PRINTABLE ITINERARY

A 3-Day Salzburg Day Trip Itinerary

From our guide **Top 10 Best Day Trips from Salzburg**. Print it or save it to your phone.



Day 1: Lakes and a famous village

Take an early bus or train to Hallstatt and arrive before the crowds. Walk the market square and the lake path, ride the funicular if you want the salt mine, and take the ferry back to the station. If you want an easier day, swap Hallstatt for Mondsee in the morning and St Gilgen in the afternoon, using the bus between the two lake towns.

Day 2: Mountains and boats

Take the direct bus to Berchtesgaden and the Königssee. Ride the electric boat to St Bartholomä, walk along the shore, and have lunch at the landing. If the weather is poor, visit the Berchtesgaden salt mine or the old town instead. Return to Salzburg for dinner.

Day 3: History and a city

Choose between Munich and a quieter local pair. For Munich, take the direct train, spend the day around Marienplatz, the Viktualienmarkt and the Residenz, and return in the evening. For a gentler day, take the local train to Hallein in the morning for the salt mine, then return to Salzburg for the afternoon and an evening stroll.

If you have only two days, choose Day 1 and Day 2. With three days, you can also add Werfen or Bad Ischl as a swap.

The 10 places at a glance

1. Hallstatt

Getting there: Train via Attnang-Puchheim or bus and train via Bad Ischl, then the lake ferry from Hallstatt station.
Time needed: A full day, with an early start.
Best time to go: Spring, early autumn or an early weekday morning to avoid the biggest crowds.
Insider tip: Check the ferry times before you leave the village, as the last connection to the station can be earlier than you expect.
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2. Werfen: Eisriesenwelt and Hohenwerfen Fortress

Getting there: Train from Salzburg Hauptbahnhof to Werfen, then a shuttle bus and the cave cable car in season.
Time needed: A full day if you visit the cave, or a half day for the fortress alone.
Best time to go: The cave season, typically late spring to early autumn, on a dry day.
Insider tip: Dress for winter inside the cave, with a warm layer and non-slip shoes, and check for any closures due to weather.
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3. Berchtesgaden and the Königssee

Getting there: Regional bus 840 from Salzburg Hauptbahnhof via Berchtesgaden towards Königssee.
Time needed: A full day with a boat trip and a short walk.
Best time to go: Late spring to early autumn, when the boats run most fully and the views are clearest.
Insider tip: Check the Berchtesgaden tourism site for the current bus timetable, as services change between seasons.
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4. St Gilgen and St Wolfgang on the Wolfgangsee

Getting there: Regional bus from Salzburg Hauptbahnhof to St Gilgen, then the ferry or a local bus to St Wolfgang.
Time needed: A full day if you add the Schafberg, or a relaxed half day for the lake alone.
Best time to go: Late spring to early autumn, when ferries and the cog railway run.
Insider tip: Take the ferry rather than the bus between the two towns, because the views from the water are much better.
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5. Mondsee

Getting there: Bus 140 from Salzburg Hauptbahnhof to Mondsee, with services on the Salzkammergut tourism site.
Time needed: Half a day, or a full day combined with St Gilgen.
Best time to go: A sunny morning in late spring or summer.
Insider tip: Visit the basilica first, before tour groups arrive, then walk the lakeside.
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6. Hallein and the Dürrnberg Salt Mine

Getting there: Local train from Salzburg Hauptbahnhof to Hallein, then a bus or the Dürrnberg cable car to the mine.
Time needed: About half a day.
Best time to go: Any season, which makes it a good wet-weather choice.
Insider tip: Book ahead for busy summer days and bring a light jacket, as the mine is cool.
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7. Bad Ischl

Getting there: Train with a change, or regional bus 150 from Salzburg Hauptbahnhof.
Time needed: A full day with the villa and a cafe stop.
Best time to go: Spring to early autumn for the park and outdoor seating.
Insider tip: Buy the Kaiservilla ticket in the morning and fill the afternoon with the cafe, spa and a riverside walk.
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8. Munich

Getting there: Direct train from Salzburg Hauptbahnhof to München Hauptbahnhof.
Time needed: A full day, or stay overnight if you want a museum and an evening.
Best time to go: Any season, with the Christmas markets in December and beer gardens in summer.
Insider tip: Choose one or two focused areas rather than trying to see the whole city.
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9. Zell am See and Kaprun

Getting there: Train from Salzburg Hauptbahnhof to Zell am See, with a change on some services.
Time needed: A full day.
Best time to go: Summer for lake activities, or winter for skiing and sledging.
Insider tip: Check the weather before you buy a cable car ticket, because cloud can hide the view.
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10. Gmunden and the Traunsee

Getting there: Train or regional bus with a change from Salzburg Hauptbahnhof.
Time needed: A full day, or a long half day.
Best time to go: Late spring to early autumn for boats, swimming and the lakeside cafes.
Insider tip: Buy a piece of local pottery early in the day, then carry it carefully on public transport.
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Getting Around from Salzburg

Salzburg Hauptbahnhof is the hub for almost every trip, with trains to Munich, Vienna, Zell am See and Werfen, and regional buses leaving from the area around it. Check the ÖBB website for trains and the regional timetables for buses, as services in the Salzkammergut are less frequent than in the city.

The regional Salzburg public transport network and the guest mobility ticket offered by many accommodation providers may cover some bus routes, so ask at your hotel. Bus services in the lake region often run less often on Sundays and holidays, so plan the return journey before you set out.

Opening times, prices and transport change often, so check with each venue or operator before you go. For the full guide, photos and FAQs, see https://toptravelinsider.com/top-10-best-day-trips-from-salzburg/.