



Collett's
MOUNTAIN HOLIDAYS

KITZBUHEL TO CORTINA – A GRAND ALPINE TRAVERSE

A 7 night self-guided route which starts in the picturesque 'foothills' of the Austrian Alps and finishes with the high drama of the Italian Dolomites, with daily luggage transfers

www.colletts.co.uk/kitzbuhel-to-cortina

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At a glance

A 7-night self-guided trek taking in the gems of the Austrian and Italian Tyrol. Starting from the renowned resort of Kitzbühel, this route spends the first two days meandering through alpine villages and meadows before making a spectacular entrance to the glaciated giants of the Hohe Tauern National Park. Walking into Italy with views of the Dolomites ahead, you will spend your final day exploring the iconic Tre Cime (Three Peaks) before enjoying the delights of Cortina d'Ampezzo. You will stay in 3* hotels and rural guest houses and be free to walk each day with only a day sack because your luggage will be moved on for you each day.

Dates & Prices

20 June 2020 (first departure) to **12 September 2020** (last departure) - £785 pp
High Season Supplement (18 July – 12 September departures (inclusive)) - £45 pp
We think the best months to visit are June, early July & September

Saturday to Saturday only.

Prices are per person and based on two people sharing a twin or double room.

Please note that all bookings are subject to availability in the hotel.

Please do not make any travel arrangements until we have confirmed your accommodation dates.

The minimum party size is two (for reasons of safety no single travelers are permitted).

Grade : Moderate – Long
Ascents: 225m to 825m each day (1225m if harder option is taken on Day 4)
Descents : 125m to 800m each day (1025m if harder option is taken on Day 4)
Walking Time : 5 to 7 hours each day
Terrain : This route primarily follows tracks and well-trodden footpaths which are good underfoot. Some forest paths may be slippery when wet. The route is generally well waymarked and easy to navigate. A couple of the more isolated days are harder underfoot and include more ascent. *If you are in any doubt whether this holiday is suitable for you, please call the office on 01799 513331 or email enquiries@colletts.co.uk and we will be happy to discuss the route in more detail with you.*

Included in the price

- 7 nights B&B accommodation in handpicked 3* hotels or guesthouses
- Luggage transfers each day from hotel to hotel
- Transport where included as indicated (taxis, shuttle buses provided by our local partner & tickets for local buses)
- Detailed route cards (including maps, route descriptions, places to visit, important telephone numbers)
- Telephone support throughout your holiday (provided by our local partner, based in Italy)

Not included in the price

- Flights & Travel Insurance
- Transfer from Munich Airport to Kitzbuhel (See the Travel Section below for your options)
- Onward transport from Cortina at the end of the holiday
- Packed Lunches, Dinners (budget €15-35 pp per dinner)
- Drinks, tourist tax and all extras



Kitzbüchel to Cortina – A Grand Alpine Traverse

The Itinerary

Day 1 (Sat) – Arrive in Kitzbühel & Settle in

Arrive in Kitzbühel (either independently or using our Munich Airport transfer service), a small Alpine town east of Innsbruck, in the western Austrian province of Tyrol. This fashionable winter resort is best known for the annual Hahnenkamm downhill race. Upscale shops and cafes line the streets of its medieval centre.

Overnight in Kitzbühel

Day 2 (Sun) - Kitzbühel - Aurach - Jochberg

Today there are two options :

Easier Valley Walk - 12km, 4 - 5 hours walking, 600m ascent / 425m descent

Starting from Kitzbühel, you walk comfortably below the Kitzbüheler Südberge. You will pass through small villages and rustic farms with wonderful floral decorations. The village character of Aurach in Tyrol, the various hamlets and settlements and the wonderful location at the foot of the Kitzbüheler Südberge make Aurach special.

Harder Higher Level Route - 16 km, 4½ - 5½ hours walking, 485m ascent / 1,125m descent

The comfortable Hahnenkammbahn cable car (€21 not included) takes you straight up into the Kitzbühel mountains. At the top a fantastic panorama awaits you - from the Wilder Kaiser to the striking peak of the Kitzbüheler Horn, the Loferer Steinbergen, and the glaciers of the Hohe Tauern National Park. Your route then weaves its way between mountain inns and alpine huts along the Hahnenkamm and Jofenkamm towards Pengelstein, before a long and sustained descent into Jochberg.

