

EASTERN ALPS NORTH

ABOUT THESE GUIDES

For these guides, the Alps have been divided into six regions:

Western (South):	From the Mediterranean to the Grenoble-Briançon-Susa road
Western (North):	From the Grenoble-Briançon-Susa road to (including) the Franco-Swiss frontier and the Aosta valley
Central (West):	From (including) the Franco-Swiss frontier and the Aosta valley to the Lucerne-Gothard-Lugano road
Central (East):	From the Lucerne-Gothard-Lugano road to (including) the Austro-Swiss frontier and the Adige valley
Eastern (North):	Austria, including the Italo-Austrian frontier
Eastern (South):	The area east of the Adige and south of the Italo-Austrian frontier

Road passes have been given a number identical to that in the guides of the *Ordre des Cols Durs*, marked on the key maps, and listed without description.

Roughstuff routes are abbreviated to one, two or three letters on the key maps; these abbreviations are unique throughout the Alps. These routes are also listed, but in addition are described in more or less detail. Section A contains well documented routes; Section B contains those less well documented, or those where a few words are sufficient, together with a few obvious links about which nothing is known apart from their appearance on the large-scale maps (1:50,000 or 1:100,000).

The roughstuff routes are also given the following two ratings:

(i) VAG = very approximate difficulty -

- E Easy, anything from a short rideable rough section between metalled roads to fairly long paths needing some wheeling
- M Moderate, sometimes hard work, possibly occasional lifting
- D Difficult, often hard work, sometimes involving short carries
- S Severe, some carrying, sometimes double carrying (bike, then luggage)
- VS Very severe, like severe but more so; scrambling may be involved

(ii) Stars - these give a rather subjective idea of how rewarding a pass is, depending mainly on scenery (as seen in fine weather), but also on its advantages as a link between valleys, and on value for effort.

Times given in these guides do not allow for stops. They are often based on very little experience, and the editor will be glad to hear of readers' experiences.

'Rideable' - please bear in mind that, probably, no two people will always agree on the dividing-line between rideable and unrideable; this has become even more true with the advent of mountain bikes.

Updating of guides - comments, amendments, etc. (if possible with exact dates), will be welcomed by the editor, E. D. Clements, 79 Fawley Way, Guildford, Surrey GU1 3GB.



ROUGH-STUFF
FELLOWSHIP

- ii -

ABBREVIATIONS, ETC.

For points of the compass, initial letters are used, e.g. SW. N.
An asterisk before a route in Section B means that no report has been received on that route.
E, M, D, S, VS Grades of difficulty (see above)
F & S (E Alps only) Freytag & Berndt
m metres
M16 (etc.) Michelin map no. 216 (1:200,000 series)
M C2 (etc.) (E Alps only) Michelin 1:400,000 map (no. 426) of Austria
r/r rough or cart roads r/s roughstuff

ROUGHSTUFF IN THE ALPS - SOME TIPS

GENERAL. The average high route in the Alps is much shorter and much steeper, and often of better surface than the longer Scottish routes; compare Lairig Ghru 13 miles r/s, Glen Affric 15 miles r/s, with the mileage quoted in these guides. (These mileages do not include rough but rideable approach tracks.)

FEASIBILITY OF ROUTES. Snow can be a problem on many Alpine routes. As a very rough guide, routes up to 2000m should be possible in fine weather by early June, those of 2000-2400m by early July and those of 2400-2700m by early August; those of over 2700m should be left till August. This applies to average summers. North- and east-facing slopes hold snow much later than those exposed to the sun. Choose a fine day if possible, and do not attempt any of the higher routes soon after a fresh snowfall. Swarms of rivers rising after heavy rain. Any route over about 2000m may prove dangerous if attempted in bad weather. Beginners are advised to start with one or two easy or moderate routes.

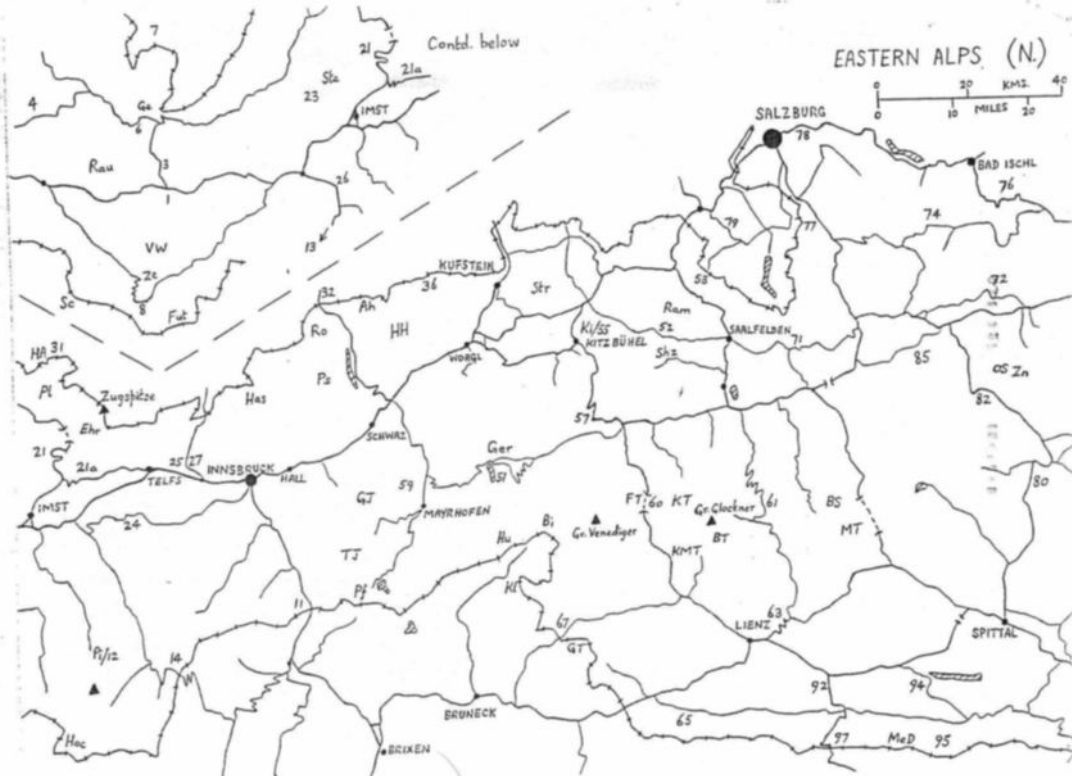
EQUIPMENT. A rucksack, which can take heavy items on one's back when wheeling or carrying, is a great help. The harder the route, and the more luggage you have, the more a large rucksack is likely to reduce double-carrying. Footwear - strong well-soled shoes or light boots are recommended. Training shoes have also been found adequate on many routes; you may get your feet wet, but they soon dry out. Instep crampons have been found useful for crossing snow with a kick; these are 2 in. long, weigh little, cost about 48 and can be worn with training shoes or light boots. For extensive snow on a bright day, goggles may be useful. For whistles, etc., see DISTRESS SIGNALS.

