

First Timer's Guide to WYWOP

Written by your trusty fleisch loving fagott bassoon

March 20, 2019

<DISCLAIMERS>

1. This guide is in no way endorsed by or supported by the Mid-Europe festival. All views expressed herein are completely my own, and thus should be ignored by pretty much everyone.
2. An earlier unrated and unedited version of this document never existed, just like the Star Wars Holiday Special. If such a version had existed, it may or may not have been frowned upon by the Planai Cows. I cannot confirm or deny any of this.
3. I'm American, so literally everything here is coming from an American perspective. Some parts of this guide may be applicable to others as well. I'll leave it to you to figure out which parts those are.
4. Comments marked with a * may be legal in Austria but illegal in the states for those between 16 and 21 years of age. Will there be legal ramifications? No. Might there be parental ramifications? Who knows. It's probably best if you chat with them if you plan on partaking in anything that may be illegal at home.
5. If you're wondering why this document is so beautiful, it's because it's made with L^AT_EX. Even if you don't understand any of the content, just admire how nice it looks
6. That was the last disclaimer, but for this one. The real content you should ignore starts now.

<\DISCLAIMERS>

So you've decided you like music, mountains, rain, Austria, socializing at the pub* or any combination thereof and want to attend WYWOP. You have questions though...questions which need answers! This guide answers those question...and then questions those answers so you can look like a pro WYWOPer even on your first go around.

No need to thank me now. You can say "Dankeschön" later...that means "thank you very much" by the way.¹

First things first: what does WYWOP even stand for? It's a commonly held belief that WYWOP stands for "World Youth Wind Orchestra Project." You might also hear "Weltjugendblasorchester-projekt,"² but the acronym is a bit harder to pronounce.

Applying to WYWOP

The application process is arduous and challenging...only the few select are chosen. How do you ensure you are chosen? Read on!

One of the biggest questions people have about the application is "should I do half or full board." Full board is the WYWOP experience...3 squares a day, the ~~"Fyre Festival" of Wind Music~~ "all inclusive" cruise of music festivals. Half board skimps out on the lunch, meaning you have to go hunt down your own lunch. This is fine if you enjoy eating your body weight in Kebap (see below), but you'll likely spend some time every day hiking back up to Hauptplatz (see below). On your first go around, do full board. You'll spend more time meeting people and will still be able to eat even if you haven't figured out how to use Austrian currency yet.

Easily the hardest question on the application is about why you would like to participate in WYWOP. Search your soul and be honest. Recommended answers involve gushy fruity stories about how moved you are by music. Bonus points if you compose a song about how much you love music akin to "Let Me Be the Music". Honestly, how better to express your love of music other than with music!

Last note: Birthdate. If you are less than sixteen, you REALLY shouldn't apply. You're not eligible, you won't get in, and you will just make the WYWOP gods angry they had to take the time to reject you. Why is the limit 16? Well, one year a couple of 13 year olds got in. They got eaten by the Planai cows. RIP.

¹Fun Austrian Pastime #1: use different words for things from English for no particular reason

²Fun Austrian Pastime #2: cram a bunch of words together and pretend that it is a real thing...since WYWOP is on Austrian turf, we'll let them pretend

Paying for WYWOP

Congratulations on getting accepted. Now you have to pony up for the delicious musical goodness you are about to enjoy. Like back in the middle ages, you have to pay for WYWOP via a bank wire (though it's rumored card payment is around the corner!). For Americans, this means you might have to go down to your bank and talk to a real person. I know banks can seem like scary places, but trust me, they'll help you out nicely when you say you're wiring money. Note that the actual "fee" is not all you'll have to pay. In total you will pay

- The fee (340 whatever euro)
- The EU banking fee (like 19 euro or some such)
- The cost to convert the money to the inferior currency
- Possibly another fee for doing the wire

So just be prepared. The second one is important because you have to add that to the total you want to send. Most banks do this for you, but some don't. I forgot this once, and I was severely reprimanded by the Planai Cows.³

They'll ask you a bunch of other questions too, like who the recipient is and where they live. I always say "Mid-Europe" and the location as "Schladming". This seems to work, even if the banker asks you, "What's a Schladming?" There'll be a comment section too. Be clear here: name, instrument, full/half board, maybe WYWOP as well. Better to have more information than not enough.

Pro-tip: If you have a friend with a European bank account, and can successfully coerce them, they can probably wire the money from their account, and you can pay them back. This saves you the EU banking fee.

Preparing for WYWOP

Congratulations. You're actually going to WYWOP, now what? Time to start preparations. Somewhere around a month before hand, you'll get music, the schedule, and part assignments. The question always is, "How much should I prepare the music?" This is a tough one to answer since people have very different amounts of time, ability, and familiarity with the music. I think a safe answer is "come prepared." You should be aware if you have any exposed parts or solos and have them pretty much under your fingers, otherwise you're dragging the group down. There is

³It turns out I was actually right, and Wells Fargo screwed up and "forgot" to send the fee over. They returned the money three years later, vindicating me. Regardless, the cows are no more fans of excuses than they are of getting shortchanged.

definitely time to become familiar with mildly tricky parts during the week, but not really time to hammer out really difficult technical passages.

Sometimes the section leaders have the participants play passages from the music to see how well prepared people are, and whether solos or parts need to be moved around. ~~I've never had to do this because I'm a bassoon god.~~ (Apologies, oh vaunted Planai Cows. Let's try again). ~~I've never had to do this because you can't ever hear the bassoons anyway.~~ (I'll quit while I'm behind here). Be prepared for having to play through some of the tricky passages, and if this worries you, PRACTICE! It's important to understand that the ultimate purpose isn't to judge and rank the musicians, but to ensure that we'll put together a killer concert at the end of the week. Remember the point is to make great music, have fun, and improve both individually and collectively, not to compete and judge. If you worked hard on a solo and still lost the part, you're still a better musician for it.

Aside from practicing, you should DEFINITELY listen through the pieces. While you can get away without having done so, you'll get more out of the week if you are familiar with what's going on before the first play through on Sunday.

If you're stressed about time running out to practice, a visit to <http://howlongtilwywop.com> is sure to relieve you.

Packing for WYWOP

Don't be the person who shows up without their instrument. Here are things you should bring

- Your instrument
- Instrument accessories. If you need a straight mute for one part, bring it. If you've prepared, there's no reason for you NOT to know what accessories you'll need and to have packed them. Not showing up with the proper materials to do your job is not acceptable in a professional setting, and reflects poorly on you at WYWOP. And it makes the Planai Cows angry. Reeds, tools, and swabs all fall into this category.
- Your Music. While there are ways to print in Schladming, it's a pain and a waste of time for the people who have to do it. Bring your parts, and ideally all the parts for your instrument. That way if you have to switch around, you already have the music, and we won't be slowed down if for some reason someone happens to miss a page or piece.
- Your concert dress. For Americans, traditional black and white. If you don't bring this, you get to wear a Dirndl or Lederhose (which is probably cooler anyway!). They're expensive, though. Might be worth it to toss in an extra bowtie if you have one as well, since someone ALWAYS forgets.

