**Obergurgl**

**Categories**

**Good For**

Beginners

Intermediates

Experts

Snowboarders

Families

Snow reliability

**Data**

**Beginner Runs**

14

**Intermediate Runs**

16

**Advanced Runs**

5

**Total Runs**

35

**Lifts**

22

**Chairs**

7

**Drags**

8

**Gondola Cable Cars**

7

**Parks**

0

**Pipes**

0

**Weather**

**Annual Snowfall**

4m (13.2ft).

**Overview**

Obergurgl ski resort is one of Europe's highest traditional ski villages, which contributes to it also being one of the continent's most snowsure.

The resort is divided into two parts: the original village of Obergurgl, which is home to most of the resort's amenities; and Hochgurgl, a collection of half a dozen large and luxurious hotels that was created in the early 1960s. The resort is officially called Obergurgl-Hochgurgl as a result, although it is still simply known as Obergurgl to most enthusiasts.

The first ski holidays took place here 70 years ago and the resort has steadily built a reputation for offering a very high-quality experience, with several dozen 4- and 5-star hotels, as well as a host of high-speed quad chairlifts and fast modern gondolas.

**Location**

Obergurgl is located in the Ötztal Alps in the province of Tyrol in western Austria. The village is close to the border with Italy.

**Website**

http://www.obergurgl.com

**Piste Map**

http://obergurgl.com/main/files/oghg\_skigebietspano.pdf

**Hit The Slopes**

Obergurgl has one of the longest ski seasons and earliest starts to the winter in the Alps for a resort without a glacier, thanks to the high elevation of the ski area and 90% snowmaking coverage on its slopes. It typically opens in late November and stays open until the beginning of May.

Apart from this snowsure status, Obergurgl's ski area is known for its open, snowy slopes and its excellent modern lift system that’s dominated by seven gondolas and several six-seater chairlifts. This makes queuing a rarity and getting about easy for boarders, with few drag lifts to negotiate.

One of these lifts is the 3.6km-long (2.2 miles) Top Express gondola, which connects Hochgurgl and Obergurgl's ski areas. The lift ascends high above the Königstal and Verwalltal valleys, revealing stunning Alpine scenery on the panoramic ride.

There are runs for all ability levels on both sides of the ski area. Beginners and novice skiers will find terrain best suited to them accessed from the Gaisberg and Mahdstuhl lifts. There is also a choice of two ski schools in Obergurgl ski resort for those wishing to learn or to brush up on their skills.

Intermediates will be drawn to the Festkogl ski area on the Obergurgl side, as well as the Schermerspitze trail; while the 8km (5 mile) run down from the Wurmkogl to Pill is the longest.

For experts, the Hohe Mut black piste (number 11) in Obergurgl is regarded as the most challenging; while there’s also a challenging mogul piste (number 27) down from Top-Wurmkogl II in Hochgurgl. Additionally, there are plenty of off-piste and ski touring opportunities to tackle with a guide.

**Obergurgl**

**Resort**

2150

**Base**

1800

**Top**

3082

**General**

**Beyond The Slopes**

Obergurgl's off-slope activities are dominated to some extent by the 4- and 5-star hotels, nearly all of which offer their own swimming pool and often a range of spa facilities. So for many people, it is a case of skiing all day and then relaxing in their hotel in the evening.

Other attractions in the resort include a bowling alley, darts, billiards, indoor golf and a library. Outdoors, there's ice skating, curling, horse riding, snowshoe hikes and 13km (8 miles) of cleared winter paths for rambling. There are also a number of cross-country trails to explore in the area.

**Family Fun**

As befits a classic ski resort, Obergurgl has a natural, wholesome ambience that is perfect for families. On the slopes, the comfortable and fast lift network minimises stressful situations. Off the slopes, most of the hotels are well equipped for families with good facilities, including swimming pools.

There's no nursery provision, although those aged three and up are welcome at Bobo's Kinder-Club (tel: (05256) 6305; [www.skischule-obergurgl.com](http://www.skischule-obergurgl.com/)), which is the ski kindergarten organised by the ski school. Children aged five and over can join the main ski school.

