



# Großgmain

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# Discover Großgmain





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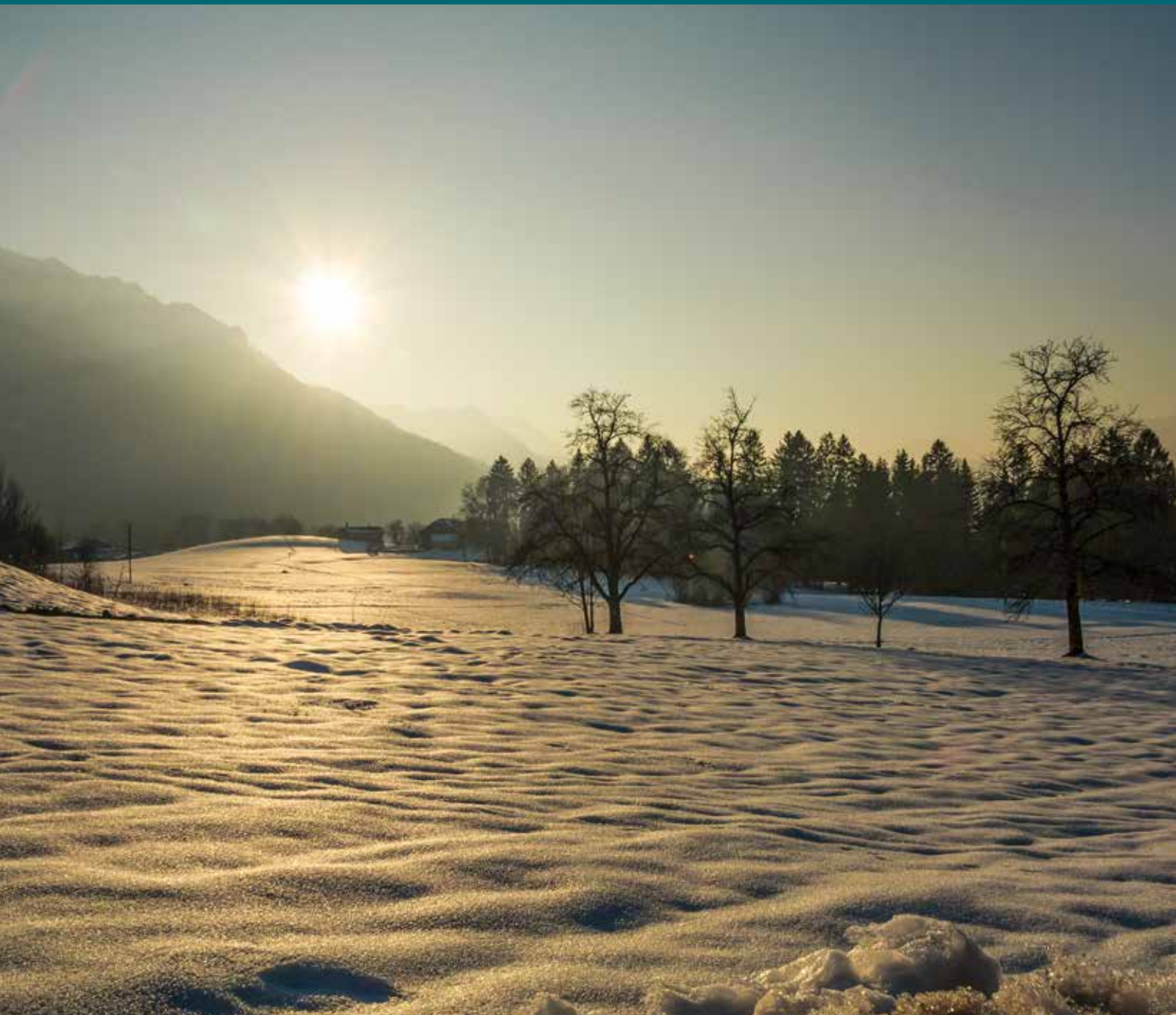
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Großgmain, situated near the state capital city of Salzburg and directly on the border with Bavaria, is a charming village in the heart of the countryside and is very proud of its agricultural roots. It is also the perfect holiday destination.

The term „Auf der Gmain“ (on the Gmain), was formerly used to describe the farms and farmhouses sparsely scattered along the foothills of the spectacular Untersberg Mountain and also the 700-year-old settlements on either side of the Weißbach River - Großgmain in Austria and Gmain in Bavaria.

Today, Großgmain provides the perfect starting point for visitors wishing to discover the area. Salzburg, Bad Reichenhall and Berchtesgaden can be easily reached in just 20 minutes. Whether you're after relaxation or active adventure - Großgmain is the perfect holiday destination.







