



## LAKES OF THE OLYMPIAREGION SEEFELD

Things of interest about the lakes  
of the Olympiaregion Seefeld

## NATURE AND CULTURE – THE LAKES OF THE OLYMPIAREGION SEEFELD

The attractive countryside of the Seefeld high plateau has always been characterised by its lakes. To see them merely as areas of water storage or natural leisure areas would not do them justice. The lakes of the Olympiaregion Seefeld are made particularly interesting by the historical elements which gave them their names, and as a mysterious natural phenomenon.

### LEUTASCH

#### Lake 'Weidachsee'

In Emperor Maximilian's famous fishing compendium, dating from the year 1500, the lake is mentioned as 'The Soul in the Leutasch'. Today, the fishery rights for the Weidachsee and the Leutascher Ache are held by Dr. Thomas Angerer, who runs a high-quality fish nursery recognized by the Chamber of Agriculture, and specializing in the production of trout stock and table trout. River trout, rainbow trout and brook trout are also bred there. The beautiful Weidachsee, situated in unspoilt countryside and covering approx. 12 acres, is open for fishing, without prior booking, between April and October. It is particularly suitable for fly-fishing, carried out from a wooden footbridge of approx. 600 m in length.



### MÖSERN

#### Lake 'Möserer See'

The small, 11 meter deep Möserer See is located at 1,292 meters above sea level in a till filled rock basin. It lies in idyllic solitude in the midst of woods, about 15 minutes above Mösern. Although it is located in a nature reserve, swimming is permitted (in the shallows marsh trefoil can be found, the banks are covered in alpine roses, and a variety of water birds nest there). It is considered one of the warmest swimming lakes in Tyrol. Drinks and snacks are available at the 'Möserer Seestub'n'.



## Lakes 'Wildmoossee' and 'Lottensee' - natural phenomenons

Close to the idyllic Möserer See, on the Wildmoos plateau (1320m), a very popular local attraction close to Seefeld, we can observe a very interesting natural phenomenon: as if coming from nowhere, two lakes appear amidst green meadows, larch and birch forests, the Wildmoossee and the Lottensee. This a-periodic (irregular) natural wonder is probably the result of a combination of water levels in the underground karsts systems, the spring rains and the spring thaw. The ground beneath these lakes is probably heavily karstified but the water system is sealed from below. Once the thaw begins in spring, the underground systems fill with water and the excess water floods the hollows in the meadows and forms lakes, which often disappear again after a few weeks. Interestingly, the water level continues to rise after the thaw has ended, and the water bubbles out from underground springs. The lakes then stay at a constant level all summer and are also suitable for swimming – in the autumn the lakes then empty suddenly in the space of two or three weeks. None of the many attempts to predict the appearance of the lakes in advance has been successful. The exact causes of their appearance or non-appearance cannot be defined exactly.



## SEEFELD

### Lake 'Ablasssee' – name-giver to the 'Seekirchl' (little church in the lake)

This lake, which unfortunately no longer exists, is the explanation of the name of the Heiligkreuzkirche, also called the 'Little Church in the lake'. Built by Duke 'Sigismund Rich in Coins' (1427-1496) as a fish pond, it surrounded the church, which was built later on a rocky island with a bridge to connect it to dry land and was completed in 1666. The lake was approximately 30 hectares and was sold to the Seefeld Post Master, who had it drained (probably because of insignificant catches or lack of demand). The existence of this lake has inspired (landscape) architects to date, who are in favour of restoring the water at the 'Little Church in the lake'.



### **Lake 'Wildsee'**

The source of the name for the settlement of 'Sevelt' (field on the lake), which was first documented in 1022, was probably the Wildsee, which already existed at that time. In Emperor Maximilian's days a type of fish was introduced to the lake, which gave it its 'second' name ('Lamprey Lake'). The economic use of this lake was, however, limited to only a few decades. It contributed and continues to contribute to the beauty of the Seefeld high plateau and today its two bathing beaches make it a popular lake for swimming. The southern banks of the lake (with the Reither Moor) have been a nature reserve since 1926 because of their special botanical features.



### **Lake 'Kaltwassersee' - Rosshütte**

The Kaltwassersee was built as a water reservoir for use in producing artificial snow for the Rosshütte skiing area. It holds approx. 70,000 m<sup>3</sup> water to supply the 180 snow canons in the area. In summer, it is a perfect place for a walk around the shore in fresh mountain air.



### **Sources:**

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