the masters of this era and their remarkable achievements. The “Kurathus” in Au-Rehmen, carefully renovated by local craftspeople, will host the new museum. Built in 1780, it was the home of a portrait and miniature painter who was well-known at the time. Later, it came into the possession of the church and provided accommodation for the respective curate or parish priest. The museum at “Kurathus” will open its doors on 26 September 2021.

The four themes of the exhibition are Planning, designing and building; Organising construction work; Mobile and interconnected; and Leaving and staying. [barockbaumeister.at](http://barockbaumeister.at)

### Winter theatre on the move, Lech Zürs am Arlberg

Lechmuseum has hit upon a new creative idea to make the history of Lech come alive, showcasing how it became a tourism destination and how skiing culture evolved. On a winter hike from Lech to Zug, special locations will turn into theatre stages at specific dates, with Teatro Caprile presenting scenes from local history. Following its launch in the winter season of 2021/22, the theatre hike is to become an annual feature. The premiere is scheduled for December 2021.

[www.lechmuseum.at/winter-wander-theater-ski-labor-lech](http://www.lechmuseum.at/winter-wander-theater-ski-labor-lech)

## 6. Other News

### NEW PODCAST FROM VORARLBERG

#### Echte Berge. Echt erleben. Der Montafon Podcast (in German)

Montafon is a valley – a hollow between mountains, formed by glaciers, its ground rising up towards its end. But Montafon is many more things and, above all, one thing in particular – unique. Beneath the rugged summits of the Alps surrounding it, village life is thriving, cultural history is in evidence everywhere, and local customs are being practiced as of old and not merely for tourism. Things that are less tangible, such as hospitality and joie de vivre, have made a home for themselves here as well. Montafon thus has many aspects. A valley that is more than the sum of its parts. A valley for everyone, that’s what it is. A complete whole. In Genuine Mountains. A Genuine Experience. The Montafon Podcast, Jens from Germany meets Hermann from Montafon. What are things you can experience in Montafon? What is it like to live in Montafon and what else has this unique valley to offer? This podcast gives you an exclusive glimpse behind the scenes and an opportunity to get to know Montafon and the many industrious people who live there. [www.montafon.at/podcast](http://www.montafon.at/podcast)

## PUBLIC TRANSPORT/TRAVELLING TO VORARLBERG

### Green Ticket, Silvretta Montafon

The Green Ticket is the easiest and most environmentally friendly way to get to enjoy the slopes of Silvretta Montafon. The new ticket, which can be booked online, includes a day ticket for the Silvretta Montafon ski area plus a bus and/or train ticket from anywhere in Vorarlberg as well as from the border stations in Tirol (St. Anton), Germany (Lindau) and Switzerland (Buchs/St. Margrethen). What is more, Green Ticket holders will also get a 10% discount on rental gear in Intersport stores. Once you have booked the ticket, you will get a voucher for your train or bus journey delivered by e-mail. The ski pass can be picked up at several locations in the ski areas and at the Schruns train station.

[www.silvretta-montafon.at/en/winter/prices/day-tickets](http://www.silvretta-montafon.at/en/winter/prices/day-tickets)

## 7. More information, Copy and Images

For more information, copy and images, go to [www.vorarlberg.travel/en/press-portal](http://www.vorarlberg.travel/en/press-portal)

For general information on Vorarlberg as a holiday destination, go to [www.vorarlberg.travel/en](http://www.vorarlberg.travel/en)

For information on Covid-19 measures and rules applicable in Vorarlberg, go to

[www.vorarlberg.travel/visiting-safely](http://www.vorarlberg.travel/visiting-safely)

## 8. Experience Vorarlberg in Real Time

Inspiration & information: On the Social Guide Vorarlberg, the social media community shares everything you can discover in Vorarlberg: [vorarlberg.social](http://vorarlberg.social)

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