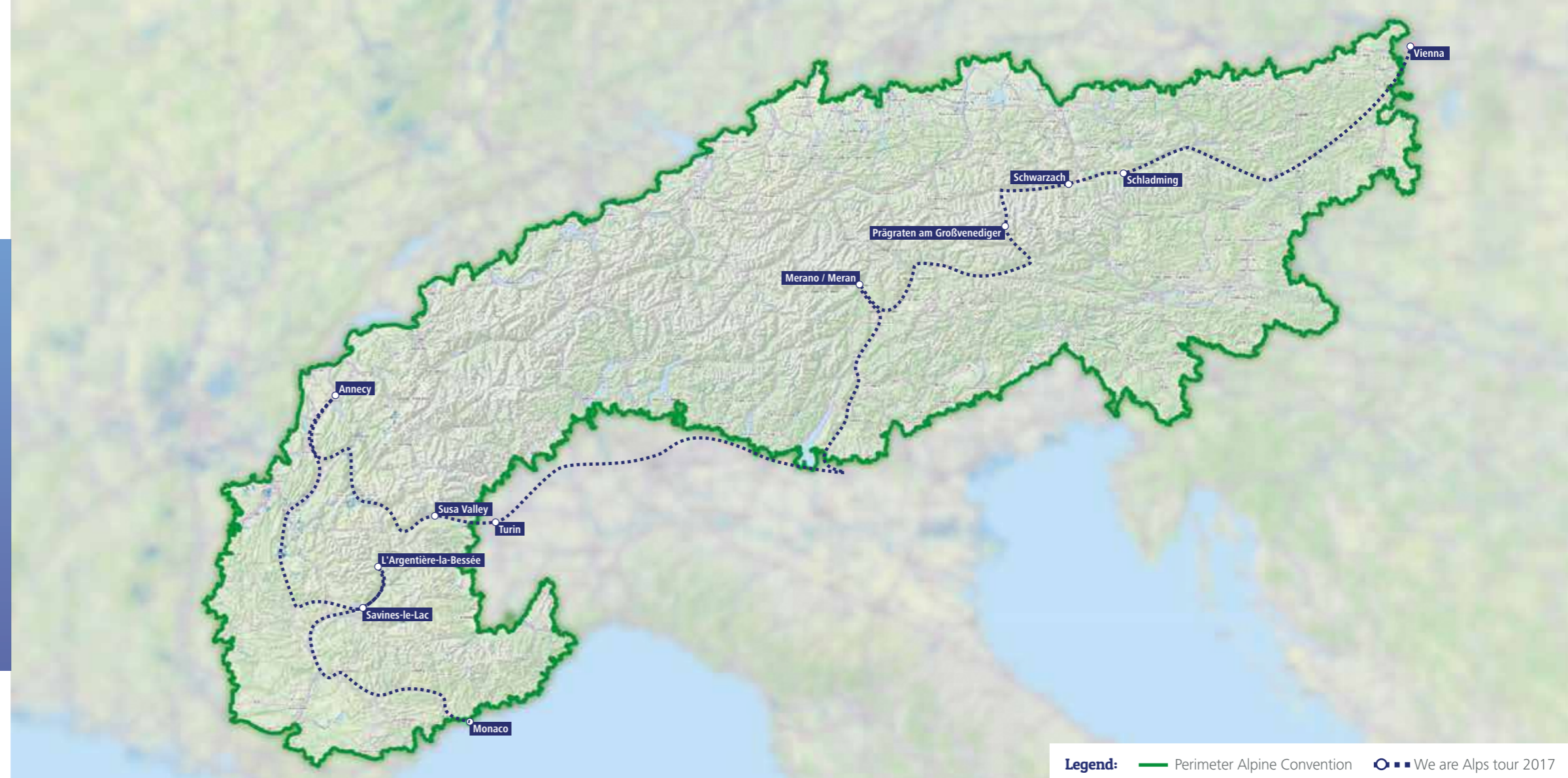




WATER IN THE ALPS

25TH JUNE – 2ND JULY

From: Vienna (AT) To: Monaco (MC)



Legend: — Perimeter Alpine Convention ●—● We are Alps tour 2017

Tour: Vienna (AT) ▶ Schladming (AT) ▶ Prägraten (AT) ▶ Merano/Meran (IT) ▶ Susa Valley (IT) ▶ Anancy (FR) ▶ Savines-le-Lac (FR) ▶ L'Argentière-la-Bessée (FR) ▶ Monaco (MC)



The “Water in the Alps” tour

Welcome to the 2017 edition of the “We are Alps” tour on Water in the Alps. The “We are Alps” tour is an initiative of the Permanent Secretariat of the Alpine Convention to raise awareness on specific alpine topics along an international journey using sustainable means of transport.

