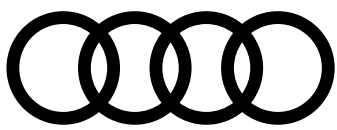




AUDI FIS  
**SKI  
WELT  
CUP**  
GURGL



**Audi**  
FIS Ski World Cup

HERRENSLALOM

18.11.  
2023

# WELCOME TO GURGL. DIAMOND OF THE ALPS.

We have gratefully received your accreditation. Our team will be happy to support you during and after the event.

## ACCREDITATION | RACE OFFICE | PRESS OFFICE HOTEL HOCHFIRST

Thursday, 16.11.2023 8:00 am – 8:00 pm  
Friday, 17.11.2023 8:00 am – 8:00 pm  
Saturday, 18.11.2023 8:00 am – 1:00 pm

Accreditation, Race Office and Press Office is located at Hotel Hochfirst (Gurglerstraße 123, Obergurgl).

We are at your disposal to answer any questions.

Accreditation contact: +43 5905966 101 / [www.feratel.com](http://www.feratel.com)

## MEDIA CENTER IM TOP MOUNTAIN CROSSPOINT

Friday, 17.11.2023 8:00 am – 6:00 pm  
Saturday, 18.11.2023 7:00 am – 6:00 pm

The Media Center at Top Mountain Crosspoint / Motorcycle Experience World is available to all accredited media representatives.

Contact: +43 5905966 100

## PRESS SHUTTLE FROM THE PRESS OFFICE TO THE MEDIA CENTER

The press shuttles are available to all accredited media representatives to get safely and comfortably from the Press Office in Obergurgl to the Media Center at Hochgurgl. The shuttle times are adapted to the opening times of the Media Center.

**Meeting place:** Hotel Hochfirst car park (Gurglerstraße 123)

Friday: 8:00 am/Saturday: 7:00 am

## ACCOMMODATION OFFICE

Thursday, 16.11.2023 8:00 am – 8:00 pm  
Friday, 17.11.2023 8:00 am – 8:00 pm  
Saturday, 18.11.2023 8:00 am – 4:00 pm

Contact: T +43 57200 916 | [incoming@oetzta.com](mailto:incoming@oetzta.com)

## HOW TO GET THERE

Scan QR-Code






## KEEP IN TOUCH



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 [gurgl.official](https://www.instagram.com/gurgl.official)  
 [Obergurgl / Hochgurgl / Gurgl](#)

#  #GURGL #DIAMONDOFTHEALPS

# PROGRAM

## THURSDAY, 16.11.2023

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9:00 AM OPENING OF THE GURGL SKI AREA

9:00 PM SKI OPENING NIGHT WITH DJ  
Foyer Gurgl Carat | Free admission

6:30 PM: „ENJOYMENT, SKIING AND SUSTAINABILITY.  
A PANEL FOR CHANGE“  
Gurgl Carat | Price per person: 89.00 €

## FRIDAY, 17.11.2023

---

5:00 – 10:00 PM DIAMOND BEATS WITH DJ REALIZE  
Forecourt & Foyer Gurgl Carat | Free admission

The ski stars are welcomed to Gurgl and the start of skiing is celebrated on the forecourt and ground floor of Gurgl Carat. At 7:00 pm you can follow the drawing of bib numbers live.

6:30 – 10:00 PM DIAMOND LOUNGE  
Gurgl Carat 1st floor | Price per person 169.00 €

7:00 PM START NUMBER DRAWING  
Forecourt Gurgl Carat | Free admission

7:30 PM MEDIA EVENING  
Zirben Alm

10:00 PM DIAMOND NIGHT WITH VOLXROCK  
Gurgl Carat 1st floor | Advance booking: 12.00 €  
Box office: 15.00 € | Doors open from 9:00 pm

## SATURDAY, 18.11.2023

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10:00 AM LIVE BROADCAST OF AUDI FIS ALPINE SKI  
WORLD CUP – MEN'S SLALOM GURGL 2023  
Forecourt Gurgl Carat | Free admission

10:45 AM START 1ST RUN OF MEN'S SLALOM - AUDI FIS  
ALPINE SKI WORLD CUP IN GURGL 2023 HOCHGURGL  
Hochgurgl, Top Mountain Crosspoint

