

Schladming-Dachstein massively expands mountain bike trails for rookies

A major expansion of Bikepark Schladming provides enormous upgrades to mountain biking opportunities in the Schladming-Dachstein Region. With a dimension unlike anywhere else in Austria. On the Uphill Flow Trail, E-bikers can look forward to a whole new riding sensation.

Bikepark Schladming: new trails, new 10-passenger gondola

After its successful premiere this past winter, the new 10-passenger gondola lift on the Planai will begin its first summer season on 21 May 2020 (Bikepark opens officially on 30 May). With the help of this lift, bikers and their gear will be transported quickly and comfortably up the mountain. In parallel to building the lift itself, Schladming went ahead and made some major changes to the Bikepark as well. 15 kilometers of new trails were created on the Planai, meaning that bikers can now look forward to discovering and experiencing a grand total of 35 km of trails on two wheels.

Highlights: Flowline, 99 Jumpline and Uphill Flow Trail

The new Flowline is ideal for rookies and families with children. The average gradient is just 7%, the lines are intuitive and incorporate easy curves and waves. For over 8 km, it meanders from the Planai mountain terminal through forests and meadows, past the reservoir and down to the Planai mid-station. The new 99 Jumpline is a kind of Holy Grail for experienced downhill bikers. This 3.5 km long downhill ride is punctuated by perfectly constructed jumps. In the last section, true pros can switch over to the parallel Monster Jumpline, greeting them with jumps of as much as 12 meters. Even before it opened, this extremely attractive 99 Jumpline was a Europe-wide hot topic of conversation on the bike scene. The new Uphill Flow Trail promises a whole new riding sensation, especially for E-Bikers, but even on bikes not mounted with an electric motor. It begins at the Planai mid-station and involves a moderate climb – with banked curves included.

Other trails in Bikepark Schladming:

Fairy Trail (easy): moderate incline, perfect for E-bikers.

<u>Rookie Downhill (intermediate)</u>: many curves, smallish jumps, ideal introduction to downhilling. <u>Downtown Line (intermediate)</u>: crushed-sand surface and a few easy obstacles. <u>Jack Lumber Trail (very difficult)</u>: first Northshore Trail in the Bikepark with steep traverses and surfaces of exposed roots.

Pro Downhill (difficult): Austria's longest downhill course, long since legendary.

World Cup Downhill (very difficult): not for the faint-hearted - as the name suggests, a World Cup course.

The perfect introduction: Bike Area

Beneath the mountain terminal on the Planai, anyone who has never been in a bike park before or who wants to fine-tune elements of their technique, will find perfect terrain. The biking area features three different courses (beginner/green, rookie/blue, advanced/red). A conveyor lift carries bikers comfortably up to the starting point. Thanks to unobstructed views that allow parents to keep a close eye on their kids, this is a great opportunity for the youngsters to collect their first mountain biking experiences.

Full service including bike school and bike center

At the new bike school in Planai Stadium run by former downhill mountain-biking professional Markus Pekoll, bikers of all abilities will have true specialists right there at their side. With the help of excellently trained coaches, beginners will learn the correct technique for taking on their first curves. Experienced bikers will head for the Flowline, which also features a number of cut-offs and added segments intended for practice purposes. The true "pros" will likely want to improve their skill level on the Jumpline with the help of a coach. The "icing on the cake", so to speak, for everyone who comes to Bikepark Schladming is the Alpreif Bike Center in Planai Stadium. There, you will be able to buy or rent virtually everything you could possibly need for biking.

Wide range of opportunities also on the Reiteralm

15 km of single-trails in total have been built on the Reiteralm. Two of the trails are rated blue (easy) and the other two red (intermediate). In addition, two old hiking paths are also open to bikers, having been designated "shared-use trails". Opened in 2019, the Reiteralm Junior Trails are the biggest bike playground in Austria. On four courses with a full range of difficulty (total length: 600 meters), children and young beginners can playfully learn the basics of mountain biking or improve

their skills.

Biking in the Schladming-Dachstein Region | An Overview

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