- Clothes. People generally don't care what you wear, and dress ranges from super casual to super fly. I prefer super fly, but others wear shorts and t-shirts. If you want to wear Trachten all day every day...well...Prost!
- WARM clothes. It gets chilly in Schladming at night. Be sure to have a jacket. Some nights we'll be out quite late*, and you don't want to have to bail because you're cold. If you plan to go up one of the mountains (see below) you'll want even more warm gear. A warmer jacket, and perhaps even a hat or gloves.
- Rain gear. The rain in Spain may fall mainly on the plain, but the rain in Schladming falls annoyingly, incessantly, and everywhere. Lets put it this way, if I had my choice between listening to piccolos tuning minor seconds or the rain in Schladming, I might at least think for a second before choosing the rain. It's not THAT bad, but sometimes just...annoying. (Sometimes it DOES pour though). Make sure you have at least an umbrella for walking back and forth between the Royer, JUFA, and congress (see below). Also potentially appropriate: rain jacket and boots. I usually just rock an umbrella and hope for the best.
- Water bottle. Staying hydrated is essential and there are no water fountains.
- A power adapter. If you want to charge your cell or computer, you'll need the right plug. It has two circular pins. For most laptops and cell chargers, you don't need a 240v-120v transformer. They're more expensive and only required for some devices. Look at your plug to see if it has a voltage range that it accepts. If it goes up to 200-something, you're good. If it only is in the 100's, you'll need a transformer.
- Starter Euro. It's good to have a few euro (maybe 40-50) to deal with any contingencies. I leave mine in my wallet all year round to remind me that it will hopefully only be a short time until I'm at WYWOP again. Plus, it's a good conversation starter...but only in the sense that I can pay people euro to talk to me instead of walking away. It's almost like real friends!
- Your Passport

One final note, if your suitcase rivals your person either in weight or size, you may find it unwieldy getting on and off trains, especially if you have your instrument, too, and double especially if you have a broken shoulder. Usually there are 3-4 steps to get on the train, and often times a gap to cross as well. If you have quick or multiple train changes, it may be a pain. Just something to keep in mind whether to bring your contemporary wind band composer bronze statue collection.

Planning your Travel

Travelling is likely the hardest part, especially if you're coming from overseas. The best places to fly to are probably Munich and Vienna. From either, you can take the train all the way to Schladming.

Depending on your flight, you may have to go through customs, or even recheck your bag (as in the US). It's good to know ahead of time. Ask the ticket agent when you check in whether you'll have to do any of this.

Unless you are a heartless musical robot,⁴ you'll probably want to spend some time actually seeing things. Plan some time on either end of WYWOP to go exploring, whether it be more time in Schladming, or spending time in Munich, Salzburg, Vienna, or wherever. If you don't get to Europe often, might as well make the most of it! You can get anywhere on the train.⁵ Just don't get on the wrong train and end up stuck somewhere in Austria and then show up late on Sunday...cough...cough. If you DO do that, however, you can appease the Planai cows by taking out your instrument and making a video of yourself practicing on the platform while waiting.

One important issue is carrying on instruments. Airlines have wildly varying policies. As a bassoonist, my instrument is technically above most carry on limits. This is not an issue on US based airlines, as they are required by law to take your instrument as carry on if it fits. This law, however, does not apply to European airlines. They have their own rules. Make sure you know what they are! Rules might be for weight as well as size. I've had to argue with a check-in agent because I didn't know about the weight limit. Fortunately nobody checks sizes or weights at the gate itself, so all you need to do is not have your instrument on you when you check-in. If you are on the edge of the limit, if possible, either leave it with a friend while you check-in, or many airports have bag drops for a couple of bucks. This saved me flying back from Munich once: drop off bassoon at held baggage, check in no problem, get bassoon, go to gate. Bonus points if you can snag one of those "approved cabin baggage" tags for it. Then you really won't have any issues.

Real Testimonials:

I have not yet been able to fly internationally without checking my bari. I always bubble wrap it extensively inside its case, apply MANY stickers reading "FRAGILE, This is a musical instrument" with imagery of music notes and saxophones in case of language barrier... And usually, it turns out fine. Only once was it damaged.

bassoon is good so long as they don't try to weigh it or size it at checkin... which air berlin used to do randomly⁶⁷⁸

Horns don't have a problem if you have a detachable bell because this makes the case fit easily in the overhead bin. If you have a fixed bell case like me it gets harder. Only once has my case fit in the overhead bin on a domestic flight. Every other time I have had to be very nice and ask to store it in the flight attendants luggage storage.

⁴which we all undoubtedly are...

⁵except Lungau

⁶Note: Air Berlin has since changed their policy to accommodate slightly larger instruments

⁷Note Note: Air Berlin has since become not a thing

⁸Note Note Note: Since acquiring Air Berlin, Lufthansa has also amended their instrument policy similarly

International flights have much larger overhead bins so I have never had a problem storing my horn on those flights.

You can have some trouble with a screw bell case too. If the plane is full and there is minimal space it hard to get it to fit. Just be really nice to the flight attendants and it seems to work out!

You can have some trouble with a screw bell case too. If the plane is full and there is minimal space it hard to get it to fit. Just be really nice to the flight attendants and it seems to work out!

I've never had any problems taking my bassoon and backpack onboard with me on domestic flights. However, flying Lufthansa to Vienna was different because my check-in attendant said I couldn't carry on two items more than 8 kilos (I think?) so under the plane my backpack went.

Anyway, point is, be prepared.

For taking the trains, know that you have to buy your ticket before you get on the train. I try to buy them online beforehand just to not have to worry. I use <https://www.raileurope.com/index.html> which aggregates most rail systems. Sometimes it doesn't find them though, and you might have to look at DeutscheBahn (<https://www.bahn.de/p/view/index.shtml>) or ÖBB (<http://www.oebb.at/de/>).⁹ Each may have different prices, so it may pay to check different sites, and often times prices will be cheaper at the station. On some lines you may need to get your ticket time-stamped before boarding. This is usually true if you didn't get a ticket for a specific time, and the time stamp machines are usually at the start of the platform.

A further note about trains is whether or not to reserve seats. If you do, it's a few euros, but you'll know exactly where you will be able to sit. If you don't, you may have to hunt around for a seat which is free, which may be difficult if you are small and have the aforementioned large suitcase or instrument. The trains will have signs above seats indicating which seats are reserved. If you sit in one that's reserved, you will probably have to find another seat when the reservation holder arrives. Advice from experience: If you're travelling with a broken shoulder, get a reservation.

In recent years, there has been a shuttle arranged between Munich and Schladming for WAWOP participants (the adult version of WYWOP). If there is space available, extra seats are generally made available to WYWOP participants. It's usually 20-30 euro one way!

If you are arriving or leaving at an odd time, you may hear something called "meat wagon service." I made the mistake once of assuming they delivered Planai Cow steaks to your door. I was sorely mistaken, and the Planai Cows were none too pleased. It's actually "mietwagenservice," (again with the jamming words together...) which is something like "car for hire." It's equivalent is an airport shuttle service in the states. Request a quote here if you need it:

⁹Fun Austrian Pastime #3: Put dots on random letters to make it hard for anyone else to type the language

http://www.mietwagenservice.at/index_e.php

See figures 1 and 2 in case you get confused about which is which.



Figure 1: American Meat Wagon

Arriving at WYWOP

Now that you're in Schladming, the first thing you'll want to do is head to the JUFA. If your room is not ready, drop your bags off at the front desk and go walk around. Note that you don't actually have to book your room yourself. The Planai Cows will ensure it's taken care of (so long as you don't upset them!) If you are arriving Saturday, you'll have to book your own room for the night. Soon enough, everyone else will be around.

Often the JUFA won't have rooms ready when you arrive, and sometimes they're not ready until after the first rehearsals have started. Either stuff your bags in a friend's room, or the staff will lock



Figure 2: Austrian Mietwagen

your things in a back room for you. Just make sure you're not in the back room while everyone is leaving for rehearsal, lest you get left behind and can't find where everyone went...cough...cough. Usually the first thing is sectionals and introductions (be sure to know your name, instrument, home country, and how many years you've done WYWOP), and then you're off on your week! Figure 3 is a handy map from the train station to the JUFA.

Leaving WYWOP

:(

Due to the party* on Saturday night, you don't want to leave until at least Sunday. If you have to get out early, don't book a flight from Munich before around 2 or 3 pm, otherwise you will have difficulty getting a train early enough. So make sure you check the train schedule before booking your flights and be sure you know that you may be partying* until 5am.

