



VAO Symposium Kaprun

02. – 04. April 2025

Program and time schedule

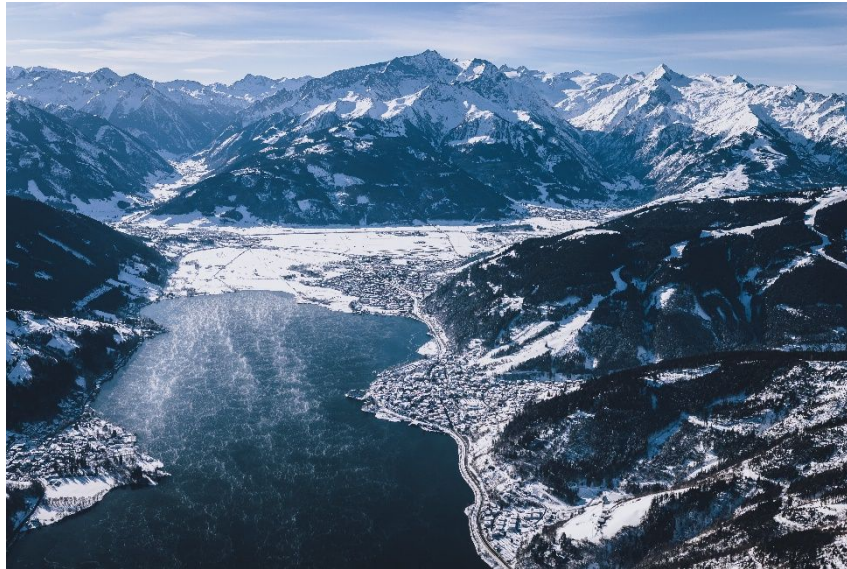
Mission Statement

The Virtual Alpine Observatories (VAO) is a network of 12 European Alpine Observatories, including high alpine research facilities. The network **aims to advance interdisciplinary collaboration** embracing **Atmosphere, Cryosphere, Hydrosphere, Biosphere, Earth Surface, Lithosphere and Human-Environment interaction**. This collaboration is the key to a holistic understanding of the Alps and high mountains in a changing climate and environment and features **cross-border coordinated research**. The Alps are a **time machine for climate change** because they are warming twice as fast as European lowlands. Our combined research serves to develop **models and predictions** that help to understand the **Future Alpine Environment**. Our combined action provides the base for **knowledge-based decisions for communal, national and international policy makers**. The **vertical integration of all Alpine spheres** is central to this endeavor, offering a unique approach to **make use of our combined transdisciplinary knowledge**.

VAO Symposium

Every two years, the **VAO Symposium facilitates the exchange** of the latest research findings and future collaborative research pursuits among members and interested individuals. The symposium **emphasizes productive interdisciplinary collaboration** among those working in the Atmosphere, Cryosphere, Hydrosphere, Biosphere, Relief, and Lithosphere fields. For this we focus more on **transdisciplinary workshops** than on individual talks and **aim to develop future research ideas and projects over two days**. The outcomes of the symposium will guide the **network's direction and impact in the coming years**.

The VAO Symposium is planned as a 48-hour event in the beautiful setting of the castle in Kaprun. The conference starts and ends at midday to allow participants to travel on the same day.



Zell am See- Kaprun in Winter © Zell am See-Kaprun Tourismus



Kaprun and the Kitzsteinhorn in Winter © EXPA FEI



Castle Kaprun in Winter © Zell am See-Kaprun Tourismus

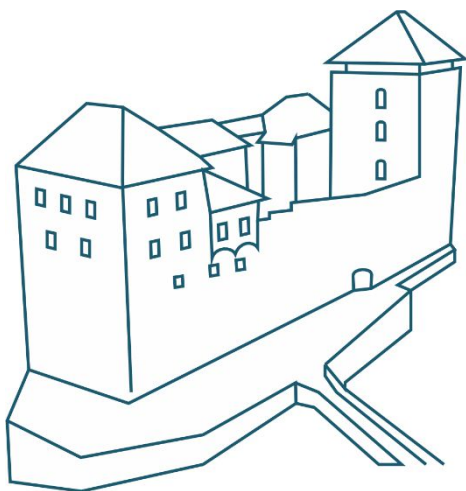


Castle Kaprun in Winter © Zell am See-Kaprun Tourismus/Mairitsch

Program overview

April 2nd, 2025 (Wednesday)

