

South Tyrol WINE ROAD



JOURNAL 2018

mediterranean

Autochthonous and International: The Big Six
Switch to the Pleasure Mode
Spring in the cooking pot



> A wide, sunny valley basin, two prestigious vines: The Bolzano city district Gries is the home to Lagrein, while the St. Magdalener vine matures more to the north-east of Bolzano on the St. Magdalener hills and steep slopes.

Time to say goodbye |

This is not my first time talking to you in this column, but it will be my last. What you are currently holding in your hands is already a piece of history, a relic of the past, even though the topics and articles presented in this **South Tyrolean Wine Road Journal** are anything but outdated. They are up-to-date in regard to content, written in a fresh, appealing style, and hot from the press.

Nevertheless, the Journal will no longer exist in this form. With this edition, my team and I have completed the dozen. Our joint journey started in 2006, when we were the first people in South Tyrol to recognize that the traditional brochure with high-gloss pictures and boring advertisement texts was no longer adequate. Despite some initial resistance, we managed to publish our journal year after year, with the help of some renowned **authors, journalists, and writers**, and of course also thanks to the incredible positive feedback from you, our readers. When choosing the themes, we have always tried to find a colourful yet harmonious **mix of curiosities, news, and the traditional**. Our stories were always told with a wink and also some self-irony.

Again, in this edition, we present a series of **exciting stories and people** representing our holiday region. Join us on a safari in the vineyards, get to know more about the very special and unique architecture in our region, and find out about our 'Big Six'. We also cover different gastronomy themes, take a look at the castles and cellars, and switch to pleasure mode on an e-bike. All this is only a small foretaste of what our region has to offer in reality. Take your time to read the Journal, **get inspired**, and then – be it spring, summer, autumn, or winter – leave for a journey to South Tyrol.

Yours,

Hansjörg Mair



Hansjörg Mair

Tourism in every fibre of his body: manager of the Bolzano and environs Tourist Board for the past 16 years, former director of the Appiano Tourist Office, and also part of Jeunes Restaurateurs d'Europe (as a general secretary for Italy and delegate for Europe) for 10 years, Hansjörg Mair is now moving to Freiburg i. Breisgau to start his new job as a manager of the Schwarzwald Tourismus GmbH.



Südtirol Bolzano

WINE AND DOLOMITES IN THE ITALIAN ALPS

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Südtiroler
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JOURNAL 2018

urban-alpine

With kith and kin: hiking with children
The New Bolzano, a city in transition
A Declaration of Love to Autumn

Read about

Autochthonous and International 7
The Big Six of the South Tyrolean Wine Road



A Safari in the Vineyard 10



Switch to the Pleasure Mode 13



From Castle to Castle 16



Spring in the cooking pot 18

Architecture Influenced by Wine 22
A talk with Leo Andergassen

Listed for you

10 great moments along the South Tyrolean Wine Road 20

Awarded for pleasure 23
Our best wines and restaurants

South Tyrol top 10 24



Autochthonous and International

The Big Six of the South Tyrolean Wine Road. Everywhere in South Tyrol, tradition and innovation go hand in hand. On the one hand, the region is rooted in history, tradition, and a love for one's homeland; on the other it is open, modern, innovative and future-oriented – this is what makes this region so special and unique. >



Wine is no exception to this. Pleasure and the wine culture are inseparable from South Tyrol. The wine farmers here are very proud of their wines and swear by their indigenous, autochthonous vines: Gewürztraminer, Vernatsch – in all variations such as Kalterersee wine, St. Magdalener, Südtiroler Vernatsch, Grauvernatsch and Lagrein have been grown here for many centuries and are now experiencing a revival. Besides their three autochthonous brothers, international wine trends and vine varieties such as White Burgundy, Sauvignon, and Pinot Noir have become new leading varieties along the South Tyrolean Wine Road.

Ageing white wines and full-bodied red wines. The wine villages along the South Tyrolean Wine Road are among the oldest and most beautiful in Italy. They are not only a popular holiday destination, with 300 days of sun a year, and a mild, alpine-Mediterranean climate but also the home of important wines. The villages are characterised by a fascinating cultural landscape with vines and wine farms, and there is a successful interplay of wine, landscape, culture, handicrafts, and tourism. Along the Wine Road, 4,250 hectares of vineyards stretch from the north to the south, corresponding to 85 per cent of the entire South Tyrolean vineyards. The area between Merano and Bolzano is the home for ageing white wines. Everywhere around the Terlano village

basin mineral and well-structured wines are produced that are known throughout the world, mainly as Sauvignon and White Burgundy. The characteristic Lagrein and velvety-strong St. Magdalener are grown in the Bolzano valley basin. Oltradige features an even mix of white and red wines. South Tyrol's biggest wine growing area, Appiano, where characteristic, strong, and elegant white wines like the White Burgundy and Sauvignon are brewed, looks back at a long tradition. In Caldaro, the renowned Kalterersee wine achieves new glory. In Bassa Atesina, the fine aromatic Gewürztraminer remains loyal to its hometown Termeno, whereas the elegant and aristocratic Pinot Noir has conquered the warm and sunny slopes between Montagna and Salorno.