If you do have to leave super early, you'll probably have to use the mietwagenservice (above...you still don't get any fleish), or take one of the dedicated shuttles if they're been arranged.

I'd post a map back to the train station, but it's the same as the above one...just going in the

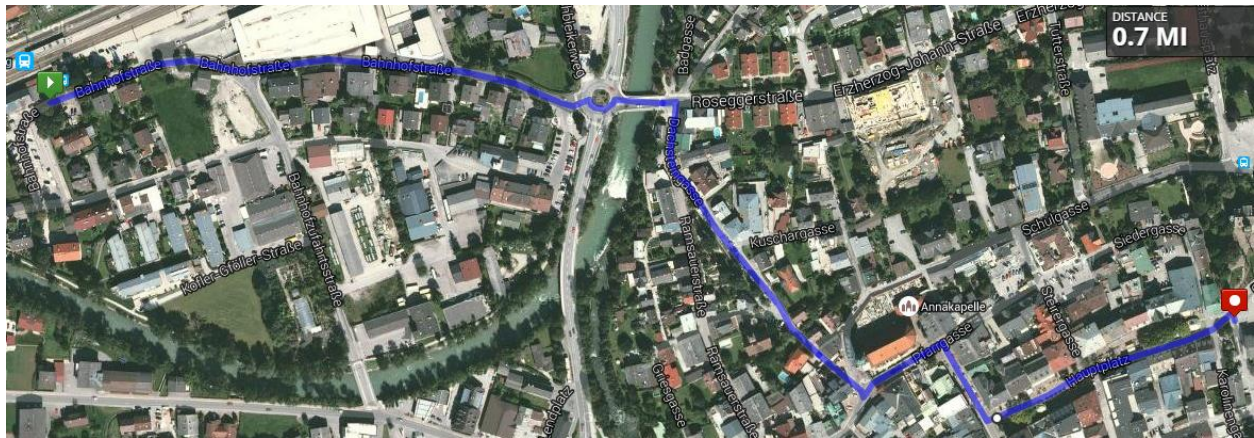


Figure 3: Path from the train station to the JUFA

opposite direction. Often there will be a group of folks heading out to similar places like Munich and Salzburg. It's a lot of fun to hang with people for one more day, so it's nice to coordinate with others to make the magic last just a LITTLE bit longer.¹⁰

¹⁰It's less nice to ditch those people in Munich after agreeing to meet.

Places in Schladming



Figure 4: The JUFA building

JUFA

The JUFA is the hotel where we stay. It's a cross between a hotel and a hostel. Rooms will have bare necessities, narrow single beds, sheets, bathroom, shower. Don't expect the Marriott, because it is not. JUFA stands for "Just Until Five AM", as in the answer to "how late were you out last night?"* It also stands for "Jugend Familien"... for "youth and family", or what JUFA caters to.

The JUFA has a weird layout with three different towers and many sets of stair cases. It might take you a bit to find your room for the first time. Look at the numbers in the elevators: they are room number ranges and don't necessarily correspond to floor (e.g. 600-level rooms are on floor 4). If the elevator doesn't have your room number range, take the other elevator.

There are several back doors. You'll need your key card to use these, and will need to use them at night when the lobby closes. Speaking of which, if you plan to arrive after the lobby has closed, be sure to arrange late night check-in so you don't get caught outside having to beg on the Facebook group for someone to let you in... cough... cough.

The breakfast area (aka “hangover central”*) is kind of in the middle on the second floor. It’s a nice spread of meats, cheeses, eggs, breads, jams, fruits.

The bar area next to the lobby serves beer. It is generally cheap, so often people will grab one or two* before heading to Stadtbräu.

The JUFA is located at the east end of the Hauptplatz, right next to the Rathaus (castle). See figure 5 for details.

The JUFA also has free wi-fi, which while not the best, is serviceable for Facebook and email. I wouldn’t expect to be streaming Netflix much, though. There has, however, been at least one instance of a participant successfully doing a skype interview on the JUFA’s WiFi. That’s playing with fire, though.

The staff are generally very helpful in helping you find things like busses, tickets, locations, and even Dachstein reservations.

