



Collett's
MOUNTAIN HOLIDAYS

SELF-GUIDED HUT TO HUT

ZUGSPITZ ARENA CIRCUIT – 7 NIGHT ROUTE

MODERATE ITINERARY

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ZUGSPITZ ARENA CIRCUIT

7 Night Route - The Facts

A complete and dramatic circuit of the Zugspitz Arena. Walk in the four mountain ranges that converge to form this striking natural bowl and drop in on the Tirolean villages of Ehrwald, Lermoos and Biberwier. This is an excellent introduction to the area, with its backdrop of limestone peaks and ridges, stunning lakes and picturesque valleys. Access is assisted by various cable cars and chairlifts. The accommodation is a wonderful mix of Alms (working farms), village hotels and a remote hut in a high cirque. There is also the option to take a cable car to the summit of Germany's highest peak, the Zugspitze (2962m) for breathtaking 360° views.

Terrain

This route uses waymarked trails which are easy to navigate. Routes vary from well trodden woodland paths to steeper trails on looser, rocky terrain. There is a short section of moderate exposure on Day 4. Naturally, in the high mountains, we recommend that you have some hiking experience, surefootedness, a good head for heights and a good level of fitness.

Please note that routes in the high mountains, such as this one, may require you to cross patches of snow early in the season.

Grade :	Moderate
Walking Time :	3 to 4 hours per day (based on 3km/h)
Ascent :	149m - 843m per day
Descent :	162m - 1325m per day

Please note that walking time does not include time taken for rests or lunch breaks and is an indication of how long the walking itself will take.

Dates & Prices

Late June to mid September, with limited availability in August when the huts and alms are particularly busy.

£850 per person with Airport Transfer (Thursday and Saturday only)

£770 per person without Airport Transfer

Arrive on the day of your choice, except Wednesday which is our day off.

Bookings are subject to availability of the relevant accommodation - please do not confirm any travel arrangements until we have confirmed your accommodation arrangements.

Accommodation:

Based on accommodation in dormitory style rooms in 4 mountain huts/alms and private double rooms in 3 hotels/guesthouses.

IMPORTANT: *Some dormitories have sleeping platform bed arrangements; sleeping side by side in a row.*

Nassereither Alm does not have shower facilities, only a communal sink.

Coburger Hütte has the option to upgrade to a private room - this is subject to a supplement of £15 per person per night

All dormitories are mixed sex and vary in size from hut to hut.

No single supplements apply for dormitory accommodation but are applied to private rooms.

You must supply your own sleeping bag liners for all dormitory accommodation.

Towels are not provided in any hut/alm accommodation (but are in the 3 hotel nights) - please bring your own.

Included in the price

- *If required - return airport transfers from Munich. (Flights arriving in Munich must land before 5.00pm, and depart from Munich no earlier than 10.30am - please see www.colletts.co.uk/austria/travel)*
- *B&B accommodation at Hotel in Ehrwald for the first and last night of your trip.*
- *Breakfast and dinner each walk day.*
- *All accommodation.*
- *Detailed route laminates.*
- *Relevant map.*
- *Detailed pre-departure information including packing suggestions.*

Not included in the price

- *Flights.*
- *Insurance.*
- *Dinner on first and last night.*
- *Lunches (lunch items are available for purchase at each hut and hotel).*
- *Drinks/snacks and any other purchases in the accommodation.*
- *Lifts/cable cars and buses - allow approx. €43 per person, or €84 per person if you choose to visit the Zugspitze - on Day 5 or 7.*

Route Information - Zugspitz Arena Circuit

Day 1 – Arrival in Ehrwald

Travel to Ehrwald by car or train, or Collett's airport transfer from Munich airport to Ehrwald (approx. 2hrs, Thursday or Saturday). Settle in to accommodation.

Overnight (B&B) accommodation – B&B, Ehrwald (1000m)

Day 2 - Höllkopf Peak to Nassereither Alm

10.1km, 792m ascent, 729m descent - The main focus of today is the Höllkopf peak (2194m), a very accessible but wonderfully located hilltop to the rear of the rocky Mieminger range, with spectacular views of the intimidating Grünstein rock face and views further south into Austria. After taking a short bus ride and two chairlifts, a steady ascent on a narrow path through low lying vegetation takes you to a saddle with superb views before the final short push to the summit. After retracing your steps to the chair lift, you begin the scenic route to the Nassereither Alm, a working farm with 150 cows.