1:45 PM START 2ND RUN OF MEN'S SLALOM - AUDI FIS  
ALPINE SKI WORLD CUP IN GURGL 2023 HOCHGURGL  
Hochgurgl, Top Mountain Crosspoint

5:00 – 10:00 PM DIAMOND BEATS WITH DJ REALIZE  
Forecourt & Foyer Gurgl Carat | Free admission

The ski stars are duly celebrated on the forecourt and ground floor of Gurgl Carat. At 6:00 pm you can watch the great prize-giving ceremony live.

5:30 - 10:00 PM DIAMOND LOUNGE  
Gurgl Carat 1st floor | Price per person 169.00 €

6:00 PM PRIZE-GIVING CEREMONY  
Forecourt Gurgl Carat | Free admission

10:00 PM DIAMOND NIGHT WITH MEILENSTEIN  
Gurgl Carat 1st floor | Advance booking: 15.00 €  
Box office: 18.00 € | Doors open from 9:00 pm

## SUNDAY, 19.11.2023

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10:00 AM SKIGUIDING WITH DAVE RYDING  
Base station Hohe Mut Bahn | free of charge  
Registration required

Experience the Gurgl ski area together with local ski guides and British ski star Dave Ryding.

1:00 PM MEET & GREET WITH DAVE RYDING  
Hohe Mut Alm | free of charge

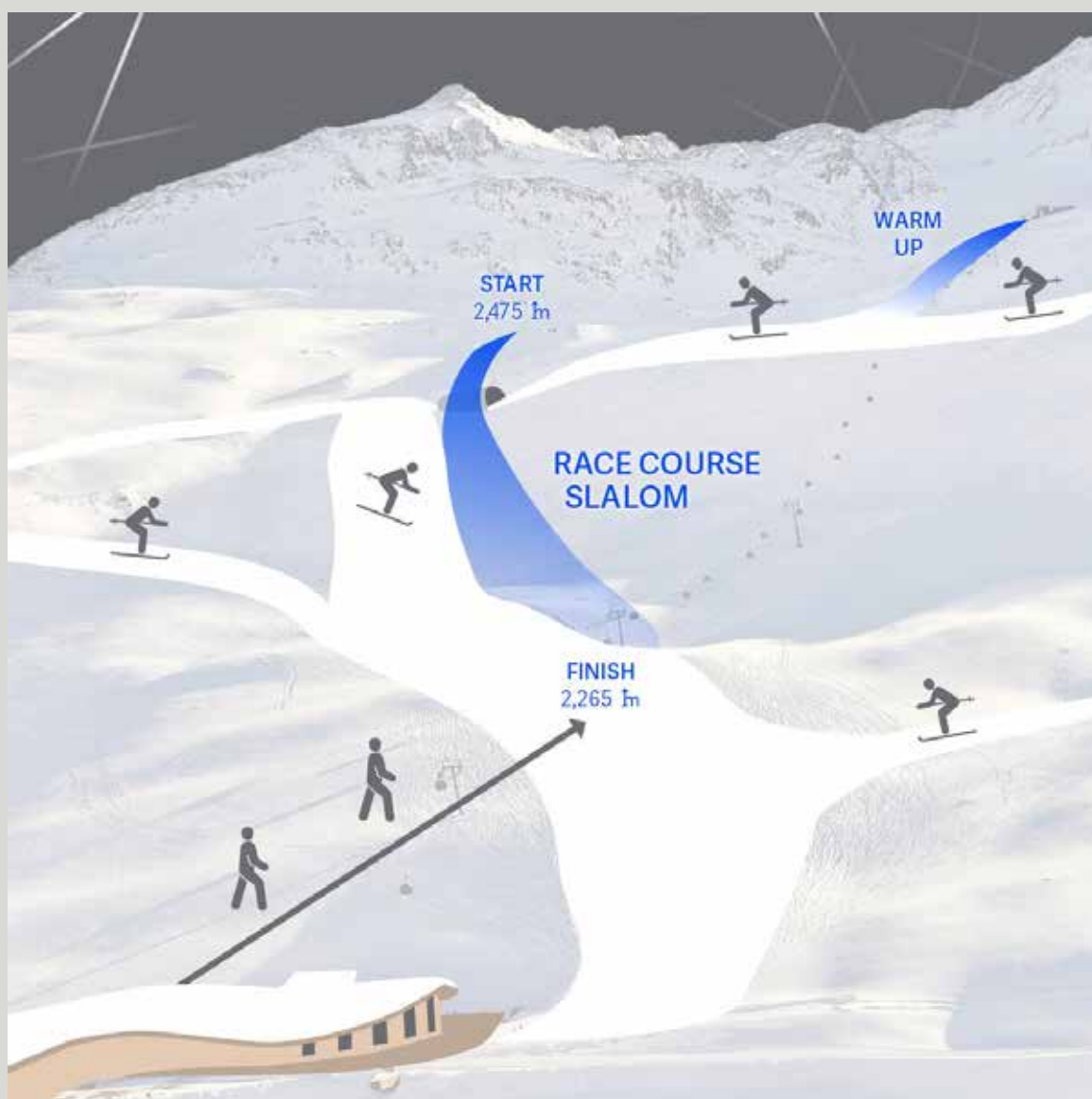
With autograph session & photo opportunities.

