



# EAGLE WALK STAGE 12

Halleranger Alm Alpine Loge /  
Hallerangerhaus Hut – Innsbruck

This trek along the Eagle Walk is where you get the best of both worlds – the urban sophistication of a historic city and remote mountain wilderness. Follow the track towards **Lafatscher Saddleback** and gently descend to **Pfeis Hut**, where **Goetheweg Trail** starts. After a short climb, the trail meanders from the north to the south side of Nordkette Mountains time and again, offering you a superb panorama of Innsbruck, Inntal Valley and the Inn River. From **Hafelekar**, you can take the **Nordkette Gondola** down to the valley and **Innsbruck**, the lively capital city of Tirol: Architectural gems lurk around every corner of the old town. Stroll around the quaint streets of this magical town, where you will find a host of exciting sights and attractions.

<b>Starting Point</b>	Halleranger Alm Alpine Loge / Hallerangerhaus Hut
<b>Destination</b>	Innsbruck
<b>Distance</b>	13 Kilometers
<b>Elevation ↑</b>	1,150 m
<b>Elevation ↓</b>	970 m (Lift Ride not included)
<b>Hiking Time</b>	5.5 Hours
<b>Difficulty</b>	Difficult (black)



© Peter Steindl

## Eagle Alpine History

The Wild Boys of the “Wilde Bande” Club. In **1878**, the “**1<sup>st</sup> Wilde Bande Alpine Association**” was founded on Stempeljoch Saddle. They definitely lived up to their name and built Bettelwurf Hut, for example, in particularly **difficult conditions** in 1893, as well as the **Wilde Bande Trail** from Lafatscherjoch Saddleback to Stempeljoch Saddle. By the way: **logged trees** (“Stempel” in German) were **laboriously transported from the Karwendel Valleys** across Stempeljoch Saddle (elev. 2,215m), which were needed to secure the galleries of the salt mines in Halltal Valley. The wood was transported to Stempeljoch Saddle by mules and then drifted into Isstal Valley via the snow fields. When the **railway was constructed in 1858**, the **dangerous transport of wood via Stempeljoch Saddle ended**.



