

What's New in Winter 2022/23 in Vorarlberg?

1. Winter in Full Swing in Vorarlberg	3
2. News from Vorarlberg's ski resorts	5
Dynamic pricing with the Montafon-Brandnertal ski pool	5
Green Tickets in the ski resorts of Brandnertal, Silvretta-Montafon & Golm	5
New webshop in the Ski Arlberg ski resort	5
Ski Arlberg app with prize draw	5
3. Investments & Innovations in Accommodations	6
<i>NEW ACCOMMODATIONS, HOTELS & APARTMENTS</i>	<i>6</i>
Falkensteiner Hotel Montafon, Tschagguns	6
Heuberg1014, Schwarzenberg	6
"imWALDner" holiday apartment, Mellau	6
Freiraum Apartments, Mellau	6
Aparthotel Lech Valley Lodge, Warth	6
Sonnenhof Apartments, Schröcken	7
Tinn Naturchalet, Mittelberg	7
Dorf(er)leben, Mittelberg	7
Kracha Alpin Lodge, Mittelberg	7
Brandnerhus, Brand	7
DreamAlive Lodge, Bürserberg	8
Die Lecherin, Lech am Arlberg	8
Flint Hotel, Dornbirn	8
<i>CONVERSIONS/EXTENSIONS/MAJOR REFURBISHMENTS</i>	<i>8</i>
Posthotel Taube, Schruns	8
Walsershaus SONNHOF, Hirschegg	8
Hoheneck Appartement, Mittelberg	9
Oswalda Hus, Riezlern	9
Hotel Walisgaden, Damüls	9
Panoramahotel Sonnhalde, Schwarzenberg	9
4. Culinary news from Vorarlberg	9
New chef at Restaurant Rote Wand Chef's Table, Zug am Arlberg	9
Top chef Denise Amann new hostess of das TSCHOFEN, Bludenz	10
Brandner Hof, Brand	10
Restaurant D'Bergerkuche, Bürserberg	10
Der Bergmetzger, Raggal	10
New vinotheque "wi&me" in Faschina	10
New start for Bar10Zimmer, Dornbirn	10
iX Moments Restaurant & Market33, Dornbirn	11
Exquisite Design & Fine Dining	11

5. Tourism Awards	11
Tourism Innovations 2022 in Vorarlberg	11
Jewish Museum Hohenems to win the Austrian Museum Award 2022.....	12
Kilian Stuba in Kleinwalsertal – the shining Michelin star on Vorarlberg’s culinary art firmament	12
Biohotel Schwanen in Bizau is Gault & Millau "Hotel of the Year 2023	12
Ski Arlberg comes out on top yet again at skiresort.de.....	12
Austrian Innovation Prize Tourism for Montafon Tourismus GmbH	13
6. New Offers & Products in Vorarlberg’s Destinations	13
Bobsledding for guests in the Bludenz ice channel	13
Winter “forest bathing” in Brandnertal.....	13
Exhibitions in Vorarlberg’s Museums in the 2022/23 winter season	13
7. Other News	14
PIZ Montafon	14
Horizont Winter Summit in Lech Zürs am Arlberg	14
8. More Information, Copy & Images	15
9. Experience Vorarlberg in Real Time	15

1. Winter in Full Swing in Vorarlberg

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 20th 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 snow-shoe 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

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. www.vorarlberg.travel/en/off-piste-activities

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

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, opening the winter season with Fantastic Gondolas, a programme featuring spectacular light installations. “Firnklang Brandnertal” has 9 live bands playing at 9 restaurants every Sunday in Spring. 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

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. Many restaurants are also characterized by their special ambience in the style of traditional or contemporary Vorarlberg architecture.

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 please refer to www.vorarlberg.travel/visiting-safely

2. News from Vorarlberg's ski resorts

Dynamic pricing with the Montafon-Brandnertal ski pool

Starting this winter season, Montafon and Brandnertal Bergbahnen will be introducing dynamic pricing for one-day and multiple-day tickets. Early bookers benefit from cheaper rates. Skiers can book their tickets from home in the webshop, avoiding queues at the vending outlets and paying lower prices, a goodie, especially for families. www.silvretta-montafon.at/en/winter/prices/day-tickets

