

Söll Walks: Shorter Walks or Strolls

Walk 1: Stroll to the Kriegerdenkmal (War Memorial commemorating an 1809 battle in Söll during the Napoleonic Wars) - and back to Söll

Difficulty: Moderate to Easy (uphill to start with)

Duration: 35-40 minutes

From the village centre cross roads, take the road between the Feldweibel Hotel and the Church.

Ignore the first road on the left. Take the second road on the left, and take the immediate right split past the local schools.

Walk on the pavement uphill to a yellow signpost. Go left in front of the "Alpen Panorama" Hotel and then sharp right immediately past the hotel down a narrow passage. The footpath bears left to the Kriegerdenkmal (15-20 minutes). (Ignore paths to the right).

Continue on leftwards through the woods, past the memorial. Continue along the same path. At the road go left and walk downhill back to Söll.

Walk 2: Tree Walk Stroll via 1492 Farmhouse and Herb Garden

Difficulty: Moderate to Easy (some uphill bits)

Duration: 40-50 minutes

From the village centre crossroads go towards the bandstand (the road between the Postwirt and the Feldweibel Hotels). Bear left at the bandstand and follow the road uphill ignoring roads off on the left, then take the first road on the right between the two sections of the Hotel Greil.

Go up the road until you see a footpath marked Sonnseitweg either side. On the left is an old farmhouse, and on the right a beautiful herb garden, but the 1492 farmhouse is hidden on the right behind the herb garden just after you have crossed the Sonnseitweg footpath. After you have seen the farmhouse, take the footpath on the herb garden side. The walk is tree lined with the names (in German) and the ages of the trees marked on many of the tree trunks, and through the trees you get magnificent views of the village. (The trees have been the same age for more than 15 years now!)

At the end of this path, you go downhill on a windy road. When you reach a T junction, past the holiday cabins, take the road right, back to the centre of Söll.

Walk 3: Tree Walk to Morsee (a small private fishing lake) and back

Difficulty: Moderate to Easy (some moderate uphill bits)

Duration: 1 hour 15 minutes

From the village centre crossroads go towards the bandstand (the road between the Postwirt and the Feldweibel Hotels). Bear left at the bandstand and follow the road uphill ignoring the road off on the left, then take the first road on the right between the two sections of the Hotel Greil.

Go up the road until you see a footpath marked Sonnseitweg either side. Take the footpath to the right. On the corner is a herb garden. Hidden behind it is a 1492 farmhouse. The walk is tree lined with the names and ages of the trees marked on many of the tree trunks, and through the trees you get magnificent views of the village, especially the church.

At the end of this path, you go downhill a few metres on a windy road, and you then take the path on the left (hard to spot) by the new cabins, almost doubling back on yourself through the trees (if you reach the Franzlhof or another road you have gone too far). Follow the path through the woods (a bit steep downhill at one point) and you come out on the road by Morsee.

Cross the road and the lake is in front of you on the left (about 30-40 minutes from the start). You can then walk back to Söll along the road. You can go further either side of Morsee:-

- to the left of the lake if you want to walk on to the Hintersteinersee (see walk 33 for the exact route) or if you want to walk along the Energie Weg by the river to the Solar Panels (see walk 9Ai for the exact route);
 - or to the right through the woods if you want to walk on to the Kufstein main road and over it to Scheffau via Stockach (walk 9Aii to the Solar Panels, then walk 17 from the Solar Panels).
-

Walk 4: Walk to Morsee via the Kriegerdenkmal (War memorial -1809) and back to Söll

Difficulty: Moderate to Easy, with one heavily tree rooted path.

Duration: 50 minutes

From the village centre cross roads take the road between the Feldwebel and the Church. Ignore the first road on the left. Take the second road on the left, and take the immediate right split past the local schools, and go on the pavement uphill to a yellow signpost.

Go left in front of the “Alpen Panorama” Hotel and then sharp right immediately past the hotel down a narrow passage, to the Kriegerdenkmal (15-20 minutes). Keep left through the woods, past the memorial. Follow the path to a road. At the road you could go right straight to the lake, or following a prettier route, go left at the road, then immediately up the road on the right, then right along a footpath (not easy to see) opposite the holiday cabins into the trees, (one steepish downhill bit) and you come out on the road by Morsee (25 minutes).

