Family Ski Holidays in Austria: The Most Kid-Friendly Winter Resorts

Watching the little ones take their very first turns – and eventually master a slightly more challenging slope. Tobogganing, friendly snowball fights, sledging, and a large portion of Kaiserschmarren at the mountain hut to round up a fun-packed day. Active winter holidays are a great opportunity for families to spend quality time together and bond over shared memories. And Austria is just the right place to take kids on their first real winter adventure.

While all of Austria's skiing hotspots cater to families, some resorts are especially known for their kid-friendly vibe, with hotels close to the pistes and lifts, ski schools and childcare (with English speaking staff!), snow parks and equipment rentals widely available and – more important than ever given the economic climate – great money-saving deals and packages for those arriving with children and teenagers in tow. Have a look at some of the best family-friendly winter resorts below!

ST. JOHANN IN SALZBURG: 16 family hotels and a designated kids ski week

St. Johann in Salzburg invites guests to enjoy a fuss-free Austrian winter holiday like "back in the day". The resort has 16 hotels especially catering to youngsters, think extralarge rooms, children's menus, games and playrooms, which are easily recognizable by the <u>JOFamily partner certificate</u> and its mascot, a squirrel called JOEY. While there are tons of activities for families all winter long, the highlight will be the kids week <u>JoKiWo</u> <u>Winter Edition</u> (3-7 April 2023), now in the second year running, with behind the scene tours at the cable cars, treasure hunts and fairytale walks as well as the Kid's Olympics.

Family ski holidays in St. Johann in Salzburg:

https://www.josalzburg.com/en/activities/a-family-winter-holiday.html

SKIWELT: Fun slopes, adventure parks, and ski pass deals

With over 270 km of slopes and 83 lifts and cable cars, <u>SkiWelt Wilder Kaiser – Brixental</u> is one of the largest resorts in the world. Unsurprisingly, options for families are extensive here. Throughout the region, ski schools offer kid-friendly beginner courses and kids clubs aimed at those aged three and over. <u>Brixen</u> has its own Kids SkiWelt, featuring practice slopes and lifts, while <u>Ellmau</u> features the new <u>Hartkaiser Adventure</u> <u>Eldorado</u> with its own children's restaurant and adventure school, as well as <u>Ellmi's</u> <u>Winter Wonderland</u> with family-friendly winter activities and. Kids and teenagers aged 15 or younger <u>ski for free</u> if accompanied by an adult with a valid ski pass for 3 days or more from 8 to 16 December and 18 March to 10 April.

Family ski holidays in Skiwelt Wilder Kaiser - Brixental: https://www.skiwelt.at/en/families.html

SKI JUWEL: Family-friendly slopes and a brand-new fun park

Celebrating its 10th birthday this year, <u>Ski Juwel Alpbachtal Wildschönau</u> is home to 113 km of slopes, 10 ski schools and Austria's "most beautiful village" Alpbach. The Tyrolean resort features <u>kid-friendly slopes and lifts</u>, <u>ski courses for children</u> and <u>kids clubs</u> where the youngest are entertained while their parents hit the slopes. <u>New in 2022</u> is the <u>Schatzberg Zwergenland</u> at the mid-station of the Schatzbergbahn, featuring a snowball



playground, a ski carousel, an igloo and a toboggan run among other attractions. Children born in 2017 or later ski for free.

Family ski holidays in Ski Juwel Alpbachtal Wildschönau:

https://www.skijuwel.com/en/winter/kids-and-family

ST. JOHANN IN TIROL: Certified family hotels and a daily kids programme

<u>St. Johann in Tirol</u> and its neighbouring chocolate box villages <u>Oberndorf</u>, <u>Kirchdorf</u> and <u>Erpfendorf</u> are traditional old-school winter resorts, where top-notch slopes, ski-in/ski-out and exceptional hospitality are key to a fun holiday for all ages. Certified <u>family hotels</u> feature extra-large rooms, play areas, cribs, and daily programmes for children, while ski schools run courses for kids from the age of three, teaching them all the basics in a playful way. Family-friendly activities away from the pistes include <u>tobogganing</u>, <u>winter</u> and <u>snowshoe hiking</u>.

Family ski holidays in St. Johann in Tirol: <u>https://www.kitzbueheler-alpen.com/en/stjo/wi/holidays.html</u>

VORARLBERG: Ski courses for kids, snowmobile driving, and lantern hikes

Given that most skiers head straight to Tirol and Salzburg, Vorarlberg might still be a bit under the radar. However, Austria's westernmost province has several amazing resorts not to be missed, especially for families. <u>Bregenz Forest</u> boasts tons of kid-friendly <u>ski</u> <u>and snowboard schools</u>, offering tailor-made courses for the little ones, including fun slopes, obstacle courses, carousels and friendly mascots. Other family activities include tobogganing, igloo building, snowmobile driving, and <u>lantern hikes</u>. An area especially suited for families is <u>Damüls Faschina</u>, where ski schools and kids clubs are open for children from the age of just two, kids menus are widely available, and an indoor playground (over 170 km2!) keeps the little ones entertained even in bad weather.

Family ski holidays in Vorarlberg: <u>https://www.vorarlberg.travel/en/activity/skiing-with-children/</u>

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