Green Tickets in the ski resorts of Brandnertal, Silvretta-Montafon & Golm

Hitting the slopes in a climate-friendly manner: For day guests wishing to reach and leave the ski resort in an environmentally friendly manner, Brandnertal, Silvretta-Montafon and Golm are offering a Green Ticket starting this winter. It includes the bus or rail ticket to and from the ski resort and a ski pass for one day. The rail & bus ticket is valid from all border railroad stations and for rides from all over Vorarlberg. www.silvretta-montafon.at/en/onlineshop/ticket/1-day-green-ticket~2349849/ / <https://shop.bergbahnen-brandnertal.at/de/webshop/ticket/tageskarte-green-ticket-winter~19653/> / <https://shop.golm.at/de/webshop/ticket/green-ticket~32795>

New webshop in the Ski Arlberg ski resort

Starting this winter, skiers can buy their Ski Arlberg one-day and multiple-day ski passes online, to reach the ski resort even faster and more conveniently. Holders of an Arlberg chip card can simply book the ski pass onto the chip. Alternatively, you can pick up your ski ticket on site from the pick-up boxes or vending machines. www.skiarlberg.at/en/Ski-Arlberg/Ski-tickets/Webshop

Ski Arlberg app with prize draw

Starting in the winter 2022/23 season, the Ski Arlberg app will make it easier for skiers to find their bearings. If you enter a desired point of departure or finish, or any place in between, the app will suggest itineraries of how to best get there. With the app, you can also retrieve weather, snow and avalanche reports. Moreover, the app allows you to track the "White Ring" circuit. Everyone making use of these new options will automatically take part in a prize draw. Each week, two belts from the Lous Trenker fashion label featuring the White Ring design will be given away.

www.skiarlberg.at/en/Ski-Arlberg/Ski-Arlberg-App

3. Investments & Innovations in Accommodations

NEW ACCOMMODATIONS, HOTELS & APARTMENTS

Falkensteiner Hotel Montafon, Tschagguns

As of the 2022/23 winter season, the Austrian Falkensteiner hotel group will be opening its first hotel in Vorarlberg. This 5-star family resort is located in Tschagguns in Montafon and features 130 rooms and suites for approx. 500 guests. Focusing on sustainability and regionality, the building features the Acquapura spa, a pool area with water chutes and attractions for children, as well as a restaurant. Children can take part in supervised activities in Falyk Land. The hotel has a varied programme of activities and sports for adults and children. On special ecotainment excursions, guests are invited to explore together what sustainability means. www.falkensteiner.com/en/hotel-montafon

Heuberg1014, Schwarzenberg

“Heuberg1014“, located up on Heuberg, overlooking Schwarzenberg in Bregenzerwald, is the Feuerstein family’s new build project with a clear focus on sustainability. Set to open in the 2022/23 winter season, the building has been constructed with concrete and timber, partly sourced from the family’s own forest. Some of the furniture has been handcrafted by a carpenter from Bregenzerwald using local maple wood. The cutlery is hand-made, fabricated in the course of a social welfare project in Vorarlberg. Energy is generated by a photovoltaic system and derived from geothermal heat. “Heuberg1014” comprises six holiday apartments. The smaller apartments sleep one to two guests, the largest ones up to twelve. www.heuberg1014.at/en

“imWALDner” holiday apartment, Mellau

Holiday apartment “imWALDner“ is to open in December 2022 near the Mellaubahn cable-car. It was designed by owner Anita Waldner together with Bregenzerwald architect Johannes Kaufmann. The building features 4 apartments each sleeping one or two. Three further apartments accommodate two adults plus two to four children. www.instagram.com/imwaldner

Freiraum Apartments, Mellau

The 7 Freiraum apartments are to open in mid-December in Mellau. These apartments are between 30 and 74 m² in size, two are barrier-free. There is also a sauna. Jürgen Haller, a builder-architect from Mellau, designed the building at the foot of Gopfberg mountain, which was then constructed and furnished by craftspeople from the region. Timber and natural materials create a feel-good atmosphere. www.freiraum-apartments.at

Aparthotel Lech Valley Lodge, Warth

Aparthotel Lech Valley Lodge is to open in November 2022 in Warth. The newly constructed building features a timber facade and spacious lodges, rooms and suites, all designed in alpine style. It also offers a restaurant, a spa and a soul food shop. www.lech-valley.com/en