An alternative from the War Memorial is through the woods. There are several paths through the woods to Morsee. From the War Memorial, go back a few metres the way you came, and then turn left through the woods, keeping on the main path which gradually bears left towards the lake. At the end, go left (at a signpost) to the lake down a tree rooted path. (Any woodland path towards the left will take you to the lake). When you leave the woods, go left to the lake.

You can walk back to Söll along the road.

Walk 5: Direct Route to Morsee and back to Söll

Difficulty: Moderate to Easy (gently uphill)

Duration: 50 minutes

You can walk direct to Morsee on pavements. From the village centre crossroads go towards the bandstand (the road between the Postwirt and the Feldwebel Hotels).

At the junction by the bandstand go right, and keep on the left hand pavement past the caravan park, keeping to the same road until you reach the lake.

Walk 6: Circular walk via the Model Railway and the Stampfanger Stream.

Difficulty: Easy.

Duration: 30 minutes

From the village centre cross roads take the road between the Feldwebel and the Church, past the Eggerwirt Hotel on your right and the model railway on your left. At the end of the

road cross straight over to the left of the fire station and go down the road to Gansleit (it goes slightly to the left).

Straight after the bridge over the stream, turn right and a very short distance on, take the path to the right alongside the river. Keep going until you reach the 2nd (wide) bridge. Go over the bridge, through a large car parking area, and then right down the road to the centre of Söll.

Walk 7: Walk to the Stampfanger Kapelle

Difficulty: Easy. Gently uphill, then steeper as you reach the chapel.

Duration: 30-45 minutes (one-way)

Legend says that the rock crashed down from the mountain. It very narrowly missed a child, but no-one was injured. The chapel was built on the rock as a thank you to God.

From the village centre cross roads take the road between the Feldweibel and the Church, past the Eggerwirt Hotel on your right and the model railway on your left. At the end of the road, cross straight over (to the left of the fire station) and go down the road to Gansleit (it goes slightly to the left).

Straight after the bridge over the stream, turn right and a very short distance on, take the path to the right alongside the river.

The path goes on right up to the Chapel, but you can take any of the bridges on the right to return to Söll. Continue up the path, which goes gently uphill, and eventually cross the top bit of the winter car park. Go left at the road, and then right up a short steep bit to the chapel. You can go over the bridge on the rock and inside the chapel, but you cannot get up to the altar.

Walk 8: To the Stampfanger Kapelle by Bus (Kaiserjet) and then walk back to Söll

Difficulty: Easy (steepish just before the chapel)

Duration: 40 minutes walking

Get off the Kaiserjet at the gondola station. Go over the bridge across the road, and then go right up the footpath by the river, across the winter car park, left at the road and immediately right to the Chapel as in Walk 7. The last twenty yards/metres are steepish, but on good asphalt.

To return to Söll on foot, go back across the winter car park, and down the path by the river. The river will be on your left. Keep on the path to the end.

At the end, go left for a short distance, then left again across the bridge over the river. At the junction at the end of this road, (by the fire station) cross straight over and follow the road towards the church and the village centre.

Walk 9: Circular from Söll via the Solar Panels – Clockwise

Difficulty: Easy (slightly easier than the anti-clockwise route)

Duration: 2 hours (4 miles)

Take any route to Morsee (3, 4 or 5). Then there are two alternatives.

Ai) – Along the Energie Weg. Go past Morsee on its left hand side along the road. After about 100 metres go left up a road marked by a sign “Keine Streuung” or by a yellow hidden sign “Polverrundgang”. Very shortly, at the next sign marked “Söll 15 mins 55 Gasthof Oberstegen” go right. The path goes downhill. At a road by a house, cross the road and follow the signs to the “Gasthof Oberstegen” (the path bears sharp left at one point but it is signposted). Shortly after you first see the main road to your right, take a small hardly trodden footpath off to the right. At the Gasthof Oberstegen, cross the busy main road (there is an underpass alternative – go right to sign “Energie Weg” to reach the underpass), go down the road opposite and the “Energie Weg” starts on your right just before the bridge over the river. The river is then on your left all the way. This is a good place to see dippers going from rock to rock in search of food. You cross several small roads. Where the path goes no further is a wooden bridge on your left, with large stones to prevent vehicle access. Across the bridge are the Solar Panels.

