

Merano

THE ALPINE-MEDITERRANEAN WAY OF LIFE

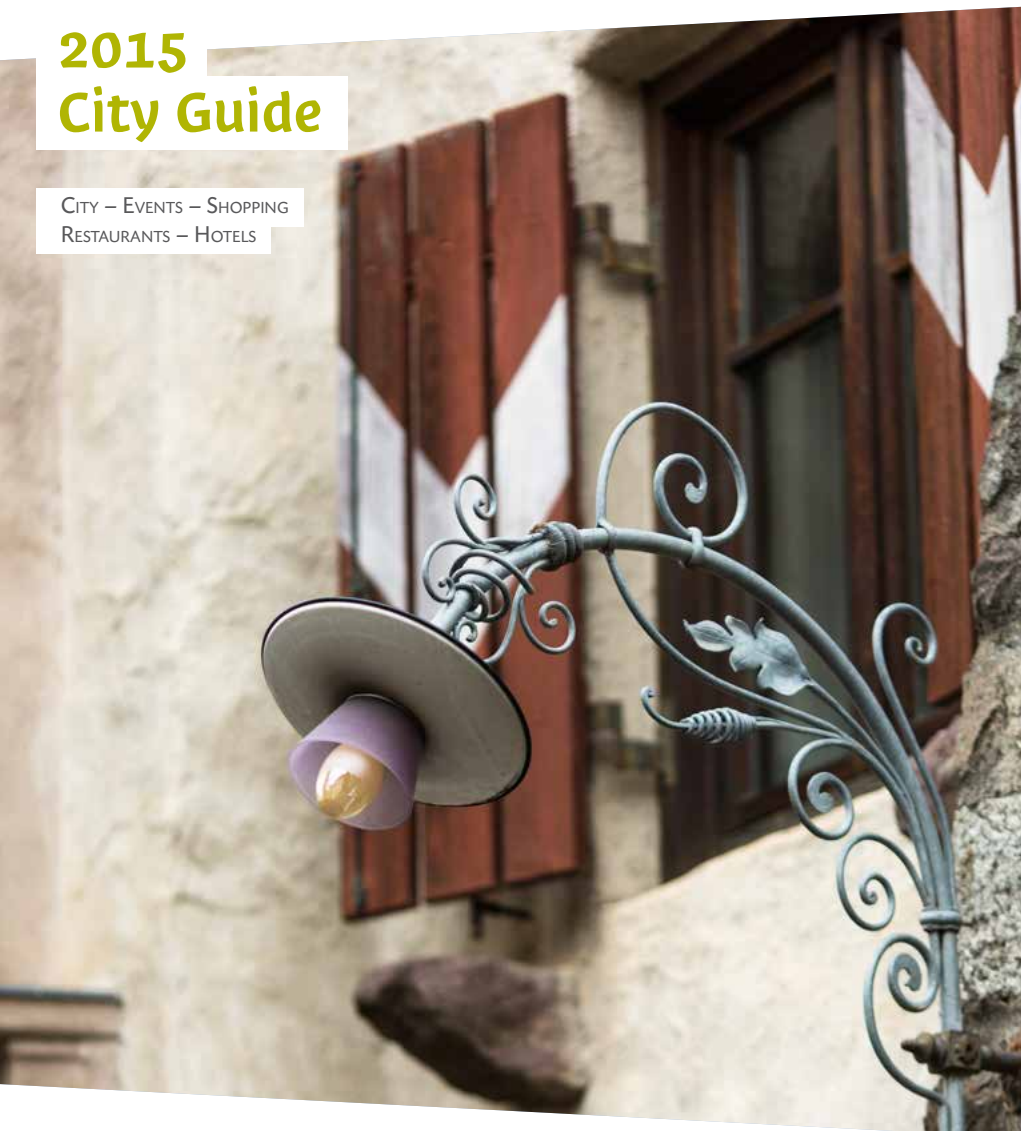


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2015 City Guide

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**INGRID
HOFER**

President
of the Merano
Tourist Office



**JOACHIM
ELLMENREICH**

President
of the Merano
Old Town
Association

Dear Guest,

Merano is a city with nearly limitless possibilities. Whether you are interested in cultural events, fine dining, a wide variety of sports and recreational activities or top-flight relaxation: Merano offers everything that makes a holiday unforgettable – all set against a stunning backdrop.

In the 2015 City Guide, we present Merano's many facets in a compact format. The clearly arranged design makes this guide an indispensable practical companion for your stay in Merano, irrespective of the season in which you visit. Insider tips also offer new ideas to those who already know Merano well, and hopefully will inspire you to enjoy some in-depth sightseeing.

On behalf of the Merano Tourist Office I wish you good reading and a lovely stay.

Dear Visitors,

What is more wonderful than wandering through Merano's old town, strolling from this shop window to that café?

Enjoy the rich and varied choices available in and around our city.

Numerous cultural events await you as do untold options for rest and relaxation.

We hope that this handy guide will help you navigate quickly and effortlessly.

Let your spirit soar: Merano, the city with charm!

Merano
Tourist Authority



Merano

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PUBLISHER: Merano Tourist Office
PHOTOGRAPHS: SMG Photo, MGM Photo/Frieder Blickle, Werbefoto Tappeiner Foto Press, Fotopress Arigossi, Othmar Prenner, Clorenzo Masin, Karl Stanzel, Damian Pertoll, Helmuth Rier, Harper Rain, Eventguide, Martina Gruber/LARS, Die Gärten von Schloss Trauttmansdorff, Sandy Kirchlechner, Stefano Scatà, Chiara Boggian, Stefano Bolognesi, Matteo Giropo, Alex Filz, Marion Prossliner, Gourmet's Int., Hannes Niederkofler, Gigi Somnese
PRINTING: Südtirol Druck, Merano
TEXT: Merano Tourist Office, Bettina König, Simone Facchini, Rosanna Pruccoli, Lorenzo Viti, Cassandra Han, Ernst Müller, Jonas Benedikter
GRAPHIC DESIGN: LARS Communication & Marketing · www.lars.it

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ADVANTAGE CARDS



GUESTCARD

This advantage card, valid in the Merano and Environs area, offers many ideas for great experiences that won't break the bank. GuestCard holders receive exclusive reductions at museums, cable cars, sports facilities and recreational activities, providing many good reasons to explore Merano and Environs. The GuestCard is free of charge. Just ask your host desk or host upon arrival (partner of the Merano Tourist Office). The card is valid for the duration of your stay.

Info: www.merano.eu, www.meranerland.com



MERANO AND ENVIRONS BUSCARD

The Merano and Environs BusCard is valid for 7 consecutive days following the date of initial use and may be used on all buses in and around Merano (including City Buses). The Merano BusCard costs € 15.00 and is available in tourist offices (free for children under 6 years of age).

Info: www.merano.eu, www.meranerland.com



MUSEUMOBIL CARD/MOBILCARD

The Mobilcard grants the holder 1, 3 or 7 consecutive days of unlimited use on all public transport in South Tyrol. The offer includes city buses, interurban lines and regional railways (from Brennero to Trento, from Malles to San Candido) as well as several public cable cars (Renon, San Genesio, Meltina, Verano, Mendel and Meransen). Holders of the museumobil Card get a double benefit: In addition to granting unlimited use of all public transport (3 or 7 consecutive days) this advantage card entitles the holder to one free entry into each of South Tyrol's approximately 80 museums. Both cards are available at South Tyrol Integrated Transport offices and your local tourist office.

Info: www.museumobilcard.info, www.mobilcard.info

Mobilcard

Prices:	Adults	Juniors (6–14 years)
Mobilcard (1 day)	€ 15.00	€ 7.50
Mobilcard (3 days)	€ 23.00	€ 11.50
Mobilcard (7 days)	€ 28.00	€ 14.00

museumobil Card

Prices:	Adults	Juniors (6–14 years)
museumobil Card (3 days)	€ 28.00	€ 14.00
museumobil Card (7 days)	€ 32.00	€ 16.00

Please see page 92 for information on the **BIKEMOBIL CARD**.

MM MERANER MARKT MERCATO MERANESE

Running from late March to October, the Merano Market is the new meeting place for epicures in the lovely atmosphere of the town center. Seasonal fruits and vegetables sourced exclusively from South Tyrol, local specialties, quality hand-crafts and many surprises are offered in a contemporary yet traditional setting. It's an ideal spot for a sustainable shopping experience, an aperitif or a voyage of discovery in search of South Tyrolean flavors and traditional expertise.

» The Merano Market takes place on Saturdays from 28 March to 10 October, between 9:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m., on the upper part of Corso Libertà.

Info: www.merano.eu/meranermarkt, Tel. 0039 0473 272000

Merano

THE ALPINE-MEDITERRANEAN WAY OF LIFE





HIGHLIGHTS 2015

MERANO SPRING FESTIVAL

FIRST OCCURRENCE OF FESTIVAL: 28 MARCH TO THE END OF MAY 2015

Merano Spring brings the city into bloom: in the spring of 2015, two educational trails will bring Merano into dialogue with art and the city will offer a variety of different initiatives.

Mother Nature conjures up the perfect backdrop for the Merano Spring Festival: she greens the mountains and her reawakened forests; she covers the blossoming orchards with a luminous white dress; and she adorns the city with flowers and plants, many of which are of exotic origin.

Merano Spring is a festival with many different facets. Below you'll find listed the most important components.

More information can be found in a brochure available at the Merano Tourist Office (Corso Libertà 45) or online at www.meran.eu/en/nature/spring-in-merano/.

TRAIL: ART & NATURE 2015

A dozen renowned artists from around the globe designed twelve different locations, including: Via Cassa di Risparmio, the Passer Promenade, the passageway between via Roma and via Josef Innerhofer, Marconi Park, Elisabeth Park, the Summer Promenade and the Stone Bridge. From the Stone Bridge you can walk back to the town center along the Winter Promenade. Art & Nature 2015 also involves the Gardens of Trauttmansdorff Castle and the towns of Naturns and Schenna. The project's curator is the Canadian land-art expert John K. Grande, and the festival will be carried out in cooperation with Kunst Meran.

TRAIL: ELEANOR AND THE EAGLE

Eleanor and the Eagle is a children's art book written and illustrated by Harriet Russell. The narrative around the little girl Eleanor's stay in Merano serves as a template for trail comprising several installations that connects several of Merano's pathways and attractions. The works of art were specially designed for the project, and relate the plot of the book in a figurative way. The trail begins at the Prince's Castle (Via Galilei) and runs along a stretch of the Tappeinerweg Trail and Gilf Promenade.

HUMAN SHAPES

Within the framework of the "Human Shapes" project, ten individuals who made an exceptional contribution to Merano's cultural history during the course of his or her lifetime are represented as busts. The project is planned to last several years. In 2015, busts of the following people will be made: Emma Hellensteiner (1817–1904), pioneer of the Tyrolean hospitality industry; Antonio Manfredi (1912–2001), poet and painter; and the writer Franz Kafka (1883–1924). Three different artists were commissioned with creating the busts. "Human Shapes" addresses the theme of the sculptural representation of a person, but extends this concept to the expression of contemporary art. "Human Shapes" will be exhibited along the Passer Promenade between the Theater Bridge and the Railway Bridge.

THE MERANO MARKET

The new Merano Market (see also p. 5) will open for the first time on 28 March, coinciding with the beginning of the Merano Spring Festival (11:00 am). This weekly market event is planned to be a new meeting place for anyone who loves natural and handcrafted South Tyrolean products (available for sale). The offering includes seasonal farm-fresh products, Speck ham, other meat specialties, wild berries, wine, spirits and bread. Handcrafted items, such as wool and felt products, gift baskets, jewelry and glassware round out the offer at the Merano Market.

The Merano Market will be held from 28 March to 10 October 2015, every Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on the upper part of Corso Libertà (also Piazza della Rena).

BOOKCROSSING

At Train Station Park, Merano Terme Park and Seisenegg Park, bookshelves will be filled using selected or donated books from Merano Public Library. Visitors to the three parks can read the books at the park or opt also to take the books home and keep them. Books may also be brought and placed on the shelves. All of these services may be used free of charge.

Concerts and other events are form part of the Merano Spring Festival. The trails and attractions may be explored individually or along a chosen route.

ALSO NEW IN 2015

PALAIS MAMMING MUSEUM

As of the spring of 2015, the former city museum will be housed in a fully renovated baroque palace. The museum offers insight into the history of Merano and will display many rare and exotic items (see page 38).

MERANO LIDO

Merano's most popular outdoor swimming pool has undergone extensive renovation work: For example, the large pool has been increased to Olympic size and a diving board has been added to a multifunctional pool with hot tub area. In addition, a new tower (see p. 100) has been built with two water slides.

MOBILE MERANO

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Exploring the city with your smartphone: at monuments and other points of interest scattered throughout various areas of the city, you'll find an information panel showing the QR code, among other things. If your phone is compatible, photographing the QR code will access a website adapted to mobile phones where you'll find information on the monument you're visiting, including facts about the history, architecture or nature.



MERANO BUSES IN REAL TIME

On the website www.bus.meran.eu you can retrieve the real-time positions of all buses running in Merano (city buses and interurban lines). The service is also available on smartphones and tablets.



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INTERVIEW
MARTINO GAMPER

Martino Gamper is a designer who has taken his adopted home of London by storm as the result of a series of sensational exhibitions. His most noteworthy projects include: 100 chairs in 100 days, Bench to Bench – Street Design and the design is a state of mind exhibition at London’s Serpentine Galleries. Gamper’s accolades include the 2011 Moroso Award for Contemporary Art and being chosen as Designer Studio of the Year at the ICON Awards 2014. Despite all of his success, though, the 42-year-old has not forgotten his hometown of Merano, and in fact has been commissioned with designing the Merano Market (see page 5).

From faraway London, Mr. Gamper reflected upon: Which features of architecture and landscape set Merano apart?

To me Merano is a wonderful symbiosis between Alpine and Mediterranean influences. It is a place that is viewed from the outside as very neat and tidy – but maybe I am not entirely objective since it’s my hometown. Merano is first and foremost Central European, in my opinion.

What makes the people of Merano special?

I find the confluence between the Italian and the German cultures in Merano very exciting and am of the opinion that many travelers also perceive this as unique.

How would you describe the city itself, just off the cuff?

I would say that the city is deeply rooted in its history, without being stuck in it. In Merano there are quite a number of pioneering projects and initiatives, in addition to forward-thinking people. There has been a lot of innovation over the last ten years – as far as I can tell from the outside.

Are there some Merano sights that you consider absolute musts?

I think that taking a ride on the chairlift that runs from Merano up to Dorf Tirol is a wonderful experience. When I married my wife, who is from New Zealand, a few years ago, we had the wedding reception above Merano. All of our guests very much enjoyed the views and the ride, which is like going back in time to a different age. The recreational area of Lazag is also a good insider’s tip, in my opinion, and reminds me of my youth in Merano.



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CULTURE & LIFESTYLE

MERANO: A SHORT HISTORY

The history of the Merano Valley Basin has ancient origins, as does the history of the city itself: both are inextricably linked to the transit of people, pilgrims, soldiers and goods. Merano was the site of an ancient Rhaetian settlement, was an important crossroad in Roman times, and developed into a fortified center in the early Middle Ages. In the thirteenth century, the city became the capital of the County of Tyrol and the administrative center of the Burggrafenamt district, which comprises the area between Tel, at the entrance to Val Venosta (Vinschgau), and Gargazon in the Val d'Adige (Etschtal). In the fifteenth century, the Habsburgs became the new rulers of Tyrol and transferred the administrative offices and mint to Innsbruck. Capital city in name only and thus relieved of its political and economic functions, Merano developed into a fashionable address for Tyrolean nobility, who began building elegant mansions in the town during the sixteenth century. Between the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, Merano became a refuge for many of those who had escaped religious persecution in the area of Grisons, the largest and easternmost canton of Switzerland.

It wasn't until the nineteenth century, however, that the city experienced its true renaissance: Merano managed to transform itself into one of the most important health resorts in Central Europe, thanks to the enthusiasm of its researchers and doctors and the vision of some shrewd town leaders. The year 1836 was the turning point in Merano's history and represents the beginning of the area's value as a tourist destination in the modern sense of the phrase. From that point onwards, tourism would play an increasingly central role in the development of the city. It was in 1836 that the Viennese physician Josef Huber published a pamphlet proclaiming the health benefits of Merano's climate and the effectiveness of the city's grape and goat whey cures in treating respiratory and cardiac disease. This free advertising attracted Merano's first guests, who came to the city specifically seeking treatment. Savvy town leaders recognized opportunity knocking and took many steps to further the cause, including the founding of the Azienda di Cura in the middle of the century. Before long, Merano

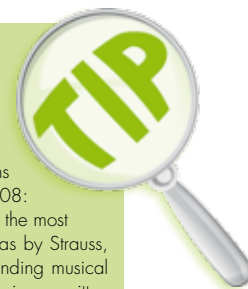
became a favorite destination, not only of the Habsburg aristocracy, but also of Prussian, British, French, and Russian nobility. The emblematic figure of this noble confluence is Empress Elisabeth of Austria, or Sissi, who has been commemorated by the city with a statue and numerous other memorials. New luxury hotels and other infrastructure raised the overall quality of the hospitality sector in the last decades of the nineteenth century. Hotels, guesthouses, and private villas were built to form new garden suburbs on the outskirts of the old city center. Merano's whole economy shifted as a result of these developments, and the town focused squarely on a new, highly profitable resource: tourism. This prosperous trend came abruptly to an end at the outbreak of the First World War. Not long after the end of that war, the Second World War once again halted Merano's slowly recovering economy. It wasn't until the Fifties that the flow of tourism recommenced. Merano was reborn once again as the town resumed marketing the therapeutic benefits of its local water sources – which have safe levels of naturally occurring radon – and began organizing various special events. The town began to attract the musicians, painters, poets and writers who defined the international intellectual development of the era; the city's promotion of itself as a salon and intellectual meeting place was another major factor in its rebirth.

Merano has retained its old charm as a garden city and health resort even today. The elegant architecture, elaborate gardens and lush parks are reminders of a great past that has recently reinvented itself once again in the form of the town's two flagships: The Gardens of Trauttmansdorff Castle, which won the prestigious International Garden of the Year 2013 award, and the luxurious and ultra-modern Terme Merano spa complex.

THE KURORCHESTER

Merano's Kurhaus orchestra represents an important chapter in the history of the city and that of its Merano Tourist Office. The music organization has helped define Merano's cultural life for 150 years: at the beginning of the twentieth century, the group was referenced as "the best *Kurorchester* of the Danube Monarchy." Its prestige is also evidenced by the interest with which musicians responded to the opening up of a post as the orchestra's new director in 1908: 250 conductors from across Europe applied. The orchestra's repertoire included the most popular songs of the respective ages, as well as, of course, waltzes and polkas by Strauss, Millöcker, and Ziehrer. Throughout its history, the program also included demanding musical compositions such as those by Weber, Wagner, Verdi, and Puccini. The many pieces written especially for the orchestra included compositions in homage to Merano and to South Tyrol. In the spring of 2010, the Merano Tourist Office commissioned expert music archivists Karl T. Kogler and Elfriede Hallama with archiving the Kurhaus orchestra's extensive music collection. The lengthy process of sorting and cataloging was completed in July 2013, and the entire Kurhaus orchestra archive, comprising approximately 7,500 works, has since been posted on the Merano Tourist Office website. In addition, the works may be examined upon request at the Merano Tourist Office.

More information is available at: www.merano.eu/orchestra-di-cura



The Passer Promenade in the nineteenth century

THE CITY

Merano is located at an elevation of 324 meters, just at the point where the Venosta, Passiria and Etsch valleys intersect. The climate is remarkably mild due to the unusual geographical position of the basin in which the town lies and the protection afforded it by the high peaks of the Texel Mountain Group. The unique climate allows for the extraordinary presence of Mediterranean and tropical plants, which form a striking visual departure from the Alpine landscape typically found at these latitudes.

THE OLD TOWN

Merano's historical center is situated north of the Passer River, which bisects the city; it comprises the *portici* covered arcade connecting Piazza del Grano and Piazza Duomo, the Steinach district, Via Leonardo da Vinci, Via delle Corse, and the three city gates that are still preserved. Walking through the city is like a journey into the past. The Via dei Portici, built in 1200 at the behest of Count Mainardo II of Tyrol, is a 400-meter-long corridor of arches, supported by masonry columns, connecting Piazza Duomo and Piazza del Grano. The façades date from various periods and are enriched by characteristic protrusions. Behind any one of the façades, you are likely to find a complex series of courtyards or perhaps haphazard stairways nestled into each other and connected by dark passageways. Traditionally, the arcades were divided into two categories: the Water Arcades (the side on which the river flows) and the Mountain Arcades (closer to the mountains). Back then, the portici were not



MERANO'S DRINKING FOUNTAINS

There are 69 public water fountains in Merano. Twelve of these fountains are located in the city center, and are indicated on the map published by the Merano Tourist Office. The tourist information office (corso Libertà 45) will provide, upon request, a leaflet about the history of Merano's drinking water, which includes these twelve fountains. For more information, please visit: www.umwelt.gemeinde.meran.bz.it/brunnen/historical.



The Portici covered arcade

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interrupted by the Cassa di Risparmio and Via Galileo Galilei and were thus the longest arcades in Tyrol. They were split in 1913 to allow through traffic to cross the city. Nowadays, people distinguish between the Upper Portici and the Lower Portici. The *Laubengasse*, or road running under the portici has been the lifeline of the region's tradesmen since the Middle Ages. In the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries, the road terminated just opposite the cathedral at the mint, which was the driving force of commerce back then. Steinach Ward, which lies between the cathedral, the Passeier Gate, and the right bank of the Passer River was the heart of the town during the days of the Counts of Tyrol; this is where the town was originally founded in the thirteenth century. Many of the district's well-preserved buildings are reminiscent of the original character of the city, especially in the vicinity of the former Santer Klause restaurant, which was one of Merano's oldest, next to the Passeier Gate.

Up until 1881, the spa town had four medieval city gates. Today, only three are still preserved: The Venosta Gate on the western end of Via delle Corse is probably the oldest. First mentioned in 1290, it saw some architectural modifications in the eighteenth century and served as a prison for a period of time. In fact, the celebrated Tyrolean freedom fighter Andreas Hofer was imprisoned there and subjected to interrogations at the Graf von Meran Hotel. The Passeier Gate, to the north, features a typical tower with a slender, sloping roof covered in ivy. This gate is considered to be the most artistically complex of the three extant city towers; sections of the long-demolished city walls are still attached to the gate. The southern Bolzano Gate dates back to the fourteenth century, and is preserved in its original condition. On its south-facing façade, we see a fresco portraying a double eagle and a relief featuring three coats of arms belonging to Austria, Tyrol and Merano. The Ulten Gate in the east no longer exists. It stood at present-day Piazza Teatro, but was sacrificed in 1881 to through traffic and the construction of the piazza.

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Bell tower of the Pfarrkirche St. Nikolaus cathedral



The Passeier Gate

A TOUR THROUGH TURN-OF-THE-CENTURY MERANO

Beautiful, elegant and stately public and private buildings are today's remaining witnesses to Merano's importance as a health resort during the turn of the century. We begin our tour of art nouveau Merano at the theater (see p. 19), a gem from the Munich school. We then continue with a stroll along the Promenade to the city's main landmark, the old Kurhaus wellness center (see p. 18), which represents a turning point in the history of the spa town. A little bit further up the river, we reach the elegant Post Office Bridge, built in 1909 in the art nouveau style. The former Esplanade Hotel dominates nearby Piazza della Rena; adjacent is the neo-Romanesque Herz-Jesu-Kirche church. Following the Winter Promenade on the left bank of the Passer towards the Passer Gorge, we encounter the Wandelhalle covered arcade (see p. 70), with its gallery of beautiful painted landscapes.



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Piazza della Rena lies just outside of the Bolzano Gate. The square was named after the sand that the Passer River deposited, in the shape of a loop, between the gate and the river's shore. The beautiful Esplanade Palace, formerly the Archduke Giovanni Hotel, stands directly on the piazza; it is well known as one of Merano's oldest. Up



Stone Footbridge

until 1913, some rooms of the palace housed the post office. The building has been restored to its former glory today, and houses cafes, shops and public offices. Directly across the square is the Hohensaal, which is now the seat of the English Ladies Institute and is run by an order of Catholic nuns who devote themselves to educating children. Adjacent is the neo-Romanesque Herz-Jesu-Kirche church. The Stone Footbridge is the oldest bridge over the Passer River: it connects the Steinach Ward and the old town with the Gilf Promenade and the neighborhood of Maia Alta (Obermais). The bridge was built in the seventeenth century on the site of a wooden footbridge. Because of its design, which recalls the Roman style, it is often misleadingly referred to as the "Roman Bridge".

TRADITION MEETS MODERN STYLE

Who says that culture and shopping don't go together? While strolling through Merano's historical center and taking in the architectural beauty of the town, take the time to stop and do some window shopping: Merano has stylish boutiques and locally made traditional products alike. For shopping suggestions, see pages 116 to 142.





THE KURHAUS

Built on the Passer Promenade, the old Kurhaus wellness center is the symbol of the city of Merano as a spa town and one of the finest multi-purpose buildings in the Alps. Its rooms regularly house cultural and social events, conferences, exhibitions, celebrations and galas. Today, the Kurhaus is a perfect marriage of art nouveau architecture and modern technological solutions. The Kurhaus was built in the second half of the nineteenth century. The original part, the Pavillon des Fleurs, was inaugurated in 1874 and has existed practically unchanged to this day. The building had to meet two functions: to house the health resort and to provide space in which to entertain visitors. Inside, we find rooms intended for smoking and

playing games, others devoted to conversation and reading, a lounge for women, a concert hall, ballroom, stage, and spaces for gambling that were later transformed into a casino. Merano gained a reputation as a conference town when leaders in the international scientific community began holding frequent meetings at the Kurhaus. The new wing, which included the Kursaal, a huge hall designed by Vienna Successionist architect Friedrich Ohmann, was inaugurated on 31 December 1914. Particularly noteworthy are the elegant foyer, wide staircase, gallery, immense ballroom, and concert hall, which today attracts world-class musicians and orchestras. The building is characterized by its stucco, gilded wrought-iron decorations, and frescos. Its main symbols are its rotunda with dome and the well-known tympanum supported by four columns, which depicts girls dancing.

Over the decades, the Kurhaus has continually gained prestige as an event venue. As a member of the Historic Conference Centres of Europe (HCCE), it ranks amongst Europe's most prestigious conference centers. Organizers of congresses and concerts, both local and abroad, book space here for their most important events. The Kurhaus also plays host to the annual meetings of the main cultural and social groups (see next page) as well as the traditional balls. The large-scale events held here every year include the Merano WineFestival (p. 62), one of the most famous of all food and wine festivals, and the Music Weeks Merano classical music festival (p. 56).



THE PUCCINI THEATER

Martin Duffer designed Merano's theater in 1898, and it was inaugurated the following year. Despite numerous changes to the original project during the construction phase, the building reflects the eclectic style popular at the time in Munich, where the architect received his training. The building's marble decorations soften both the exterior and interior spaces. Located in Piazza Teatro, the theater was renamed after composer Giacomo Puccini in 1937.

MERANO AS MEETING PLACE

A strong tradition of hospitality, the unique personality of a Central European city that bridges cultures, cutting-edge yet historically evocative buildings and venues like the Kurhaus, a tried-and-true network of accommodations, and plenty to do in your spare time: this is the mix of elements that has helped Merano establish itself as a center for congresses and conferences held by both public and private companies and associations.

Once again in 2015, Merano and the Kurhaus will be the venue for a variety of different gatherings. One of the highlights is Pharmacon, an international training course for practical and scientific pharmacology held by the Federal Union of German Associations of Pharmacists, which will be held for the 53rd time in Merano from 31 May to 5 June. As part of the 35th ANUSCA (1 to 5 December) conference, meanwhile, representatives of Italy's association of registrars as well as staff members of registry offices from all over Italy will arrive in Merano.

Merano's tourist office supports event organizers in the planning, organizing and implementation of congresses in Merano.

Info: Merano Tourist Office, Corso Libertà 45,
www.merano.eu/kongresse/
 Tel. 0039 0473 272000

standing professionalism in the wellness sector. Merano also has a long tradition in hospitality, a strong and actively practiced cultural heritage and an acute awareness about the environment and the region's natural products. These are all pieces of a mosaic that has, over time, formed the foundation upon which the city has built its relationship with its visitors and with its own residents, who live a healthy daily life as a conditioned response. Being in Merano, then, means coming into contact with an ancient tradition. The approach to nature, to treatment, to therapies, to the benefits derived from walking outdoors, to the natural elements of the region, including food: all of these things contribute to an experience that ultimately benefits one's health.

SLOW WELLNESS

Slow Wellness uses materials and ingredients coming from the surrounding natural environment in its therapeutic application. The Terme Merano spa complex embraces this philosophy in its line of products as well as in its treatments. For example, you can buy cosmetic products made from apples or indulge yourself in a cosmetic butter massage made with arnica, rose petals, or grapes; you can even discover the beneficial effects of chestnuts.



SPA AND WELLNESS

Today, the showcase of this tradition is the new Terme Merano (see page 22), which puts its faith in the use of South Tyrolean products. Many of Merano's tourist facilities also offer wellness departments and professionals dedicated to the wellbeing of guests, in ever-growing numbers. Even those who have none offer guests a holiday that focuses on wellness and health, values inherent in Merano's identity, and encourage them to walk and to enjoy the pleasures of nature and good food.



MERANO: CITY OF WELLNESS

In the nineteenth century, Merano became one of Europe's most famous and popular spa towns in a short period of time: here, one could enjoy the healthy air and find relief from a variety of ailments the whole year round. The sunny winter months, with few rainy days and a mild climate, were ideal for patients who were undergoing treatment or convalescing. In spring, people came to Merano for the serum cure. The celebrated Merano autumn brought the acclaimed grape cure: the sweet, dark local variety of grape used in the cure is an effective natural detoxifier. Today, the moniker City of Cures has evolved into City of Wellness. In our modern days, wellness is defined as a state that encompasses the psychological, spiritual and emotional spheres in addition to that of the physical body: this notion is much more holistic than ever before.

IDEAL CONDITIONS

Merano is known as the City of Wellness because it has the circumstances and conditions necessary for locals and guests alike to attain a strong sense of wellbeing: a mild climate, a beautiful landscape, high quality of life and long-

HEALTH AND CULTURE

Celebrated intellectuals, writers, painters and composers ranging from Franz Kafka to Ezra Pound have walked along Merano's trails, many of which were conceived by expert physicians, including the Passer Promenade, the Gilf Promenade, the Tappeinerweg Trail and mid-mountain trails. These footpaths serve not only to benefit the health but also to inspire creativity: good health engenders good ideas.

As a result of its particular brand of tourism, Merano has built a bridge between wellness and culture that is now an integral part of the community. The Merano resident has, in a relatively conscious way, benefited just as much from the city's distinctive qualities, mild climate, and vast network of trails as has the visiting tourist.

TIP



PURE RELAXATION FOR BODY AND SOUL

IMMERSE YOURSELF AND ENJOY: THE TERME MERANO

The Terme Merano spa complex offers visitors the ultimate experience of relaxation in a unique setting: Alpine mountain peaks fused with an urban, Mediterranean atmosphere. Star architect Matteo Thun, who designed the complex, has created a modern oasis in the heart of the historical spa town. His large glass cube is a compelling example of clean, modern architectural lines; it also offers breathtaking views of the mountains and gives visitors the feeling of being in close contact with nature. Nestled into the extensive grounds of the spa's own park, complete with shady groves of mature cypress trees, the Terme Merano comprises fifteen indoor and outdoor pools, open throughout the year, and ten more in the park, open from mid-May to mid-September. In addition, there is a sauna complex comprising eight saunas and steam baths. The spa park is especially inviting in summer: its romantic lily pond and bathing trail are ideal places to wile away balmy days. For those dedicated to a more active lifestyle, the complex also houses a fully equipped fitness center. The Spa & Vital Center provides a wide range of treatments based primarily on natural South Tyrolean produce such as apples, grapes, whey, wool and hay, as well as its own range of apple-based cosmetics.

