Benefits of membership

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Who we are and what our aim is

The Österreichischer Alpenverein (ÖAV) is a large and long established mountain club – and much more! More than 150 years of history, more than 573,000 members and a structure involving many branches and activities, it has developed into an important, influential and socially active institution in Austria and further afield.

An alpine club …

As an Alpine Club, its most important function lies in the promotion and facilitating of mountain activities, such as mountain-climbing, ski-touring and many modern mountain sports with the associated training of experts. It owns and runs mountain huts, maintains footpaths and climbing routes. It is also an important provider of expert advice and information in this field, such as producing walking and climbing maps, training and qualifying guides, providing services on the internet.
... with a social ...

The active social involvement of the club is seen in its successful work with families and young people as well as programmes specifically for older people and pensioners. We offer soundly based, well supervised active training for children and youth groups throughout the year. There are also holiday camps for disabled members and many youth centres for residential or day use.

... ecological ...

As “Lawyer of the Alps” the Club has struggled to ensure the orderly use of the alpine area and has established itself as THE ecological expert on alpine environmental questions. It is a founder and partner in the establishment and maintenance of National Parks and other protected areas. Committed members work on environmental sites for young people and for mountain forest maintenance and preservation.

... cultural commitment ...

The Alpenverein Museum, winner of a Tirol museum excellence award in 1997 and 2009, and its collections, illustrate the club’s cultural commitment. This is also reflected in exhibitions, creative programmes and printed materials produced.

... and rich traditions.

In 1862, the Österreichischer Alpenverein was founded in Vienna. It’s first aims were to open up the Alps, to encourage travel through the mountains and share knowledge
about them. For a long time it operated together with the long-established, independent Deutscher Alpenverein, as the Deutscher and Österreichischer Alpenverein. The corner stone of its early development was the creation of paths and climbing routes, the building of huts and the production of year books and newspapers. In the whole of Austria today, there exists a network of 40,000 km of footpaths and 425 mountain huts. The organisation of mountain guides, mountain rescue teams and the development of alpine equipment can all be traced back to the work of the alpine clubs.

Very soon, the threat to the mountains from large-scale technical and mechanical development called for the widening of the club’s aims to include the “preservation of the original state and beauty” of the Alps.

So all the various currents of history have left their traces on the Alpine Club as it has evolved.

Some examples of developments currently leaving their mark on the Club are newer and more extreme mountain sports, the quest for more thrills and adventure, the wish for improving society, the ever-greater interweaving of nations and the effects of modern information and communication technologies.
Benefits of membership

Well insured on the way

Mountain climbing and hiking are amongst the healthiest of sports. However, they can also imply serious risks. Emergency rescue actions, helicopter rescue, repatriation from abroad – members do not need to worry about the cost of these eventualities. Österreichischer Alpenverein’s worldwide leisure insurance covers rescue costs up to € 25,000, repatriation costs from abroad without limitation and pays for hospital stays in foreign countries up to € 10,000 in the event of accident or illness. But more than this, it also includes third party liability cover within Europe in the event of damage caused to persons or objects and, if required, criminal law cover in Europe in protection of your rights. This excellent insurance cover – for all members – is automatically included in the membership fee.

Join and save

Members stay overnight more cheaply. There is a reduction of at least € 10 for staying overnight in all huts and this also applies to both German and South Tirol Alpine Club huts. In the 1,300 huts in Switzerland, France, Lichtenstein, Spain, Slovenia and Italy you receive reciprocal rights, the same conditions as apply to the club members from the home country. There are also reductions in more than 70 private guesthouses and hostels in the valleys.

- **Families have further advantages.** Partners of members pay reduced membership subscriptions fees and – for this we are especially proud – membership is free for their registered children.
- **Value for money shopping.** Maps, T-shirts, DVD’s, ..., the Alpine Club shop offers a wide variety of useful and attractive items.
- **Trials and Tests.** Ice axes, crampons, harnesses, ... many sections offer their members the chance to rent out modern mountain sports equipment for attractive prices.
- **Saving by training.** Members enjoy 10 % discount on every course in the training programme of the Alpenverein Akademie – thus membership has already paid off from the first training.
Come into the mountains

Once around the equator! In just over 150 years, 40,000 km of walking paths have been constructed by the alpine clubs. For the first time they allow access to the mountains and till today have been voluntarily maintained and waymarked. But what would the mountains be without huts? Huts offer protection, warmth, a soft bed and also offer nourishing, tasty meals. An evening in the hut can be an unforgettable experience. So why wait? There are 425 Austrian Alpine huts in Austria, waiting for your visit.

