

Ski the Austrian Arlberg: "

Dates: 6-18 March 2020

Tour Leader: Richard Ruppel



Overview

Ski the largest regional Alpine skiing area in Austria resulting in the fifth largest skiing area in the world, featuring 305 kilometers (190 miles) of slopes and trails serviced by 87 lifts that serve eight interconnected skiing areas on both sides of the Arlberg Pass. The Arlberg has long been famous for its pioneering spirit in winter sports and as such is known as the 'Cradle of Alpine Skiing.' Skiing came to the Arlberg over a century ago. Today, this unique spirit can still be found with the recent commemoration of the Flexenbahn cable car between Zürs and Stuben. The Arlberg area receives an average of 9 meters (360 inches) of snowfall each winter and about 70 percent of slopes also have snow-making, making the St. Anton, St. Christoph, Stuben, Zürs, Lech, Schröcken and Warth ski circuit one of the most reliable in terms of snow conditions. Immerse in Alpine skiing, Austrian culture and cuisine, the spectacular Run of Fame skiing round together with winter walks, sleigh rides, skating, sledding, sledding, snow-shoeing and Nordic skiing along with swimming and a plethora of wellness programs. To top it off, end this 13-day tour with 3 of them spent in Munich exploring some of Richard's favorite museums, castles, palaces, and more... Walk the Bavarian countryside to Andechs Monastery for a beautiful overlook of Ammersee and even enjoy English Garden. This almost full package tour is perfect for avid skiiers and even partners/friends that would like to enjoy a myriad of other recreational alpine fun!

Tour Leader



Richard Ruppel

Richard R. Ruppel is an emeritus Professor of German and Comparative Literature at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point where he taught for three decades. Prof. Ruppel chaired the Department of World Languages and Literature for the 11 years preceding his retirement at the University. He holds a Ph.D. and an M.A. in German Literature from Cornell University, an M.A. in German Studies from Tufts University and a B.A. in German with a minor in Russian from Hartwick College. He has led or co-led 16 tours in Europe through UWSP Adventure Tour and was the advisor to the UW-Stevens Point Ski and Snow Board Club for 15 years, helping them organize and accompanying them on 15 ski trips to the Rockies. Richard has been an avid skier for nearly 50 years and has skied the northeast, the American and Canadian Rockies and Austria, Germany, Italy and Switzerland. He has also organized ski trips in Austria before, a

country which he knows well spending two years living there and returning regularly to ski, do research and teach. Having led a tour to the Austrian Arlberg before, Richard is looking forward to skiing some of the same slopes again!

Itinerary

Day 1 (Friday, 6 March 2020) – Arrive in Munich (Germany)

Arrive in Munich to meet your tour leader, Richard. Most flights depart 5 March. Motor coach pickup at airport and transfer to hotel. Walking tour of central Munich for orientation and shaking out the legs. Overnight: Hilton Munich City Meals included: D (group welcome dinner)



Day 2 - Transfer to the Village of Zürs

Transfer to Zürs, Austria in the heart of the Arlberg Ski Circuit, also known as the 'Cradle of Alpine Skiing'. Check into Hotel Enzian in Zürs, enjoy a village orientation tour with Richard, pick up lift tickets (as desired), maps, and learn/orient the lift system and use of public transportation (bus and train). Hotel Enzian will provide half board: breakfast buffets and 3-course dinners for each day. *Overnight: Hotel Enzian Meals included: B and D*

Day 3 – Explore the Slopes Nearby Zürs

Explore the skiing above Zürs. Overnight: <u>Hotel</u>
Enzian Meals included: B and D

Day 4 – Explore and Ski the Lech + Oberlech

After breakfast, take lifts to the west to the village of Lech and spend the day exploring the Lech and the Oberlech skiing area. *Overnight:*<u>Hotel Enzian</u> Meals included: B and D



(photo by Pixabay)



St. Anton (photo by Pixabay)



Warth (photo by Pixabay)

snow-shoeing possibilities or explore the village of St. Anton. One could participate in a wellness spa program of your own choosing. Visit the Alpine Ski Museum in the Villa Trier, an elegant chalet in St. Anton to learn more about the history of Alpine skiing. Visit the famous Arlberg Hospiz Hotel in St. Christoph, today a five-star hotel housed in the medieval hospiz with its art galleries, its many restaurants and exhibition space. Visit the Kästle Ski Museum in Lech. Overnight: Hotel Enzian Meals included: B and D

Day 7 – St. Christoph and St. Anton

Take the ski lifts from Zürs past Stuben to St. Christoph and experience the skiing in that area. St. Anton and St. Christoph are linked making it possible to ski St. Anton as well. *Overnight:* <u>Hotel Enzian</u> Meals included: B and D

Day 8 - A Myriad of Options to Explore

If you have not yet explored the skiing in St. Anton, one should head over that way. Otherwise, feel free to choose other areas to explore. *Overnight: Hotel Enzian Meals included: B and D*