\*Program subject to change due to weather conditions.

# FACTS

## TECHNICAL DATA OF „KIRCHENKAR GURGL“ SLOPE

STARTING ALTITUDE	2475 m	MINIMUM INCLINATION	18 %
FINISH ALTITUDE	2.265 m	MAXIMUM INCLINATION	62 %
DIFFERENCE IN ALTITUDE	210 m	AVERAGE INCLINATION	38,3 %
TRACK LENGTH	548 m		



# EVENT OVERVIEW

## AUDI FIS SKI WORLD CUP



### LEGENDE

#### OBERGURGL-HOCHGURGL

- 1 **WELTCUPPISTE** Kirchenkar Gurgl  
Starthöhe: 2.475 fm | Zielhöhe: 2.265 fm  
Höhendifferenz: 210 m  
minimale Neigung: 18 %  
maximale Neigung: 62 %  
Durchschnittsneigung: 38,3 %
- 2 Fanzone
- 3 Kirchenkarbahn
- 4 Zugang Zielbereich  
15 – 20 min ab  
Top Mountain Crosspoint
- 5 Top Mountain Crosspoint
- 6 Ticketkontrolle
- 7 Shuttlebus-Endstation
- 8 Top Express Gurgl
- 9 Hochgurglbahn I
- 10 Hochgurglbahn Mittelstation
- 11 Hochgurglbahn II
- 12 Große Karbahn
- 13 **ABENDVERANSTALTUNGEN**  
Obergurgl ab 17:00 Uhr im Gurgl Carat
- 14 P1 Parkplatz Zwieselstein
- 15 P2 Parkplatz Hochgurglbahn
- 16 P3 Parkplatz Festkoglbahn

Bitte beachte den aktuellen Lift- & Pistenstatus





Altitude is decisive: the evening photo shows the snow-covered slopes of Gurgl.

## “THE WHOLE VILLAGE IS BEHIND THIS RACE”

Altitude, race track, snowmaking systems, infrastructure: both the FIS and ÖSV will find perfect conditions for a World Cup event in Gurgl. Nevertheless, the organizers are required to deliver top organizational performance.

The 50-member Gurgl organizing committee led by project manager Alban Scheiber got the World Cup race up and running in record time. The project manager speaks of around 20 meetings in which he took part - per week. At the beginning of March 2023, those responsible in Gurgl received an initial FIS and ÖSV request. Essence: “Can you imagine holding a slalom in November this year?” An immediate internal coordination with Gurgl's Ski Club, Gurgl's lift companies, landowners and Ötztal Tourismus followed. The organizing committee of Sölden's World Cup was as well involved. 30 years of experience of the Sölden World Cup veterans are indispensable for organizing an event of this size. The call quickly brought clarity. “Everyone was unanimously enthusiastic, the whole

