











Crossing the Alps E5: Oberstdorf - Meran

Experience the popular E5 long-distance hiking trail

The E5, renowned as one of the most popular long-distance hiking trails, certainly lives up to its reputation as the "most beautiful of all crossings of the Alps." This remarkable journey begins in the lush Allgäu region, leading you through the vast mountain landscapes of Tyrol and onward to the captivating Passeiertal valley in South Tyrol, culminating in the Mediterranean spa town of Merano.

Throughout this epic trek, you'll encounter a diverse array of mountain regions, towering massifs, and alpine vistas. Nature will unveil its wonders before you, from thundering waterfalls and deep valleys to expansive alpine scenery, high-altitude paths, and awe-inspiring mountain passes.

You'll be constantly surrounded by imposing peaks, jagged rock formations, sweeping long-distance views, and glistening white glacial expanses.

At regular intervals, charming dairy alps and welcoming mountain huts will beckon you to pause and recharge. The strenuous ascents and descents are more than compensated for by the breathtaking mountain panoramas that unfold before your eyes. The E5, a cross-Alps journey on foot, is a dream come true and a sought-after destination for every passionate mountaineer.

Details about the hiking tour on the E5 from Oberstdorf to Meran

Crossing the Alps is a dream shared by many hikers, and this route will make that dream a reality! Your journey will lead you through alpine pastures, mountain passes, and breathtaking mountain ranges, all the way to the Mediterranean-style spa town of Merano. Along the way, prepare for exhilarating moments, especially when you reach the Holzgau suspension bridge.

Get ready to immerse yourself in the splendor of the renowned E5 long-distance hiking trail. This trekking adventure offers one of the most stunning crossings of the Alps. Over the course of eight days and six hiking stages, including stretches through high alpine terrain, you'll trek from Oberstdorf in Germany to the charming town of Merano in Italy. It's an extraordinary highlight tailored for experienced hikers, promising an unforgettable journey.

The highlights of the trekking tour on the E5:

- **Holzgau suspension bridge:** Right on the first day's stage, you cross the highest and longest pedestrian suspension bridge in Austria.
- **Culinary delights in South Tyrol:** This cross-border trekking holiday takes you from Bavaria to beautiful South Tyrol. Typical South Tyrolean hospitality and wonderful culinary delights such as tasty dumpling dishes or excellent South Tyrolean wines await you here.
- **Experience original nature up close:** On this trekking tour, the route leads partly through high alpine regions. So you can experience nature far away from the crowds.

Worth knowing about the E5 trekking tour from Oberstdorf to Meran

Alpine hikes with walking times between 4 to 5 hours. In parts, you hike in high-Alpine areas, for this hiking experience is necessary. Surefootedness, a head for heights and a good fitness level are prerequisites. The first two hiking days display an alpine nature, on all other days, you have the option to go for a more leisurely alternative route in the valley, as well as optionally shorten the route by public transport.

This tour has been graded as **Athletic**. Find out more about our **walking holiday difficulty levels**.

Tour information



Athletic



8 Days / 7 Nights



Self-Guided



Luggage transfers included



Total walking distance: approx. 81 km

To the online version



Itinerary

DAY
1

Arrival in Oberstdorf

Seize the afternoon for a stroll through Oberstdorf or already scent the alpine air at the Nebelhorn to get you in the right mood.

DAY
2

Oberstdorf – Steeg approx. 14 km | 6 hours

Through the marvellous Allgäu Alps along on an impressive trail through the Sperrbachtobel ravine steadily ascending to the hut Kemptner Hütte. At the pass crossing Mädelejoch, you cross the border into Austria, where a descent with great views awaits down into the Lechtal-valley. Via a spectacular chain bridge, you reach Holzgau and there get to marvel at the colourfully painted houses on the village square.

 ca. 6 hours  14 km  990 m  900 m

DAY
3

Steeg – Landeck approx. 14 km | 5.5 hours

Along remote alp roads, you hike deep into the daily alps area situated in the heart of the Lechtal Alps. The route takes you to the pass crossing at the hut Leutkircher Hütte, where you enjoy a break in the quaint mountaineers' base. Then you descend towards the Arlberg and finally on the Way of St. James to St. Jakob. A placid bus ride takes you towards the valley into the Inntal river valley.