Selected top wines: Joie de vivre. South Tyrol's wine farmers are truly passionate about their work and the quality of their wines. Their typical blue apron is a symbol of a deep connection to old traditions, culture and has become the trademark of the South Tyrolean farmers. Modern and innovative thinking is also a vital part of their development. Today, South Tyrol's cellar masters stand at the top of the international wine scene. In 2017, the renowned 'Feinschmecker-Wine-Award für das Lebenswerk' was accepted by Hans Terzer, who is the experienced cellar master of the St. Michael-Eppan Winery and president of the South Tyrolean Cellar Masters Association. With this award, Hans Terzer stands on



Herbert Taschler

As a freelance journalist and sommelier, he has been observing the world of South Tyrolean wine for over three decades. He tastes, tests, and writes for different media, including Gambero Rosso, which is Italy's foremost wine guide. He is also the author of several books on wine, gastronomy, and travel.

< From March to October, numerous events focus on the topic of wine (left). 'Quality knows no compromise'. By following this motto, Hans Terzer (right) of the San Michele-Appiano Winery reached the pinnacle in the Italian wine world.

Wine Trails | Hiking on the wine trails through the cultural landscape of Cortaccia, Termeno, Caldaro, Cornaiano and Terlano you can discover more of the history, the several steps of the wine production and the typology of wines. Obviously, a winery is never far away.

www.bolzanosurroundings.info

South Tyrolean Wine Academy | 'Experiencing knowledge about wine' is the theme of the South Tyrolean Wine Academy, where they teach much more than just pure facts about fine grape juice. The idea is to bring wine and culinary delights closer in people's minds – and this is done in a short space of time. The course curriculum spans from entertaining tasting courses for just one hour, to a professional training course for the professionals. www.weinakademie.it

Wine in its purity | South Tyrolean Pinot Noir days, Spatium Pinot Blanc, Gewürztraminer Hiking Day, The St. Magdalener Classic, Lagrein and the changing time: every single event highlights another type of wine and allows wine lovers to meet up with vintners, get to know the stylistic tendencies and to compare different vintages during a vertical tasting.

www.bolzanosurroundings.info

the same level as other top wine experts like Angelo Gaja and Livio Felluga (Italy), Angelo Montes (Chile), Nicolas Catena (Argentina), Thierry Manoncourt (France), Miguel Torres (Spain), and Paul Draper (California), to mention only a few. 'What an achievement!

During the past twenty years, South Tyroleans have gone on a long path from being mass producers to a paradise for selected top wines; the wine brothers, Cornelius and Fabian Lange, wrote in the newspaper Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung (FAZ). Madeline Jakits, the chef editor of the gourmet magazine Feinschmecker underlines: 'Pleasure may not be superficial. Pleasure is an attitude to life and wine is the most beautiful elixir of life for humans!'

Along the South Tyrolean Wine Road, dedicated wine farmers and wine growers guarantee pleasure, genuine hospitality, the joy of drinking as well as sociability, and lasting memories with their autochthonous and international vines.

■ Herbert Taschler





A Safari in the Vineyard

Wine tasting sessions, a guided tour of the cellar,

visiting the farmer... If you want to experience wine with all your senses, join farmer Margareth Orian on a journey along the South Tyrolean Wine Road. An experience report.

At the bottom of the glass, I notice small bubbles that have been aroused with the gentle pink colour of the sparkling rosé wine. It is the first pink sparkling wine I have ever tasted in my life. I would have never pictured that this would happen on a Thursday, yet at 9 in the morning. But who could say no to a wine tasting session after being told about its interesting history and production cycle by the cellar master himself and after visiting the antique wine cellar? Certainly, none of those participating in today's Wine Safari. 'Cheers,' says Margareth Orian, as she raises her glass to give the first toast of the day. Margareth is our tour guide. She is a wine farmer herself, and so knows everything about this tasty tittle and its vineyards. 'The quality of the end product mainly depends on the work of the farmer,' she explains as she accompanies our group back to the shuttle bus, which picked up all the participants at Caldaro this morning and brings us now to the winery Pfitscher. In this winery – the first with a CasaClima accreditation in Italy – the enologist

unfolds his everyday work.

Later, on her way to lunch in the restaurant Ansitz Romani at Termeno, Margareth tells us more about the history of the South Tyrolean Wine Road. The grapes that grow along the route are processed in more than 60 different wineries. One of them is the Elena Walch Winery, where we enjoy a tour under the traditional vaulted ceilings of the manor. Each wine seems to have been specially produced for the respective dishes the Pernstich family serves at our lunch. After eating and drinking together, you can notice how the participants start to ease up and how small friendships quickly start growing amongst us. We begin to have exciting discussions about the wine-growing business, and time simply flies.