DISTRESS SIGNALS. Use a whistle, torch or flashes of sun on a mirror. Alternatively, shout or wave bright clothing; six regular flashes/notes in a minute. To attract a helicopter, stand still, both arms raised above your head to show you don't need help, stand with one arm up and one down, both at 45 degrees to the horizon.

OTHER INFORMATION. Local weather forecasts can often be obtained at tourist information offices; in Switzerland, you can also dial 162 on a telephone. If you wish to try high routes not covered by this guide, you may find useful information in the Alpine Club guides edited by R. G. Collob and published by West Col Publications (try your local library).

Contd. below

EASTERN ALPS (N.)



THE EASTERN ALPS

Sections A and B have been dispensed with in these guides, as comparatively few r/s routes have been documented here. A number of other routes have been described from their appearance on the 1:50,000 maps, mainly those depicted as mile paths without obviously severe gradients, say steeper than about 1 in 4. Hopefully readers will be tempted to try some of these and let the editor have details of their exploits. V.A.D.s and star ratings have been guessed in many cases.

No difficulties have been encountered with Customs in recent years, the last known incident occurring in 1976, when a party crossing the Hundskohl Joch were escorted by jeep down to Mayrhofen.

All rough or cart roads are graded E (Easy) until more is known about them. The first two lines of each pass description give the mileages of mile path or footpath (r/s) and rough and cart roads (r/r); a crude location on the map 1:200,000 and (for E Alps (B)) Michelin 1:400,000 (no. 426, Austria) maps; and the map number in the Freytag & Berndt (F & B) 1:50,000 series. Metalled roads are assumed to be those coloured full yellow on the Touring Club Italiano (TCI) or Map maps, until better information is forthcoming.

The F & B 1:50,000 series covers Western Austria and the Dolomites (sheets for the latter are preceded by the letter S). Waymarked paths and their numbers are shown, and contours are at 100m intervals. The official Austrian survey maps at this scale show waymarked paths but not their numbers, and contours at 20m intervals; however, they only cover about one-third of the area of an F & B sheet. Kapsner and Tabacco maps are not recommended. All these maps cost between £3 and £3.50 a sheet (1989) from The Map Shop, 15 High Street, Upton-on-Severn, Worcs., WR8 5JH; or from E. Stanford Ltd, 12 Long Acre, London WC2E 9LH.

April 1990

EASTERN ALPS (NORTH)

This guide covers Western Austria, as far east as the Austrian Lake District (Salzkammergut). The columns headed * show the number of stars (see page 1). In the VAD column, SW/NE (for example) means 'south side moderate, north side easy'.

ROAD PASSES (ITALIAN NAMES IN BRACKETS)

1 Arberg	27 Seefeldersattel	71 Dientner Sattel
3 Flexen	31 Amersattel	72 Dachstein (mtn road)
4 Furka Joch	32 Achen	74 Gschnitz
6 Hochtanzenberg	36 Grapung	76 Pötschenhölz
7 Riedberg	51 Gerles	77 Rausfeld
8 Silvretta	52 Griesen	78 Schwefelofen
11 Brenner	53 Hirschbühl	79 Schwarzbachwachtelsattel
13 Reschen	57 Thurn	80 Katschberg
14 Timmelsjoch (Rombö)	59 Zillertalstrasse	82 Radstädtertauern
21 Fern	60 Felbertauerntunnel	85 Wagralner Höhe
21a Holzleithnersattel	61 Nocht	92 Gallbergersattel
23 Nahntennjoch	63 Iselsberg	94 Kreuzberg
24 Kühtaisattel	65 Kartitscher Sattel	95 Nassfeld (Pranillo)
25 Buchen & Mösern	67 Stallerjoch (Stalle)	97 Plöcken (Monte Croce)
26 Pillerhöhe		

ROUGH PASSES

	VAD * Pass		VAD * Pass
Za Zeinischjoch	E 3 1	Pl Pletscher Joch (V.ize)	SW/SE 3 8
VB Verbeliner Winterjochle	M. some	D 4 1	GJ Geisel Joch
Fut Futschöl	S 3 1	TJ Tauer Joch	M 2 8
Hau Haunes Joch, etc.	SW/NE 2 2	Hu Hundskohl Joch	S 3 9
Ge Gemstel	M 2 2	Bl Birnlücke	S 4 9
Ste Steinjochl/Hinterberg		FT Felber Tauern	S 3 10
Joch	D 2 3	KT Kaiser Tauern	VS 3 10
Pl Plansee paths	E 3 3	GT Geisler Thrl	M 2 11
Dr Drwelder Ais	E 3 4	HT Hais-Watriser Thrl	M 2 11
Haa Hochalsattel	S 3 4	MT Berger Thrl	M. some
Pa Pluss Sattel, etc.	M 3 4	MT Mallnitzer or Niederer	
Ro Rotwandl Hütte	E 2 5	Tauern	S 3 12
Ah L. Achenbrenner Hütte, etc.	E 2 5	OS Bockhart Scharls M. some	D 2 12
HN Hinterberg to Hinter-thiersee	E 2 5	OS Oberhütten Sattel	E 1 12
Str Stripsen joch	M 3 5	Zn Znach Sattel	E 2 12
Kl/55 Klitzbühelhorn, etc.	M 3 5	MA Hohenbachgau to Amersveld	M 2 13
WE/EM 3 6		Shr Schanzel	E 2 13
Hoc Hochjoch	S 4 7	Haa Rasmann Sattel	E 1 13
Pl Pitztaler Jöchl	VS 4 7	Kl Klamml joch	E 3 13
		Ger Gerlos old road	E 1 13

KEY TO SKETCH MAPS

Cardinal points of the compass are always parallel to sides of the sketch, with North uppermost, unless a North point is included. Heights of peaks and points on the roughstuff routes are given in metres.

	Railways		Station
	Cable cars and chair lifts		
	Roads, metalled		
	Roads, unmetalled		
	Roughstuff route, or rough roads on a few maps		marked individually
	Other paths and tracks		
	Streams and rivers		
	Lakes		
	Peaks and ridges		
	Glaciers		
	Hamlets and villages		
	Isolated buildings		

2c ZEINISJOCH 1842m Partenen to Galtür: 3 miles r/r

Hair S. SE top: M CH top: F & B 372 or 373 VAD E ***

This is a short cut to the upper part of the Silvretta road, lower and more interesting. Leave the Silvretta road a mile up from Partenen, left at the first hairpin on a steep narrow metalled road. After a short level stretch and easy climb, there are steep zigzags up the final pull to the Speicher Kops das. The old path is to the left of the zigzags. The latter were being made up in 1967.
Allow 3 hours.

Details: A. J. Howarth, 1967.

