

## Ay caramba! Another two top routes in the Chiemgau Alps

Urkopf is the eastern boundary of an appr. 8 km wide cliff whose western boundary is Steinplatte (see the SigmaDeWe topo "[Combination of routes at Steinplatte](#)"). High above the small town Lofer in the province of Salzburg the climber's eye is attracted by a particularly prominent section of Urkopf. Right in this area are the, what we think, most beautiful routes of Urkopf. Different from the neighboring Steinplatte most of the routes here are very well protected. The approach is short and comfortable, the routes are reached from above by abseiling.

**"Die Nase"** is one of the hardest routes on Urkopf. Because of the numerous bolts the stress factor is low, and if it were only to reach the top this is relatively easy to accomplish. A redpoint ascent, however, requires great stamina and a very good technique, especially in the third and fourth pitch. P1 starts with a crack in a yellow dihedral (7), a good warm-up. In P2 one continues to climb the crack for about 10 meters to a section which is often wet, especially after several days of rain or in spring (it really resembles a dripping, slimy nose). If you see it in this condition already from the bottom, it is better not to climb the route. The difficulty of P2 is in the upper part, after leaving the crack to the right (8). P3 is the crux pitch which follows a thin, right ascending crack. After a relatively easy start with large holds the climbing becomes very complex (9+) without any significant rest points up to the exposed hanging belay (which was made more comfortable with a wooden board). P4 starts with a small overhang with good holds, the real difficulty (9-) is a short passage in the subsequent, very exposed left traverse. The complicated face climbing on tiny holds (8) at the beginning of P5 becomes more and more easy towards the belay. P6 then offers moderate, enjoyable face climbing (7+). The last pitch is common with the exit pitch of "Schöne Tage" (7-). After the third bolt you have the choice to exit to the right over water grooves without bolts (5) or to the left with 2 more bolts (5).

Equally spectacular is the route **"Schöne Tage"**, but less steep, considerably easier and with a more demanding protection. P1 starts with an awkward passage between the 1st and 2nd bolt which can lead to a grounder, if your belayer does not pay attention. The following climbing is spacious and becomes more and more athletic and well protected towards the belay (8). P2 starts with large holds, followed by delicate friction climbing in the middle part, and ends with good holds but little protection (7+). Also in P3 the difficult sections consist of complicated slab climbing (7) with some runouts. The highlight of the route is in P4: a 20-meter traverse of utmost exposure (8-). There are many bolts, an intermediate belay possibility, and a long fixed cord to get back to the wall in case of a fall, because 80 meters of void are under your feet. P5 is pure fun climbing on gray rock with large holds where, at the end, a left traverse leads to the not visible belay (7-). The exit pitch is of somewhat lower rock quality and homogeneity than the rest of the route (only one short 7- passage over a small overhang).

**Approach:** From the small town Lofer drive up the narrow road to Loferer Alm (it turns into a toll road after a few kilometers, €7,50 fee). Park at the end of the toll road at Gasthaus "Schönblick".

**Start of the routes:** Go southwards towards "Lachfeldschneid" until a pond (15 min), first on paved, then on dirt road. Turn right just before the pond and follow a trail to the rucksack depot at the edge of the cliff (appr. 30 min. in total). Abseil 2 times (chains) and go westwards at the base of the wall until you reach the start of "Schöne Tage" after about 100 meters (self-made bolts, name of the route marked). About 50 meters further, on the highest point, is the start of "Die Nase".

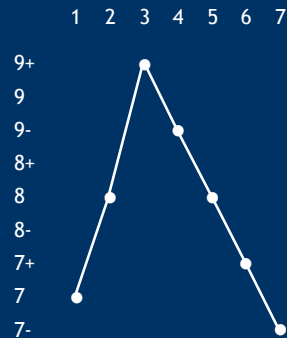
**Guidebook:** Adi Stocker, Kletterführer Steinplatte, Panico Alpinverlag 2010 and J.Brüderl [http://bruederl.userweb.mwn.de/Klettern/Topos/Urkopf\\_beschr.html](http://bruederl.userweb.mwn.de/Klettern/Topos/Urkopf_beschr.html)

### Die Nase

ED-, 9+(8-), S1  
S, 1400 m a.s.l.

F.Amann et al. (2000↑)

160 clm (20 vam)



overall impression ★★★★★

climbing ratio 70%

variety ●●●

scenery ●●●

exposure ●●●

rock quality ●●●

steepness | \

fun factor ●

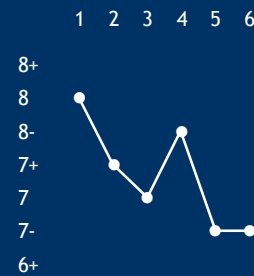
### Schöne Tage

ED-, 8(7+), S2  
S, 1400 m a.s.l.

F.Scheidhacker (1994↑)

H.Wizani

160 clm (20 vam)



overall impression ★★★★★

climbing ratio 67%

variety ●●●

scenery ●●●

exposure ●●

rock quality ●●●

steepness | /

fun factor ●





Die Nase: The crux passage in P3.



# Die Nase & Schöne Tage on Urkopf (AT)

Multi-pitch climbing routes in the Alps



Die Nase: The crux P3.



Die Nase: At the end of P5.



Schöne Tage: The first pitch.



Schöne Tage: The spectacular traverse in P4.