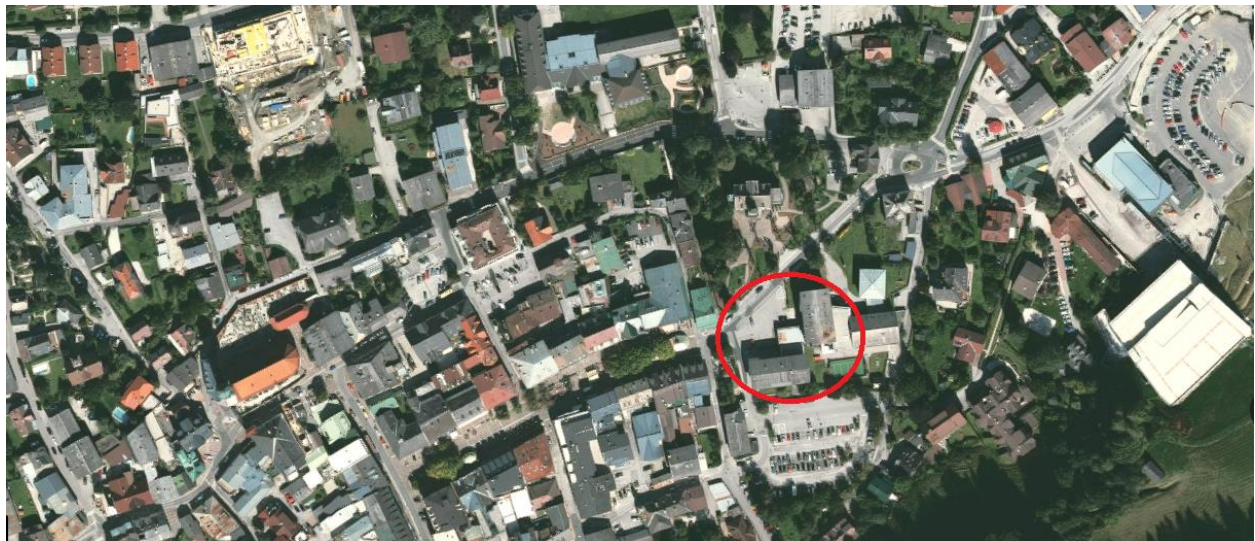


Figure 5: The location of the JUFA

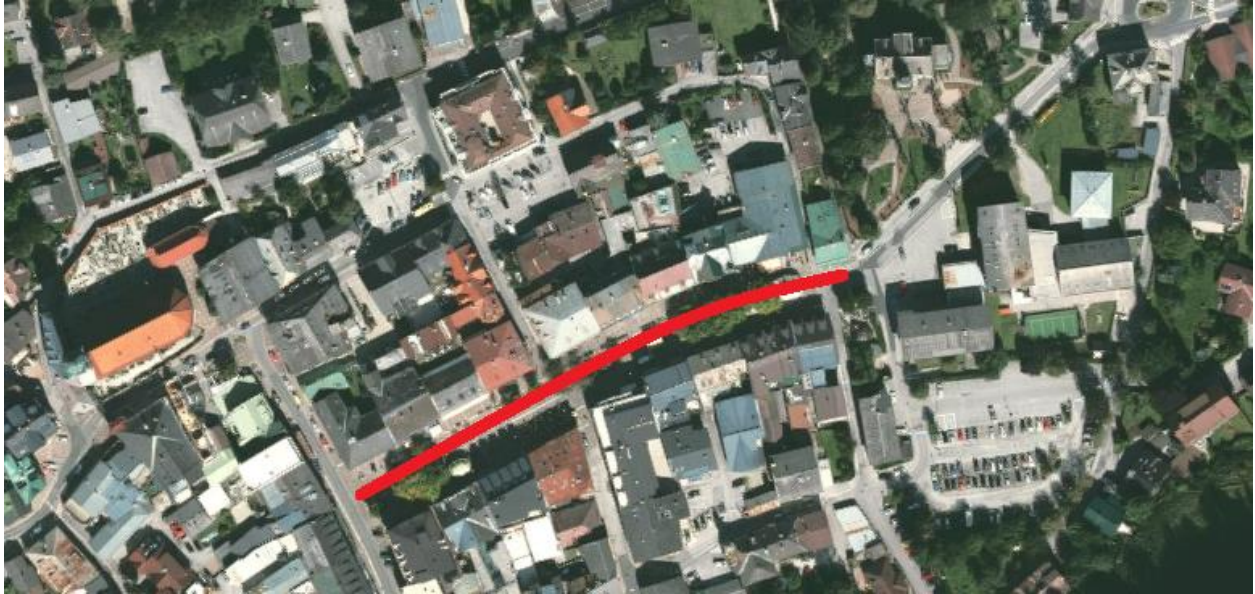


Figure 6: The location of the Hauptplatz

Hauptplatz

The Hauptplatz is the main strip in Schlading. It literally means “main place.” You’ll find yourself here often, especially on Lange Nacht, or actually any night. There are a lot of fun shops and restaurants here. Most importantly, the ATM is on the RIGHT side of the Hauptplatz (when coming from the JUFA) about halfway down. See figures 7 and 6 for a map and picture.



Figure 7: The Hauptplatz is the center of town.

School

The school is where sectionals take place. To get there from the JUFA, go to the left of the Rathaus (castle thing) until you get to the next street. The school is across the street and a bit to the left. We'll all head there together on the first day, which is necessary in part since we don't know yet which wing we're in, or even which door we'll have to enter through!¹¹ After that, however, you're on your own. The school will usually be unlocked early each morning for individual practice. Since nobody wants to have to get up even earlier than they already have to, this is greater incentive to have your parts prepared beforehand.

¹¹One year, some folks got caught up at the JUFA and couldn't figure out how to get into the school. After 15 minutes, they had to call Verena to let them in! I can't imagine how embarrassing THAT would be. The poor fellows missed the introductions and thus spent the week in seclusion because they didn't know anybody's names. Don't let that happen to you!



Figure 8: Path from the JUFA to the school



Figure 9: The Sporthotel Royer

Royer

The Sporthotel Royer is where eating and full rehearsals take place. It's visible from all over Schladming due to the giant sign on the top that says "SPORTHOTEL ROYER" (See figure 9). To get there from the JUFA, walk away from the Hauptplatz to the traffic circle (which used to have a go-kart on it) and take the exit going downhill (away from the mountain). Take the right hand fork, and then walk straight, under the highway and around the bend to the left. To get there from the school, it's very similar, you just walk on the road to the same traffic circle which used to have the go-kart. See figure 10 for a map.

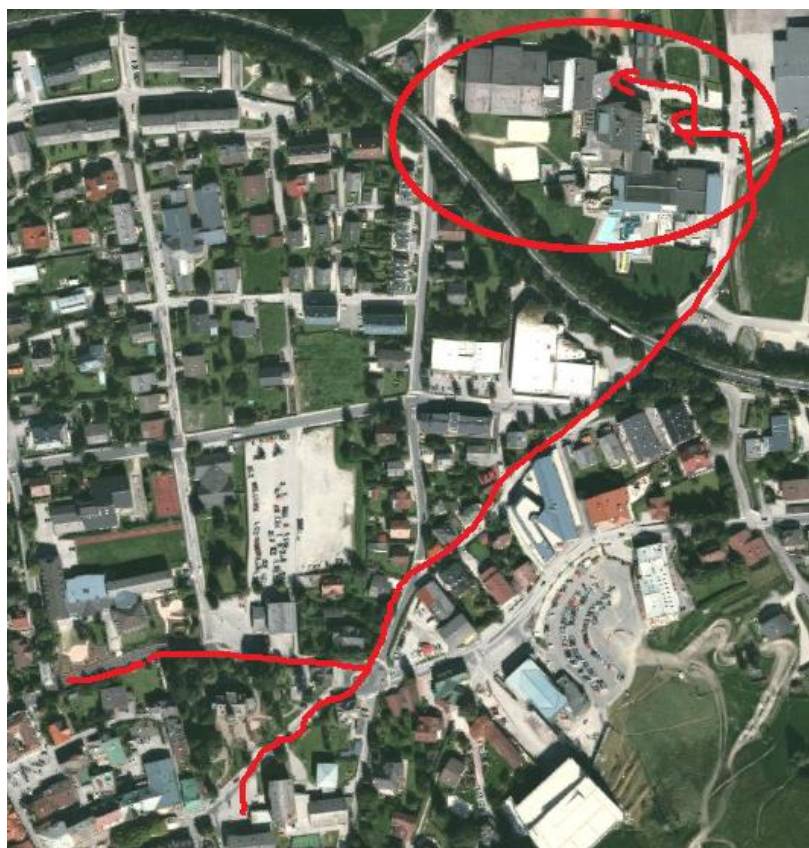


Figure 10: The path to the Royer

The Royer is clearly modeled after an Escher staircase. There are several important things to know.

- Main Dining Room - This is straight ahead when you enter the main entrance. This is where we'll eat every day for lunch and dinner. From here, there are restrooms downstairs in the main lobby (where there is also ping pong...).
- Tennis Courts - This is where we practice. From the dining room, you take the door that says "Royer Grill" and walk through the restaurant and down the stairs on the other side. The tennis courts are on the left. You can also take the door to the right of the grill door and it goes there as well, but this is slightly longer. You can also get to the courts directly by walking down the hill on the right of the main entrance and going in the side door. The bathrooms for the courts are down the stairs near the courts. Note that you cannot directly get from this "downstairs" to the one from the main lobby. Strange.

There is wifi for which is password protected for guests only. If you tell them at the front desk

that you are with WYWOP, however, they will usually give you a login for the week. If not, the directors generally stay at the Royer, which makes them guests, which makes the cost for access somewhere around the price of one beer*.

Fun facts about the Royer: Verena and Steven got married there. There is a suite frequented by Arnold Schwarzenegger which bears his name.



Figure 11: The congress has a distinctive facade

Congress

The congress is directly across the street from the Royer and is the performance venue. When rehearsing, we will often have to enter from the “back door,” which is as it sounds, one of the doors in the back of the building. From there, you can simply walk into the hall. There is also an upstairs that has several dressing rooms which we will use for the performance. There are 4 bathrooms, upstairs, downstairs, in the restaurant, and just through the door stage left.

Unfortunately, Google’s pictures are woefully out of date, and the satellite imagery in figure 12 doesn’t contain the actual building. It’s hard to miss (See figure 11) and sits on the green field

circled on the map.



Figure 12: Location of The Congress



Figure 13: The Planai complex

Planai

The Planai is the mountain whose base is in Schladming. It's easily identifiable by the crazy arch looking thing that lights up at night (figure 13). It is the location of the Tattoo on Friday, as well as where you need to go if you want to go up the mountain, or do kart race. To get there from the JUFA, simply go straight at the circle instead of going down the hill (figure 14). The bus stop is also located next to the Planai, just on the other side of the "Planet Planai" building from the base. If you haven't practiced enough beforehand, you may need to start your trek here to locate the Planai Cows and beg their mercy. There is an ATM here (as well as the other one on the Hauptplatz) on the stadium side of Planet Planai.