Overnight accommodation - Nassereither Alm (1739m)

Day 3 - Blindsee & Mittersee Lakes to Wolfrathauer Hütte

18km, 640m ascent, 992m descent – The day starts with a long but steady descent to the valley bottom and the crystal-clear waters of Blindsee lake, which is perfect for a paddle, and followed by the shallower swimming waters of Mittersee lake. The route takes you through the pretty village of Biberwier with its onion-domed church and skirts the valley-side to Lermoos, where you take a cable car partway up the Lechtaler range. The route to the impressively positioned Wolfrathauer Hütte has some steep sections in places, however its sun terrace and views of the Zugspitze and the Arena are hard to rival. There is the option to shorten today's distance by 3.3km by taking a local bus between Biberwier and Lermoos.

Overnight accommodation - Wolfrathauer Hütte (1751m)

Day 4 – Hidden Valley and Tufalm

10.8km, 626m ascent, 1325m descent – Today you descend into the quiet Gartnertal valley where the views of the Gartner Wand knife-edge ridgeline are sure to impress. There is a short section of narrow footpath and hand rope before a zigzag descent to the Gartner Alm, a quaint and friendly working farm, perfect for a coffee and piece of homemade cake. The route takes you across to the Ammergau range and up to the Tufalm, with its nearby viewing platform; its metal grid overhangs the valley floor offering impressive views. A wooded descent brings you to the edge of Ehrwald and a comfortable night's sleep in the Hotel Pension Tannenhof.

Overnight accommodation – Guesthouse Tannenhof, Ehrwald (1020m)

Day 5 – Wetterstein base to Hochfeldern Alm

11km, 843m ascent, 162m descent – You are walking beneath the Wetterstein range today, home to the Zugspitze (2692m) and forming the borderline with Bavaria. You have the option of a gentler day, walking just a few kilometers to the Zugspitze cable car station and taking the lift to the summit to spend the morning taking in the views, visiting the museum and lunching in one of the restaurants. Then take a bus and cable car and rejoin the route for the last short section. Alternatively, you can steadily ascend to the Gamsalm, a great rest stop, and traverse the mountainside above Ehrwald on a wonderful narrower woodland path. The Hochfeldern Alm is superbly located - with the sheer walls of the Wetterstein mountains behind, the spires and pinnacles of the Mieminger range in front, and to the west you the Karwendel mountains above Seefeld and Innsbruck.

Overnight accommodation – Hochfeldern Alm (1732m)

Day 6 – Seebensee & Drachensee Lakes, and Coburger Hütte

8.1km, 427m ascent, 232m descent – Today is a relatively short day so can be savoured for its views and paddling opportunities. The route takes you up and out of the tree-line to the stunning turquoise waters of Seebensee. This lake, set high in a hanging valley surrounded by towering limestone peaks, including the iconic Sonnenspitze peak (2417m), is certainly the most impressive in the area and time should be spent at its shoreline for a leisurely lunch. From the lake, a final rockier and steeper ascent offers a stunning bird's eye view of Seebensee. At 1917m the Coburger Hütte is your highest and remotest bed for the night, perched above a second lake, Drachensee.

Overnight accommodation – Coburger Hütte (1917m)

Day 7 – Ehrwalder Alm Bahn and Ehrwald

9.1km, 149m ascent, 696m descent - or - 10.8km, 437m ascent and 993m descent – Today you have two options to end your tour. Firstly, an easier route, allowing time in the afternoon to explore Ehrwald or take a bus to the Zugspitze cable car station and spend some time on the summit. From the Hütte descend back down to Seebensee lake and follow an alternative track to the Ehrwalder cable car station. A pretty riverside footpath returns you to Ehrwald for your final night's stay. Alternatively, you can follow a more challenging higher level route on tougher terrain, over the Tajatörl pass (2259m) and descending into a stunningly remote corrie with a final steeper descent across a scree covered hillside before rejoining the track to the top cable car station.

Overnight (B&B) accommodation – B&B, Ehrwald (1000m)



At Your Own Risk

You do this itinerary at your own risk and on the understanding that these routes were accurate at the time of writing. Please be aware that conditions can change at any time and that this itinerary relies on your sound judgement and decision making throughout.

Our self-guided hut to hut itineraries are put together on a basis of goodwill so that you might enjoy a route you may not otherwise have discovered. It represents nothing more than the opportunity to walk in a wonderful yet mountainous walking area with logistical arrangements taken care of for you.

It is a fact that mountains, mountainous areas and activities undertaken in them are 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 Mountain Holidays will not be held responsible for your interest in mountainous areas and your involvement in mountain pursuits, which can occasionally have tragic consequences.

It is important that you understand that these routes are put together using our extensive knowledge of the area, to provide a route which we believe will be enjoyable and realistic for people who decide that they have the appropriate level of fitness and ability in order to complete the itinerary safely. 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 you might acquire from our team members in Ehrwald or from material prepared by Collett's to help you get the most from the area.