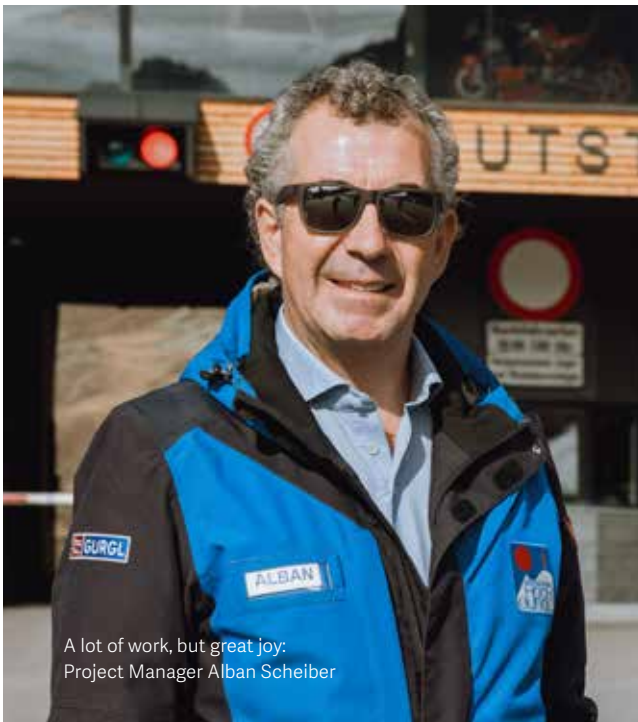
village was and still is behind it,” Alban Scheiber reports.

### PREPARED EVEN WITHOUT A FIRM CONFIRMATION

However, the green light for the race was only given three months later. The formal confirmation was made at the FIS Congress in Dubrovnik at the beginning of June 2023. The time to prepare for a November race had now become extremely short. Fortunately precautions had been taken in Gurgl. “Even without the official go-ahead, we prepared many points at our own risk. We were convinced right from start that we could offer the perfect setting for such a race. The commitment was then a true relief for us,” says Alban Scheiber.

### GURGL HAS IT ALL

Gurgl's self-confidence comes from solid facts. The race venue in the uppermost part of Ötztal valley had a number of key arguments in its favor right from the start:



A lot of work, but great joy:  
Project Manager Alban Scheiber

*„There was always the hope of being able to host a World Cup race at some point.“*

ALBAN SCHEIBER,  
PROJECT MANAGER

### HIGH ALTITUDE

The start house is located at 2,475 m, the finish area at 2,265 m. Gurgl is the one and only non-glacier ski area that - thanks to its high altitude - can host a World Cup race so early, in late autumn.

### SNOWMAKING CAPACITY

Opportunity meets preparation - two years ago the snow-making facilities were extensively expanded. Two water reservoirs with a capacity of 75,000 and 90,000 cubic meters feed the snow guns together with powerful Gurgler Ache mountain brook. If the temperatures are favorable, the expert team led by race slope responsible Peter Reich manages to cover the entire race slope with snow in only three to four days.

### RACE TRACK

The Kirchenkar slope has enjoyed the status of an exceptional sporting challenge in the slalom world from the very beginning. The combination of length and steepness is considered outstanding. „The slope is really extreme,“ is how project manager Alban Scheiber sums it up. It's no coincidence that top skiers such as Alexis Pinturault and the Austrian national team have already fine-tuned their lines here.

### INFRASTRUCTURE

The Top Mountain Crosspoint offers all the space and technical requirements for organizing a ski event of this scale. The base terminal of Kirchenkar Gondola, the media center, athletes' and coaches' zone, catering - everything is concentrated in one place. Splendid Gurgl Carat congress center provides an additional quality accent in Obergurgl as a venue for the start number drawing, award ceremony and exclusive evening events. All that needs to be built for the slalom in the uppermost part of Ötztal is a grandstand in the finish area.



**SUSTAINABLE ACCENTS FOR MEDIA:**  
please bring your own drinking bottles for outdoor areas.

# SUSTAINABLE ACCENTS FOR MAJOR SPORTING EVENTS

All or nothing: at the very first edition of the World Cup in Gurgl, the organizers from Ötztal are relying on a bundle of measures to conserve resources, promote regional cycles and reduce private traffic. This adds another level to the race premiere: Gurgl's Ski World Cup will be the first partner event of this type for Green Event Austria and is therefore considered a pilot project. In addition, the TV images will be produced by the host broadcaster ORF in accordance with the ecolabel standards for television productions.

