# Along the trail of the «White Gold»

through the most beautiful landscapes of the Inner Salzkammergut



The historical Brine-Pipeline route is well known as one of the most beautiful routes in Austria.

The route begins at Lake Hallstatt goes through the Inner Salzkammergut encompassed by majestic mountains and charming little villages the route follows the river Traun and ends up at Lake Traunsee.

The trail from Hallstatt to Ebensee is along the world's oldest **pipeline**, established in 1607. To enable the brine to flow, the pipeline and path slopes slightly down, which makes the Brine-Pipeline Trail is an easy route to walk. The 40 km long walk (almost the as long as a **marathon** run) is split up in four 10 km long theme routes, each concentrating on different aspects of the local people's lives and typical themes from the region ...



#### The four points of departure

1. "Mountains, forests and lakes" from Hallstatt to Bad Goisern 2. "The locals of the Salzkammergut" from Bad Goisern to Bad Ischl 3. "Traffic" from Bad Ischl to Langwies 4. "Economy" from Langwies to Ebensee

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#### The oldest active industrial pipeline in the world

Salt stretches across the salt mine in Hallstatt (you can follow the historical path of 7000 years of salt mining in the display salt mine). This salt water (33% salt) is called "Brine". The Dead Sea with (30%) has almost as much salt as brine. The brine is heated in a **salt pan**; the water evaporates leaving just the pure salt. In earlier times wood was required to burn the fires, wood was rare in Hallstatt so the salt was transported to the salt factory in Ebensee. To be able to transport the brine to the salt factory a brine-pipeline was made; in 1597 the pipeline required 13.000 tree trunks (pine and fir trees). The brine-pipeline was first put in to operation in 1607. This is the story of the **oldest**, still active pipeline in the world. Today the brine flows through plastic pipes. The track above it is called the Brine-Pipeline Trail, however the locals call it "the Strähn".

#### Salt – an important raw material

There are countless ways to use salt. Besides the different uses in cooking, there are also salt stones for animals.

Without salt we would have no books: Salt is needed to produce paper. We would have no soap, lipstick or other cosmetics without salt. No new modern materials without salt. Aluminum, leather and rubber are made using salt. Cars would have no petrol, as the drill holes wouldn't be as steady without salt. Nowadays more than 200 million tons of salt is produced worldwide. Over 250 millions of years we have produced as much salt as there is in the oceans. If you were to spread the salt out across the oceans and evenly over the mainland you would have a salt layer of approx. 100 meters high

In search of something salty for back home, or perhaps a special gift idea? The line of products from Salinen Austria can also be ordered from our online shop at www.salinen.com



# Hallstatt

Small village with a great history

The picturesque village on the lake with the same name owes its existence to the rich salt deposit of salt in the mountain of Hallstatt. 7000 years ago, as the prehistoric humans from Hallstatt began to take the salt from the salt mine who would of guessed, that this little village would give its name to a period in history - the Hallstatt period (800-400 BC). Rich findings in Hallstatt and the upper valley of Hallstatt gave this village international recognition; even today discoveries are still made in the salt mountain of Hallstatt.



WORLDS CULTURAL ND NATURAL HERITAGE

#### Holiday-Region Dachstein-Salzkammergut

Tourist office Inner Salzkammergut - branch office Hallstatt Seestraße 169, A-4830 Hallstatt Tel.: +43(0)6134/8208, Fax: +43(0)6134/8208-14 hallstatt@dachstein-salzkammergut.at, www.dachstein-salzkammergut.at

## World Heritage Museum Hallstatt



Both in a modern way and respecting Hallstatt's tradition and history, the World Heritage Museum of Hallstatt presents the World Heritage of Hallstatt. Chronologically ordered stations show the history of the World Heritage village of Hallstatt from its beginnings until the present in an interesting and informative way, by means of, amongst other things, video animations, holographic illustrations, three-dimensional presentations or naturalistic dioramas. Look forward to an exciting journey through time

Seestraße 56, A-4830 Hallstatt, Tel.: +43(0)6134/8280-15 April until October daily, November until March opened WED - SUN www.museum-hallstatt.at



ambience.



# Bad Goisern 🔷

The landscape garden of the Salzkammergut

The wide and charismatic valley of Bad Goisern stretches out from Hallstatt in the south to Bad Ischl, the summer holiday resort of the emperor in the north. Discoveries dating back to the Stone Age and the Hallstatt period enable us to establish that there was a close contact with villagers from the surrounding regions. The wood and agriculture industry developed very early in the wide fertile valley of Bad Goisern, to supply the mine in Hallstatt. This is how Bad Goisern is where it is now, on prettiest landscapes of the Salzkammergut. This enchanting village used to be called "The Monarchies

most beautiful village" and still hasn't lost any of its charm. hasn't lost any of its charm.