OPENING HOURS

Pools	Mon-Sun	9 a.m. - 10 p.m.
Pools in the park	Mon-Sun (May 15 th - September 15 th)	9 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Sauna	Mon-Fri	1 p.m. - 10 p.m.
	Thu (only ladies)	11 a.m. - 6 p.m.
	Thu (mixed sauna)	6 p.m. - 10 p.m.
	Sat/Sun/holidays/school holidays*	9 a.m. - 10 p.m.
SPA & Vital Center	Mon-Sun	9 a.m. - 7 p.m.
	Mon/Wed/Fri	9 a.m. - 10 p.m.
Fitness	Tue/Thu	6:30 a.m. - 10 p.m.
	Sat	9 a.m. - 8 p.m.
	Sun/holidays	9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
	Sun/holidays	9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Bistro	Mon-Sun	9 a.m. - 11 p.m.
Childcare Center	Mon-Sat	9 a.m. - noon
	Mon-Sat	3 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Shop	Mon-Sun	9 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.

* according to the South Tyrolean school calendar, except summer months

PRICES OF ADMISSION VALID FROM 15 MAY 2015 TO 14 MAY 2016

Weekdays	Thermal Baths	Thermal Baths & Sauna	Children (4-13 years)
2 hours	12.50 €	18.00 €	8.50 €
3 hours	13.50 €	20.00 €	9.50 €
Day ticket	18.50 €	25.00 €	11.50 €
Weekend & National Holidays	Thermal Baths	Thermal Baths & Sauna	Children (4-13 years)
2 hours	15.00 €	20.00 €	11.00 €
3 hours	16.00 €	22.00 €	12.00 €
Day ticket	21.00 €	27.00 €	14.00 €

Children until 3 years: free admission

In summer, from 15 May to 15 September, the Terme Merano does not add on a weekend surcharge. All prices are subject to change without notice.

Terme Merano, Piazza Terme 9, I - 39012 Merano, Tel. 0039 0473 252 000, info@termemerano.it, www.termemerano.it





MERANO: THE GARDEN CITY

Greenery and flowers grow in every nook and cranny of Merano: it is not a coincidence that the City on the Passer is also known as Garden City. More than 16 hectares of parks and 18 kilometers of walking paths, adorned with flowers and lined with well-tended greenery, shape the appearance and feel of the spa resort town. Its many green spaces and leafy footpaths are a living testament to Merano's mild climate and sheltered location.

A BLOOMING WORLD OF WONDERS: THE GARDENS OF TRAUTTMANSDORFF CASTLE



A unique rendezvous between art and nature: The Gardens of Trauttmansdorff Castle, located on the eastern outskirts of Merano and situated within a natural amphitheater, boasts more than 80 garden landscapes from around the world. Highlights include a number of unique Experience Stations, Artist Pavilions and a spectacular viewing platform designed by star architect Matteo Thun in addition to attractions like the Forbidden Garden and the Botanical Underworld. As a result of its striking look and superb design, Trauttmansdorff – which has only been open since 2001 – was named Italy's Most Beautiful Garden in 2005 and Europe's No. 6 Garden in 2006. Its subsequent crowning as International Garden of the Year in 2013 vaulted the unique complex into the ranks of the world's most beautiful gardens and parks.

From the magnificent blooming of thousands of tulips to the intoxicating colors of fall foliage, these botanical gardens delight guests over and over again. Musical and culinary highlights range from the "imperial" brunches, called Breakfast at Sissi's, to the top-class world music of the evocative Garden Nights series and from the Trauttmansdorff After Hours events, when hours of operation are extended to 11:00 p.m. on Friday evenings in the summer, to wine tours that include a viewing of the largest and likely oldest vine in the world.

Trauttmansdorff Castle sits enthroned in the center of the gardens: this imposing structure, where Empress Elisabeth once spent some winters, now houses the South Tyrol Museum of Tourism, known as the Touriseum (p. 39). Inside the castle's rooms, which have been staged in a spirited and entertaining way, visitors go on an exciting journey that follows 200 years of tourism history from the perspective of the traveler as well as that of the locals. There is also an intriguing exhibition about Trauttmansdorff Castle's illustrious residents and guests.

TIP WATER BLOOMING LAND-ART INSTALLATION AND SPECIAL GARDEN TOURS

As part of the Spring in Merano Festival (p. 6), the Water Lily Pond will become a work surface for a land-art installation created by Japanese artist Ichi Ikeda. In April, the artist and UN ambassador will create his latest work here, entitled Water Blooming.

The best way to gain insight into Trauttmansdorff's richly diverse gardens is to take a tour. The 24-member team of well-trained guides leads visitors through the gardens, giving informational tours in German, Italian, English, French and Spanish. For more information, please visit www.trauttmansdorff.it/besuch-planen/fuehrungen.



DATES FOR 2015 EVENTS

- Breakfast at Sissi's

Sundays in early summer: 7, 14, 21, 28 June and 5 July (from 9:00 a.m. to noon)

- Trauttmansdorff After Hours

Fridays in June, July and August (from 6:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.)

- Garden Nights World Music Festival

June, July and August, starting at 9:00 p.m.

2015 HOURS OF OPERATION:

1 April to 31 October: 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. (last admission: 6:00 p.m.)

1 to 15 November: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (last admission: 4:00 p.m.)

Fridays in June, July and August: 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. (last admission: 10:00 p.m.)

ADMISSION PRICES FOR 2015 (includes gardens and museum):

Adults: € 12.00; Families (2 adults with children under 18): € 26.00; Seniors (65 and over): € 10.00; Children and Juniors (6–18 years): € 8.50; Students (under 28 years): € 8.50; Children (under 6 years): free

THE GARDENS OF TRAUTTMANSDORFF CASTLE AND THE TOURISEUM

Via San Valentino 51a

Tel. 0039 0473 235730 (gardens), Tel. 0039 0473 270172 (museum)

www.trauttmansdorff.it, www.touriseum.it



MERANO: A CITY FOR HORSE LOVERS

Horse races have been among the city's most important events since the end of the nineteenth century. The unique atmosphere of the Merano Racecourse provides the setting for these competitions, which feature horse and rider together on center stage in a spectacular show. The town's relationship to horses has been an important part of its history, particularly in the village of Hafling, just above Merano, from which the Haflinger breed of horses takes its name.

THE MERANO RACECOURSE

The Merano Racecourse is one of the most beautiful and largest horseracing facilities in Europe. It opened in 1935 on grounds of about 40 hectares, after a construction period of just one year. Today, the racetrack is the setting for one of the most spectacular events in horseracing: the steeplechase. Some of the most important races in Italy take place here in Merano. The best jockeys Italy has to offer position themselves on the Merano racetrack head to head against competitors from abroad. German and Eastern Europeans have joined the traditionally strong French steeplechase riders over the last few years. The races are thus not only more international, but also more exciting.

Merano's horseracing tradition goes back more than a hundred years. It began, in fact, with the construction of the first racetrack in Maia Bassa at the end of the nineteenth century. That track was conceived as a new attraction for the already blossoming tourism industry in the city. The facility's inauguration on 22 April 1900 saw the running of the initial test races. Architect Vietti Violi designed a new racecourse in the 1930s; he returned to Italy from Ankara, where he was also building a racetrack, specifically to complete the project. By connecting the Italian lottery to the races, the administrators hoped to attract even more interest in the Merano Racecourse. They did so with great success. The purse of the first race, run on 26 October 1935, was so sensationally high that it earned the moniker Grand Prix of Merano, and a place in history as a race for millions.



Foto Press Argossi

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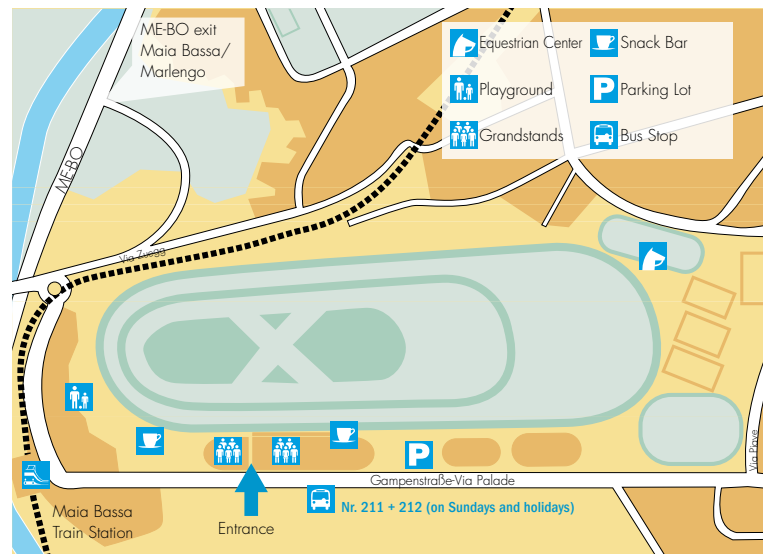


Photo: Wenter

These days, the Merano Grand Prix is run every last Sunday in September (see p. 59), and still has the richest steeplechase purse in Europe. Other highlights of the season include the Haflinger Country Horse Races (see p. 47), which look back on a rich tradition, and the Burggräfler Palio. In addition, there is a derby in each of the two racing seasons: spring and summer/fall. A varied supplemental program for the whole family rounds out the event calendar.

2015 SEASON

Races are held almost exclusively on Sundays. The season runs from May to October. **Info:** Merano Racecourse, Via Scuderie 37, Tel. 0039 0473 446222, www.meranoloppo.it



EQUESTRIAN EVENTS

The Merano Racecourse is a focal point for jump racing events in Italy. Hurdle racing, steeplechase and cross-country are the three main obstacle events in which jump horses compete.

Hurdles courses are usually between 3,000 and 4,000 meters long. The horses jump over hurdles of approximately 80 cm, maintaining high speeds. The materials with which the hurdles are made can range from green, living hedges to wood to synthetic material. Most hurdle races are run on a track laid out in the shape of a figure eight.

The steeplechase is the pinnacle of obstacle horse racing. The most significant race of the season is always a steeplechase: the Merano Grand Prix. The horses must not only clear ordinary hurdles, but also higher and broader obstacles such as a water-filled moat. The course distance is usually between 3,500 and 5,000 meters long.

The cross-country event is the most spectacular of all obstacle horse racing disciplines. As the name suggests, the race is run across a large field. A number of natural obstacles such as ditches, tree trunks or water-filled moats dot the course, which is usually between 3,500 and 5,000 meters in length.

Flat racing rounds out the events on offer at the Merano Racecourse. These races are held on a 2,000-meter-long grass track.



Foto: Press, Argosini



MERANO RIDING CENTRE

Merano and horseracing: this connection has a long tradition. The Merano Riding Centre, with its riding school and convenient location on Via Tennis, offers everything that a horse-lover's heart desires including dressage, vaulting and jumping. This prestigious riding academy is not only for skilled riders, though, but it is also a good place to be first introduced to these imposing four-legged friends. Trainers lead the smallest visitors around the ring on ponies.

Info: Merano Riding Centre, Tel. 0039 0473 232481;
www.centroequestremerano.it

RIDE 'EM COWBOY

Tearing through the woods and across meadows astride your faithful mount, pistol tucked in your belt! Well, maybe not quite. No matter where you enjoy Western riding, though, the feeling is actually quite cowboylike. Those interested in trying it should contact Quellenhof in St. Martin (15 km from Merano; Tel. 0039 0473 645474; www.quellenhof.it): located in the Passeier Valley, you can ride through the woods from there. Those who prefer to be entrusted to a Haflinger horse should head to Sulfner Riding Stables in Hafling (11 km from Merano; Tel. 0039 0473 279424; www.hotel-sulfner.com) or Paur Stables (Tel. 0039 348 7653739; www.reiterhofpaur.com).

Info: www.meran.eu/en/sports-recreation/horse-racing-and-horseback-riding/



BLONDE BEAUTIES: HAFLINGER HORSES

Even though you may not recognize this native South Tyrolean breed of horse by name, chances are you've seen a picture of one before. Perfect for mountain riding and extremely robust, the Haflinger is a very good-natured and light-footed horse. It is particularly well suited for riding through open ground and as a mount for children. Haflingers cause a sensation twice a year at the Merano Racecourse: on Easter Monday (see p. 47) and in mid-October at the Haflinger Country Horse Races during the Maia Octoberfest. It is, of course, possible to see them throughout the year in and around Merano at the stables that specialize in Haflinger horses.



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DISCOVER THE NEW MISTER DADDY



The Gunpowder Tower

IF STONE WALLS COULD TALK: THE CASTLES

Immortalized in stone and rock, Merano's castles are perhaps better custodians of the city's history than any other attraction. In South Tyrol, fortresses gained importance in the tenth and eleventh centuries, when the vassals of the Etsch Valley struggled against the authority of the Bishops and Counts of Trento, Brixen and Chur in order to free themselves from dependence upon them. After the death of Margaret Maultasch, the last Countess of Tyrol, the Austrian Habsburgs inherited the entire area in 1363, and the slow demise of the Tyrolean castles and their owner's rule slowly began. A few of Merano's castles have been converted into museums and are open to the public; others now house hotels, restaurants or wine cellars. Most are privately, however, and therefore unfortunately inaccessible.

RAMETZ CASTLE WINE MUSEUM

Four large rooms at Rametz Castle house an exhibition of equipment used in viticulture. The museum collected these objects, many of which had been simply forgotten, and meticulously restored them. The collection includes tools for working the soil, harvesting grapes, making wine, and transportation, as well as objects used in ancient methods of pest control. The exhibition also displays equipment used in wheat cultivation and the processing of grains, which has a long tradition especially in Val Venosta (Vinschgau).

2015 Wine Shop Hours:

Before 28 March: MO to FRI from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., SA from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and closed on Sundays
30 March to 7 November: MO to SAT from 9 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., closed on Sundays

2015 Wine Museum Hours & Admission Prices

Before 28 March: MO to FRI from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., SA from 10 a.m. to noon and closed on Sundays
Ticket prices for the museum up until 28 March: Adults € 5; Children under 16 free.
Guide and wine tasting from min. 2 people (after 30 March): MO to Fri 4:30 p.m.
Admission prices from 30 March: Tour with wine tasting and souvenir € 14; with the museum Card € 9; Tour without tasting € 9

From the beginning of November on, guided tours are conducted by appointment only.

Info: Tel. 0039 0473 211011, www.rametz.com

SCHLOSS RAMETZ

Crowned by several merlons, this castle is nestled amidst vineyards. According to documents dating from the fifteenth and sixteenth century, the owners were the Von Rametz family. Renovated over a hundred years ago, only the south side and the tower have maintained its original appearance. Today, the castle houses a restaurant and quality winery.

Info: Via Labers 4; Tel. 0039 0473 211011

SCHLOSS FRAGSBURG

The old Fragsburg Castle (today known as Freiberg Castle) is not open to the public. Located at an elevation of 800 meters, it is the highest fortified construction in Merano. The castle offers an enchanting view of the surrounding area. The renowned Fragsburg Hotel & Restaurant is located just next door.

Info: Via Castel Verruca 3; Tel. 0039 0473 244071

SCHLOSS KALLMÜNZ

The merlons of Kallmünz Castle are visible from the parking lot at Piazza della Rena. The first owner of the castle, as documented in 1460, was Judge Kallmünz of Regensburg. The building houses one of the most distinguished restaurants in town. Occasionally, concerts and operas are produced in its gardens.

Info: Piazza della Rena; Tel. 0039 0473 212917

SCHLOSS KATZENSTEIN

The coat of arms of the family who owned it, the Lords of Katzenstein, depicts a sitting cat. It is an architectural gem, with towers adorning the fortress that give it a fairy-tale atmosphere. It has been used as a private residence since a recent renovation, and is situated on a terrace overlooking Sinich.

THE GUNPOWDER TOWER

This ruin overlooking the town of Merano is located on the Tappeinerweg Trail. The structure served as a depository for gunpowder in the sixteenth, seventeenth, and eighteenth centuries.

A TOUR THROUGH MEDIEVAL MERANO

The medieval city center of Merano was preserved up until the middle of the nineteenth century. As the town gained an international reputation as a health resort, things changed considerably. There are many traces of the old city still visible today, however. For example, three of the four medieval city gates (see p. 16) are still standing. We enter the former medieval city through the Passeier Gate and find ourselves in the Steinach Ward (see p. 16), in which numerous buildings dating back to the Middle Ages still remain. Walking in the direction of the portici arcades, we find the St. Barbara-Kapelle, a chapel that in 1450 was added to the Pfarrkirche St. Nikolaus cathedral (see p. 36), which has a Gothic nave. At Piazza Duomo, we also find the old mint (see p. 16) and the start of the portici arcades (see p. 14), under which traders and craftsmen plied their wares during the Middle Ages. We end our tour with the remarkable Prince's Castle (see p. 38), the medieval city palace of the Counts of Tyrol, located within the inner courtyard of City Hall.

PIENZENAU CASTLE

Nestled into a park filled with ancient trees, in the quiet neighborhood of Maia Alta, Pienzenau Castle is steeped in romance and has a charming and inspirational atmosphere (see page 155). **Info:** Via Pienzenau 6; Tel. 0039 0473 235979

RUNDEGG CASTLE

This castle is characterized by a square tower with pavilion roof and striking red and white shutters. It is located at Piazza Fontana, adjacent to a lush park, and today houses a luxurious hotel, complete with a health and beauty farm. **Info:** Via Schenna 2; Tel. 0039 0473 234100

There is a long list of castles in and around Merano: Pflanzenstein, Reichenbach, Rottenstein, Rubein, Winkel and Knillenberg are all magnificent remnants of the rich local history and also possess a great deal of architectural interest.

Absolutely worth a visit is the

THE PRINCE'S CASTLE

right in the center of town (see page 38).

The Prince's Castle

**MONUMENTS****AUSTRIAN EMPRESS ELISABETH, AKA SISSI**

This statue dedicated to Merano's most illustrious guest was erected in 1903. It is located in Elisabeth Park, which adjoins the Summer Promenade, near the Post Office Bridge (see p. 70). The beloved Austrian empress's frequent visits to Merano made the city's prestige soar and contributed substantially to its reputation as a spa resort.

DR. FRANZ TAPPEINER

A statue on the promenade that bears his name commemorates this doctor and scientist who was such a key figure in the development of Merano as a tourist destination.

THE MEASURE OF THE VOID

This sculpture by contemporary South Tyrolean artist Ulrich Egger is made from stainless steel and cement, and measures four meters high and eight meters long. Placed in the center of a traffic circle on the Viale Europa, it plays with symbols such as circular movement, the flow of everyday life, time and space.

JOSEF VALENTIN HALLER

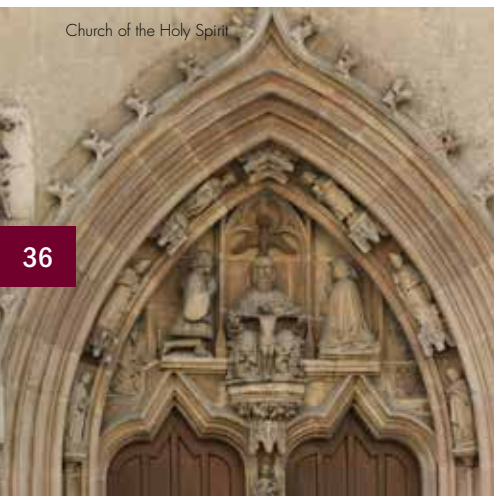
This statue in the Wandelhalle covered promenade, part of the Winter Promenade, was erected in memory of Merano mayor Josef Haller. It was during his long tenure, from 1826 to 1861, that Merano achieved its status as a spa resort town (1836).

ANDREAS HOFER

This bronze statue to South Tyrol's most important freedom fighter is located in a small park in front of the train station. It was erected in 1914 to commemorate the centennial of Tyrol's return to Austria, after years of Napoleonic rule.

Andreas Hofer





PLACES OF WORSHIP

When Merano became famous as a tourist destination in the nineteenth century, the village was confronted with the task of providing places of worship and confession for its many guests. The cosmopolitan atmosphere of the spa town lent itself to a wide variety of faiths: Evangelical, Jewish, Anglican and Russian Orthodox communities settled in. A Buddhist temple and Islamic mosque have existed here for some years as well.

PFARRKIRCHE ST. NIKOLAUS (CATHEDRAL OF MERANO)

This cathedral is dedicated to St. Nicholas, the patron saint of children, sailors, businessmen and merchants, and stands at the top of the *portici* arcade. It is one of the first monuments in Tyrol built entirely in the Gothic style. Mentioned in the historical record for the first time in 1220, the cathedral was enlarged and completed in 1465. Notable exterior features are the numerous frescoes on the southern façade and the richly decorated door with rose window; inside there is a magnificent altar, Gothic choir, sculptures and paintings. The 83-meter clock tower is one of the highest in South Tyrol; directly behind it lies an octagonal chapel, the St. Barbara-Kapelle chapel.

SPITALSKIRCHE ZUM HEILIGEN GEIST (CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT)

This Gothic church on the left bank of the Passer River was built in 1483 on the site of an older church, which had been completely destroyed by a flood. Particularly noteworthy features include the Trinity above the main entrance, the star-vaulted ceiling in the choir area as well as frescoes and statues dating from the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries.

PFARRKIRCHE ZUM HL. VIGILIUS (CHURCH OF SAN VIGILIO)

The bell tower of this church was built on foundations that date back to Roman times. The main building was originally erected between the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries; the current construction was done in 1934–36 over the Gothic apse. Inside, the Gothic altar and frescoes dating from the fifteenth century are worth a look. Nearby, stands the Romanesque Maria-Trost-Kirche church.

The city is also home to the Herz-Jesu-Kirche in Piazza della Rena, the Church of Santa Maria del Conforto on Via Roma, the Church of Santa Maria Assunta in Piazza Mazzini, the Capuchin Church of San Massimiliano next to the Venosta Gate, the St. Georgskirche parish church and the little St. Valentin-Kirchlein church in Maia Alta, an Evangelical church on the Passer Promenade, a synagogue on Via Schiller (along with the Jewish Museum, see page 40), and the Russian Orthodox Church dedicated to St. Nikolaus Taumaturg on Via Schaffer.

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THE MUSEUMS: TREASURE TROVES FULL OF HISTORY

Merano's museums are truly treasure troves, chock-full of history and lore. These museums help relate the story of the spa town's grand past in a style that is both entertaining and informative.

THE PRINCE'S CASTLE

Via Galilei; Tel. 0039 329 0186390;

www.gemeinde.meran.bz.it/de/landesfuerstliche-burg.asp

In the fifteenth century, Archduke Sigismund of Austria built the Prince's Castle behind the town hall. It comprises a courtyard, a battlement parapet, and two floors with a number of small rooms. The furnishings date from the Gothic and Renaissance periods. There is a chapel in the castle featuring a fresco that dates from the sixteenth century. An exhibition of historical weapons and a collection of antique musical instruments are also of particular interest.

Opening Hours: Tuesday through Saturday from 10:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; Sundays and holidays from 10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.; closed Mondays. In summer (TuesdayNight in Merano): 10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and 6:00 to 10:00 p.m.

THE PALAIS MAMMING MUSEUM:

Piazza Duomo; Tel. 0039 0473 270038,

www.gemeinde.meran.bz.it/de/palaismammuseum.asp

The Palais Mammung Museum – formerly the City Museum of Merano – is situated in a newly renovated Baroque palace in Piazza Duomo. The exhibition offers an overview of the city's historical development. The circuit begins with pre- and ancient history and touches all areas of life, finally ending with modern art. However, the most fascinating exhibits of this unusual collection are to be found among its several truly exotic items – including an Egyptian mummy, a collection of Sudanese weapons that belonged to the adventurer Slatin Pascha, a Peter Mitterhofer typewriter and a death mask of Napoleon's.

Opens: 24 April 2015

Hours of Operation:

Tuesday through Saturday 10:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; Sundays and holidays from 10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.; closed on Mondays.

In summer (only during the TuesdayNight in Merano event, see p. 54): 10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Photo: Muck-Palais Mammung



THE TOURISEUM: SOUTH TYROL'S MUSEUM OF TOURISM AT TRAUTTMANSDORFF CASTLE

Via San Valentino 51a; Tel. 0039 0473 270172; www.touriseum.it

Trauttmansdorff Castle, where Empress Elisabeth once spent her holidays, now houses the first museum in the Alps to be comprehensively and exclusively dedicated to the history of tourism: the Touriseum. The museum circuit 250 Years of Tourism in Tyrol begins in the period before 1800, when the Alps were still dangerous and uncharted, and ends with South Tyrol as a modern-day "product" that has established itself as a popular destination for people from all around the globe. The visitor embarks on an exciting journey through time, passing through vividly staged rooms full of unique exhibits. Another highlight is the newly designed permanent exhibition, Trauttmansdorff Castle and Its Illustrious Inhabitants, located on the second floor.

Opening Hours: 1 April to 31 October 2015, daily from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.; 1 to 15 November 2015, daily from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; Fridays in June, July and August: 9:00 a.m. to midnight

WAR AND TOURISM: 2015 SPECIAL EXHIBITION AT THE TOURISEUM

The outbreak of the First World War represented a radical watershed for the southern parts of the Crown Land of Tyrol and the tourism there. The special exhibition entitled War and Tourism focuses on the interrelationships between pre-1914 tourism and the war years as well as the interactions during the period after 1918. How did war and tourism affect each other? What far-reaching consequences did the First World War have on tourism in the well-known areas such as the Dolomites?



Holiday baggage – a bundle of illusions.
— HANS-HORST SKUPY

TOURISEUM

The Touriseum is located in the gardens of Trauttmansdorff Castle, once the only holiday residence of the Empress Sissi, and is the only museum in the Alps devoted exclusively to the history of tourism.

Museum of Tourism, Trauttmansdorff Castle • I-39012 Meran
St.-Valentin-Str. 51a • Tel. +39 0473 270172 • www.touriseum.it





WOMEN'S MUSEUM

Via Mainardo 2, Tel. 0039 0473 231216, www.museia.it

The Women's Museum, which is unique in Italy, recently relocated to the second and third floors of the Banca Popolare building. The historical building housed a Clarisse convent from 1309 to 1782. The upper floor houses the permanent collection, which focuses on fashion and objects used by women in their everyday lives. The museum views fashion as a mirror of society: the exhibition interprets the spirit of each epoch based on its style of dress. The same is true for everyday objects used by women. Every item that finds a place in domestic life, every new activity introduced in a given age (for example, the first "women's" jobs or the introduction of "women's" sports in the twentieth century)

is tied to specific hopes, to a specific end. The space on the lower level houses temporary exhibitions in addition to conferences, seminars and presentations. Visitors may also visit the library: the original literature covers topics like women's fashion and lifestyles. The museum works closely with women's organizations in the city and with national and international cultural associations.

Opening Hours: Until 30 November 2015: Monday to Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Closed on Sundays; In December 2015: Tuesday to Sunday from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Closed on Mondays. Group tours are also possible, upon request, when the museum is normally closed.

MERANO ARTE

Portici 163, Tel. 0039 0473 212643, www.kunstmeranoarte.org

Merano arte organizes exhibitions, concerts, performance, seminars and round-table discussions in a three-story, 500-m² space. It also has a café that serves as a gathering place for the city's cultural scene.

- FROM & TO (7 Feb. to 12 Apr.)
- Kunst & Küche (25 Apr. to 14 June)
- Francesca Woodman & Birgit Jürgenssen (27 June to 20 Sept.)
- Alois Kuperion (2 Oct. 2015 to 10 Jan. 2016)
- The Architecture of the 1930s in Merano, and Urban Planning (4 Oct. 2015 to 10 Jan. 2016)

Merano arte will also participate in the Merano in Spring project (p. 6).

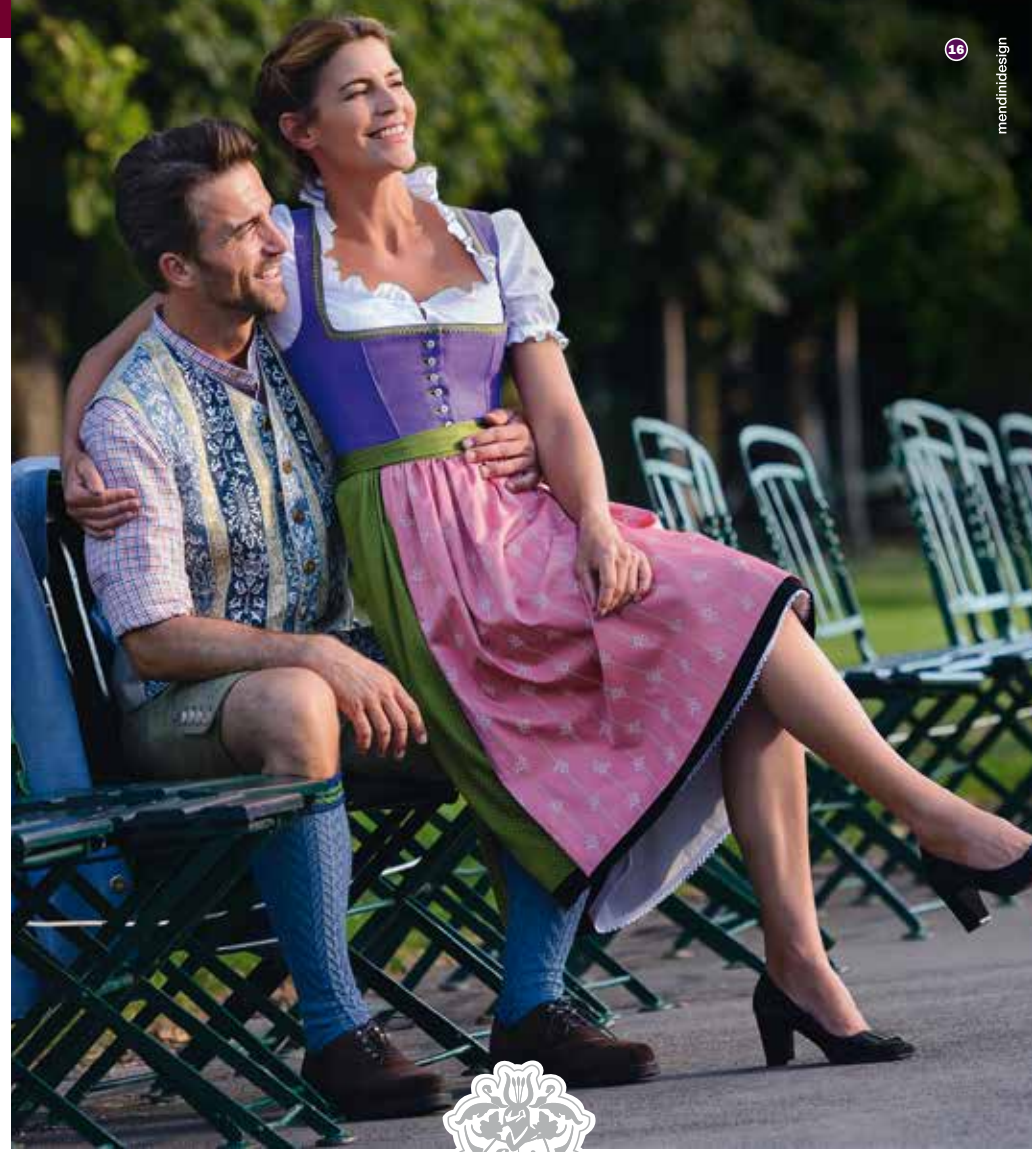
Opening Hours: Tuesday through Sunday from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Closed on Mondays.