W VERBELLNER-WINTERJÖCHLE 2320m Zeinisjoch to St Antoni 7 miles r/s, 8 miles r/r

Hair S. SD bottom: SD: M C7 bottom: F & B 372 or 373 VAD M. some D ****

Opposite the inn on the Zeinisjoch, take a rough track starting NW-wards, winding at first, but soon edging round to the N and gently dropping to the Verbella Alm. (A cart track is shown on F & B, starting half a mile W of the Zeinisjoch inn.) There is a short steep section above Verbella, then easy going but hummocky for a long mile before the final steep pull to the pass. Just above is the Neue Weibronner hut, a good place to eat. The pass is a wide grassy saddle, soon descending easily to the NE. Some cow-trampled muddy bits, but mostly a rough, stony, boulder-strewn path for 3 miles leading to a small construction site. From here a new gravel road drops gently down a deserted valley with fine views of the shapely Fatteriol (3056m) to the E. Eventually one reaches an inn, and 3 miles later the old Arlberg road, just above St Antoni.

Time: 5 hours, at least, suggested.

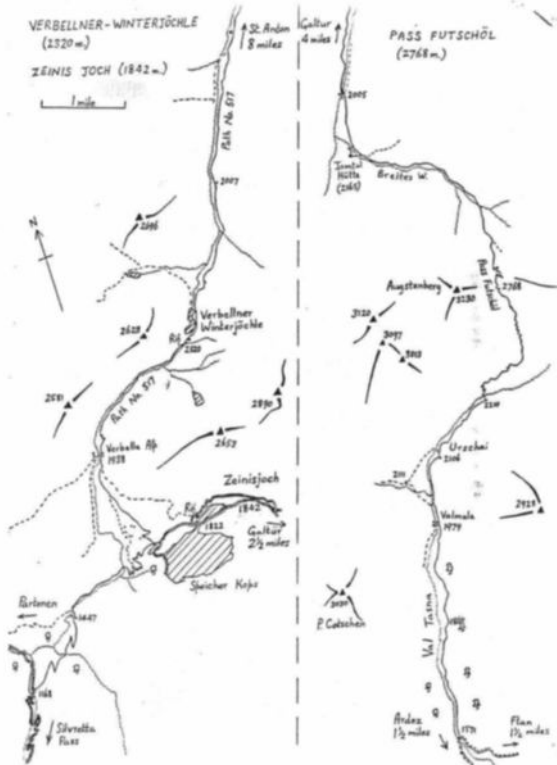
Details: A. J. Howarth, 1967 (no time given).

The following pass rightly belongs in the Central Alps (E) guide, and it will appear there when that guide is revised; but it has been found convenient to include the relevant sketch map, and so also the description, here as well.

Fut PASS FUTSCHÖL 2768m Galtür to Ardez or Scuol 6 miles r/s, 10 miles r/r

Hair S. SE bottom: M CH: F & B 373 VAD S ***

No details. A rough road goes due S from Galtür up the Jantal, becoming a jeep road to the Jantal hut at 2165m, a gradual climb until the last mile. Just before the hut, a path forks off to the left and keeps to the N bank of the Breites Wasser. This is steep and stony over the col, and especially so down the S side to Urschal (2106m); from here a jeep road goes down the E side of the Val Tsauna.



Ge GEMSTELPASS 2009m Mittelberg to Nochtannberg pass: 4.5 miles r/s

Mair S. 501 M C7 topi F & S 364 VAD N **

At the SW end of Mittelberg, take the track to the left, an easy mile path, sometimes rideable, to Hintere Gemstel Alm, 1321m. From the hut here, a steep but not dangerous path embarks on a 1000 ft climb, then levels off but soon climbs again amongst the pastures of Obergemstel Alm (1694m) in a SW-ly direction, fairly steeply at times, to the col. Bear right to the Wäldersstein hut (2009m), where the steep descent to the Nochtannberg pass, visible 1000 ft below, begins.

A little further W, another pass (the Hochalp, 1521m) connects Bead and the Nochtannberg, presumably over similar terrain.

Time: a crossing the other way took four hours.

Details (for the Gemstelpass): R. Perrodin, Dijon, approx. 1970.

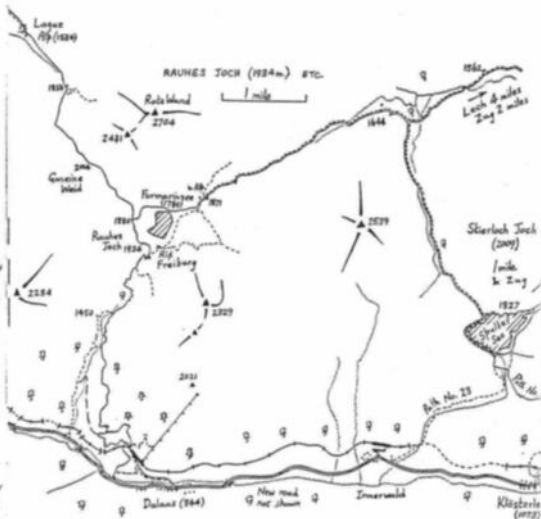
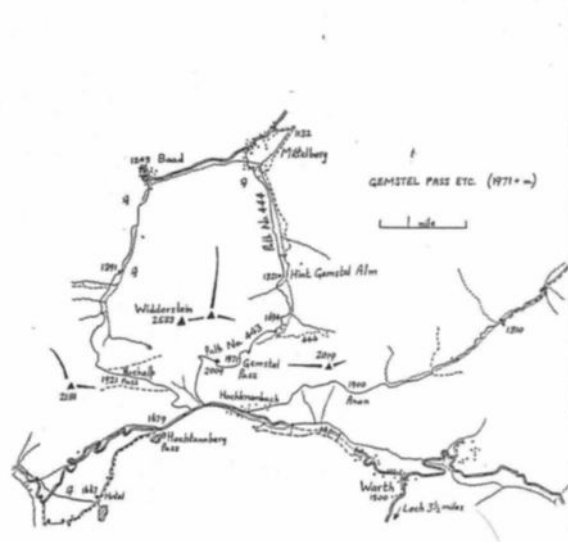
Rau RAUBES JOCH 1934m GMEINE WEIDE 2014m Dalaas to Lech or Saggali:
4 or 7 miles r/s, 8 or 6 miles r/r

Mair S. 40 topi M B7, C7; F & S 371 edge VAD SW/NE **

No details. Take the middle of three paths from the NW end of Dalaas station, and in a long half-mile turn right (northwards) up a steep mile path to the col; the Freiburger hut is nearby. A rough road descends to Zug, for Lech.

The path over Gmeine Weide forks left about half a mile beyond the hut, and after the col descends fairly easily to Lugut Alp. One can combine the northern parts of the two routes to give an alternative to the W side of the Arlberg.

The paths up from Klösterle or Innerwald are very steep, but the Stierloch Joch (2009m), a fairly easily graded mile path between Zug and the Spuller See, could also be combined with the above routes.