How can a major sporting event be reconciled with the issue of sustainability? The organizers of the men's slalom in Gurgl have been dealing with this question since they were awarded the contract to host the event. Just few days prior to the start of the men's slalom, they were given a particularly responsible task. The race in Gurgl is the first Ski World Cup event in Austria to be an official partner of Green Event Austria. The purpose behind it is to gather experience and subsequently provide best practice examples or suggestions for other event organizers.

## SUSTAINABILITY IN SEVERAL AREAS

Despite good prerequisites in terms of infrastructure, those responsible approach the topic of "sustainability" in a humble way. "We tried to integrate appropriate and coherent measures into the event despite the very short time available. However, we are aware that not everything can and will be perfect at this premiere. It is a learning process," explains Raphael Kuen, Ötztal Habitat Manager. The whole package of measures includes the use of regional foods such as meat, fish and cheese from Tirolean producers. The catering centers on saving resources. Plastic bottles are not used here.

Instead, reusable packing units and cups are used. Thanks to a pool of up to 20,000 cups, which Ötztal Tourismus provides to local organizers free of charge, avoiding waste is the order of the day. Top Mountain Crosspoint, as a central location near the Kirchenkar slope, obtains its energy from biomass and 100% renewable electricity from Austria. The second venue of the World Cup weekend - Europe's highest congress center Gurgl Carat - is positioning itself as a location for green meetings and is starting certification according to the Austrian Ecolabel. An important feature is the arrival journey of ski fans. Here the organizers are promoting public means of transport and use of the extensive range of shuttle buses or carpooling in cooperation with the digital solution "Ummadam". If you are already in Obergurgl or Hochgurgl, the easiest way to reach the race slope is on skis or snowboard. In addition, ORF as a local broadcaster is committed to producing the live images from Gurgl in accordance with the severe "Green Producing" criteria of the Austrian Ecolabel. This concerns the areas of mobility, energy consumption, logistics and catering as well as calculation of CO2 emissions after the event.

## TALKING ABOUT IT: SKI SPORTS & SUSTAINABILITY

On the occasion of the World Cup weekend in Gurgl, Ötztal Tourismus and Ötztal's Gourmet Ambassadors invite you to exchange ideas at Gurgl Carat on Thursday, 16 November. The evening's motto is "Enjoyment, skiing and sustainability: a panel for change". Among others, Ski Austria head Roswitha Stadlober, Alban Scheiber (Project Manager Gurgl Ski World Cup) and the two professional athletes Dave Ryding (UK) and Ötztal's Fabio Gstrein will take part in the discussion.



# MOUNTAIN VILLAGE WITH GLOBAL SPIRIT



Gurgl nestles at the very end of Ötztal valley. But it is also in the middle of Europe and at the heart of the Alps. It connects the north to the south, tradition with innovation and welcomes people from all over the world. Two unrivaled Gurgl highlights - representative of the region's cosmopolitan side.

## TOP MOUNTAIN CROSSPOINT

Gurgl has myriad highlights worth seeing, one of which is Europe's highest Motorcycle Museum in Hochgurgl at the toll station of the Timmelsjoch High Alpine Road at 2,200 meters. The unique collection of historic motorcycles ranges from "A.J.S." to "Zündapp" and shows all the major motorcycle brands of the last 120 years. On approximately 4,500 m<sup>2</sup> of exhibition space, about 550 exhibits and an interactive world of experience with 4D cinema, motor wall, technology simulations and real engine sound will delight visitors.

The twin brothers Alban and Attila Scheiber from Hochgurgl built up the collection over decades. "The sand in Hochgurgl was mostly frozen, which is why we were interested in motorcycles even when we were in the sandpit," they often say jokingly. In January 2021, a fire destroyed over 350 exhibits in the museum - a huge loss for the motorcycle and vintage car community. But would you ever let your life's dream die? That was out of the question for Alban and Attila Scheiber. A few months after the accident, the Top Mountain Motorcycle Experience World reopened – much bigger, more spectacular and even more exciting. In terms of architecture, the highly successful multifunctional Top Mountain Crosspoint building also houses the base terminal of the top modern Kirchenkar gondola with 10-person cabins and a first-class restaurant. As part of the Alpine Ski World Cup, the Top Mountain Crosspoint acts as a media center, athletes' and coaches' zone and the high-quality gastronomy spot as a VIP area.