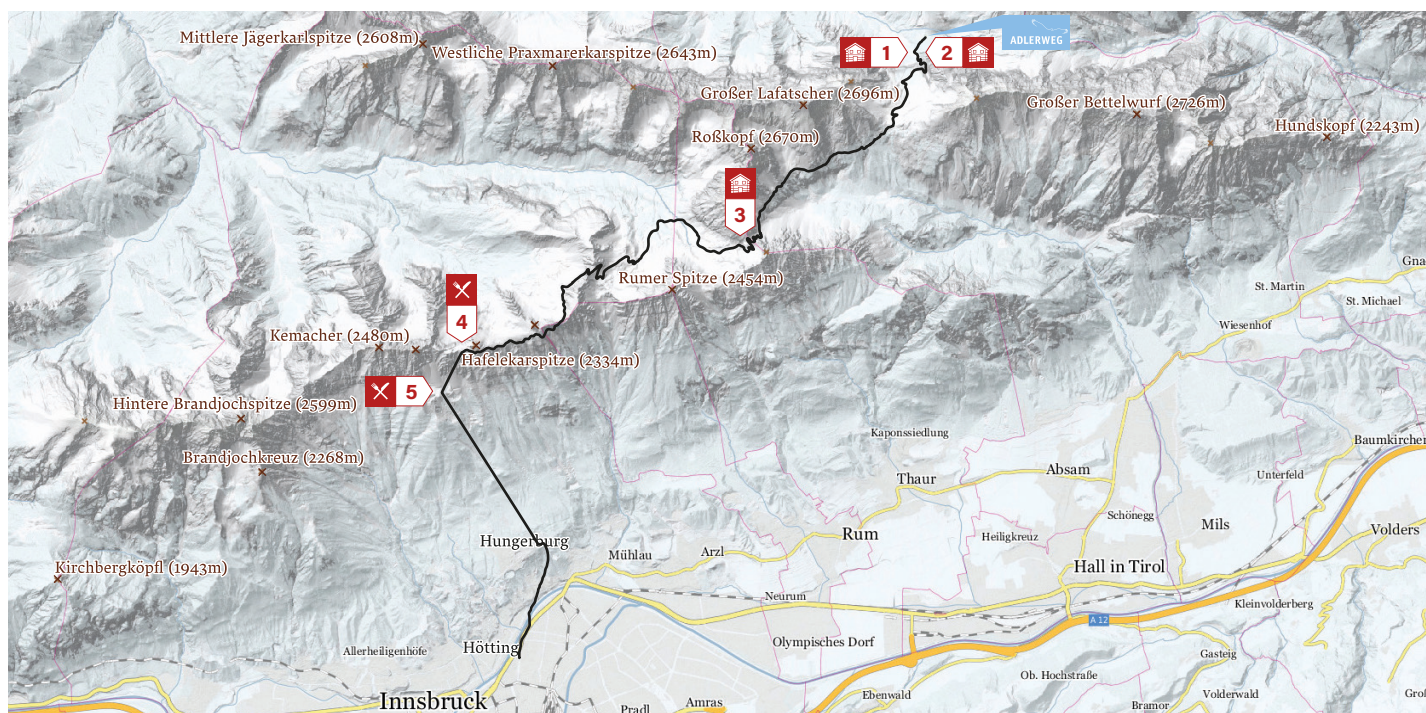
### EAGLEKICK

Noted for being among **Europe’s longest and most difficult downhills**, **Nordkette Singletrack Trail** provides a stack of options for downhill riders. Starting Point of Nordkette Singletrack Trail is Seegrube at an elevation of 1,905 metres. Daredevil, seriously expert level riders master the Nordkette Singletrack Trail downhill in 10 minutes. Not for the faint hearted this one!



### EAGLEVIEW

The **Hafelekar measuring station** is an **observatory for cosmic radiation of the University of Innsbruck**. It was initiated by Victor Franz Hess (1883–1964), a Nobel Prize winner of Physics. Peek through a window and **observe high-energy physics**. The **magnificent views into the Inntal Valley** from Goetheweg Trail, however, are also incredibly energising.



## Trailside Eateries & Accommodations

- 1 Hallerangeralm Alpine Lodge
- 2 Hallerangerhaus Hut
- 3 Pfeis Hut
- 4 Hafelekar Lodge
- 5 Seegrube Alpine Lounge

## Trail Description

From **Hallerangerhaus Lodge** follow the footpath towards “Lafatscher Joch”. The path gets steeper and narrower as you walk along. The trail will then lead to the so-called “Durchschlag” and you will pass a cross before reaching a plateau (with a turnoff towards Speckkar Spitze Peak). Walk across the plateau to the north and you will soon reach **Lafatscherjoch Saddle**. At the saddle, follow signage to “Pfeishütte”. Follow signage to “Pfeishütte” and/or “Pfeishütte über Wilde-Bande-Steig”. The **Wilde-Bande-Steig Trail** is a gentle ascent taking you to the cirque below Stempeljoch Saddle. Follow signage to “Stempeljoch” and/or “Pfeishütte”. You have to master steps made of planks and ropes. Turn right at the saddle and stroll down along meadows and Alpine pastures towards **Pfeis Hut**.

**Goetheweg Trail** (No. 219) has its trailhead at the hut. The trail is a gentle ascent to the basin south of the shelter. Follow the next turnoff towards “Mandscharte” and/or “Hafelekar Bergstation”, then take the right fork (to the left the trail branches off towards Arzler Scharte) and a wide loop will take you uphill to **Mandscharte Notch**. The descent on the backside leads through talus before merging into a well-maintained and rather broad path. This section offers a scenic view of the backside of lofty Nordkette Range. After a short climb, the trail changes to the side of the Inntal Valley, where a few switchbacks will take you downhill. This is followed by a gentle ascent on the grassy southern flank of Nordkette towards the west until you reach **Hafelekar Top Terminal**. Always follow signage to “Hafelekar Bergstation” and/or “Goetheweg”. This final section of the trail meanders from the north to the south side of the ridge time and again. You’ll make your way around and up the cliffs along Goetheweg Trail assisted by a fixed anchoring system of cables. Ride **Nordkettenbahn Gondola** and space-age Nordkette Funicular down to the heart of Tirol’s lively capital **Innsbruck**. An alternative route is to walk downhill, and visit the Alpine Zoo on your way down.

### MORE DETAILS:

#### Alpine Auskunft

Meinhardstraße 7-11  
6020 Innsbruck

+43.512.58 78 28 t

+43.512.58 88 42 f

info@alpine-auskunft.at e