Ehr ERHWALDER ALM 1585m Ehrwald to Leutaschi 11 miles r/r (no sketch)

Wair 8, 108, 118; M 55, F 6 bottom; F & B 322 or 352 WAD E ***

This is another road prohibited to cars, according to the F & B 1:200,000 map. A steep track climbs from Ehrwald to the Alm, 1502m, following near the cable car line, and reaches the col a mile further on. From the top, a mostly rideable but rather stony track descends to Tillfussalm (1382m), from where there is a jeep road to Platzi. Fine views to the Zugspitze, highest point of Germany, and of the Wetterstein Gebirge.

Details: R. Ferrodin, Dijon, approx. 1970.

Has HOCHALMSATTEL (OR HOCHALPENSATTEL) 1803m Scharnitz to Risstail 20 miles r/r

Wair 8, 138; M 66; F & B 322 WAD E ***

This is a rough jeep road throughout, prohibited to most traffic. Take the road SE out of Scharnitz, and turn left after half a mile up the Karwendelthal. This is steep at first, but soon levels off, a delightful route through the pine woods eventually coming out into the open with good views. There are 1 in 4 gradients both sides of the col, and the E side is very stony, improving lower down. On the way down, take the left-hand track at any forks, down the V side of the main valley. Eventually one meets a barrier by the rough (?) road from Germany to the Eng Alm. The only continuation in Austria is over the Plumsattel.

Details: E. A. Jowett, 1961, and J. J. Martin, 1960; see also road guide.

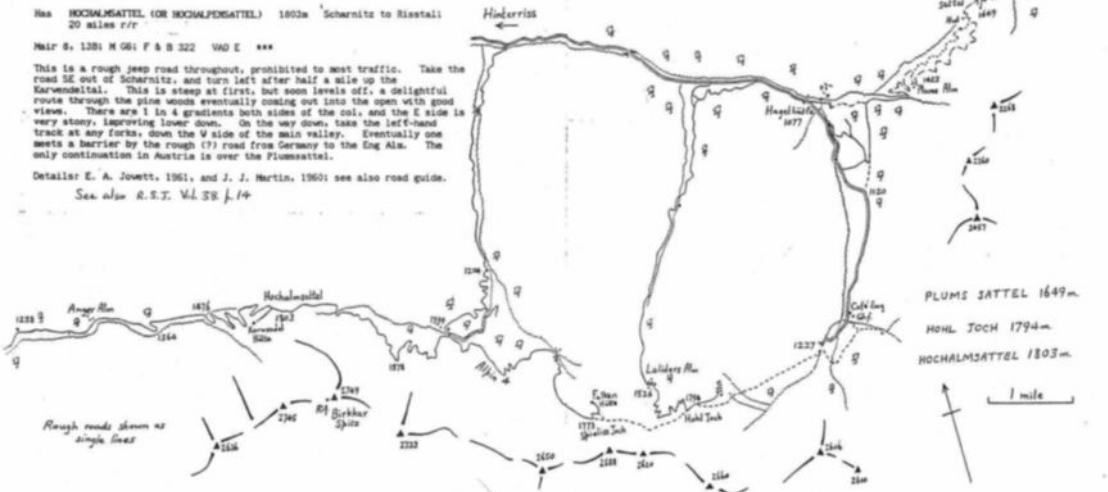
See also R.S.T. Vol. 38 p. 14

Ps PLUMSATTEL 1649m Hinterriis to Pertisau 5 miles r/s, 5 miles r/r

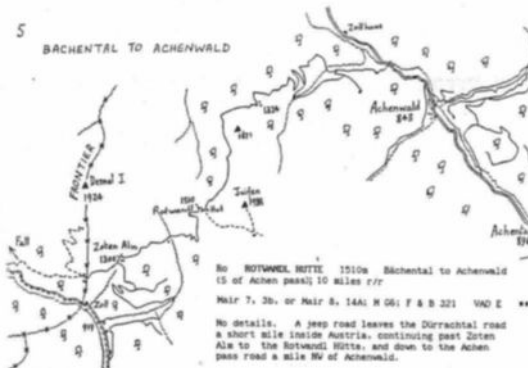
Wair 8, 142, or Wair 7, 30; M 66; F & B 321 WAD N ***

Turn off the road to Eng Alm (café and huts) nature reserve, half a mile beyond the Hagelbütte. There is a rough grassy cart track from Plums Alm to the top, then a very steep zigzag descent to Gern Alm, which is much too steep to ride. Rideable rough road from Gern Alm, which goes on down to Pertisau. Allow 8 hours for this pass plus the Hochalmattel. Details: E. A. Jowett, 1961.

By turning right off the Hochalmattel road 3 miles down the E side just before crossing a main stream, one can take a jeep road up to the Spielass Joch (1772m) below the nearby Falken Hut. No details of this variant. From the Spielass Joch, the path (long-distance Alpine 4) continues with a slight dip to the Hohl Joch (1794m), before descending steeply to Eng Alm. A jeep road also descends from the Hohl Joch to the Hinterriis - Engalm road.



BACHENTAL TO ACHENWALD



No NOTWANDER HÜTTE 1510m Bachental to Achenwald (S of Achen pass); 10 miles r/r

Mair 7, 2b, or Mair 8, 14A; H 56; F & B 321 VAD E **

No details. A jeep road leaves the Durrrachtal road a short mile inside Austria, continuing past Zoten Alm to the Sirtwood Hütte, and down to the Achen pass road a mile NW of Achenwald.

AN L. ACHENBRENNER HÜTTE 1465m ACKERN ALM 1383m Achenwald or Achenal to Landl, for Kufstein, etc.; 2 miles r/s, 17 miles r/r, or 14 miles r/r from Achenal

Mair 7, 4b, 5b, or Mair 8, 15A, 16A; H 56; F & B 321 VAD E **

No details, except from Valepp to Kaiserhaus. The route is marked as a jeep road or cart track on the map except for about 2 miles of mile path near the L. Achenbrenner Hütte, the highest point of the route and a low col. The track from Achenwald is not waymarked; take care to avoid going up the valley heading SSE, about 2 miles from Achenwald. There is another low col at Ackern Alm, 1383m, much further E, where the road to Landl begins. One can also leave the road to Steinberg about 2 miles up from Achenal, on a waymarked route, also a cart track, to the L. Achenbrenner Hütte. The whole route parallels the German frontier, which is only a mile or two to the N.

About a mile before the Erzherzog Johann Klaus hut, another cart road follows the E bank of the main river southwards towards Kaiserhaus, switching to the W bank about 1.5 miles before Kaiserhaus, to negotiate the Kaiserklamm gorge.

In 1970 an anonymous contributor took his bike through these gorges from Valepp in Germany, S past the Erz. Johann Klaus hut and on through the Kaiserklamm gorge. It was not really rideable, but well worth while. It is said to be quite a sight when the sluice gates are opened at Kaiserhaus to allow logs to go down the river in spring.