Our shuttle is already waiting outside to continue our trip on the South Tyrolean Wine Road to South Tyrol's capital city, Bolzano. When standing on the warm cobblestones at Walther Square in Bolzano, it is hard to believe that vines grew on exactly this spot almost 200 years ago. Being the third-largest wine-growing municipality in South Tyrol, almost all vineyards in Bolzano are now located outside the city. Yet, in the old town,

Lisa Maria Kager

Lisa Maria Kager is a chatterbox, who can only be quietened down by an empty piece of paper. Anything other than lazy, she loves the mix of lively metropolis and lonely wilderness. For this reason, she studied in Munich, and came back to South Tyrol for work.



< Getting to know wine growers and wine farmers: The WineSafari takes place every first Thursday of the month all year; a personal WineSafari can be organised starting from 10 people.

WineSafari | Whether WineSafari, Wine & architecture or Wine & Bike: On the monthly guided day trips or half day trips, you can taste South Tyrolean wines, learn a lot about wine, meet winegrowers and rediscover the South Tyrolean Wine Road under different aspects.

www.suedtiroler-weinstrasse.it

Vinum Hotels South Tyrol | 29 specialised hotels guarantee for special moments on the topic of wine: when the menu and wines complement to make an almost perfect symbiosis at the table. When the hosts can tell you details about South Tyrolean wines, and also offer some wines for tasting. When wine knowledge is something you can experience in the vineyards and wines cellars during guided tours, seminars and tastings.

www.vinumhotels.com

Winepass PLUS | With the Winepass PLUS your holidays at the South Tyrolean Wine Road become an unforgettable experience. It opens the doors to a fascinating world of advantages. Holders of the Winepass PLUS are eligible to use all public means of transport in South Tyrol, discover the museums of the region, and experience the best of the South Tyrolean Wine Road. The Winepass PLUS is available in partner businesses and is included in the room rate. www.suedtiroler-weinstrasse.it

Guided Cellar Tours | From Easter to October all tourist offices along the South Tyrolean Wine Road offer guided tours of wine cellars and wine tastings: During a visit to the vineyards and wineries with wine tastings, you will get to know the variety of South Tyrolean wines and their producers, and you will find your personal favourite!

www.bolzanosurroundings.info

you can still notice many traces of the long wine history. Almost incredibly, the clothes shops under the arcades in the city once served as storage rooms for wine! We go to the Pfannenstielhof farm, where we get to know more about the cycle – from the grape on the bough to the wine in the glass. On this wine farm, the seventh generation is currently producing Lagrein and Vernatsch wines. During a tour of the vineyards, Hannes and Margareth Pfeifer tell us about their work, while the evening sun turns the vineyards into a romantic place. Listening to them talk and seeing their dreamy but still excited faces you can just tell they have a genuine passion for what they do, it's almost contagious.

Also, being in such an ambience, the finished product tastes even better.

However, our pleasure tour has not ended yet. We again hop on to the shuttle to continue our journey along the South Tyrolean Wine Road. In the Schreckenstein Manor in the traditional village of San Paolo in Appiano, we enjoy our last glass of wine together with tasty bruschettas, and Margareth raises her glass for the last time: 'On knowing the history of the product, doesn't it taste even better?'

■ Lisa Maria Kager







Switch to the Pleasure Mode

The Bolzano and environs region covers 980 km² in South Tyrol, offering many trails for experts, as well as for pleasure cyclists, families, and beginners, who, in addition to sporty outdoor activities, expect that little bit more, from a cycling tour, that bit of icing on the cake. What you get is time for culture, culinary delights, and beautiful scenes. What more do you want? >



Besides Austria and the Netherlands, South Tyrol is one of the most popular biking regions in Europe.

The infrastructure with sign-posted routes, bike rental stations, and bike-friendly accommodations is amazing and well organised. The routes leading through vineyards and orchards, shady forests, and flowery meadows are varied, and the picturesque view of the rough Dolomite peaks is unique. But there is another advantage: the mild climate and the 300 days of sunshine a year. Nowhere else in the Alps is the biking season as long as it is in Bolzano and its neighbouring areas. In general, pleasure tours in the valley are possible from the end of March to the start of November.