## MARIENWALLFAHRTSKIRCHE

The Pilgrimage Church of the Virgin Mary in Großgmain is considered by many pilgrims, tourists and art lovers to be the most important destination on their journey through the Salzburg area. As one of the oldest pilgrimage sites in the Salzburg region, and one which is packed with exceptional works of art, this church is of particular religious and cultural importance. With its „Beautiful Madonna“ dating back to 1395 and the Gothic panels painted in 1499 by the famous local artist, the „Master of Großgmain“, the Marienwallfahrtskirche offers its visitors a rich legacy of historical works of art. Over the centuries, countless pilgrims have travelled to the pilgrimage church situated in the shadow of the legendary Untersberg Mountain, to pray for blessing and guidance. The two miracle panels in the Marienwallfahrtskirche, which date back to 1513, depict the answering of prayer through Mary's intercession. The statue of the „Beautiful Madonna“ dating back to around 1400, shows Mary with the Christ Child. The Großgmain Madonna has been considered to possess miraculous powers since the 15th Century. The pilgrims who visit „Our Dear Lady of Gmain“ come in the hope that Mary will provide answers to their prayers.

## PILGERN

The Untersberg Pilgrim Trail begins in Großgmain, runs around the foothills of the Untersberg Mountain, passing the many Untersberg churches along the way, and then ends back again in Großgmain (approx. 42 km). The joint Untersberg pilgrimage takes place every year on 14th August. The famous „Jakobsweg“ (St James's Way) also runs through Großgmain.



## MARIENHEILGARTEN (HEALING GARDEN OF THE VIRGIN MARY)

Adjacent to the pilgrimage church in Großgmain and with views onto the mythical Untersberg Mountain, there is a garden which reflects the fusion of nature and art, linking nature and philosophy, religion and mythology, astrology and numerology to create a harmonious entity. In the centre of a circle of flowers and herbs planted according to the zodiac at the time of the official opening ceremony held at 10.30 am on 15.08.2001, there is a statue of Sophia-Maria, a new symbol of art and theology in the western world. According to Holy Scripture, she is the soul of the world, the mother of all creation and the symbol of wisdom.





## PLAINBURG

This ancestral castle of the Counts of Plain and the famous landmark of Großmain is one of the oldest castle ruins in Austria and offers a spectacular view over Großmain and the surrounding mountains. All that remains of the original structure are the outer walls, which have a height of more than 5 metres and an average width of 1.45 metres, the inner courtyard and the entrance area with gatehouse. One of the deepest wells in Austria can be found in the castle courtyard.



## UNTERSBERG MOUNTAIN

Walkers searching for traces of the past will discover a special sense of energy in Großmain and the surrounding areas, where magic, myths and beliefs still abound. The village of Großmain lies at the foot of the legendary Untersberg Mountain, where the idea of the Holy Roman Empire was established under Charles the Great and which today is still regarded by the Dalai Lama to be the magical mountain of central Europe. In addition to a multitude of legends surrounding Charles the Great, there are tales of churches deep inside the mountain where High Mass is celebrated at midnight and even today stories are still told of caves where time stands still and of places where tired people are energised and healing waters flow.



## UNTERSBERG NATURE PARK

The Untersberg Nature Park is the first area in the Salzburg region to be designated as National Park. On the delightful „Forest Quiz Path“ (Waldquizweg) both young and old can discover a wealth of fascinating information on the woodland and its inhabitants. The Forest Quiz folder can be obtained from the tourist office. There's also a Kneipp zone situated in an idyllic location nestling at the foot of the Untersberg Mountain. Enjoy the benefits of Kneipp therapy and stimulate your metabolism and circulation. Experience a relaxing harmony of body and soul in the beautiful outdoors.









## THE MASTER OF GROSßGMAIN

In addition to the statue of the „Beautiful Madonna“, the church also contains another exceptional art treasure of national significance. This is a collection of six complete late Gothic panel paintings, as well as two which have been preserved in fragments, all dating back to 1499. They originate from the former winged altar of the church and are considered to be some of the most beautiful and valuable art treasures in Austria and Southern Germany. As the name of the artist is unknown, in historical art literature he is referred to as the „Master of Großgmain“ - after his main work of art.



## JOSEF MEINRAD

\* 21st April 1913 in Vienna;  
† 18th February 1996 in Großgmain

The son of a tram driver and the youngest of four children, he started his career as an actor in 1930. He became famous for his performances in works by Nestroy and Raimund. It could be said that he achieved his greatest success on the stage playing Don Quixote in the musical „The Man from La Mancha“. In addition to his success in the theatre, he also played different roles in film and television. He became more widely known for his role as Gendarmerie-Major Böckel in the three „Sissi“ films with Romy Schneider. Josef Meinrad lived for decades in Großgmain and at his own request was buried in our church graveyard here.



