

Practical Information Guide Obergurgl University Centre Austria



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Access to the Site

The conference will be held at the **Obergurgl University Centre**. The Centre is located at an altitude of 1940 metres, in the highest glacial village in the Tyrol, at the end of the Ötz Valley and surrounded by numerous three-thousand metre peaks. Obergurgl is located about 100 km south of Innsbruck.



Group Transportation

Two or three buses will be arranged on **arrival day** from **Innsbruck railway station**, via **Innsbruck airport**, to Obergurgl. The journey from the airport takes approximately 75 minutes (an hour and a half from the station). **For departure times, please see the conference website.**

Railway Station departure point: the meeting point is located across from the taxi parking area. When exiting the station, please turn left towards the taxi stand. The coaches will have a sign in the window indicating “**ESF Research Conferences**” for easy recognition.

Airport departure point: the meeting point is located just outside the small airport building. The coaches will have a sign in the window indicating “**ESF Research Conferences**” for easy recognition.

If the timing of the group transportation is not convenient for you, please consider the shuttle service between Innsbruck Airport and Obergurgl. The cost is 40 EUR one way. For further information, please consult the **Oetztal Airport Shuttle web site**. **Go to Website** ▶ www.oetztal.com/main/EN

Group transportation back to Innsbruck (to both the station and the airport) will be arranged in a similar way for the departure day. Do not forget to plan enough time for both journey and checking-in at the airport when booking your flight!

You are warmly recommended to take advantage of this organised transportation, which is included in the conference fee.

By Air

The nearest airports to Obergurgl are **Innsbruck** (100 km), **Munich** (240 km) and **Zurich** (277 km). There are daily flights to Munich and Innsbruck airport from most major European cities.

A **taxi** (holding up to 4 persons) from Innsbruck airport to Obergurgl costs about EUR 145 (winter prices 2006-2007). If you have any problems concerning the price to pay for the trip, please contact the hotel staff upon arrival.

Innsbruck Airport [Go to Website](#) ▶ www.innsbruck-airport.com/index.html/_lang/en
Munich Airport [Go to Website](#) ▶ www.munich-airport.de/EN/
Zurich Airport [Go to Website](#) ▶ www.zurich-airport.com
Austrian Airlines [Go to Website](#) ▶ www.aua.com/uk/eng

By Rail

The **Österreichische Bundesbahnen ÖBB** operate a frequent train service between Munich, Innsbruck or Zurich airport and **Ötztal Bahnhof** (which is the nearest railway station to Obergurgl). Journey time is approximately 4 hours from Munich, 1 hour from Innsbruck and 4 hours from Zurich.

Österreichische Bundesbahnen ÖBB [Go to Website](#) ▶ www.oebb.at/vip8/oebb/en/

Just outside Ötztal station, the **ÖBB Postbus bus company** leaves for Obergurgl approximately every two hours. The journey takes about an hour and a half. Arrival in Obergurgl is at the village square where you can take a taxi or walk (5 minutes) to the University Centre. A taxi from Ötztal Bahnhof to Obergurgl costs EUR 75.00 (from 1 to 4 persons) and EUR 90.00 (from 5 to 8 persons). There are always taxis waiting in front of the train station.