## GURGL CARAT

### EUROPE'S HIGHEST CONGRESS AND EVENT CENTER

Gurgl as the "Diamond of the Alps" is mirrored in the Gurgl Carat congress and event center, opened in 2020, thanks to its eye-catching architecture in the shape of a diamond. As the highest congress and event center in the Alps (1,900 meters), it brings important new impetus to Obergurgl's tradition as a congress location. Since the founding of the Federal Sports Center in 1951 - today's Obergurgl University Center, events and seminars have taken place in the small mountain village. Even back then, Obergurgl also served as an Alpine research center for the University of Innsbruck. As the Piccard hall, built in 1988, no longer met the requirements, top modern Gurgl Carat was constructed in the same location which offers space for up to 500 participants in a number of light-flooded rooms. Thanks to state-of-the-art technology and flexible room concepts, it is also suitable for hybrid conferences, live broadcasts, panel discussions and product presentations and also houses Tirol's largest widescreen projection on a screen covering more than 100 m<sup>2</sup>.

The inspiring mountain scenery and nature offer ideal research conditions and space for creative exchange of ideas. In addition to congresses, there are attractive side and activity programs – and everything in the village is within walking distance. Gurgl Carat is the exclusive venue for evening events at the Alpine Ski World Cup premiere, including the start number drawing and award ceremony.



# GURGL. DIAMOND OF THE ALPS.

Thanks to the high altitude between 1,800 and 3,030 meters, skiing in Gurgl traditionally starts in November, even without having glacier slopes. At the start of winter 2023/24, the premium ski resort - one of the most snow-sure in the Alps - will also host an AUDI FIS Alpine Ski World Cup for the first time. Apart from that, guests can look forward to the usual enjoyable outdoor adventures as well as all-round comfort on and off the slopes.

## TOP QUALITY SKIING

112 kilometers of immaculate slopes and 25 state-of-the-art mountain lifts and gondolas with an hourly capacity of 43,000 people promise plenty of freedom on the slopes as well as uninterrupted skiing enjoyment instead of long waiting times. From the village center it takes just under nine minutes to reach the ski area. The fact that the lifts can start operating already on 16 November is thanks to Gurgl's altitude. The region is not only one of the early starters among the Alps' non-glacier ski areas, the season also lasts well into April. In a ski destination characterized by short distances, guests can get from the hotel to the lifts in a maximum of four minutes thanks to optimized ski-in & ski-out. How does it work? 90 percent of all beds are in accommodations less than 250 meters from the nearest ski run. These include over 25 hotels in the 4\* and 5\* categories offering all-round comfort.

## PREMIERE: MEN'S SLALOM OPENING OF THE AUDI FIS SKI WORLD CUP

In the 2023/24 season, the Ski Opening from 16 to 19 November is all about the men's slalom race which will be held in Gurgl on 18 November as part of the AUDI FIS Alpine Ski World Cup. This is the first time that a top-class sporting event will take place in the popular European Cup and training destination, which ski stars such as the British slalom star Dave Ryding also use as their Alpine home base. In the opening race of the season, the professionals speed down Kirchenkar slope in Hochgurgl to the finish line, which is 320 m above Top Mountain Crosspoint. Exclusive evening events at Gurgl Carat accompany the sporting competition. The highlights include Diamond Beats concerts, the Diamond Lounge and the Diamond Night taking place after the prize-giving ceremony at Gurgl Carat. But it's also worth getting up early on Sunday morning as there will be ski guiding with Dave Ryding at 10.00 am - followed by a meet and greet.





