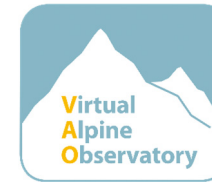




VAO Symposium Kaprun
02. – 04. April 2025
Program and time schedule



Bayerisches Staatsministerium für
Umwelt und Verbraucherschutz



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

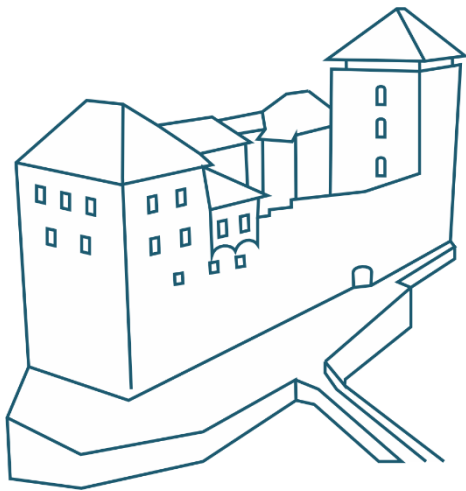


Castle Kaprun in Winter © Zell am See-Kaprun Tourismus/Mairitsch

Program overview

April 2nd, 2025 (Wednesday)

11:15 – 12:00	Knight Hall	Opening Ceremony
12:00 – 13:00	Knight Hall	Podiumsdiskussion Klimawandel & Naturgefahren im Alpenraum (German)
13:00 – 13:45	Foyer	Coffee Break
13:45 – 15:45	Knight Hall	Challenges of VAO Mountain Research in a changing climate – Keynote Presentations (part 1)
16:00 – 18:30	Gallery Hall	Poster Sessions
18:30 – 20:30	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	Public discussion on 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 11:15 – 12:00

11:15 – 11:30	<i>Knight Hall</i>	<i>Prof. Dr. Michael Krautblatter</i>	Welcome from the Coordinator of the Virtual Alpine Observatory
11:30 – 11:45	<i>Knight Hall</i>	<i>Thorsten Glauber (Federal Minister for Environment and Consumer Protection)</i>	Welcome from the German Ministry of Environment and Consumer Protection (in German language)
11:45 – 12:00	<i>Knight Hall</i>	<i>Domenik David (Major of Kaprun)</i>	Welcome from Austria (in German language)

Podiumsdiskussion (in German language) 12:00 – 13:00

12:00 – 13:00	<i>Knight Hall</i>	<p><i>Moderation: Dr. Sabine Kraushaar</i> <i>Thorsten Glauber (Federal Minister for Environment and Consumer Protection)</i> <i>Domenik David (Major of Kaprun)</i> <i>Prof. Dr. Dr. Johannes Wallacher (HFPH Munich)</i> <i>Roland Stierle (President of the DAV – German Alpine Association - enquired)</i> <i>Ernst Schick (Vice President of the DAV – German Alpine Association - enquired)</i></p>	Podiumsdiskussion: Klimawandel & Naturgefahren im Alpenraum – Handlungsbedarf und Strategien (in German language)
13:00 – 13:45	<i>Foyer</i>	<i>Coffee Break</i>	

Challenges of VAO Mountain Research in a changing climate – Keynote Presentations (part 1) 13:45 – 15:45

13:45 – 13:55	<i>Knight Hall</i>	<i>Prof. Dr. Michael Krautblatter (VAO Coordinator)</i>	Session Intro
13:55 – 14:15	<i>Knight Hall</i>	<i>Prof. Dr. Eliza Harris (Universität Bern)</i>	Future Perspectives for the Alpine Climate

14:15 – 14:35	<i>Knight Hall</i>	<i>Prof. Dr. Ralf Ludwig (LMU München)</i>	Projecting Alpine climate extremes in the 21 st century
14:35 – 14:55	<i>Knight Hall</i>	<i>Prof. Dr. Matthias Braun (FAU Erlangen)</i>	Alpine glaciers in a changing climate
14:55 – 15:15	<i>Knight Hall</i>		Alpine permafrost in a changing climate
15:15 – 15:45	<i>Knight Hall</i>		Closing discussion

Poster Sessions 16:00 – 18:30

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

Icebreaker 18:30 – 20:30

19:00 – 21:00	<i>Foyer</i>	<i>Icebreaker with cold drinks</i>
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April 3rd, 2025 (Thursday)