 ca. 5,5 hours  14 km  900 m  1.100 m

DAY
4**Landeck – Pitztal** approx. 11 km | 4.5 to 5 hours

A cable car ride takes you up to an altitude of 2000 metres. The ridgeway across the Venet is a breathtaking 360° panorama of snow-capped mountains and jagged peaks. You climb two summits and then take a rest at the alp surrounded by cowbells. A stunning meadow- and forest path takes you to Wennis in the Pitztal-valley.



ca. 4,5 - 5 hours



11 km



350 m



1.490 m

DAY
5**Pitztal – Ötztal** approx. 13 km | 6 hours

After a short bus ride, you hike along the panorama path steadily ascending to the hut Braunschweiger Hütte. After a break there you proceed to the highest point of the holiday, the Pitztaler Jöchl an altitude of just under 3000 metres. A nice hiking path leads you through the Rettenbach further downhill until you master the final metres in altitude into the Ötztal-valley by bus or cable car. Alternatively, to the alpine route you can explore the Pitzenklamm-ravine along the Luis Trenker-trail, along the river Inn into the area prone to rock falls Sautner Forchet. Via the idyllic Lake Piburger See and the spectacular bridge Wallner Brücke along the roaring river Ötztaler Ache into the valley.



ca. 6 hours



13 km



1.250 m



950 m

DAY
6**Ötztal – Passeiertal** approx. 15 km | 5 to 5.5 hours

Along the old smugglers' trails via the Timmelsjoch to Italy. Stunning paths lead you through the sunny Timmelstal-valley to the pass at an altitude of 2500 metres. A marvellous descent through the impressive alpine scenery and flower meadows, surrounded by steep, towering rockfaces. Steadily headed for the valley you hike across the upper Passeiertal-valley and enjoy South Tyrolean hospitality over a well-earned dinner.



ca. 5 - 5,5 hours



15 km



1.000 m



1.000 m

DAY
7

Passeiertal – Meran

approx. 14 km | 6 hours

Along the footsteps of the freedom fighter Andreas Hofer, you ascend to the alp Pfandleralm. Along forest trails to the Riffel, where a breathtaking high-altitude path starts: panoramic views as far as the eye can see. After a break at the hut Hirzerhütte, you descend by cable car towards the valley and take the bus to Merano.

