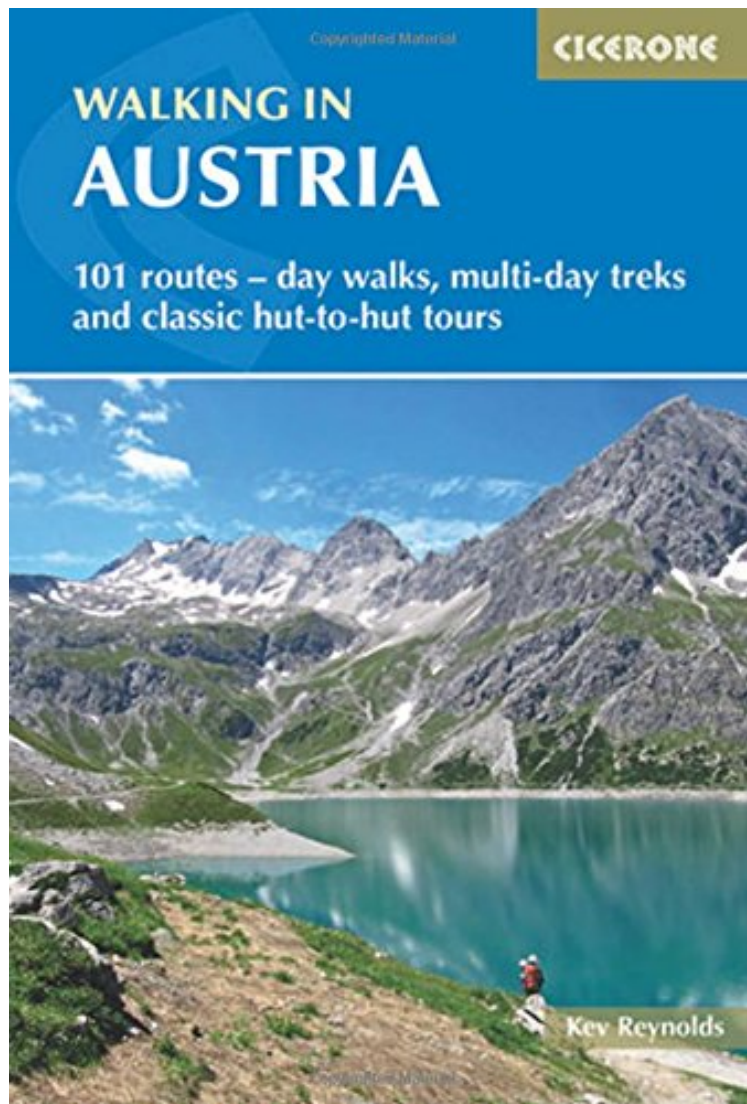


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Walking in Austria: 101 Routes - Day Walks, Multi-day Treks and Classic Hut-to-Hut Tours (Cicerone Guides)

Kev Reynolds

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Kev Reynolds : Walking in Austria: 101 Routes - Day Walks, Multi-day Treks and Classic Hut-to-Hut Tours (Cicerone Guides) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Walking in Austria: 101 Routes - Day Walks, Multi-day Treks and Classic Hut-to-Hut Tours (Cicerone Guides):

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Good for the multi-day walks but lacking a few of the better day

walks? By David Good book for the multi-day walks but possibly lacking some of the spectacular day walking that could be accessed from chairlifts? I am travelling to Austria with my family (including a youngish child) for a couple of weeks and then staying on to do some more serious multi-day walks. This book has a great overview of the mountain systems and the special views on offer in each area, so that I found it very quick and easy to work out the logistics and timings to string together a several multiday walks in the high alps in the west (the Rätikon, Silvretta and Ötztal alps). My only complaint for these walks is that the partially overlapping maps tend to have different shaped ridgelines and often different (non-overlapping) peaks named which made it a bit harder than it should have been to read and follow on from one area to the next. I was more disappointed in the planning details for day walking opportunities which is what I will be doing with my family. For day walks I thought the book a little too purist, in that it eschews giving advice on doing high elevation walks gained from some of the big chairlifts available and instead often details walks down in the valley below with much less views? We will have all used some sort of mechanised contrivance to get to Austria, such as a plane, train or automobile, so just one more bit of mechanical assistance to make the most of the fantastic high alpine scenery seems fair? I come from Australia and whilst we do have Kangaroos, we tend to lack nice craggy mountains with glacial ice and that is what I really want to experience in Austria. Zooming around in Google Earth I can see there seems to be a fantastic system of gondolas up to the glacier studded high alps in a few spots for easy access with children but the book really lacked enough detail to provide any meaningful guidance for day walks in these obvious regions to visit with the following 3 examples the most obvious to me 1. in the Stubai valley there is basically no mention of or map showing the series of chairs going right up to the head of the glacier and any possibility of walks there. 2. For the Kitzsteinhorn it actually mentions the ability to access walks further up the valley by the cable car but gives no details and there would even be room on the map on page 354 to show anything mentioned. 3. for the Dachstein gondola a walk to the Seethaler hut does get briefly mentioned and sounds great and it could also have been marked on the map (along with the all the other walks shown) on page 318 but it wasn't? Overall a reasonable book with good general guidance on where to do big walks but I reckon it's a bit let down on easy day walks with your family - OK so using chairlifts to get up high might be 'cheating' but I would be happy to use these devices to maximise getting high access on my once in a life-time trip. If Kevin the author doesn't really like the impact of these developments on the landscape he could maybe put some of the best into a small chapter at the end called 'Cheat walks using chairlifts' but I reckon it would be best just to add the occasional paragraph where such occasional chairlifts do open up the possibility of some high alpine day walking and have the walks and lifts marked on the relevant maps. Der Bergen Ruft David from Melbourne in Australia (not Austria)

A comprehensive guidebook detailing walking routes in Austria. The 101 walks reflect the diversity of this popular region and cover Austria's magnificent Alps - including the Rätikon, Silvretta, Stubai and Zillertal - as well as the Dachsteingebirge, Hohe Tauern and the Karawanken. Graded according to difficulty and ranging from short walks of a few kilometres to day hikes and multi-day hut-to-hut tours, from the classic to the lesser-known, there is something to suit every level of ability and ambition. A full description of each route is accompanied by clear sketch maps. This book has all the information you need to make the most of an active walking holiday in Austria, including information on public transport, accommodation, gear required and safety issues, full details of over 100 mountain huts and a German-English glossary. Austria is one of Europe's most walker-friendly countries. Its 40,000km of well-maintained and waymarked trails pass more than a thousand Austrian mountain huts and countless attractive villages, hospitable hotels, inns and restaurants. It also boasts an extensive, integrated public transport system that is particularly useful for walkers. The Austrian landscape is enchanting in its beauty, featuring rugged limestone spires, towering snowy peaks, majestic lakes and tranquil valleys.

About the Author Kev Reynolds is a freelance writer, photojournalist and lecturer. A prolific compiler of guidebooks, his first title for Cicerone Press appeared in 1978; he has since produced 27 titles for Cicerone, with others being researched. A member of the Outdoor Writers' Guild, the Alpine Club and Austrian Alpine Club, his passion for mountains and the countryside remains undiminished, and he regularly travels throughout Britain to share that enthusiasm through his lectures.