

# On the move

Like all glaciers, Hintertux moves under its own weight, like a thick porridge. It's so heavy and exerts so much pressure that the firn and snow melt without any increase in temperature. The meltwater makes the bottom of the heavy glacier slippery and more able to flow across the landscape. Hintertux moves up to 60m each year!

# Snow fun

Hintertux is a popular destination for skiers and snowboarders, so we nervously join the hundreds of people queuing for the cable cars that carry passengers safely up and down the mountainside every day. Because many of the cable cars' struts are supported by *moving glacial ice*, the pillars need to be repositioned several times each year to ensure that the gondolas remains safe. Yikes!

# Speedy snow

A glacier's speed depends on the land lying under it — it varies as it flows over rocky ridges or around corners. And as it flows, changes in speed cause stress in the ice, creating crevasses (deep cracks) near the glacier's surface.

# Icy interior

At the Natur Eis Palast (Nature Ice Palace), near Hintertux's highest cable car station, we're invited to climb 25m down *inside* one of these giant crevasses! Using a combination of steps and ladders, we explore the mysterious world of icy stalagmites, stalagmites, sparkling crystals, frozen waterfalls — and even a 15m-deep glacial lake, inside the ice!

# Monster of the cold

Legend has it that a 6m-tall giant once lived in the beautiful valley below, gobbling up everything in sight and turning it into a barren landscape. He was eventually banished to live deep inside the Hintertux Glacier — and it's said the Tuxer Giant can still be seen, frozen in the depths of the ice, today. Spooky!



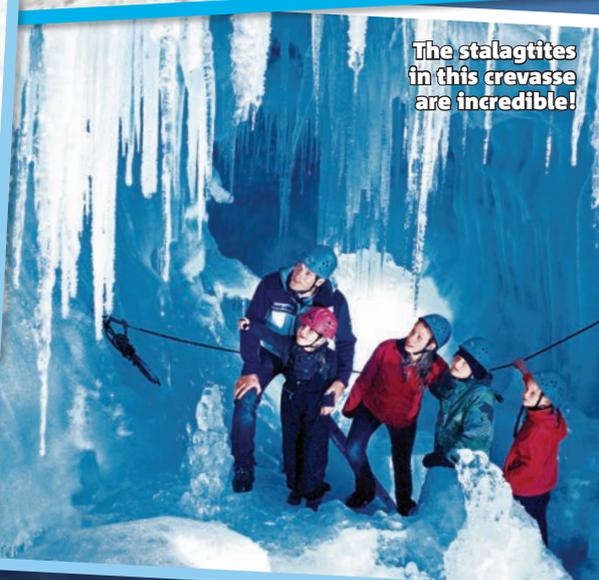
Cable cars are the best way to get up and down the mountain



It's snowjoke on the slopes!



Are you ready to explore the inside of a glacier?!



The stalagmites in this crevasse are incredible!



Do you dare shake hands with the Tuxer Giant?!



A simple plank of wood hides the entrance to the Ice Palace!

The temperature inside the Nature Ice Palace is a constant 0°C

## DID YOU KNOW...?

Fast-moving glaciers, which can slide 50m in a day, are known as 'surging' or 'galloping' glaciers.

NG Kids flew to Austria with EasyJet and stayed at the **Erstes Kinder- & Gletscherhotel Hintertuxerhof** in **Tux, Zillertal**. Find out more at **hintertuxerhof.at**  
For more information about Zillertal, head to **zillertal.at** and **austria.info**

Ice Palace family, skier and cable car: Tourism Tux-Frickenberg. All others © Tim Herbert.