Times: allow 6-8 hours from the Tegernsee in Germany to Rattenberg in the Inn valley (N-S route through Kaiserhaus).

HN HINTERBERG TO HINTERTHIERSEE (no cols) 20 miles, or less, r/r

Mair 7, 5b bottom, 6b; H 56; F & B 321 VAD E **

No details. This is a route parallel to, and S of, the Achenal-Landl route, part of long-distance path Alpin 4, another jeep road or cart track passing V to E through Kaiserhaus.



HINTERBERG - HINTERTHIERSEE

1 mile



This is all wooded country
Cart roads shown as single lines

Mail 7, 8C; M 16; F & B 301 VAD WE/EM ***

There is a metalled road up to the hotel/restaurant at 1669m, then a metalled path, with some mud, to the summit. See road guide. From the hotel, a path (no details) continues up to the Hornspitz Hütte and down the E side of the mountain, to meet a cart road down to Fuchsham on road no. 164. Or one could take a gradually descending path SE-wards from the hotel to the Pfeiler Alm (there is a cart road up to here from Kitzbühel), climbing again to Lachtal, from where another jeep/cart road descends to the Pletzer hut, then a rough road to Fieberbrunn.

KITZBÜHLER HORN (1996m)
Gaisberg Sattel (1631m)
ETC.

Rough roads and cart roads
Shown as single lines



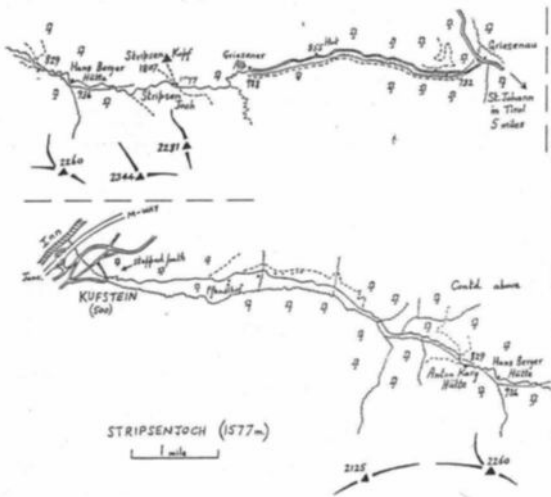
Str STRIPSENTOCH 1577m Kufstein to Kirchdorf; 5 miles r/s, 4 miles r/r

Mail 7, 7B, 8B; M 16; F & B 301 VAD M ***

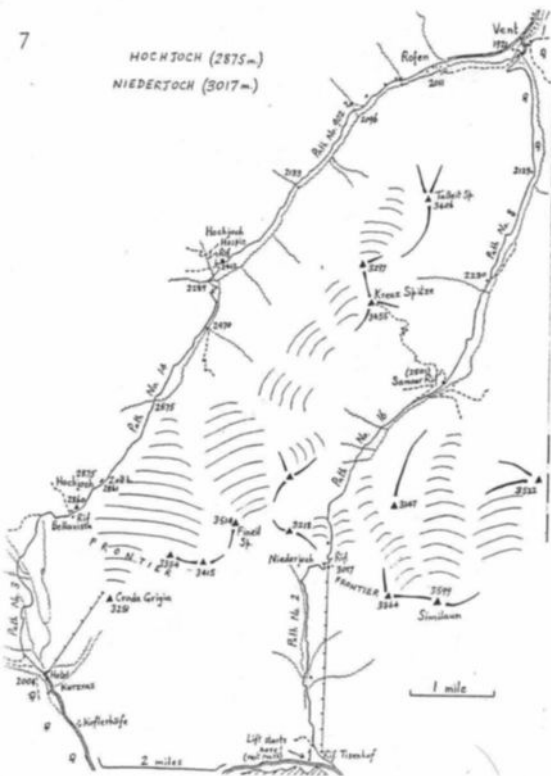
The path (part of long-distance Alpin 4) starts steeply from the NE end of Kufstein, with made steps to Pfandhof (a gasthaus), 45 mins. A good rideable track continues to the Anton Karg and Hans Berger inns (accommodation and food). The climb really begins there, a steep well-made path at first, then a mostly stepped path to the hut on the col. The descent is much steeper, with loose stones and more made steps, slippery after rain, down to the Griesener Alm, from where a good surfaced road leads down to Griesenau. Superb views of the Wilder Kaiser.

Time: 4 hours up, 1.5 hours down.

Details: Mrs M. A. Stephens, 1979.



HOCHJOCH (2875m)
NIEDERJOCH (3017m)



Noc HOCHJOCH (GIOGO ALTO) 2875m Vent to Schnalstal (Val di Senales):
11 miles r/r, 1 mile r/r

Wair 8, 9f; N E8; F & B 251 or 52 VAD 5 ****

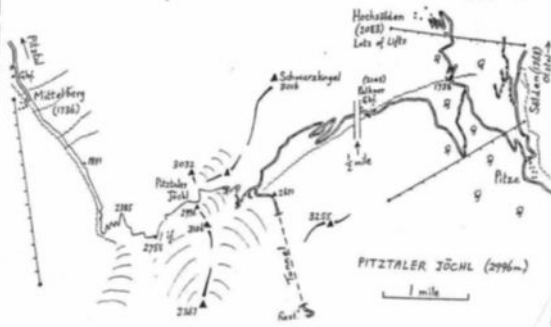
No details. This is probably a very hard, long route, shown as a rough road from Vent to Rufen, then as a mule path the next mile, and finally as just a footpath to the Schöne Aussicht Hütte (Rifugio Bellavista) just over the Italian border. The climb is fairly gradual throughout, except for a steep descent and reascend to cross a side valley just after the Huchjoch Hospiz. The route down the Italian side is shown as a mule path, long and steep.

The nearby Niederjoch (Giogo Basso), 3017m, also from Vent to the Schnalstal, must be even harder, though a mule path is shown up to the Sommer Hut, and another below 2600m on the Italian side. There is a glacier near the top on the Austrian side, and a 30-degree slope at the top of the Italian side down to 2600m.

Pi FITZTALER JOCH 2996m Sölden to Mittelberg: 5 miles r/r, 1 mile r/r

Wair 8, 10f; N E8 top; F & B 251 VAD 15 ****

See the road guide and Cyclocycling no. 34, page 10. The latter gives a full account of this extremely hard and extremely steep crossing, which is NOT recommended without boots and a rucksack to lighten any load on the bike. The average angle of the slope below the Braunschweiger hut to the valley floor is 35 degrees; a Scottish equivalent of this would be the N wall of Glencoe at its steeper parts.