ÖBB Postbus [Go to Website](#) ▶ www.oebb.at/vip8/postbus/en/

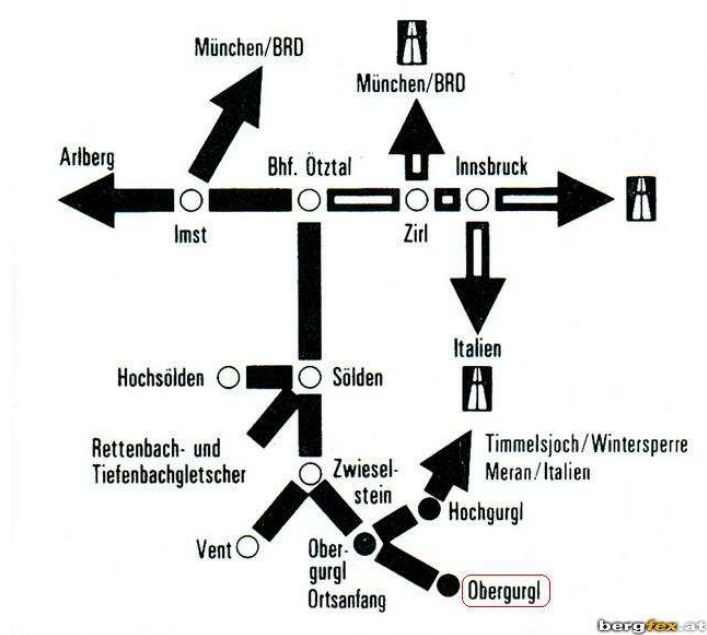
By Bus

From Innsbruck train station, take the **Ötztal bus** to Obergurgl. The buses are scheduled about every two hours and cost EUR 20 one way. The trip takes about 2 hours and a half.

It is a 5 minute walk from the bus station in Obergurgl to the hotel. You can otherwise take a **taxi** (costs amount to approximately EUR 5).

By Road

Obergurgl can be reached on **motorway A12**. This motorway should be left at **exit Ötztal**.





Arrival, On-site Registration & Conference Secretariat

Upon arrival, participants should first register with the **ESF Conference Secretary**, sign the attendance list and collect their name badges and then check in at the hotel reception. The conference registration desk, where supplementary information will be provided, will be located close to the hotel reception.

The conference secretary will be present for the whole duration of the conference and will take care of the administrative aspects and the day-to-day running of the conference: registration, issuing of receipts and certificates, gathering of travel tickets, etc. She will be at the registration desk half an hour each morning before the meeting starts, during coffee breaks, and before and after each afternoon session.

Registration & Fee Payment

Registration Form

i Please confirm your attendance by filling in a [registration form](#) online (CTRL + click to follow the link). The form can also be accessed from the conference website.

Conference fees (where required) are also to be paid via this form, and, in order to guarantee your accommodation, should be **credited** to the ESF account by the fee deadline.

i i **Participants with travel grants:** are requested to indicate their full **bank account details** – including: IBAN and BIC numbers – when filling in their web registration form. Further information available from the “Travel Contributions” section.

Please see the conference website for the closing date for Registration & Fee Payment

Conference Fees & Fee Payment

Conference fees are accessible from the conference website, except those applicable to accompanying guests (which should be collected directly from the conference venue).

Advance payment of the **full** fixed fee is required from both resident and non-resident conferees. **The full fixed fee is due regardless of the time the conferee spends at the conference and cannot be reduced for anyone.**

i A **EUR 100 supplement** is added if full payment has not been received by the deadline for registration (4 weeks prior to the conference). This supplement is charged only **once** on any payment.

Board & lodging for **accompanying guests** (in double room with conferee) must be booked with the conference secretary and paid directly to the venue.

Means of Payment

Payment by **credit card**: payment by Master Card, Visa or Eurocard is accepted.

Payments by **cheque** are not accepted.

Cash payment at the conference site **is not accepted** under any condition.

An invoice for payment can be sent upon request before the conference. **VAT**: the European Science Foundation is not subject to VAT and therefore not VAT registered.

Cancellations & Refunds

If notice of cancellation is received more than **two weeks** before the conference all but EUR 100 will be reimbursed. Otherwise NO refund can be made.

Extra Expenses

Participants must pay directly to the conference venue – before departure – for any additional night over the nights covered by the conference booking. Any other expenses not included in the conference fee (i.e. drinks – other than those provided at meals – phone calls, etc) are also at participants' own expense. If any such costs are charged on the ESF invoice, the concerned participant will receive a post-conference invoice from our Office for their payment.

Accommodation & Meals

Accommodation

All participants will be accommodated either at the **Obergurgl University Centre** (a newly renovated national trust building) or in neighboring hotels, such as **Hotel Schönblick** (all meals will be taken at the University Centre).

i **i** Please note that **SINGLE** accommodation can only be guaranteed to **invited speakers**. All other participants will have to share a **TWIN** room. In case single rooms would become available they will be attributed on a “**first come, first served**” basis. Only the TWIN conference fee should be paid to the ESF when registering. The supplement for single should be paid to Obergurgl University Centre. Should you wish to be put on waiting list for single accommodation, please send an email to the conference officer.