13:00 – 14:00	Knight Hall	Opening Ceremony
14:00 – 15:00	Knight Hall	Podiumsdiskussion Klimawandel & Naturgefahren im Alpenraum (German)
15:10 – 16:30	Knight Hall	Challenges of VAO Mountain Research in a changing climate – Keynote Presentations (part 1)
16:30 – 17:00	Foyer	Coffee Break
17:00 – 19:00	Gallery Hall	Poster Sessions
19:00 – 21:00	Foyer	Icebreaker



April 3rd, 2025 (Thursday)

9:00 – 10:30	Knight Hall	Challenges of VAO Mountain Research in a changing climate – Keynote Presentations (part 2)
10:30 – 11:00	Foyer	Coffee Break
11:00 – 12:30	Knight Hall	Introduction of the VAO Network
12:30 – 14:00		Lunch Break
14:00 – 14:15	Knight Hall	Introduction to the Workshops
14:15 – 16:00		Interdisciplinary Workshops (parallel, see p. 8)
16:00 – 16:30	Foyer	Coffee Break
16:30 – 17:00	Knight Hall	Reports from interdisciplinary workshops
17:00 – 18:00	Knight Hall	Fishbowl: The future of the VAO as an integrative international research collaboration
19:30 – 22:00	tba	Conference Dinner

April 4th, 2025 (Friday)

9:00 – 10:15	Knight Hall	News from the VAO Observatories and Stations
10:00 – 11:30	Knight Hall	Future projects and project ideas
11:30 – 12:00	Knight Hall	Closing Ceremony

April 2nd, 2025 (Wednesday)

Opening Ceremony 13:00 – 14:00

13:00 – 13:15	<i>Knight Hall</i>	Prof. Dr. Michael Krautblatter	New strategies of the Virtual Alpine Observatory
13:15 – 13:30	<i>Knight Hall</i>	Thorsten Glauber (Federal Minister for Environment and Consumer Protection)	Welcome from the German Ministry of Environment and Consumer Protection (in German language)
13:30 – 13:45	<i>Knight Hall</i>	Domenik David (Major of Kaprun)	Welcome from Austria (in German language)
15 min		<i>Technical break</i>	

Podiumsdiskussion (in German language) 14:00 – 15:00

14:00 – 15:00	<i>Knight Hall</i>	<i>Moderation: Dr. Sabine Kraushaar</i> Thorsten Glauber (Federal Minister for Environment and Consumer Protection) Domenik David (Major of Kaprun) Prof. Dr. Dr. Johannes Wallacher (HFPH Munich) tba (DAV – German Alpine Association)	Podiumsdiskussion: Klimawandel & Naturgefahren im Alpenraum – Handlungsbedarf und Strategien (in German language)
15:00 – 15:30	<i>Foyer</i>	<i>Coffee Break</i>	

Challenges of VAO Mountain Research in a changing climate – Keynote Presentations (part 1) 15:30 – 17:00

15:30 – 15:50	<i>Knight Hall</i>	Prof. Dr. Eliza Harris (Universität Bern)	Future Perspectives for the Alpine Climate
15:50 – 16:10	<i>Knight Hall</i>	Prof. Dr. Ralf Ludwig (LMU München)	Projecting Alpine climate extremes in the 21 st century
16:10 – 16:30	<i>Knight Hall</i>	Prof. Dr. Matthias Braun (FAU Erlangen)	Alpine glaciers in a changing climate
16:30 – 16:50	<i>Knight Hall</i>	Speaker 4 – tba	Alpine permafrost in a changing climate

Poster Sessions 17:00 – 19:00

Session 1	Gallery Hall	Poster Nr. 1.1 – 1.X	Atmospheric response in a changing climate
Session 2	Gallery Hall	Poster Nr. 2.1 – 2.X	Biospheric response in a changing climate
Session 3	Gallery Hall	Poster Nr. 3.1 – 3.X	Cryospheric response in a changing climate
Session 4	Gallery Hall	Poster Nr. 4.1 – 4.X	Geo- and hydrological risks in a changing climate
Session 5	Gallery Hall	Poster Nr. 5.1 – 5.X	Hydrological response in a changing climate
Session 6	Gallery Hall	Poster Nr. 6.1 – 6.X	Biomedical and human challenges in a changing climate
Session 7	Gallery Hall	Poster Nr. 7.1 – 7.X	Atmosphere – surface coupling in a changing climate
Session 8	Gallery Hall	Poster Nr. 8.1 – 8.X	Atmosphere – Cryosphere- Hydrosphere coupling in a changing climate
Session 9	Gallery Hall	Poster Nr. 9.1 – 9.X	Geosphere- Biosphere coupling and Hazards in a changing climate
Session 10	Gallery Hall	Poster Nr. 10.1 – 10.X	Biomedical – Human interaction in a changing climate