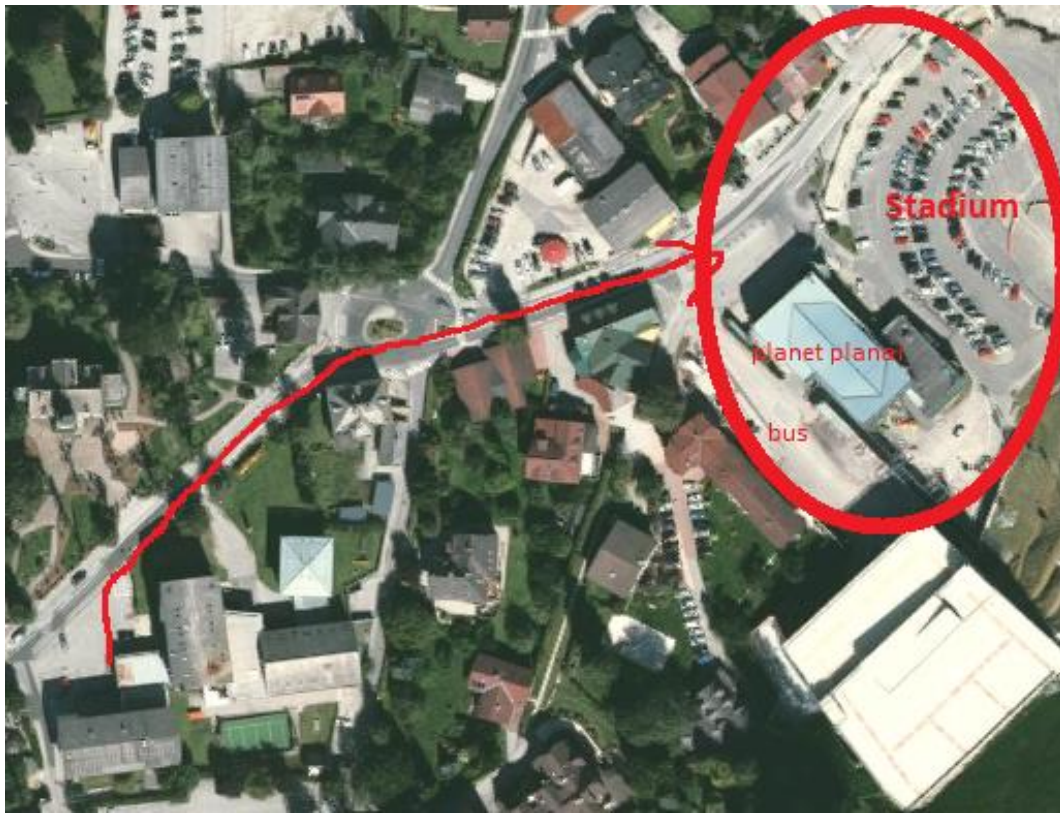


Figure 14: The various places in the Planai complex



Figure 15: The Spar building

Spar

Spar is the large market in Schladming, located on the left before the highway as you head to the Royer (figure 16). It's a great place to premade cups of coffee, other beverages*, snacks, clothes, or drink mixing implements*. The other supermarket is the Billa, and it is located across the street from the Planai.



Figure 16: The location of the Spar



Figure 17: The Stadtbräu building

Stadtbräu (née Schwalbenbräu)

Stadtbräu (figure 17) is one of the official unofficial hangouts of WYWOP. While they used to brew their own, they buy their beer now. While it isn't as good, it's still delicious* and the real win is the environment, which is perfect for WYWOP...you can't describe it. They usually close at 11, but since we bring them so much business, they'll often have longer hours. We are such good customers*. WYWOP will take up most of the back half of the restaurant. Ideally we will let them know we are coming so they save some space for us.

To get to Stadtbräu from the JUFA, head down the Hauptplatz until you get to a sketechy-looking-butnot-really walkway on the right labeled "PASSAGE." (If you get to the ATM, you've gone too far). Go down the passage and when you get to the road at the end, the Stadtbräu is on your left. Head to the back. See figure 18) for a map.

The main fair is beer or radler; they don't really have snacks. You should just get some of that

sweet sweet Kebap instead.



Figure 18: Path from the JUFA to Stadtbräu



Figure 19: The Cabalou looks like a spaceship

Cabalou

Cabalou (Café-bar*-lounge) is another hangout. It is open later than Stadtbräu as well as on Monday. It is slightly more expensive than Stadtbräu*. It's located in the space-ship looking building (figure 19) directly at the end of the Hauptplatz in the middle. If you walk straight out of the front of the JUFA, you can't miss it (figure 20). If you need bathrooms while here, head into the Posthotel lobby.



Figure 20: Location of the Cabalou

Kebap

Dönerkebab is a most excellent source of calories. You should absolutely try it once. It also serves as a great late night snack. Both kebab places are on the same street about a block away. To get them, walk to the far end of the Hauptplatz from the JUFA and turn right. Walk to the end of the road where the chapel is and turn left. The better kebab place (Stern Kebab) is the second building on the left just past the corner. This place closes around 11. The other kebab place (Bosnastüberl (?) Kebab) is open later and is further down the same road on the right, just past the, well, ***.

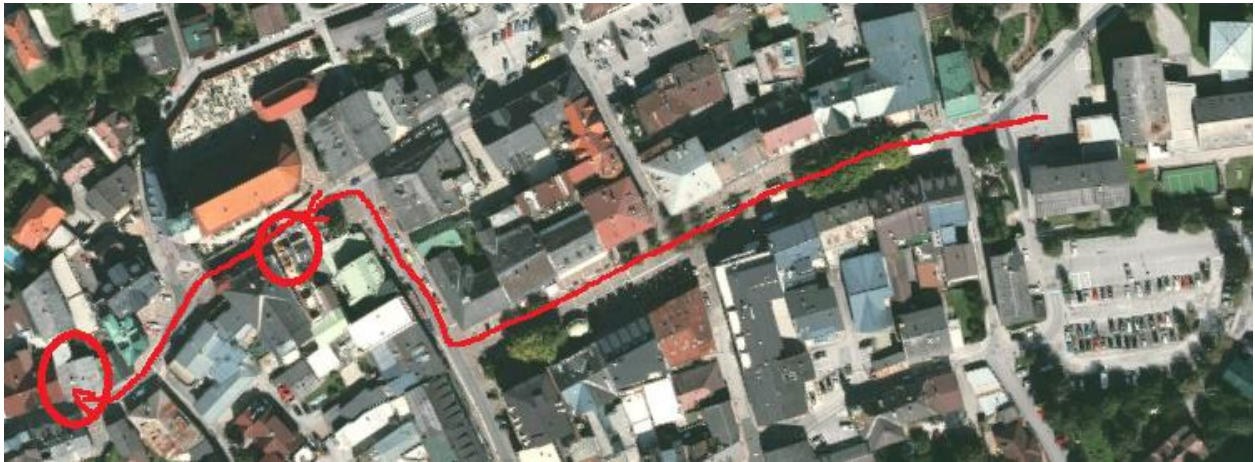


Figure 21: The locations for eraek Kebap

Tenne Stadl

Tenne Stadl is another bar in Schladming. It's across the stadium from Planet Planai. It is owned by the same people as Stadtbräu, and thus serves mostly the same things. It is a much larger space, and has ample outdoor seating on the patio. The biggest downside, though, is that it's much further away from Kebap. There is only one rule when WYWOP goes to Tenne Stadl... PAY FOR YOUR DARN VODKA LEMON... cough... cough.

Bar Etiquette

- Remember exactly what you ordered. The bar won't keep track of what you ordered, but will track all unpaid for drinks. So, if you order something and then don't remember it when you pay, someone else will be left to pick up the tab (or the social chair will get a nasty phone call from the manager).
- Pay for you drinks (just to drive the point home). Easiest if you just pay when you get them instead of opening a tab. Almost always no cards, only cash.
- Don't destroy things.
- Be mindful of other guests with whom we might be sharing the space.
- Tipping isn't generally necessary or expected.
- Seriously, you don't need to be doing rounds of shots of schnapps on sunday night. It's a long week.

