

Cretaceous/Paleogene-boundary and Paleocene/Eocene-boundary sections at Gams and Lower Eocene at Krappfeld

Introduction

Today we start with a 3 hours bus drive, passing by two lakes (Mondsee and Attersee) in the Salzkammergut area and then going through the Gesäuse-Gorge of the Enns river. This scenic drive will bring us to Gams, a small village that is the centre of the only Geopark in Austria. During the lunch break, we will have time to visit the exhibition in the Geopark museum. Among other items of geological interest, a polished block of the K/Pg-boundary from the Knappengraben section is on display. We will not visit this outcrop, but will have our first stop after the lunchbreak at the better exposed and less remote Gamsbach section. From there, we will walk to the Pichler section where the Paleocene/Eocene section crops out. After visiting these two outcrops, we have another bus ride, of about 3 hours, to the hotel in the convent of St. Georgen, at Längsee (Fig. A3.1). On the way, we will make a photo stop at Erzberg, which is the largest open cast mine in Austria.

On Friday, our first stop will be a photo stop near the Hochosterwitz fortress. Then we will examine lower Eocene outcrops in the Fuchsofen quarry and the Höhwirt sections, both of which are very rich in the larger foraminifera. After eating, we will go back to Salzburg on the motorway crossing the Central Eastern Alps. For participants who want to get off at Villach to catch a train towards the south, we will make a short stop at the railway station.

Notes:

- Arrange your own breakfast and assemble at the carpark of St. Virgil (Ernst-Grein-Straße 14, 5026 Salzburg; Tel. +43-662-65901-516) for departure at 8.30 a.m. sharp.
- Lunches will be arranged at Gams and Guttaring. Dinner will be at the Hotelrestaurant at St. Georgen (Stift St. Georgen am Längsee, Schlossallee 6, A-9313 St. Georgen am Längsee; Tel+43-4213-2046; office@stift-stgeorgen.at).
- Route: Salzburg (St. Virgil) – Gams – Erzberg – St. Georgen am Längsee (Overnight) – Klein St. Paul – Guttaring – Villach (– Salzburg)
- Accommodation at Salzburg (arrival time ca. 4 pm) has to be arranged by the participants.



Figure A3.1 ◀
Convent of St. Georgen



Figure A3.2 ▲
Route map for Field Trip A3