There are plenty of attractive destinations and routes. Everywhere around Lake Caldaro and along the South Tyrolean Wine Road, cyclists who want to enjoy the unique scenery will find everything from easy to medium-difficulty tours with about 200 castles, fortresses, and historic manors. Hence, the region offers the ideal routes to enjoy with a longer break in between. But watch out: There are lots of temptations along the route, like antique wine cellars, panoramic viewpoints, cosy guesthouses, and picturesque villages like Termeno, Caldaro, and Appiano to name a few. These are not only among the most popular in the bike scene but also in the wine scene. The 'Wine and Bike' offer combines both cycling and wine and is highly recommended. A 20-km-long, guided

round tour leads through the historic villages of Cornaiano and San Michele/Appiano, to the Monticolo Lakes, numerous wineries, and wine farms. These tours are offered between May and October on every second Tuesday of the month, and each of them ends with a wine tasting session. Another recommended circular tour is available in the northern part of the Wine Road. Starting in Terlano, this tour leads through orchards and wine growing regions, the villages of Andriano, Vilpiano, and Nalles, and back to Terlano, where this 28-km-long tour ends with a rewarding wine tasting session in one of the many wineries.

Another great and memorable experience is the former route of the Val di Fiemme railway line dating all the way back to World War I. It leads from Egna or Ora to the San Lugano Pass. If, despite the light ascent, you find the 800 meter of difference in altitude too strenuous, simply rent a comfortable e-bike. An e-bike will make this excursion a piece of cake. There are several rental stations and the rental costs are rather reasonable at 20 to 30 Euro a day. The Bolzano region plays an exemplary role with regard to e-bikes. There are special e-bike tours, which mainly address families with children. The first regional e-bike pleasure tour leads from Caldaro via Appiano to Frangarto, on to Bolzano and again, back to Caldaro. Arriving in Caldaro, you can extend the tour with a round tour

Christian Haas

Born in 1974, studied geology in Eichstätt and Munich, his current hometown. Since 2002, he has been working as a freelance travel journalist for newspapers, magazines, online platforms and book publishers like 'Süddeutsche Zeitung', 'Abenteuer und Reisen', 'Merian' and 'Focus Online'. His personal focus lies on the Alps, outdoor and family topics – and South Tyrol combines the three of them!
www.texttaten.de



South Tyrol bike hire | There are 20 hire stations spread throughout South Tyrol, 5000 top bikes, 600 e-bikes and a practically perfect hire service. Information, bookings and tour tips can be accessed at.
www.suedtirol-rad.com

Augustour | In June 2018, the Augustour will include three stages from Lago di Resia through the Val Venosta to Merano, Bolzano, and on to the Val d'Adige all the way to Trento. The aim is to show all cyclists – be it with a trekking bike, mountain-bike, road bike or E-bike, the beauty of nature and culture along the Roman Via Claudia Augusta.
www.augustour.it

Take a swim | 300 day of sunshine, the warmest swimming lakes in the Alps and many public swimming pools are sure to make your holiday in South Tyrol become a real adventure – from May to September. You prefer to jump into a swimming pool? You can do that not only in hotels, but also at many agritourism and bed & breakfast.
www.bolzanosurroundings.info

Into the woods | It is the largest recreation zone in South Tyrol and is open to locals and visitors alike. The Monticolo Forest is ideal for comfortable walks and extensive hiking trips, early-morning runs, family-friendly as well as demanding cycling tours. 100 hectare of mixed forests are under protection, including the Spring Valley (Valle della Primavera), which shows full bloom at the end of February/beginning of March.
www.eppan.com

Golfing with ease | 10,000 m2 of green and water surfaces, nine holes and an unmistakable panoramic landscape that reaches from the nature park Gruppo di Tessa to the nature park Sciliar-Catinaccio make the 'Blue Monster' golf course in Riva di Sotto-Appiano, from mid February until mid December, a truly special golf course.
www.golfandcountry.it

River Boating | Gliding along the Adige river, enjoying the surrounding nature. River boating is an adventure for all the family and for groups of all ages. The boat trip is about two hours long, starts in Lana/Postal and ends in Sigmundskron, and can be booked nearly every day from April to October. www.xsund.it

