



## Press Release

# A vacation at the foot of Germany's highest mountain

## Unmatched spectacles of nature, cultural attractions, and rich traditions in the Zugspitz Region

Colorful "Lüftlmalerei" mural paintings adorn historic houses in the Zugspitz Region which stretches around Germany's highest mountain and the Alpine town of Garmisch-Partenkirchen at its base. Prominent peaks, deep canyons, wild mountain streams, pristine valleys, and romantic lakes – a fairytale landscape that charms visitors both in summer and winter.

To get an overview of the surroundings, all you need to do is hike or take the cable car to the top of the Zugspitze and admire the view of over 300 peaks from one spot. Stroll through Germany's highest nature information center that is shaped like a giant telescope and protrudes from the edge of the cliffs of the Karwendelspitze peak at an altitude of 2244 meters (7362 feet), high above the red roofs of Mittenwald. If you're looking for something even more spectacular, you can try the AlpSpIX skywalk with steel grid panels in the shape of an 'X' near the AlpSpitze mountain station. Walk out 13 meters (43 feet) from the edge and peak down for an unforgettable view into the depths of the canyon some 1000 meters (3281 feet) below your feet.

You prefer a strenuous physical workout? Then explore the Alpine world of the Zugspitze on a mountain bike. Those who like a more leisurely ride can cycle on the sign-posted bike paths and routes through gentle valleys and along beautiful lakes, rivers, and streams. Make sure to stop at one of the cozy Alpine lodges or country inns to refuel and relax on the way.

How about a hike? Children and adults alike are impressed by the Geisterklamm (Ghost Canyon) in Mittenwald, the Höllentalklamm (Hell's Valley Canyon) in Grainau, and the Partnachklamm (Partnach stream canyon) in Garmisch-Partenkirchen – three deep canyon carved by mountain streams. If you seek peace and quiet, you will cherish the hike along the Meditation Path in the Ammergau Alps where you can meditate and walk over a distance of 85 kilometers (52 miles) and even visit Schloss Linderhof, an amazing palace once built by the Bavarian fairytale king, Ludwig II.

In the winter, the Zugspitz Region is transformed into a white wonderland. Sledge through snow-covered forests and meadows in a horse sleigh or walk through white solitude with snow shoes. Cross-country skiers will find their favorite tracks in a network of cross-country ski trails of more than 600 kilometers (373 miles), while alpine skiers can ski their hearts out in eight fantastic ski areas with slopes totaling 110 kilometers (68 miles).

Visitors can become part of traditions and customs firsthand at numerous festivals and learn all about the regional culture and history while exploring the towns and countryside.



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Mittenwald, for example, has been famous as a violin making mecca since the Middle Ages, and families here still make their living with this trade to this very day. Since the plague raged

in Oberammergau in 1633, the town has been inseparably linked to the “Passionsfestival”, the final period of suffering in the life of Jesus which the inhabitants enact on

stage every ten years, the next performances being in 2022. Murnau, in contrast, has been home to the Expressionists since Wassily Kandinsky discovered this small town on the shores of the Staffelsee lake in the early 20th century. Music enthusiasts are drawn to the Richard-Strauss Institute in Garmisch-Partenkirchen where the composer got the inspiration for his Alpine Symphony.

### ***About the Zugspitz Region***

*The Zugspitz Region is a tourism association of the four subregions belonging to the county of Garmisch-Partenkirchen: Zugspitzland, Alpenwelt Karwendel, the Ammergau Alps, and the Blue Land.*

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