Or

Aii) – Through the woods to the Kufstein Road.

Take the path to the right of Morsee lake signposted “57 Hintersteinersee”. You pass the signpost “Sunnseitweg 25”. Follow “Scheffau 57/56” signs. It is a good mainly downhill woodland path which can be soft after rain, and with one slightly difficult downhill bit when it is wet, of just a few metres.

Ignore the path to the left (it goes back to the Morsee road). When you reach the main road, cross straight over and take the path straight ahead –signposted “Scheffau 56/57”. Take the left fork before the farmhouse down a double farm track. Go straight on along path 56 past the Schernhof – (one route 57 to Hintersteinersee goes off left).

Aim for the barn, then take the track to the left just before you reach it, to a wooden bridge and the Solar Panels. There is a seat there. This takes you about 50 minutes and is 2 miles.

(You can continue straight on to Scheffau (second part of route 17) or you can also walk along the river to the left down the Energie Weg, where there are a number of seats).

To get back to Söll from the Solar Panels turn right immediately after you have crossed the little Solar Panels bridge onto what is a cycle and foot path. The path eventually goes under the two huge road bridges. When you finally reach a road, you go right, and at the bridge

over the river go straight on through the suburb of Gansleit. When you reach the road by the fire station, go straight across towards the church and the village centre.

Walk 9b: Circular from Söll via the Solar Panels – Anti-clockwise

Difficulty: Moderate to Easy (more difficult than the clockwise route as it is a little steeper on the uphill bits)

Duration: 2 hours (4 miles)

From the village centre cross roads take the road between the Feldweibel and the Church, past the Eggerwirt Hotel and the model railway. At the end of this road cross straight over and go down the Gansleit road which bears slightly left.

Take the path left under the main valley road (there is a huge bridge over the path), path signposted “Scheffau” (a stream runs on your left behind the trees), and go straight on under the Kufstein main road. You soon reach the Solar Panels. There are then two alternatives to get back to Söll:-

bi) Go left over the bridge by the Solar Panels. Take a track straight on. It isn't signposted from this direction but is a recognised path. The farm track goes to the right of a barn and follows the same line as the pylons and telephone wires. You pass a farm on your left, the Schernhof. Cross the busy main road and go straight ahead up the footpath into the woods.

The path climbs upwards through the woods and comes out on the road by Morsee. There is a very short bit (30 metres/yards) where water sometimes cuts a deepish vertical channel in the middle of the path, making it difficult. This was repaired in 2009, but can recur if there has been heavy rain. Once past Morsee you meet a road. Walk left down the road back to Söll. The pavement is in the right side of the road.

bii) An alternative from the Solar Panels is via the Energie Weg as shown in walk 19c. This takes about 30 minutes longer. Turn right after the bridge by the solar panels and walk alongside the river, with the river on your right. There are several seats there. Keep to the path over 2 minor roads with the river on your right the whole time.

A signpost “Söll 55” takes you left under a tunnel under the main road. There is often a farm vehicle parked in the tunnel. Immediately after the tunnel the path goes right towards a bus stop and the Gasthof Oberstegen. (Alternately, to avoid the tunnel, keep on the Energie Weg to the end, where you turn left onto a road, and cross over the main road to the Gasthof Oberstegen. Go left up the minor road to the left of the Gasthof Oberstegen for just a few metres, then take the path on the left “Morsee, Söll ½ hour”. You pass a games alley on your right, and go through a gate. Bear left where another path joins you, and right at a signpost (it is all well signposted).

Go over the road by a house. The path goes uphill. At the next road go left “Söll 15 mins 55”). At the next road go right and Morsee is 100 metres/yards on. Go round the lake and down the road to Söll.

Walk 10: Circular round the top at Hohe Salve (anti-clockwise)

Difficulty: Easy

Duration: 30 minutes

This goes just below the summit of Hohe Salve and has astrological and mathematical exhibits all the way round with information in English and German. There are magnificent 360 degree views on a clear day. This description is anti-clockwise, but I prefer clockwise.