**Retail Therapy**

Shopping is limited with only a dozen or so shops in Obergurgl, most of which sell sportswear and equipment. There is a handful of boutiques, however, as well as a grocery store and souvenir outlets, but serious shoppers will need to travel down the valley to Innsbruck.

**Splashing Out**

Enjoy a round of indoor golf at 2,200m (7,217ft) above sea level on the golf park owned by the Hotel Riml in Hochgurgl (tel: (05256) 6261; [www.hotel-riml.com](http://www.hotel-riml.com/)). The high-tech facility caters for all ability levels, from complete beginners to professionals. Golfers can also improve their swing in front of screens displaying a choice of 54 of the most beautiful golf courses in the world and there is also a putting green. After a good round or two, relax in the Putt-in rustic golf bar on site.

**Apres Ski**

Obergurgl ski resort's nightlife is moderately lively, with about 20 hotel bars and pubs. Among the best venues for après-ski in Obergurgl is Hotel Olymp’s bar Toni's Almhütte (Hochgurglerstrasse 1; tel: (05256) 6491; [olymphotel.at/en/tonis-almhutte](http://olymphotel.at/en/tonis-almhutte)), which is located on the slopes within an atmospheric 400-year-old stone and wood-clad building. Krumpn's Stadlm (Schlossweg 1) is popular later in the evening as it has a nightly DJ.

For something a little different, the Nederhütte (Hütten Gurgl 305; tel: (0664) 400 7149; [www.nederhuette.at](http://www.nederhuette.at/)) provides a spectacular après-ski show four evenings each week, where the owner and his family play different instruments and sing.

Other activities include bowling or a trip down the toboggan run, which winds from the Hochgurglbahn top station to the base terminal in Pill.

**Eating Out**

There are about 20 places to eat in Obergurgl – almost all in hotels – from simple cafés to gourmet restaurants. The close proximity to Italy means that pizza and pasta are a local forte, but most of the hotel restaurants offer Tyrolean specialities as well as international dishes.

One special event every Wednesday is a live music show with fondue at the Hohe Mut Alm (tel: (05256) 639 632; [www.hohemutalm.at](http://www.hohemutalm.at/)). In David’s Hütte (tel: (0 5256) 6332), there are also several themed evenings each week with local specialities and live music.

**Transport**

**Getting There**

Nearest airport: Innsbruck Airport (INN).

Distance to resort: 94km (59 miles).

Driving time: 1 hour 30 minutes.

**Getting Around**

Central Obergurgl is compact and it's possible to walk between most points. A bus service links Obergurgl to neighbouring Solden, with which it shares a joint lift pass valid between five and 14 days. The ticket is not fully interchangeable but allows holders based in one resort a single day of skiing in the other resort during its validity.

Night-time traffic is banned in Obergurgl and reduced traffic zones have been enforced in certain areas.

**Hotels**

Obergurgl is a traditional-style village with most of the accommodation in the form of hotels and apartments. The hotels in Obergurgl are of a high quality, most of them being 4-star rated or above.

**Sporthotel Ideal**

A friendly 3-star hotel in Hochgurgl with an excellent slopeside location and a great spa.

**Category**

Moderate

**Thoroughfare**

Hochgurglerstrasse 2

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

Obergurgl

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

XXX

**Country**

Austria

**Telephone**

(05256) 6290.

**Website**

http://www.sporthotelideal.at

**Top Hotel Hochgurgl**

The resort's sole 5-star establishment is known for the spectacular panoramic views from its terrace and its homemade apple strudel, amongst other delights.

**Category**

Luxury

**Thoroughfare**

Hochgurglerstrasse 8

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

Obergurgl

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

XXX

**Country**

Austria

**Telephone**

(05256) 6265.

**Website**

http://www.tophochgurgl.com

**Bergresidenz Mühle**

A comfortable pension located midway between Obergurgl and Hochgurgl, Berresidenz Mühle is linked to both villages by a complimentary shuttle bus.

**Category**

Moderate

**Thoroughfare**

Gurglerstrasse 83

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

Obergurgl

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

XXX

**Country**

Austria

**Telephone**

(05256) 6767.

**Website**

http://www.hotel-muehle.at/en/bergresidenz-muehle/bergresidenz.html