



YOTA SUMMER CAMP 2026

Bulletin No.1



25 JULY - 1 AUGUST 2026



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> ***WELCOME ON BOARD***

Youngsters On The Air started in 2011 in Romania. Florin Predescu, YO9CNU, invited about 10 European youth teams to gather together in the beautiful place of Campina. This was the early beginning of YOTA. Within a few years, YOTA has grown exponentially. We are happy to say that, since the conference in Varna-Bulgaria 2014, YOTA is officially part of the International Amateur Radio Region 1 and mainly funded by IARU R1 budget. But also the inviting society and sponsors contribute to YOTA.

This event was last held here in 2016, almost 10 years ago. Now, as a special anniversary, it is finally returning to us – making it an even more meaningful and exciting occasion for everyone involved.

All types of amateur radio activities will be included in the next programs. Nonetheless, the curriculum will include a cultural component. With teams from the Middle East and Africa in addition to European teams, it's getting even bigger now that it's heading to Austria! Teams from Regions 2 and 3 have been invited.

Let's make sure that the youngsters will get an unforgettable time, learn a lot about and make many new worldwide friends!



> **WELCOME TO AUSTRIA**

Dear fellow young amateurs!

The time for the YOTA camp has come closer and we are already very excited. We all agree, that it is vital for the future of Amateur Radio Service to attract and promote young operators into our societies.

This year the Austrian Amateur Radio Society OeVSV—celebrating its 100yrs anniversary is hosting YOTA2026 summer camp near Salzburg from 25. July –1st August 2026.

About 110 young ham operators in age between 15 to 25 years from 30 countries are invited to spend one week in Austrian mountains, having fun with Amateur Radio activities and practical workshops, optimizing their skills in electronics and contesting, but also building bridges in international friendship of Amateur Radio Service and Ham Spirit.

In order to spread the seeds of this wonderful event to other regions, participants from America and Asia are expected, making this year's summer camp in Austria a really worldwide event!

So in the name of the Austrian Amateur Radio society, the organizing team and IARU RI. we would like to welcome you to this event and are looking forward to get to know your personality, your ideas and passion for the future of Amateur Radio.

Let's have fun and good DX!

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Florian OE3FTA

and Michael, OE1MCU

President of OeVSV





Members of the Austrian team will be present at the Ham Radio fair in Friedrichshafen (DL), where the ÖVSV stand (A1-272) will serve as our meeting point throughout the event. All youngsters and team members are warmly invited to stop by, get to know each other, and spend some time together at the stand.

On Saturday afternoon, we will gather for a special flag ceremony, followed by a relaxed get-together and small stand party to connect and celebrate together. In addition, teams will have the opportunity to drop off items for the camp in advance at the stand, which can be especially helpful for those traveling with limited luggage space.

CAMP LOCATION

Wagrain is located south of Salzburg in the Austrian Alps and is about one hour by bus from the international airport.

At an altitude of around 900 meters, Wagrain offers a variety of attractions and activities, including hiking and other outdoor experiences.



ACCOMMODATION



<https://www.oberwimm.com/de/jugendhotel-wagrain.html>

- Located in beautiful scenery on large open field outside of town
- Large seminar rooms (90+ people) for workshops and presentations
- Large indoor sport hall, football field, beach volleyball, basketball, sport grounds, etc.
- Fire place for evening events and BBQ
- 200m away from a cable car
- 300 m from Water World (indoor & outdoor pools, slides)
- Excellent food on all-inclusive basis with free non-alcoholic drinks
- Fire place for evening events and BBQ
- Teams will reside in modern 2-6 bed rooms each including shower/WC &TV.



> **ATTRACTIONS NEARBY/EXCURSIONS**

01



Castle On The Air (COTA)

The former fortification was built between 1075 and 1078 by order of Archbishop Gebhard of Salzburg as a strategic stronghold on top of a 155-meter-high rock. Today, the historic site is not only an impressive landmark of medieval architecture but also known for its spectacular falconry flight displays. At the falconry centre, vultures, red kites, falcons, and other birds of prey demonstrate their natural flying skills several times a day, offering visitors an unforgettable experience. A COTA activation will also be included as part of the program.

02



Eisriesenwelt Werfen – Ice Cave

In addition, participants will have the opportunity to experiment with underground radio wave propagation using VHF/UHF radios. While exploring the extensive cave labyrinth, which stretches over more than 40 kilometres, they can gain hands-on experience with signal behavior in subterranean environments.