WYWOP Events

Schedule

The weekly schedule is generally pretty consistent from year to oyear, and involves mostly

1. Rehearsal
2. Eating
3. Socializing *

Figure 22 shows an example schedule from a previous year.

Interspersed with all the rehearsal, you can see some special events! Interested to learn about them? Read on!

TIME	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY			
7am		Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast				
8:30am		8:30am-12pm Sectionals (HIGH SCHOOL) (take instruments with you to lunch!)	8:30-9:45 warm up and sectionals in the Royer	8:30am-12pm Sectionals (HIGH SCHOOL) (take instruments with you to lunch!)	individual warm up	individual warm up	FREE TIME	Breakfast			
9am											
10am	Arrive before 2:45pm at: JUFA Schladming Coburgstraße 253 8970 Schladming Tel: +43(5)/7083-330 (we are meeting at 2:45pm in the foyer of the JUFA and will together to the high school from there)				10am-12pm TUTTI with Johann Mösenbichler (Royer)				9am-11am Tutti rehearsal with Kevin Sedatole (ROYER)	10-12pm TUTTI with Verena, Doug, and Ben (ROYER)	
10:30am											
11am											
12pm-1:30pm		12:15pm Lunch at the ROYER (bring instruments)	12:15 Lunch at the ROYER	12:15 Lunch at the ROYER	12:15 Lunch at the ROYER	12:15 Lunch at the ROYER					
1:30pm		12:15- 3:45 TUTTI REHEARSALS in the CONGRESS (for opening ceremony)- Verena M-B, Doug Henderson, Benjamin Lorenzo, Dan Timbres	1:30pm-2:45pm dress rehearsal for opening ceremony with Verena, Doug, Benjamin, and Dan (ROYER)	1:30-3:15pm Tutti rehearsal with Doug, Ben, Verena (ROYER)	1:30-2:45pm TUTTI with Johann Mösenbichler (ROYER)	1:30-2:30pm TUTTI with Johann Mösenbichler (ROYER) 2:30-3:30 Verena, Doug, Ben	12:30pm DRESS REHEARSAL in the Congress (12:30-2:00pm)				
3pm											
3:30pm	3:00pm Short auditions for PART ASSIGNMENT - HIGH SCHOOL CLASS ROOMS (meet at 6:00 at the school to walk together to the Royer)	3:45-4pm Break	3:00pm-4:15pm Tutti rehearsal with Kevin Sedatole (ROYER)	Break	3-5pm Tutti rehearsal with Verena, Ben, Doug (ROYER)	Break	FREE TIME				
4pm		4:00-6:00 rehearsal with Johann Mösenbichler (CONGRESS)	4:30pm - change and meet at the congress with instruments and music for the opening ceremony at 5:30	3:30-6:00 pm TUTTI with Johann Mösenbichler (ROYER)			4pm-6:30pm Tutti rehearsal with Kevin Sedatole (ROYER)	Dinner at 5:45pm at ROYER			
5pm						FREE TIME					
6pm	6:15pm Dinner at the ROYER	6:15pm Dinner at ROYER	MID EUROPE opening ceremony - CONCERT DRESS in the Congress (= traditional clothing from your country/ensemble/etc.)	6:15pm Dinner at ROYER	6pm Dinner at ROYER	6:45pm Dinner at ROYER	7:30pm Tuning and Warm up on Stage 8 pm CONCERT				
6:30pm											
7:30pm	Tutti rehearsal with Kevin Sedatole, Ben Lorenzo, Verena Bryant, Doug Henderson (7:30-9:30pm) - SPORTHOTEL ROYER	7:30-9:30pm Tutti rehearsal with Kevin Sedatole in the concert hall (CONGRESS)	7:00 pm Dinner at ROYER	7:30-9:30pm Tutti rehearsal with Kevin Sedatole (ROYER)	FREE EVENING - Enjoy the "LANGE NACHT"	FREE EVENING - Enjoy the "Schladming Tattoo"	after concert party in the Congress- Schladming				
8pm			8pm-9:30pm Tutti rehearsal with Kevin Sedatole (ROYER)								
rehearsals end at 9:30pm											

Figure 22: A schedule from a past WYWOP. The schedule will vary slightly from year to year, but the overall form is similar.

Opening Ceremony

The opening ceremony takes place Tuesday evening in the congress. Here we'll play a small program consisting of some of the pieces we will also play later in the week, and some which we won't. This ceremony opens the whole Mid Europe festival. The "highlight" of the ceremony is the mayor of Schladming giving a thank you speech. It lasts about 15 minutes, has multiple interruptions for applause, and if nothing else, will teach you the German phrases "Herzlichen Dank" or "Herzlich Willkommen." The speech went on so long one year that we had to cut one piece from our program, which unfortunately (or fortunately!) would have involved Doug conducting in lederhosen.

Lange Nacht

This is perhaps the best night of the Mid Europe festival. It involves bands performing from about 5pm until 1am on stages set up throughout Schladming.

Where are the stages? There are generally four stages. The main stage is on the far end of the Hauptplatz. Next is a stage on the other end of the Hauptplatz, directly in front of the JUFA. There is also a stage directly behind Stadtbräu, and finally one by the chapel (right near kebab). Recently, a fifth stage has been set up on the Hauptplatz directly in front of the Posthotel.



Figure 23: The stage locations and numbers for Lange Nacht

How do I know which ones to watch? The best way to know which stage to be at when is to ask Steven. You can't lose during the last set, which often involves Anrass Brass, Voix Bradler, and

Raaber Blechbaum, who all put on awesome shows.

Where do I get food and tasty beverage*? Literally anywhere.

What street food should I eat? Other than kebab, look for a vendor on the Hauptplatz who is grilling something. Get whatever they're selling, it will be delicious.

What do I do when the music stops? Go to Cabalou.

What about the inevitability of that beverage consumption*? To have a great Lange Nacht, it's important to know where to get some quick relief regardless of where you are. Here is the definitive guide to publicly available restrooms (see figure 24 for a map):

1. If you are at the JUFA stage, you can go to the lobby restroom at the JUFA
2. Just past the Cabalou, and before the passage to Stadtbräu, there is the "Post Hotel". Go in the lobby and slightly to the left. There are bathrooms there. This is the ideal location if you are at the Cabalou as well.
3. At the Stadtbräu stage, there are often portable bathrooms, but that failing, just go into Stadtbräu.
4. If you are at the main stage, look left, and there is a hotel/restaurant. It will be either the first or second door from the end of the Hauptplatz (Hotel Neue Post?). Go in the door and up the stairs.
5. If you are by the chapel, go into the Bäckerei and continue straight. At the back of the building, there is a staircase. Go down it for bathrooms.

What should I wear? Depends on the weather... but pray for no rain and make sure you have your dancing shoes on. If you have Trachten, THIS is the time to wear it! Many WYWOPers have appreciated the beauty of the traditional Bavarian garb over the years and acquired their own. Given enough time, you might, too.

Anything else? Try to get some Schnapps from the Marketinerinnen who often walk around.*

Schladming Tattoo

The Tattoo is a marching band show which takes place on Friday night at the base of the Planai. Sometimes, WYWOP has put on a show, which has ranged from sitting and playing, to standing and playing, to simply walking in and out, to actually doing a show. The Bavarian and Austrian bands put on some awesome shows, so be sure to try to watch while waiting for WYWOP to go on. If nothing else, the First Taiwanese Girl's School is a frequent participant, and they put on one heck of a show! It also always seems to rain at the Tattoo for some reason, so be sure to have an umbrella. If WYWOP is not performing, best seats are often on the balconies on the side of Tenne Stadl, where you can also acquire refreshment*.



Figure 24: The toilet locations for Lange Nacht

WYWOP Concert

The WYWOP concert is the last concert in the congress during Mid-Europe. It takes place Saturday night. Dinner beforehand is generally extra-long to allow time to change into concert dress, though you can also do so before to avoid the trek back to the JUFA. We'll be assigned one of the dressing rooms upstairs. Be careful not to leave any jackets or anything in the dressing rooms when you leave. It may be a while before you are able to get it back ...cough...cough.