Sonnenhof Apartments, Schröcken

Sonnenhof Apartments are set to open in Schröcken in early 2022. The building comes with a timber facade, designed by Bregenzerwald architects and built by local craftspeople. It comprises 12 apartments with balcony or conservatory, all between 53 and 121 m². Another building and additional holiday apartments will be added next year. <https://ferienwohnungen-oberboden.at>

Tinn Naturchalet, Mittelberg

Newly constructed, Tinn Naturchalet is to open in December 2022 in Mittelberg in Kleinwalsertal. It invites visitors to a hands-on experience of lavish, yet simple Vorarlberg design and craftsmanship. For a cozy feel, the three living units have been designed with untreated spruce and ash wood and natural materials. The exterior façade is clad with untreated spruce wood. Two units feature a size of 96m² each, equipped with two bedrooms and two bathrooms. The third apartment is 45m² and sleeps one to two. All apartments come with a balcony. www.kleinwalsertal.com/en/Search-and-book/Book-accommodation/Accommodation-List/Tinn-Naturchalet_ad-24721057?accold%5B%5D=24721057

Dorf(er)leben, Mittelberg

Samuel and Natalie Riezler, your hosting family, will be opening their holiday apartment Dorf(er)leben in the very heart of Mittelberg in Kleinwalsertal at the beginning of the 2022/2023 winter season. The modern 55m² apartment sleeps up to four. Ideally, you can even give your car a rest while on holiday. The valley terminal of Walmendingerhornbahn or Zaferna lifts are within easy reach on foot. The bus stop for the free Walserbus is also just a short walk away. www.dorferleben.at

Kracha Alpin Lodge, Mittelberg

Kracha Alpin Lodge is to open near the valley terminal of Walmendingerhorn in Mittelberg in a new timber building in sustainable eco-design. The holiday apartment has a size of 65m² on 2 floors and sleeps up to four. There is a separate entrance, a ski shelter and a covered terrace. Behind the building, beautiful views of the mountain summits and endless pastures unfold.

www.kleinwalsertal.com/en/Search-and-book/Book-accommodation/Accommodation-List/Kracha-Alpin-Lodge_ad-25624906?accold%5B%5D=25624906&activeTab=%23details

Brandnerhus, Brand

The new Brandnerhus is located in Brandnertal, close to Palüdbahn cable car, with 12 apartments sleeping two to eight. The apartments are modern and functional and feature bedrooms with double beds and separate bathrooms. The kitchens are fully equipped, including a cozy dining area. From the balcony, you can enjoy lovely mountain views. Brandnerhus also features a spa with low-heat and Finnish saunas, steamroom and infrared cabin. Massages can be booked by request.

www.brandnerhus.at/en

DreamAlive Lodge, Bürserberg

For some time, the mobile DreamAlive Sleep Lodge stood in the Grosses Walsertal biosphere reserve. As of winter 2022/23, the hotel room with 360 degree glazing will be moving to Tschengla near Bürserberg in Brandnertal. In addition to a bed, the lodge also features a table, a refrigerator, a shower and a toilet. This flexible tiny home is just a four-minute walk from Hotel Dunza where lodgers can breakfast, dine or spend some time at the vitality oasis. www.dreamalive.world/en/standort/brandnertal

Die Lecherin, Lech am Arlberg

Michelle and Michael Huber will be opening “Die Lechnerin“ at Omesberg overlooking Lech im December 2022. The sustainable timber construction has been built using larch, ash, spruce and pine wood and comprises four stylish apartments. The 74m² units feature two bedrooms and two bathrooms and sleep up to four. From the spacious loggia and the outdoor infrared cabin you can enjoy views of Omeshorn, Lech or the Lech river. www.die-lecherin.at

Flint Hotel, Dornbirn

Designed by the renowned Vorarlberg architects Marte.Marte, Flint hotel is to open directly at the railway station of Dornbirn in December 2022. The hotel consists of a renovated, listed villa and a new, ten-storey building. The villa accommodates ten suites, the new building 70 rooms. In addition, there is a spa, a restaurant cum bar, a library and seminar rooms for groups up to 20. www.dasflint.at

