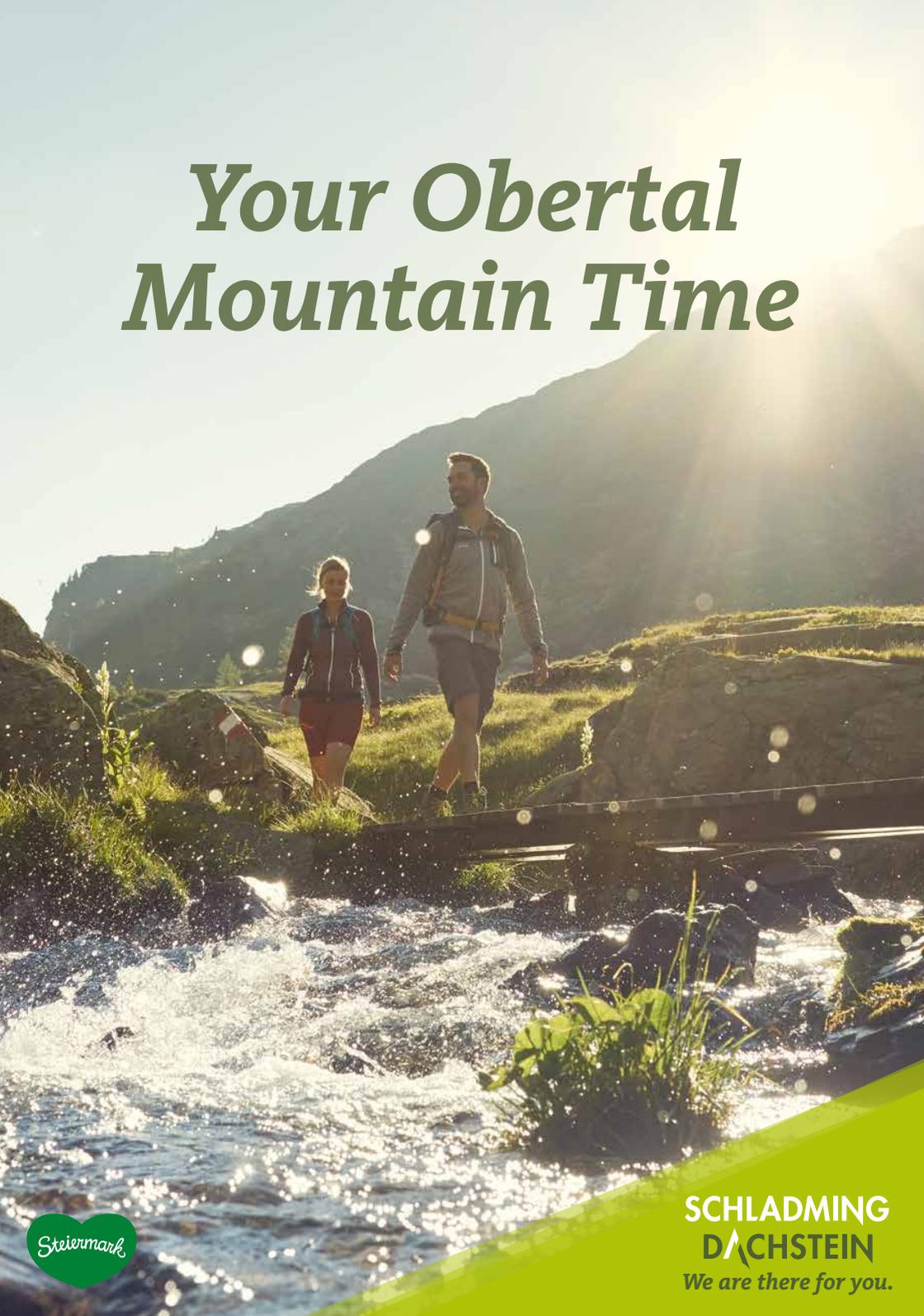


Your Obertal Mountain Time



Steiermark

**SCHLADMING
DACHSTEIN**
We are there for you.

Your Obertal Mountain Time: a 4-day hiking experience

The 4-day hike in Obertal valley is a beautiful multiple-day hike for hikers who only want to walk shorter stages and really want to enjoy the time on the trail, at the lakes, and the chalets. Along this route there are several lakes, historic sites, beautiful alps, impressive views, craggy mountains and cosy chalets. Highlights are the picturesque Landauersee lake, Duisitzkarsee lake, the Nickel museum right at the beginning of the tour, or the historic miners' settlements at Vetterkar cirque near Giglachseen lakes.