After the concert, there will be a big party, which starts at the Congress restaurant, until they close, and then elsewhere...either the JUFA or somewhere else. Be prepared to party until the sun comes up, but not so hard that you ditch Michael Markowski in München the following afternoon.

Things to do in Schladming

If for some reason you're interested in doing things OTHER than rehearsing and eating, Schladming has a lot of fun stuff to do. And while eating more Kebab at every free opportunity is compelling,

it's probably best to take a break and check out some of the other stuff. Two quick notes:

- Free time is usually concentrated into big slots on Saturday. Depending on logistics, sometimes another block opens up, but most of doing things involves “how can I squeeze it into one of those blocks.”
- Most things you do are FREE on the Summer Card (Sommerkart). You'll get a free Sommerkart when you check into the JUFA. This is your “lift ticket” for rides up the mountain, and “bus ticket” as well. It also gains you entrance to some other attractions around town. As noted several times, the biggest stipulation is that the card is only good for ONE mountain trip a day, so you can't use the same card at the Dachstein and Planai in the same day. If you have need, borrow a card from someone else.

Dachstein

The highlight of the area is the Hoher Dachstein. This mountain, which you can't see from Schladming itself, is the tallest around, and divides the Steiermark from upper Austria. To get there, grab the bus from the Planai station to Dachstein, and walk over to the cable car, which your Summer Card will get you on for free. The cable car will have a wait on nice days, so BE SURE YOU HAVE A RESERVATION! Reservations can be made at the JUFA front desk. Dachstein takes about 4 hours door to door, so should be doable during the Saturday free time.

Once on top of the mountain, be sure to take the sky walk and suspension bridge. The 10 euro for the Ice palace is completely worth it, I think.

Keep an eye on the time while you're up there to ensure you get a car down in order to catch the bus back. You don't want to be late for whatever. Check the weather. At the top it can range from balmy to cold and windy...almost blizzard like...even in July. Dress appropriately.

Planai

Take the gondola from the base up to the top. The entrance is upstairs in the planet Planai. Rookie mistake is to think the half-way-up station is the top. Be sure you go all the way up (though you can stop and get back on). Once at the top, walk around the panorama trail to the lake, walk up to the top and see the “Gipfelkreuz” (figure 25) and go play on the zip line obviously intended for children.¹²

Note that with your summer card, you can only do one mountain a day, so if you've already done Dachstein, your card won't work at Planai. This is not a problem though. Simply find someone who won't be using their card that day and borrow it. They don't check names or anything.

¹²which I undoubtedly am

Depending on how much time you spend, going up Planai could take 1-2 hours.

If you haven't practiced, you may find yourself taking the trip up to beg the mercy of the Planai Cows.



Figure 25: The Gipfelkreuz atop the Planai

Mountain Go-karts

On Hochwurzen, you can ride the gondola to the top, and then ride a tricycle looking thing all the way down. This is awesome fun. There are several ways to get there, one can take the bus, or taxi from Planai to Hochwurzen and then head on up. Enterprising individuals can even walk up to Hochwurzen, though it's quite a strenuous walk. Only 5k (that's 3 miles in freedom units), but it gains 1500' of elevation. Plus you have to walk back. In any case, it's definitely doable on Saturday, but be very careful since the Buses don't run frequently. One of the bonuses of walking is that the views are absolutely incredible (see figure 26). If you have a friend with a benefit,¹³ they might even be nice enough to drive you up!

¹³Get your mind out of the gutter. I clearly mean a car...



Figure 26: View of Schladming from the walk to Hochwurzen

When you arrive at the base of the gondola, go into the shop to the left, and buy tickets inside. They'll give you an idea of how long you might have to wait at the top. Like the Planai, this counts as a "mountain" for the day, so your summer card will only work once at any of the three on any given day. Even with the card, however, the go-karts cost money. It's something like 13 euro. Once you've paid, you can go outside and up the escalator to the gondola, and then up to the top!

Once up-top, there are guys in jackets who run the go-karts. If you talk to them, they will tell you what to do, which might involve waiting your turn.¹⁴ Once it's time to go, you helmet up, hop on, and go! As you're picking a kart, note that they are different sizes. I know a rather tall guy who took a small kart his first year, only realizing NEXT year that they had larger karts.

If you haven't done it before, these things handle about as well as a set of Timpani on an ice rink. So, be very careful if you're doing this on the day of the concert, as it's easy to take a spill. It's easy to get scraped up. If it's wet, it can be slick as well, and you'll probably get muddy! Even if it's warm out in Schladming, it will probably be a bit chillier and windier up top, and chillier-est when you're flying down a mountain at 40 kph. Wind-resistant jacket, gloves, hat. Trust me, you'll want them.

¹⁴The guy inside at the bar might not be so nice.

Last word, the guys might take you it “usually takes about 30 minutes to get down.” I think 12 minutes is closer to the truth...and if it takes you longer than 15 or 20, you might just not want to admit that to anyone...

Last Last word: There is a small restaurant and bar at the top if you have some time to kill. The views from the top are stunning as well.

Kart-Race

This is what you would typically think of when you say go-karts. This is an electric go-kart race track that is located underneath the Planai. The entrance is outside of Planet Planai. Cost is about 12 euro, and it is always difficult to do. If you want to do this, get there right when it opens, otherwise, their slots for the day may be filled up. Be prepared to wait in most cases.

Mini-Golf

Schladming has perhaps the most pathetic mini-golf course in the world. It is, however, free on the summer card and a lot of fun when with other people. Admire its terribleness. They’ve rearranged the place recently and built a new ticket booth, but I’m pretty sure the actual holes are the same as they’ve always been.



Figure 27: Path to the mini-golf course

Waterfall

Be sure to hike to the waterfall. It's a short walk up the hill from the end of the Hauptplatz. Be careful, they turn the lights off at night. Turn left at the end of the Hauptplatz on Martin Luther Straße and follow Talbachweg up the hill as far as you'd like. Enterprising individuals can walk all the way up to Untertal, which is about 1.5 miles from downtown.

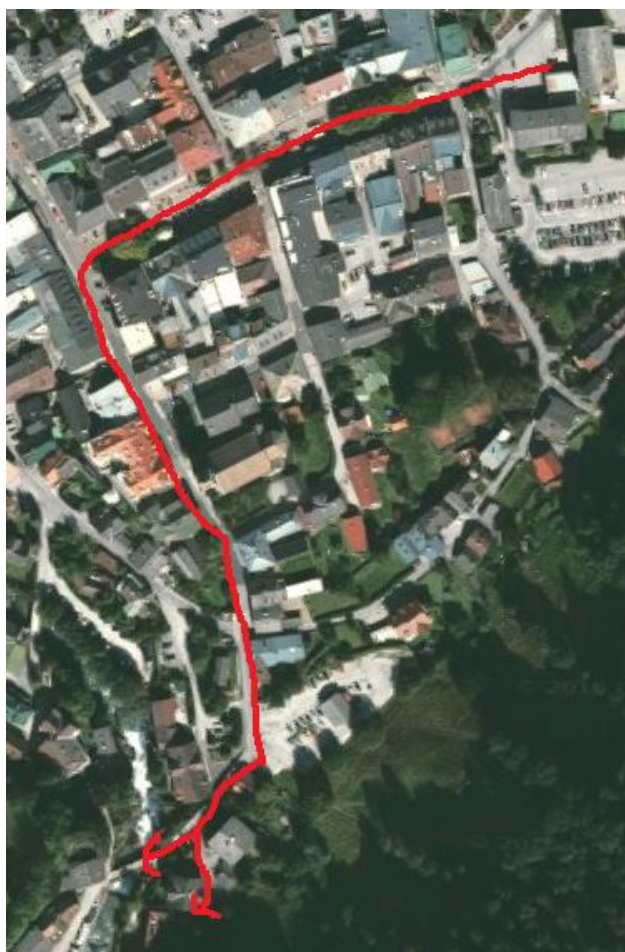


Figure 28: Path to the waterfall

Waterpark

While some people fail to notice it despite walking by it about 15 times over the course of the week (cough...cough), attached to the Royer is a waterpark (Erlebnisbad...Adventure Pool). It's free

on the Summer Card, and the highlight is the enclosed slide, which has screens which can simulate sharks trying to eat you as you descend! There are other choices of imagery as well. Given the 90+ minutes for lunch every day, hopping over for a quick swim at lunch time is definitely doable.