At the exit from the gondola station, go diagonally left down to a gate where the walk begins. There is a short uphill bit at the end to get back to the summit. You first get views over Kirchberg and Brixen with the Filzensee immediately below you. Then there are views of Hoch Söll and Söll, with the German border in the distance beyond Kufstein. Then there are views over Wörgl, Niederau in the Wildschönau (which means “wild and beautiful”) Valley, and a bit of Hopfgarten. There is a short uphill bit at the end to get back to the summit. On your right at this point, if you know where to look, you can sometimes see a colony of marmottes. As you go towards the little chapel at the summit, you have a beautiful view down over Westendorf. There are seats with panoramic views behind the chapel.

Walk 11: Hexenwater (Witches` Water) Walk at Hoch Söll

This starts just below the gondola station at Hoch Söll. There is a fish lake followed by a children`s play area based on all sorts of water contraptions and features. There is even music making by water in high season and at weekends. The walk is downhill to the Stockalm Restaurant. A gentle stroll would take you no more than 10 minutes if you did not stop, but there are plenty of seats and shade on the way down for you to watch the children playing. If you fancy a diversion up the slope on the right, there are more water devices going right up the hillside towards Hexenwald. This is the best children`s play area I have seen in the Alps.

Walk 12: Hexenwald (Witches` Wood) Walk at Hoch Söll

Difficulty: Moderate. A steep walk there, then a tree rooted path through the woods.

Duration: 1 hour (1.6 miles / 2.5 kms) This description is anti clockwise.

This is quite steep up a road, but you can see the steepness before you start and judge whether you can manage it. Go left out of the gondola station at Hoch Söll, past the fishpond and up the road ahead of you (There is a restaurant cafeteria at the top of the road – Salvenmoos - with beautiful views over Hoch Söll and of Hohe Salve – look for the huge suspended witch`s broomstick).

Go left at the sign “Feuerstelle” and right after the chapel and on up the road. Go above the top of the lift and into the woods. The path becomes a typical tree-rooted woodland path. Scenes related to witches are set up for children, sometimes with witches` cooking in progress.

On the way down the other side on a gravel path, you might see some deer. At the bottom go to the right of the rear of the Gasthof Stockalm, and then left up the children`s water feature "Hexen Wasser" back to the Gondola Station.

Walk 13: Short Evening Stroll

Difficulty: Easy

Duration: 30 minutes

From the village centre cross roads take the road between the Feldweibel and the Church. Take the second road on the left, and take the immediate right split passing two of the local schools on your right. Before the third one, the Volkeschule, which is on your left, there is a path which is not very easy to spot. Follow it alongside the stream to the end at a children`s play area.

Go right into the children`s play area, and then right again at the road. Go right at the end down a path and left at the next road. Bear left towards the village centre, then right at the bandstand, and then first left down the road past the Tyrol Hotel. Keep going left until you are back in the village centre.

Soll Tourist Office Walks including Sunnseitweg, Energieweg and Schattseitweg.

Difficulty: Moderate to Easy

Duration: Varies

Get the pamphlet from the Tourist Office and choose any of the well signposted routes that are suggested. The four walks combine to make a huge circle of 23km. You can do each walk separately, and can also split Sunnseitweg and Schattseitweg into several shorter walks if you want.

Sunnseitweg (Sunnyside Walk) is the longest at 11.5km, but it can easily be split up. Most of Sunnseitweg is easy walking, but Stallhausl, at the western end, requires quite a bit of uphill walking.

Energie Weg (Energy Walk - discovering the Power of Nature) is 3.5km alongside the local river, which provides some of the local electricity. It is almost completely on the level. It finishes up at the Bee Museum (but everything in the museum is in German, and you can't see the bees at work as you can at the HochSoll Bee Centre).

Schattseitweg (Shadyside Walk) is 5km, and most of the walk is not actually in the shade. The walk is undulating.

The Active Track is 3.2km, and requires some uphill walking, but on a good surface.

Children`s Areas

If you have children you can arrange each walk to end at one of the many excellent children`s areas in the mountains. All the areas are free except Ahornsee at Soll, the Kaiserbad at Ellmau, and Badesee at Going.

Hexenwasser (Witches` Water) at HochSoll.