Getting There

Taking the Planai bus from Schladming or Rohrmoos is the best way for getting to the trail head. In case you arrive by car, there are public parking lots at Wehrhofalm in Obertal valley, that can be used for multiple-day parking as well. Via the "Smelting Furnace Tour" you walk to Hopfriesen in about 30 minutes to the hiking trail head, where the 4-day-hike starts off.

1st stay: Giglachseen Lakes

Ignaz-Mattis-Hütte +43 664 42 33 823 or
Giglachseehütte +43 664 90 88 188

2nd stay: Duisitzkarsee Lake

Fahrlechlütte +43 664 33 85 903 or
Duisitzkarhütte +43 664 97 33 684

3rd stay:

Keinprechtthütte +43 664 43 30 346



Day 1 | To Giglachseen Lakes

From the hiking trail head in Hopfriesen you follow the **historic miners' route # 776** towards **Giglachseen Lakes**. Right at the beginning you can make a 5-minute detour to the historic **nickel smelting furnace**, which is open as a museum nowadays (open Wednesday and Friday mornings from June throughout September).

From the smelting furnace you hike up a sunken road through clear forest, passing by underneath a steep rock face, where you get a great view back to the valley. A bit further you reach Lackneralm chalet (private only), with nice alpine meadows inviting for a break. You again cross over Giglachbach creek and continue on alternating sections of hiking trail and forest lanes up to the »Knappenkreuz« waypoint cross near **Landauersee lake**. The cross was erected in

honor of the mountain blessing and for mining work in the Giglach cirque. We recommend you make a detour to the picturesque lake (about 45 minutes additional minutes).

From Landauersee Lake you hike back to the main trail and continue towards Giglachseen Lakes. Soon the ascent of the trail gets more flat and you hike through the beautiful **Giglachalmen** alps. Along the creek you continue your hike, where you pass by the remains of miners' housing. Soon you reach the Eastern shore of the larger Giglachsee Lake. Now your opportunities for an overnight stay are not far anymore: **Ignaz-Mattis-Hütte** chalet is situated above the lower, bigger Giglachsee lake, **Giglachseehütte** chalet lies above the upper, smaller Giglachsee lake.



Alternative ascent routes

For experienced hikers:

Hochwurzeln High Trail (6 hours)

In case of bad weather:

from Ursprungalm (approx. 1 hour)





Day 2 | a promising hike to Duisitzkarsee Lake

The best way to start the second day is to go around the two Giglach lakes if you didn't do that on the first day. Another option is to make a detour of about 1 ½ to 2 hours in addition, to the remains of historical miners' dwellings in Vettertkar at the eastern end of the large Giglachsee lake via path # 702. Otherwise you take the hiking trail # 776 to the wayside cross with the hiking trail # 775, where you now continue towards Duisitzkarsee lake.

Now you hike slightly uphill from the Giglachkar cirque along the slopes of the Giglachalm Spitze and the Murspitzen to the mountain saddle called Murspitzsattel. The wonderful view back into the Giglachkar and down to the Landauersee will let you stop again and again to enjoy the view, and there are some nice places for you to linger too.

Once you arrive at Murspitzsattel, you have a magnificent view of the natural gem Duisitzkarsee – understandably one of the most photographed mountain lakes in the **Schladming-Dachstein region**. A good reason for a little rest and extensive enjoyment of the view.