Curiosity meets competence

Joining the Österreichischer Alpenverein (ÖAV) means also accessing a unique centre of alpine competence. The Alpenverein Akademie combines the complete range of trainings offered by the main-organization in a single unit. Qualified experts in the fields of alpine sports, pedagogy and nature protection create the prerequisites for outstanding experiences in free nature. Learning how to climb, how to enjoy ski-touring, how to set up a bivouac or how to navigate accurately to a destination using a GPS device – the Alpenvereinsjugend offer a great variety of courses to satisfy every taste and every age group. Exciting school campaigns and integrative workshops will open new approaches to nature and environment and boost community spirit. And even the individual development doesn’t come up short in the Alpenverein Akademie. Thanks to solid trainings for tour guides or youth leaders nothing can prevent secure adventures in the mountains. But all other officials as well can choose from the vast range of qualified trainings in the respective fields.

Boring it isn’t!

Fun with friends: Snowboarding in the wild, Sport-climbing, Building Igloos, a night’s Bivouac, all provide many exciting and unusual experiences. In the Alpenverein, young people meet new friends and take part in a wide variety of adventurous activities, provided by camps and environmental preservation areas. Adventure Pure is on offer for young people at Holiday Centres and other youth bases. Just think: Over 1,000 youth groups in different sections throughout Austria are waiting for you!
Nature needs help
In order that Nature is not neglected, as the “lawyer of the Alps”, the Alpenverein is actively involved in environmental protection. A balance between protection and permitting access needs to be sought. The National Parks have in the Alpenverein a reliable partner which supports the planning and care of protected areas. On the huts, particular care is taken to promote the environmentally friendly use of energy and drinking water. In addition the Alpenverein also places much importance on the appropriate treatment of waste material and water.

Top class information
Up-to-date, objective, reliably researched: The Alpenverein many publications and homepage are held in high esteem by its members and many others. Alpenvereinskarten (maps) are appreciated and essential aids for planning any tour successfully. The alpenvereinaktiv.com tour portal and its app can be used free of charge. Members using the paid subscription model can enjoy the benefits of better price and performance as well as free training and the chance to be active Alpenverein contributors. Over 10,000 personal tour descriptions are currently available worldwide, and this number is increasing daily.
Touring with friends
Welcome to the largest Austrian mountain sport provider. The Club’s sections offer an abundance of tours and outdoor activities, rich in experience. Worldwide adventure! Here you will find friends, excellent organisation and competent leadership, whether walking or ski-touring, trekking or cultural travel. You will certainly find your dream destination here.

Climbing, climbing, climbing ...
... is open to members on more than 200 artificial climbing areas throughout Austria or in one of the many Alpenverein climbing gardens. Climbing simply for fun, well secured on officially tested and certified security hooks – or ambitious climbing in preparation for competitions. As a result, Alpine Club members are of course well qualified to participate in every national and international competition. And they are very successful there. The list of our successes so far, which include World Master, Rock Master and World Cup Winner, speaks for our many years of development in this field.
The Alpenverein Weltweit Service is included in your membership fee. Excerpt from the insurance scope:

1 Rescue costs in one’s country of main place of residence and abroad
   Up to EUR 25,000.– per person and insured event – year-round, world-wide, during leisure time.
   Costs of transfer of injured/ill/deceased persons in the country of main place of residence without limits on costs if preceded by a rescue.

2 Repatriation and medical treatment costs abroad
   Valid world-wide during the first eight weeks of any journey abroad, for accidents during leisure time and work, as well as illnesses.
   Repatriation costs (incl. transfer costs of deceased persons) from abroad.
   Cost reimbursement for in-patient hospital stay up to EUR 10,000.– (during the first eight weeks of any journey abroad), of which up to EUR 2,000.– is available for out-patient medical treatment. A deductible of EUR 70.– must be paid for out-patient medical treatment only.

3 European third party liability up to EUR 3,000,000.–
   (Deductible for property damage EUR 200.–)
   European criminal law protection up to EUR 35,000.– Valid year-round and Europe-wide.