CONVERSIONS/EXTENSIONS/MAJOR REFURBISHMENTS

Posthotel Taube, Schruns

“Taube“ in Schruns is an institution. It gained international fame when Ernest Hemingway spent the winter of 1925/26 here. Since early 2021, the building has been undergoing sweeping renovation according to plans by the multiple award-winning Vorarlberg architect Bernardo Bader. In cooperation with the builder-owners, he developed a concept to revive the Traube’s original character. The hotel is to live up to the Montafon heritage all while being sophisticated and open to the world. Two small annexes have been added that are linked to the main building by an underground walkway. One of the buildings accommodates a spa, the other one a hunting villa. A pool and a Japanese onsen bath will be built in the garden. www.posthotel-taube.at

Walserhaus SONNHOF, Hirschegg

Sonnhof is a typical Walser building whose history goes back to the 17th century. The quaint timber building in a sunny location was the home of Resi Hammerer, first Olympic winter games medal winner from Kleinwalsertal. Set to open in winter 2022/23, the self-catering home sleeps 16 to 24. On a floor area of 300m², it has seven bedrooms, six showers and WCs as well as all ancillary rooms, including a sauna and an activity room in what used to be the cheese cellar. www.kleinwalsertal.com/en/Search-and-book/Book-accommodation/Accommodation-List/Sonnhof-Kleinwalsertal-Walserhaus_ad-24256777

Hoheneck Appartement, Mittelberg

The hosting family used timber from an alpine farmstead dating from the 18th century and reworked a coffered ceiling from 1927 for the construction of a new, 110m² apartment with two bedrooms in Mittelberg in Kleinwalsertal. The interior furnishing was made by craftspeople from Kleinwalsertal and neighbouring Oberstdorf. The apartment sleeps up to four and is fitted with oiled oak floorboards. Its special features include handmade furniture, a sun terrace and a sauna with panoramic views.

www.hoheneck.at/ferienwohnung.html

Oswalda Hus, Riezlern

Refreshing in summer, pleasantly heated on cooler days – Oswalda Hus in Riezlern has upgraded its amenities by a new panorama pool. Open all year round, it stands out for lovely, panoramic views of the Kleinwalsertal mountains, among which the Hoher Ifen, the towering local mountain with its mighty plateau, takes centre stage. The sauna complex in the adjacent bath house with a Finnish sauna, low-temperature sauna, steam bath and pinewood infrared cabin is just a few steps away.

www.oswalda-hus.com/hotel-panorama-pool.html

Hotel Walisgaden, Damüls

Significantly extended and with 50 additional beds, Hotel Walisgaden in Damüls is to open in December 2022 for the winter season. The hosting Madlener family had a new annex with a wood façade constructed. It accommodates ten family suites, two wellness suites, three superior rooms and five staff rooms. The two-level #monti BOHO wellness & spa was newly added. It features a range of saunas, a steamroom, an indoor pool, fun showers, haybeds, infrared loungers and relax zones with a view. Foodies can look forward to the new fine-dining restaurant. www.walisgaden.at/en

Panoramahotel Sonnhalde, Schwarzenberg

After a serious facelift, Panomarmahotel Sonnhalde in Schwarzenberg presents itself in new splendour as of spring 2022, with a new annex. The rooms have been upgraded and enlarged. Two new rooms have been added. Altogether, the hotel now features 3 single rooms, 17 double rooms, 2 36m² suites and one 34m² apartment. The new panorama spa with sauna, steam bath and rainshowers is located in the loft. www.sonnhalde.at/en

4. Culinary news from Vorarlberg

New chef at Restaurant Rote Wand Chef's Table, Zug am Arlberg

Starting October 2022, the 28-year old chef Julian Stieger will be demonstrating his skills at Restaurant Rote Wand Chef's Table in Zug near Lech am Arlberg. This gourmet temple boasts four Gault-Millau toques and is among Austria's best restaurants. Julian Stieger, for his part, is considered to be one of Austria's best chefs. He learnt his trade and perfected his talent at no lesser institutions than Steirer-eck in Vienna, Landhaus Bacher in Lower Austria and, most recently, Geranium in Copenhagen. The latter currently ranks number one among the 50 bests restaurants worldwide. www.rotewand.com/en

Top chef Denise Amann new hostess of das TSCHOFEN, Bludenz

In December 2018, master plasterer Sandro Preite and his sister Valentina opened the city Hotel TSCHOFEN in Bludenz. The listed house already has a long history: In earlier times, hardware was sold here, and later tableware and porcelain were offered under the name "Tscherpa-Tschofa". From November 2022, top chef Denise Amann will take over this architecturally valuable house. Numerous new culinary refinements are to find their place on the breakfast, lunch and dinner menus. For the past three years, Denise has been working as a chef and hostess in her restaurant "mizzigreen" in Frastanz, now she is returning to her hometown of Bludenz. www.dastschofen.at