F1 PFITSCHER JOCH (PASSO DI VIZZE) 2251m Ginzling to S. Giacomo
(St Jakob) 3 miles r/r, 6 miles r/r

Hair 8, 150 and 14E, or Hair 7, 4E and 3F1 M G8, H7; F & B 241 or 152
VND NWSE ***
See R.S.I. Vol. 38, p. 42

The detailed road from Mayrhofen through Ginzling continues to the end of the short SW arm of the Speicher Schlegels reservoir (taste lights) there are several tunnels). Leave the road where it doubles back around the lake, for a rough road along the SE bank of the river. This soon becomes an unrideable track of sizeable rocks roughly thrown together, up the Zammer Grund. By taking off pedals and carrying heavy items on his back, F. Wright was able to push slowly with little carrying up the fairly reasonably graded slope. A few glaciers were visible from the top, where there is a hut/restaurant. An unsurfaced road descends to S. Giacomo in the Val di Vizze, from where a detailed road leads to Vipiteno (Sterzing). No customs problems now.

Times: 2.5 hours from reservoir to top, 1.5 hours down to St Jakob.

Details: M. Stephens, August 1984; F. Wright, 17.8.85; and others.

T2 TUXER JOCH 2338m. Kaern (15 miles SE of Innsbruck) to Hintertux
2 miles r/r; 3 miles r/r

Hair 7, 3E, or Hair 8, 1401 M G7, H7; F & B 152 VND M **

No details. A long mile of rough road up the Kaserer Winkl goes to the foot of a good lift. The path follows up near this lift and is very steep for well over a 1000 ft climb. The gradient eases as one approaches the col. A cart road continues to the Tuxer Joch hut, then descends with many signposts below first a chair lift, then a cable car, down to the valley road just above Hintertux.

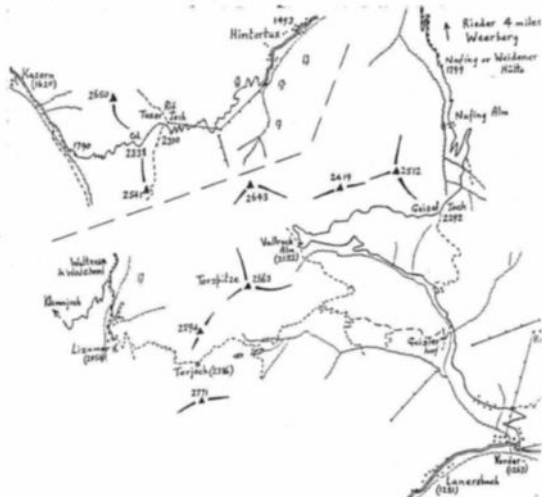


GJ GEISEL JOCH 2292m Rieder to Vorderlanersbach, etc. 15 miles r/r

Hair 8, 15C bottom, or 7, 4D bottom; M H7; F & B 152 VND E ***

No details, but shown as a cart/jeep road throughout from the Weidener (Nafing) hut to Vorderlanersbach.

The Tuxer Joch (2388m) and Klammer Joch (2359m) are inside the military area; the boundary of this is shown on Hair, the F & B 1:300,000, and German Reise- und Verkehrsverlag 1:200,000, but not on the 1987 Michelin or F & B 1:50,000. The Klammer Joch is shown as a cart road throughout on its E side; the cart road continues to a hilltop at 2448m, then zigzags down to the Nafing and Weidener, on the rough road up to Lizum. This provides a short circular tour (11 miles r/r) from Weidener, if the military area is not in use. The W side of the Klammer Joch, also both sides of the Tuxer Joch, are shown as waymarked paths, not particularly steep. (Do not confuse this Klammer Joch with the Klammer Joch on the frontier NE of Brunico.)



Hu HUNDSKEHL JOCH 2557m Eastern (19 miles NE of Brunico) to Barendsd:
8 miles r/s. 4 miles r/r

Mail 7, 6E; M 17 bottom; F & B 152 VAD S ***

This route is well described in the Rough-Stuff Journal for Jan./Feb. 1977, pp. 10-13, starting from St Peter in Alrn. However, it appears from the F & B map that the long, steep, nearly 3000 ft climb through the woods can be avoided by a cart road from Kasern; this ascends also through the woods to Waldrer Alm (top), 2068m, a much shorter climb. After contouring W or SW from Waldrer Alm, this cart road appears to meet (and cross) path no. 18 coming up from St Peter (at the cross and spring mentioned in the R5J) at the top of the latter's steep climb. Here one turns due N; the path is stony but much easier than lower down. After a final pull, the col is on a razor-edge ridge stretching for miles on either side, with distant views in all directions.

The way down starts steeply, passing left of a small lake, after which the whole valley becomes a huge boulder field. The path through this is marked by tall poles, some of which are missing, and sometimes squeezes between huge boulders, so that the hiker has to be lifted shoulder high to get through. Twice one has to wade the river. The boulders last for nearly 2 miles; then the path becomes easier across a high alp. Much lower down it becomes a rideable track to Barendsd, from where there is now a metalled track to Mayrhofen.

Allow about 9 hours for the crossing.

Details: A. E. Matthews, 1976; his party had frontier difficulties and were escorted down to Mayrhofen. There are probably no such problems now.



Bi BIRNLÜCKE 2667m Eastern (19 miles NE of Brunico) to Krimml:
7 miles r/s. 10 miles r/r

Mail 7, 7E; M 17; F & B 152 VAD S ****

A hard route and, like most passes of this height, not recommended in bad weather or early in the year when there is a lot of snow about. The road up the Alm continues past Prettau and Kasern to end at Trinklstein, 2 miles on (some interesting miniature churches hereabouts). Easy enough for a mile or so, the path becomes steep with many zigzags, rocks and boulders on its 1000m climb to the col, equivalent to climbing Snowdon from Llanberis, but on a much rougher path. From the Birnlücke hut at 2441m, the path goes up a ridge (no water). There was some snow at the top in mid-August 1985.

The descent into Austria is even steeper and rougher, again with many zigzags, but the path is well marked and unmistakable on both sides of the top when there is little snow about. The Alm is well populated, but the Krimmler Achenal has only a few farms and a sawmill by the almost level unsurfaced road to the top of the famous series of waterfalls above Krimml. Near the Gasthof Schönangerl above the main middle fall the track splits: right for Krimml, left for the Gerlos pass.

Time: allow probably 8 hours for the footpath section alone.

Details: F. Wright 15.8.85.



FT FELDER TAVERN 2481m Matrei to Mittersill: 9 miles r/s, 3 miles r/r
(or 15 if main road is avoided)

Hair 7, SD, SE; N 77; F & S 121 or 382 VAD 5 ***

The very busy main road, with about ten tunnels, up to Matraier Tauernhaus (a good place to stay), can be avoided by tracks, old road, and footpaths to the W of the new road. From there, a chair lift, which takes bikes, goes up to a hut at 1985m, and a good easy path contours the hillside to join the original path, now little used. This little-used path roughly follows the line of the chair lift, for these not wishing to use the latter. A grass road continues up the main valley in hairpins, obviously made when the new pylons were put in, as it stops at the last one before the top. (There was a pylon line over the top in 1953 - E.D.C.) One has to cross onto the old path - small snowfield, not a problem.