## CESAR BRESGEN

\* 16th October 1913 in Florence; † 7th April 1988 in Salzburg

He was a prolific composer and his masterpieces have enriched all musical forms ranging from songs and folk musicals right through to opera, from pieces composed for young musicians to major orchestral works. He had a unique talent for composing song melodies and gained great acclaim for many of his folk songs. He was particularly interested in composing for young people and wrote many songs, pantomimes and youth operas. Like Josef Meinrad, Cesar Bresgen lived for decades in Großgmain. His religious faith was very important to him and he was closely associated with our Pilgrimage Church of the Virgin Mary. He also chose to be buried in our church graveyard in Großgmain.





## TRADITIONS & CUSTOMS

In Großmain many of the traditions and customs passed down the generations have been preserved. The local cultural heritage and a strong sense of village community are considered to be of great importance. It is a place where young and old have for many years enjoyed celebrating traditions such as the maypole festivals at the open-air museum and the Josef Meinrad Park, with specialities from the farmhouse kitchen, festive folk music and the traditional activity of climbing the maypole. In addition to religious and ceremonial processions, concerts performed by the local marching bands wearing traditional costumes, Christmas marksmen festivals and farmers' markets, one of the cultural highlights in December is the „Krampuslauf“ - a run where participants dress up as „Krampus“, a horned figure from Austro-Bavarian folklore.





The Salzburg and Berchtesgaden region is a paradise for cyclists, walkers, hikers, golfers and climbers. Embark on a journey of discovery through breath-taking scenery - past lush green meadows, set against a backdrop of spectacular mountain scenery. Großgmain is the ideal starting point for your holiday.



## GROSSGMAIN RELAXATION ZONES

These „Ruhezonen“ are relaxation areas which offer guests and local residents a spectacular view onto the surrounding mountain landscape and the opportunity to get closer to nature. Five ergonomically designed relaxation loungers have been constructed for these zones and were placed in five specially selected locations in Großgmain in the summer of 2015.



For all those who enjoy a game of tennis there are tennis courts located directly in the village offering a wonderful panorama and a cosy Bavarian „Stüberl“ where refreshments are served. In winter numerous ski areas and starting points for many ski tours are just a few minutes drive away from Großgmain. The cross-country ski trail in neighbouring Bayerisch Gmain with its three trails and a length of 10 km is always extremely popular with fans of winter sport.

### 1 KNEIPP ZONE

In the Untersberg Nature Park there is a Kneipp zone situated in an idyllic location at the foot of the Untersberg Mountain. Enjoy the benefits of Kneipp therapy and stimulate your metabolism and circulation. Then relax on the ergonomically designed loungers and enjoy the spectacular views.

### 2 TANNENWINKEL

There is a relaxation zone in the „Tannenwinkel“ - a place of exceptional beauty and tranquillity. From here you can enjoy a magnificent view of the „Zwiesel“ and „Hochstaufen“ mountains in Bad Reichenhall and the adjacent „Lattengebirge“.

### 3 PLAINBURG

In the inner courtyard of Plainburg Castle there are no longer any signs of the turbulent history of the Counts of Plain. Today you can take the opportunity to stop and rest within the outer walls of the Plainburg ruins which are more than 5 metres high.

### 4 KREUZERLEITN

The „Kreuzerleitn“ is located at the foot of the Randersberg Mountain. Sit back and enjoy a unique panorama of the Untersberg, „Schalfende Hexe“, „Dreisesselberg“ and „Predigtstuhl“ mountains from the comfort of the relaxation lounger.

### 5 HOCHBURGER HÖHE

At the „Hochburger Höhe“ another relaxation zone can be found which provides the perfect place to stop and have a rest. On a clear day you can see the Lattengebirge and right over to the Loferer Steinbergen mountains







## HERITAGE RAILWAY

The heritage railway is the big attraction at the open air museum. The 1.7 km track with three stations guarantees a delightful and scenic journey through the museum landscape. What's more, travel on this narrow gauge railway is included in the entrance price! Treat yourself to some delicious food at the museum's cosy „Saletti“ restaurant with its large beer garden and very own train station. There's a large play area for young guests right next to the restaurant. On Sunday evenings and public holidays in particular you can see craftworkers demonstrating their traditional skills. Or why not come to one of the many special events taking place at the open air museum and enjoy the lively and friendly atmosphere.