## (NATURE)ENJOYMENT ON AND OFF THE SLOPES

If you manage to get out of bed even earlier, a special treat awaits you in Gurgl in winter at the “First Line” followed by a top-class breakfast on Hohe Mut Alm. In the evening, a gourmet fondue invites you to enjoy a sundowner with a view in the same location. Away from the well-groomed ski slopes, there are 12 kilometers of cleared winter hiking trails as well as countless options for snowshoeing and ski touring. The high-altitude Nordic track offers the best conditions for cross-country skiing on about 12 kilometers, while the three-kilometer (night) toboggan run and twice-weekly night skiing in the moonlight take you smoothly down into the valley. The huge choice of premium accommodations with their range of wellness offers at the highest level in the immediate vicinity of the mountain lifts round off the experience in the snow.

## CULINARY TREATS MEET ADVENTURES

In addition to enjoyable activities in the snow, a successful winter vacation also includes sensual experiences for you? Culinary delights at the highest level await you at the Top Mountain Crosspoint, in the newly renovated Festkogel Alm at 2,668 meters, as well as on the sunny terrace of Hohe Mut Alm at 2,653 meters with awe-in-

spiring panoramic views of a dozen glaciers and 21 mighty three thousand meter high peaks - including Gaislachkogel, Wildspitze and Similaun . On clear days, the unrivaled Top Mountain Star 360° panorama bar on Wurmkogel at 3,030 meters, offers an impressive view of the Dolomites. While the Top Mountain Crosspoint at the foot of the Timmelsjoch High Alpine Road combines eye-catching architecture, technology and design in a very special way: in the multimedia Motorcycle Experience World there are over 550 exhibits to marvel at on an exhibition area of around 4,500 m<sup>2</sup>. A visit to the adjacent Top Mountain Crosspoint Restaurant promises the perfect culinary experience. The drinks and creations can also be enjoyed in a special ambience during a panoramic ride on the Perrier-Jouët cabin of Kirchenkogel Gondola.

## THE SKI AREA AT A GLANCE

- 112 slope kilometers
- Snow-sure high altitude between 1,800 and 3030 meters
- No waiting times thanks to 25 high performance mountain lifts
- The longest downhill run covers 8 kilometers and 1,260 altitude meters
- Ski Start on 16 November 2023
- Spring Skiing until 21 April 2024

# ACTIVITY COUPLED WITH ENJOYMENT

Also in summer Gurgl is as multifaceted as a diamond. At almost 2,000 meters above sea level you will discover exclusive cuisine, a unique alpine landscape and many opportunities to enjoy sports and activities.

The region in the uppermost part of Ötztal promises relaxation in close touch with nature and wellness for all senses. Pleasant temperatures due to the altitude and fresh air will give you enough strength to activate yourself, even in the heat of the valley. You can explore nature on gentle hikes and leisurely (e-)bike tours. The fresh and clear water of the mountain brooks and lakes is a real relief for tired feet. Varied wellness facilities available at the premium accommodations with sauna, massages and a lot more invite you to wind down and recharge your batteries.

## GENTLE ACTIVITIES

No matter if you prefer hiking, enjoying Alpine cuisine in the huts or just want to take in the breathtaking mountain scenery, the summer mountain gondolas and lifts promise a comfortable uphill ride. Once at the top, an incredible panorama opens up. Scenic hiking tours to high-altitude mountain huts or loop trails with glacier views can be undertaken without the effort of the ascent. You can follow signposted paths up to the pasture inns



on your (e)bike or take the gondola lift up the mountain in comfort and then enjoy a downhill ride with stunning views. The cold rock of the „Zirbenwald“ climbing garden is always good for an adventure. The three via ferratas within the region also require a little courage and skill, even from experts, but are definitely worth the effort. The archaeological loop hiking trail follows historical traces past special features of natural history.

## PREMIUM WELLNESS

Thanks to its breathtaking alpine landscape and fresh mountain air, Gurgl offers the perfect environment for relaxation and regeneration. In the wellness parlors and spas of the village's premium accommodations, guests have the opportunity to indulge in well-being after an active day in the mountains. No matter if you prefer a sauna session, a relaxing massage or a refreshing facial treatment, you will find what you are looking for. In this high-altitude region you will bring your body and mind into harmony. The sporting activities and countless (natural) wellness offers promote both health and well-being.

