Ahrntal Valley, 23.09.2026

Invitation to the 17th Klausberg ICE GAMES

International snow sculpture competition in Ahrntal valley

Dear Sir or Madam! Dear artist!

From 17th to 22nd January 2027, the Klausberg in the Skiworld Ahrntal in South Tyrol will once again be transformed into a spectacular open-air studio at an altitude of 2,500 metres.

Under the motto **"Wonders of the World in Snow"**, artists from around the world transform a **3 × 3 × 3 metre block of snow** into a *world-famous landmark, iconic building or extraordinary UNESCO World Heritage Site*.
This winter, iconic landmarks from around the world are recreated not from stone, steel or glass, but from snow. Whether it is an *imposing tower, a magnificent cathedral, an ancient monument or a UNESCO World Heritage Site*, there are virtually no limits to the artists' imagination. The challenge is to bring characteristic shapes and details to life in snow, creating fascinating winter interpretations of world-famous places.

Every sculpture will be valued by a jury of experts, and the winning teams will receive great prizes (net):

1st price: € 770,00	4th price: € 330,00
2nd price: € 605,00	5th price: € 275,00
3rd price: € 440,00	6th price: € 220,00

We are delighted to welcome you to the 17th International Snow Sculpture Competition at Klausberg in the Skiworld Ahrntal, in Steinhaus/Ahrntal Valley. We are very much looking forward to seeing your creative ideas and the impressive snow sculptures you will create.
Please let us have your registration form with a sketch, the title of your planned work and all other necessary documents at the latest on the 15th of November 2026. The senders of the 10 best sketches will be selected to participate.
For further information don't hesitate to contact us directly in the tourist office.

Best regards

The organizing committee team

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Regulations

Organizer and topic

The Ahrntal Valley Tourist Association is organizing the snow sculpture competition at Klausberg in the Skiworld Ahrntal from 17 to 22 January 2027. The theme of the competition is **"Wonders of the World in Snow"**.

The snow sculptures should be sufficiently stable to ensure that they can be admired for as long as possible.

Participants

Sculptors from all over the world have the possibility to join the competition. The sculptors can participate in a team. The 10 attending teams can consist of maximum 2 people (of legal age). Groups of pupils (2 people) accompanied by an adult teacher can be a part of the event as well.

Appointments: Tender | selection of the artists

15th November 2026 – closing date for registration: handing out the fully filled in registration form with title, sketch and/or photo with a short description of the planned object, Curriculum vitae, reference objects (optional).

End of November 2026: Selection of the participants through organizing committee and jury of experts with certificate of participation or refusal.

Obligations of the organizing committee

1. **Free Accommodation and Meals for Participants during the Event:** From Sunday evening, January 17th, to Friday morning, January 22nd, 2027, participants will be provided with free accommodation and meals (extra consumptions such as minibar, drinks, etc., are excluded). We recommend purchasing travel insurance to cover any unforeseen events.
2. The six first placed sculptors will receive a cash prize
3. Travel cost refunding: All participating teams will receive a contribution towards refund of € 0,20 (net) per km from the hometown to the venue. The maximum amount for teams from Europe is €280,00 (net), teams from other continents will get a maximum amount of €520,00 (net). **Travelling by public transport is preferable in the interests of sustainability**
4. Assistance by a specialist
5. Evaluation from jury of experts
6. Certificate of participation
7. Additional evening program
8. Guest Pass (Receiving at your accommodation)
9. Ticket for the cable car

Snow blocks

The snow blocks (3m long, 3m wide, 3m high) will be allotted to the team on 17th January 2027.

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Equipment

The snow sculptures must be formed of snow, ice and water. The organizers will place the following tools at the disposal for the teams: 2 shovels, 1 ladder, 1 bucket and 1 pick. Each participant can bring his own equipment additionally.

Working hours

Daily from 8.30 a.m. to 4 p.m. The work must be completed by 21st January 2027 until approx. 3 p.m.

Insurance

Participation is at the participants' own risk. Participants are responsible for ensuring that they have adequate insurance coverage, in particular personal liability and accident insurance, and confirm upon registration that they have such insurance coverage. Participants are liable, within the limits of applicable law, for any damage they cause themselves or through their conduct or activities during the event.

Prizes

The winner teams will be selected by a jury of experts on 21st January 2027 (afternoon). The six first placed sculptors will be rewarded with cash prizes:

1st price: € 770,00	4th price: € 330,00
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SÜDTIROL

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17th Klausberg ICE GAMES
Programme

Sunday, 17th January 2027
- Arrival of the competitors with welcoming at the hotel
- Time at free disposal: eventual trip to the ski area Klausberg, so the competitors can take a look at the ice blocks (you will find them at the mountain station of the cableway K2 over 2500 m above sea level). The sculptors get the free passes for cable car and ski lift at the ticket office at the valley station.
- 6.30 p.m.: Dinner at the hotel
- 8.30 p.m.: Official welcoming and allocation of the ice blocks – explanation of the rules

Monday, 18th January 2027
- 8.30 a.m.: Trip to the Klausberg
- Start of the competition (until 4.00 p.m.)
- Lunch at the Klausberg
- Dinner at the Hotel

Tuesday, 19th January 2027
- 8.30 a.m.: Continuation of the competition (until 4.00 p.m.)
- Lunch at the Klausberg
- Dinner at the Hotel
- 8.30 p.m.: Meeting point at the ski rental at the Skihouse next to the valley station. Together we shall enjoy the Klausberg by night and the starry sky above Steinhaus/Ahrntal valley.

Wednesday, 20th January 2027
- 8.30 a.m.: Continuation of the competition (until 4.00 p.m.)
- Lunch at the Klausberg
- Dinner at the Hotel
- 9.00 p.m.: Bowling night

Thursday, 21st January 2027
- 8.30 a.m.: Continuation of the competition (until 3:00 p.m. at the latest)
- Lunch at the Klausberg
- 3.00 p.m.: The jury of experts chooses the winner
- 7.00 p.m.: The week will be finalized by a common snug evening. With excellent food we'll talk, laugh, announce and celebrate the winner of the contest.

Friday, 22nd January 2027
- Breakfast and departure

Subject to change

Contact people:

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Ski school director	Michael Hofer	+39 348 3924670
Klausberg Skiarena manager	Michael Außerhofer	+39 0474 652155

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IMPRESSIONS