English and German are spoken at the conference site.

Obergurgl University Center **Go to Website** ▶ www.universitycenter-obergurgl.at
Schönblick Hotel **Go to Website** ▶ www.obergurgl.com/schoenblick

Extra Nights

If you require **extra accommodation** in addition to the nights included in the conference booking, you will need to make your own arrangements by contacting the Conference Centre. Extra nights will be at your own expense and should be paid directly to the venue.

Accompanying Guests

Participants with accompanying guests are informed that this will be at their own expense, for both travel and accommodation. Guest fees should be settled directly with the venue.

Accompanying guests are not entitled to take part in any of the actual conference activities (i.e. attend talks or short presentations within the conference room). Conference facilities and equipment, such as access to the internet, are destined for the sole use of conferees. If guests wish to make use of certain facilities, they should arrange this privately with the conference venue, at their own cost.

Please note also that we do not organise a social programme for accompanying guests, who are kindly expected to make their own arrangements during the conference.

Meals

Breakfast will be served buffet style from 07.30 onwards. Times for lunch and dinner are as shown in the conference final programme. Mineral water, orange juice and coffee are served at lunch; water and wine are served at dinner. Additional beverages are at the participants' own expense. Non-resident conferees (as well as participants who may be accommodated at other hotels) are expected to have all their meals with resident conferees.

Coffee Breaks

Coffee breaks will be served in the bar area.

Conference Facilities

Meeting-Room & Equipment

The meeting-room is located in the main building of the University Centre. It is equipped with a data projector, an overhead projector and a projection screen.

i Please note that participants making an **ORAL PRESENTATION** (invited lecture and/or short talk) are kindly requested to bring their own laptop or their presentation on a memory stick along with them.





Posters & Short Talks

There will be no **short talks** other than those listed on the final programme. The list of abstracts accepted for poster presentation is available on the conference website.

Posters can be fixed with magnets and pins onto poster panels. Recommended poster size is 140 cm high x 100 cm wide. Use letters and drawings that can be read from approximately 100 cm distance.

Travel Contributions

Travel Reimbursements

  All reimbursements will be made by post-conference bank transfers. Invited Speakers or Participants who are granted a travel contribution (please refer to your letter of invitation) are requested to provide with their **bank account details** – including: IBAN and BIC numbers – when filling in their web registration form.

Photocopy of travel tickets must be returned to the ESF Research Conferences Unit within a maximum of one month after the conference. No reimbursement can otherwise be guaranteed.

Itinerary, price and currency must clearly feature on any ticket. Where no price is indicated on the ticket, the corresponding invoice must be enclosed.

Allowable Costs

Travel costs may not be higher than:

- cheapest economy class air fare
 - OR second class train fare
 - OR bus fare from the participant's place of work to the place of the event
- or may be the actual cost of travel, whichever is the lower.

The following may NOT be considered as allowable travel costs and therefore may NOT be presented when claiming the travel contribution:

- taxi fares
- local travel in the city or locality of the event
- costs of health, life and luggage insurance.

Use of a private/rented car is covered either on the basis of a 2nd class return train fare documented by a certified travel agent, or on actual mileage according to the ESF coefficient applicable at the time of travel.

Hotel Services

Phone Calls

There are no telephones in the rooms. A public telephone booth is available near the reception. To make an international call, dial "00" followed by the code of the country you are calling.

Copies & Faxes

Photocopies may be made, and faxes sent and paid for via the hotel reception. Costs for a photocopy are EUR 0.10 per page.

Internet Access

A free e-mail connection is provided at the venue at various internet stations, and in the library. A wireless connection is available in the meeting room and in the bar/lounge area. Every room is equipped with either WLAN or cable (cables available at reception).

Rooms in neighboring hotels might not be equipped with internet connection.