Figure 29: The Waterpark

People You Should Know



Figure 30: Verena

- Verena: Executive Director of WYWOP and WAWOP



Figure 31: Steven Bryant

- Steven: Verena's husband and kickass composer. Also, just look at that hair!



Figure 32: Herr Johann Mösenbichler

- Johann: Verena's father and artistic director of Mid-Europe. If you get in trouble, definitely name drop Johann.



Figure 33: WYWOP Grandfather Ollie

- Ollie: Grandfather of WYWOP and Chief Prosit Officer. Fun fact: he plays trumpet and can hold low concert F or C all day).

Other WYWOP Traditions

- Agua Di Valencia (pronounced “valenthia”): A drink made either on lange nacht or Saturday. It involves alcohol, juice, and sugar mixed in a bucket with whatever implement we can find, often a toilet brush. To partake*, be sure to give your couple euros to whoever is organizing

it.

- Photo Shoot: Almost each year we take promotional photos for the following year. These are sometimes in exotic locations, such as up the Dachstein.

WYWOP Lore¹⁵

I would ruin WYWOP for you if I told you EVERYTHING here...so here are some things that you should ask an old-timer about while at WYWOP so you, too, can be in the know:

- JAAAAAAAAAAAAA
- The Royer/Tielmann Susato music video
- The Year of the Goat
- No Salad for WYWOP
- SURPRISE MOTHERFUCKER
- Schlaibchen
- Vodka Lemon
- The time WYWOP wasn't in Schladming
- I love you, I love you, I love you
- Party Room 101

WYWOP Drinking Songs

These get sung while drinking.¹⁶

- Ein Prost mit Harmonischem Klange
 - Always conducted
 - “Heilige Nacht” is inserted before “stoßet” to the tune of, well, “Stille Nacht, Heilige Nacht”
 - You have to be there to really experience it

¹⁵perhaps, Alp Memes for WYWOP Teens?

¹⁶I hope I didn't actually need to explain that.

EIN PROST MIT HARMONISCHEM KLANG

FREI UND BIER(WEIN)SEELIG ♩ = 987

SOPRAN / TENOR 1
ALT / BASS 1

EIN PROST MIT HAR-MO-NI-SCHEM KLAN-GE. EIN PROST MIT HAR-MO-NI-SCHEM KLAN-GE. EIN

TENOR 2
BASS 2

AB HIER QUODLIBET

... SINGT DOCH WAS'DER WOLLT ... !!!

S/T1
A/B1

PROST MIT HAR-MO - NI - SCHEN KLANG. STOS-SET AN! * TRIN-KET AUS!!!

T2
B2

* AN DIESER STELLE MIT ALLEN IM RAUM ANSTOSSEN ...

43

... UND BLOSS KEINEN VERGESSEN !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

- Ein Prosit der Gemütlichkeit (Figure 35)

- Often ended with “eins, zwei, drei, g’suffa!”, which means “one, two, three, drink up!”
In Bayerisch, it is also how you count to 4.

Ein Prosit der Gemütlichkeit

überliefert

Ein Prosit, ein Prosit der Ge -

mütlich - keit, ein Prosit, ein

Prosit der Ge - mütlich - keit!

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Figure 35: Manuscript of the most famous Bavarian drinking song

- Auf und Ab

einst ging ich mal die straße auf und ab (auf und ab)
mit dem schönsten madchen aus der stadt (aus der stadt)
Sie hatte so wunderschöne <foo>
Mensch was war die elegant (elegant)
und die <foo>es geht so, und die <foo>es geht so,
so geht die <foo>und die <foo>es geht so.

- Dem Land Tirol die Treue

- Official march of the state of Tirol
- Refrain: “du bist das Land dem ich die treue halte, weil du so schön bist, mein tiroler Land.”

Tips for Other Cities

Munich

Transit

If you're flying into Munich, you'll need to get to the city. The S-Bahn will take you there, and the station is located under the courtyard between the two airport terminals. If in doubt, follow the S-Bahn logo signs (Figure 36). Be sure to buy your ticket at one of the machines upstairs. If you are going out of town, you can use a DB labelend machine and input your destination. If you are staying in Munich, you'll have to buy a ticket from one of the S-Bahn or MVV labeled machines, which could be a 1-way ticket from the airport to any station in Munich, or a day pass. It will be 13-15 euro. You can take either the S1 or S8 from the airport if you are going to Hauptbahnhof, where you can transfer to any of the U-Bahn, street cars, or Buses. The S-Bahn arrives in the basement, and the trains out of the city leave from the main platforms upstairs. This is where you'll go when you eventually head to Schladming.



Figure 36: The S-Bahn logo

Things to Do

- See the glockenspiel at Marienplatz
- See the churches around Altstadt (Frauenkirche, Peterskirche, and St. Michael Kirche). Climb the tower at Peterskirche for some great views.
- Visit Dachau. It takes about a half a day, as it's about 40 minutes on the S-Bahn followed by a short bus ride.
- Walk through the Englischer Garten, see the artificial surfing wave and Chinesischen Turm
- Visit the royal palace, the Residenz

- Visit the Olympic stadium
- Visit the BMW headquarters, museum, and showroom
- Visit the Deutsches Museum, a science museum
- Visit Schloss Nymphenburg

Places to Eat/Shop

- Hofbräuhaus - Perhaps the most famous beer hall
- Augustinerkeller - A beer hall and enormous beer garden
- Haxnbauer - A restaurant specializing in pork knuckle
- Viktualienmarkt - An open air market with stands selling all varieties of things
- Möser Trachten - Where you can find decent quality Dirndl and Lederhose

Salzburg

Transit

If you're coming from Munich, you'll most likely come through Salzburg and may need to transfer at Hauptbahnhof. If you're planning on staying in the city, the main mode of transportation is not trains, but buses, namely the "Obus." The bus platform is on the Sudtiroler Platz side of the station, outside and to the left. You can buy day/week tickets at the machine, or single ride tickets from the driver. When you continue on to Schladming, if you have to transfer, it will almost assuredly be in Bischofshofen.

Things to Do

- Visit the old fortress on Festungsberg
- Tour the Residenz museum
- Visit Mozart's birth house
- Visit the Salzburg Museum
- Visit the Schloss Hellbrunn. If you go here, be sure to tour the trick fountains.
- ~~Rent a bike and ride on all the high alpine roads in the area~~

- Visit the Mirabell Gardens
- Visit the churches, including the cathedral, St. Peter's, and Franziskanerkirche
- If you're one for walks, wander the lanes of Mönchsberg, or the walkway along the Almkanal
- I have never taken the sound of music tour, and thus can not in good conscience recommend it to anyone!

Places to Eat

- Stieglkeller - The food is only okay, but the view and beer are great! I recommend sitting outside if you can
- Sternbräu - Classic dishes and beers
- Augustinerbräu - Giant beer garden and hall with beer served in clay mugs. Huge variety of food served from dedicated stands.
- Troja - If a kebab place has hours from 8pm-5am, you KNOW it must be good. Right in the center of the night scene.
- St. Peter Stiftskulinarium - One of the oldest restaurants in the world