

CULTURE IN THE TOURISM REGION ATTERSEE- ATTERGAU

The Artists' World at Lake Attersee: A Source of Inspiration for Generations

The region surrounding Lake Attersee has always attracted artists from around the world—a place of tranquility, creativity, and inspiration. Painters, composers, and writers found the perfect backdrop for their works here, leaving a cultural legacy that is still palpable today.

Gustav Klimt and His Love for Lake Attersee

From 1900 onwards, Gustav Klimt spent nearly every summer at Lake Attersee, where he recharged far from the hustle and bustle of the big city. The picturesque landscape served as the inspiration for many of his famous works. His stays brought him to various locations around the lake: from the Bräuhof in Litzlberg to the Villa Oleander in Kammer and the Forsthaus in Weißenbach.

The [Gustav Klimt Theme Trail](#) offers fascinating insights into the artist's life. Starting at the Gustav Klimt Garden in Schörfling, the trail leads to Villa Paulick in Seewalchen, a popular meeting place for Klimt, Emilie Flöge, and members of the Wiener Werkstätte such as Oskar Kokoschka and Hugo von Hofmannsthal. The latter also visited Villa Berghof in Burgau, where he premiered his *Rosenkavalier*.

Gustav Mahler: Masterpieces at Lake Attersee

From 1893 to 1896, the world-renowned composer Gustav Mahler spent his summers in Steinbach am Attersee. In a small composing hut affectionately called “Schnützlputzhäusl,” he completed two symphonies and a dozen songs. Today, the hut serves as a museum with a year-round exhibition. The annual [Gustav Mahler Festival](#) in Steinbach is a cultural highlight of the region. In 2024, as part of the European Capital of Culture year, a special event took place: On June 1, the Philharmonie Salzburg, under the direction of Elisabeth Fuchs, performed Mahler's *Symphony No. 2* in the Steinbachhalle—a homage to the great artist at the site of his creative endeavors.

Cultural Highlights in Classical Music

In addition to the [Gustav Mahler Festival](#), the [Philharmonic Weeks](#) in Steinbach offer an unparalleled experience. Members of the Vienna Philharmonic bring classical masterpieces to the region's unique setting from late July to mid-August.

The [Nikolaus Harnoncourt Days](#) in St. Georgen im Attergau celebrate the work of this renowned conductor. The concert series, which will take place for the sixth time in 2025, combines top-tier musical quality with the charming atmosphere of the Attergau region.

ATTERSEE-ATTERGAU

salzkammergut

The Attergau Cultural Circle starts the cultural year in style with its New Year's Concert and delights audiences annually with a colorful artistic program at the [Attergau Cultural Summer](#), held from mid-July to mid-August.

Modern Culture: Innovative and International

The region also showcases creativity and diversity in contemporary culture:

- The [Festival of Nations](#) in Lenzing has been attracting film enthusiasts from around the globe for over a decade. Short films in all genres, discussion panels, and a vibrant program make this festival a cultural highlight.
- [FM4 Unlimited](#) appeals primarily to the younger generation. With a mix of summer vibes, music, and partying, the festival grounds at Lake Attersee transform into a pulsating dance area until the early hours of the morning.
- The [Perspectives Festival](#) in Attersee brings fresh energy to the cultural landscape with innovative programs that offer new viewpoints and exciting encounters.

Art and Galleries

Lake Attersee continues to inspire artists across all disciplines. A vibrant art scene featuring renowned galleries and charming smaller exhibition spaces showcases works by established and emerging talents.

Attersee: Where Culture, History, and Modernity Meet

The region masterfully combines the historical significance of its great artists with the dynamic impulses of modern culture. Whether it's classical music, contemporary festivals, or traditional celebrations—culture at Lake Attersee is an experience to remember.

Attersee – Attergau: Immerse yourself in enjoyment!

Press Contact

Tourism Association Attersee-Attergau

Angelina Eggli

Phone: +43 7666 7719-0

eggli@attersee.at