Overnight in Jochberg

Day 3 (Mon) - Jochberg – Gaujoch – Hartkaserhöhe – Mittersill

15½ km, 5 - 6 hours walking, 825m ascent/ 800m descent (only 250m descent if Panoramabahn taken)

After a short transfer (included) you will pass through lush alpine pastures below the valley heights and continue to hike up into the beautiful mountains. Enjoy the tranquillity and the flora and fauna. Via the Gaujoch you reach the Trattenbachalm and the Hartkaserhöhe. Along the hilltop runs the border between the two provinces of Tyrol and Salzburg. If you want to avoid the descent from the Resterhöhe, you can use the Panoramabahn Kitzbühler Alpen to descend (not included). A local bus will take you to Mittersill.

Overnight in Mittersill

Day 4 (Tues) - Mittersill – Tauernhaus - Venedigerblick – Matrei

Depending on the weather and your level of fitness there are two choices today :

Easier/Moderate Option - Innerschlöß - 9 km, 3 - 4 hours walking, ascent/descent 225m

In the morning transfer from Mittersill to the Matreier Tauernhaus (included). At first, the trail climbs steadily through meadows and larch forests to the Venedigerblick. At the highest point you will enjoy wonderful views of the Großvenediger glacier. The trail then weaves its way in the direction of Innerschlöß and over beautiful alpine pastures back to the Matreier Tauernhaus.

From there you can get to Matrei by public transport.

Higher/Harder Option - Hintersee -St.Pöltener Hütte – Tauernhaus - 17½ km, 6½ - 7½ hours walking, 1225m ascent / 1025m descent

This is a longer day with a lot of ascent and descent which should only be chosen by guests with appropriate fitness and in times of good and stable weather (due to the col crossing). It is however well worth the effort for the contrast between the Kitzbühel and the Hohe Tauern Alps. After a short transfer (included) to Hintersee, a stunning lake nestled amongst towering mountains, your trail follows a historic trading path which winds steeply up through the forest and high meadows. Once through the meadows you continue to climb more gently on a terraced path towards the well placed St Pöltenerhütte which is nestled on the col in the distance. After a well-deserved rest at the hut, the descent that follows is steep in places on a well-marked but rough footpath with open views of the Großvenediger and its glaciers. Eventually you will weave your way through lovely woodland to the Matreier Tauernhaus, where you can then catch a local bus to Matrei, which will be your base for the night.

Overnight in Matrei

Day 5 (Weds) - Matrei – Mariahilf – Gsieser Törl – Gsiesertal

12½ km, 4 ½ - 5 ½ hours walking, 775m ascent / 750m descent

After a bus to Mariahilf (included) you venture out on shady forest paths as you go higher and higher up into the first alpine pastures and the Gsieser Törl. This was once an old smuggler's route between Italy and Austria, especially in the 1920s and 1930s. The vista soon sweeps over the valley to the Pragser Dolomites. As you descend into the Gsiesertal, one hut follows the next: Oberberg-, Kradorferalm or Messnerhütte to name just a few. Almost everywhere the local food is amazing. The many traditional dishes are simply too tempting to resist: bacon dumplings on cabbage, cheese dumplings, Kaiserschmarrn, apple strudel ...

Overnight in Gsiesertal

Day 6 (Thurs) - Gsiesertal – Frondeign – Wahlen –Dobbiaco / Toblach

15½km, 3 – 4 hours walking, 475m ascent / 540m descent / Alternative: 16km, 5 - 6 hours walking, 850m ascent / 825m descent

The route continues to the south and the Dolomites are only a stone's throw away now. After a short transfer by local bus (included), from the

Gsiesertal, you continue uphill to Frondeign. The hike is mostly in the shady woods. However if you would prefer you can take a the harder "Schuieralm" alternative route. The path eventually meanders down to Wahlen where the valley widens and offers a view of the Neunerkofel, Haunold, Dürrenstein and the Höhlensteintal.

Overnight accommodation in Dobbiaco/Toblach

Day 7 (Fri) – Dobbiaco/Toblach – Höhlensteintal – Tre Cime (Three Peaks/Drei Zinnen) – Cortina

Distance: 10km, 500m ascent/descent / Alternative: 14km, 5 - 6 hours walking, 1025m ascent / 125m descent

After a short transfer by public bus (included) you start your day at the Auronzo hut. Along the south side of the Tre Cime you first walk towards the Lavaredohütte and then up towards the Paternsattel. Here, at 2,454m, you can enjoy magnificent views of the 500m high northern walls of the Tre Cime. Next, you will make your way on to the famous Drei Zinnen hut before the trail leads you on to the Lange Alm and back to your starting point at the Auronzo Hut, from where you can catch a public bus to Cortina (included).