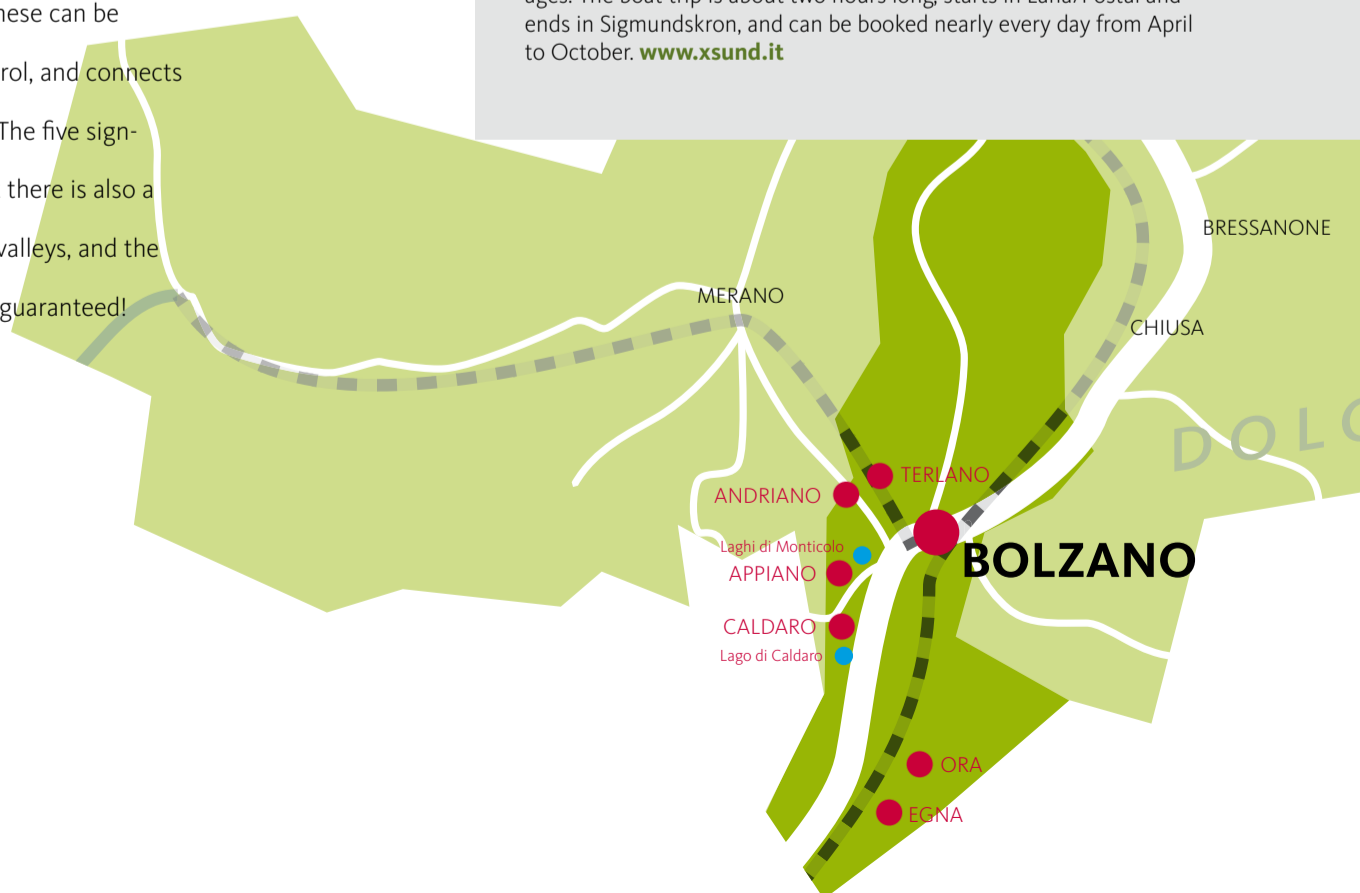
< Enjoyment made easy! There are many inns along the South Tyrolean Wine Road – and here you'll also find the Drescher Cellar in Caldaro built in Oltradige architecture.

of Lake Caldaro or end it with a swim in the warmest bathing lake in the Alps.

If you cannot get enough of cycling, choose one of the many multi-day tours on offer.

My tip: Try the new 'South Tyrolean cycling track', with two variations. These can be easily followed with a map or an app. It covers 270 km through South Tyrol, and connects Bolzano, Bressanone, Brunico, Merano, Vipiteno, Chiusa, and Glorenza. The five sign-posted and mostly flat stages lead to the seven cities in South Tyrol. But there is also a lot to be discovered along the route: the many castles, the idyllic green valleys, and the calming sounds of clear streams and lakes. It is a true pleasure with fun guaranteed!

■ Christian Haas





From Castle to Castle

‘Seyd gegrüßt – Welcome’

is the phrase with which the castle’s innkeeper Roman Perfler welcomes his guests.

At Castel Salorno/Haderburg Castle, above Salorno, you can return to the Middle Ages with medieval food and music. Castel Salorno, which can only be reached by foot, provides the starting point for a tour of the numerous castles in Bolzano and environs. There are nine castles nearby and you will pass all of them during your hike.