Icebreaker 19:00 – 21:00

19:00 – 21:00 | Foyer | Icebreaker with cold drinks

April 3rd, 2025 (Thursday)

Challenges of VAO Mountain Research in a changing climate – Keynote Presentations (part 2) 09:00 – 10:30

09:00 – 09:10	<i>Knight Hall</i>	<i>tba</i>	Session Intro
09:10 – 09:30	<i>Knight Hall</i>	Prof. Dr. Giovanni Crosta (UNIMIB Milano)	Alpine georisks in a changing climate
09:30 – 09:50	<i>Knight Hall</i>	Prof. Dr. Manuela Brunner (ETH Zürich)	Alpine rivers in a changing climate
09:50 – 10:10	<i>Knight Hall</i>	Speaker 3 - <i>tba</i>	Alpine biosphere in a changing climate
10:10 – 10:30	<i>Knight Hall</i>	Prof. Dr. Dr. Johannes Wallacher (HFPH Munich)	Ethical adaptation strategies in a changing alpine environment
10:30 – 11:00	<i>Foyer</i>	<i>Coffee Break</i>	

Introduction of the VAO Network 11:00 – 12:30

11:00 – 12:00	<i>Knight Hall</i>	Alenka Smerkolič Prof. Maria Shahgedanova Tobias Hipp	Alpine Convention MRI DAV – German Alpine Association ESA (<i>inquired</i>)
12:00 – 12:30	<i>Knight Hall</i>	Prof. Dr. Michael Rast	ISSI – Possibilities for scientific exchange and small-scale projects
12:30 – 14:00		<i>Lunch Break</i>	

Interdisciplinary Workshops (parallel sessions) 14:00 – 15:45

14:00 – 14:15	<i>Knight Hall</i>	Prof. Dr. Michael Krautblatter	Introduction to the Workshops
14:15 – 15:45	<i>tba</i>	Moderator 1 – <i>tba</i>	Atmosphere - Geosphere - Cryosphere– Hydrosphere coupling in a changing climate

14:15 – 15:45	<i>tba</i>	<i>Moderator 2 – tba</i>	Geosphere– Biosphere – Human coupling and Hazards in a changing climate
15:45 – 16:15	<i>Foyer</i>	<i>Coffee Break</i>	

Reports from Interdisciplinary Workshops 16:15 – 16:45

16:15 – 16:30	<i>Knight Hall</i>	<i>tba</i>	Atmosphere - Geosphere - Cryosphere– Hydrosphere coupling in a changing climate
16:30 – 16:45	<i>Knight Hall</i>	<i>tba</i>	Geosphere– Biosphere – Human coupling and Hazards in a changing climate
15 min		<i>Technical break</i>	

Fishbowl 17:00 – 18:00

17:00 – 18:00	<i>Knight Hall</i>	<i>Moderation: tba</i> <i>Speaker:</i> <i>Alenka Smerkol (Alpine Convention)</i> <i>Tobias Hipp (DAV – German Alpine Club)</i> <i>Prof. Dr. Michael Krautblatter (VAO)</i>	Fishbowl: The Future of the VAO as an integrative international research collaboration
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Conference Dinner 19:30 – 22:00

19:30 – 22:00		<i>Conference Dinner</i>	(Registration necessary prior to the symposium)
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April 4th, 2025 (Friday)

News from the VAO Observatories & Overview of Observations and available data 9:00 – 10:00