For those in search of a harder final day, you can climb up from Rienzboden to the Lange Alm, before making a classic circuit of the Tre Cime/Three Peaks. As above you will finish at Auronzo Hut, from where you can catch a public bus to Cortina (included).

Overnight in Cortina

Day 8 (Sun) - Departure

Independent onward travel or the possibility to extend your stay.

For guests wishing to continue on to Venice, it takes approx 2hrs using the Cortina Express and can be booked through

www.cortinaexpress.it/en/

For guests wishing to spend more time in the Dolomites, there are daily buses to Corvara, where you can join a Collett's Classic Centre Based Holiday for more details click [here](#)



Travel

Munich to Kitzbühel

Getting to Kitzbühel from Munich Airport by train is easy and inexpensive (advance prices from €20). It takes about 2 ½ hours. Trains depart regularly throughout the day, and it normally involves two changes (usually at München Ost and Wörgl). Please visit www.bahn.com for more information, timetables and prices. Alternatively, you can book one of our Munich Airport transfers for £60 pp, which will drop you at your first hotel in Kitzbuhel. Please see the Munich – Kitzbuhel Transfers section below for more information about how our transfer service works. Whilst it is possible to return to Kitzbuhel (or Munich) at the end of your holiday, please speak to us before booking any flights, so that we can discuss the options with you.

Cortina to Venice

The best way to reach Venice is by Cortina Express. It generally has three departures each morning (08:00, 09:30 and 11:30am) and takes about 2 hours. Please visit www.cortinaexpress.it/en/ to confirm timetable and pricing before booking your return flight. You may of course choose to spend some time exploring Venice for a couple of days before your onward flight departs - if so, please contact us for a list of recommended hotels.

Munich – Kitzbuhel Transfers

Our airport transfer service is easy to use and popular. If you need any help or advice or have any questions regarding how our Airport Transfer System works please call us on 01799 513331 or make an enquiry here.

Our transfer service is not a personal taxi service and waiting can be unavoidable, so please do not book a transfer unless you are relaxed about the possibility of having to kill time in Munich (if time permits) or at the airport. In short, we send one vehicle down to the airport to drop off all our departees for their flights home, whilst the same vehicle will collect all our arrivals to take them up to the mountains.

Transfer Time – For Munich (Saturdays) **your outward flight should arrive before 3pm**. We will contact you about 2 weeks before your holiday with the times of your transfer. These are determined by the flight times of everyone we collect on that day **but 3pm is the deadline** for a transfer, as this allows us to get everyone up to the mountains in time for dinner. We try to keep waiting to a minimum but we can make no guarantees. For example, if your flight lands at 11am and we have other arrivals landing at 2.30pm, the transfer is likely to set off at 3pm. On the other hand, you might be our only arrivals on that day, in which case we will meet you from your flight and take you straight to Kitzbuhel. Before booking a flight or transfer, please make sure your itinerary has been confirmed by us.

“Your Own Risk”

Your self guided “Kitzbuhel to Cortina – A Grand Alpine Traverse” holiday will be spent entirely at your own risk and it is important that you understand that whilst the route notes are accurate at the time of writing, the situation on the ground may change and this itinerary relies on your sound judgement and decision making throughout. Our self-guided “Kitzbuhel to Cortina – A Grand Alpine Traverse” has been organised so that you might enjoy a route and associated accommodation you may not otherwise have discovered having organised the itinerary yourself. It represents nothing more than the opportunity to go out on a beautiful walk in a part of this wonderful walking area, with the support of knowing that many of the logistics have been arranged for you. It is a fact that walking can and is associated with personal injury and death. By coming to such areas, you are exposing yourself and your party to the possibility of personal injury or even death. In such an event, Collett's Limited trading as Collett's Mountain Holidays will not be held responsible for your interest in the outdoors and your involvement in coastal walking, which can occasionally have tragic consequences. The information provided uses only marked paths which are in use at the time of writing, however, it is your responsibility to continually assess the suitability and safety of the route throughout the walk and to undertake any action necessary to avoid any terrain which each or any member of the group is not comfortable with. The route choice also assumes an ability to read maps and navigate competently. It is the responsibility of each individual in the group to make an assessment of the information provided, and to make an informed decision about whether the itinerary is suitable for them. Finally, during your holiday with Collett's Mountain Holidays you act at your own risk on any ideas, information and opinions included in any material prepared by us to help you get the most from the area.

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