

Experience wilderness in the Untersulzbach valley

Brief description: Following hidden paths, we will head into the heart of the Sulzbach valleys' wilderness area to Untersulzbachkees (Untersulzbach glacier). The pristine nature of this landscape, unspoilt by humankind, is guaranteed to leave a lasting impression

Directions: Leave the B165 at the "Sulzbachtäler" turn-off to the west of Neukirchen. Before you reach the Salzach bridge and the Sulzbachtäler railway station, follow the bend and turn left into Rohrergasse. Follow the road for 700m past some houses and turn right at the next junction and drive past the farm. Then keep right and cross the level crossing and the bridge. The meeting point and car park are directly to the right of the Einödbrücke bridge. GPS: 47.24499462569845, 12.274768036842502

Itinerary: We will meet at 07:00 at the "Untersulzbachtal" car park in Einödthof. Taking the national park bus, we will travel together into the Untersulzbach valley as far as Abichlalm. This is where the tour will start. First, we will hike along the marked hiking trail through a sparse larch forest to Aschalmalm. Aschalmalm used to be pasture land. It is clear to see how the vegetation has changed since then. This is where the much-travelled trail ends.

The trail continues along an old track that is not always easy to find. The route leads through landslide heaps, dwarf shrub heaths and alpine grasslands rich in species, past the "Saukopf", always accompanied by the roar of the Untersulzbach stream. It is not uncommon to see deer or chamois on the opposite side. Scarce plant species such as leopard's bane, Turk's cap lily and various orchid species can be discovered here making the vegetation fascinating. The further we will head into the valley the more barren the landscape becomes. At approx. 2100 m above sea level, we will reach landscape that had still been covered by the glacier three decades ago. The vegetation is constantly battling its way forward here. We will find the glacier buttercup, cushion plants such as the moss campion here. We reach the edge of the Untersulzbachkees via a small rock formation. The ground beneath our feet was covered with glacial ice for centuries. The effects of global warming are plain to see here. We will snatch a rest at the foot of the glacier tongue and linger for a while with the view of the mighty higher glacier crevasses and ice breaks. The Kleinvenediger looks particularly imposing from here too. The descent will be a case of retracing our footsteps back.

Dates: 13.07.23, 19.07.23, 26.07.23, 24.08.23

Meeting point and time: 07:00 Einödbrücke car park, Untersulzbach valley

Return: Approx. 16:00, Einödbrücke car park

Costs: € 25.00

Max. number of participants: 8 people (seats in VW bus!!)

Duration: 7 hr 30 min hiking time, 9 hr duration

Route: 1000 vertical metres, ascent and descent

Equipment:

rucksack, sun protection, mountain boots, food and drink, change of clothes, hat and gloves, possibly walking poles, rain gear;

Requirements: Very good physical fitness, very good surefootedness, most of the tour off-path, special tour