 ca. 6 hours

 14 km

 1.490 m

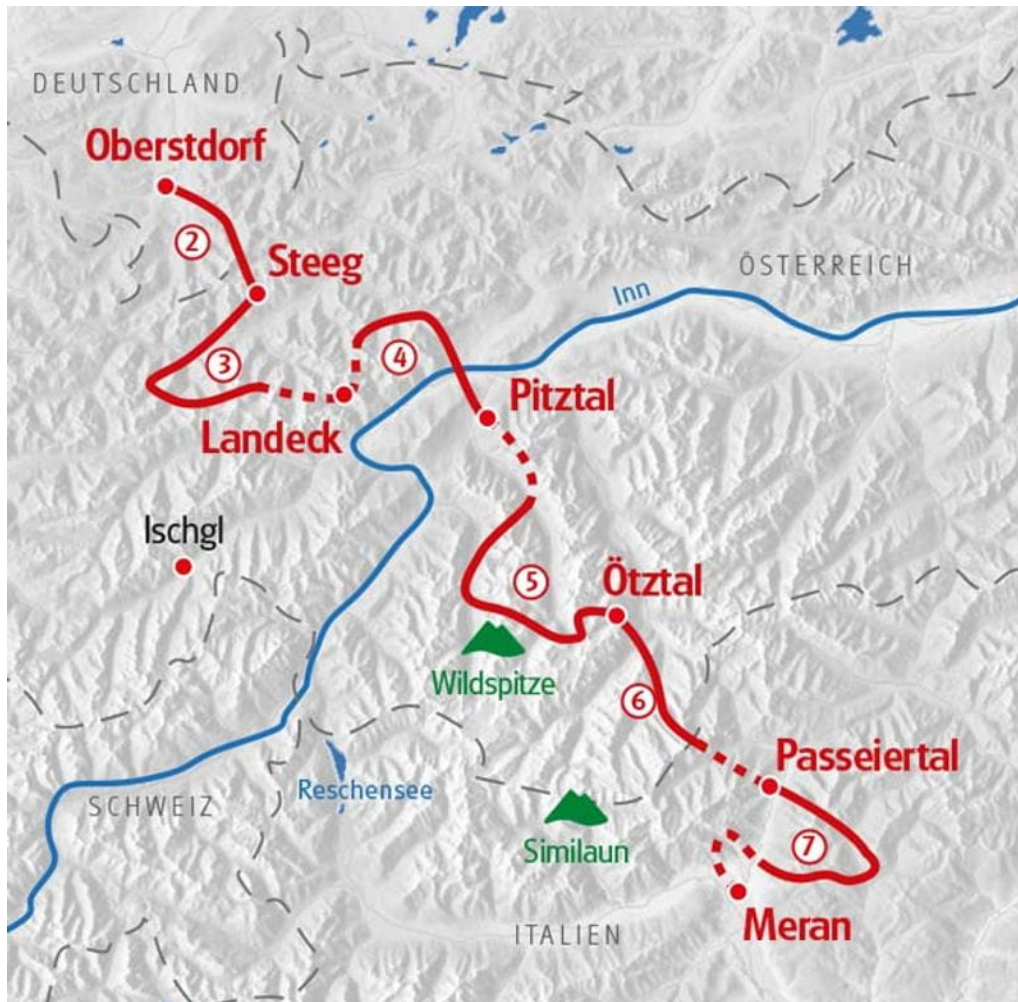
 250 m

DAY
8

Departure or extra days

Route information

Alpine hikes with walking times between 4 to 5 hours. In parts, you hike in high-Alpine areas, for this hiking experience is necessary. Surefootedness, a head for heights and a good fitness level are prerequisites. The first two hiking days display an alpine nature, on all other days, you have the option to go for a more leisurely alternative route in the valley, as well as optionally shorten the route by public transport.



Prices and dates

Price calculation and check availability: **E5: Oberstdorf to Meran**

Place of arrival: Oberstdorf

	Season 1 16.06.2024 - 23.06.2024 26.08.2024 - 08.09.2024 Thursday and Sunday	Season 2 24.06.2024 - 25.08.2024 Thursday and Sunday
Crossing the Alps E5: Oberstdorf - Meran, DE-ALWOM-08X		
Base price	1,179.00	1,289.00
Single room surcharge	239.00	239.00

Hotel information: You will stay in beautiful 3*** hotels and some 4**** hotels.

Additional nights

Place of arrival: Oberstdorf

	Season 1 Jun 16, 2024 - Jun 23, 2024 Aug 26, 2024 - Sep 8, 2024 Thursday and Sunday	Season 2 Jun 24, 2024 - Aug 25, 2024 Thursday and Sunday
Oberstdorf		
Double room p.p	89.00	109.00
Single room surcharge	35.00	35.00
Meran		
Double room p.p	89.00	99.00
Single room surcharge	29.00	29.00

Prices per person in GBP

Included services and travel information

Services

Included:

- 7x overnight stays as stated
- Breakfast
- Luggage transfer
- 1x original „Lechweg“-cheese from the organic dairy Sojer in Steeg
- 1x ascent by cable car Venet
- 1x descent by cable car Hirzer
- Carefully elaborated route description
- Detailed travel documents 1x per room (German, English)
- App for Navigation and GPS-data available
- Service hotline

Optional:

- Collective transfer (with a central point for access and exit) from Merano to Oberstdorf (min. 2 persons, daily), costs EUR 49 per person, EUR 15 per dog, reservation necessary, payable in advance.

Information

Arrival / Parking / Departure:

- Arrival by train in Oberstdorf and in a few minutes' walk or a short bus ride to your start hotel.
- Munich airport, by train in approx. 2.5 hours to Oberstdorf or Memmingen airport, approx. 1 hour journey time by train.
- Parking: a limited number of hotel parking spaces free of charge, no reservation possible. Near the hotel there are fee-based parking options, cost approx. EUR 7 per day.
- Return journey from Merano to Oberstdorf by train in approx. 8 hours (3x change of trains).

Important information:

- Tourist tax, if due, is not included in the price
- Journeys by public transport, cost approx. EUR 15 per person

Sample hotel list

This is a sample hotel list. Hotels will be booked depending on availability.

Oberstdorf

Hotel Müggelturm 3***

<https://www.hotelmueggelturm.de/>

Steeg

Hotel Styrolerhof 3***

www.hotel-styrolerhof.at

Landeck

Hotel Schrofenstein 4****

www.schrofenstein.at/en/home/

Pitztal

Alpenhof 3***

www.alpenhof-pitztal.com/

Ötztal

Hotel Viktoria 3***

www.viktoria-soelden.at/en/

Passeiertal

Tirolerhof 3***

www.hoteltirolerhof.it/en/

Meran

Hotel Flora & Suites 3***

www.hotelsmerano.it/de/hotel-flora-meran/