Haderburg Castle stands on the southern border of South Tyrol. It was once constructed as a fortified castle to secure the route from Germany to Italy (or to attack and raid travellers). From the picturesque castle ruins, you can enjoy a view of the entire Bolzano and environs region all the way to the Main Alpine Ridge. Another 15 minutes by car (or almost three hours by foot) to the north, there is another remarkable ruin: Castelfeder. This fortress dates back to the Bronze Age. It is located on the Castelfeder hill between Montagna, Egna, and Ora. The castle can be reached from the valley after a short hike with a difference in altitude of about 150 m. This hill in the Bassa Atesina region has always served as a defence facility and cult attraction. On the other side of the Adige River are two more castles: the Laimburg ruin and the Castelchiario ruin above Lake

Caldaro, at the transition from the Bassa Atesina to the Oltradige region. You can drive to the Kreith Pass and then continue by foot along a short ascent. From Castelchiario which was constructed in 1200 and abandoned in 1610 you can enjoy a fantastic panoramic view of Appiano. The Appiano castle triangle includes the Castel Hocheppan, Boymont ruin and Korb Castle, which can be reached in a three-hour circular walk starting in Missiano. Worth a visit is the Hocheppan castle chapel with its Roman fresco cycle, that shows typical motives of this area, like the South Tyrolean dumplings, sausages and so on. Also, the Chalk Tower, which can be reached within a 10-minute walk and the castle inn, of course. Not far from it, you find the romantic residential castle Boymont, which is managed by farmers and offers a breath-taking view of Oltradige, the Bolzano valley basin, and Korb Castle – today a luxury hotel with a restaurant, tennis courts, and a swimming pool. Korb Castle incorporates the connection between fortified constructions of different epochs: Close to the castle is a bunker, which was built by the fascist Benito Mussolini in the 1930ies as protection against his so called ‘ally’ Adolf Hitler. It is one of a dozen bunkers, which, unlike the imposing castles, are mostly hidden from the view

Matthias Mayr

Free journalist. Study of Politics at the University of Salzburg, wrote for the daily newspaper 'Neue Südtiroler Tageszeitung' and the newspaper 'ff', today responsible for several publications. Lives and works at Salorno.



< Bolzano and environs features many castles and manors. Appiano is one of the most castle-rich regions in Europe. Some of the historic buildings now serve as a hotel, museum or, like Haderburg Castle (left) or Boymont Castle (right) as a castle inn.

Sleeping like an earl | A magical four-star castle hotel, an opulent Garni-hotel or a lordly residence: at Bolzano and environs you can lodge in such historic walls the whole year. History, culture and tradition combined with modern comfort transform your holiday into an exciting journey through time. www.bolzanosurroundings.info/castles

Dürer Trail | The German Artist Albrecht Dürer started his first Italy journey to Venice in 1494. Since the Val d'Adige Valley was flooded, he had to choose other trails. On today's Dürer Trail, leading from Salorno or Egna to Pochi and via the Sauch Ridge to the earth pyramids of Segonzano, visitors can admire memorial stones with Dürer's initials on the places, where the artist painted his works. www.duererweg.it

Cool ice holes | In a subsidence at the foot of the mountain Mendola, above S. Michele-Appiano, you can find wintry coolness also during hot summer days. An unbelievable phenomenon: from the cavities of the porphyry cliffs streams such an icy air that even icicles grow. Around 600 different plant species grow here in the tightest of spaces. You can reach the ice holes from Caldaro and S. Michele-Appiano. www.bolzanosurroundings.info

MMM Firmian | In the old walls of Castle Firmiano near Bolzano, supported by a modern structure of glass and steel, Reinhold Messner speaks about the importance of the mountains for mankind. The mountains have an enchanting effect on people and this is what you can feel in Messner's Mountain Museum Firmian. www.messner-mountain-museum.it

Castelronda Walk Bolzano | Along the 15 km long hiking route from Bolzano via San Genesio to Terlano you will find five interesting castles and castle ruins: Runkelstein Castle, the Rafenstein, Greifenstein, Helfenburg and Neuhaus ruins. On the route, there are several display boards with information on each castle and its fascinating history. www.bolzanosurroundings.info

of visitors. When crossing the fertile Adige Valley, you reach Terlano. Upon reaching the mountain slope, you will have to park your car and continue on foot. The most imposing building in this area is Maultasch Castle. From the valley, only the well-preserved donjon of the Neuhaus Castle ruin is visible. Only inside the castle itself do you get an impression of the former size of this facility. Smaller, yet worth a visit, are the Helfenburg and Greifenstein castle ruins, which can be reached via the Bolzano castle trail. If you are still not tired, continue along the Bolzano castle trail to Castel Roncolo/Runkelstein, and enjoy a combination of culture, nature, and exercise. Culture-lovers are sure to enjoy these interesting castles and their history. ■ Matthias Mayr





Spring in the cooking pot

Asparagus, sprouts, shoots, and wine

If someone stays in the Oltradige or Bassa Atesina for a while, he would not only notice the hilly vineyards, the cypresses, and the olive trees but also discover the numerous manors, castles, and fortresses around this area.