## SALZBURGER FREILICHTMUSEUM

5084 Großgmain  
Tel. +43-662-850011  
[www.freilichtmuseum.com](http://www.freilichtmuseum.com)



## SALZBURG OPEN AIR MUSEUM (FREILICHT-MUSEUM)

Discover old farmhouses, marvel at the simple yet varied life of bygone days and enjoy this charming natural landscape at the foot of the legendary Untersberg Mountain. The museum grounds extend across an area of over 120 acres and here you can explore 100 original historical buildings relating to the worlds of agriculture, traditional crafts, commerce and industry. A network of idyllic hiking trails and footpaths connects this collection of rural historical buildings dating back over 600 years.





## PLACES TO VISIT

It is very rare to find a harmonic interplay between landscape and architecture, art and culture, the traditional and the contemporary on this scale within such a small geographical area. Stroll through the city which is situated on the banks of the Salzach River and surrounded by the Mönchsberg, Festungsberg and Kapuzinerberg mountains, and capture both a sense of the past and the contemporary.



## HOHENSALZBURG FORTRESS

This fortress was built in 1077 by Archbishop Gebhard and is the largest castle in central Europe to have been completely preserved. From the fortress museum you can enjoy a spectacular view onto the city of Salzburg.



## MOZART'S BIRTHPLACE

The Mozart family lived on the third floor of the „Hagenauer Haus“ for 26 years - from 1747 to 1773. This is where their famous son Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart was born on 27th January 1756.

## MIRABELL GARDEN

In 1854 the „Mirabellgarten“ was opened to the public by Emperor Franz Joseph. From the second half of the 19th Century up until the First World War the Mirabell Garden had already become one of Salzburg's special attractions. The four groups of figures surrounding the grand fountain symbolise the four elements: fire, air, earth and water.



## GETREIDEGASSE

Advent is one of the most beautiful times of the year in Salzburg. Enjoy a tranquil Christmas stroll through the snow-covered streets and squares in the „Altstadt“ (the historic part of the city) and prepare to be enchanted by the unique atmosphere of the traditional Christmas markets.

## MARKETS IN SALZBURG

Strolling through the markets in Salzburg, sampling regional specialties and local delicacies and watching the hustle and bustle of the stall holders and the shoppers is a real pleasure. Weekly markets such as the „Grünmarkt“ (Green Market) on Universitätsplatz, the „Schranne“ every Thursday on Mirabellplatz or the „Bio-Bauernmarkt“ (an organic farmers' market) every Friday on Kajetanerplatz have become established events on the city's calendar.





## PLACES TO VISIT IN BERCHTESGADENER LAND

The Berchtesgadener Land is a unique and diverse area located at the south eastern tip of Germany - it stretches from the gentle hills of the Rupertiwinkel region to the Berchtesgaden National Park where the Watzmann Mountain is located (2.713 m), one of the most imposing mountains in Germany. Bad Reichenhall is a place of outstanding natural beauty and has long been famous as a spa town due to the salt deposits found there. This spa tradition has given rise to a strong cultural heritage.



### KÖNIGSSEE

The Königssee is surrounded by the steeply rising cliffs of the Berchtesgaden Alps. This spectacular lake, which resembles a fjord, is 8 kilometres long, up to 1.2 kilometres wide and is situated at 602 metres above sea level. The famous landmark on the lake is St. Bartholomä pilgrimage church with its two onion domes.

### PREDIGTSTUHLBAHN BAD REICHENHALL

It is the oldest large-cabin cable car in the world and has been preserved in its original form. The Predigtstuhlbahn first began operating on 1st July 1928. In just eight and a half minutes, passengers are transported on a tranquil and comfortable journey to the top of the Predigtstuhl Mountain at a height of 1,583 metres.



### THUMSEE

The Thumsee lake in the Karlstein district of Bad Reichenhall, is a crystal clear bathing lake with a swimming area and beautiful lawn for sunbathing. The circular path around the lake is also ideal for walkers.

### OLD SALT WORKS IN BAD REICHENHALL

The „Alte Saline“ is probably the most beautiful salt works in the world and certainly one that bears the royal seal of approval, as its construction was commissioned by King Ludwig I of Bavaria in 1834 following a major fire.



### BERCHTESGADEN SALT MINE

The „Salzbergwerk“, where salt has been mined since 1517, opened its gates to visitors for the very first time more than 170 years ago. Visitors can enjoy the excitement of the slides or a trip on the „Mirror Lake“, as well finding out a wealth of information on the famous „white gold“.

### EAGLE'S NEST (KEHLSTEINHAUS) IN BERCHTESGADEN

This historical structure rises high above the town of Berchtesgaden. The Eagle's Nest is situated at a height of 1,839 metres and offers visitors a spectacular panoramic view of up to 200 km. The Eagle's Nest was completed in 1938 as an official present from the Nazi Party to Adolf Hitler on the occasion of his 50th birthday.







#### Impressum

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