JEWISH MUSEUM AND SYNAGOGUE

Via Schiller 14, Tel. 0039 0473 236127
www.juedischegemeindemeran.com, segreteria@meranoebraica.bz

Merano's Ashkenazim Synagogue is witness to a time between the beginning of the twentieth century and World War II, in which the city's Jewish community was one of the most significant in Central Europe and was an internationally renowned cultural center. The museum's exhibition reflects on those years of glory and the tragedy of the Holocaust.

Opening Hours: Throughout the year, except Jewish holidays and Christmas
Tuesdays and Wednesdays: 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Thursdays and Fridays: 9:00 a.m. to noon. Entrance is free.



— 1896 —

RUNGGALDIER

TRACHTEN MODE STOFFE · MODA TIROLESE TESSUTI

I-39012 Meran/o - Lauben 276 Portici - Tel. +39 0473 237454 - www.trachten-runggaldier.com
Opening hours: Mo-Fr: 09 am - 07 pm - Sa: 09 am - 06 pm



MERANO AT NIGHT

Merano's nightlife has become more and more lively over the last years, making spending some time on the town an absolute must. Many bars and several eateries now offer entertainment in the evenings, and there is a rich array of events sponsored by the many different institutions and associations. Merano's main hot spot is the city center: by sunset, many bars here are already filled with people enjoying an aperitif and good friends in preparation for a fun night on the town. Young people from the areas around Merano also head into the city center at night, mingling with tourists, who enjoy being out and about for as long as possible. Piccolo and Rossini, both located on the upper part of Corso Libertà, are two of the most popular bars. Both have outdoor terraces open when it is warm enough outside; concerts are often held in the vicinity. In addition, there is Café Forum, which is also very centrally located.



www.barpiccolo.com

Bar Piccolo is the classic meeting point for the locals, who happily congregate here in their free time. It has been one of the town's most popular watering holes for years, thanks to its fun atmosphere and fabulous bar staff. Competent, attentive, and unfailingly friendly, the bartenders and other service staff are always in the mood for jokes: their good humor and carefree nature are contagious. They are, like the bar's lively clientele, always up for an amusing surprise. Piccolo is open from 7:15 a.m. to 1:00 a.m. Closed on Sundays, except during the Christmas season.

ROSSINI

www.rossini-bar.it

The newly renovated **Rossini Cocktail Bar & Café** is located in the liveliest part of town and is one of the most popular bars. In the morning, you can eat a tasty breakfast; during the day, there are different types of snacks; and in the afternoon, things start to really gear up. People love meeting up here to enjoy an after-work aperitif in a cool atmosphere, whether in the fashionable interior bar or on the casual (heated) terrace. On the weekends and other occasions, carefully selected DJs really heat up the place. Rossini also organizes special events such as the Wine Festival After Party in November; in December, there's the Golden Xmas Party and Christmas Eve, when Rossini's celebrations include champagne and oysters. The bar is open on Mondays through Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 a.m. and on Sundays and holidays from 6:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. For more information, please see our Facebook page or visit www.rossini-bar.it



Photo: Paul Peter Gasser

Stefan and his team are awaiting you every day (except Sundays) at **Café Forum Cocktail & Wine Bar**, which is housed within the monument-protected old city walls. Café Forum opens at 8:30 a.m. with breakfast specialities and offers fresh drinks and snacks to accompany them throughout the day. In the evening, Café Forum becomes a unique spot for an aperitif, a nightcap, or an exotic cocktail. There is live music every Thursday from 8:30 p.m. on. Café Forum is located at Via Leonardo da Vinci 11 (Tel. 0039 0473 492548), in the heart of the city. **Opening hours:** Monday through Saturday, 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 a.m.

sketch
FOOD CAFÉ & COCKTAILBAR

**SKETCH
COCKTAILBAR & FOOD CAFÉ**

Sketch – a fabulous food café and a phenomenal cocktail bar – is located right in the center of Merano, directly on the Passer Promenade. During the day, it's a café that serves homemade fresh juices, breakfast and a selection of snacks. In the evening, Sketch is a popular meeting point for Merano locals and tourists alike, offering a striking range of classic and novel cocktail creations. On some weekends, Sketch pulls out all the stops: live music every Friday and chic clubbing events on several weekends with international renowned DJs. The party here continues into the wee hours of the morning.

www.sketch.bz

You'll want to take a look around the different bars in town yourself before making a choice, though. You might be in the mood for a lounge-type atmosphere, a real hot spot, or some low-key ambience. Other reliable sources of information are posters and various pamphlets that list live music and other entertainment. Nightlife is very much alive and well in Merano.



Photo: Matteo Grappo

INTERVIEW ABOUT EVENTS IN MERANO GOTTFRIED DEGHENGI

Gottfried Deghenghi has worked as a film director and producer for decades. Among the Merano director's most important works include the film essay *Meran ... Die Liebe hört nimmer auf* (2002) and the feature film *Angeli in Fuga* (2008; in collaboration with Michele Placido). In 2015, he will release his new film about Merano's heyday: *the last six months of 1914*.

Mr. Deghenghi, Merano is widely known for its long tradition as a health resort. To what extent can the city lay claim to being an event destination?

Well, in Merano there are always interesting and attractive events on offer that should appeal not only to the locals, but also the city's visitors. More than a century ago, prestigious international guests had already dominated the cityscape and helped Merano find its own identity. That's why its elegance and beauty makes it an ideal venue for events.

What tangible aspects of Merano make it a suitable venue for events?

As a director, I am always particularly aware of the importance of appealing staging. This also applies to events that exist not only because of their content, but also because of their implementation. It is therefore the task of the organizers to stage their events within an appropriate framework and against a suitable backdrop. This has always been very well done in Merano.

To which Merano venues does this apply, just off the top of your head?

Many! In addition to the Kurhaus, which reflects Merano's style and esprit as a world-class resort, another one that immediately comes to mind is the municipal theater, which is a wonderful setting for any occasion. Even modern productions performing in the theater's classic ambiance benefit from the added appeal.

What events that take place in Merano would you highlight?

Again here you are spoiled for choice. Just two examples: The Merano Music Festival offers topflight concerts year after year. Then there's also the Merano Grape Festival, with its big Sunday parade. Through an event such as this, visitors come into contact with the local culture within an atmospheric setting. I think this is nice and also important, because in my view events should not only entertain, generally speaking, but also broaden the horizons.

Info: www.telefilm.bz.it



Cucina mediterranea - Mediterrane Küche - Mediterranean cuisine

Specialità stagionali - Saisonale Spezialitäten - Seasonal specialities

Steak House di alta qualità - Steak House höchster Qualität - High-quality steak house

Oltre 70 tipi di pizza - Über 70 Pizzasorten - More than 70 types of pizza



Merano - Meran
Via Portici - Lauben, 107
Tel. 0473 232 144

Lunedì riposo
Montag Ruhetag
Closed Mondays

Lagundo - Algrund
Via Mercato - Marktgasse, 12
Tel. 0473 448 385

Aperto tutti i giorni
Täglich geöffnet
Open daily

Bolzano - Bozen
Via Grappoli - Weintraubengasse, 9
Tel. 0471 975 815

Domenica riposo
Sonntag Ruhetag
Closed Sundays



EVENTS

A VIBRANT CITY

Merano is a very lively city that offers a wide array of events, many of which have international resonance. Interwoven into the main calendar (see up to page 64) is a program of supplementary events sponsored and planned by a variety of different associations and local groups (see pages 65 to 66).

For further information about individual events, please contact the Merano Tourist Office: Tel. 0039 0473 272000, www.merano.eu

28 MARCH - END OF MAY 2015 MERANO SPRING FESTIVAL

This festival offers a number of educational trails and many different events: a multi-faceted interplay between nature and art (see p. 6).

APRIL - JUNE 2015 MERANO VITAE

In the wake of winter, the body and spirit crave vitality, freshness and movement. It is out of this atmosphere that Merano Vitae is born: a festival that welcomes spring with a series of events about health. Merano Vitae attendees will experience and

taste those things that are typical of the Merano and Environs area (the Merano Vitae Breakfast includes freshly baked bread, homemade jams, South Tyrolean honey and invigorating herbal teas), and will also learn more about the healing effects of local products. The invigorating effect of the water, for example, and the many different options for healthy physical movement play a central role at Merano Vitae.

In addition to the festival's wide array of events, Merano Vitae's Places of Balance offer an opportunity to recharge that all-important energy at extraordinary places. Special power centers immersed in nature help you to achieve wellbeing and balance. Partschins Waterfall, the Terme Merano (see p. 22), Kränzelhof (p. 110), the Gardens of Trauttmansdorff Castle (p. 24) and the Gargazon Natural Swimming Pond (p. 100) are unique for the stimulating effect of their water, their health-promoting energy or the healing powers of South Tyrol's botanical world.

Info: Merano Tourist Office, Tel. 0039 0473 272000, www.merano.eu and www.meranerland.com

6 APRIL 2015 HAFLINGER COUNTRY HORSE RACES AND PARADE



Haflinger horses ride out onto the track to do battle, with young jockeys astride, while local cuisine and folklore give a real South Tyrolean air. The country horse races are on! This is an event that is always engaging and thrilling, with a fixed date: Easter Monday. Anticipation for the race begins with a colorful parade through the city streets, which starts at 10:30 a.m. at the Venosta Gate. The race itself, which takes place in the afternoon at Merano's historical racetrack, starts at 12 noon.

Info: Merano Tourist Office, Tel. 0039 0473 272000; www.merano.eu



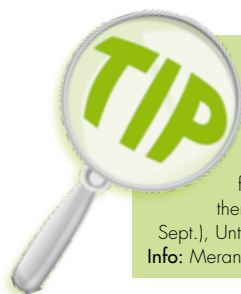


26 APRIL 2015
22ND ANNUAL MERANO-ALGUND HALF-MARATHON
& 4TH PUBLIC RUN4FUN

Sportclub Merano will organize its 22nd annual South Tyrol Spring Half-Marathon this year. This year, for the first time, the half-marathon will form part of the Lemezze. it series of races, which combines the seven most important north-Italian race events. The route, which runs 21 kilometers in length, beginning and ending in the city center, at Corso Libertà and Piazza Terme, passes through numerous apple orchards as it winds from Merano to the town of Algund and back again. In addition to the race itself, there will be a diverse array of side events.

The fourth Run4Fun, which is open to everyone, will also form part of the 22nd Merano–Algund Half Marathon: participants in this non-competitive run, which covers a distance of 4.2 km, may choose to just walk or even to use the Nordic walking technique.

Info: Sportclub Merano – Track and Field Section, Tel. 0039 0473 232126, www.marathon-meran.com

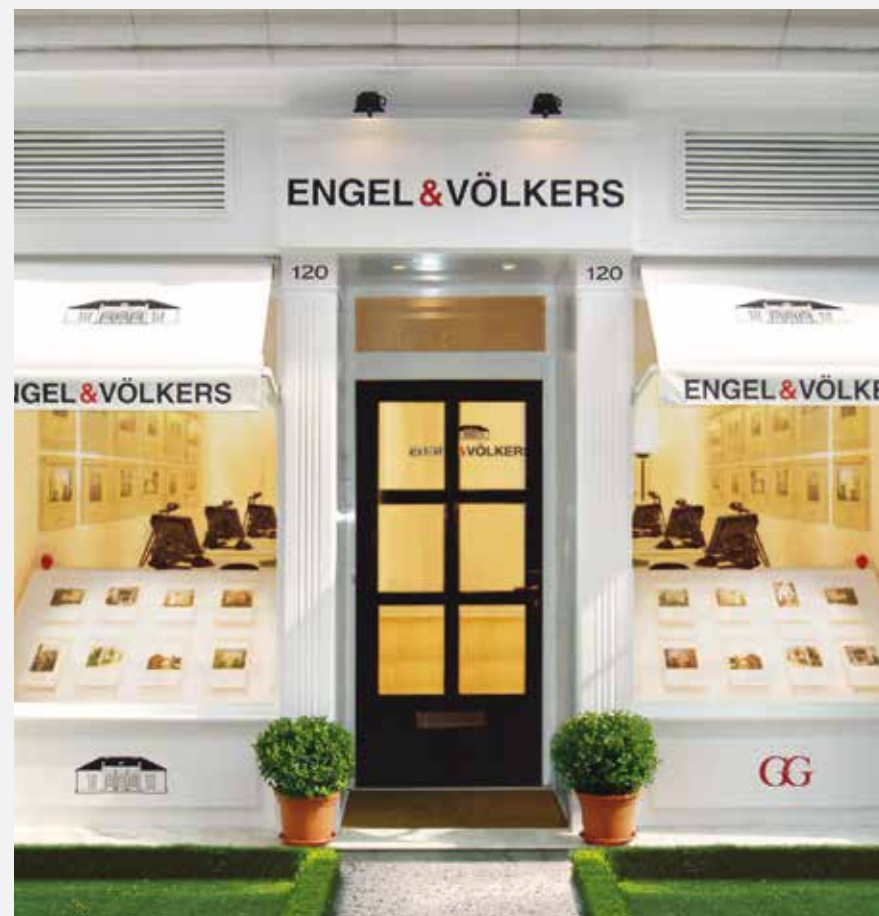


SUNDAY CONCERTS BY TRADITIONAL BANDS

Traditional bands are a quintessential component of popular culture in South Tyrol. The Merano Tourist Office dedicates its series of free Sunday concerts at the Kursaal to this time-honored tradition. The series kicks off on 29 March with the band from Gratsch. On 5 April, Merano’s own city band performs, followed by the bands from Burgstall (17 May) and Vöran (25 May). In fall, there are performances by traditional bands from Lengstein (6 Sept.), Obermais (13 Sept.), Untermais (27 Sept.) and Rabenstein (4 Oct.). All concerts begin at 10:30 a.m.

Info: Merano Tourist Office, Corso Libertà 45, Tel. 0039 0473 272000, www.merano.eu

Enjoy South Tyrol
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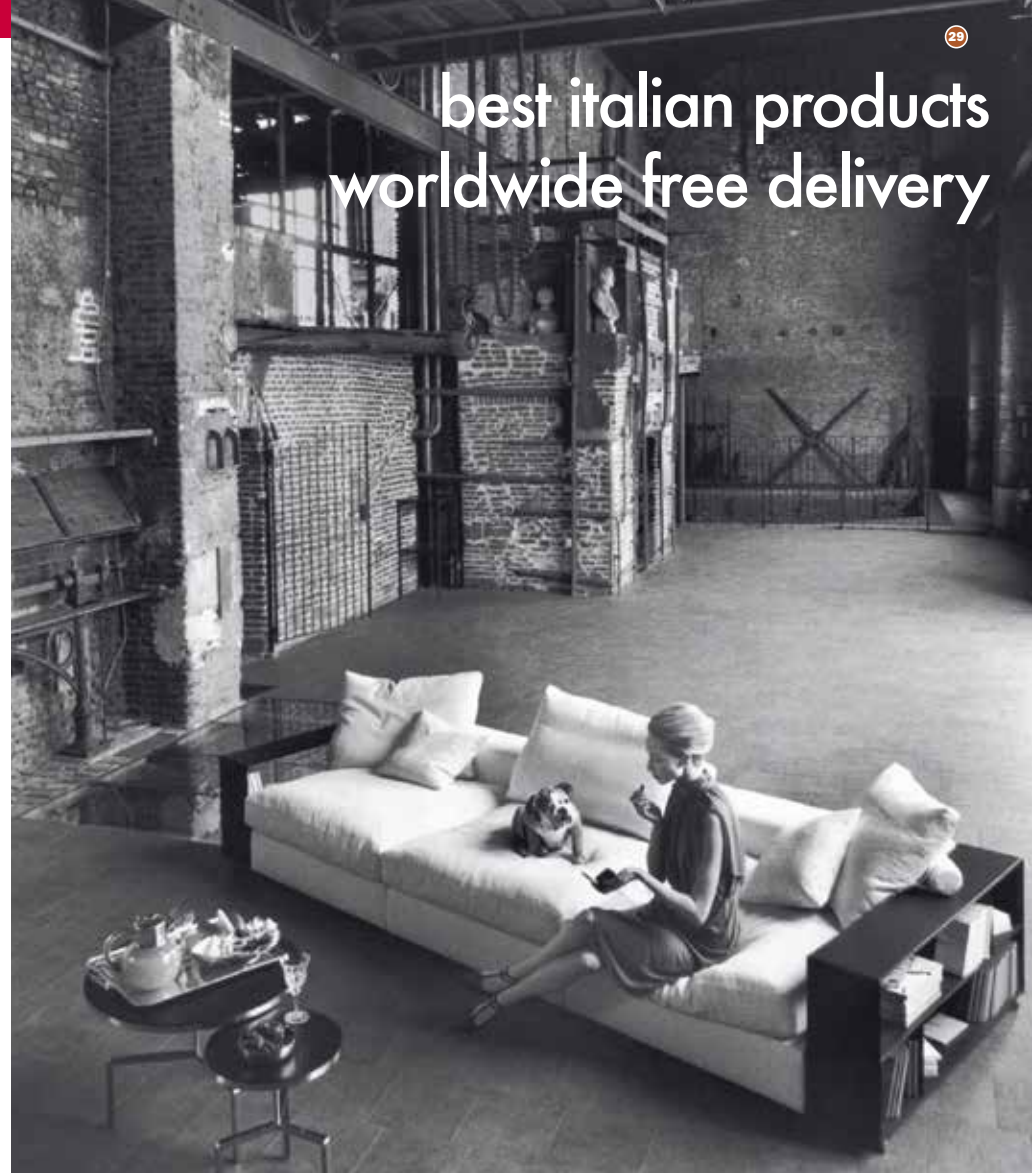
Coming Soon in Merano

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9 TO 10 MAY 2015
5TH MERANO IN YOGA MEETING

Renowned experts and masters from around the world will once again lead the fifth occurrence of this long yoga weekend. The Kurhaus will be main venue for the event (free admission), where supplementary events will take place at other Merano locations. The Merano in Yoga event offers an extremely diverse program: introductory lectures, workshops, musical performances, treatments, seminars and conferences give a reference to yoga and offer new insights. At the same time they offer yoga practitioners new pathways for increasing inner harmony and individual wellbeing. A wide variety of yoga accessories and informational materials may be purchased during the course of the yoga meeting, at the area of the Kursaal set aside for exhibitors and sales. The Merano in Yoga event has a new slogan every year, which reflects the thematic focus of the event. The main theme of 2015 is: Visions.

Info: Merano Tourist Office, Corso Libertà 45, Tel. 0039 0473 272000,
www.merano.eu
Associazione Artè, Tel. 0039 02 58113382, www.yogameeting.org



Via Cavour-Str. 22
I-39012 Merano/o
Tel. +39 0473 23 71 60
Fax +39 0473 25 61 94
www.arcum-design.com



Photo: Maurizio Flammengo

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12 - 14 JUNE 2015
ASFALTART

Ninth International Festival of Street Artists in Merano

When Merano's city center fills up with quirky and colorful characters swinging clubs, making music and swallowing fire on street corners and in the town squares, one thing is certain: the street artists are back, and so is ASFALTART! Clowns, puppeteers, mimes and jugglers fill the town with their magic and cheer. Merano is abounding with magical experiences for three full days: the creativity of the artists takes center stage when the finest in shows, sketches and performances is offered. The street festival is a dream for every child and an unforgettable experience for every adult.

Info: Kallmünz Art Association; www.asfaltart.it

Photo: Fabrizio Carboti



Photo: Angela Maria Buzzerio



Photo: MeranoJazz

53



26 JUNE - 5 JULY 2015

33RD SÜDTIROL JAZZ FESTIVAL ALTO ADIGE

First held in 1982, the Südtirol Jazzfestival Alto Adige takes place all over South Tyrol. It comprises ten days of concerts in very unique settings: castles, palaces, streets, squares, mountain pastures, rustic taverns and many other venues. Hundreds of jazz musicians have been featured guests at the festival, including top names from the international music scene as well as young rising stars.

The 33rd Südtirol Jazzfestival Alto Adige is dedicated to the British jazz scene: Most of the musicians who will perform hail from the UK.

Info: www.suedtiroljazzfestival.com

14 - 17 JULY 2015

MERANOJAZZ & CENTRAL EUROPEAN JAZZ ACADEMY

This festival features prestigious names on the international jazz scene ranging from the traditional to the avant-garde, from experimental styles to music with African roots. Once again in 2015, the Central European Jazz Academy take place at the same time as the MeranoJazz festival, with jazz musicians conducting a series of master classes and workshops.

Info: www.meranojazz.it



JULY AND AUGUST 2015
A SUMMER EVENING IN MERANO

Summer nights in Merano will be accompanied by music again this year. On several evenings a wide variety of genres – from blues and Latin rhythms to contemporary pop songs and timeless hits – will be offered, free of charge. Like the genres, the concert venues will also vary: hot spots within Merano's city center will once again serve as open-air stages.

Info: Merano Tourist Office, Tel. 0039 0473 272000; www.merano.eu



7 JUNE – 18 AUGUST 2015
TUESDAYNIGHT IN MERANO

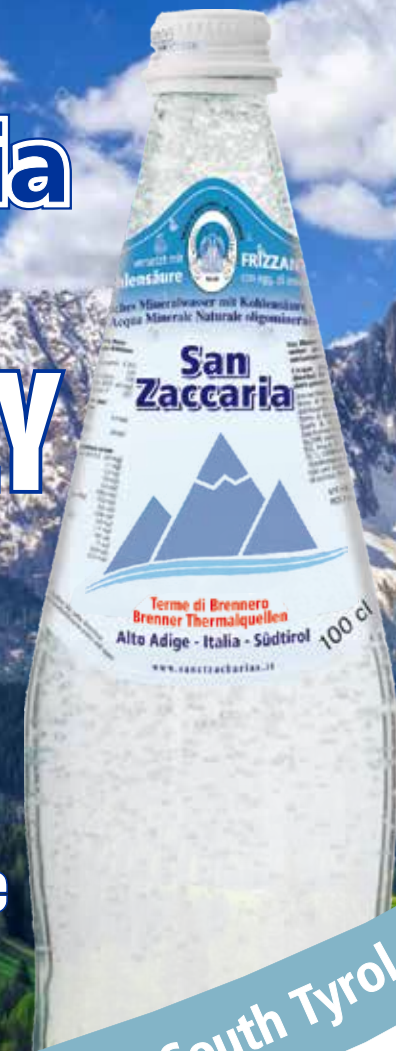
When summer is in full swing, the city center dons its eveningwear and stays up late every Tuesday night. The TuesdayNight event series offers new themes and contents every year in addition to concerts, fashion shows, spectacular performances and shows, which are organized in the city center. On the streets and squares there is lively bustle, made more vibrant by music and gastronomy.

TuesdayNight in Merano – 2015 dates: 7, 14, 21 and 28 July as well as 4, 11 and 18 August.

Info: Merano Tourist Office, Tel. 0039 0473 272000; www.merano.eu

San Zaccaria

NATURALLY HEALTHY



a masterpiece of nature

Your thermal mineral water from South Tyrol

San Zaccaria

Thanks to its extraordinarily beneficial properties the source San Zaccaria was certified a natural monument, the Autonomous Province of Bolzano, by resolution of the Provincial Decree no. 404 of 19 March 2012.

25 AUGUST – 22 SEPTEMBER 2015
30TH MUSIC WEEKS MERANO



The elite of classical music performs against the striking art-nouveau backdrop of the Kursaal: Here, outstanding soloists and orchestras have wowed audiences for 30 years. Since the festival's founding in 1986, Music Weeks Merano has set the highest standards of quality and has thus gained a top position on Europe's music festival scene.

In its anniversary year 2015, Merano really pulls out the stops: world-class ensembles such as the Tonhalle-Orchester Zürich, the Vienna Symphony Orchestra, the Orchestra Filarmonica della Scala Milano, the Mariinsky Theatre Symphony Orchestra of St. Petersburg, London's Academy of St Martin in the Fields in London and Rome's Orchestra dell'Accademia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia will be performing. Music Weeks Merano will kick off on August 25 with the China National Opera House Symphony Orchestra performing Beethoven's Ninth Symphony. On 17 September, a second ensemble from the Middle Kingdom – the China Youth Symphony Orchestra – will perform in the spa town, once

again confirming the festival's position as a cosmopolitan, premium festival. On 9 September, the eccentric organist Cameron Carpenter, who revolutionized the way of playing his instrument and even arranged Tchaikovsky's Sixth Symphony for Organ, will stage a multimedia event at Piazza Terme.

The audience draw of Music Weeks Merano already goes beyond fans of classical music. The festival calendar includes four different venues associated with its for different sections: the symphonic program at the Kursaal (classic), chamber music at the Pavillon des Fleurs (matinée classique; this fall with the Los Romeros guitar quartet, the original ensemble of which will perform for the last time), cross-over projects in the Puccini Theatre (colours of music) and a cappella music (vox humana) in castles and churches in the environs of Merano.

Info: Tel. 0039 0473 496030, www.meranofestival.com

12 SEPTEMBER 2015
3RD MERANO MAGIC FESTIVAL

The world of magic allows the boundaries between reality and illusion to become blurred, fascinating audience members of all ages. This exciting and versatile world arrives in Merans once again: the third Merano Magic Festival, an evening in which nothing is impossible. Several shows, including well-known magicians, will demonstrate the many sides of this fine art – its fun and mysterious facets alike.

Info: Merano Tourist Office, Tel. 0039 0473 272000; www.merano.eu



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open, casual, cozy;
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MERANO RACECOURSE

The 2015 horseracing season from May to October

SUNDAY AFTERNOON: RACES - RESTAURANT - PLAYGROUND

For the complete fixture list, check out www.meranogaloppo.it



3rd Burggräfer
Palio

HIGHLIGHTS 2015

Monday, 06 April

Haflinger Country Horse Races

Saturday, 15 August

Terme Merano Grand Prix

Sunday, 27 September

Merano Grand Prix

Sunday, 11 October

Maia Oktoberfest

Merano Racecourse - Via Palade | Merano (BZ) - Italy

Merano
Galoppo

25 SEPTEMBER 2015

MERANO FASHION

The Kursaal is the opulent setting for Merano Fashion show, in which renowned Merano shopping addresses as well as international labels will be involved. On the catwalk, famous models will present collections for men and women. This stylish event is all about beauty and glamor.

Info: Merano Tourist Office, Tel. 0039 0473 272000; www.merano.eu

27 SEPTEMBER 2015

76TH MERANO GRAND PRIX

The Merano Grand Prix is among the most lucrative and most sensational horseraces in Europe, with prize monies totaling nearly € 400,000. The steeplechase is held at Italy's most fascinating racetrack, the Merano Racecourse (see p. 26). It bestows both a place in history and glory upon the victor, who must jump 24 hurdles along a course of 5,000 meters. Horses and jockeys alike interpret a script that is never quite attainable, in which successive twists culminate in a final mad dash to the finish line to the delight of filled-to-capacity grandstands. The history of this action-packed race goes back to 26 October 1935. In the last years, riders from Italian and French stables dominated the race, together with those from Eastern Europe and the Czech Republic in particular. This year, the Grand Prix will take place for the 76th time; it is always the highlight of the Merano racing season, which runs from May to October. The race forms part of an afternoon of heats at the highest level of racing; this wonderful and exciting event always manages to spark a fire in experts and laymen alike. The Grand Prix always brings an air of glory to the track and echoes of grandeur to the stands: elegance and a sense of fashion are the order of the day.

Info: Merano Racecourse, Tel. 0039 0473 446222, www.meranogaloppo.it





Foto: Angela Maria Buzzerio

16 - 18 OCTOBER 2015
MERANO GRAPE FESTIVAL
& 17TH SOUTH TYROL MUSIC FESTIVAL

Three days of local customs, music, and gastronomy set against the backdrop of a golden autumn landscape: the Merano Grape Festival is one of the major highlights of the city's event calendar. Because the festival dates back to 1886, it is actually a high point for people from all over South Tyrol – certainly for those who identify most with South Tyrol and are deeply rooted in the land. The Merano Grape Festival takes place at the end of the harvest and is a tribute to wine culture, which plays an important role in the local economy. Every five years, the Grape Festival also hosts a music festival sponsored by the Verbandes Südtiroler Musikkapellen (Association of South Tyrolean Bands). This year, more than 4,000 musicians will play on several concert stages under the open sky.

The festivities kick off on Friday morning. Delicious local specialties are served, and bands fill the Old Town and Promenade with music. The zenith of the festival takes place on Sunday: in the afternoon, the traditional grand parade snakes its way through the city streets. The high-spirited parade comprises about fifty groups and floats. Participants include bands, folk dancers, music clubs, traditional costume guilds, fanfare corps and marching bands. On all three days of the Grape Festival, local businesses offer South Tyrolean handcrafted and culinary products on the Promenade, in front of the Kurhaus.

Info: Merano Tourist Office, Tel. 0039 0473 272000; www.merano.eu



14TH INTERNATIONAL BRASS FESTIVAL

Once again this year, brass-band concerts will be held at the Kursaal in the weeks leading up to Grape Festival. As part of the 14th International Brass Festival, the Mnozil Brass (Oct. 3) and Rodney Marsalis Philadelphia Big Brass (October 10) ensembles will play. Both concerts begin at 8:30 p.m.

Info: Merano Tourist Office, Tel. 0039 0473 272000; www.merano.eu



PESAVENTO
Art expressions

BIASINI

JEWELRY

CORSO LIBERTÀ 146 39012 MERANO
0473 236173



6 - 9 NOVEMBER 2015
**MERANO
WINEFESTIVAL**



At the Merano WineFestival, some of the world's most renowned wineries present their top products. Inside the Kurhaus, acclaimed Tuscan wines can be found next to those from South Tyrol and Sicily; noble Bordeaux and emerging South American labels stand shoulder to shoulder with graceful Piedmont and New World wines. Ranging from the extraordinary bouquet of great reds to the fine pearls of champagne, from elegant whites to heavenly dessert wines – not to mention exquisite gastronomy – the Merano Wine Festival offers epicures and laymen alike a very special experience. The festival's varied program of supplementary events (dinner, cooking demonstrations, presentations of food guides, all

sorts of tastings) turns Merans into the uncrowned capital of culinary delights and wine pleasures for a few days.

In short, the festival can be described as a showcase of the latest gastronomic trends. The Merano WineFestival is a meeting place for the most important producers. It stands for meticulously selected products and an unparalleled ambience.

Info: Gourmet's International, Tel. 0039 0473 210011, www.meranowinefestival.com



ORGANIC & BIODYNAMIC

The first day of the Merano WineFestival" (Friday, November 6, 2015) is dedicated to wines that have been produced in an organic or biodynamic way. The festival's bio&dynamica section introduces the public to winemakers who have taken the laws of nature into account for the cultivation of their vines and in their winemaking, and thus carry out environmentally friendly and sustainable viticulture.



MERAN
KELLEREI ■ CANTINA



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Cantina Merano Burggräfler
Via Cantina 9, Marlengo
Info 0473 44 71 37

Retail sale also in Merano
Enoteca & Parking Cantina Lagundo
Portici 218, Merano

www.cantinamerano.it

OTHER EVENTS IN 2015

27–29 MARCH: EGG ART (KUNST AM EI)

In the ever-fascinating Kallmünz Castle (see p. 33) you'll find more than a thousand eggs of all sizes – from quail eggs to ostrich eggs – decorated artistically.

JUNE (every sunday): BREAKFAST AT SISSI'S AT TRAUTTMANSDORFF CASTLE

Visitors to the Gardens of Trauttmansdorff Castle (p. 24) can indulge in a truly majestic breakfast on the Sissi Terrace, where Empress Elisabeth of Austria once strolled. Breathtaking views of these stunning botanical gardens make every Breakfast at Sissi's a very special experience.