WORLDS CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE HERITAGE

#### Holiday-Region Dachstein-Salzkammergut

Tourist office Inner Salzkammergut - branch office Bad Goisern Kirchengasse 4, A-4822 Bad Goisern am Hallstättersee Tel.: +43(0)6135/8329, Fax: +43(0)6135/8329-74 info@dachstein-salzkammergut.at, www.dachstein-salzkammergut.at



Bad Ischl 🔌 Favourite town of the emperor

Bad Ischl - a charming city in the Salzkammergut area, located between impressive mountain ranges and crystal clear lakes and considered the perfect holiday place without any fog and mist. The picturesque townscape is characterized by magnificent buildings dating back to the times of Franz Joseph Monarchy. In 1822 first medical cures and spa treatments were available for people working at the salt mine. Today these treatments are available at the EurothermenResort (respiratory and cardiovascular diseases, rheumatism). Bad Ischl has a long history characterized by the times of the city being the summer residence of the imperial court. Emperor Franz Joseph I. spent 60 summers here and started a tradition that one can still feel today. However, the town never conveys any sense of lagging behind in time.

#### **Tourist office Bad Ischl**

Auböckplatz 5, A-4820 Bad Ischl Tel.: +43(0)6132/27757, Fax: +43(0)6132/27757-77 office@badischl.at, www.badischl.at

## Steegwirt – an exceptional restaurant in the Salzkammergut

Steegwirt lies in the heart of the World Heritage Site 'Hallstatt-Dachstein-Salzkammergut', just where the River Traun leaves Lake Hallstatt. With its friendly and cosy atmosphere it offers a rare historical, culinary as well as musical experience. This Baroque mansion used to be a meeting point for salt merchants and miners as long as 440 years ago, and its present owners Brigitte and Fritz Grampelhuber are continuing to preserve its traditional

The breath-taking scenery, surrounded by the gushing waters of the River Traun and the impressive rock face of the Ramsau mountain chain, is best enjoyed in Steeg-

> Familie Grampelhuber, Au 12, 4822 Bad Goisern, Tel.: +43(0)6135/8302 or +43(0)664/2212358, Fax: +43(0)6135/8302-3, office@steegwirt.at www.steegwirt.at



wirt's relaxing beer garden while leisuresipping at Steegwirt's own brew - Hallstatt beer - and munching away on their home-smoked 'Gamsschinken' or the unusual 'Latscheneis'.

These and other rare culinary delights are prepared with great love and care by Fritz Grampelhuber Junior, a renowned chef and the owners' son, and then served in one of Steegwirt's quaint lounges.

To top it all, Fritz Gramelhuber's professional musical background has made the restaurant a hub of music and art, frequented by first-rate musicians and folkmusic enthusiasts from far and wide.



## Museum of the town Bad Ischl

n this house emperor Franz Josef became engaged n 1853 to Elisabeth in Bavaria, nicknamed Sisi,

April - October: opened WED - SUN January - March: opened FRI - SUN

Esplanade 12, A-4820 Bad Ischl +43(0)6132/25476, www.stadtmuseum.at

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Kaltenbachstraße 62, A-4820 Bad Ischl Tel.: +43(0)6132/23788, www.katrinseilbahr



## Ebensee 💊

Hiking Paradise in the 4-Lakes community

Following the completion of the brine pipeline in 1604 and because of salt mining, the little town Ebensee gained economic importance in the salt factory. In 1979 the salt factory was relocated to the center of Ebensee onto the estate "Steinkogl", where approximately 1, 1 million tons of salt is still produce. The beauty and variety of landscape makes hikes and many leisure activities extra enjoyable.

In the 4-Lakes region, there are more than 200 km or 24.000 feet of Altitude hiking and walking routes, lots of nature, beautiful scenic spots, hospitable Accommodation and much more. Personal hiking suggestions and brochures can be obtained from the Tourist information Office in Ebensee. You will discover a visit to Ebensee will be worthwhile.



