Inspector Rolly's test report In summer on the Stubnerkogel

Date: Wednesday, July 08th, 2020

Location: Stubnerkogelbahn, Bad Gastein

Summary:

- ✓ Designated parking space for people with disabilities
- ✓ Barrier-free toilet facilities at the valley and mountain stations of the Stubnerkogelbahn
- ✓ Barrier-free cash desks
- ✓ Barrier-free cable cars
- ✓ Barrier-free suspension bridge
- ✓ Barrier-free viewing platform "Glocknerblick"
- ✓ Barrier-free summit restaurant
- ✓ Professionally trained and helpful staff







Visit from Inspector Rolly

The Gasteiner Bergbahnen invited the experienced tester inspector Rolly in summer 2020. Peter Deutinger was asked to test the mountain cable cars and the offerings on the mountain regarding accessibility. On July 8th, 2020 the Stubnerkogel in Bad Gastein was put under the microscope.



Arrival and parking

Inspector Rolly arrived at the Stubner-kogel by private car. There is a parking space for people with disabilities between the valley station and the glass transition from the Felsentherme or Bad Gastein train station. If you are traveling with a larger group, I recommend that you register in advance. If required, additional parking spaces for people with disabilities can be reserved directly at the valley station.

Ticket purchase and toilets

The ticket offices of the Stubnerkogel cable car can be reached within a few meters and the way there is wide and flat. Since the cash desks for people in wheel-chairs are a bit high, it is an advantage if you are traveling with an accompanying

person. Beside the cash desk, there is a barrier-free toilet. The toilet is accessible with an Euro key. If you don't have the Euro key with you, you can also ask at the cash desks and you will get a Euro key.

Cable car entry and ride

Then we accessed the cable cars. To do this, you drive around the valley station and you have to overcome a short incline. However, the lady at the cash desk immediately informed the cable car employees after purchasing the ticket and they were immediately ready to help. To get to the entrance to the cable cars, there was a ramp at the entrance which made it possible to overcome the stairs without barriers. Now we went into the cable cars. Entry was effortless, because there was no level difference between the cable cars and the valley station and the gondolas are very wide. They are suitable for every type of wheelchair, except for possibly extra-wide models. The benches in the cable cars can also be folded up if necessary.



Attractions on the mountain

After the approx. 12-minute cable car ride, we reached the summit of the Stubnerkogel at 2251 m. No change was necessary at the middle station and the exit at the mountain station was easy. We were able to leave the mountain station barrier-free via the terrace of the summit restaurant. The breath-taking view made our wheelchair hearts beat faster. First, we visited the viewing platform Glocknerblick. The way there is approx. 250 m long, wide enough for the wheelchair and only marked by a small incline. When we arrived at the Glocknerblick plateau, we were rewarded with a 360° panorama of the surrounding mountain landscape and we could even see the Grossglockner (Austria's highest mountain) because the weather was totally sunny. At the end we did the highlight of the Stubnerkogel, the



140 m long suspension bridge. It can be reached via the barrier-free access of the restaurant. It was a unique experience

for me as a wheelchair user to be able to cross this almost transparent suspension bridge and to be able to drive over it with the wheelchair over 20m above the abyss.



Restaurants

If you want to stop off after these experiences, my clear recommendation is the mountain restaurant, right next to the mountain station of the Stubnerkogelbahn. You can drive around the restaurant without any problems and either sit on the beautiful terrace or inside. There is also a handicapped accessible toilet.

Conclusion

In conclusion, I can say that the Stubnerkogel cable car in Bad Gastein is highly recommended for people with disabilities in winter and in summer, and I rate the trip as very disabled-friendly. However, you should always have a cell phone with you on the mountain or it is of course nicer to do this special trip with an accompanying person.

About Peter Deutinger

The Dorfgasteiner has been in a wheelchair since an insidious illness. However, he never lost his positive attitude on life. In 2003 he started to examine various facilities for wheelchair friendliness. Though that Mr. Deutinger got the Golden Badge of Merit of the Republic of Austria.