The descent to Hintersee is long and steep, with a short easier section midway. Much carrying is needed. About 1.5 miles from the top, a path forks left, which should be avoided as it is precipitous lower down. So keep right here, over a slight bluff, before the interminable descent to Hintersee continues. Fine view of the Freiwald opposite. A rough road continues down to the main road, just before a tunnel. No bypass to this tunnel is shown on the large-scale map, but just beyond it a small road is shown just W of the main road, right down to Mittersill.

Details: Mrs M. A. Stephens, August 1964; R. Sauvagat, 1957; times not given.

KT KALSER TAVERN 2518m Utterndorf to Kals: 8 miles r/s, 10 miles r/r

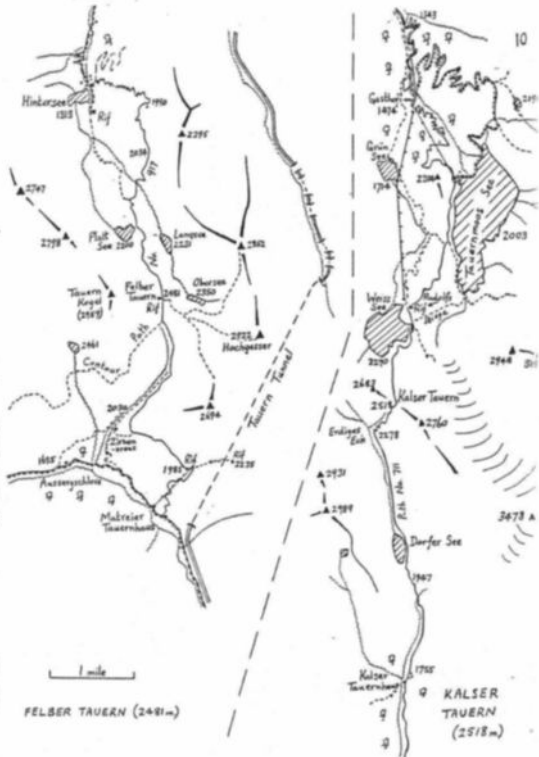
Hair 7, SE top; N 77; F & S 122 VAD 5 (S if the 'Stiege' can be avoided) ***

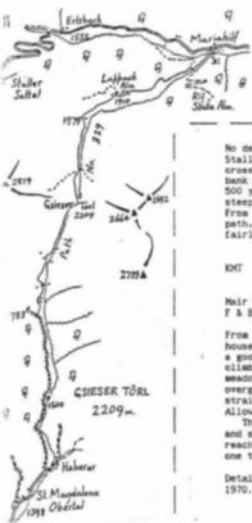
There is a metalled road to Erdinger Boden, then a five-mile climb on a rough road (metalled now) to the Tauernseesee. Or one can take the fairly easy, sometimes boggy, path below the cable car lift to the lake. The path along the W side of the lake is rideable to a fork of paths three-quarters of a mile from the top station of the cable car. Our correspondent missed this fork, and kept on the left-hand path, which soon became rough and boggy, with many boulders, needing carrying. The 'Stiege' (staircase) marked on the map is a very steep 'rasc' slanting across a 200 ft high cliff, and needs a double carry and great caution. The Rudolphshütte (cafe, etc.) is just over the top of this. There were many snowdrifts on the final easier ascent to the col.

The first 1000 ft or so of the descent is very awkward; no path, just paint marks on the rocks. A short cliff, followed by a scree slope, then a narrow path to the top of Erdinger Eck (fine view), where the path improves, but still the occasional carry across a rock landslide is needed. By the Durfer See one has to carry across a mass of boulders that made a dam to form the lake. After this one can ride most of the way to Kaiser Tauernhaus, whence a jeep road leads to Kals.

Time: not given, but a long day!

Details: R. Sauvagat, 1957.





GT GIESER TÖRL 2209m St Jakob
in Deleggen to St Magdalena in
Gelen and Obertal: 5 miles r/r.
2 miles r/r

Mair 6, 2C bottom; Mair (50Gstrol) 14A
bottom: M 18; F & B 53 VAD M **

No details. This is an alternative to the
Staller Sattel. Turn off this road at Mariashilf,
cross the main stream, and follow a path on the SE
bank of a side stream (the Lapp Bach) for about
500 yards before crossing this and climbing
steeply through the forest to Lappach Alm (1910m).
From here over the route is shown as a mile
path, with easier gradients to the col, but still
fairly steep on the descent into Italy.

KNT KALS-MATREIER TÖRL 2207m Kals to Matrei:
4 miles r/r, 3 miles r/r

Mair 6, 4B, 4C, or Mair 7, 9E, 9F; M 37, 38;
F & B 181 VAD M **

From Grossdorf, near Kals, go up to the last
houses and into the valley on the right. It is
a good forest track, almost level at first, then
climbing very steeply to the left below the
meadow. It is less steep, but narrow and rather
overgrown through these scrubby meadows, then
straight up to the col through open grassland.
Allow at least 3 hours to the top from Grossdorf.

The meadow track down from the col is too steep
and stony to ride, but after an hour or so one
reaches the forest, where a better track allows
one to ride down to Matrei.

Details: R. Perrodin, Dijon, date not known, about
1970.

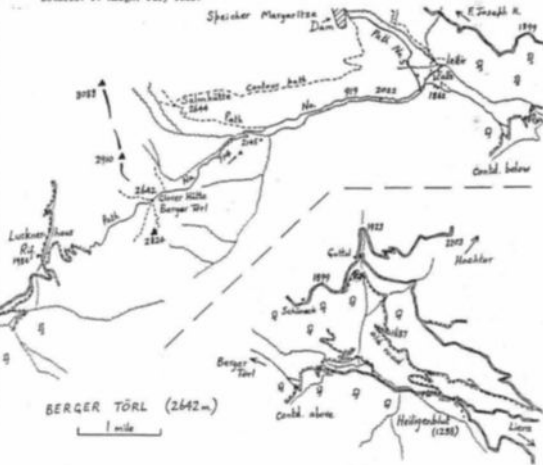


BT BERGERTÖRL 2651m Kals to Heiligenblut or Franz Josef's Höhe road:
6 miles r/r, 2 miles r/r

Mair 6, 5B bottom, or Mair 7, 10E; M 37 bottom; F & B 181
VAD M, some D ***

There is a metalled road from Kals to the Lucknerhaus (restaurant, etc.).
A jeep road strikes off to the right, about 250 yards before the hut,
becoming a narrow path to the col after about a mile; the route follows the
line of the cableway which takes provisions up to the Gleror hut. One can
stay the night here, in season, at the col. An easy path leads down to and
along the Leittertal about four miles from the col and just above the Leitter
falls. The main path crosses the river and continues down to Heiligenblut,
joining a cart road from Wirtshaus Alm two miles before the village. Just
before crossing the river (Leitter) above the falls, a path goes off to
the N. This path is hard going, very steep in places, with a lot of under-
growth. It climbs to a dam, where there is a good view of the Gross
Glockner, and a gravel road continues to join the metalled road to the Franz
Josef's Höhe (fine view of the Gross Glockner from this road also, and of
the Panterzen glacier). Above the hotel, a good track continues up the
valley past the Hofmanns hut, again with fine views, but it is a dead end.