Tourist office Ebensee Hauptstraße 34, A-4802 Ebensee am Traunsee Tel.: +43(0)6133/8016, Fax: +43(0)6133/4655 Email: ebensee@traunsee.at, www.ebensee.com



#### museum.ebensee

#### Where culture and industry meet each other!

Industrial history - social history Customs - experience history! Large nativity scene exhibition: Fourth Sunday of Advent to Candlemas (February 2

Kirchengasse 6, A-4802 Ebensee, Tel.: +43(0)676/83940778 (Dr. Gillesberger) museum@ebensee.ooe.qv.at www.museumebensee.at



AUDIO-GUIDES in: D / E / I / F / SLO CZ / H / RU / JAP / Mandarin / ES

### 7,000 Years of salt excavation in the world's oldest Salt Mine

Salz

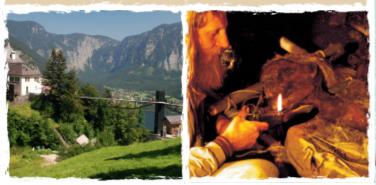
welten

Since more than 7.000 years the high mountain valley of Hallstatt has determined - due to the vital importance of salt - the destinies, privations and achievements of the local people. Encounter the legends at every turn from the dark past and the glowing power of the "White Gold". Doubtless there are only a few places in this world where one feels the historical significance to such an extent as in this small valley - in fact a whole epoch of mankind became known worldwide as "The Hallstatt Era" (800 until 400 BC).

#### On the traces of the »Man Preserved in Salt«

Deep in the mountain, in the fascinating world of the underground, where humans have been mining salt since thousands of years has nowadays become a world of undreamt-of impressions, fun and adventure: a miner's slide, a subterranean salt lake and an exciting trip with the mining railroad are the highlights of the Salzwelten Hallstatt.

Information: © +43 61 32 200 24 00. www.salzwelten.at



## 1<sup>st</sup> STAGE

#### "Mountains, forests and lakes" from Hallstatt to Bad Goisern

You can get to the Rudolf's Tower with a funicular from Hallstatt from where you have a spectacular view on the whole of the lake and surrounding landscape. From there, passing the prehistoric grave yard you find the salt mine entrance where you can take a tour and discover the history and fascinating world of salt miners. The path winds through the "Höll" passing rough rocks into the "Bannwald" forest. Along this path you will have a spectacular view onto the lake Hallstatt. You pass the Gosauzwang over a high bridge crossing the Gosaubach stream and passing the pipes in Steeg to Bad Goisern, the home of the "Goiserer", the world famous original handmade mountain shoe.





2<sup>nd</sup> STAGE

**"The locals of the Salzkammergut"** from Bad Goisern to Bad Ischl

From the Goiserer Bridge you leisurely pass along meadows and

little woods through the Bad Goisern valley. In Lauffen you can

hear the roar of the "Traunfluss", a spot where many of the salt

ships would capsize. After a hike through the beautiful woods

you will reach the hunting statue of our emperor. Bad Ischl is

well known for the healing qualities of the salt and "Salt prince"

because of the love story between the emperor Franz Josef I

and his beloved "Sissy"

### Traffic" from Bad Ischl to Langwies

3rd STAGE

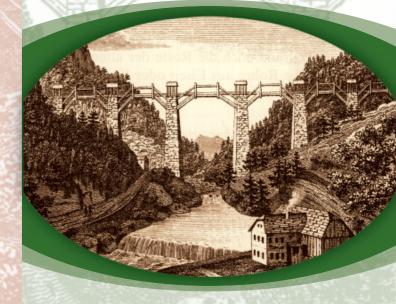
From the tourist information office in the centre the path leads past the train station across the Steinfeldbrücke Bridge to the right side of the river Traun through the estates Steinfeld and Brandenberg. You continue to walk for 2 kilometers on the bike track besides the main road. At this point the present day Brine-Pipeline heads below onto the main road. Crossing the Mitterweißenbach Bridge the path goes to the right side of the river Traun along a gravel road passing a small estate and through the woods to the Langwieser Steeg. Then crossing the Traun and the main road behind the former quest house you will find the feeder line to the original route and the 4th stage of the Brine-Pipeline Trail from Langwies to Ebensee.

Leconomy " from Langwies to Ebensee

Immediately after Langwies the Brine-Pipeline Trail leaves the main road continuing along the mountain onto Ebensee. The path passes romantic farms, meadows, small estates and several flowing brooks. Today, the salt factory is on the other side of the river Traun. There are benches on the route to stop for a break. The local history museum.ebensee is a must it's at the end of the Brine-Pipeline Trail and was former seat of the salt works administration.

4<sup>th</sup> STAGE

# Salzkammergut Brine-Pipeline Trail



This is a flat and easy hike from Hallstatt along the lake side to Bad Goisern on to Lauffen, Bad Ischl and Ebensee. The walk along the world's oldest pipeline can be undertaken in four stages of 10km. Whilst walking you will find plenty of information on the Salzkammergut.