For association activities and private hikes, mountaineering, climbing, via ferrata, skiing, ski touring, cross-country skiing, snowboarding, white water canoeing, canyoning and mountain biking/trekking bike tours.

Note: Before repatriation (accident and illness), transfer, in-patient medical treatment abroad and transport within the country of main place of residence, you must contact:

- Europ Assistance: T +43/1/2533798 (24-h-service)
  M aws@alpenverein.at (otherwise, max. EUR 750.– will be reimbursed)
- KNOX Versicherungsmanagement GmbH:
  T +43/512/238300-33, F +43/512/238300-15
  M AV-service@knox.co.at

For detailed information, see www.alpenverein.at/versicherung
Facts and statistics

• The Österreichischer Alpenverein (ÖAV) is the largest Alpine club in Austria.
• In the whole of Austria, 15,000 officials and 10,000 helpers are always there for you. They contribute 1.5 million voluntary work-hours per year, which is equivalent to 150 years.
• 196 sections in the whole country cater for 573,000 members, who can choose from around 16,000 organised activities.
• 230 club-owned huts with 10,000 sleeping places offer protection and accommodation. They are visited by around one million hikers each year and are the setting off points for countless summit expeditions.
• 26,000 km of footpaths are maintained, created and way-marked by the Austrian sections. They spread like a network over the Austrian mountains, bringing tourists and mountaineers safely to their destinations.

Growth of membership from 2014 to 2018
Membership fees

Adults 28 – 64 years of age € 62.00*
Child/Youth up to 18 years of age € 26.00*
Junior 19 – 27 years of age € 48.00*
Senior 65 years of age or over € 48.00*
Married or Life Partner of a member € 48.00*

* The age referred to is the age on 1st January of the year of application for membership.

The membership fees given here are the simple, basic fees. Club sections with business offices open the whole day and more extensive services on offer, may charge a slightly higher fee.

Family reductions

For families in which both parents are Alpine Club members and the children have no income the club membership, including insurance protection is free (up to age 27 years). This also applies to single parent families. All members of the family involved must belong to the same section of the Alpine Club. Registration of the child or children is required. You can obtain further information from your local section.

For simple and comfortable application on line see: www.alpenverein.at/portal/mitglied_werden

There is certainly a section near you – just look it up!

If you would like more information about the Österreichischer Alpenverein, telephone us or write to:

Österreichischer Alpenverein
Olympiastraße 37
A-6020 Innsbruck
T +43/512/59547
F +43/512/59547-50
M office@alpenverein.at
I www.alpenverein.at
Membership application

Title

Forename(s)

Name

Street and number

Postcode (or zip, plz)/City

Date of Birth

Telephone number(s)

E-mail address

For other family members

Forename Spouse/Partner   Date of birth

Forename 1st child   Date of birth

Forename 2nd child   Date of birth

Forename 3rd child   Date of birth

Forename 4th child   Date of birth

Date

Signature (for applicants under 18, the responsible parent/guardian should sign)

By signing here, I commit myself, in the event of cancelling my membership, to pay the current year’s membership fee in full (Alpenverein rules). If you wish to cancel your membership, you must notify the Alpenverein of this by the latest 31st October of the preceding year.
Main reason for joining (please tick as appropriate)

☐ Section training program
☐ Insurance benefits
☐ Nature and environmental protection
☐ Maintenance of the huts and trails
☐ Climbing gym discount
☐ Discounted hut stays
☐ Interest in Section event/youth groups
☐ Joint activities
☐ Event and tour program

Details of sender:

________________________________________
Forename(s)

________________________________________
Name

________________________________________
Street and number

________________________________________
Postcode/City

Privacy Policy:
Alpenverein processes your data for management of your membership. This contractual duty arises from the association’s statutes. After termination of your membership your data will be deleted as soon as the legally prescribed preservation periods have expired. You will find further details on our homepage. If you have questions please contact us on
datenschutz@alpenverein.at
Take advantage of the Alpenverein’s (ÖAV) benefits.
We will make you warmly welcome.
If you have no section address, please contact us at:

Österreichischer Alpenverein
Olympiaweg 37, 6020 Innsbruck
Phone +43/512/59547, Fax +43/512/59547 - 50

office@alpenverein.at
www.alpenverein.at

Office hours

Monday to Thursday 9:00 AM to 12:30 PM,
1:30 PM to 4:30 PM,
Friday 9:00 AM to 12:30 PM