9:00 – 9:05	<i>Knight Hall</i>	<i>Prof. Dr. Michael Krautblatter</i>	Introduction of the VAO Observatories & Overview of Observatories and available Data
09:05 - 09:10		<i>Dr. Till Rehm</i>	Germany: Umweltforschungsstation Schneefernerhaus (UFS)
09:10 - 09:15		<i>Prof. Dr. Eliza Harris</i>	Switzerland: Hochalpine Forschungsstationen Jungfrauioch (HFSJG) (<i>inquired</i>) / Gornergrat (HFSJG)
09:15 - 09:20		<i>Dr. Mateja Jemec-Auflič</i>	Slovenia: Geological Survey of Slovenia
Etc.		<i>Dr. Christoph Mayer</i>	Austria: Glacier Observatory Vernagtferner
		<i>Dr. Markus Keuschnig</i>	Austria: Open-Air-Lab Kitzsteinhorn
			Austria: Observatorium Sonnblick (<i>inquired</i>)
			Armenia: Aragats (<i>inquired</i>)
			Bulgaria: BEO Musala (<i>inquired</i>)
			Czech Republic: Ionosfericka Observator (<i>inquired</i>)
			France: Observatoire Mont-Blanc (<i>inquired</i>)
			Italy: Eurac-LT(S)ER site Macia/Matsch (<i>inquired</i>)
			Slovakia: Observatory Lomnický štít (<i>inquired</i>)
10:00 – 10:30	<i>Foyer</i>	<i>Coffee Break</i>	<i>Parallel: short VAO Board Meeting (only for Board Members) in the Knight Hall</i>

Wrap up & closing ceremony 10:30 – 11:30

10:30 – 11:00	<i>Knight Hall</i>	<i>tba</i>	Current benchmark projects and future activities of the VAO
11:00 – 11:30	<i>Knight Hall</i>	<i>tba</i>	Closing ceremony

Poster Program (Gallery Hall)

Session	ID	Poster Title	Authors
<i>tba</i>	tba		

Poster boards

Poster boards are in portrait format. Authors can make use of the full dimensions of DIN A0 (841 x 1189 mm). Poster board number correspond to the poster number in the program.

VAO Symposium 2025, Kaprun/ Salzburg in short

Aim:

Transdisciplinary exchange, develop future research ideas and projects, outcome will guide the network's direction and impact in the coming years.

Date:

02.-04. April 2025

Venue:

Burg Kaprun, Schloßstraße 55, 5710 Kaprun, Austria
(<https://www.burg-kaprun.at/>)

Organizing Committee:

Prof. Michael Krautblatter (TUM)
Dr. Markus Keuschnig (GEORESEARCH)
Verena Stammberger (TUM)
Birgit Einhellinger (STMUV)
Dr. Sabine Kraushaar (TUM)

Deadline Registration:

15. February 2022

Contact:

In case of any questions after reading through the information please contact info@vao.bayern.de

General Information

Information

Public transport to Kaprun

Train connections from Munich to Zell am See are given below. The public bus from Zell am See runs every 10 to 20 minutes depending on the time to the conference venue in Kaprun (Kaprun Maiskogelbahn or Kaprun Ortsmitte; 15-minute ride). From the bus station it is a 15 min walk to the Venue of the Symposium.

Arrival 2nd April 2025 for Symposium Start at 1 PM

Train: Munich Hbf – Wörgl – Zell am See 09:34-12:14

Bus 660: Zell am See – Kaprun Maiskogelbahn 12:23-12:41

Return 4th April 2025 after Symposium End at 1 PM

Bus 660: Kaprun Maiskogelbahn – Zell am See 12:52 – 13:09, 13:22 – 13:39, 13:52 – 14:09, etc.

Train: Zell am See – Wörgl – Munich Hbf 13:44-16:27, 15:45-18:28, 17:44-20:26, 18:46 – 22:13, 19:46-22:36

Accommodation (not included in conference fee)

Numerous accommodations (hotels, bed & breakfasts etc.) are available in Kaprun. We recommend you to check online booking platforms to find accommodations according to your preferences.

Below you find some suggestions for accommodations:

- Familienhotel Antonius: www.hotel-antonius.at
- Hotel Sonnblick: www.hotel-sonnblick.at
- Hotel DAS Alpenhaus Kaprun: www.alpenhaus-kaprun.at
- Vötter's Hotel: www.sport-kristall.at
- Gästehaus Steger: Pension Gästehaus Steger in Zell am See – Kaprun: urlaub-kaprun.com
- Pension Austria: www.pension-austria.at
- JUFA Hotel Kaprun: zellamsee-kaprun.com
- Hotel Tauern SPA Zell am See-Kaprun: www.tauernspakaprun.com

Early April is still ski season, we therefore **recommend to book as early as possible.**

Many further hotels are available in Kaprun. Please refer to the tourism association Kaprun (welcome@zellamsee-kaprun.com or +43 6547 8080) or visit an online booking platform to book a hotel according to your preference.

Map of Kaprun