Whether as glacier, snow, waterfall or lake, water is present on many Alpine postcards. Large parts of Europe benefit from the freshwater of the Alps. Water is stored as ice and snow in the mountains and partly released to the rivers in spring and summer. It is needed for drinking water and households, irrigation, sports and hydropower; these uses sometimes compete with each other and with the needs of aquatic ecosystems. Water is also a major factor in natural disasters, from avalanches and floods, to the melting of permafrost and landslides, to water scarcity and droughts. Water in the Alps is also affected by climate change.

With the “We are Alps” tour we are spreading the messages of the Alpine Convention, the international treaty for the sustainable development and protection of the Alps signed by the 8 Alpine Countries (Austria, France, Germany, Italy, Liechtenstein, Monaco, Slovenia and Switzerland) as well as the European Union.

Ambassador Markus Reiterer
Secretary General of the Alpine Convention

We would like to sincerely thank all our partners in this project:



WATER IN THE ALPS 2017

day 1

Sunday
25TH JUNE

Vienna

Where the Alpine water flows

The "We are Alps 2017" starts in Vienna, the seat of the current presidency of the Alpine Convention. Though outside the perimeter of the Alpine Convention, Vienna is significantly linked to the Alps. We will jump on bikes and explore the Danube River. At the Donau-Auen National Park we will have a presentation of the Alpine Convention, the We are Alps tour and an introduction to the Water in the Alps topic, the Alpine Convention's Water Management Platform and the EUSALP Action Group 6. There may also be a chance to have a swim!

- 13.00 Meeting at the Hotel Royal
13.15 – 14.00 **Biking** to Donau-Auen National Park
14.00 – 16.00 Presentation of the **Alpine Convention, We are Alps tour and the Water topics**
17.00 – 18.00 Swimming and **biking** back to the city
19.00 Dinner

Overnight: Hotel Royal (Singerstraße 3)



day 5

Thursday
29TH JUNE

Merano/Meran > Turin

From past to future

Walking around Merano/Meran, we will learn about the importance of floods in the town's history, the "Waale" - the irrigation channels formerly used to bring water to the vineyards and orchards and the need to preserve water biotopes. In the train towards Turin we will have a presentation on MySnowMaps - an app collecting meteorological data from the stations and users on the weather and snow.

- 07.30 Meeting time
08.00 – 11.30 **Walk** by the **Passer/Passirio River** and "Waale"
12.00 – 13.00 Lunch and discussion with the **municipality**
13.16 – 18.55 **Train** to Torino, on the train presentation of **MySnowMaps project**
19.00 Dinner

Overnight: Hotel Diplomatic (Via Cernaia 42)



day 2

Monday
26TH JUNE

Vienna > Schladming

Letting the water flow

We will start the day by visiting the historic water tower and cistern at Vienna Water Works. We will then take the train to Schladming and have an excursion on the town's management of flood risk from the River Enns and its torrents, and how to conjugate the EU Flood and Water Directives.

- 07.45 Meeting time
08.00 – 9.00 **Tramway** to Vienna Water Works
09.00 – 11.00 Visit of **Vienna Water Works**
12.25 – 16.09 **Train** to Schladming
16.15 – 19.30 Visit of the **flood protection measures on River Enns and the Trenkbach torrent by bike**
20.00 **Walk** to the dinner and discussion with the **municipality**

Overnight: TUI Blue Pulse (Coburgstraße 54)



day 6

Friday
30TH JUNE

Turin > Susa Valley > Annecy

A clean success

In the morning, we will find out about riverine vegetation restoration along the Dora Riparia River in Susa valley. We will then cross over to France and see the biodiversity of Lake Annecy on a short cruise. We will also find out how the city is using the lake's water for heating and visit the drinking water plant. At dinner we'll discuss the importance of the cooperation between Alpine municipalities, such as Alpine Town of the Year and Alliance in the Alps networks.

