

2nd stage KAT Walk Alpine Stage 2: Kelchsau - Windau

total walking time	8 h	distance	18,0 km	difficulty	average
altitude meters uphill	1140 m	altitude meters downhi	II 1100 m	highest point	1925 m
stamina:					
skill:	* * * *				
public transport:	Bus: "Kelchsau GH Fuchswirt", Hofstattbahn valley station Guest card = ticket - bus & train included! Online timetables: www.vvt.at www.oebb.at				
parking:	Parking directly at the former Hofstattbahn Kelchsau cable car station				
starting point:	Kelchsau - centre				
destination point:	Gasthaus Steinberg - Windautal valley - Westendorf				
road quality:	Asphalt road, forest paths, mountain path (medium difficulty - marked in red), alpine hiking trails				
best season:	JUN, JUL, AUG, SEP, OCT				

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Description

View-packed Alpine hike. The route proceeds across easy to moderately difficult steep paths and forest paths, ascents are moderate and only somewhat steeper on short sections. However, with some 1,200 metres of ascent, this route requires a decent level of fitness. You pass countless Alpine pastures along the route. With a bit of luck you might meet the ,Alpine writer', Sepp Kahn, at Untere Lärchenbergalm. In his diaries, he recounts the life of an Alpine dairyman. The highest point of the tour: the Lodron, with its 360° views – from the glacier-bedecked Hohe Tauern to the Wilder Kaiser – is one of the best viewing mountains in the Kitzbühel Alps.

The stage starts at the *Raiffeisenbank* in the centre of <u>Kelchsau</u>. Initially follow the **signposts** for **Lodron, 3,5 h, path number 79**. A short section takes you on the asphalt **road down** to **Kelchsauer Ache**. Now proceed across a **bridge** and continue in three **bends** up to around 1,090 metres altitude, before the **forest** thins out, and the path bends into the forest. Continue **uphill** on this path until a steep path on the **left** proceeds into a **forest**.

The road now proceeds **uphill** along a **ridge** (keep to the red-white- red ground markings and to follow the **signposts** for **Lodron**). The steep path continues across a short section through a deforested area, at whose upper end you come to a **forest path** (1,275 m). Continue to the **right** here on a **forest path** (**Lodron**, **path number 79**), passing the **Vorder- and Hinterölbankalm**, until, after around three kilometres, you reach **Untere Lodronalm** (1,486 m).

There is a short section with **two bends** on the **forest path**, bearing **left** on to a steep **path** heading to **Lodron**, **Ramkarkopf**. Through terrain that is **forested throughout**, then on open **Alpine meadows**, hike direct to the **Lodronalm** (approx. 1,700 m). **Just before an Alpine pasture**, bear **right** on a **steep path**, continuing to **Lodronjoch** (1,914 m). **Pay careful attention to the ground markings** in this section (some are painted red-white-red on stones or wood pegs). The terrain has been much trampled by cattle, which makes the route outline often quite difficult to make out.

From *Lodronjoch* there is just a short section to the **summit** of the same name (1,925 m), with its **impressive cross**. **Return** to the **ridge** on the **same path** and follow the **signposts** for *Westendorf*, with a **short section up** on the **mountain ridge**.

The steep **path** now branches off to the **left** (*Lärchenbergalm*), with a section down along a **pasture fence**, and you are soon back in open **Alpine pasture** area again, on a consistently even route. Get your bearings here using the **ground markings** again.

After a short time you will come to *Oberkaralm* (approx. 1,700 m). At this point, bear left through a small trench (*Steinberghaus, 79*) and on the steep path on an even ascent, head to the next signposts for *Lärchenbergalm, Steinberghaus*. Continue now through Alpine terrain, steadily downhill to *Untere Lärchenbergalm* (approx. 1,480 m). Between the buildings on the Alpine pasture, continue left on a steep path that soon leads into the forest.

When you reach the **forest path**, follow it **down** in **two bends**, until just after *Wallernalm* (1,160 m), taking a **left** again on a steep **path** (*Steinberghaus*). Follow this **path**, in part **down** through **forest**, and the final 500 metres or soon a forest path direct to <u>Steinberghaus</u>.

equipment

Outdoor clothing Sturdy footwear Sufficient food and drink First aid equipment Mobile phone with full battery & charger Hiking map & guide literature Possibly GPS device or load the GPS data onto the mobile phone Sun protection (sunglasses, sun cream & cap) Rain protection Cash

downloads

GPX FILE

INTERACTIVE MAP







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