<http://www.eisriesenwelt.at/en/home.html>

03



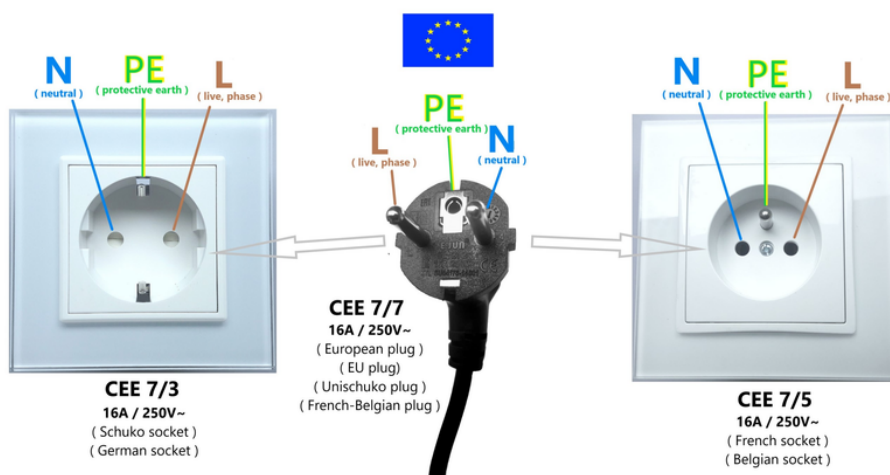
Summit On The Air (SOTA)

Using the cable car next to the hotel, we will ascend to a summit at around 1800 to 2000 meters altitude, offering stunning panoramic views and mountain lakes. From this high vantage point, participants can attempt long-distance VHF/UHF QSOs using handheld radios or test HAMNET links on 2.4 or 5 GHz between summits, reaching even into Germany. Additionally, we will use a self-made HF antenna for SOTA activations and mountain-top contacts.

CHECKLIST (PROPOSED THINGS TO BRING)

- Passport or ID card
- Travel and health insurance (obligatory!)
- Necessary medicines if needed
- Amateur Radio License (if you have one)
- Mobile Phone with a charger
- Shampoo and shower gel
- Toothbrush and paste
- Beach Towel and swimming suit
- A lot of T-shirts (one official tshirt will be provided to each participant)
- Sun Cream – good protection & Sunglasses (if you use)
- Cap to protect from the sun
- Good Sport shoes and **warm clothes** for some activities on mountains & in ice cave (cold!)
- Waterproof raincoat (Just in case it starts raining)
- QSL cards (if you have any)
- VHF/UHF Handheld radio
- Laptop (at least 1/team)
- Torch/headlamp
- Permission from parents in the form of parental consent letter (if under 18)
- Your national flag (at least 1/team)
- Clothes from your country (like national t-shirt)
- Power plug adapter (if not EU standard)
- Daypack / small backpack for excursions
- Reusable water bottle (very important)

European plug and sockets



INTERCULTURAL EVENING

Tradition since the first YOTA is the Intercultural evening. All teams are asked to bring local food and drinks from their home country. This is the chance to show your country to the participants, everyone will taste the local foods and drinks brought by you. You will get a table where you can place food/drinks and other attributes to show your host country. Please bring your country flag. Prepare a short (max. 1 minute) presentation about the things you brought. This evening is one of the most requested evenings of all the participants. Give it your best!

RADIO STATION

We will have a super radio station in Wagrain. Thanks to our sponsors there will be 3-4 HF-Stations and a VHF/UHF All-Mode Station with PA (1kW) and hopefully really big antennas. The requested special Callsign is OE2YOTA. Each team should make reservations and use the station several times! Rules of the station will be explained on location. We should try to be "on air" as much as possible to spread awareness of our activity and YOTA.

HOMEWORK

There is one task for all teams. It's the team leader's job to make sure everyone is involved: PREPARE ENERGIZER / ICE BREAKING GAMES Every team should prepare some small games that we can play (inside or outside). The games should be easy to explain and take 10 minutes max. Some small equipment (ball, sticks, paper/pens etc.) can be used, please contact us in advance if you need anything.

PAYMENT

As you already know, every participant has to pay a sum of 35 euros. You can either:

Pay cash on arrival

or

Credit transfer:

Accountname: ÖVSV Dachverband

IBAN: AT46 3241 3000 0011 9313

BIC: RLNWATWWLAA

Message: Please include your name and callsign as payment message

AIRPORT PICKUP/DROP OFF

Pickup and drop off airport or train station SALZBURG

We will arrange the transfer from Salzburg to the camp in Wagrain for all attendees which arrive on Saturday. We ask all attendees to inform us about the scheduled arrival time two weeks in advance.

We then plan the exact time for pickup and will inform you via mail.

Please also inform us about early arrival (before Saturday) and late departures to plan pickup and hotel.

ALCOHOL & SMOKING POLICY

In Austria, people under 18 years are not allowed to buy and consume any kind of alcoholic drinks or buy cigarettes. This rule also counts for our event and it is the team leader's responsibility to make sure that participants obey this. The hotel is NON-SMOKING in all rooms.

FAQ

If any of you have any question: we are going to create an FAQ document that will be available on the YOTA web site. So feel free to send your question to camp2026@mailing.ham-yota.com (or directly to oe3fta@oevsv.at).



CONTACT INFORMATION

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WEBPAGE

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