Is it this aspect that reminds one of Tuscany even though the Alps are located a few hundred kilometres from Florence? Definitely! The southern part of Bolzano is the most Mediterranean and therefore very unique part of South Tyrol, and the vineyards surrounded by the cypresses act as an introduction to the south. A significant part of the old architecture, here and further south in Tuscany, is rough, repellent, and fortified. This can have a deterrent effect on foreigners: 'Look at our fortified trapdoor. We will not surrender to any of you.' The message was once clear. However, that was a long time ago. Today's guests – especially those from the north who are fleeing their rainy hometowns – look forward to the many hours of sunshine and the picturesque landscapes in the Oltradige and Bassa Atesina regions. In spring, the food produced from local materials is more than abundant and the restaurants but also little family-run huts await hungry tourists looking for South Tyrolean delights. Since always, fresh spruce heads are

collected to make honey. The wild asparagus, hop shoots, and wood sorrel give the menu a fresh touch after the long winters. The pleasurable highlights when travelling through the area include relaxation, hikes through herb fields, and the wine paradise. This is the idea of 'Südtirol Balance', the sensual and cosy offering for tourists on holidays looking for some deceleration. A conscious return to nature with cooking courses, guided herb excursions, workshops, and a healthy, active programme is offered from April to June. Terlano is the home of the South Tyrolean asparagus. Passionate hosts like Patauner and Schwarz-Huber have been growing asparagus for the last 100 years to attract the city people from Bolzano and Merano to their restaurants in the countryside. They were and still are known for offering thick asparagus, delicious typical 'Bozner-Sauce' and of course warm hospitality. In the asparagus triangle between Settequerce, Terlano, and Vilpiano, probably the most important gourmet event in spring – the traditional Asparagus Weeks – is organised every year from the start of April to the end of May. A group of fifteen asparagus farmers from Terlano grow high-quality mild asparagus on an area covering more than 10 hectares. The protected name of the Terlano asparagus, 'Margarete', reminds

Wolfgang Maier

Wolfgang Maier who grew up in a winery in Tramin on the Wine Road, is a publisher, essayist and author. His works include 'Südtiroler Wein Lesen' Innsbruck 2004; 'Bozen, wo es am besten schmeckt', Bozen - Vienna, 2001; 'Schnaps als eine schwarze Kunst betrachtet', Bozen 2014. In collaboration with World Shops South Tyrol, he is co-project manager of 'fair & local cooking' events.



Spotlight on Asparagus | Asparagus weeks, asparagus hosts, asparagus festival: On hikes, visitors can discover the work of asparagus growers and the marketing of this fine vegetable. Whilst visiting asparagus fields you can watch the farmers at work or hop onto one of the horse-drawn carriages rides offer excursions in the surrounding area. www.terlan.info

eppanBike | Days | During the eppanBike | Days from 7th to 14th April 2018, professional bike guides will provide you with insider tips for bikers in and around Appiano during daily guided tours. Special highlights like the Sanvit Bike Festival where bike news and top brands are presented and a night tour through the forests in Appiano guarantee for great fun. www.eppan.com

Wine Hiking Days | Insights into cellar architecture, on-site wine tastings, culinary delights, experiencing a spring day with family and friends: this is the Wine Hiking Day through Caldaro on 29th of April 2018. The motto of the Gewürztraminer Wine Hiking Day taking place in Termeno and surroundings on 28th of May, is: experience, discover and enjoy the landscape and the wine. www.kaltern.com; www.tramin.com

Spaghetti & Knödel | The German-Italian mixture can be found on the menu of restaurants and guesthouses. The Alpine-Mediterranean, South Tyrolean cuisine offers you great variety: Italian classics such as pizza, pasta and risotto and substantial meals such as 'Knödel' (dumplings) or 'Kaiserschmarrn' (sweet pancakes) will remind you of traditional mountain cuisine and the Habsburgs.

< Colourful spring! Young vegetables and fresh Terlano asparagus are served from the start of April. The spring creations are a pleasure for the eye and the palate.



one of a historic personality from Terlan: Margarethe von Maultasch, the Empress of Tyrol in the Middle Ages.

The brilliant South Tyrolean chef, Herbert Hintner, together with all the big and small wineries in Appiano, was one of the initiators of the avant-garde culinary delicatessen month in May - 'eppanCulinaria: Vegetables meet Wine'. This culinary highlight in Appiano celebrates spring with not only Alpine-Mediterranean delights like grey cheese, goat cheese, mountain pine, and truffles, but also radicchio, asparagus, beetroot, and other aromatic plants, which provide the base for soothing fragrances, caring oils, and medicinal substances. Alongside this, the best wines of Appiano - from White Burgundy to Sauvignon, Vernatsch to Pinot Noir, and Pinot Grigio to Gewürztraminer -awaken the feelings of spring. Spring makes the asparagus and the wine grow. ■ Wolfgang Maier



scenting | **Apple blossom.** Spring in Bolzano and environs

starts at the beginning of April with the apple blossom: Millions of apple trees bloom and turn the landscape into a scented sea of flowers while the surrounding mountains are still covered in snow. The first heralds of spring are already blooming at the end of February/ beginning of March in the Valle della Primavera Valley (Spring Valley) between Monticolo and Caldarò. www.bolzanosurroundings.info



international | **Pinot Noir Days.** Only a few micro-zones

in South Tyrol around Mazzon/Egna, Montagna, Pochi/Salorno, Appiano, and Val Venosta offer the ideal conditions for growing Pinot Noir. During the 20th edition of the South Tyrol Pinot Noir Days from 4th to 7th May 2018, the best Pinot Noir wines from all over the world can be tasted. Get ready for great fun during the Wine Party and the Pinot Noir Nights.