- 07.30 Meeting time
08.15 – 09.30 **Train** to Oulx-Cesana-Claviere-Sestriere
09.30 – 11.00 Visit of a **riverine vegetation management project**
11.13 – 14.07 **Train** to Annecy
15.00 – 16.00 Presentation of the **heating system with lake water**
16.30 – 17.30 **Boat trip** on Lake Annecy
17.30 – 18.30 Visit of the **drinking water plant**
19.30 Dinner and discussion with the **municipality**

Overnight: Hôtel du Palais de l'Isle (13 rue Perrière)



day 3

Tuesday
27TH JUNE

Schladming > Prägraten am Großvenediger

Water cycle

We will visit Schladming's waste water treatment plant and snow production facilities, before continuing our route towards Prägraten am Großvenediger. We will stop on the way in Schwarzach for lunch with the "whatsalp" team, which has embarked on a 4-month hike across the Alps to find out the changes over the past 25 years. At dinner we will find out about the history of the creation of the Hohe Tauern National Park, which protects one of the largest glacier areas in the Alps.

- 07.30 Meeting time
07.30 – 08.45 **Bike** to the **waste water plant**
08.45 – 12.00 **Bike** and **cable car** to the **snow production facilities**
12.10 – 13.05 **Train** to Schwarzach
13.15 – 15.00 Lunch and presentation of the **whatsalp project**
15.12 – 18.25 **Train** and **buses** to Prägraten Hinterbichl
19.00 Dinner and discussion with the **Hohe Tauern National Park**

Overnight: Hotel Heimat (Hinterbichl 10)



day 7

Saturday
1ST JULY

Annecy > Savines-le-Lac > L'Argentière-la-Bessée

From hydropower to water sports

Moving South, we will stop for a visit of the Serre-Ponçon water reservoir on small boats. We will learn how to balance the needs of water sports with those of hydropower and irrigation. We will continue upstream along the Durance River to L'Argentière-la-Bessée which has managed to develop a year-round wild water sports activity.

- 07.15 Meeting time
07.46 – 13.04 **Trains** and **bus** to Savines-le-Lac, on the train presentation of **ecological connectivity**
13.15 – 14.15 Lunch and discussion with **Serre-Ponçon reservoir development organisation**
14.30 – 16.45 Visit by **fast boat** on **tourism development** and compatibility with **hydropower**
16.54 – 18.07 **Bus** to L'Argentière-la-Bessée
14.30 – 16.45 Visit of the **regional canoeing & kayaking training centre**
20.00 **Dinner and discussion with the municipality**

Overnight: Hotel de la Mairie (32 avenue Charles de Gaulle)
Hotel Glaizette (32 rue de la République)

day 4

Wednesday
28TH JUNE

Prägraten am Großvenediger > Merano/Meran

Learning by doing: hiking, bathing and drinking

On our morning hike to the Umbal waterfalls, we will discuss water ecology issues as well as visitor management. We will hear a presentation of the HyMoCARES project on the restoration of the Adige River along which we will be traveling to Merano/Meran. In the late afternoon we will visit the alpine spa and enjoy the local mineral water.

- 08.15 Meeting time
08.30 – 12.30 **Hike** to the Umbal waterfalls
12.50 – 18.15 **Buses** and **trains** to Merano/Meran, on the train presentation of the **HyMoCares project**
18.30 – 20.00 Visit of the **Merano Spa**
20.30 Dinner and discussion with **the tourism authority**

Overnight: City Hotel Merano (Meinhardstrasse 41)



day 8

Sunday
2ND JULY

L'Argentière-la-Bessée > Monaco

The big blue

With an early morning start, we will travel through the foothills of the Maritime Alps towards the Mediterranean coast. Along the way we will learn about Concert-Eaux, a cross-border climate change adaptation project to secure the water resources of the Roya valley. We will conclude our trip with salty water in Monaco, seeing how seawater heat pumps are being used to cover a significant part of the energy needs of the Principality.

- 05.45 Meeting time
06.13 – 14.57 **Train** and **Bus** to Monaco, on the train presentation of the **Concert-Eaux project**
15.30 – 16.30 Visit of the **seawater heat pumps**
16.30 – 18.30 **Hike** in Monaco or **swimming** in the sea
19.00 Farewell dinner

Overnight: Hotel de France (6 rue de la Turbie)