MID-JUNE: 11TH CITROËN CLASSIC

An international meeting dedicated to a French car with a rich history, the Citroën, including a vintage-car parade through the streets of Merano.

13 – 20 JUNE: VINO MIGLIA

This classic car race lasts a week, and takes participants through five European countries. Merano is one of the intermediate stages.

JUNE–AUGUST (every friday): TRAUTTMANSDORFF AFTER HOURS

The fun begins when the sun goes down: musical and gastronomic treats are served up after hours at the Gardens of Trauttmansdorff Castle (p. 24)

JUNE–AUGUST: GARDEN NIGHTS – THE VERY BEST OF WORLD MUSIC

The Garden Nights concert series is among the most important Italian festivals of world music. On the floating stage of the Water Lily Pond, the Gardens of Trauttmansdorff Castle (p. 24) offers concerts by international musicians every year.

5 TO 12 JULY: SÜDTIROL CLASSIC

Also known as the Sympathy Rally, this race is a must for all classic car enthusiasts. The rally passes through Merano on 9 July.

21 – 26 JULY: GRAN PREMIO DOLOMITI

The Gran Premio Dolomiti is an extraordinary vintage-car race, the route of which requires crossing several mountain passes and also brings the participants to Merano.

MID-SEPTEMBER TO MID-NOVEMBER: AUTUMN IN MERANO

For three months, the Merano and Environs holiday region offers autumnal flavors and traditional events dedicated to music and traditional customs. The Merano WineFestival (p. 62) is the hands-down highlight.

11 OCTOBER: MAIA OKTOBERFEST

The standing program at the Merano Racecourse includes Haflinger horseracing, performances by folk groups and bands and a rich culinary offering.



27 NOVEMBER 2015 – 6 JANUARY 2016 OPENING: NOVEMBER 26, 2015 MERANO CHRISTMAS MARKET



The Merano Christmas Market is more than an event: it's a sensation! This famous market offers an irresistible and one-of-a-kind atmosphere. It's a chance to experience the magic of Christmas first hand. As they stroll amidst the artfully designed market stalls, visitors will witness a dialogue between past and present that draws locals and tourists alike under its spell.

Set up along the Passer Promenade and at Merano's atmospherically lit squares, the Merano Christmas Market offers a wide array of side events, authentic South Tyrolean handicrafts and culinary specialties. Many surprises and activities await the little ones – especially in the little house of Goldy mascot. The feeling of anticipation leading up to Christmas Eve is an enchanting, unforgettable experience. The issue of sustainability plays an important role as well: the event attained Green Event certification in 2014.

Info: www.mercatini.merano.eu



THE MAGIC OF CHRISTMAS IN MERANO AND ENVIRONS

The magic of the Christmas season fills the entire Merano Valley Basin. Dorf Tirol, a charming village that offers expansive views across the whole Adige Valley, is easily accessible from the city center. Christmas spirit is strong at the village's Tyrol Castle, which was the residence of the Counts of Tyrol for centuries. That holds true for other castles in the area – Schenna Castle, Ramez Castle and Kallmünz Castle are good examples – as well as in surrounding villages like Lana and Algund.

16 OCTOBER: 23RD ALPINE GRAND PRIX OF LIGHT MUSIC

The Alpine Grand Prix of Light Music is an international competition devoted to pop and folk music.

24 OCTOBER: 5TH TEA AND AROMATIC HERB FESTIVAL

At the Tea and Aromatic Herbal Festival, held in the Kurhaus, you'll find an entry point into the fascinating world of herbs and herb cultivation of South Tyrol. In addition, a variety of organic products that support health and beauty are available for purchase.

26 DECEMBER: BOXING DAY CONCERT – SYMPHONIC WINDS 2015 & PEI-CHING WU

The Symphonic Winds Orchestra and the exceptional Taiwanese musician Pei-Ching Wu on the marimba guarantee an unforgettable concert.

31 DECEMBER: NEW YEAR'S EVE IN MERANO

Live music and all sorts of entertainment ring in the New Year in Merano's city center.

Info: For more information and a complete list of events please visit www.merano.eu

FOODIE FACTORY

The Foodie Factory culinary event series involves the entire holiday region of Merano and Environs. Several individual events that have a "workshop character" carried out in unusual and especially attractive locations shine the spotlight on high-quality Alpine-Mediterranean cuisine. Top chefs will reinterpret dishes made from fresh seasonal ingredients or conjure up their own tasty creations. **Info:** www.foodiefactory.it

Photo: MGM - Jessica Preus

**INTERVIEW
WALTER ALBER**

Walter Alber has been chairman of the Maiser Waalweg since 2004, and as such is responsible for the maintenance of this trail, which runs along an irrigation canal that was built in 1472.

Let's start with the Waalweg trails, Mr. Alber: What makes these walking paths so special?

The Waalweg trails offer locals and tourists alike the opportunity to immerse themselves in unspoiled nature as they enjoy physical movement. The pathways are flat for the most part, and suitable for any age group. They are also quite varied, leading through forests as well as across open spaces. In summer they are pleasantly shady. On top of that, there is the appeal of following the course of these irrigation channels, most of which are ancient.

To what extent would you call Merano an ideal city for walking?

I find the fact that Merano's city center is accessed via a walking path like the Passer Promenade to be quite significant. The city generally offers a very nice ambience, and there are walking routes to suit every taste.

In this context, the Tappeinerweg Trail mustn't go unmentioned.

True, I myself really like to walk along the Tappeinerweg. Like the Waalweg trails, the Tappeinerweg is also flat and therefore ideal for families and older people. In addition there is lush vegetation all along the trail, which the city nursery maintains beautifully.

How about a word or two regarding the city's mild climate?

The area's special climate has always set Merano apart. There is a temperate climate, with seasons that are neither too hot nor too cold. In short: Merano offers ideal conditions for outdoor exercise throughout the course of the entire year.





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WALKING



A PARADISE FOR WALKING

In addition to a wide array of recreational activities, including skiing of course and family-friendly options such as biking, hiking and swimming, Meran has a long-standing reputation as a paradise for hikers. Whether you are a really serious hiker looking for a multi-trek or just want to enjoy a leisurely stroll, Merano has it all. Enchanting trails of varying lengths and levels of difficulty zigzag across the city, along the river, and into the surrounding mountains.

IN TOWN

Wild and exotic Mediterranean plants are a testament to an extremely mild climate, while ornamental flowerbeds designed in a myriad of historical styles endow the city not only with decorative flair but also a feeling of timelessness. Many of the town's 18 kilometers of walking trails are interconnected.

THE PASSER PROMENADE

The Passer Promenade is named after the river that crosses the town, dividing it in two. This path runs alongside the river, directly through the center of town. The old Kurpromenade, the area between the Post Office Bridge and the Theater Bridge – forms the upper half of the route. Ice cream parlors, outdoor cafés, palm trees, plant sculptures, and the splendid art nouveau health spa, the Kurhaus, give this main esplanade a breezy, carefree air that harkens back to the turn of the century when spa tourists soaked in the sunshine and fresh air right here in this very spot. The lower half of the promenade stretches to the Iron Bridge, towards the confluence of the Passer and Adige rivers; on the way, there are several historical buildings.

THE PASSER TERRACES

Built in 2012, the Passer Terraces are located just in front of Piazza Terme. They allow for direct access to the Passer River, right in the heart of the city. This series of broad steps lead right down to the refreshing water, and the large grassy areas between the steps are designed for sunbathing, reading or playing. The Passer Terraces immediately achieved popularity with locals and tourists alike: it's a great place to just hang out for a while and enjoy the relaxing effect of the river.



TIP



Wandelhalle

THE WINTER PROMENADE

The Winter Promenade is the natural upriver continuation of the Passer Promenade. Its main attraction – in addition to the fact that it is blessed with strong sunshine and well-protected from the wind – is the Wandelhalle, a covered arcade built in 1889 that not only gives shelter during inclement weather but also features a gallery of paintings depicting life in Merano and busts of figures significant to the history of the city.

THE SUMMER PROMENADE

The Summer Promenade lies directly on the opposite bank of the river from the Winter Promenade. Its lush vegetation of Lebanon cedars, sequoias, poplars and various species of pine provides a welcome respite of shade and cooler temperatures on hot summer days.

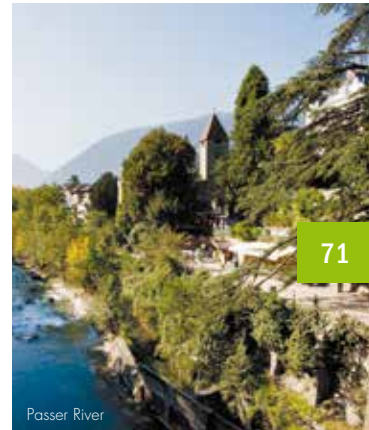


A TOUR THROUGH MERANO'S GARDENS

Interested in taking a nice walk through some of Merano's parks and gardens? The best place to start is with a visit to the Gardens of Trauttmansdorff Castle (see p. 24). From there, you can stroll down Sissi's Path (see p. 73) towards the city center, where you will reach the Passer Promenade (see p. 68). You can easily walk to the oldest bridge crossing the Passer River, the Stone Footbridge (see above), by taking either the Winter Promenade or Summer Promenade on either side of the river. Keep heading upriver and you will reach the romantic Gilf Promenade (see p. 71). Those who wish to go even further can continue up the Tappeinerweg Trail (see p. 72) and revel in its sun-kissed site and lush vegetation.

THE GILF PROMENADE

The Gilf Promenade is one of Merano's most romantic walks. It ends at a gorge formed by winds on either side of the Passer River, where the river enters the city. The walk is particularly interesting from a botanical point of view, since it features numerous subtropical plants. Imperial Counsellor Hans Prünster developed the path in the late seventeenth century; its construction necessitated a good deal of rock blasting in addition to the building of numerous retaining walls and stone arches. Near the top, it meets a path that leads to the Gunpowder Tower and the Tappeinerweg Trail. On the opposite side of the Passer, the Gilf Promenade connects with the Summer Promenade by crossing the Stone Footbridge over the gorge.



Passer River

THE WALK OF POETS

Poetry possesses the extraordinary power to build bridges between people, cultures and different languages. Taking this idea as a starting point, artist Marco Nereo Rotelli created a walk of poets along Gilf Promenade in 1997. The project manifests as poetic verses written by authors with some relationship to Merano inscribed onto the benches that line the walking path. Poets quoted include Edoardo Sanguineti, Mario Luzi, Ezra Pound and Rainer Maria Rilke.



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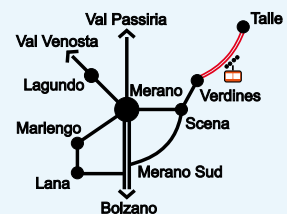


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SISSI'S PATH: IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF AN EMPRESS

This evocative route leads past Austrian Empress Elisabeth's favorite spots in Merano. The charming Habsburg sovereign, affectionately nicknamed Sissi, absolutely loved Merano and came here several times in the second half of the nineteenth century for health treatments. This trail named in her honor leads to the town center from the Gardens of Trauttmansdorff Castle, where she stayed twice. The path has eleven legs, each with a story to tell. Some of the stops include: Rubein Castle and Pienzenau Castle, where the court was housed in 1870; Rottenstein Castle, where Sissi herself once stayed; Hotel Bavaria, where Sissi's beloved brother Carl Theodore, Earl of Bavaria, lived for several years; the Roman Bridge, which crosses the river to town; the Wandelhalle covered promenade; and a park with statue dedicated to Sissi. The walk ends at the promenade in front of the old Kurhaus health spa. Of course, one can also begin at the Kurhaus and end at the botanical gardens. Signs labelled *Sissi-Weg* in German and *Sentiero di Sissi* in Italian guide the way. For more information, please ask at the information desk of the Merano Tourist Office on Corso Libertà.

THE TAPPEINERWEG TRAIL

The Tappeinerweg Trail runs above the city from east to west. In addition to excellent sunlight, the path offers sweeping views of the town below, the Merano Valley Basin and down into the Etsch Valley. Franz Tappeiner, a doctor and medical researcher from the Venosta Valley who was a passionate proponent of tourism in Merano, created the promenade and donated it to the city. The four-kilometer-long path splits off from the Gilf Promenade and follows the curve of Monte Benedetto until it reaches Quarazze. In addition to typical local vegetation, cork oak, eucalyptus, lotus, pine, various species of palms including Chinese palms, bamboo, cactus, agave, magnolias and olive trees are planted along the path. There are numerous access points from the city: the steps leading up from behind the Duomo (main cathedral), along the road that leads to Dorf Tirol, from Via Galilei near the Monte Benedetto chairlift, near the Silvana hill on Via Verdi, and from Zenoburg Castle past the Gunpowder Tower.

TIP

FOCUS ON ARCHITECTURE

If you walk along the Tappeinerweg Trail, you'll come across ten telescopes trained on ten of Merano's buildings. They are part of Focus on Architecture, a circuit trail comprised of more than thirty telescopes. A panel located below each telescope gives more information about the particular architectural structure.



INTOXICATING COLORS: THE HERB GARDEN

The public herb garden on the Tappeinerweg Trail was created in 2002; it comprises 250 beds containing around 230 different types of herbs and aromatic perennials. Merano's extremely favorable location and mild climate make plant life here quite rich, with colors and aromas that are truly intoxicating, especially in spring. Botanical plates identify and label the plants.



TIP

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THE ALGUNDER WAALWEG

The trail runs from Quarazze to Tel, passing above old Algund, Plars di Mezzo and Plars di Sopra and leading through a series of meadows, chestnut groves and vineyards. The Merano Valley Basin below is visible along the entire length of the trail. If you start from Tel, you can keep going after you pass Quarazze, continuing on the Tappeinerweg Trail (see page 70), which leads to Merano. This Waal canal was built in the fourteenth century, utilizing water from the Adige River.

Length: 6 km **Walking Time:** about 2 hours

THE KUENSER WAALEWEG

The trail runs along Findelebach Brook between Mutlechnerhof (840 meters) and Longfallhof (1,075 meters); these are the two farms situated, respectively, at the lowest and highest altitudes above the village of Kuens. The upper edge of the village is the starting point, so you have to climb a slope in order to reach it. Much of the path is shaded.

Length: 2.5 km **Walking Time:** about 1 ½ hours

THE MARLINGER WAALWEG

The starting point for this Waalweg is the Tel lock. The path runs parallel to and above the Adige River (from which the Waal takes its water), above Marling, all the way to Lana at a constant elevation of around 500 meters. The first segment runs through a fairly dense forest, but then transitions into more open orchard landscapes, which allows for unique views of Marling and Merano. After Tschermers, there is a short descent leading to the village of Lana. There are several intermediate points that allow you to enter or exit the trail, and the whole route is easily passable in every season. The path dates to 1737 and is the longest of the Waalweg trails.

Length: 12 km **Walking Time:** 4–5 hours



THE WAALWEG TRAILS NATURE JUST OUTSIDE THE CITY

Merano is completely surrounded by a dense network of *Waalweg* trails, which run alongside man-made water channels designed for irrigation. These paths, authentic monuments to the industriousness of the peasantry, are easily reachable from town and offer spectacular scenic views. Strolling along a *Waalweg* trail is quite relaxing since the grade is rarely very steep, and you'll find charming little rustic taverns that serve up local specialties along the way.

THE MAISER WAALWEG

If you walk upstream, this trail connects Maia Alta and Saltaus, a village located at the entrance to the Passeier Valley; the channel runs along the left bank of the Passer River. We start at Planta Castle (at the intersection of Via Planta and Via Belvedere) and gradually head into a forest of dense and broadleaved trees along rocky hillsides. About two thirds of the way in, we find the little Waaler House, the water wheel of which signals the smooth flow of water. The trail ends at Torgglerhof Farm. Most of the Maiser Waalweg is flat and nicely shaded; it is an especially nice place for a summer stroll because of its proximity to the cooling river.

Length: 9 km. **Walking Time:** about 3 hours

THE WATER TRAILS OF MERANO PROJECT: THE PARCOURSE

The Water Trails of Merano project encompasses the entire Merano Valley Basin, giving hikers an 80-kilometer route around the city area. The route connects eleven *Waalweg* trails, along which hikers will find lodges, bells, churches, castles and little marvels of nature. The Water Trails of Merano pathways are not situated at high elevations, but range between 400 meters in altitude up to a maximum of 900 meters. Hikers can walk the entire route in eight stages in about a week; they also have the option, of course, of doing a single segment as a day hike. The Water Trails of Merano project is designed as a supplement to the Merano High Trail (see page 84).



MERANER WAALRUNDE
SENTIERI D'ACQUA MERANESI





THE SCHENNER-VERDINSER WAALWEG

An irrigation system that is still largely in use, this Waal delivers running water to cropland in Verdines, Schenna and St. Georgen through a system of pipes, most of which are underground. The Waal starts at an altitude of 1,100 meters and runs – ascending 600 meters above sea level – from Masulschlucht Gorge through forests, meadows, chestnut groves and orchards, all the way into the Naif Valley (valley station of the Meran 2000 Cable Car). The starting point of the trail is the valley station of the Merano 2000 Cable Car. The path leads past the St.-Georgen-Kirche church, which is known for its round ground plan, and ends at the valley station of the Taser Cable Car. It ends at the Waalerhütte, the house in which the guardian of the Waal once lived.

Length: 8 km; **Walking Time:** about 2 hours and 40 minutes

THE RIFFIANER WAALWEG

You can access this Waalweg trail directly from the town center of Riffian. The starting point is close to the shooting range. The trail continues through a shady forest to the village of Kuens, ending near the church.

Length: 3 km **Walking Time:** about 1 ½ hours

THE BRANDIS WAALWEG

This Waalweg trail, which is manageable with a stroller and perfect for families, begins at Lana di Sopra. The entry point is Via Palade, the road that leads from Lana towards Völlan and the Gampen Pass. About 500 meters from the roundabout after Valsura Bridge, you go up towards Völlan, and the trail branches off to the left after the power plant. The route crosses through the estate of Lanegg Convent and passes about the St. Margarethen Kirche church (closed in winter). The pathway runs through orchards, vineyards and chestnut groves and offers splendid views of Lana and the Merano Basin. At the end of the Waalweg trail, you'll find a romantic waterfall. This is a wonderful way to get to Niederlana Parish Church, which is home to the celebrated Schnatterpeck Altar (closed in winter).

Length: 3.7 km. **Walking time:** around 1.5 hours.

THE PARTSCHINSER WAALWEG

The water for this channel comes from the Ziel Stream. It runs above the town of Partschins, at the beginning of the Venosta Valley, and is well shielded from the highway traffic. The trail begins near the waterfalls, not far from the Salten Hotel, and continues east to the Niedermair Hotel in the neighborhood of Vertigen, which is reachable after about an hour's walk through a sparse forest that offers views of Merano and the valley.

Length: 5 km **Walking Time:** about 2 hours from the town center of Partschins.

THE TERRAINKUR

In the mid-nineteenth century, Bavarian Professor M.J. Oertel, from Munich, devised what he called the Terrainkur (lit: terrain therapy), which involved "walking along routes with a slightly uphill grade". This type of exercise has a strikingly positive effect on circulation, the heart, and the musculature. Merano became a popular place for the Terrainkur due to its many walking paths, which created ideal conditions for putting this therapy into practice. Even Empress Sissi, a pioneer of healthy living, tried out this new treatment in Merano. We know today that Dr. Oertel was right on the money: a brisk walk has been proven to be one of the healthiest sports around, at any age. Walking keeps the body physically fit and helps lower the risks associated with attrition.





TO THE HEIGHTS: LIFTS AND CABLE CARS

Hoofing it through the mountains around Merano? On foot is not the only option: those who like to travel in a little more comfort can catch a ride to higher altitudes on one of the many chair lifts and cable cars around the City on the Passer. Once at the top, you can enjoy the mountains in a more relaxed way: along one of the many relatively flat footpaths that branch off from the mountain stations or along a path that heads downhill, in the direction of the valley. Included in the price of this elevator ride: stunning views of mountains and valleys. Listed below are some of the most beautiful higher altitude excursions around Merano.

MERANO 2000 CABLE CAR

Via Val di Nova, 37 – Tel. 0039 0473 234821 – www.merano2000.com

Hours of Operation: until 22 March 9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. (on Sundays and public holidays the lifts open at 8:30 a.m.); 18 April to 30 June and 14 September to 1 November from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; 1 July to 13 September from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

KÜCHELBERG CHAIR LIFT

The lift base station is located on Via Galileo Galilei in Merano's city center. The chair lift reaches Segenbühel/Dorf Tirol and an impressive panoramic view at an altitude of 510 meters.

Hours of Operation: From 1 April to 31 October, the chair lift runs continuously from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. In summer, hours are extended to 7:00 p.m. Every 20 minutes, shuttle service runs from the terminal station of the chair lift to the center of Dorf Tirol, and to the Hochmut Cable Car. Tel. 0039 0473 923105

DORF TIROL – HOCHMUT

A cable car whisks you from the village of Dorf Tirol up to the Muthöfen Alpine farms.

Hours of Operation: From 20 March to 15 November, every half hour from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.; from 1 July to 30 September, hours are extended to 7:00 p.m. Tel. 0039 0473 923480, www.seilbahn-hochmuth.it



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ALGUND/PLARS DI MEZZO – VELLOI CHAIRLIFT

The valley station is in Algund.

Hours of Operation: From 28 March until early November: 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 1:40 p.m. to 5:15/6:15 p.m. Tel. 0039 0473 448532

VELLOI – LEITERALM CABLE CAR

This cable car takes you on the second part of the trip: from Vellau up to the Leiteralp alpine pastures.

Hours of Operation: From 28 March until early November: 8:30 a.m. to noon and 1:00 p.m. to 5:00/6:00 p.m.; Tel. 0039 0473 448532

VERDINS – TALLE CABLE CAR

The valley station is in the hamlet of Verdins, in Schenna. The cable car accesses the hiking areas of Talle and Hirzer, where there are numerous round-trip trails ranging from leisurely to quite challenging.

Hours of Operation: From 28 March to 8 November: 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. In June, hours are extended to 5:30 p.m.; from 1 July to 18 October hours are extended to 6:00 p.m. Tel. 0039 0473 949618; www.verdins.it

TASER – MONTE SCHENNA CABLE CAR

This little cable car above Schenna goes up to Taser Family Alm.

Hours of Operation: From 28 March to 8 November: 8:30 a.m. to noon and 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. In summer, hours are extended to 7:00 p.m. (only Sundays and public holidays). Tel. 0039 0473 945615

SALTAUS – PUNTA CERVINA MOUNTAIN

This cable car runs 1,500 meters from the valley floor up to the Klammenben summit station on Punta Cervina Mountain. You can also get out at the Prenn intermediate station. The mountain station is an excellent starting point for high-altitude hiking, including access to the E5 walking route, which crosses Europe.

Hours of Operation: From 28 March to 8 November: 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. From 15 June through 30 September: hours extended to 6:30 p.m. Tel. 0039 0473 645498, www.hirzer.info

LANA – SAN VIGILIO

This cable car, one of the oldest in Tyrol, runs from the town of Lana up to San Vigilio Mountain. The mountain, which is car free, is an absolute hiking paradise. From the summit station of the cable car, there is a chair lift that takes you up to an elevation of 1,814 meters.

Hours of Operation: From June to September, the cable car runs continuously from 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. May and October from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.; From November through April, it runs from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and from 1:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. On Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, the cable car runs from 8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Info: Tel. 0039 0473 561333

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SANNI.it - Georg Tappener

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INTERVIEW

EDITH NIEDERFRINIGER

Merano-native Edith Niederfriniger was a successful triathlete between 1998 and 2014. Her greatest triumphs include the Long Distance Triathlon European Championship in 2003 and two Ironman wins (2006 and 2007). Niederfriniger currently works as an endurance-sports trainer.

Ms. Niederfriniger, what is it that makes Merano an ideal vacation spot for sports enthusiasts?

Merano offers excellent infrastructure for athletes. From swimming pools to the ice rink, everything is available and quickly accessible. In addition, the beautiful surroundings of the town offer excellent opportunities for various types of outdoor sports.

Would you let us in on some insider tips for sporting activities in Merano during the summer?

Well, the many options for cyclists certainly come immediately to mind: In the Merano area, there are routes for mountain bikers and road cyclists alike, which vary a great deal in terms of difficulty level. Hikers and trail runners are also spoiled for choice: you can, for example, follow the Passer River on flat terrain towards the Passeier Valley or go towards Hafling or to San Vigilio Mountain, if you want something a little steeper. The Merano Valley Basin is also crossed by several *Waalweg* trails, which I also use for my running training.

In Merano, where can one stay in top physical form during the winter?

Even during winter, Merano offers the right thing for any sports enthusiast. You can swim and go ice-skating at the Meranarena or take advantage of the wide range of courses at the Terme Merano spa complex for doing your workout. Also ski resorts and cross-country ski trails are just a few minutes away by car.

What is an absolute must for any adrenaline junkie in Merano?

For those just can't get enough excitement, I recommend a tandem paragliding flight over the mountains of Merano or the adrenaline rush you get from rafting.

HIKING SUGGESTIONS AROUND MERANO

The area immediately outside of Merano offers countless well-marked hiking trails, most of which are passable year round. Here are some hiking recommendations that can be undertaken with a guide or alone – as long as you have detailed trail map and appropriate equipment:

MERANO – DORF TIROL

Merano – Tiroler Steig – Dorf Tirol – Tyrol Castle (Schloss Tirol) – St. Peter – Thurnstein Castle (Schloss Thurnstein), Descent to the Algunder Waalweg – Tappeinerweg Trail – Merano

Walking Time: about 3 hours. Altitude Gain: 300 m. Length: about 10 km

TASER HÖHENWEG (HIGH TRAIL)

Take the Taser Cable Car up from Schenna – Hike through Videgg to Prenn (Intermediate station of the Hirzer Cable Car) – Take the Hirzer Cable Car down to Saltaus or the Oberkirn Cable Car down to Verdins

Walking Time: 2.5 hours. Altitude Gain: 380 m. Length: 8.5 km

Bus Service: 231 Meran-Verdins Scena, Scena 233 cable car Taser; Line 240 Saltaus-Meran

HIRZER ALMEN LOOK

Depart from Saltaus (Passeier Valley) with the cable car or drive to Prenn, hike to Gampenalm – Mahd Alm – Hintereggalm – Hirzeralm – Klammeben

Walking Time: 3 hours, 15 minutes. Altitude Gain: 780 m. Length: 9.5 km

Bus Service: No. 240 Merano – Saltaus

KNOTTNKINO (ROCK CINEMA)

Parking area for the village of Haflling – Trail No. 16 + No. 11 to the Knottnkino, return via Leadneralm – Wurzeralm, descend to Haflling

Walking Time: 6 hours. Altitude Gain: 800 m. Length: 19 km

Bus Service: 225 Merano – Haflling

(Shorter variant: Verano – Knottnkino – Verano, walking time about 3 hours, altitude gain 300 m)



NATURE & SPORTS

THE HIGH ROAD

When a leisurely hike simply isn't enough for you, Merano's high-altitude world offers plenty of opportunities to satisfy even the most adventurous mountain climber. In fact, the area's Alpine peaks draw enthusiastic hikers and climbers from every corner of the globe. Whether you are looking for a few hours out in the great outdoors, a day hike or a multi-day trek, South Tyrol's mountain world offers not only breathtaking scenery but also immersion in unspoiled nature and richly diverse Alpine fauna.

THE MERANO HIGH TRAIL

One of the many unique possibilities in the area is the spectacular Alta Via di Merano trail, known as the Meraner Höhenweg in German, a circuit through the Texel Group Nature Park that covers 80 kilometers and requires six to seven days to hike. The most convenient starting point from Merano is near the Muthöfen farms, which is accessible by cable car from the town of Dorf Tirol. Follow trail number 24 through the following legs: Muthöfen Farms – Monte Cucco – Patleid or Monte Santa Caterina – Masi Ghiacciati – Petrarca Refuge – Matatz – Dorf Tirol.

THE GSTEIR – MERANO 2000 SPEEDHIKING TRAIL

A trail dedicated entirely to the active hiker: this path connects the valley station of the Merano 2000 cable car with its summit station, via a midstation stop (Gsteir). The route is 7.9 kilometers in length and very challenging in sections. The cable car's mid-station stop allows hikers to do just one of its two parts on foot and ascend the other via cable car

 A magnifying glass icon with the word "TIP" written inside in a bold, green, sans-serif font. The magnifying glass has a silver handle and a white frame.

TIP

MERAN 2000 LOOP

Falzeben – Trail No. 14 – Zueggütte – Piffing – Waidmannalm – Kirchsteigeralm – Meraner Hütte – Kreuzjöchl – Trail No. 15 – Maiseralm – Moschwaldalm – Falzeben
 Time: about 3.5 – 4 hours. Altitude Gain: 600 m. Length: about 12.5 kilometers
 Bus Service: No. 225 Merano – Falzeben
 (Shorter variant: top station of Merano 2000 Cable Car – Trail No. 18A – Waidmannalm – Trail No. 14 + 17 – top station of Merano 2000 Cable Car: walking time about 1.5 hours, altitude gain: 200 m, length: about 6 km)

NATURNSER ALM

Take the cable car and chairlift to Vigiljoch, hike to the Naturner Alm and back to the chairlift
 Walking Time: about 3 to 3.5 hours. Length: about 9 km. Altitude Gain: 240 m
 Bus Service: No. 211 Merano – Lana (stop: Lana Bus Station)

ULTNER HÖFEWEG (FARM TRAIL) – LONGER VERSION

Loop trail from Kuppelwies via St. Nikolaus as far as St. Gertraud to see the ancient larch trees, and back (the hike can also be shortened – bus connections available)
 Walking Time: approx. 5 to 5.5 hours. Length: 18 km. Altitude Gain: 650 m
 Bus Service: No. 245 Merano – Ultental

ULTNER HÖFEWEG (FARM TRAIL) – SHORTER VERSION

Drive to St. Nikolaus, and walk on the sunny slope into the valley along the old Ultner Höfeweg, passing typical old farmhouses, to St. Gertraud. After a stop for a bite to eat, we visit the impressive, 800-year-old larch trees, and then walk through flowery meadow paths on the opposite side of the valley, back to St. Nikolaus.
 Altitude Gain: 400 m
 Walking Time: 3.5 – 4 hours

SPRONSER SEEN (LAKES)

Challenging mountain hike, with some exposed spots; requires good physical fitness, sure-footedness and that hikers do not tend towards vertigo.
 Take the basket lift from Vellau to Leiter Alm. Hike via the Hochganghaus to the Hochgangscharte – Langsee – Grünsee – Oberkaser – Taufenscharte – Leiter Alm
 Walking Time: About 6.5 hours. Altitude Gain: 1,180 m. Length: 13 km
 Bus Service: No. 235 Merano – Vellau

SPRONSER SEEN (LAKES) – PFITSCHER AND KASER LACKE

Easier variant: Take the Dorf Tirol–Hochmuth Cable Car to the Muthöfen (farms) – Trail No. 22 Mutkopf – Jägersteig – Oberkaseralm – return to the Hochmuth Cable Car
 Walking Time: 5.5 – 6 hours. Altitude Gain: Approx. 830 m. Length: About 13 km
 Bus Service: 221 Meran–Dorf Tirol, line 222 Dorf Tirol – Hochmuth cable car

NOTE: Even hikes on trails that are reportedly easy should be carefully planned, taking the prevailing weather conditions into account. Before departing, it's a good idea to contact the MeranAlpin mountaineering school (Tel. 348 2600813, info@bergsteigerschule.com, www.bergsteigerschule.com), which frequently organizes guided tours. A visit to the site www.wanderfuehrer.it is also worthwhile for hikers.



2.011-3.212 m

360° On the Top!