Brandner Hof, Brand

After a serious facelift, Brandner Hof in Brandnertal re-opened in autumn 2022 in new splendour. The Schedler family has redesigned the popular restaurant to offer more light and space, reducing seating capacity. The two existing holiday apartments have been refurbished, three further apartments have been added. 42m² in size, they have all been furnished with wood. www.brandnerhof.eu

Restaurant D'Bergerkuche, Bürserberg

Seasoned professionals, Stefanie and Marco Zechner are the new tenants of the inn in Bürserberg in Brandnertal, which they have been running as an all-year restaurant and café since the summer of 2022. D'BERGERKUCHE restaurant stands for premium regional cuisine with a traditional touch. The menu features fresh produce from Brandnertal, largely sourced from their own organic farm. www.restaurant-bergerkuche.at

Der Bergmetzger, Raggal

As a child, Johannes Gassner already knew he wanted to become a butcher. After undergoing apprenticeship training to become a butchermaster and some years of professional experience, he ventured into self-employment. In Raggal in Grosses Walsertal he set up his own slaughtering and cutting room next to his parents' home. There he can make his dream of producing sustainable food come true. His product line currently features different sausages such as salami, Landjäger (semi-dried) sausage, Kaminwürsten (cold smoked) sausage, veal bratwurst and barbecue sausage. www.derbergmetzger.at

New vinotheque "wi&me" in Faschina

Veronika Heckmann has opened the "wi&me" wine shop in Faschina. Wines from Austria and a variety of spirits from Vorarlberg, among other places, can be tasted with the boss herself in her shop. www.wiundme.at

New start for Bar10Zimmer, Dornbirn

BAR10ZIMMER city hotel has been operating in Dornbirn since 2018. As suggested by the name, the renovated historic building accommodates ten rooms equipped to high standards, and a contemporary day bar on the ground floor. Dominic Mayer, renowned chef of the innovative Hörnlingen restaurant in Rankweil, is now practicing his skills at BAR10. His novel culinary concept features pasta dishes with fresh pasta manufactured on site. www.bar10zimmer.at/en

iX Moments Restaurant & Market33, Dornbirn

Sushi, Asian street food and Hawaiian poke bowls are very popular. The operators of Feldkirch's iX Moments restaurant are therefore opening a second location in the rooms of the former trendy Innauer restaurant in Dornbirn's Marktstraße. In the vaulted cellar one floor below, "Market33" brings fresh momentum to the Dornbirn club scene with cool drinks and electronic beats.

www.ix-moments.at/dornbirn

Exquisite Design & Fine Dining

Which restaurants and inns perfectly blend fine regional dining and high-quality architecture? Marina Hämmerle, architect and former director of the vai Vorarlberg Architecture Institute, and Renate Bruess, art historian and former manager of Werkraum Bregenzerwald, recommend handpicked sites offering a hands-on experience of the Vorarlberg art of living: www.vorarlberg.travel/en/culinary-and-architectural-delights

5. Tourism Awards

Tourism Innovations 2022 in Vorarlberg

For 25 years, the Vorarlberg Tourist Board has been honouring excellence in tourism with innovation awards. The award-winning projects are selected by a panel of experts.

In 2022, the three **main awards** went to:

- The big nature explorer adventure in Kleinwalsertal. Addressing children six years and older, it is designed to raise their awareness for nature and offer them a hands-on experience.
- The Bregenzerwald "*Wald und Welt*" (forest and world) podcast in which personalities from Bregenzerwald are portrayed in monthly episodes and which gives insights into the regional dialect.
- Lech Ski Lab's winter theatre walk, which conveys the history and culture of skiing in the Arlberg region. This is a co-production between teatro caprile and the Lech museum.