Quite steeply and at the beginning with a short rope insurance it goes downhill into the Duisitzkar cirque, the beautiful mountain lake almost always in view. There are two overnight accommodations at the lake: the **Fahrlechlütte** directly on the lake and the **Duisitzkarseehütte** a few meters further above. You can relax and unwind around the lake.



In the rear Obertal (from the Eschachalm and in the alpine areas around the Keinsprechthütte, Duisitzkarsee and Neualm) it is not permitted to hike with your dog out of consideration for the wild animals as well as the alpine and grazing cattle.

Day 3 | In historic realms

After a hearty breakfast on the hut terrace, you start the third day of hiking. On the eastern shore of the Duisitzkarsee lake, follow the signs towards **Neualm** and Keinsprechthütte. Through a fairly sparse forest with lots of larch and stone pine you hike gently up and down to the south – including beautiful views of the valley head of the Obertal valley. After a leisurely 1 ½ hour walk you will reach the alpine pasture area in Neualmkar with a small waterfall and the **Neualm chalet** (private only). Here you can take a break near the hut directly by the stream.

After the rest, it now goes up the trail # 774 to the Keinsprechthütte. Once you hike up the first terrace in the terrain, there is a magnificent view of the high alpine landscape in Neualmkar, with the Neualmkarbach meandering through the cirque. Along the hiking trail or optionally along the track you hike steadily uphill to the **Keinsprechthütte**, where you will spend the third night. The mountains around the hut have been the scene of brisk mining activity in the past centuries.



Please be respectful and do not leave any rubbish in the mountains, along the trails or at the private chalets as it endangers animals and drinking water resources. Also, several materials take several centuries or even millenia to decompose.



Day 4 | Back to the valley

On the last day, the descent into the valley is waiting for you. Along the hiking trail # 774 you hike to the **Eschachalm**, where you can stop for coffee and cake. From there you can comfortably take the **Planai bus** back to the starting point in Hopfriesen or to the Wehrhofalm and of course

to Rohrmoos and Schladming. If you want, you can of course also hike out of the valley from Eschachalm and get to the starting point in **Hopfriesen** in about half an hour. The hiking trail along the Obertalbach further out of the valley to Rohrmoos is also worthwhile.



from
€ 179,00
per person*



Package details for Your Obertal Mountain Time

- » 3 nights in the huts on the mountain, including breakfast
- » 2 packed lunch for days 2 and day 4
- » Hiking map 1: 25,000
- » Lunch box & drinking bottle to fill yourself
- » Hut guide & stamp pass

* Prices are per person based on group room (hut), each with breakfast. Dinner is not included in the price. Additional nights, also in accommodation in the valley, on request.

Additional Information

Equipment

A well-packed backpack is helpful and especially when touring Alpine terrain a tuque, gloves, a windproof jacket and pants are standard equipment. Good, ankle-high and waterproof shoes, hiking poles, sun glasses, sun cream and sufficient beverages are essential too. When hiking for several days, it is important to keep the luggage as compact as possible so that it can be easily carried over several days.

GPS data and orienteering

Just like hiking maps, available GPS data is only a guidance for orientation and can never depict a trail exactly with all its details. Especially at dangerous spots it is essential to judge on site how to proceed.

In an emergency please call:

Emergency call 140:
for Alpine emergencies (all over Austria)

Emergency call 112:
European GSM emergency number

Safety Information

The second day may be a challenge for inexperienced hikers. In the Murspitzsattel area, the hiking trail is exposed to steep terrain. The descent to the Duisitzkarsee is very steep at the beginning and has rope insurance for a distance of about 40 m. Great caution is required here! The tour is basically also possible with children, but these should already be tried out with hikes lasting several hours.

Changes in weather patterns, quick falls in temperature, thunderstorms, wind, fog and snow are some of the dangers that can be encountered on a hiking tour. Hosts of mountain huts and refuges have a lot of experience in the mountains and can give good advice about weather and trail conditions. Poor equipment, overestimation of one's own capabilities, carelessness, poor personal constitution and/or wrong judgement can lead to critical situations. In case of thunderstorms: avoid summits, ridges and steel ropes.



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