Alpine fascination: Val Senales Glacier

- _ **Ötzi Glacier Tour** – Hiking tour to the place of discovery of world's most famous mummy
- _ Walking tours with the cable car ticket **FuniCard** for Merano and environs
- _ **Glacier & Palms** – Combi ticket with the Gardens of Trauttmansdorff Castle
- _ Opened daily from **June 12th** from 9am to 4:30pm

Summer-Ski from June 12th to July 12th,
 every day from 7:30am to 1 pm





SENALES VALLEY: SKIING ON A GLACIER

A skiing Mecca in the heart of the Alps, just 45 minutes by car from Merano: in addition to awe-inspiring views, the Senales Valley Glacier (3,200 m) offers more than 35 kilometers of ski runs, 7 kilometers of cross-country trails and a 3.3-kilometer sled run. Open from October to May. Maso Corto, where the valley station of the ski lift is located, is an ideal starting point for excursions with the whole family.

Info: Tel. 0039 0473 662171, www.schnalstal.com

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ÖTZI'S DOMAIN

In 1991, the body of a mummified man was discovered on the Similaun Glacier near Hauslabjoch, on the edge of the Senales Valley. The mummy, which was soon dubbed Ötzi the Iceman, lived around 5,300 years ago. Remnants of clothing and personal items were found with him, including a bow and some arrows. At the summit station of the Senales Glacier Cable Car, you will find a show gallery about Ötzi and his world. If you want to see Ötzi in person, be sure to visit the South Tyrol Museum of Archaeology in Bolzano (see page 115).

ARCHEOPARC THE WORLD OF ÖTZI THE ICEMAN

This interactive museum in Madonna di Senales has an open-air archaeological area. Daily hands-on programs encourage young and old alike to become active – even Neolithic – by shooting arrows, baking bread, making jewelry, working clay, etc. You can also see the place where Ötzi was discovered.

Opening Hours: 2 April to 2 November; daily from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m..

Entrance Fees: Adults € 8; reduced rates € 6; family passes from € 18 to € 23

Various guest cards are valid for entry.

Guided Tours: on Sundays at 3:00 p.m. when the museum is open. Groups may also request guided tours when the museum is closed.

Info: Madonna di Senales 163, Senales Valley, Tel. 0039 0473 676020, www.archeoparc.it



HITTING THE SLOPES: SKI AREAS IN THE VICINITY

There are so many ski areas nearby Merano that you can practice your carving somewhere new every day, which means that you'll never get bored during your winter holiday. In addition to the five ski areas accessible using your Merano SkiCard (see tip), there are a few others that we should mention here: Solda and Trafoi, at the foot of Mount Ortler and nestled amidst icy 3000-plus-meter peaks; the small but beautiful ski resort of Watles, near Malles in the Venosta Valley; Maseben, in nearby Vallelunga; Belpiano in Val di Resia; and Malga S. Valentino near San Valentino alla Muta, which has the longest downhill run in the Venosta Valley.

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WINTER IN MERANO MERANO 2000



Merano 2000 is the ski area just above the town of Merano. It offers a wide range of options for winter sports enthusiasts as well as a good place for non-skiers to just have fun in the snow. The ski area features more than 40 kilometers of runs for experts, beginners and leisure skiers; in addition, there are three kilometers of cross-country trails and a sledding trail that runs a total of 3.6 kilometers. A snowboarding park rounds out the offering of winter fun at its best. Night skiing on the illuminated ski runs is an unforgettable experience. A brand new cable car and five chairlifts provide rapid transit while snow machines guarantee your skiing pleasure. Those who are not yet secure heading downhill on a snowboard or on skis can take advantage of the services offered by the ski school, which include courses in Alpine skiing. The little ones will have a great time at the ski school for kids or ski kindergarten. Young snowboarders, meanwhile, can show off their moves at the brand-new Snowpark Light. A professional ski service and rental company eliminates the need to transport your own skis. Ski lodges, restaurants and apr.s ski bars provide a cozy place to warm up and recharge your batteries. Merano 2000 is accessible from Naifweg in the outskirts of town with the Merano 2000 Cable Car or by driving in the direction of Falzeben/Haflling.

Info: Merano 2000 Cable Car, Tel. 0039 0473 234821, www.merano2000.com

TIP

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SALEWA BASECAMP MERANO: AN ADVENTURE AT 2,300 METERS

SALEWA Basecamp Merano, which takes place between late December and early January, offers a unique opportunity to spend a night in a tent at 2,300 meters above sea level.

The custom-designed and comfortable winter tents used are made available by Salewa, an internationally known mountain sports-equipment company. In the snowy mountains of the Sarntal Alps, inside the Merano 2000 Ski Area yet far removed from the hustle and bustle of everyday life, this experience will create memories that will stay with you forever. For more information, please contact the Merano Tourist Office: Tel 0039 0473 272000, www.merano.eu

LUCKIS KINDERLAND A KINGDOM JUST FOR KIDS AT MERANO 2000

The construction of the new Merano 2000 Cable Car has led to an overall renovation of the entire hiking and skiing area around the summit station. One of the biggest benefits was the creation of a large area for children in December 2011, which grants the little ones a space completely dedicated to their need for fun and entertainment. The Haflinger horse that serves as a mascot for Merano 2000 was the inspiration for Luckis Kinderland. At Luckis, you'll find a ski school as well as a day-care area. There are three magic carpet lifts and a snow tube trail. At the top, an operator monitors the area from a sort of stable. The runs are a lot of fun for children, with horseshoe-shaped tunnels through which they can ski or sled. Other elements, such as blocks of hay and wooden horses, decorate and enliven the area. The starting point of the sledding trail and the Alpine Bob ride are both in the immediate vicinity.

TIP



THE ALPINE BOB: PURE ADRENALINE

Merano 2000's recreational facilities also include the Alpine Bob, South Tyrol's first year-round rail toboggan ride and the longest in Italy. The Alpine Bob whizzes down into the valley on rails, reaching a maximum speed of 40 km/h and with a vertical drop of 150 meters. Every sled holds two people,

who have their own space on the toboggan track. Children must be four in order to ride; children between four and ten may ride only when accompanied by an adult. Once in the valley, the Bob takes you back up to the starting point.



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KONPLOTT the somewhat different jewellery

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Tel. 3478326473

mail: meran@konplott.com



EXPLORING BY BICYCLE

BIKE PATHS

A dense network of bikes radiates outwards from Merano: whether you want to take a short, medium or long-distance ride, you'll find a path just perfect for you. If you don't want to go too far, the neighborhoods on the outskirts of the city itself are lovely to explore. If you want to get really out into nature, the Venosta and Adige valleys are extremely beautiful; you can even bike all the way to Lake Garda if you like.

Info: www.bzgbga.it/de/radwege/radwege.asp

FREE USE OF BICYCLES

There are two points in town where bicycles are available to use free of charge, all of which are open daily from 2 April to 17 October. There are mountain bikes available, as well as road bikes for women and children, at the pick-up points on Via Piave beside the Terme Merano spa and near the train station. Safety helmets and child seats are also available. Use of bicycles is free of charge: all that is required is a valid ID card and a security deposit of € 5, which is refunded upon return of the bicycles. Hours of operation are Monday to Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. (in October until 6:00 p.m.)

OTHER RENTAL OPTIONS

Sportservice Erwin Stricker has 14 bike-rental points and nine partners with rental points in South Tyrol: these are united under the name Südtirol Rad. The Merano rental point is located on Via IV Novembre, directly at the train station. Hours of operation for 2015 are: 4 April to 1 November from 8:00 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. and from 1:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. There are more bike-rental points in the Venosta Valley, located in Spondinig, Schlanders, Laces, Naturns and Reschen, as well as in St. Leonhard in Passeier and in South Bolzano.

Info: www.suedtirol-rad.com

BIKEMOBIL CARD

The bikemobil Card combines two different offers: unlimited travel on all of South Tyrol's means of public transport (buses, regional trains, participating cable cars) on 1, 3 or 7 consecutive days and a day trip on a borrowed bicycle. There are several bike points in South Tyrol, including Merano, Malles, at the Resia Pass and in Bolzano Sud. Bikes may be returned at any of the participating bike points. The bikemobil Card is available at all points of sale for South Tyrol's public transport system (train and bus stations), at tourist offices and at bike points.



Prices:	Adult	Junior (6–14 years)
1-day ticket	€ 24.00	€ 12.00
3-day ticket	€ 30.00	€ 15.00
7 day ticket	€ 34.00	€ 17.00

For more information please see www.vinschgerbahn.it or Südtirol Rad: Tel. 0039 0473 201500 or www.suedtirol-rad.com.

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ADIGE/ETSCH BIKE ROUTE ON THE VIA CLAUDIA AUGUSTA: CULTURAL ATTRACTIONS: FROM GARDENS TO ARCHITECTURE

The Adige/Etsch Bike Route winds its way through the Adige Valley's richly varied landscape, running from Reschen through the Venosta valley, the Burggrafenamt and Oltradige areas and passing by Merano and Bolzano on its way to Caldaro. The sections that run across the broad, flat valley floor are ideal for recreational cyclists and families. Serious cyclists, too, will find challenging tours for road bikes and mountain bikes alike through mountain passes and along mountain slopes.

The fact that the Adige/Etsch Bike Route runs along the Via Claudia Augusta gives it additional charm. Now 2,000 years old, this road was the first to connect the Adriatic and the Danube. Throughout history, this Roman road made for a lively cultural exchange between peoples and has left behind a remarkable legacy: an extraordinary wealth of historical remains, ancient settlements and architectural gems.

From Merano the following three tours, which are part of the (expanded) Adige/Etsch Bike Route, may be undertaken:

VENOSTA VALLEY: MALLES–MERANO

Distance: 56 km; **Altitude gain:** 700 m

Starting from Merano, you can explore the Venosta valley while taking advantage of a beneficial combination: bike and train. The Venosta valley Line, known as the Vinschgerbahn in German, offers a spectacular landscape. At the terminal station, located in Malles (56 km from Merano), one can pick up a bike at the local Südtirol Rad point, and then ride all the way back to Merano on a well-maintained bike path. Should the return journey prove too long, you may return the bike at any Südtirol Rad point along the way and continue your return journey to Merano, relaxing on the train. Bike points are available at the train stations in Spondinig, Schlanders, Laces, Naturns and Merano. From Malles, a second bike path (length: 20 km) leads to the Resia Pass (500 m altitude gain). There is also a bike point there.

For those who prefer to use their own bicycle, it may either be transported on the train or aboard a bicycle transportation service available in Merano (see Transport of Private Bikes on the following page). From May to October, you have to use the Venosta Valley Line's bike shuttle from Merano, Algund and Marling.

ADIGE VALLEY: MERANO–BOLZANO

Distance: about 30 km; **Altitude gain:** negligible

The Adige/Etsch Bike Route is also a pleasant way to get from Merano to Bolzano. Again, there is the possibility of renting a bike at the Südtirol Rad point located at Merano Train Station and returning it to the bike point in Bolzano Süd later on. The return trip to Merano may be undertaken on the train.

PASSEIER VALLEY: MERANO–ST. LEONHARD

Distance: about 20 km; **Altitude gain:** 370 m

This bike path, which has only a slight grade and is largely natural, leads from the center of Merano along the Passer River, and ends in St. Leonhard. This path does not lead directly through the villages that lie along its route, but cyclists can take a detour into any one of them. It is also possible to ride the No. 240 bus to St. Leonhard, rent a bike at the Südtirol Rad point there, and then return the bike in Merano.

Info: Merano Tourist Office, Tel. 0039 0473 272000,

info@merano.eu, www.merano.eu

Bicycle rentals: www.suedtirol-rad.com

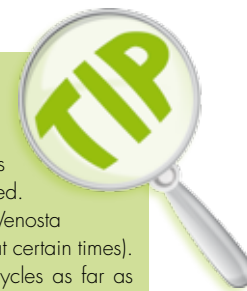
TRANSPORT OF PRIVATE BICYCLES

An additional bike-transport ticket must be secured in order to transport your own bike on the train. Regional trains, however, are only equipped to transport 15 to 18 bicycles. If the available spots are already occupied, boarding of additional bicycles may be denied.

At the train stations in Merano, Marling and Algund, boarding the Venosta Valley Line with a bicycle may not be permitted from May to October (at certain times).

At Merano Train Station, there is a shuttle offered that carries bicycles as far as Malles. You may choose to pick up your bike at any one of the railway station bicycle points, which are located in Naturns, Laces, Schlanders, Spondinig and Malles.

Info: Tel. 0039 0473 201 500



EASY RIDER, ALPINE STYLE

Many define happiness on earth as an exhilarating ride on a motorcycle – add a stunning mountain landscape and you're really in seventh heaven. Merano has a reputation as an ideal base for mountain touring both for experts and for recreational bikers. The City on the Passer lies at the intersection point of three valleys, all of which have access to mountain passes that are thrilling for motorcyclists from a technical point of view as well as for the ride itself.

Below are some tips for some beautiful round-trip tours out of Merano:

TOUR 1:

From Merano, head towards Monzocolo via Hafling. Turn towards Jenesien when the road forks at Meltina, and then again towards Bolzano. In Bolzano, follow signs towards Val Sarentino, then head right towards Renon. From there, the road continues towards Chiusa in Valle Isarco passing Barbiano and Villandro. Turn briefly in the direction of Brennero, then right into the Valle di Funes and towards Passo delle Erbe towards Brixen. From there, follow the state road towards Sterzing, then back towards Merano.

TOUR 2:

Take the Passo delle Palade past Lana and over the Passo della Mendola and then towards Caldaro (Olttradige). In the Etsch Valley, head south towards Ora, then towards Cavalese passing Montagna, Trodena, Anterivo and Faver. This route leads through the Val di Cembra. Take the Passo di Lavazè towards Bolzano, and from past Monzocolo (Vöran – Hafling) back towards Merano.

The websites www.dolomiten-bike.com and www.bikerswelcome.it have listings of many other stunning motorcycle tours from Merano.



AN ACE IN THE HOLE

If your leisure time revolves happily around a small white ball, head to Merano for a golfing holiday. This appealing sport offers both exercise and relaxation in the great outdoors and is attracting more and more enthusiasts..

GOLF CLUBS AROUND MERANO

No matter what your handicap, there is a golf course near Merano that is perfect for you. The Gutshof Brandis 9-hole golf course (par 35) in Lana lies between vineyards and apple orchards. A short ten-minute drive from Merano, the course is open from the beginning of March until the end of November. On the opposite side of town is Golfclub Passeier.Meran (par 71) set in the romantic Passeier valley about 15 minutes from town. The club is open from March to November (open daily).
Gutshof Brandis Golf Club: Tel. 0039 0473 564696, www.golfclublana.it;
Golfclub Passeier.Meran: Tel. 0039 0473 641488, www.golfclubpasseier.com



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SPLASHING AROUND

The Meranarena is the best place for those who love to swim to do so during winter. Cooling off in summer with a dip in the Lido is guaranteed fun.

MERANARENA INDOOR POOL

In addition to the main competition pool (25 x 21 meters), the Meranarena has a dedicated pool for other water activities (12 x 9 meters) and another diving pool with a moveable floor. A large window looks out onto gorgeous scenery. The Meranarena offers swimming lessons and aqua-fitness classes; polo matches are also held at the pool. There is a café adjacent to satisfy those post-workout hunger pangs. The pool is open from the end of September until the end of April.

2015 Hours of Operation: Until 14 May and from 17 September, Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays: 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.; Tuesdays and Thursdays: 6:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and 8:00 to 10:00 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays: 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.



THE LIDO OUTDOOR POOL

Everyone has a great time at the Lido – and not just inside the actual swimming pools. The diving boards at the large swimming pool and the two slides at the recreational pool guarantee plenty of splashing and sliding. Children have their own spacious play area complete with made-to-measure pool. There's also a nursery and even a picnic area. There is a beach-volleyball area, a basketball court, table tennis facilities as well as numerous sun beds available for those who prefer to lose themselves in the pages of a book – perhaps one discovered at the library adjacent to the

pool. Rounding out the offering is a restaurant, entertainment for the little ones, and cultural and musical events that continue into the evening. Extensive renovations carried out at the Lido for the 2015 season include an expansion of the main pool to Olympic size and diving board at a multifunctional pool with hot tub. A new tower with two water slides was also built.

2015 Hours of Operation: daily from 22 May to 6 September from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.; May from 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Info: Meranarena; Tel. 0039 0473 236982, www.meranarena.it



GARGAZON NATURAL SWIMMING POND

The village of Gargazon, which is located approximately 14 kilometers from Merano, has a special bathing experience to offer: Gargazon Natural Swimming Pond is the only public swimming pool of its kind in the west of South Tyrol. Because the water is cleaned naturally by the waterscape (total size: 2,300 sq m), there is no need whatsoever for chemical additives. The natural pool is open daily from 23 May to 6 September.

Info: www.naturbad-gargazon.it

ANYONE FOR TENNIS?

Are your socks covered in red dust even during your holiday? Maybe holiday is the ideal time to cultivate your passion for tennis: for once, you'll have the luxury of enough free time to really work on your game. Merano has a tennis tradition that dates back more than a century, and the local courts are a perfect place to wile away the hours. The centrally located Tennis Centre at Via Piave 46 has nine perfectly groomed clay courts (five of which are equipped with lighting) and two hard courts open from April to October. Its welcoming, renovated clubhouse and lush green park make the Merano Tennis Club a social gathering point of the city. You don't have to lose your game during the winter, either: the indoor tennis area has four courts open throughout the year, plus two more that are available inside a temporary structure from October through March. The Merano Tennis Club is well equipped with spacious and comfortable locker rooms and showers. For reservations, call 0039 0473 236550. In addition, there are two illuminated clay courts just a short drive from Merano at a sports and entertainment facility in Sinich, which is part of the Meranarena.

Bookings: Tel. 0039 0473 236550

Info: Tel. 0039 0473 230313, www.meranarena.it



ICE RINK

Whether you're a beginner or expert skater, you'll love the spacious Meranarena at via Palade 74. The ice rink offers everything that a winter sport space should: from the beginning of August 2015 through early April 2016, the rink is open to the public for skating. In addition, there are hockey games, curling tournaments, and figure skating competitions. The outdoor rink is open to ice skaters of all ages from November 2015 to Februar 2016.

Info: Meranarena, Tel. 0039 0473 236982, www.meranarena.it

THRILLS & CHILLS

PARAGLIDING AND HANGGLIDING

These sports are the ultimate adrenalin rush. Tandem flights with an instructor are a good option for beginners.

Tirolfly-Adlerhorst: Tel. 0039 335 6766891

or 0039 335 6199777, www.tirolfly.com;

Fly2Meran-Gleitschirmverein" Tel 0039 333 5438555;

www.fly2meran.info



RAFTING AND KAYAKING

Riding the rapids of the Adige River or Passer River is another exhilarating experience.

Acquaterra: Tel. 0039 336 611336; www.acquaterra.it

Alto Adige Rafting: Tel. 0039 349 4178393,

www.altoadigerafting.com





STAYING FIT THE FUN WAY: OTHER SPORTS & RECREATION

Active entertainment enlivens every holiday. Here are some suggestions for good ways to keep in shape during your stay in Merano.

BOCCE

How close can you get to the jack? Answer this question with a game of bocce, which dates back to the Roman Empire and is similar to lawn bowling, at the Sinich Sports and Leisure Center – Meranarena at Via Nazionale 58-62.

Info: Tel. 0039 0473 247179, www.meranarena.it

FITNESS TRAILS

A perfect way to combining stay in shape with exploring: there are courses around Merano, on the Waalweg trail in Marling and in Dorf Tirol.

RUNNING & WALKING

Jogging enthusiasts will find 26 kilometers of trails in Merano, Dorf Tirol, Schenna, Rifian and Kuens.

NORDIC WALKING

The trails listed under the Running & Walking section of this guide (see p. 104) are also suitable for Nordic Walking. Other possibilities include Schenna, Naturns, Hafling, Vöran and Merano 2000.

SMALL-FIELD FOOTBALL

You can practice this slightly scaled-down, indoor version of European football at Palamainardo, Via Mainardo 51. Info: Tel. 0039 335 593955



The Ortles Area



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Solda | Trafoi

-  **Solda Cableway** Madriccio Alpine Hut _2.800 m
Restaurant at arrival _2.600 m
-  **Pulpito Chair Lift** Restaurant at arrival _2.350 m
-  **Orso Chair Lift** Restaurant at arrival K2 _2.350 m
-  **Trafoi Chair Lift** Forcola Alpine Hut _2.200 m



Solda Cableway | www.funiviesolda.it

BEACH VOLLEYBALL

This sport ups the fun factor in a serious way. There are facilities available at Merano's Lido swimming pool, Lana Sports Center, and various outdoor swimming pools in the surrounding areas.

SPORT FISHING

Sport fishermen will need a license from the Italian government (€ 32.00), which is available at the Merano Tourist Office (Tel. 0039 0473 272000). For info about fishing and to purchase a day pass (starting at around € 20.00) for the Venosta Valley, Ulten Valley or the Algund-Töll section of the Etsch Valley, please contact Jawag (Gampenstr. 8, Tel. 0039 0473 221722); for stretches of the Passer River from Saltaus into the valley or between St. Leonard and Saltaus please contact Bar Madison (Romstr. 260, Tel. 0039 0473 231757 – Closed on Sundays) or the Passeier Valley Tourist Office (Tel. 0039 0473 656 188). Day passes for the Venosta Valley to Naturns, meanwhile, are available at Gasthof Winkler (Tombergweg 4, Kastelbell, Tel. 0039 0473 624 134 – Closed on Tuesdays).

ARCHERY

Gather all your concentration – you'll need it!

Info: Merano Sports Club; Tel. 0039 0473 232126, www.sport-club-meran.it

SHOOTING RANGE

Merano has a shooting range located at Via Castel Gatto 11.

Info: Tel. 0039 0473 237466

SPORT CLIMBING AT THE ROCKARENA

Fans of indoor climbing will simply love the Rockarena: This climbing gym has modern facilities and sport climbing equipment available for rental.

THE ROPES COURSE AT TASER FAMILY ALM

The Taser Alm near Schenna (seven kilometers from Merano) offers climbing fun for the entire family. The ropes course (booking required) is South Tyrol's largest and suitable for any age group. The Taser Alm also attracts visitors as the result of its child-friendly attractions, such as the children's park, a 1,000-m² game world including petting zoo, an Indian Village, a sandbox and a lookout tower.

Info: Tel. 0039 0473 945615, www.familienalm.com

RUNNING & WALKING IN MERANO

Four well-marked routes, which are ideal for walking, jogging or Nordic walking, have been created between Merano and the neighboring villages of Dorf Tirol, Schenna, Rifian and Kuens. These routes follow promenades and walkways, running through green spaces and forests or along the picturesque banks of the Passer River. They range in level of difficulty from easy to intermediate, and in length from 1.8 to 9.6 kilometers. **Info:** A brochure with additional information about the four routes is available at Merano's tourist office, the Merano Tourist Office (Corso Libertà 45), or may be viewed online at www.merano.eu/promenades



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SUGGESTIONS FOR FAMILIES: CALLING ALL KIDS!



What's it gonna be today? A swim? A castle? A hike? A little bit of everything? There's something for everyone in Merano and the surrounding area.

Walking Explore one of Merano's unique Waalweg hiking trails around Merano and learn some interesting things along the way (from page 74).

Swimming Dive right in to the swimming pool at the Meranarena or the Lido, Merano's outdoor swimming pool or how about a day trip to Gargazon Natural Swimming Pond (see p. 100).

Riding Maybe what you'd really like to do is to take a riding lesson at the Merano Riding Center (page 30).

Biking Is biking your thing? A little ride around Merano could really inspire you (from page 92).

Adventure Would you have butterflies in your stomach way up high at the largest high ropes course in South Tyrol? It's located at Taser Family Alm, above Schenna. What about rafting in the Venosta (p. 101) or Passeier Valley? Or maybe a thrilling downhill run on the Alpine Bob coaster at Merano 2000 ski area after a visit to Lucki's Kinderland? (page 90).

Gardens and Tourism Museum You will see a lot of amazing plants at the Gardens of Trauttmansdorff Castle (page 24). You can visit the fun and interactive Touriseum (page 39) at the same time.

A Bird's Eye View and a Castle: Hawk, Eagle & Co. is waiting for you, starting from 28 March, at Tyrol Castle's Bird Care Centre. Come and enjoy a close encounter with these marvelous creatures. TIP: the thrilling Birds of Prey flight show. The castle itself also houses a museum that tells the story of South Tyrol's history and people (page 109).

Playgrounds Do the kids need to let off a little steam? Merano has plenty of places for you: Elisabeth Park on the Summer Promenade; on the Kurpromenade esplanade, across from the Merano Tourist Office; in the park behind the Evangelical Church on the Kurpromenade; in Maiser Park in Merano's Maia Alta neighborhood; in Rosegger Park on Via San Giorgio in Maia Alta; next to the Maia Bassa cathedral; in Merano's Texel Park neighborhood on Via Monte Tessa and on Via Marleno.

Info: Taser Family Alm: Tel. 0039 0473 945615, www.familienalm.com
Wild Bird Refuge: Tel. 0039 0473 221500, www.gufyland.com

More information on all of these activities is available in the relevant chapters of this guidebook, or at the Merano Tourist Office at Corso Libert  45; Tel. 0039 0473 272000; www.merano.eu



THERME MERAN
TERME MERANO

AROUND MERANO

SCHENNA

SCHENNA CASTLE

Count & Countess Spiegelfeld, Tel. 0039 0473 945630, Fax 0039 0473 945351, Mobile 0039 335 6040774, www.schloss-schenna.com, info@schloss-schenna.com
Schenna Castle was built in 1350 as the residence of the Lords of Schenna. Ownership changed hands over the centuries and, as a result, the castle was rebuilt several times by various noble families. Schenna Castle houses a large collection of weapons, an intriguing Renaissance hall with an eighteenth-century tiled oven, a salon, and a dining room with picture gallery. The collection traces Tyrolean history from Margarethe Maultasch to Andreas Hofer and Archduke John.

Opening Hours: 31 March to 30 October. Closed on Saturdays, Sundays and Mondays.

Guided Tours: 10:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 2:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. Tour lasts approx. 45 minutes. Minimum 4 persons for group tour. Guided tours are possible at unscheduled times for groups of 20 or more, if booked in advance. Evening tours every Monday at 9:00 p.m.

MAUSOLEUM

Next to Schenna Parish Church, Tel. 0039 0473 945630, Fax 0039 0473 945351, Mobile 0039 335 6040774, www.schloss-schenna.com, info@schloss-schenna.com
This neo-Gothic building is made with red sandstone and granite from the Ifinger area. Built between 1860 and 1869 as a place of burial for Archduke John of Austria and his family, there is an underground crypt with heavy cross vaults. The sarcophagus of the Archduke and his wife is made of Veronese marble.

Opening Hours: 30 March to 31 October; Monday to Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Closed on Sundays and public holidays.

THE NATURE CINEMA OF VÖRAN

Thirty seats made of steel and chestnut wood, a screen with no edges, and nature as director: the film playing at the Knotnkino is the nature of Vöran. Built atop Sasso Rosso Peak, the Knotnkino (Rock Cinema) offers incredible, mind-boggling views across the Etsch Valley and the Merano Valley Basin, encircled by the Dolomite Mountains and Texel Group Nature Park.

The light and the vistas are in constant flux, allowing visitors to really appreciate the incredible color palette of the landscape and how the hues change with the passing of the hours and seasons. The Knotnkino is located between Halling and Vöran. You can reach it on foot in about a half hour, starting from the Gasthof Alpenrose in Vöran, and about a 90-minute hike from the Gasthof Grüner Baum.



DORF TIROL

TYROL CASTLE & SOUTH TYROLEAN MUSEUM OF HISTORY

Dr. Siegfried de Rachewiltz, Tel. 0039 0473 220221, Fax 0039 0473 221132, www.schlosstirol.it

The family seat of the Counts of Tyrol, the castle is a princely residence in the style of the Hohenstaufen royal castles of the twelfth and thirteenth centuries. Two palace buildings remain, with a palace chapel on two floors. The architectural sculpting of the portals and windows are in the Renaissance style; the fresco decorations are Gothic.

Opening Hours: open from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. between 13 March and 8 December. In August, hours are extended to 6:00 p.m. Closed on Mondays except for Easter Monday and 7 Dezember. Groups must book in advance.

Guided Tours: daily tours are conducted at 10:15 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. in German and at 11:30 a.m. and 3:15 p.m. in Italian.

BIRD CARE CENTER AT TYROL CASTLE

Via del Castello 25, Tel. 0039 0473 221500, Fax 0039 0473 206422, www.gufyland.com

There is a very special attraction on the hill upon which Tyrol Castle is perched, just beneath the castle's guesthouse. It is unique in South Tyrol: a refuge for birds. Its mission is to nurse injured and helpless birds back to health and release them into the wild. Daily flight shows featuring various birds of prey take place at 11:15 a.m. and 3:15 p.m. The center is home to an average of some 50 birds, mostly birds of prey.

Opening Hours: from 10:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., from 28 March to 8 November. Closed on Mondays.

LANA AND ENVIRONS

SCHNATTERPECK ALTAR

This altar is located inside the parish church of Lana di Sotto on Via Schnatterpeck. The church was built on the site of a much older Romanesque church and was consecrated in 1492. Of particular note is the late-Gothic winged altar by Hans Schnatterpeck, one of the largest Gothic altarpieces. The altar is closed during Lent.

Guided Tours: at 10:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 3:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. from 8 April to 30 October, from Monday to Friday. On Saturday 10:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m. Length of tour: 30 minutes.

31 October: Open Day from 10:00 a.m. to noon and 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. (no guided tours). For group tours: Lana Tourist Association, Tel. 0039 0473 561770

LANA MUSEUM OF FRUIT CULTIVATION

Passeggiata Brandis 4, Tel. 0039 0473 564387, www.obstbaumuseum.it

This museum in Lana has over 1,000 m² of exhibition space, which houses comprehensive documentation on the historical development and current situation of fruit growing in South Tyrol and Lana.

Opening Hours: 1 April to 30 October. Closed Sundays. Monday to Saturday from 10:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. In June and July Saturdays closed.

Guided Tours: booking necessary always possible.

MONTELEONE CASTLE

Van Rossem family, Tschermes, Tel. 0039 320 4018511

Built in the thirteenth century by the Lords of Marling, this large castle has a three-storey chapel that dates from the fourteenth century, picturesque inner courtyards, a French ornamental garden, a hall of mirrors in the Rococo style, a great hall, fully furnished rooms and a collection of weapons. **Opening Hours:** Monday to Saturday from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 2:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. from Eastern to All Saints' Day. Closed Sundays. **Guided tours:** booking necessary for groups only. Length of tour: approx. 35 minutes. Languages available: English, French, German and Italian.

KRÄNZELHOF WINE ESTATE LABYRINTH GARDEN

Via Palade 1, Tschermes, Tel. 0039 0473 564549, www.labyrinth.bz

Opening Hours: daily, 9:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. from 29 March to early November. Tours available upon request.

ALGUND**NEW PARISH CHURCH (PFARRKIRCHE)**

Piazza Duomo 1, Tel. 0039 0473 448744 (rectory)

Algund's parish church is among the most beautiful and architecturally interesting modern churches in the Alps. Construction took place between 1966 and 1971.

Opening Hours: daily from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. from Easter to All Saints' Day.

Guided Tours: every Thursday at 5:00 p.m. except at funerals. Entrance is free. Brochures and other information are available from the rectory or at the Algund Tourist Office.