## ALPINE CUISINE

Exercise and mountain air make you hungry. In the alpine huts and mountain restaurants, high-quality cuisine is served in combination with magnificent panoramic views. Down in the valley, restaurants, cafés and bars offer real delicacies: regional products and dishes are reinterpreted and prepared with that certain something. There are also bookable activities and adventures such as culinary e-bike tours. The Top Mountain gourmet gondola cabin invites gourmands to enjoy a delightful ride on Kirchenkarr Gondola. The treats of Hohe Mut Alm's picnic rucksack, filled with delicacies from the region, can be enjoyed in a high alpine atmosphere - just feel like you are in a lounge embedded in the majestic mountains. A „sunrise for all senses“ stimulates all five senses: you feel the first rays of sunshine on your skin while watching the dawn, smelling the mountain air, listening to the high alpine tranquility and tasting local cuisine.



# SKIING MEETS MOTORSPORTS

What do slalom ace Dave Ryding and racing drivers Kelvin van der Linde and Ricardo Feller of the ABT Sportsline DTM team have in common? They are supported by the Destination of Gurgl in achieving new successes. As a sponsor, Gurgl is present at all races in which the athletes take part.



Gurgl and ABT Sportsline, vehicle tuners and racing team from Kempten in Allgäu, have been working together for many years. The Gurgl logo can be found on the motorsport team's two DTM sports cars as well as on the drivers' racing suits. A specially designed Gurgl gondola cabin was the perfect advertisement for the region at the races on Norisring and Hockenheimring. In Gurgl, ABT Sportsline uses advertising space to present refined car models. "For us, the cooperation is a perfect symbiosis between racing and skiing. We mutually benefit from our knowledge and ideas for the future," says Maximilian Zoller, Gurgl lift company.

## SUCCESSFUL ALLIANCE

The partnership was the focus of a marketing event in spring. The DTM racing team led by sports director Martin Tomczyk and the two racing drivers Kelvin van der Linde (South Africa) and Ricardo Feller (Switzerland) came to Ötztal. On this occasion, both skier Dave Ryding and ABT Sportsline sealed the contract extension with the destination. The athletes used their stay in Gurgl to present their disciplines to each other. The British World Cup winner experienced a virtual test drive in the ABT Audi R8 LMS GT3 evo II in the racing simulator. And the two drivers got to know Dave's second home, the slopes of Gurgl. "That was a great experience. Dave is super likeable, with a lot of passion," said South African Kelvin van der Linde. Ricardo Feller was of a similar opinion: "It was so interesting to see how Dave skied down. I definitely can't keep pace with him."



**Picture above:** slalom specialist Dave Ryding (left) and DTM driver Kelvin van der Linde exchanged ideas about their sports disciplines when they met in Gurgl.

**Picture below:** the Gurgl logo on the DTM sports cars of the ABT Sportsline team is always in the focus at all races.

## MUTUAL SUPPORT

For decades, ABT Group CEO Hans-Jürgen Abt and Sports Marketing Director Harry Unflath have been spending their winter holidays at the Diamond of the Alps. Both of them confirm: "The love of skiing brought us ABT managers to Gurgl many years ago because of the top winter sports conditions. The motivation to continually assert ourselves against the best with great innovative strength, high quality standards and a strong drive for success - this is what unites Gurgl and ABT Sportsline across industry boundaries. These similarities form the cornerstones of a very active and also outwardly authentic partnership, from which new ideas and actions continue to develop."

The two racing drivers van der Linde and Feller were also enthusiastic about Ötztal valley - they will definitely visit the region again. Very soon the World Cup slalom takes them to Gurgl to support slalom ace Ryding in his home race. The British ski racer had previously accompanied the two horsepower professionals at their "home match" on Norisring.



**Picture above:** skiing ace Dave Ryding (right) on a ski day with fellow racers Ricardo Feller (left) and Kelvin van der Linde (center).

**Picture on the left:** skiing meets motorsport - a successful combination of skiing and motorsport on an excursion to Gurgl's slopes.

*„For us, the cooperation is a perfect symbiosis of racing and skiing sports.“*

MAXIMILIAN ZOLLER,  
GURGL LIFT COMPANIES