Means of Payment

The hotel accepts the following credit cards: American Express, Mastercard, Visa, Maestro and Bankomat. It is also possible to pay in cash.

Leisure Activities & Tourism

At the Conference Center

The hotel has sauna and steam baths, a fitness room and various libraries. It is located in the highest glacial village in the Tyrol, at an altitude of 1940 meters, and is based right next to a skiing area with 110 km of downhill runs and 23 ski lifts, running from 1.880 m to 3.080 m. At the doorstep is one of the most beautiful UNESCO biosphere reserves in Europe, with the flora and fauna of glacial fore fields and surrounded by numerous three-thousand meter peaks. Ski rental in the village.

The conference centre has an agreement with a local shop for discounted ski rentals. It is possible to request a certificate from the venue to obtain reductions on the ski pass.

Tourist Office Obergurgl-Hochgurgl [Go to Website](#) ► www.obergurgl.com OR www.oetztal.com/ - [✉ Email | info@obergurgl.com](mailto:info@obergurgl.com)

In the Surrounding Area

Some places of interest in the area are:

- The Timmelsjoch high alpine road (2 509 m), the highest pass across the Eastern Alps, takes you to Meran, which is merely 60 km away. The road is open from mid-June to the end of September.
- "Hiking à la carte" with the Obergurgl-Hochgurgl Alpine Summer Card: Weekly hiking and mountain adventure programmes. You will be accompanied by qualified mountain or hiking guides, who take you from easy high-level hikes to cross-border glaciers.
- Aqua Dome - Tirol Therme Längenfeld (28 km from Obergurgl). A unique world of thermal spring experience. Guest will find a 4****plus hotel, sauna village, beauty and body treatment areas, thermal spring hall, Noah's Ark Alps as well as the external thermal spring lay-out with eight meters high water basins.

Aqua Dome [Go to Website](#) ► www.aqua-dome.at

- Ötzi Dorf in Umhausen (37 km from Obergurgl). An archaeological open-air museum meant to illustrate "life, living and the industries of the Neolithic Age" during Ötzi's time to the visitor.

Ötzi Dorf [Go to Website](#) ► <http://www.oetzidorf.at/>

- The "Stuibenthal" in Umhausen (37 km from Obergurgl) is the tallest waterfall in Tyrol, which cascades down 159 m.
- Innsbruck (90 km) – sightseeing tour. The 800-year-old town is renown as a cultural center, and as a city of numerous art treasures and many historic structures. Innsbruck's rich history is interwoven with that of the Habsburgs, whose wealth and sense of beauty left their mark: the "Golden Roof", the "Black Men" bronze statues at the Court Church, the Imperial Court Palace and Ambras Castle.
- The Swarovski Crystal Worlds in Wattens (near Innsbruck - 115 km from Obergurgl) provide their guests with a magical experience, an escape from everyday life. Original interpretations (direction of André Heller) by famous international artists melt in a kaleidoscope for all the senses.



Diamond in den Alpen



Shopping Hours

The shops in Obergurgl are open daily from 09.00 to 12.00 and from 13.30 to 17.00 hours, except on Sundays. Some shops are closed in the summer. Two cash dispensers are to be found in town.

Social Programme

Please refer to the conference Final Programme for detailed information.

Practical Information

Passport & Visa Requirements

Please check your passport and visa requirements with your travel agent BEFORE departure. If you need help to obtain your visa, please contact the ESF conference officer.

Insurance

The European Science Foundation (ESF) does NOT provide insurance and do not take any responsibility for accidents or illnesses that might occur during the week or in the course of travel to or from the meeting place. It is therefore the responsibility of participants to check their health insurance requirements.

Calling Austria / Making Calls within Austria

The international dialing code to Austria is 43. When calling within Austria, a 0 must be inserted before the number to be dialed.

For example: +43 5256 6212 when telephoning from abroad; 05256 6212 when calling from within Austria.

Facts for the Traveller

Electricity supply	230V, 50Hz
Time GMT/UTC	plus one hour
Weights & measures	metric
Currency	Euro (EUR)