VENOSTA VALLEY - NATURNO**JUVAL CASTLE (near NATURNO)**

www.messner-mountain-museum.it

Hugo von Montalban built Juval Castle on a prehistoric site in around 1278. In 1368, ownership passed to the Lords of Starkenberg. After changing hands several more times, the Sinkmoser family acquired the castle in 1540. That was the heyday of Juval Castle: after that, the Hendl family took over title to the castle; they sold it to Josef Blaas in 1813. The castle fell into disrepair for a century before being purchased in 1913 by a Dutch colonialist named William Rowland, who restored the building. Since 1983, the castle has been the home of Reinhold Messner, who also uses it to house works of art. The museum comprises a large collection of Tibetan objects, a gallery of paintings depicting the mountains of the world, and a collection of masks spanning four continents.

Opening Hours and Guided Tours: 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. daily, from 22 March to 30 June and from 1 September to 1 November. Closed Wednesdays.

Booking for groups and special guided tours, upon request all year round. Bookings: daily, except Wednesdays; call the mobile number, 0039 348 4433871. Shuttle service daily, except Wednesdays: regular service from 9:30 a.m. From the main road exit towards Juval. Individual pick-up service: Juval (Schupfer) Tours in Naturno; Tel. 0039 0473 668058. On foot: accessible from Ciardes and Rattisio Vecchio along Waalweg trails, as well as from Stava and Kochenmoos, in a little over an hour.



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TEXEL GROUP NATURE PARK VISITOR CENTRE

Via dei Campi 3, Naturno, Tel. 0039 0473 668201

The Office for Natural Parks has opened an information office that uses multimedia presentations, including films and other audiovisual media, to introduce visitors to the Texel Group Nature Park and other natural reserves in the region.

Opening Hours: 31 March to 31 October from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and from 2:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Tuesdays through Saturdays. Closed on Mondays and Sundays. Open on Sundays in July, August and September.

PARTSCHINS**PETER MITTERHOFER TYPEWRITER MUSEUM**

Piazza della Chiesa 10, Partschins, Tel. 0039 0473 967581,
www.typewritermuseum.com

The museum was created in 1998 and is dedicated to the memory of Peter Mitterhofer, the inventor of the typewriter, who hailed from Partschins. Some 1,200 valuable exhibits, including 900 in the vaults that may be viewed upon request, give a comprehensive overview of the 100-year history of the development of the typewriter.

Opening Hours: 1 April to 31 October on Mondays from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. and Tuesdays through Fridays from 10:00 a.m. to noon and from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. to noon. 1 November to 31 March on Tuesdays from 10:00 a.m. to noon. Closed Sundays and public holidays. **Guided Tours:** June to October, Mondays at 8:30 p.m. and Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m.



Churburg Castle

SLUDERNO**CHURBURG CASTLE**

Tschenett family, Tel. 0039 0473 615241, Fax 0039 0473 615113,
www.churburg.com

Opening Hours: daily from 20 March through 31 October, except Mondays and public holidays. **Guided Tours:** the castle may only be visited by joining one of the guided tours, which run from 10:00 a.m. to noon and 2:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. The last tour departs at noon and at 4:30 p.m., respectively.

BURGUSIO**MARIENBERG ABBEY**

Tel. 0039 0473 831306, www.marienberg.it

Marienberg is a Benedictine abbey located in Upper Venosta Valley. The noble Tarasp family from Engadin founded the abbey. The oldest part is the crypt, which was consecrated in 1160; its Romanesque frescoes have been wonderfully preserved over the centuries.

Opening Hours: From 15 March to 31 October and from 27 December to 5 January. Open on Mondays through Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Closed on Sundays and religious holidays, except for Easter Monday and Pentecost Monday. **Guided Tours:** groups of 10 or more must book directly with the abbey.

K.u.K. Museum Bad Egart since 1430

View a vast collection of rare items, like personal effects of Empress Elisabeth, better known as Sissi, and Emperor Franz Joseph I as well as objects from the Imperial and Royal period and the Habsburgs. Travel back into the golden age of an empire: The museum features over 80 display cases with a variety of antiques, historical objects from South Tyrol and other intriguing exhibits.

Open-air museum: Walk through our creative Dream Garden, which unites art, culture and nature. You'll find many rare items, sculptures, wooden and stone masks as well as the Ötzi Habitat, with the first reproduction of Similaun Man, our own chapel, a farm garden, the historical Töll Station – with water tower and water crane – and much more ...

The open-air museum is open to everyone!

Opening Hours: 10:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

Transportation: Val Venosta Railway or the A-213 bus line

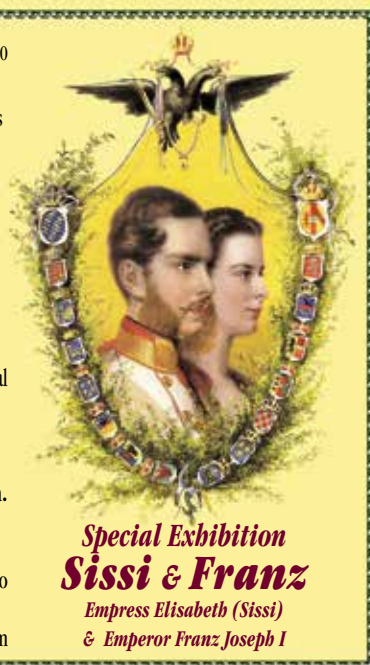
The station is directly in front of the open-air museum

Via stazione 17 39020 Töll – Partschins, near Merano

Closed Sunday evenings and Mondays

Tel: 0039-0473-967342

www.bad-egart.com



Special Exhibition
Sissi & Franz
Empress Elisabeth (Sissi)
& Emperor Franz Joseph I

ULTEN VALLEY

ULTEN VALLEY FOLKLORE MUSEUM

St. Nikolaus, Tel. 0039 0473 790147 or 0039 0473 790374

The Ulten Valley Folklore Museum is a living picture book of farming culture. It comprises seven rooms in which farming implements, handicrafts, texts and other exhibits are displayed.

Opening Hours: in March and April: Sundays from 10:00 a.m. to noon and 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. From May to the end of October, Tuesdays and Fridays from 11:00 a.m. to noon and from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. and on Sundays from 10:00 a.m. to noon and from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Guided Tours: length is approx. 30 minutes. Entry is by voluntary contribution.

LAHNER SÄGE NATIONAL PARK VISITOR'S CENTER

Tel. 0039 0473 798123, www.stelviopark.bz.it/lahnersaegel

The visitor's center at Lahnersäge National Park House features exhibits from the upper Ulten Valley in the Stillsferjoch National Park. The museum presents the forest, its protective functions and its usage. There is also an old restored Venetian saw on display.

Opening Hours: From 1 April to 30 June on Tuesdays through Fridays from 9:00 a.m. to noon and from 1:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Saturdays from 2:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Closed Sundays, Mondays and on public holidays. From 1 July to 31 October on Tuesdays through Fridays from 9:00 a.m. to noon and from 1:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. On Saturdays, Sundays and on public holidays from 2:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Closed on Mondays. **Guided Tours:** must be booked in advance.

VAL PASSIRIA

MUSEUMPASSEIER – ANDREAS HOFER

Via Passiria 72, St. Leonhard in Passeier Valley, Tel. 0039 0473 659086, Fax 0039 0473 657721, www.museum.passeier.it, info@museum.passeier.it

The main focus of the MuseumPasseier is Andreas Hofer and the Tyrolean rebellion of 1809. The museum is housed in the former farm buildings of Hofer's Sandhof Inn. Newly refurbished, it features an animated documentary film, many original objects on display, a multimedia show and personal items that belonged to Andreas Hofer and his ancestors. There is also an open-air section exhibited a farmhouse, barn, and stove from the sixteenth century.

Opening Hours: 15 March to 2 November from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Closed on Mondays except Easter Monday, Pentecost Monday and Mondays in August and September.

JAUFENBURG CASTLE

Via Castello, St. Leonhard in Passeier Valley, Tel. 0039 0473 659086, Fax 0039 0473 657721, www.museum.passeier.it, info@museum.passeier.it

The exhibition featured richly illustrated displays about the history of the castle and the valley. The collection is housed in five floors of the castle keep, with frescoes dating from 1538, an audio station, and much more.

Opening Hours: 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 5 May to 5 October.

BOLZANO

MUSEION – MUSEUM FOR MODERN AND CONTEMPORARY ART

Via Dante 6, Tel. 0039 0471 223411, Fax 0039 0471 223412, www.museion.it, info@museion.it

Museion is an international artistic research laboratory with an emphasis on the interdisciplinary: a collection of artwork from the 1950s to the present day, with exhibitions of modern and contemporary art. **Opening Hours:** open throughout the year; Tuesdays through Sundays, from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. On Thursdays, hours extended to 10:00 p.m. Closed on Mondays except for Easter Monday and Pentecost Monday (10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.). Visitors enter free on Thursdays between 6:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m. On 24 and 31 December, the museum closes at 3:00 p.m.

SOUTH TYROL MUSEUM OF ARCHAEOLOGY

Via Museo 43, Tel. 0039 0471 320100, Fax 0039 0471 320122, www.iceman.it

The internationally celebrated glacial mummy known as Ötzi the Ice Man is exhibited, together with his weapons, clothing and equipment. **Opening Hours:** year round on Tuesdays through Sundays, from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Closed on Mondays, except in July, August and December. Open on public holidays except for 1 January, 1 May and 25 December. On 24 and 31 December, the museum closes at 3:00 p.m.

RUNKELSTEIN CASTLE

Via S. Antonio 15, sentiero Imp. Francesco Giuseppe, Tel. 0039 0471 329808 or green (free) phone number 800 210 003, www.roncolo.info

Runkelstein is one of Tyrol's best-preserved castles; it features a great hall, Romanesque bailey, a unique fresco cycle of the Arthurian legends and medieval secular paintings that date from around 1400. **Opening Hours:** year round before 15 March from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Tuesdays to Sundays. From 16 March, Tuesdays to Sundays from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Last entry is at 5:30 p.m. Closed on Mondays, except for 6 January, Easter Monday, Pentecost Monday and 2 June. Closed on 24, 25 and 31 December and 1 January. **Guided Tours:** booked in advance.

SOUTH TYROL MUSEUM OF NATURE

Via dei Bottai 1, Tel. 0039 0471 412964, Fax 0039 0471 412979, www.museonatura.it

Opening Hours: open on Tuesdays through Sundays all year round, from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Closed on Mondays. Open on public holidays except 1 January, 1 May and 25 December.

MESSNER MOUNTAIN MUSEUM FIRMIAN

Via Castel Firmiano 53, Tel. 0039 0471 631264, www.messner-mountain-museum.it

Reinhold Messner, King of the Eight-Thousand-Plus-Metre Peaks and a native of the Venosta Valley, has dedicated a museum project to the mountains and mountain culture. The museum comprises five facilities, each located in an extraordinary Alpine setting. The heart of the project is housed within the ancient walls of Sigmundskron Castle in Bolzano. The exhibition is laid out in various spaces throughout the castle and offers an overview of the world of mountain through artefacts, natural objects, and works of art.

Opening Hours: 15 March to 8 November, from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. (last entry 5:00 p.m.). Closed on Thursdays.

MERANO SHOPPING

Away with shopping centers! In Merano, you shop in the historical center of town. Open **SATURDAY AFTERNOONS**

© Amin Terzer by arte foto



INTERVIEW SUSANNE ZUBER

Susanne Zuber is particularly well known in Merano for a number of reasons: because she comes from a family with a long tradition of trade, because she has participated in several prestigious competitions such as Miss Italy and Miss World, and also because she frequently serves as a presenter for various events.

What sets shopping in Merano apart from shopping elsewhere?

The beauty of our city is that everything that makes shopping so wonderful is offered here within a compact space, and has been set up in a very intelligent way. A wealth of options offered by a wide array of shops selling traditional and modern products is combined with a lovely range of choices from the food industry. In the Middle Ages, Merano was a trading city and a center for the exchange of goods and products. That still holds true today.

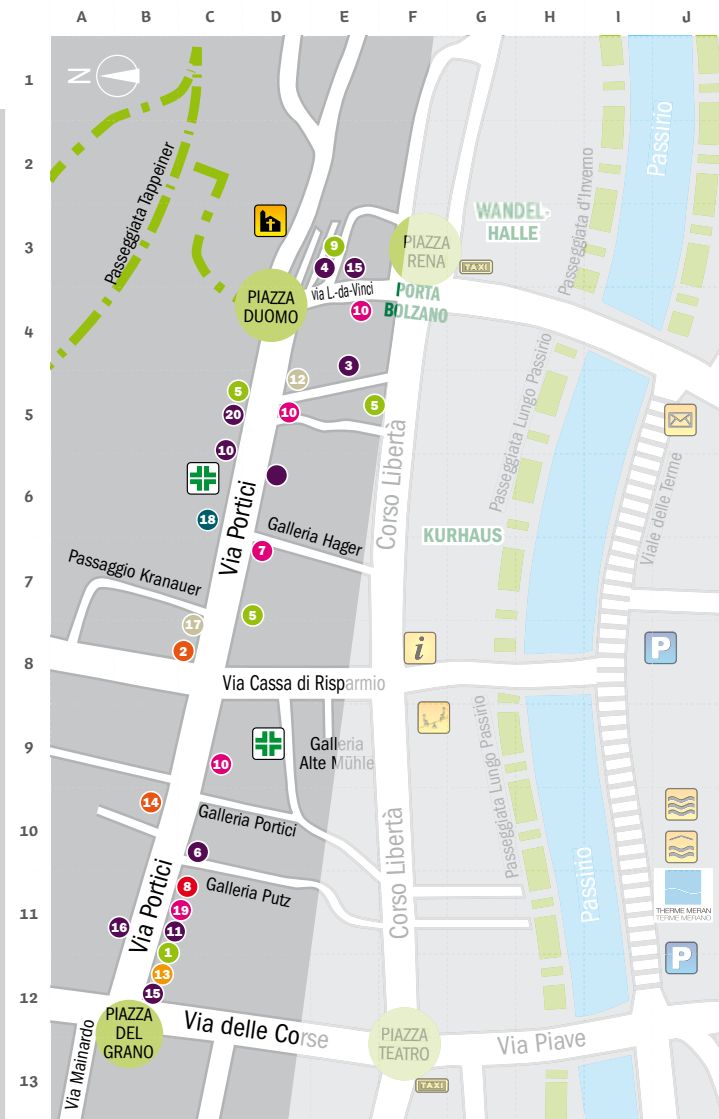
So Merano's fusion of tradition and modernity applies to shopping as well?

There are many family-run shops and boutiques that look back on long histories, but there are also modern-day brands and contemporary elements. Tradition and modernity go hand in hand: not only in terms of the wonderful and mostly well-preserved historical buildings, but in some cases also in construction that incorporates the latest in architecture.

Why is it that people speak of the city center as a "natural shopping center"?

When you walk through Merano, you have the feeling of being in an open-air shopping center: there are many shops, nicely decorated display windows, bars and restaurants that offer shoppers a nice place to stop off and relax. All of that – and this is an extraordinary feature – is set against an awe-inspiring backdrop of mountains and palm trees the whole year round. It's truly seductive, and definitely something worth experiencing.

UNDER THE PORTICI ARCADE



PORTICI		PORTICI	
1	Bike Point	11	Oviesse
2	Ceska	12	Pasta Shop
3	Edelweiss	13	Pfitscher
4	H&M	14	Pirchl
5	Hutter Sport	15	Portico's
6	Kathinka	16	Runggaldier
7	Kuntner	17	Siebenföcher
8	Ladurner Beauty	18	Signorvino
9	Laufboutique	19	Wenter
	Les Libres (See back cover of the City Guide)	20	Zara
10 10	Martone		

- Clothing
- Shoes & Leather
- Sports & Leisure
- Gifts & Newspapers
- Jewelry & Watches
- Wellness & Beauty
- Culinary Specialities
- Retail Wine Shop



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FRITZ CESKA JEWELER

Via Portici 180
Tel. 0039 0473 230131, Fax 0039 0473 233971

Jeweler Fritz Ceska has been an established name in Merano's portici arcade since 1945. The tradition of the goldsmith's craft has been passed down through the family for generations. The son of the house is a qualified gemologist and diamond expert.

At Ceska, one always finds unusual and exquisite jewelry made with premium quality materials. The selection of pearl and coral jewelry is particularly ample. The jeweler also carries some of the best-known brand names in watches and fine silver objects.



jewelry, watches & silver

1



120

BIKE POINT GRUBER

Via Portici 337
Tel. 0039 0473 237733
www.bike-point.com

Bike Point is a point of reference for all those who are passionate about cycling and about the spirit of physical recreation in general. There are bicycles that will meet a variety of needs and a repair shop that serves mountain bikes and racing bikes alike. Bike Point also offers the widest range of specialized clothing for bicycling in South Tyrol. In addition to bike gear, there is a wide range of products and a repair shop for such sports as snowboarding, skiing, skating, and hockey.



bikes & accessories

3



EDELWEISS

Via Portici 31
Tel. 0039 0473 237588
www.edelweiss-tirolstyle.com, info@edelweiss-tirolstyle.com

Much more than just a souvenir: in this store specializing in traditional regional dress for children and adult located in the heart of the city, you can outfit your family from head to toe in authentic Tyrolean style. At Edelweiss, you will find a wide selection of *Lederhosen* leather trousers, knitted and milled *Walkjacken* jackets, shirts and blouses, *Dirndl* peasant dresses with matching socks, hats, many of which are produced in Merano, milled *Walkpantoffeln* pants made in Merano, typical Tyrolean *Haferschuhe* shoes – and much more.



tyrolean style

4



H&M

Via Leonardo da Vinci 38
Tel. 0039 0473 270836
www.hm.com



H&M is a reference point for fashionable, high-quality clothing at affordable prices with new offerings week to week for men, women and children. There is also a wide range of shoes, accessories and cosmetics. Open seven days a week.



fashion & accessories

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5



HUTTER SPORT

Via Portici 16-18, Tel. 0039 0473 236809

www.huttersport.com

Portici 16-18: mountainwear

Portici 157: mountain shoes

Corso Libertà 44: outlet

Mountain lovers of all kinds will find everything they need here, from clothes to shoes to accessories. A knowledgeable sales assistant is always ready to answer questions. Whether you want to scale the highest peaks, take a walk in the woods or just enjoy the mountain air: Hutter Sport knows how to outfit you perfectly. Hutter Sport has two points of sale in the portici arcade.



sports & leisure

8



LADURNER BEAUTY

Portici 313

Tel. 0039 0473 239376, Fax 0039 0473 276735

ladurner@ladurnerbeauty.com

Ladurner Beauty is a traditional perfumery located at Portici 313, in the lower half of the arcades. Situated in the heart of Merano, Ladurner revolves around your beauty, fitness and wellbeing. We carry the world's most prestigious cosmetic brands including Chanel, Shiseido, Lancôme, Biotherm, Estée Lauder, Clinique, Clarins, Armani, Gucci, D&G, Narciso Rodriguez, Jean Paul Gaultier, and Hermès, as well as limited-release products from a variety of different brands. Our merchandise also includes beautiful fashion and hair accessories from **Le Jardin des Cristalles** and Crystalp, with Swarovski elements.



perfumery & fashion accessoires

125

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9



DIE LAUFBOUTIQUE

Piazza Duomo 33
Tel. & Fax 0039 0473 211142
www.die-laufboutique.it

Whether you are a beginner or a pro, this two-story store devoted to all things jogging offers the highest of standards, personalized service, and a premium selection. Individualized, detailed foot and video analysis will help you identify your ideal running shoe. Die Laufboutique stocks the very latest in high-performance clothing and everything else a runner's heart desires.



www.photogruener.com

10
10

MARTONE

Shoes, bags, jackets and accessories for men and women: Via Portici 211, Tel. 0039 0473 491869
Bags and accessories for men and women: Via Portici 39, Tel. 0039 0473 239871
Men's fashion: Via Portici 30, Tel. 0039 0473 236683
Shoes for men and women: Via L. da-Vinci 5, Tel. 0039 0473 211971
www.martone.net, info@martone.net



Via Portici 284



Via L.-da-Vinci 15



Via Portici 57

A prominent name on the Merano shopping scene, Martone has several sales points throughout town. The main store is located in the lower half of the portici arcades, just across from the municipal hall. There, you'll find a wide range of offers and well-known brands: for him or for her, elegant or casual, and something for every budget – always with an eye trained on quality. If you haven't shopped at MARTONE, you haven't really shopped in Merano!





OVS INDUSTRY

Via Portici 323
Tel. 0039 0473 270110
www.oviesse.com



Oviessè is one of Italy's leading brands for men, women and children's apparel. With a new line of beauty products and new arrivals every week, Oviessè offers a stylish shopping experience that fuses Italian design with the latest international trends. Open seven days a week.



passion

PASTA SHOP

Via Portici 29
Tel. 0039 0473 270973
www.pastashop-merano.com, info@pastashop-merano.com

The strength of passion that Claudio Cova and his daughter Sonia have for all things gourmet is reflected in the wide array of homemade pasta on offer as well as in the many other culinary specialties that are made in-house. There are also meticulously selected delicacies such as sauces, aromatic oils and vinegars, grappa and liqueur, a choice of rum, whisky and cognac, and white truffles during the season. Those who are looking for elegant sparklers will find a wide range of champagne. On the lower floor of the room, there is a wine shop with select labels. A new department is also dedicated to herbal teas, a heritage of the local tradition. Guided tastings help customers decide what to buy.



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 JAHRE
 175
 ANNI

PFISCHER

Joachim Ellmenreich
 Via Portici 361, Tel. 0039 0473 237829
 info@pfischerellmenreich.it
 Monday-Friday 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
 Saturday 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.



Pfischer tabacconist has been open since 1889. It has been run by the Pfischer and Ellmenreich families since its inception. The store stands apart now, as always, because of its diverse range of goods: tobacco products, newspapers, magazines, lighters, maps, guide books, pipes, specialty items for smokers, gifts, playing cards, etc. Friendly service, a focus on its customers and a wide choice of products are the driving passions of the business.

Whatever you are looking for: start at Pfischer!



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PORTICO'S

Via Leonardo da Vinci 20, Tel. 0039 0473 270028

BOUTIQUE ANTIGUA

Via delle Corse 56 - Arcades corner, Tel. 0039 0473 270165
 www.antiguadonna.it, info@antiguadonna.it

Portico's: a Hymn to Elegance and Style for Men.

The prestigious boutique offers custom tailoring, wedding gowns, and the latest collections from prestigious designers. This well-known store has two levels, and offers personalized service that will simply delight you!

Antigua: this new women's boutique presents elegant and fashionable clothing in a refined atmosphere.



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PIRCHL

Via Portici 242

Tel. 0039 0473 237149, Fax 0039 0473 276378

www.pirchl.it, info@pirchl.it

Tradition. Precision. Punctuality.

These qualities are of the greatest importance for every watch – and for every watchmaker. Established in 1878, Pirchl was Merano's first one-stop-shop for those who are passionate about watches. The store is not only for those who are crazy about watches, though: in the display cases, you will find a gorgeous collection of jewelry from the finest brand names.

Pirchl also has its own **repair center** attached: *you can bring in any watch to be fixed*. Here, the client will never hear, "This watch isn't worth fixing!" After careful analysis and formulating of a price quote, it is the customer who decides whether it is worth fixing.



MAURICE LACROIX
Manufacture Horlogère Suisse



watches & jewelry

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SIGNORVINO

ITALIANO
100%
ITALIANO

SIGNORVINO

Via Portici, 104 - Tel. 0039 0473 270730

merano.portici@signorvino.it

Opening hours: Every day from 9:30 a.m. to midnight

The kitchen is open every day from 12:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.



This elegant **wine store** is popular with tourists and locals alike, offering a wide range of **exclusively Italian wines**: **over 1,500 labels** that have been carefully selected by our staff.

There are also tables, where simple, **quality Italian cuisine** is served.

Here **you can taste and buy your favorite wines** within the atmosphere of an ancient wine bar, with vaulted ceilings and many bottles displayed on the walls as well as on shelves.



retail wine shop

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WENTER

Hausschuhe | Pantofole

WENTER

Via Portici 319

Tel. + Fax 0039 0473 235566

info@wenter.bz.it

In this store – which specializes in slippers for winter and summer, in leather, in cork, and in felt – you'll find everything your feet could possibly need. You'll also find a wide selection of the highly regarded slippers made by South Tyrolean artisans, which are renowned for comfort and warmth alike.



slippers

20

ZARA

ZARA

Via Portici 22

Tel. 0039 0473 270733

www.zara.com



The concept of the Zara brand, which offers clothing and accessories for men, women and children, is based on a commitment to responding promptly to developments in fashion, with particular emphasis on international design. There are new arrivals every week, and the store is open seven days a week.



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fashion & accessories

... EVEN MORE SHOPPING



CORSO LIBERTÀ	VIA GALILEI
21 Biasini	28 Konplott
22 Nanà	
23 Zenatti	VIA CAVOUR
	29 Arcum
VIA CASSA DI RISPARMIO	VIA ROMA
24 Intimissimi	30 Meraner Weinhaus
25 Liebeskind	
26 Raffeiner	MARLENGO
27 Rinnerberger	31 Lichtstudio

- Shoes & Leather
- Jewelry & Watches
- Lingerie
- Clothing
- Antiques
- Interiors
- Retail Wineshop

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intimissimi

INTIMISSIMI

Via Cassa di Risparmio 17
Tel. 0039 0473 233334
info@intimissimimerano.it

Monday through Friday: 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Saturday: 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.



Intimissimi, a trademark that embodies quality and elegance in fashionable undergarments for men and women alike, has had a presence in Merano for a long time. The Intimissimi Line primarily means lingerie for the sophisticated and alluring woman.

With four mode collections and another basic collection, though, Intimissimi meets the needs of every woman. The well-trained staff is waiting to show you what's new in lingerie sets, tricot lingerie, sleepwear, and other intimate apparel.

Your specialist in lingerie.

22

nanà

NANÀ

corso Libertà 138
Tel. 0039 0473 211734
www.nananegozi.it
www.facebook.com/nananegozi

Nanà is a women's fashion store that offers Made in Italy products at reasonable prices and the perfect combination of awareness of trends, quality and everyday usefulness.

The ideal answer to the needs of women: A place where women will find clothes they express who they are, that they like wearing and that are stylish.

All of this can be found in the heart of Merano!



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MERANER WEINHAUS

MERANO WINE HOUSE

Via Roma 76

Tel. 0039 0473 012130, www.meranerweinhaus.com

Opening hours (up until Easter): Mon – Fri from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
and from 2:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.; Sat from 8:30 to 12:30 p.m.

Opening hours (Easter to 1 November): Mon – Fri from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
and 2:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.; Sat from 8:30 to 12:30 p.m.



Wine tasting, talking shop or just enjoying yourself in a relaxed setting: you take your pick at the Meraner Weinhaus wine shop.

Tastings with winemakers take place at the Meraner Weinhaus every Friday afternoon from late March to early November: you can taste the current vintages at no charge, and enjoy an informal conversation with the wine producer.

Our Enomatic system allows for 40 different wines to be always available for customers to taste. The selection ranges from local wines to selected international top wines. You decide what and how much you'd like to taste. All 40 Wines To Taste currently on offer and the Vinter Afternoons program may be found at www.meranerweinhaus.com
We offer a total of 2,500 wines, spirits and delicatessen products for sale.



retail wine shop

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MODE Raffeiner

SPECIALISED IN PLUS SIZE FASHION

MODE RAFFEINER

Via Cassa di Risparmio 19

Tel. 0039 0473 236827

www.moderaffeiner.it

Raffeiner features more than 400 m² of fashion for both the young and the young at heart, with special emphasis on plus sizes; we stock Italian sizes 42–64 and German sizes 38–58. The wide choice of apparel ranges from sporty to leisurewear to elegant gowns. We have something in every size to suit every taste; jeans are offered as well as timeless, elegant suits. Raffeiner fashion boutique is located on Via Cassa di Risparmio, in Merano's pedestrian zone, right in the city center. The store is easily accessible from a number of different parking lots.



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ladies fashion

ZENATTI ANTIQUES

Corso Libertà 45
Tel. and fax 0039 0473 233303
t.zenatti@alice.it



This extensive collection of art objects and quality antique pieces is situated in the heart of the city. In fact, the store window is located on the ramp of the Merano Tourist Office, which connects the Passer Promenade to Corso Libertà. Furniture, paintings, sculptures and ceramics: the objects are selected through meticulous research and are sourced from various parts of Europe. The Zenatti family has been working in the sector for three generations, and the business was launched in 1961.



Photo: Gourmet's International

INTERVIEW HELMUTH KÖCHER

Helmuth Köcher is the president and founder of Gourmet's International, a company that has organized the Merano WineFestival (see p. 63) in November every year since 1992. The finest local and international wines and selected specialties are offered at this prestigious event, with top chefs delivering samples of their talents as well.

What special features characterize South Tyrolean cuisine, and that of Merano in particular?

South Tyrol's turbulent history under Austro-Hungarian rule is still reflected today in the local cuisine. The fusion of Tyrolean and Italian fare has resulted in a gastronomic culture that has been sculpted by South Tyrol's unique geographical position. Our wide array of dining venues, which range from castles to high-alpine taverns and from traditional eateries to top-flight restaurants, also bears witness to this. Merano's food culture reflects the effect that Mediterranean influences have had on Tyrolean cuisine in a special way. The offering includes typical Tyrolean dishes as well as gourmet food, presented in places that reflect both the South Tyrolean and the Italian and thus express international tradition and culture.

In recent years, Merano chefs and restaurants have won numerous awards. To what do you attribute this success?

During the 1970s and 1980s the city of Merano was the first place in South Tyrol to offer fine dining, thanks to an exceptional chef, Andreas Hellrigl, who played a very influential role. Due to this pioneer, the quality of Merano's restaurants has improved tremendously in recent years. The MeranoWine Festival has also made representatives of the Merano culinary scene aware that quality is what counts over the long term.

Coming to wine: What are the special features from the local viticulture and its flagship products?

Local viticulture has really proven its enormous potential over the last 10 to 15 years. You can taste the intense flavors of the local cultivation zones in the red and white wines alike.

OUR RECOMMENDATIONS

RESTAURANTS			
	Address	Phone (0039)	Closed on
ACCADEMIA	via Plankenstein 3-5	0473 230255	/
ANSITZ PLANTITSCHERHOF	via Dante 56	0473 230577	/
BISTRO 7	Portici 232	0473 210636	/
BISTRO LA PIAZZA	piazza Terme 1	0473 259461	/
BISTRO TERME	piazza Terme 9	0473 252043	/
BRUNNENPLATZ	via Dante 2	0473 236366	Saturdays
CASTEL FRAGSBURG	via Castel Verruca 3	0473 244071	Mondays
EUROPA SPLENDID	corso Libertà 178	0473 232376	/
FINO - HOTEL AURORA	Passeggiata Lungo Passirio 38	0473 211800	/
FLORA	Portici 75	0473 270432	Saturday evenings + Sundays
FORSTERBRÄU	corso Libertà 90	0473 236535	/
HASEN JOS	Portici 204	0473 232599	Sundays
KALLMÜNZ	piazza della Rena 12	0473 212917	Sundays
LAUBENKELLER	Portici 118	0473 237706	Thursdays
PARTANES	vicolo Haller 2	0473 237944	Wednesdays
PROMENADE	Passeggiata Lungo Passirio 84	338 3849832	Thursdays
SIGMUND	corso Libertà 2	0473 237749	Wednesdays
SISSI - ANDREA FENOGLIO	via Galilei 44	0473 231062	Mondays + Tuesday afternoons
THE GALLERY TAPAS BAR	via Alpini 23	0473 492550	/
VILLA HEIDELBERG	via T. Brenner 22	0473 211955	Sundays from 6 p.m. + Sundays

RESTAURANTS & PIZZERIAS			
	Address	Phone (0039)	Closed on
BISTRO HELLWEGER'S	piazza Duomo 30	0473 212581	Sundays
GIARDINO	Passeggiata Lungo Passirio 2	0473 270406	/
KIRCHER	via Laurin 113	0473 445864	Wednesdays
KIRCHSTEIGER	via Dante 22	0473 230365	Sundays
LA SMORFIA	via Goethe 28	0473 090346	Mondays
RELAX WINERY	via Cavour 31	0473 236735	Sundays
TANNER	via Dante 77	0473 236558	Tuesdays

BAR & CAFFÉ			
	Address	Phone (0039)	Closed on
COFFEE ART - IMPERIAL	corso Libertà 112	0473 491028	/
LISSI ROYAL & BISTRO	Passeggiata d'Inverno 15	0473 239077	Mondays



BASIC INGREDIENTS AND DISHES TYPICAL OF MERANO CUISINE

The basic elements and ingredients used in South Tyrolean cooking range from different types of flour, out of which delicious breads are made, to pork, which is processed into spicy Speck and other types of ham. An array of cheeses, many varieties of potatoes and all kinds of aromatic herbs have long enriched South Tyrol's hearty cuisine. Archetypal dishes that simply must be sampled during the course of a holiday in South Tyrol include Tyrolean *Knödel* dumplings (typically made with Speck ham, cheese or spinach) with sauerkraut and *Gröstl*, a dish made from boiled potatoes and finely chopped beef or pork, browned in butter together with chopped onion. *Spatzln* pasta and *Schlutzkrapfen*, delicious dumplings usually filled with spinach and a cheese similar to ricotta called *Topfen*, are also especially popular.

