



EAGLE WALK STAGE 16

Leutasch/Ahrn – Ehrwald

Venture to where wildlife plays – and an area of awesome natural beauty. It's a long journey at about 23 km, but manageable. Walking along **Leutascher Ache River** and **Gaistalbach Creek**, take in the forest and amazing meadows. Follow Ganghoferweg Trail to **Hämmermoosalm** and into the valley to **Gaistalalm** and **Tillfussalm Alpine Pasture Huts**, where **Ludwig Ganghofer's Hunting Lodge** is located. The route continues between the Mieming and Wetterstein Mountains, with peaks that become more and more striking as you hike. A gentle climb takes you up to **Lake Igelsee**, where the Leutascher Ache River springs. Amble down to **Ehrwalder Alm** and to the top of **Ehrwalder Alm Gondola** on a forest road, from where a footpath winds down to the village of **Ehrwald**.

Starting Point	Leutasch/Ahrn
Destination	Ehrwald
Distance	23 Kilometers
Elevation ↑	590 m
Elevation ↓	730 m
Hiking Time	7 Hours
Difficulty	Easy (Hiking Trail)



Eagle Alpine History

Ludwig Ganghofer. Scenic Gaistal Valley was the home and inspiration of writer and poet **Ludwig Ganghofer**, who loved to spend time **writing** and **hunting** at his **"Hubertus" Hunting Lodge** above Tillfussalm. Ganghofer's most famous novels are: "Silence in the Forest" ("Das Schweigen im Walde") and "The Hunter of Fall" ("Der Jäger von Fall"). The Silence in the Forest is set in Leutasch and was written at Hubertus Lodge. In front of it, a commemorative plaque reminds of the golden ages when the **cultural elite of those days met in Ludwig Ganghofer's Hubertus Lodge** around **1900**. Guests included artists, writers, painters, musicians and celebrities. Being invited to Gaistal Valley was an honour, and they all loved to come here for his wife, actress Katinka, was a most charming hostess.



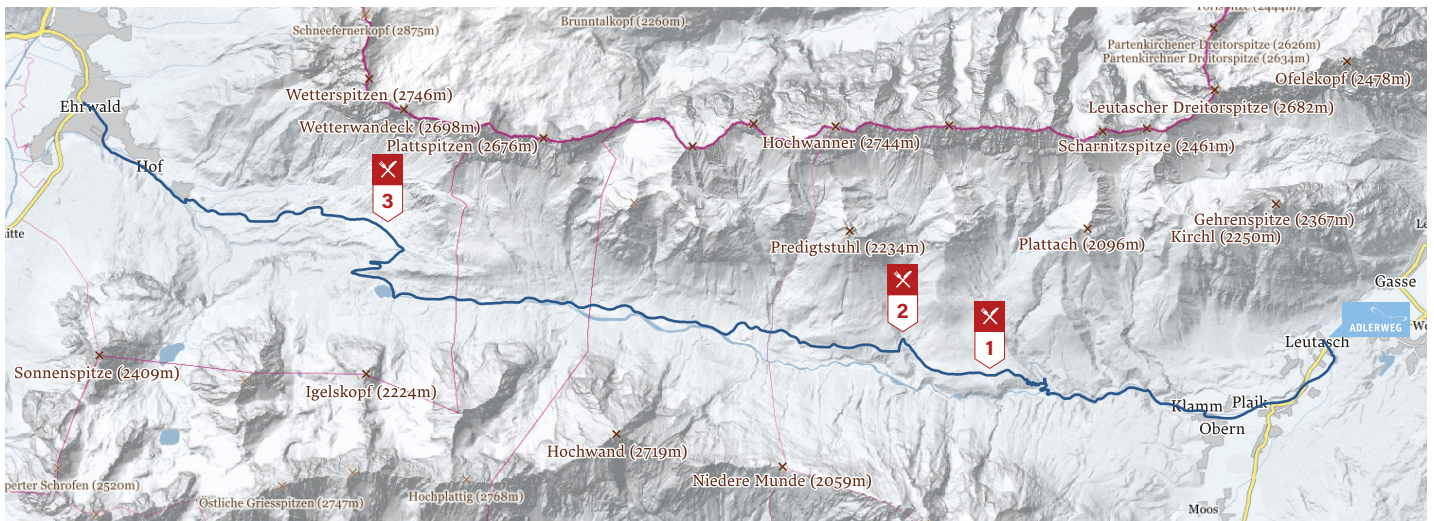
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At the end of Gaistal Valley lies a magnificently remote place, a high valley where deer wander down into the meadows at dusk and back up the hillsides at dawn. In **September and October**, the **calls of stags in the midst** of their mating season echo across the meadows and woods.



EAGLEVIEW

The former school in Leutasch today houses the **Ganghofer Museum Cultural Centre** and a public library. The museum exhibits the life and work of Ludwig Ganghofer (1855–1920), a famous German writer. **"Haus Hubertus"** (Ganghoferhaus Lodge) above Tillfussalm Alpine Pasture Hut is in private hands today. A **commemorative bust** stands there in honour of the poet.



Trailside Eateries & Accommodations

- 1 Gaistalalm Alpine Pasture Hut
- 2 Tillfussalm Alpine Pasture Hut
- 3 Ehrwalder Alm Alpine Pasture Hut

Trail Description

Start in Ahrn at the bridge over Leutascher Ache River and take the footpath towards “Weidach”, when then crosses the river. Follow signs to “Unterweidach” and/or “Achweg Weidach”. Then follow Leutascher Ache River on its right side downstream on Achenweg Trail until you reach Kalvarienberg Mountain at Gaistal Valley. Cross the river on an iron footbridge, walk a few metres into the valley, cross to the right side of the river at the toll booth and continue into the valley. Before you reach Salzbach Car Park, follow signs to “Almenparadies Gaistal” and cross the river again. Do not follow the path to the parking area, but turn left into Gaistal Valley. After a few metres, branch off to the right and head onto “Ganghoferweg” Trail. The route leads up through the forest and meadows, passing below Hämmermoosalm Alpine Pasture Hut and leading towards the end of the valley (“Gaistalalm”, “Tillfussalm”). The path crosses Leitenbach Brook and descends to **Gaistalalm Alpine Pasture Hut** which is the end of Ganghoferweg Trail.

After your stop-off at the hut, continue in the same direction until you reach **Tillfussalm Alpine Pasture Hut**. Soon, the footpath changes into a singletrack trail. It enters the forest and goes up, before descending to Tillfussalm Alpine Pasture Hut. From there, continue westward on the valley path, running parallel to Leutascher Ache River and Gaistalbach Creek. At the fork, walk straight ahead following signs to “Ehrwalder Alm über Igelsee”. The route runs between Mieming Mountains on the left and Wetterstein Mountains on the right to **Lake Igelsee**. Behind the lake, bear right at the fork and follow the steep path up to an elevation of 1,600 metres. Follow the forest road down to **Ehrwalder Alm Alpine Pasture Hut** and to the top of **Ehrwalder Alm Gondola**.

Below Ehrwalder Alm Alpine Pasture Hut, the signed (“Wiesenweg nach Ehrwald”) meadow path to Ehrwald starts, leading first to the ski resort. At the fork, go straight ahead, then bear right and head to the base of **Ehrwalder Alm Gondola**. From there, you get to **Ehrwald** either on the access road or on Altmühlensteig Trail.

MORE DETAILS:

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