Children can play in the many excellent water features. These features follow the water downhill from the Gondola Station to the Stockalm Restaurant, with another path also going up the hill side towards Hexenwald. The children can also visit the Bee Centre at HochSoll, where they can safely watch the bees in their hives through glass. See also Walk 11.

Hexenwald (Witches` Wood) in the woods above HochSoll.

At weekends and in school holiday time the children can meet the “witches” who show them around the witches` house, and cook with them over a camp fire. See also Walk 12.

Hohe Salve

Hohe Salve is where the children can climb all over the giant`s head, and follow the Panorama Walk (Walk 10) just under the peak, with views over Soll, and views over the surrounding villages of Kirchberg, Brixen and Westendorf. The children can also see the marmottes which live just under the summit on the Westendorf side.

Filzamsee at HochBrixen

Filzamsee at HochBrixen has the Kaiser`s head rising from the water if you pedal fast enough. The children can also climb on the frames, paddle in a shallow paddling pool and walk through the mudbath (hosepipe available for cleaning up afterwards). You reach this using Walk 24.

KaiserWelt at Scheffau, Brandstadl

KaiserWelt at Scheffau, Brandstadl is at the top of the Scheffau Gondola lift. There is a new Panoramaweg (the Kaiserrundweg) and a large play area in the woods with all sorts of great climbing equipment and games. There is also a zip cord, swings, trampoline and pedal cars outside the Restaurant at Brandstadl.

Ellmi`s Zauberwelt at Hartkaiser, Ellmau

Ellmi`s Zauberwelt at Hartkaiser, Ellmau,, at the top of the Hartkaiser gondola. This is a large play and educational area in the woods. Amongst the most popular features are the giant chairs and the talking trees! There is a huge climbing tower, trampolines, goblins squirting water, and educational books displaying pictures of the local flowers, animals and rocks, etc.

Badesee is at Going

Badesee is at Going just beyond the terminus of the Kaiserjet. This is a brilliant swimming lake, specially adapted for children, with water slides and chutes, wobbly stepping stones, rope pulled boats, volley ball and all sorts of other things to keep children occupied for a

whole afternoon or day, and it is very cheap. There is a vast expanse of grass for sunbathing and watching.

The Kaiserbad at Ellmau

The Kaiserbad at Ellmau is on the Kaiserjet bus route, with indoor and outdoor swimming, and a large outdoor play area with trampolines etc.

Ahornsee at Soll

Ahornsee at Soll is a swimming lake, with a children`s play area as well.

Westendorf

Westendorf has a children`s area at the top of the Gondola and at Choralp, nearby.

What You Might See around Soll

See how many you can spot?

<u>Birds</u>	<u>Animals</u>	<u>Objects</u>	<u>Flowers</u>
Sparrow	snake	grass cutting machine	wild roses
Blackbird	giant ants nest	grass turning over machine	red clover
Crow	red squirrel	scythe	white clover
Chaffinch	deer	farmhouse with bell tower	cornflower
Nuthatch	pine marten	milk medals on farm doors	thistle
black redstart	marmotte	gondola with a broomstick	alpine gentian (blue)
swift	salamander	giant broomstick	pink campion
swallow	lizard	neat log store	white campion
fieldfare	frog	signpost with a red dot	pink primrose (pracht primel)
chiffchaff	toad	gondola number 46	white nettle flower
great tit	humming bird moth	herb garden	red nettle flower
crested tit	long eared sheep	a giant model ant	harebell (blue)
blue tit	goat	a witch`s cauldron	tiny daisy (a “shaggy soldier”)
heron	cows with bells	wigwam	dandelion (2 varieties)
wren	slow worm	muck spreader	common daisy
jay	grasshopper	beehives	Himalayan balsan (tall pink, growing on marshy ground)
buzzard	red butterfly	a witch	speedwell (blue, short stem)
dipper	yellow butterfly	1492 farmhouse	yellow foxglove
martin	blue butterfly	cattle grid	meadow buttercup
	dragon fly	signpost “Keine Strueung”	wood anemone (white)
	trout	giant sledge	yellow anemone
	shoal of tiny fish	“Sunnsseitweg” sign	berg aurikel (yellow)
	stoat	model railway	