The hearty fare eaten throughout Tyrol has been strongly impacted by Mediterranean influences, especially in Merano. As a result one usually finds on Merano restaurant menus, for example, Parma ham served side by side with South Tyrolean Speck or genuine Italian minestrone listed next to a hearty local barley soup. Anyone who loves Italian cuisine will also be happy to see various types of pasta and risotto, Milanese-style ossobuco and pizza.

The desserts usually offered in Merano are heavily influenced by Austrian cuisine: these include the ever-popular classic, apple strudel, and *Kaiserschmarrn*, a shredded caramelized pancake. Of course while you're in Merano you should definitely indulge in an Italian gelato, usually eaten in a waffle cone.

WINE

Wine is an integral part of Merano's cityscape. Meraner, a DOC wine, is a very typical product grown in the Merano area. It is obtained from the Vernatsch grape, a long-established variety here: it is a bright ruby-red wine, very fruity, round and balanced, with low acidity and minimal tannins. Meraner is an ideal accompaniment to South Tyrolean and Italian antipasti; usually drunk chilled, it is a very accessible wine. In addition to red wines, the potential of the cultivation zones around Merano is also increasing in terms of white wines.

Legend:

☑ Credit Card
🅇 Parking Lot

❄ Air Conditioning
🌿 Garden/Terrace

📶 Wifi



GASTHOF ANNY

Via Palade 29, Marling near Merano
Tel. 0039 0473 524537, www.gasthofanny.it

Monday to Thursday: 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m., Friday to Saturday: 7:00 a.m. to midnight
Pizza served continuously, from 11:30 a.m. Sundays: pizzeria only, from 5:00 p.m.



Restaurant · Bar · Café

anny
Pasta · Pizza · Steak



Anny serves up delicious homemade noodles and dumplings. Anyone who loves meat will surely find their mouth watering at the sight of Anny's juicy steaks. The pizzeria, which

opens at 11:30 a.m., offers crispy, oven-fresh pizza (including kamut). A daily lunch menu rounds out the culinary offering. Situated right along the main road, Anny is a good starting point for exploring the city of Merano and its surrounding villages. Thanks to the large parking area for buses and the nearby MEBO Highway exit, groups can enjoy a good meal here without a long stop. The tavern's beer garden is a delight in summer, offering guests a delightful way to make the most out of the nicest time of the year.



BISTRO SIEBEN

Via Portici 232, Tel. 0039 0473 210636
www.bistrosieben.it

April to October, open daily



> Sieben <

Romantic dinner for two? Fabulous meal with friends? Where, if not at bistro sieben? This modern, lively bistro has a prime location, under the portici arcades in Merano's historical center. The vaulted arches that grace the historical dining hall have been lovingly restored, and there is also seating available outside, on the pedestrian-only shopping street. Typical Tyrolean dishes and Italian specialties are both offered here – and prepared fresh daily, of course. You'll want to stay awhile in order to enjoy the unique atmosphere of this beautifully designed restaurant. In addition to exquisite meals, bistro sieben also offers creamy cappuccinos and crispy croissants in the morning and mouthwatering cakes in the afternoon. In the evening you can unwind here with a cool, end-of-day beer or enjoy an aperitif before dinner.

bistro sieben: Always an event!



BISTRO LA PIAZZA

Hotel Terme Merano
Piazza Terme, 1

Tel. 0039 0473 259 461

Open daily from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.



La Piazza
BISTRO



This lovely bistro affords the nice feeling of being in the best of hands. Situated in the middle of Piazza Terme and featuring a glass pavilion, La Piazza is a successful fusion of modern lines and the charm of a Parisian bistro. Whether for an espresso on the fly, a cozy and romantic meal or a group of friends, the staff is clearly attuned to the satisfaction and wellbeing of its clientele. La Piazza is a great place for a light meal at midday, a sweet or savory snack or an aperitif or celebratory cocktail on a balmy summer evening. The bistro's kitchen, which serves warm food throughout the day, serves up tempting options such as salads and pasta in addition to numerous gourmet meals with a touch of the Mediterranean.





BISTRO TERME MERANO

Piazza Terme 9, Tel. 0039 0473 252043

www.termemerano.it

Opening hours: April 1st – September 30th from 9 a.m. to 11 p.m.
daily hot meals from 12 noon to 2:30 p.m. and from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m.

October 1st – March 31st from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

daily hot meals from 12 noon to 2:30 p.m.



The Terme Merano Bistro occupies the finest sun terrace in the resort. It has the beautiful Spa Park on one side and splendid art nouveau buildings on the other and faces Merano's new architectural landmark: the Terme Merano spa building. The Bistro offers pleasures of the palate in the form of light Mediterranean cuisine fused with local products and finger-food offerings with vitality-packed ingredients, delicious aperitifs and cocktails, and fine Italian wines. A variety of events are held in the square and on the Bistro terrace throughout the year and especially in the warmer months.



FORST BEER GARDEN

Via Venosta 9, Forst / Algund, Phone and Fax: 0039 0473 447 727

www.braugartenforst.com, info@braugartenforst.com

Open from 17 April to 27 September 2015 and
from 26 November 2015 to 6 January 2016 (Forst Christmas Forest);
Hot meals served from 10:30 a.m. to 10:30 p.m.; Open daily from 10:00 a.m. to midnight
Open seven days a week. Large parking area.



Forst Beer Garden is always right – whether on a hot afternoon, a balmy summer night or a breakfast featuring Bavarian veal sausage. Ancient chestnut trees provide shade and a stylish ambiance, fun evenings with live music set the mood and cool Forst beer and grilled specialties satisfy both the palate and stomach. The beer garden is also a popular meeting place for motorcyclists, affording large groups plenty of room. Sports enthusiasts will also be in bliss: a number of big TV screens show Formula 1, motorcycle racing, and football games. During the holiday season, the beer garden houses a very special Christmas market: the cozy and atmospheric Forst Christmas Forest, with festive decorations and heated dining huts, is a great place to get into the Christmas spirit.



ELISABETH KELLER RESTAURANT & PIZZERIA

Via Palade 43a, Tschermers near Merano

Tel. 0039 0473 564305, www.elisabethkeller.it, info@elisabethkeller.it

Open from early November to mid-March

Hours of operation: Wednesday to Saturday from 4:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m.

Sundays from 11:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.

Closed: Mondays and Tuesdays



The newly renovated Elisabeth Keller in Tschermers is located on the lower floor of Elisabeth Restaurant. Its stone walls and rustic décor evoke a bygone age in South Tyrol and lend the space a festive atmosphere. The Elisabeth Keller consists of three rooms: the Zirmholzstube (Stone Pine Parlor), the Gewölbekeller (Vaulted Cellar) and the new Altholzstübele (Old Wood Parlor). Specialties of the house include grilled meat, Tyrolean dishes, homemade appetizers and meat fondue in soup or oil. New menu items: crispy pizza and steak tartare prepared tableside.



CAFÉ BISTRO LISSI ROYAL

*Café/Bistro
Lissi Royal*



Passaggiata d'Inverno 15, Tel. 0039 0473 239077
Open year round - Opening hours: from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
(in summer 10:00 p.m.)
Lunch from 11:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.



A warm welcome from the Breitenberger family: our new Lissi Royal Bistro Café, which is located along the Sissi's Path on the Winter Promenade, offers fine coffee, chocolate, cake and ice cream specialties. With homemade treats from our kitchen, we'll take you on a culinary journey in the ambiance of a smart Viennese coffeehouse and on the spacious sun terrace. We look forward to welcoming you.



RESTAURANT PIZZERIA BRUTHENDLER

via Steinach 9, Algund near Merano, Tel. 0039 0473 220933 - Fax 0039 0473 200698
www.bruthendler.com - info@bruthendler.com
Open seven days a week from April to end of October, closed from November Monday evenings
and Tuesday evenings - Opening hours: 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. to midnight



Bruthendler Restaurant and Pizzeria offers patrons hearty traditional cuisine and no less than 43 different types of pizzas (served at lunchtime as well). Culinary pleasure and friendly service are of prime importance at this tradition eatery in Lagundo. The kitchen staff prepares special menus for birthdays and corporate parties upon request.

Bruthendler Restaurant and Pizzeria offers the right space for any occasion. In the cozy *Stube* parlor, romantic time as a couple is guaranteed. The *Bauernstube* parlor, meanwhile, has a rustic ambiance that is ideal for lively gatherings in good company. The terrace is a great place to hang out, and in the spacious beer garden you can enjoy fresh beer from FORST, the local specialty brewery.



RESTAURANT EUROPA SPLENDID

Corso Libertà 178
Tel. 0039 0473 232376 - Fax 0039 0473 230221
www.europa.bz, info@europa.bz



Sit back and enjoy some magical moments in a liberty-style ambience that will satisfy even the most discriminating of tastes. The restaurant accommodates more than 100 patrons, and is open daily from noon to 2:00 p.m. and from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Our chef and kitchen team see to it that the produce and other ingredients are fresh, every single day. Bon appetit!



FINO CAFÈ, BISTRO AND RESTAURANT

Passaggiata Lungo Passirio 38,
Tel. 0039 0473 211800, Fax 0039 0473 211113
www.fino.bz, info@hotelaurora.bz
Cafè: 8:00 a.m. to 12 midnight;

Restaurant: 12 noon to 3:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Open 7 Days a Week



Fino Bistro is situated directly on the Passer Promenade in the very heart of Merano. Locals and tourists alike come here to see and to be seen: enjoy a freshly prepared quick lunch or just stop by for a little coffee break. In the evenings – especially in summer – Fino transforms into one of Merano's most popular meeting points. Whether you come for an elegant dinner or for one of the lively events, Fino's location along the city's refreshing river and directly on the bustling main pedestrian thoroughfare give the bistro an ambience that is not easily forgotten.



FLORA RESTAURANT & BISTRÒ

Via Portici 75
Tel. 0039 0473 270432
Closed Sundays



Flora Restaurant & Pizzeria is located in Merano's city center, directly on the Passer Promenade. It is housed in the old city courthouse in the upper half of the portici arcade, just 50 meters below Piazza Duomo. Guests will feel comfortable in its tasteful atmosphere: the cozy restaurant serves delicious fare, including original dishes, with attentive, refined service. In summer, Flora has seating in the portici arcade. Whether for a good meal or a glass of wine with friends, Flora is the perfect choice!



FLAIR RESTAURANT

Strada Vecchia 19 - Algund near Merano
Tel. 0039 0473 448582, www.restaurant-flair.com - info@restaurant-flair.com
Hours of operation: Tuesdays to Saturday from 12:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
and from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.
Closed: Sundays und Mondays



Flair Restaurant has succeeded in offering true gastronomic pleasure, serving meals at the very highest quality level. Chef Dennis Pixner is a guarantor of creative cuisine with wonderful flavor combinations. Locally sourced ingredients and carefully selected quality products provide the basis for these high culinary standards. Flair's light cuisine melts in the mouth, delighting the palate. Meticulously chosen wines further enhance the dining experience. Stylish interior design and a Mediterranean terrace accentuate Flair's exclusive and cozy ambience.



GIARDINO

Passaggiata Lungo Passirio 2, Tel. 0039 0473 270406
Café and ice cream parlor open from 9:00 a.m. to midnight
Kitchen and pizzeria open from 11:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
and 6:30 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. Group menus available.
www.ristorantegiardinomerano.it



Restaurant, pizzeria, ice cream parlor...plus a huge garden terrace that not only gives the restaurant its name, but its very essence: Giardino has it all. The rush of the river, the promenade's colorful beds of flowers, and their enchanting scent are the perfect backdrop for Giardino's natural, authentic Mediterranean cuisine. Whether you are looking for a complete meal or just a tasty snack during a stroll through the city, Giardino is the perfect spot.



FORSTERBRÄU FORST BREWERY RESTAURANT - MERANO

Corsa Libertà 90, Tel. 0039 0473 236535

www.forst.it, fb.meran@forst.it

Open 7 Days a Week; hot meals from 11:30 a.m. to 11:30 p.m.



Few other brands are as closely connected to their location as the Forst Brewery. The specialty brewery has been making its own beer at the same site, from which it takes its Forst (Foresta) name, for over a century and a half. Forst is located just outside Merano. The brewery uses only the freshest, mountain-spring water. Equally long standing are the Forst Brewery restaurants, the most central of which is located in Corso Libertà directly across from the Kurhaus; it has become a veritable institution in Merano. The menu features traditional South Tyrolean fare, with hot meals served continuously. There is, of course, a perfect beer to be found amongst the house's extensive offering to pair with every dish. The ambience is bountiful: the traditional *Stuben* dining rooms smell of wood, and the inner courtyard, where you can sit in the shade of chestnut trees in the summer, is a true paradise.



HIDALGO

Via Roma 7, Burgstall (near Merano)

Tel. 0039 0473 292292

www.restaurant-hidalgo.it

A Culinary Change of Pace - 365 Days a Year!

Hidalgo
SUITES & RESTAURANT



Hidalgo Restaurant offers a Mediterranean-style ambience and a large terrace. Here you'll enjoy light, wholesome cuisine with an exquisite selection of antipasti, homemade pasta dishes, risotto, a tasting menu that changes with the seasons and delicious desserts. Our specialty: Meat and fish dishes are grilled from above at 800 °C, without oil or fat. New at Hidalgo: dry aged beef from South Tyrol, which has an incomparably rich and nutty flavor. We also offer a wide selection of delicious local, Italian and international wines. You can even spend the night after dinner in one of the 20 spacious Hidalgo Suites.





KALLMÜNZ

Piazza della Rena 12, Tel. 0039 0473 212917,

www.kallmuenz.it

Closed Sundays, two weeks in February



A castle with a rich history located in the city center, an interior that is as well-maintained as it is modern and a new kitchen team: a multi-faceted restaurant has come into being out of an interplay between past and present. The restaurant's main focus is meticulous selected, seasonal fare from near and far. The menu is supplemented with daily specials and fish dishes. The

starting point at Kallmünz is using ingredients of the highest quality, prepared in imaginative ways – whether simple or elaborate.

Every time you dine at Kallmünz, you'll find it to be a pleasant experience. With a service staff that is extremely attentive to every detail and a casual, understated atmosphere that can be felt the moment you walk in the door, the restaurant is an ideal place for a dinner for two or for a larger group of people. In summer, the outdoor seating in the picturesque castle garden is particularly attractive. The wine list is extensive, varied and offers something for every budget: it includes wines from South Tyrol and throughout Italy as well as international labels.



WIRTSHAUS LÖWENGRUBE

Bar - Restaurant - Wine bar

Piazza Dogana 3, Bolzano

Tel. 0039 0471 970032

info@loewengrube.it, www.loewengrube.it



Cozy and natural, exclusive and, at the same time, easy going, linearly modern and comfortable: this is the way we like the atmosphere here at the Löwengrube.

More than 1,000 wine labels, a modern design, a combination of traditional and trendy cuisine are here to celebrate the splendid new life of Bolzano's oldest traditional inn.





LOIS

Regional lunch at Fragsburg Castle
Via Castel Verruca 3

Tel. 0039 0473 244071, www.fragsburg.com

Open for lunch from 12:00 noon to 2:30 p.m. from Tuesday to Friday.

Closed Mondays, Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays.

The panoramic view of the City of Cures from up here is captivating and truly picturesque, as is the surrounding mountain landscape. Chef Alois Haller is one of South Tyrol's best and is known for surprising diners year round. At LOIS he couples an abundance of inventiveness with South Tyrolean treasures: high-quality products are thus imbued with a whole lot of love, and served in a nice creative way. LOIS is regarded as down-to-earth, yet smart. Our friendly team is pleased to welcome both the hiker with a backpack (South Tyrol's highest waterfall is only 20 minutes away) as well as the businessman in a suit and tie. Because LOIS is open only for weekday lunches, our guests dine in the evenings (except Mondays), on weekends and on public holidays at our elegant gourmet restaurant, which has been awarded a Michelin star and 16 points from Gault Millau. An unforgettable experience at one of the most beautiful restaurants in the world awaits.



PIENZENAU CASTLE BISTRO

Via Pienzenau 6

Tel. 0039 0473 235979, mobile phone 0039 338 2396748

www.pienzenau.com, info@pienzenau.com

Closed: Sunday evenings and Mondays

Opening Hours: 12:00 to 2:00 p.m. and 6:30 to 9:00 p.m.



Culinary Delights at Pienzenau Castle: New Charm in an Old Garden.

Our modern bistro, the tavern of Pienzenau Castle, offers coffee, homemade cakes, juices and our own house wine. In addition, we serve Italian, traditional and innovative home-style cuisine. Fruits, vegetables and herbs from the castle garden lend our food its delicate flavour and necessary spices. Enjoy a lunch break, appetizers or dinner in the great outdoors, or celebrate special occasions in our castle cellar or fireplace room. With advance booking we can arrange: brunches, celebrations, business lunches, parties, barbecues, buffets, banquets and *Törggelen* events.



UNCLE TAA'S RESTAURANT

Bad Egart Imperial and Royal Museum
The Snail King's Restaurant & Museumstube

Via Stazione 17, Töll/Partschins near Merano, Tel. 0039 0473 967 342

Closed: Sunday evenings + Mondays, www.onkeltaa.com, restaurant@onkeltaa.com



Bad Egart's history as a tavern dates all the way back to 1430, and it is also the oldest therapeutic bath in Tyrol. Over the years, the Platino family has turned the restaurant into a museum of treasures. A visit to Uncle Taa's (Onkel Taa in German) and the Bad Egart Imperial and Royal Museum is like taking a journey back in time... The Bad Egart Imperial and Royal Museum, which is worth a visit in and of itself, offering a wonderful exhibit entitled "Sisi & Franz" - Empress Elisabeth - Sissi and Emperor Franz Joseph I., is described in detail on page 112 of this guide.

We are dedicated to preserving the tradition of Imperial and Royal court cuisine while still allowing new and innovative cooking ideas to enter the picture. Every single day, we are eager to offer our discerning guests the highest in quality and a creative menu. Whether serving an exclusive dinner or just a little treat, the ingredients that go into our food are sourced locally or from our organic vegetable and herb garden. Going organic is logical to us, as is the exclusive use of the finest ingredients and seasonal products. The specialty of the house is snails, which we raise ourselves and serve seasonally in an ever-changing variety of ways. Janett Platino, who heads up the kitchen, loves to arouse the curiosity of her guests. So she continually varies between the classic, traditional local dishes and new adaptations, exploring the use of unexpected and surprising ingredients in an imaginative way. The restaurant also serves the favorite dishes of Empress Sissi and Emperor Franz Joseph, sourced from Imperial and Royal court cuisine.

Our restaurant in the museum forms part of the prestigious Historical Places of Italy and Sisi's Road routes. From Merano, you can reach Uncle Taa's in just a few minutes by car, or aboard the local Venosta Line (Vinschger Bahn); you can also take the No. 213 bus, which stops directly in front of the restaurant. Uncle Taa's is also very easily accessible to cyclists via a biking path and to hikers along the Marlinger and Algunder *Waalweg* trails.





PIZZERIA PRINCIPE RESTAURANT

Corso Libertà 97/A, Tel. 0039 0473 232828
www.pizzeriaprincipe.com, info@pizzeriaprincipe.com
 Closed Mondays



Principe is located in the center of town, just a stone's throw from Piazza Teatro. Seating options include the bright dining room, a garden or a terrace; traditional Italian food is the main focus of the menu, supplemented with some classic local dishes. On Thursdays and Fridays, fresh fish is available. The pizza menu is quite imaginative: about 80 different types are available, ranging from very classic pizzas to very creative ones. Pizza is available during lunch as well as dinner: fresh from a wood-fired pizza oven, of course. Free Wifi.



SAXIFRAGA KURHAUS

Passer Promenade, Tel. 0039 366 7002240
www.saxifraga.it, info@saxifraga.it
 Closed: Sundays
 Open every other day from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 midnight



The city's most "in" terrace: we're talking about the Kurhaus balcony, which opens out directly onto the Passer Promenade in the heart of Merano. The restaurant offers both indoor and outdoor seating and serves Mediterranean-influenced cuisine as well as traditional local dishes and seasonal fare. The wine list offers an ample range of options. Saxifraga Kurhaus is open from 10:00 a.m. to midnight: in addition to dining, it's perfect for an aperitif or delicious homemade cake as an afternoon snack. During the Merano Christmas Market, the Saxifraga terrace transforms into a lively meeting place.



PROMENADE CAFÉ AND RESTAURANT

Passeggiata Lungo Passirio 85, Tel. 0039 338 3849832
 Closed Thursdays
 Hot meals served from 11:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m



The Promenade Café & Restaurant is located right in the middle of the city yet has unique views of the mountains that surround Merano. It is a feel-good spot, perfectly suited for relaxation, located just steps from the Theatre Bridge. From classic pasta to seasonally themed dishes to South Tyrolean delicacies and home style cooking: the Kuhn family and their team have something to delight every palate. As dessert or to simply enjoy with a coffee, there is a selection of different types of homemade strudel, a variety of fresh cakes served daily, and a wide array of ice cream sundaes. The pleasant sun terrace right on the Passer Promenade is an inviting place to sit and linger—even if only for a glass of South Tyrolean wine.



SAXIFRAGA STUB'N

Tappeinerweg Trail
 Tel. 0039 0473 239249
www.saxifraga.it
 Closed Tuesdays except in April, May, September and October



Saxifraga, set slightly off the beaten track yet still centrally located, is already quite original just from the outside. It is definitely worth a visit for many reasons, not the least of which is food that continually reinterprets tradition in a flawless and interesting way. The Mediterranean-influenced cuisine will wow even hard-to-please gourmets. With classic South Tyrolean *Stuben* dining rooms, the place itself is worth a visit. Saxifraga's location on the Tappeinerweg Trail, the well-known footpath above town with marvelous views of Merano and the surrounding mountains, makes it the perfect endpoint to a gratifying walk, or even a rest stop along the way. An alternate – and much faster – way to reach Saxifraga is via the Tirolerweg, which starts behind the Duomo main cathedral.



SCHLOSSWIRT

Via Castello 2, Schenna near Merano
Tel. 0039 0473 945620
www.schlosswirt.it

Closed Mondays, and from mid-January through mid-March



Schlosswirt is known for its traditional South Tyrolean cuisine. The restaurant's location directly below Schenna Castle makes it an ideal starting point for a gorgeous hike. The menu is always in harmony with the seasons: In spring, light dishes from the Mediterranean entice diners, especially those featuring asparagus. In summer, there is nothing better than a fabulous grill—except maybe the view from the outdoor terrace while enjoying it. Fall brings wild game onto the menu, while hearty South Tyrolean specialties play a leading role throughout the winter.



PIZZERIA RISTORANTE LA SMORFIA

Via Goethe 28, tel. 0039 0473 090346
www.lasmorfiamerano.com - info@lasmorfiamerano.com
Open from Tuesday to Sunday from 6:30 p.m. to midnight



Located ten minutes on foot from the center of Merano, La Smorfia Pizzeria & Restaurant offers Neapolitan-style pizza cooked in a traditional wood oven, Mediterranean specialties, delicious appetizers and homemade desserts, all accompanied by a wide array of craft beers. The high-quality ingredients are the outcome of an exhaustive search for the best food companies, combined with a strong passion for good food. The cozy atmosphere, spacious garden and youthful service staff are a nice complement to a gastronomic experience that is quite distinct from the local tradition.



SIGMUND RESTAURANT



Corso Libertà 2,
Tel. 0039 0473 237749
sigmund@rolmail.net - www.restaurantsigmund.it
Closed: Wednesdays



Sigmund is one the most tradition-steeped restaurants in Merano's Old Town. Located near the pedestrian area, at the Bolzano Gate, it offers excellent South Tyrolean home-style cooking with some culinary forays into Italy. Special emphasis is placed on a wonderful preparation of local products. The restaurant's menu is varied, and Sigmund offers options for those who love fish and meat as well as for vegetarians. The menu changes regularly, ensuring that guests are always treated to new creations. Homemade desserts make for a particularly sweet finish. Sigmund's new guest rooms were custom-built using various types of natural wood, and offer lovely views of Merano's Old Town. A central location makes Sigmund an ideal starting point for walks and excursions.





SISSI

Via Galilei 44, Tel. 0039 0473 231062,
www.sissi.andrefenoglio.com
Closed Mondays and Tuesdays at noontime

RESTAURANT ANDREA FENOGLIO

Sissi Restaurant, which is under the creative direction of Andrea Fenoglio, has occupied a spot on the proverbial Mount Olympus of South Tyrol's upscale restaurant culture for years. It is located just opposite the Prince's Castle, just a stone's throw from the heart of the portici arcades. Sissi's cuisine is multifaceted, lively and

often seems playful – always retaining its connection with traditional dishes that are part of what Fenoglio calls “memory food”.

Fenoglio places special emphasis on the selection of ingredients, since they are the most important element in the end. Sissi's large circle of loyal customers evinces the fact that the restaurant is among the best in the region and that the service is always first rate. At Sissi, it's easy to feel at home. The chef himself is a ubiquitous presence, even in the dining room: he checks on the wellbeing of his guests and reveals secrets from his kitchen. On the wine list, there are some five hundred different labels from which to choose. Of those, about twenty are also offered by the glass – and at an absolutely fair price. In short: a Merano must.



INTERVIEW ABOUT MERANO HOTELS MICHAEL FUCHS

For many years, Michael Fuchs was one of the most famous and successful hotel managers in the City on the Passer. As the head of several luxury hotels in Merano, he demonstrated impressive qualities as a leader as well as admirable organizational skills. Although now retired, the Merano native is still a keen observer of developments within the local hospitality industry. Fuchs is a member of the European Hotel Managers Association (EHMA).

Mr. Fuchs, to what extent can Merano look back on continuous development in the hospitality industry?

Well Merano still benefits today from the development of its hospitality industry during the Hapsburg period. Up until World War I broke out, Merano was a tourist center with eight grand hotels that recorded more annual overnight stays than we do today. Unfortunately, the wars brought those highflying days to an abrupt end.

Here in Merano, what were the vital factors for the hospitality industry's recovery after World War II?

The local hospitality industry faced some significant challenges during the 1950s and 60s. It had missed the boat and neglected to invest enough in hotels. Just one example: In the 1960s not one of Merano's big hotels had bathrooms inside the rooms. So our hospitality industry was behind the times. It was not until the 1970s – bolstered by new legal regulations and public subsidies – that the first hotels carried out comprehensive renovations and modernized completely.

Another stroke of luck for Merano was that it hosted the World Chess Championship in 1981. Through the match between Anatoli Karpov and Viktor Korchnoi, Merano became internationally known. I noticed that even back at the time, during business trips through the USA. The direction of the local hospitality industry became more international in the wake of that event.

What features characterize the Merano hospitality industry?

In the course of the internationalization I previously mentioned, Merano became more cosmopolitan and open-minded. I noticed that over and over again during the course of my work: guests appreciate the kindness and obligingness they encounter here so much. For several years, I've also noticed that Merano's hospitality industry has been very open to new forms of communication and social networks. I think this trend is as positive as it is necessary, also because of the clear juvenescence of Merano's visitor demographic.

The range of hotels in Merano runs from absolute luxury hotels to farm holidays. That's a surprisingly wide range, isn't it?

Yes. This diversity is remarkable in several ways. Merano can offer lodging at every budget level. As for our star hotels, we are also well above the international average in terms of facilities. And that means that the price-performance ratio is also good.



HOTEL

LODGING IN STYLE: MERANO'S HOTELS

Arrive, let yourself go, and enjoy – with all your senses: Merano's lodging establishments have always known how to receive their guests with open arms and pamper them in every way. This was true in the past, when the City on the Passer was first established as a spa resort in the nineteenth century and became a celebrated destination for visitors from all around the world. It is still the case today, with one difference: everything is run more professionally than it was 170 years ago.

The hotel industry in Merano enjoys an excellent reputation, combining elegant tradition with modern comforts. It offers the highest quality accommodations, impeccable service, excellent cuisine, and the genial hospitality of South Tyrol. Many hotels also feature fully equipped wellness facilities for their guests, carrying on Merano's reputation as a spa resort town.

Merano has about 6,000 beds available for visitors, taking all categories of lodging into account. There is a suitable choice to fit every need and every taste: in addition to castles that have been turned into hotels and luxury hotels that will satisfy the most discriminating of visitors, there are high quality mid-range hotels, family-run places with a personal touch, and an impressive selection of good *Garni* inns, *pensione*, and private rooms. In addition, there is an attractive youth hostel and a nice, centrally located camping ground.



PARK HOTEL MIGNON & PARK SPA

Glatt-Amort family, Via Karl Grabmayr 5
Tel. 0039 0473 230 353, Fax 0039 0473 230 644
www.hotelmignon.com, info@hotelmignon.com
Member of: SLH - Belvita Leading Wellnesshotels Südtirol

PARK HOTEL PARK SPA
MIGNON



A fascinating spot where you can unwind, far removed from the hustle and bustle of everyday life. Large garden and wellness facilities with a surface area of more than 2,000 sq m.



CLASSIC HOTEL MERANERHOF

Via Alessandro Manzoni 1, Tel. 0039 0473 230230, Fax 0039 0473 233312
www.meranerhof.com, info@meranerhof.com

HOTEL
MERANERHOF
FAM. EISENKEIL
*****S



At the Meranerhof, a hotel very rich in tradition, you'll stay right in the center of Merano. The old town, the Kurpromenade, the *portici* arcades and the Kurhaus are all located in the immediate vicinity. The Terme Merano spa complex and all the bus connections are just outside the front door. Our rooms and suites are elegantly appointed in styles ranging from classic to contemporary. Relax in our spacious wellness area with indoor swimming pool, Finnish sauna and steam room or

outdoors in our beautiful garden. Our strengths are our natural warmth and South Tyrol hospitality, our attentive service, and especially the creativity of our chef. Cosmetic treatments and massages are available at Avalon, our in-house beauty center. A private parking area is at your disposal free of charge.

★★★★S

Meisters
IRMA
HOTEL ★★★★★

MEISTERS HOTEL IRMA

Via Belvedere 17
Tel. 0039 0473 212000, Fax 0039 0473 231355
www.hotel-irma.com, info@hotel-irma.com



Lavish. Enchanting. Private.

The Meisters Irma Hotel, Merano's holiday oasis, is absolutely ideal for anyone who comes to South Tyrol in search of refined accommodations, relaxation, tranquility and attentive service.