Recognition Awards were given to:

- The Fanni Amann days of ARGE Dreiklang, initiated by the three small villages of Schnifis, Düns and Dünserberg. With a culture&dining programme, they evoke the memory of Fanni Amann, a famous chef from Vorarlberg who wrote a cookbook classic some 90 years ago.
- Apartmenthaus Tempel 74 in Mellau, which has won several architecture prizes and was built by the Haller and Felder families, who run the building, as a cooperative.
- Kunstraum2032Silvretta, a light and sound installation in an access tunnel that was constructed for the operation of a hydroelectric plant in Montafon – an unusual combination of art and technology.
- Dorftisch Lech: Once a week, the hosting family of hotel Sandhof in Lech invites locals and guests to come together for dinner at the "village table". These al-fresco encounters are hosted in the summer.

More information on the award-winning projects at

<https://gmbh.vorarlberg.travel/news/vorarlberger-tourismus-innovationen-2022>

Jewish Museum Hohenems to win the Austrian Museum Award 2022

The Jewish Museum Hohenems won the Austrian Museum Award 2022. This award in the amount of EUR 20,000 is presented each year by the Austrian Museum Council for excellence in museum work, which had the following to say about the museum: "Museum Hohenems is a bold museum which is not afraid of speaking up, it is wont to ask provocative questions and is open for a discourse with all interested parties." The Jewish Museum is the only museum in Austria to date to win this prize for a second time, having been given the award once before, back in 1991, the year of its inauguration.

www.jm-hohenems.at/en

Kilian Stuba in Kleinwalsertal – the shining Michelin star on Vorarlberg’s culinary art firmament

Having defended its Michelin star for the ninth time in a row, "Kilian Stuba" at Ifen Hotel in Kleinwalsertal is still the only award-winning restaurant in Kleinwalsertal and the only star-studded restaurant in all of Vorarlberg. Again rated one of the 20 best restaurants in Austria, "Kilian Stuba" has been going from strength to strength on its culinary flight to the stars. Other restaurant guides affirm the unfailingly high quality of the team around Sascha Kemmerer. In the Gault&Millau Austria 2022 Guide, the restaurant earned itself again four toques and 17.5 points. In the À la Carte Guide, "Kilian Stuba" was again able to score 4 stars and 94 points this year.

www.travelcharme.com/en/hotels/ifen-hotel/gastronomy/kilian-stuba

Biohotel Schwanen in Bizau is Gault & Millau "Hotel of the Year 2023"

On 16 November 2022, the Biohotel Schwanen was awarded the Austrian Gault & Millau "Hotel of the Year 2023" prize. "Reduce to the max" is the motto and attitude in all areas and concerns at the "Schwanen" in Bizau in Bregenzerwald. The family-run hotel with 25 employees has been certified organic since 2009, has three toques and four stars, cooks mainly according to the teachings of Hildegard von Bingen, sources food from its own gardens, relies on renewable energy and the best working conditions. The prize is awarded once a year to an Austrian hotel. biohotel-schwanen.com

Ski Arlberg comes out on top yet again at skiresort.de

Lech Zürs am Arlberg, part of the Ski Arlberg region, is among the leading winter sports resorts in the Alps. Always an honour: on skiresort.de, the world’s largest test portal for ski resorts, Ski Arlberg won the "5-star ski resort" category once again in 2022. Moreover, the ski region was able to come out on top in the "Professionals & Freeriders" category in 2022.

www.skiarlberg.at/en/Ski-Arlberg/Accolades-awards

Lech Zürs Tourist Board best-rated at the T.A.I. Advertising Grand Prix 2022

Ever since 1980, the T.A.I. ADVERTISING GRAND PRIX initiated by the Austrian trade magazine Tourist Austria International has been recognizing the best advertising materials in tourism. The panel of experts awarded the Lech Zürs Tourist Board the best rating in the "Catalogues & Brochures Destinations" category for its image brochure, as well as a Signum Laudis medal in gold.

www.werbegrandprix.at/t-a-i-werbe-grand-prix-2022

Austrian Innovation Prize Tourism for Montafon Tourismus GmbH

Austrian Federal and State Innovation Prize in Tourism for initiatives in innovative staff management and development in tourism and the leisure industry: In 2022, Montafon Tourismus GmbH came second in the category “Industry-wide cooperation“ with its initiative “Servus Vorarlberg! – Knowledge and awareness of regional experience, culture and language – A new welcome culture for staff in tourism“.