Details: J. Haigh, July 1962.



MT MALLNITZER or NIEDERER TAVERN 2446m Bockstein to Mallnitz: 6 miles r/s, 10 miles r/r, avoiding tunnels

Mair 6, 7B, or Mair 7, 12E; M L7 bottom: F & B 191 VAD S ***

At the SW end of Bockstein, fork left on a narrow steep rough road to avoid the three long tunnels on the new road up to Sportgastein. Turn left at Sportgastein, to the S, on an almost level rideable road across the meadows; this track ends at Veit Alm, where a very steep path, narrow at times, climbs with many zigzags between two branches of the stream. The gradient eases at the top of this section, and the path crosses the stony western slopes of a low ridge running N from the col. The Hagener hut stands on the col, above a last steep rocky slope.

Descend almost due S; below 2300m the path is shown as a mule track, again zigzagging between two parallel streams. Lower down it becomes a jeep track, unrideable, across the meadow. Eventually one reaches the Jesing hut, useful for a meal. A better road, but still too stony to ride, continues down from the hut, meeting a rideable road about two miles above Mallnitz.

Time: allow at least 4 hours up, 2.5 hours down.

Details: E. Perrodin, Dijon, date unknown (probably around 1970).

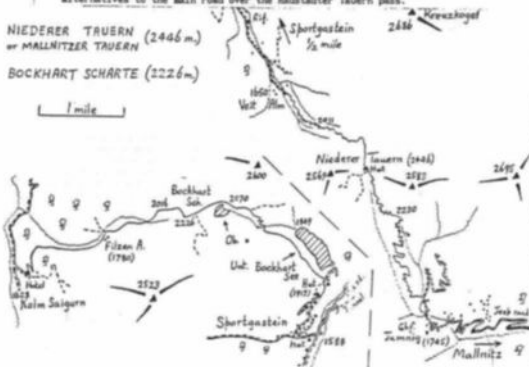
BS BOCKHART SCHARTE 2226m Kals Saigurn to Sportgastein: 5 miles r/s, 1 mile r/r

Mair 6, 8B, 7B, or Mair 7, 11E, 12E; M K7, L7 bottom: F & B 191 VAD N, some D **

No details. From the hotel Ammererhof (1628m) at the head of Müttwinkeltal, a mule track ascends easily to Filzen Alm. Thereafter there is a fairly steep path over the col and down to the Ober Bockhart See; then it is easily graded to the Bockhart See hut (1917m) and steep again till it meets a rough road down to Sportgastein. The following two routes are alternatives to the main road over the Radstädter Tauern pass.

NIEDERER TAVERN (2446m)
or MALLNITZER TAVERN

BOCKHART SCHARTE (2226m)



OS OBERHÜTTEN SATTEL 1866m Forstau to Hinterweisspriach: 2 miles r/s, up to 15 miles r/r ?

Mair 7, 15D, or Mair 47; M M7 top: F & B 202 VAD E *

No details. This is apparently a jeep road from above Forstau to the Oberhütte by the lake on top of the pass. A path goes down to the head of the Weisspriachtal; from there a rough road, shown detailed after Hinterweisspriach, goes on down the valley.

Zn ZNACH SATTEL 2059m Ficht Freunegg (near Schladaing) to Hinterweisspriach: 4 miles r/s, up to 12 miles r/r ?

Mair 4, 7; M M7 top: F & B 202 VAD E **

No details. This route is shown as a rough road on Michelin and F & B up to Ursprung Alm, then as a jeep road up to the Giglachsee hut, a little below the col; a path continues over the top and down to Gräimster Alm, with fairly easy gradients, followed by an equally easily graded mule path down to the Weisspriachtal.



MoD MEL E DIS 1578m Strang to Paularo 2.5 miles r/s, 6 miles r/r
(see sketch map)

Hair 5, 7E; M L3; F & B 223 VAD H **

A full description is given in the road guide.



RA ROHRSCHWANG (NEAR FUSSEN) TO AMMERWALD 1431m (No sketch)
2 miles r/s, 7 miles r/r

Hair 8, 9A; M E5; F & B 352 VAD E **

Soon after the start of the track up to Neuschwanstein Castle (cycling strictly forbidden on this), turn right on a good track (jeep road, on map, to col), rideable where gradients permit, over the low pass to Ammerwald. The informant (anonymous, date unknown) makes no mention of the steep 1000 ft descent to Ammerwald, which is shown as a footpath on F & B. No frontier formalities. If approaching from the W, there is a good rideable track from Unterpinning, passing just N of the Alpsee, to the start of the route.

Time: allow 2 or 3 hours.

Shz SCHWAZEL (SPIELBERG HUT) 1332m Fleberbrunn to Seilbach 7 miles r/r (no sketch map)

Hair 7, 9C; M J6; F & B 382 VAD E **

No details. Presumably a very easy low col. A rough road goes up past Trislegg to Burgwald, then a cart road over the top (Spielberg hut on map) to Seilbach. The route is marked on Hair and on the F & B 1:500,000 map, as an almost straight connecting link.

Rax RAMMER SATTEL 1202m Hochfilzen to Lofer 2 miles r/s, 6 miles r/r (no sketch map)

Hair 7, 9C, 10B; M J6, K5; F & B 101 VAD E *

A very easy route crossing an army firing range, so one has to wait if firing is in progress. There is a good track up to the col, and a narrower track down the NE side, but mostly rideable where gradients permit. Later one meets a rough road; this joins road no. 311 about 4 miles SE of Lofer. A further 2 miles SE on this main road sees the start, at Weissbach, of the Hirschbühl pass into Germany (see road guide, no. 53).

Details: anon., date not known.

K1 KLAWELJOCH (PASSO DI GOLLA) 2298m Bain in Taufers (Riva di Tures) to Erisbach 13 miles r/r (no sketch map)

Hair (Sgettirol) 13A, 14A; M 18 top; F & B 152 VAD E ***

The detailed road up the Val di Riva ends at a car park half a mile beyond Bain. The rough road to the top is a four-mile push, rideable slowly downhill, and just negotiable by cars. There is a restaurant on the way up, and quite pretty views, also some deserted buildings just before the top for shelter if wet. If one doesn't mind ignoring the official notices at the top, one can continue down to a road in the Defereggental, six miles down to Oberhaus Ala, and another four to Erisbach, probably easy enough going.

Details (W side only): F. Wright 14.8.85.

S1b GERLOS PASS (OLD ROAD) 1507m (No sketch map); 5 miles r/r

Hair 7, 6D, 7D; M 17; F & B 152 VAD E *

An easy rough-road alternative to the higher new road.