★★★★

HOTEL ADRIA & SPA

Glatt-Amort-Ellmenreich family, Via Gilm 2
Tel. 0039 0473 236 610, Fax 0039 0473 236 687
www.hotel-adria.com, info@hotel-adria.com
Member of: Historical Places of Italy & Dimore d'Epoca

!!!
HOTEL ADRIA
★★★★



Historical-style hotel in the heart of Merano's villa quarter
Furnished with every comfort.
Free Wifi, bike and e-bike hiring.

169

★★★★

HOTEL AURORA

AURORA
AURORA • HOTEL • CAFE • BISTRO • RESTAURANT • CLUB/DANCE

Passeggiata Lungo Passirio 38
Tel. 0039 0473 211800, Fax 0039 0473 211113
www.hotel-aurora-meran.com, info@hotelauroa.bz
Open from 5 March 2015 through 17 January 2016



Your holiday spot right on the Passer Promenade in Merano: Aurora comprises the Aurora Hotel, Fino Bistro & Restaurant, and Sketch Cocktailbar & Club – all under one roof. Aurora is a world unto itself: a living space just teeming with life. Our spectacular design of the suites and of some rooms, tempting yet light cuisine, and speedy and friendly service, will make you want to stay forever. Aurora: where life is pure joy!

★★★★

HOTEL
BAVARIA

Dr. Berger family, Via Salita alla Chiesa 15
Tel. 0039 0473 236375, Fax 0039 0473 236371
www.bavaria.it, info@bavaria.it



Nestled into a romantic park with palm trees and cedars, the Bavaria Hotel is located within easy walking distance from the city center, the promenades and the Terme Merano spa complex. The hotel is elegant yet casual, tradition-conscious and comfortable: its unique flair and warm hospitality will simply enchant you.

★★★★S

CITY HOTEL
MERANO

Fam. Hölzl Pippi, Via Mainardo 41
Tel. 0039 0473 492550, Fax 0039 0473 492551
www.cityhotel-merano.it, info@cityhotel-merano.it



In the City. Fresh and modern style meets best location. Only a few steps from the Old Town and thermal baths. With large garage. Sweet dreams in brand-new suites. Created to satisfy your desires. City Spa: Sauna, relaxation room, terrace, hot whirlpool, gym. City Dine in the elegant restaurant. Innovative Tapas bar with high standards of taste. City Convention. Meeting place up to 100 people. Welcome!

★★★★

HOTEL
BURGGRÄFLERHOF

Via Hasler 11
Tel. 0039 0473 230034, Fax 0039 0473 235266
www.hotel-burggraeflerhof.com, info@hotel-burggraeflerhof.com



Like a pearl nestled into lush greenery, the friendly and easygoing Burggräflerhof Hotel in Merano is a perfect point of access to the natural beauty of the Merano and Environs area. The hotel is surrounded by vineyards and orchards and offers breathtaking views of the Gruppo di Texel Mountains directly opposite. This wellness hotel is an ideal place for a holiday and for anyone who loves hiking: here, South Tyrol shows off its sunniest, most Mediterranean side. Our hotel is characterized by warmth, hospitality and charm. We are always

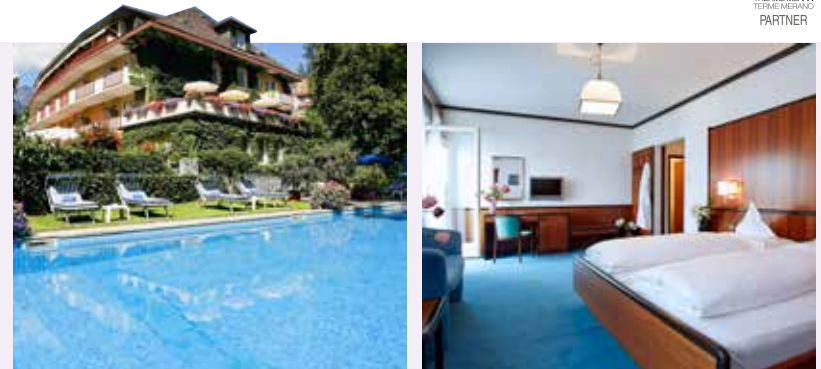
motivated to do our best by our desire to offer every Burggräflerhof guest an unforgettable stay – the benefits of which remain for a very long time.

★★★★

HOTEL JULIANE



Via dei Campi 6
Tel. 0039 0473 211700 - Fax 0039 0473 230176
info@juliane.it - www.juliane.it



A spacious garden, outstanding cuisine, absolute quiet, extremely courteous staff and an exclusive ambience: this is how guests appraise Hotel Juliane, your 4-star well-being hotel.

★★★★

HOTEL & RESIDENCE
SITTNERHOFhotel
Sittnerhof
★★★★Family Brunner, via Giuseppe Verdi 58
Tel. 0039 0473 446331, Fax 0039 0473 220631
www.sittnerhof.it, info@sittnerhof.it

The Sittnerhof Hotel will undoubtedly afford you a relaxing break. Extremely quiet yet in the heart of the city, the hotel offers everything one seeks in a holiday. Enjoy specialties from the hotel's superb kitchen with a glass of wine made in-house, relax in the wellness oasis, and delight in the extraordinary view from the sun deck. Leave everyday life behind, relax by our outdoor or indoor pool and enjoy an unforgettable holiday that pampers the body, spirit, and palate.

★★★★S

***S Hotel
BRUNNER

HOTEL BRUNNER

Via Giuseppe Verdi 31/A
Tel. 0039 0473 446150
Fax 0039 0473 221577
www.hotel-brunner.it
info@hotel-brunner.it

A hotel with personal service, style, plenty of atmosphere, newly renovated rooms, a quiet location, and a marvelous climate: the best recipe for a satisfying holiday. The spacious, comfortable rooms of the Brunner Hotel just invite you to relax. The heated outdoor pool, sunbathing area surrounded by Mediterranean plants, and the sun terrace with its lush vegetation are all good reasons to spend some of your leisure time relaxing on the grounds. Evenings bring dinners with candlelight and music; in summer, there are BBQs on the terrace. The bar provides a great place to round out the day with a nightcap.



★★★★S

HOTEL
JASMINHotel ***S
JASMINVia Verdi 39
Tel. 0039 0473 446035, Fax 0039 0473 207273
www.hotel-jasmin.com, info@hoteljasmin.com

Your holiday at the Jasmin Hotel in Merano will be spent in a sunny quiet location within walking distance from the city center. The hotel offers newly renovated and tastefully furnished rooms, a small but nice sauna in the garden, and a spacious lawn with swimming pool. Expect great dining at the Jasmin Hotel: we really care about serving you delicious food.

★★★★S

HOTEL
WESSOBRUNN

Via Laurin 99

Tel. 0039 0473 220320, Fax 0039 0473 220790

www.hotel-wessobrunn.com, info@hotel-wessobrunn.com



The Wessobrunn Hotel is situated in a quiet and sun-drenched part of Merano, and is surrounded by vineyards and orchards. Guests will enjoy the comfortable, soothing and warm atmosphere of the hotel, which is situated in an historical building. Our fine cuisine, spacious rooms and suites, and some of the area's most beautiful hiking trails right at the doorstep will make your holiday truly unforgettable.

★★★★

HOTEL ASTER



Via Dante 40

Tel. 0039 0473 232458, Fax 0039 0473 258833

www.hotelaster.com, info@hotelaster.com



The Aster is a charming hotel in an exclusive residential neighborhood of Merano, surrounded by Mediterranean parks and historical castles. The atmosphere is family-run, cozy, well kept and professional. The hotel management does everything possible to get your holidays unique and unforgettable, focusing on personalised service and the comfort of their guests. Just minutes away from the city center, the spa center with the thermal baths, and the Gardens of Trauttmansdorff Castle, the hotel is an ideal starting point for short hikes or long excursions. Access to public transportation is extremely convenient.

★★★★S

HOTEL WINDSOR



Widmann family

Via Rezia 2

Tel. 0039 0473 446556, Fax 0039 0473 446558

www.windsorhotel.it, info@windsorhotel.it



This family-run hotel, which overlooks the Passer River, is located in an elegant and historical neoclassical building. A few steps from the Terme Merano spa (10% discount) and from the train station, the hotel is conveniently situated for visiting the city – and there is no need for a car. The rich breakfast buffet features carefully selected and homemade local products. Rooms with balconies and lovely views of the river and mountains. The numerous amenities include a garden with swimming pool, garage, mini bar, air conditioning, free Wi-Fi in the rooms as well as reductions for restaurants and shops in the city center.

★★★★

HOTEL
KOLPING MERANO

Via Cavour 101

Tel. 0039 0473 253200, Fax 0039 0473 253280

www.kolpingmeran.it, info@kolpingmeran.it



Kolping Hotel is housed in an art nouveau building that dates from the nineteenth century. Located in the heart of Merano's most elegant neighborhood, Maia Alta, the hotel is surrounded by beautiful gardens. Its 29 rooms each feature a bath, shower, toilet, hairdryer, satellite TV, telephone and balcony. The hotel also has a restaurant, bar, and garden with outdoor swimming pool. The city center is only 12 minutes from the hotel on foot. Open throughout the year. The Kolping Café & Bistro is open from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.

★★★★

HOTEL LADURNER

via Orazio Gaigher 13

Tel. 0039 0473 237 214, Fax 0039 0473 237 057
www.hotel-ladurner.com, info@hotel-ladurner.com



The Ladurner Hotel is situated in a quiet Merano neighborhood called Maia Alta. It is surrounded by fruit orchards, vineyards and a stunning mountain landscape.

A perfect place for rest and relaxation, the Ladurner is easily accessible from the city center by bus; another alternative is walking along Via Winkel, which takes less than twenty minutes.

Nearby the hotel there is an access point to Sissi's Path, a route Empress Elisabeth once used: it runs past a number of historical buildings, including the Kurhaus. It's just a seven-minute walk along Sissi's Path to the Gardens of Trauttmansdorff Castle, which is South Tyrol top destinations for tourists and locals alike.

★★★★

HOTEL TANNERHOF

via Jobmann 12

Tel. 0039 0473 237494 - Fax 0039 0473 211603
www.hotel-tannerhof.it, info@hotel-tannerhof.it



The Tannerhof is an intimate and comfortable hotel in Merano. Situated in a quiet, green neighborhood not too far away from the city center and close to the Gardens of Trauttmansdorff Castle, it is an ideal place to spend a relaxing holiday Experience tradition and refined hospitality in a family atmosphere. Here you will find plenty of space, peace and quiet and quality downtime – a place to relax and truly unwind.

176

177

★★★★

HOTEL SIEGLER IM THURM

Via Parrocchia 6

Tel. 0039 0473 231133, Fax 0039 0473 231747
www.thurm.it, info@thurm.it



The Siegler Hotel is located 10 minutes from the city center and thermal baths, and just 5 minutes from the racetrack, tennis center, and Meranarena Sports Center. All rooms are equipped with bath and WC, telephone, hair dryer, satellite TV, safe, Wifi and balcony; most are wheelchair friendly. On sunny days, a large garden and swimming pool are available for the enjoyment of the guests. There is also a parking lot for cars and buses, a garage and a comfortable bar. The kitchen offers diverse lunch and dinner menus.

★★★★

HOTEL VILLA FREIHEIM

via Parini 1

Tel. 0039 0473 237342, Fax 0039 0473 258185
www.freiheim.it - info@freiheim.it

Villa Freiheit ***
HOTEL, FOOD & APARTMENTS MERANO



Leave your daily routine behind, and enjoy the luxury of simplicity at the Villa Freiheit Hotel & Apartments. Immersed within an idyllic and verdant park, the hotel is located in one of Merano's beautiful residential areas, just a 15-minute walk from the town center. Unwind in our hotel rooms, which feature top-quality natural wood design, or in the feel-good atmosphere of the apartments located inside the residence. Regional and organic quality products enhance the hotel's wholesome breakfast. In the GARTEN DER RUHE we offer a variety of spa treatments geared towards restoring inner peace and balance. We looking forward to seeing you! The Nagler Family.



★★★

— HOTEL —
WESTEND
 ★ ★ ★

HOTEL WESTEND

Via Speckbacher 9
 Tel. 0039 0473 447654, Fax 0039 0473 222726
 www.westend.it, info@westend.it



The Westend Hotel is nestled into a pretty garden with the renowned Passer Promenade on its front doorstep and stunning mountain scenery in its backyard. A stay at the hotel means harmony and rest, style and tradition – to be enjoyed with all the conveniences of modern life. The hotel is located in a quiet setting yet is only a stone's throw from the center of Merano. It has spacious, comfortable rooms; most have balconies. The dining room in the art nouveau style is delightful.



★★★★S

OTTMANNGUT SUITE & BREAKFAST

Via Verdi 18
 Tel. 0039 0473 449656, Fax 0039 0473 207510
 www.ottmangut.it, info@ottmangut.it



Enjoy the charm and history of Merano by staying at Ottmangut Suite & Breakfast. An idyllic holiday in one of Merano's oldest homes, surrounded by beautiful gardens and a vineyard, within a few minutes walk from the city center. A rich breakfast featuring many regional delicacies is served in the Mediterranean garden during the warm season. Half board in partnership with selected restaurants in and around Merano.

★★★

HOTEL RESIDENCE FLORA

Hözl-Pippi family, Via XXX Aprile 2
 Tel. 0039 0473 448335, Fax 0039 0473 220544
 www.merano-flora.it, info@merano-flora.it



The Flora, with its cozy family ambience, is an invitation to pure delight: very centrally located near the Old Town, Terme Merano spa and the train station, in a quiet spot on the Promenade. Indulge yourself with comfortable rooms, suites and apartments, a varied breakfast buffet, a large Mediterranean garden with heated outdoor pool, a roof terrace with Jacuzzi and infrared cabin as well as relaxing massages.

★★★★

GARNI WEINGUT

Via Schallhof 1/A
Tel. 0039 0473 237807, Fax 0039 0473 237974
www.hotel-weingut.it, info@hotel-weingut.it



This small, well-kept, family-run hotel has an idyllic setting just 15 minutes by foot from Merano's city center. All of the main sights, including the Gardens of Trauttmansdorff Castle, are within walking distance.

★★★★

RESIDENCE
POLLINGERHOF

Fam. Huber, Via S. Floriano 3
Tel. 0039 0473 235148, Fax 0039 0473 258679
www.residencepollingerhof.it, info@residencepollingerhof.it



A little holiday paradise surrounded by scented apple orchards. Comfortable, lovely furnished and cozy: our six holiday apartments together with true hospitality will turn your stay in Merano – South Tyrol into an unforgettable experience. The city center of the health resort Merano, the thermal baths as well as the wonderful Gardens of Trauttmansdorff Castle are just few steps from our residence. Indeed, Residence Pollingerhof is also a perfect starting point for day trips, excursions, cycling tours and museum visits.

★★★★

RESIDENCE
DÉSIRÉE

Glatt-Amort family, Via Otto Huber 19
Tel. 0039 0473 449 564, Fax 0039 0473 230 644
www.desireemeran.com, info@desireemeran.com



Spend an enchanting holiday in comfortable apartments at the stylish Désirée Residence, which is located near the Terme Merano spa complex, the main shopping area, and a wide array of restaurants and pizzerias. Open year-round. Free WLAN.



Youth Hostel
Meran · Merano

MERANO YOUTH HOSTEL

Via Carducci 77
Tel. 0039 0473 201475, Fax 0039 0473 207154
www.jugendherberge.it, meran@jugendherberge.it



The Merano Youth Hostel is an attractive lodging option that is inexpensive yet still provides high quality. The centrally located hostel, just a five-minute walk from the train station and city center, has the option of modern single, double, triple or quadruple rooms; all are equipped with shower or bath and toilet. There is an internet point, billiards, table tennis and foosball to entertain you during your stay; children have their own play area as well. A separate laundry and ironing room is available with wash machines and dryer, as well as a bicycle storage room with tools that can be rented. An extensive breakfast buffet is included.



VILLA HELVETIA***
My favourite
place to stay

RESIDENCE VILLA HELVETIA

Prunner Family - Via Schaffer 17
Tel. 0039 0473 945631, Fax 0039 0473 945556
www.villahelvetia.com, info@villahelvetia.com



Lovely art nouveau villa in an exclusive area with tranquil setting and large Mediterranean garden. Here you'll find comfort, high-quality and warm attention to your needs.

Just five minutes on foot from the city center and the Terme Merano. An ideal starting point for excursions. Healthy breakfast upon request. We offer a lovely playground to our littlest holidaymakers; meanwhile you can enjoy relaxing on our wonderful lawn. Free Wi-Fi and parking. We are open year round.



WEBPAGE



HOME VIDEO



MERANO FROM A TO Z

AIRPORT

ABD Bolzano Dolomiti Airport, via Francesco Baracca 1, Tel. 0039 0471 255255, www.abd-airport.it, take the airport/ice rink exit off the Merano-Bolzano highway Bolzano Aero Club, Tel. 0039 0471 250165
Airway Merano, flights for tourists, Tel. 0039 0473 239579

ALPINE INFORMATION

www.alpenverein.it, Tel. 0039 0471 978141 (members only)
www.trekking.suedtirol.info
For alpine rescue services, call the emergency number: 118

BICYCLE USE

Free bicycles available for use (with security deposit) at Merano train station and on Via Piave, next to the Terme spa complex from 2 April to 17 October, 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. (Monday- Saturday)
South Tyrol bicycle rental points can be found at train stations in Merano, Naturns, Latsch, Schlanders, Spondinig, Mals, Bolzano sud and at bus stations in Reschen and St Leonhard in Passeier, www.suedtirol-rad.com, Tel. 0039 0473 201500
Algund Tourist Office, Tel. 0039 0473 448600
Meranerland Bike Academy, Via Verdines 9/b, Schenna, Tel. 0039 340 4890532

BIKEMOBIL CARD (see page 92)

BUS CARDS (see page 4)

BUSES

Bus route maps are available at the Merano Tourist Office.
Ticket office: train stations, SASA Merano (Via delle Corse 82). Single tickets and prepaid cards are also available in buses (city bus lines 1-6 and lines 212, 213, 221 and 222; only coin-operated one-way ticket – no change dispenser). No ticket sales on board for Citybus Algund (line 237). Multi-day tickets are also available at tourist offices.

Bus and train routes are available on the websites www.sii.bz.it and www.sasa.bz.it or by calling the toll-free number 840 000 471. City buses: www.sasa.bz.it

BUS PARKING AND GROUP TOUR DROP-OFF

Parking for buses is located on Via Palade, near the Meranarena Ice Rink, Tel. 0039 0473 236982. However, buses may park for up to 15 minutes on Via Piave, near the Terme spa complex, to pick up and drop off passengers. To reach the parking area, take Via Roma and Via Piave

BUS TOURS

Zenoburg Touristik, Via Principale 23/f, Dorf Tiro, Tel. 0039 0473 923044
 Martin Reisen, Piazza Hofmann 1, Lana, Tel. 0039 0473 563071, reservations also available at the Merano Tourist Office
 Gross Reisebüro, Via Palade 16, Tel. 0039 0473 233751
 Ifinger Reisen, take the main street after the service station, Dorf Tiro, Tel. 0039 0473 923365, reservations also available at the Merano Tourist Office

BUS TRANSFER

There are bus transfers from Munich to Merano available on Wednesdays and Saturdays between 18 March and 7 November. Information and booking available at the Merano Tourist Office, Tel. 0039 0473 272000

CAMPGROUNDS

MERANO CAMPGROUND***
 Via Piave 44, Tel. 0039 0473 231249, www.camping-meran.com – open from 26 March to 2 November 2015 and during the Christmas Market (26 November 2015 to 10 January 2016)
 HERMITAGE CAMPGROUND****
 Via Ivigna 29, Tel. 0039 0473 232191, www.einsiedler.com/camping - open from 28 March to 1 November 2015

CARABINIERI – ITALIAN NATIONAL MILITARY POLICE

Emergency Tel: Dial 112, Via Petrarca 22/a,
 (Telephone switchboard: 0039 0473 203700)

CAR RENTAL COMPANIES

Auto Götsch, Via Nazionale 78, Sinigo,	Tel. 0039 0473 212219
Motorunion, Via Goethe 37,	Tel. 0039 0473 519400
Avis, Via Roma 194,	Tel. 0039 0473 272222
Sportgarage, Via Max Valier 7,	Tel. 0039 0473 273320
Hertz, Via F. Baracca 1 (Bolzano), www.hertz.it,	Tel. 0039 0471 254266

CAR RENTALS FOR DISABLED DRIVERS

Handicar Autoservice, Via Galilei 4/d, Bolzano, Tel. 0039 0471 930932

CAR REPAIR SHOPS

Alfa Romeo, Via Petrarca 29,	Tel. 0039 0473 232570
VW/Skoda, Via Goethe 37,	Tel. 0039 0473 519400
BMW, Via Roma 290,	Tel. 0039 0473 239855
Fiat/Renault/Lancia, Via Max-Valier 7,	Tel. 0039 0473 273300
Ford, Via Roma 194,	Tel. 0039 0473 443306

Honda/Mercedes, Via Galvani 41, Bolzano,	Tel. 0039 0471 550000
Mercedes, Via Max-Valier 6-8,	Tel. 0039 0473 233100
Opel, Via Roma 194,	Tel. 0039 0473 272222
Auto City-Peugeot, Via E. Ferrari 8, Bolzano,	Tel. 0039 0471 212250
Toyota/Suzuki, Via Bolzano 53, Lana,	Tel. 0039 0473 561413

CAR TOWING SERVICES

ACI Merano,	Tel. 0039 803116
B&B – Bergo,	Tel. 0039 0473 220700
Auto Assistance,	Tel. 0039 328 7675711

CENTRE FOR PARENTS & CHILDREN

Via Petrarca 3/f, Tel. 0039 0473 237323;
 child care (for members); baby-changing table

CITY HALL

Municipal Office, Via Portici 192, Telephone switchboard: 0039 0473 250111;
 Fax 0039 0473 237690; Registration Office Tel. 0039 0473 250158/9;
 Civil Registry Office Tel. 0039 0473 250147/9

CONSULTATION SERVICES FOR THE PHYSICALLY DISABLED

Independent L. - Via Laurin 2/d, Tel. 0039 0473 200397

CONSUMER ADVICE CENTRE

KVV, Via Goethe 8, Tel. 0039 0473 270204, meran@verbraucherzentrale.it,
 opening times: Monday through Friday from 9.00 a.m. to noon
 European Consumer Centre, Via Brennero 3, Bolzano, Tel. 0039 0471 980939,
 opening times: Monday through Friday from 9.00 a.m. to noon

DIALYSIS

Renal Dialysis Centre, Via Bolzano 15/5, Lana, Tel. 0039 0473 561932
 Registration: tel. 0049 7720 958924, www.feriendialyse-suedtirol.com, open from the end of March to October
 Emergency: Merano Hospital, Tel. 0039 0473 264980

FIRE DEPARTMENT

In case of emergency: dial 115, Via Leopardi 34, Tel. 0039 0473 268268

GAS STATION WITH LIQUID PETROLEUM GAS

ENI Appiano ME-BO motorway, km 3,500 (towards Bolzano)
 ENI Laces, Via Reich 2 (SS. 38)
 SHELL Merano-Sinigo, Via Nazionale 6

GAS STATION WITH NATURAL GAS

SMP Lagundo ME-BO motorway (towards Bolzano)
 Q8 ME-BO motorway Bolzano (towards Merano)
 SHELL Merano-Sinigo, Via Nazionale 6
 SHELL Naturns, Via Nazionale

GUESTCARD

Available from your hotel, the card carrier receives discounts and special offers (see page 4)

HORSE-DRAWN CARRIAGE RIDES

Susi Brusenbach, Tel. 0039 0473 232077

Mobile: 0039 348 3067384 or 0039 335 272007

Norbert Waldner – horse-drawn carriage rides in Haflling, Mobile: 0039 388 9866478

HOSPITALS & CLINICS

Franz Tappeiner City Hospital, Via Rossini 5, Tel. 0039 0473 263333

St. Anna Private Clinic, Via Cavour 58, Tel. 0039 0473 236480

Martinsbrunn Sanatorium, Via Laurin 70, Tel. 0039 0473 447755

INTERNET POINTS

City Library (see Library)

Tangram, Via Portici 204, Tel. 0039 0473 210430 (Wi-Fi)

Merano Mediateca, Piazza della Rena 10, Tel. 0039 0473 252264 (Wi-Fi)

KUNSTKAPELLE

Ponte Romano 9, Monday to Saturday, 10.30 a.m. – 12.30 p.m. and 4.00 p.m. – 6.00 p.m., Exhibitions of paintings and sculptures

LAUNDRY

Green & Clean (self service), Via Piave 36/f, Mobile: 0039 335 299844,

Opening times: daily from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Lava Più-Plant (self service), Via Roma 36, Mobile: 0039 335 1306775,

Opening times: daily from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Soft Clean, Via Manzoni 59, Tel. 0039 0473 448858

LIBRARY

City library, with reading room: Via delle Corse 1, Tel. 0039 0473 236911

Opening times: Mondays and Thursdays 1:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.; Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.; Saturdays 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

LOST AND FOUND

Tel. 0039 0473 250111, www.fundinfo.it – Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to noon and Monday and Wednesday from 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Closed Saturdays and Sundays.

City Police, Via Portici 192, Tel. 0039 0473 250160

LUGGAGE DEPOSIT

Merano Train Station: open from 4 April to 1 November, 8:00 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Price per piece: € 2.00, Tel. 0039 0473 201500

MARKETS

Tuesday and Friday mornings from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. near the train station

Farmers Market in Maia Alta: every Wednesday from 7:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Piazza Fontana

Saturdays Farmer's Market on Via Galilei from 8:00 a.m. to noon (in summer, also Wednesdays on Via Mainardo)

Merano Market: every Saturday from 28 March to 10 October, on the upper part of Corso Libertà, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Flea Markets: every last Saturday of the month on the Winter Promenade by the Wandelhalle Arcade, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.; every first Sunday of the month at the parking lot for Bersaglio Restaurant (Via Lido) from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

MERANO MEDIATECA LANGUAGE CENTER

Piazza della Rena 10, Merano, Tel. 0039 0473 252264; Opening times: Monday: 2:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.; Tuesday – Friday: 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.; Thursdays: 10:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., Saturdays, Sundays and Monday mornings: closed

MOBILCARD (see page 4)

MUSEUMOBILCARD (see page 4)

PARKING (see city map)

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39012 Merano/Sinigo - Via Nazionale 78 - Tel./Fax +39 0473 212 219 - +39 348 222 7547
rudi@autogoetsch.it - www.autogoetsch.it

CAR RENTALS



PARKING - BLUE SPACES

Parking spots marked in blue are metered parking spaces: pay at automated machine nearby. The rates are: € 1.30 per hour (Mondays to Saturdays) for Tariff A and € 0.90 per hour for Tariff B. Maximum is 3 hours. Electronic parking cards in € 25.00 and € 50.00 denominations are available at the Merano Tourist Office

PARKING - DISABLED

All parking spaces marked in yellow with a representation of a wheelchair are reserved for the disabled. Please display your disability permit clearly in the window when you park. The telephone number for the Merano police department is posted at all parking spaces for the disabled. If you find that an unauthorized vehicle has parked in a parking space for the disabled, please call the police for assistance

PHARMACIES

Untermais/Maia Bassa, Via Roma 118,	Tel. 0039 0473 236144
Salus, Via Piave 36/a,	Tel. 0039 0473 236606
Druso, Via delle Corse 58,	Tel. 0039 0473 236357
Bayrische Hofapotheke/Bavarese, Portici 76,	Tel. 0039 0473 231155
St. Damian/S. Damiano, Via Monastero 53,	Tel. 0039 0473 447545
St. Georg/S. Giorgio, Maia Alta, Via Dante 10,	Tel. 0039 0473 237677
Central/e, Via Fossato Molini 6,	Tel. 0039 0473 236826
Madonna, Corso Libertà 123,	Tel. 0039 0473 449552
Amatori, Piazza Vittorio Veneto 9 (Sinigo),	Tel. 0039 0473 244924

POLICE

In case of emergency: dial 113
 Police Commissioner's Office, Piazza del Grano 2,
 (Telephone switchboard: 0039 0473 273511)
 City Police, Via Portici 192 (City Hall), Tel. 0039 0473 250160
 See also: Carabinieri (Italian National Military Police)

POST OFFICES

Main Post Office, Via Roma 2, Tel. 0039 0473 274700
 Opening Times: M-F 8:20 a.m. to 7:05 p.m. and Sat 8:20 a.m. to 12:35 p.m.
 July and August: M-F 8:20 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and Sat 8:20 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
 District 1 Post Office – Via Goethe 5/b, Tel. 0039 0473 442223
 District 2 Post Office – Piazza Fontana 19 (Maia Alta), Tel. 0039 0473 237203
 District 3 Post Office – Sinigo, Via Damiano Chiesa 14, Tel. 0039 0473 244077

READING ROOM

At the City Library, Via delle Corse 1, Tel. 0039 0473 236911

ROAD & TRAFFIC CONDITIONS - UPDATES

Bolzano Office for Road & Traffic Conditions, Tel. 0039 0471 200198
www.provinz.bz.it/verkehr

SHUTTLE SERVICE

Taxi Sabine, Tel. 0039 388 8923115

Taxi Arthur, Tel. 0039 347 4607172
 Taxi Stephan, Tel. 0039 347 7523424
 Taxi Willy, Tel. 0039 327 3006004

TAXIS

Radio Taxi, Tel. 0039 0473 212013
 Piazza della Rena, Tel. 0039 0473 237133
 Piazza Teatro, Tel. 0039 0473 237097
 Train Station, Tel. 0039 0473 447700

TELEPHONE COUNTRY CODES

France	0033
Belgium	0032
United Kingdom	0044
U.S.A	001
Russia	007
Spain	0034
The Netherlands	0031
Czech Republic	00420

TELEPHONES – PUBLIC

Prepaid cards in denominations of € 3.00, € 5.00 and € 10.00
 Telephone booths throughout town; Telephone cards available at tabaccheria stores
 Information within Italy: dial 1240; for international information: dial 176

TOILETS – PUBLIC

Public toilets available at Piazza Duomo, on the Passer Promenade (Moser Park),
 Via Galilei and Via Piave near the bus parking lot next to the Terme Merano spa complex

TRAIN STATION

Ticket office: weekdays from 6:00 a.m. to 7:45 p.m. and holidays from 7:00 a.m. to 7:45 p.m.
 Tel. 0039 0473 223137
 Information for travelers: green (toll-free) number, Tel. 0039 892021 or 199892021, www.trenitalia.com. Information for hearing-impaired travelers: Tel. 0039 840000471, www.sii.bz.it

TRANSPORTATION FOR THE DISABLED























Consortium for the Disabled, Via Manzoni 33, Tel. 0039 0473 211423

TRAVEL AGENCIES

Alpina-Tourdolomit, Corso Libertà 114, Tel. 0039 0473 237309
 Burgund Reisen, Via Alfieri 17, Tel. 0039 0473 234313
 Gross Reisen, Via Palade 16, Tel. 0039 0473 233751
 Kakadu Tours, Via Roma 80, Tel. 0039 0473 270692
 Nouba Tours, Fossato Molini 24, Tel. 0039 0473 237572
 Trans Tiro, Via delle Corse 122, Tel. 0039 0473 270150



Legend

-  Information
-  Train Station
-  Chair Lift
-  Green Zone
-  Castle
-  Cemetery
-  Church
-  Terme Merano
-  Campground
-  Playground
-  Horse Racetrack
-  Tennis Club
-  Ice Skating Rink
-  Outdoor Swimming Pool
-  Indoor Swimming Pool
-  Football Field
-  Post Office
-  Taxi Stand
-  Parking Lot
-  Pharmacy
-  Emergency Room
-  Gas Station

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TRANSIT

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