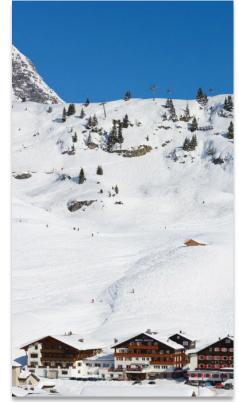
Day 5 – Stuben, Klösterle, and Sonnenkopf

Take the cable car from Zürs to the village of Stüben to explore the skiing above the village of Stuben along with Klösterle and the Sonnenkopf ski area. *Overnight:* <u>Hotel Enzian</u> *Meals included:* B and D

Day 6 - Schröcken/Warth or Relax

Ski all day. It's your choice. Travel to Schröcken and explore that ski area along with Warth. Or take a full or partial day off to experience local

Nordic



Hotel Enzian (photo by Hotel Enzian)

Day 9 – Ski The Arlberg (Stuben, Zürs, Klösterle, Lech, etc.)

Ski your favorite area or wherever one chooses to ski on our last day: Stuben, St. Christoph, St. Anton, Zürs, Klösterle, Lech, Oberlech or Schröcken. *Overnight: Hotel Enzian Meals included: B and D*

Day 10 – Munich's Cultural and Historical Highlights

Motor Coach transfer to Munich. Overnight: Hilton Munich City Meals included: B



Munich's Olympic Stadium (photo by Pixabay)

Day 11 – Museums, Palaces, Castles, and More in Munich

Use your Munich City Pass to explore Munich (free transportation and free entrance to all the sights, museums, palaces, castles, etc.). In the morning, travel to Royal Nymphenburg Palace, home to the Wittelsbacher, the royal family of Bavaria and be sure to explore the acres of woods and park

surrounding it. In the afternoon, visit the world class art museums [Alte and/or Neue Pinakothek], the Pinakothek of Modern Art (all located next to each other), visit the Lenbachhaus, which houses the famous collection of the Blaue Reiter [Blue Riders] (Kandinsky, Gabriele Munter, Auguste Macke, Franz Marc, Marianne von Werefkin, Alfred Kubin and Paul Klee), or visit the German technological museum [das Deutsche Museum] on an island in the Isar, the hunting museum [Jagdmuseum] which lays out the history of hunting and fishing in Germany or visit the beautiful churches [Theatiner Kirche, die Frauenkirche, Alte Peter, etc.] or explore the sprawling English Gardens, Munich's central park, or ride out to the 1972 site of the World Olympics and visit the facilities. *Overnight: Hilton Munich City Meals included: B*

Day 12 – Walk the Bavarian Countryside to Andechs/Ammersee

Depending on weather, take the Underground out to Herrsching and enjoy a gorgeous walk through the rolling Bavarian countryside



Andechs Monastery (photo by Richard Ruppel)

for about an hour to Andechs, a beautifully restored Baroque monastery with a restaurant and beer garden overlooking Ammersee (Lake Ammer). In the afternoon, choose one or two of the museums above and visit them. Check out the English Garden, Munich's "Central Park," a must-see park with its miles of walking, its lakes, tea gardens, beer gardens and restaurants. Overnight: <u>Hilton Munich City</u> Meals included: B and D (group farewell dinner)



Frauenkirche - Cathedral of Our Lady (photo by Richard Ruppel)



Munich Townhall (photo by Jeff Trapp)

Day 13 (Wednesday, 18 March 2020) - Time to Head Home

Motor coach transfer from hotel to the Munich airport. Fly Munich to Chicago or travelers home destination. *Overnight: NA Meals included: B*

*Meal Key: B=breakfast, L=lunch, D=dinner

Cost and Details

COST: \$4,678 pp (USD) MY OWN ROOM (single supplement): \$480 pp (additional USD)

INCLUDED: The cost includes all accommodations (comfortable four-star lodging), all meals listed in itinerary, activities/tours listed in itinerary, in-country transportation, Munich City Pass, and 1-2 UWSP Adventure Tours tour leaders (based on group size).

NOT INCLUDED: Roundtrip airfare to/from Munich, lift ticket (allows flexibility for non-skiing partners/friends and skiers that would like short or longer stays), extra activities, additional gear rental, laundry services, extra purchases (such as souvenirs, alcoholic beverages, taxi, int'l calls and lodging sundries), local drivers' and guides' tips, travel insurance.
*A six-day lift ticket for the entire region is currently 289 Euros/\$324 USD with the possibility of a senior discount.

PLEASE NOTE: The cost includes land/water only rate, per person, with double occupancy accommodations. Single rooms ("my own room") may be limited. Depending on weather and other variables, some activities or accommodations may change prior to or during the tour. This tour will accommodate most fitness/health levels, however it is suggested that all participants have at least a moderate/fair level of fitness and health. Our goal is to ensure a fun and safe wellness adventure for everyone aboard.

GROUP SIZE: 10-20 travelers

CONTACT: Trevor Roark, 715-340-8186, adventure.tours@uwsp.edu

REGISTRATION: Register online with a check or via credit card OR print registration, complete and mail with \$300 (pp)

nonrefundable deposit.

WEBSITE: www.uwspadventuretours.com

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