



Grand Hotel: Your starting point for unforgettable hikes

3 Summit circular hike:

Route: Thumersbach, Schwalbenwand, Schönwieskopf, Hundstein, Thumersbach

Tourendaten: 22km, 2,118m elevation gain, approx. 8h duration

Bring your camera and capture the breathtaking nature of the Zell am See-Kaprun region to take home with you.

From the GRAND HOTEL ZELL AM SEE, drive to the ski touring parking lot in Thumersbach (a district of Zell am See). The journey from the hotel to the starting point takes about 7 minutes.

From the parking lot in Thumersbach, the hike begins at Gasthof Mitterberg, located directly above the parking area. You can reach the gasthof in approximately 45 minutes via the road. Alternatively, you can drive directly to Gasthof Mitterberg, where there are paid parking spaces available. However, if you do so, you would need to arrange transportation back to Gasthof Mitterberg to retrieve your car after completing the circular hike.

From Gasthof Mitterberg, the trail follows a forest road through a beautiful wooded area leading to Schützingalm (partially operated). From Schützingalm, the route continues over a bridge up to the summit cross of Schwalbenwand (1,895m).

From Schwalbenwand, the hike proceeds along the ridge to the next peak, Schönwieskopf (1,994m), and then further to the third summit, Hundstein (2,017m). At the top, hikers can take a break at Stutzerhaus (check opening times in advance).

From Stutzerhaus, the route continues down to the Enzianhütte in Thumersbach, where you can enjoy a homemade apple strudel or a hearty snack. Below Enzianhütte lies Thumersbach, where your car will be waiting.

A stunning hike with spectacular views over the Zell am See - Kaprun region.

Hike to Plettsaukopf:

Also suitable for families or a romantic picnic

Tour Data: 4.5km, 486m elevation gain, approx. 2h duration

Enjoy the view of Zell am See from above, take a break, and let yourself be pampered.

From the GRAND HOTEL ZELL AM SEE, walk to CityXpress and continue through the forest to Ebenbergalm. This charming alpine hut, with a fantastic view over Zell am See, can be reached in about 30 minutes. It is a perfect spot for a culinary treat (please check opening times in advance).

From Ebenbergalm, the trail leads further to Plettsaukopf and its reservoir lake. The reservoir is the largest of the four lakes on Schmittenhöhe and offers not only a swimming opportunity with a view of Zell am See but also a small children's playground. This hike is also ideal for a scenic picnic by the lake, as comfortable seating areas invite you to linger.

A short 50m climb from the reservoir leads to Berggasthof Mittelstation, another great place to stop for refreshments.

For those who prefer not to hike, you can take the cable car directly to Mittelstation (departure from CityXpress) and walk from there to Plettsaukopf Reservoir (approx. 50m ascent & 10 minutes walking time).

Tip: On hot summer days, bring a change of clothes or swimwear.

3 Brothers: 3 Summit Hike

A beautiful but challenging hike (surefootedness & a head for heights required!)

Tour Data: 11km, 1,295m elevation gain, approx. 6h duration

A breathtaking tour from peak to peak with stunning views over the Salzach Valley, towards the Hohe Tauern, and as far as the Steinernes Meer.

From the GRAND HOTEL ZELL AM SEE, drive to Bruck. Above the Oberreit holiday village, there is a parking area at 1,160m elevation before a barrier (approx. 15-minute drive from the hotel). From there, the hike begins along a forest road, leading to a junction where you can choose between Heubergalm or Erlhofalm—both routes are possible (check hut opening times in advance).

Taking the Erlhofalm route, you will soon see the northern face of the Three Brothers peaks. After crossing a small stream, the trail ascends over rocky terrain and a steep gully to the saddle between Breitkopf and Schafkopf. Turning left at the saddle, you will reach the summit of Hoher Breitkopf (2,220m).

After enjoying spectacular views, the hike continues to Schafkopf (2,264m), which features a summit cross and guestbook. Finally, the route leads to the third peak, Stolzkopf (2,120m). This final ascent and descent require surefootedness and a head for heights.

Take in the breathtaking views from the third summit before descending along the broad grassy ridge to Heubergscharte (1,915m). From here, the trail leads to the right, descending over meadows and pastures to the forest road and Heubergalm (1,663m).

After this challenging hike, you deserve a traditional alpine snack.