For more awards in culture and tourism in Vorarlberg see:

www.vorarlberg.travel/aktivitaet/ausgezeichnete-architektur-fuer-kultur-und-tourismus

6. New Offers & Products in Vorarlberg’s Destinations

Bobsledding for guests in the Bludenz ice channel

Thanks to the Olympic winter games, most of us know what bobsledding is. However, only very few of us have ever actually ridden on a bobsleigh. In Bludenz, near the valley terminal of Muttersbergbahn, you can now take a ride in a guest bobsleigh. All you need is a love of speed, as negotiating the bends of the ice channel is a fast-paced affair. Rides on a fun sports bobsleigh, aka Vutschko, are available from November 2022 to late February 2023 on Fridays between 5:00 and 9:00 p.m.

www.eiskanalbludenz.at/kanalevents

Winter “forest bathing” in Brandnertal

Nadine Nesler's winter forest bathing in Brand invites you to slow down. A mindful and peaceful journey of discovery that allows participants to see the forest with different eyes. With the Brandnertal, Bludenz, Klosters guest card there is a price reduction.

www.vorarlberg-alpenregion.at/en/brand/events/forest-bathing-in-brand.html

Exhibitions in Vorarlberg’s Museums in the 2022/23 winter season

- At Kunsthaus Bregenz, visitors will stand in awe at the catchy and unique installations created by the Egyptian-Canadian artist Anna Boghiguan, winner of several awards, on show from 22 October 2022 to 22 January 2023. www.kunsthhaus-bregenz.at
- The new special exhibition of the vorarlberg museum (“What is important to us! The challenge of the cultural heritage“) addresses the concept of “cultural heritage“, on show from 2 December 2022 to 16 April 2023. www.vorarlbergmuseum.at/en
- The Werkraum Haus in Andelsbuch is a showcase of innovative Bregenzerwald craftsmanship and design as well a place of encounter. With the exhibition "LUOG! – Junges Handwerk im Wald“ (LOOK! Young craftsmanship in Bregenzerwald“) Werkraum Bregenzerwald provides a platform for fledgling craftspeople and their trades from 8 October 2022 to 14 January 2023. www.werkraum.at/en
- The Womens’ Museum Hittisau is Austria’s only womens’ museum highlighting the artistic work of women. Starting 12 November 2022, the next exhibition is entitled “Life Loved/Lived. Between the worlds“. The photo and sound projects give a voice to women born between 1915 and 1935. www.frauenmuseum.at

- Until 19 March 2023, the exhibition “Stuffed Jews?” in the Jewish Museum in Hohenems, addresses the past, presence and future of Jewish museums. The exhibition is based in a survey carried out among 120 Jewish museums all around the globe on their focus of collection.
www.jm-hohenems.at/en
- A small museum in the former vicarage of Damüls, the Vorarlberg FIS Ski Museum Damüls deals with local history and winter sports. “Pastoral Worker in the Mountains – Reinhold Simma and Damüls” is the theme of a special exhibition shedding light on the life of Reinhold Simma, the last priest of Damüls, from 1950 to his death in 1999. www.damuels.at/en/walsertal/vorarlberg-fis-skimuseum.html
- The special exhibition at the Lechmuseum in the Huber-Hus, on show until 30 April 2023, revolves around garments and clothing, and the fascinating topic of “Dashing! Fashion for the Snow”.
www.lechmuseum.at

7. Other News

PIZ Montafon

PIZ Montafon was founded in 2022. This initiative is a future lab for sustainable tourism. PIZ Montafon sees its mission in promoting awareness for sustainable tourism. To that end, tourism establishments are to be involved to form a network of experts and the next generation. Together, participants are to develop hard-and-fast solutions. Success stories are to open up new opportunities for the region.

www.linkedin.com/showcase/piz-montafon

Horizont Winter Summit in Lech Zürs am Arlberg

Horizont Winter Summit is to be hosted for the first time from 8 to 11 December 2022 in Lech Zürs am Arlberg. Initiated by the Austrian specialized newspaper *Horizont*, the event is designed as a rallying point for the industry and networking platform for everyone working in advertising, media and marketing. Technical talks and panel debates will be complemented by ski excursions.

<https://horizont-winter-summit.com>

8. More Information, Copy & Images

For more information, copy and images, go to www.vorarlberg.travel/en/press-portal
For general information on Vorarlberg as a holiday destination, go to www.vorarlberg.travel/en/Informationen
Informationen on safe holidays in Vorarlberg www.vorarlberg.travel/visiting-safely

9. 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](https://www.vorarlberg.social)

 [Urlaubsland Vorarlberg](#)

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