Challenges of VAO Mountain Research in a changing climate – Keynote Presentations (part 2) 09:00 – 11:00

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

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

11:30 – 12:00	<i>Knight Hall</i>	<i>Alenka Smerkolj</i> <i>Prof. Maria Shahgedanova</i> <i>Dr. Tobias Hipp</i>	Alpine Convention MRI DAV – German Alpine Association ESA (<i>enquired</i>)
12:00 – 12:30	<i>Knight Hall</i>	<i>Prof. Dr. Michael Rast</i>	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>	<i>Prof. Dr. Michael Krautblatter</i>	Introduction to the Workshops
14:15 – 15:45	<i>tba</i>	<i>Moderators (prop.): Prof. Dr. Ralf Ludwig (LMU München) Prof. Dr. Manuela Brunner (ETH Zürich) Dr. Nadine Salzmann (SLF Davos)</i>	Atmosphere - Geosphere - Cryosphere– Hydrosphere coupling in a changing climate
14:15 – 15:45	<i>tba</i>	<i>Moderators (prop.): Prof. Dr. Giovanni Crosta (UNIMIB Milano) PD. Dr. Thomas Fickert (University Passau) Prof. Dr. Dr. Johannes Wallacher (HFPH Munich)</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>Prof. Dr. Ralf Ludwig (LMU München) Prof. Dr. Manuela Brunner (ETH Zürich) Dr. Nadine Salzmann (SLF Davos) (prop.)</i>	Atmosphere - Geosphere - Cryosphere– Hydrosphere coupling in a changing climate
16:30 – 16:45	<i>Knight Hall</i>	<i>Prof. Dr. Giovanni Crosta (UNIMIB Milano) PD. Dr. Thomas Fickert (University Passau) Prof. Dr. Dr. Johannes Wallacher (HFPH Munich) (prop.)</i>	Geosphere– Biosphere – Human coupling and Hazards in a changing climate
15 min		<i>Technical break</i>	

Fishbowl 17:00 – 18:30

17:00 – 18:30	Knight Hall	<p><i>Moderation: Prof. Dr. Michael Krautblatter (VAO)</i> <i>Speaker (prop.):</i> <i>Alenka Smerkol (Alpine Convention)</i> <i>Dr. Tobias Hipp (DAV – German Alpine Club)</i> <i>Prof. Maria Shahgedanova (MRI)</i> <i>Prof. Dr. Eliza Harris (HFSJG)</i> <i>Dr. Markus Keuschnig (O-A-Lab Kitzsteinhorn)</i> <i>Dr. Marc Zebisch (EURAC)</i></p>	Public discussion on 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	Conference Dinner	(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>	Prof. Dr. Michael Krautblatter	Introduction of the VAO Observatories & Overview of Observatories and available Data Germany: Umweltforschungsstation Schneefernerhaus (UFS) Switzerland: Hochalpine Forschungsstationen Jungfrauoch / Gornergrat (HFSJG) Slovenia: Geological Survey of Slovenia Austria: Glacier Observatory Vernagtferner Austria: Open-Air-Lab Kitzsteinhorn Slovakia: Observatory Lomnický štít (<i>enquired</i>) Austria: Observatorium Sonnblick (<i>enquired</i>) Armenia: Aragats (<i>enquired</i>) Bulgaria: BEO Musala (<i>enquired</i>) Czech Republic: Ionosfericka Observator (<i>enquired</i>) France: Observatoire Mont-Blanc (<i>enquired</i>) Italy: Eurac (<i>enquired</i>)
09:05 - 09:10		Dr. Till Rehm	
09:10 - 09:15		Prof. Dr. Eliza Harris	
09:15 - 09:20		Dr. Mateja Jemec-Auflič	
Etc.		Dr. Christoph Mayer	
		Dr. Markus Keuschnig	
		Dr. Jan Kubančák	
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>	Current benchmark projects and future activities of the VAO
11:00 – 11:30	<i>Knight Hall</i>	Closing ceremony

Poster Program (Gallery Hall)

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

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 2025 (extended to 25. February 2025)

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 07:32-10:14

Bus 660: Zell am See – Kaprun Maiskogelbahn 10:23-10:41

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.