www.blauburgunder.it



flavourful | **South Tyrolean Wine Road Weeks.** Culinary

and cultural events will run from 21st April to 9th June 2018 and offer an insight into the world of wine. Sixteen wine villages form the stage to a varied programme of inspiring meetings with sommeliers, wine cellar managers and wine farmers, enjoyable events and unique locations. The Wine Cellar Night on 9th June 2018 will be a special highlight and final event.

www.suedtiroler-weinstrasse.it



cheerful | **Appiano Humour Festival.** Laughter is on the

daily agenda in Appiano from 7th to 22nd June 2018. The Appiano Humour Festival is scheduled to take place in the extraordinary location of the Seeschlössl at Lake Monticolo for the second time. Visitors can look forward to cultural delights for the eyes and the ears. Renowned cabaret artists, comedians, and humoristic music bands guarantee a cheerful time.

www.eppan.com



10 great moments

ALONG THE SOUTH TYROLEAN WINE ROAD

historical | **Castelronda.** On the 9th and 10th of June six renowned castles around Bolzano and Appiano open their doors and enchant visitors with an exciting and varied programme. The event focuses on living history and invites visitors to enjoy a fascinating time journey. Step inside! For two days you can visit historic walls from various eras, get to know the different construction styles and stories during the many special events and join experts in the exciting world of legends and myths. www.eppan.com



attractive | **Long Summer Evenings.** Long, longer, the longest! Conquer mountain summits, ride bikes, cool off in bathing lakes, or admire cultural treasures during the day. Then enjoy the Mediterranean flair in the evening. In July and August, the long summer evenings and small village festivals in Andriano, Appiano, Caldaro, and Termeno await you. Head there for a stroll or a shopping tour and culinary delights. www.bolzanosurroundings.info



savoury | **Törggelen, an autumn tradition.** Hiking, wine tasting, enjoying farmhouse specialties and a constant celebration. During the month of October, when the wine-growing estates fill their barrels with new wine and when the chestnuts are ready for the harvest, it is traditional Törggelen time with rural restaurants and taverns offering hearty farming cuisine. www.bolzanosurroundings.info



tasty | **Wine Culture Weeks.** Picturesque alleys, courtyards and jutties make up the setting for an event, which combines wine, culture and hospitality in a truly unique way from 19th to 29th July. The event starts with a wine promenade including tastings of noble wines from Appiano, followed by a series of other culinary wine events. The gastronomic highlight is 'The festive table': 300 guests sit at a more than 130 m long table and are treated with culinary delights. www.eppan.com



enchanting | **Advent.** Like the popular Christmas market in Bolzano, the wine villages impress with their Christmas lights, and a quiet and contemplative atmosphere. The picturesque alleyways of San Paolo turn into a unique outdoor crib exhibition and Egna features a 'living crib'. Christmas in Caldaro and Salorno is characterized by an enchanting and cosy ambience. www.bolzanosurroundings.info



musical | **Lake Stage Performances and Pop Festival.** Music buzzes around Caldaro! At the legendary Lake Stage Performances which takes place on the 24th and 31st July and on 7th August 2018 on the lake stage with unique shows and a tingling atmosphere. And again, at the end of season on the occasion of the 4th Kaltern Pop Festival from 25th to 27th October with voices and sounds from Europe and from all over the world. www.kaltern.com





Architecture Influenced by Wine

A talk with Leo Andergassen

Discussion with art historian, author, and director of the South Tyrolean Museum for Culture and History on Tirolo Castle, Leo Andergassen, about the special architecture in the Oltradige region.

What is so special about the architecture along the South Tyrolean Wine Road?

What is unique are the facilities located in the settlement centres and the proportion of buildings in the periphery. San Paolo, San Michele, and the village centre of Caldaro were built as street settlements. In the centres, you find infrastructure like guesthouses, handicraft companies, and traders. In the periphery, there are mostly stately residential homes.

How does the architecture in the wine villages differ from that in the mountain villages?

The closed streets can be seen as an addition to the single wine farms. Everywhere, you see access doors, which lead to the commercial buildings at the back. So, the wine business mainly took place in the village cores. The mountain villages, on the other hand, are usually characterized by scattered settlements.

Peter A. Seebacher

State-certified journalist, communicative, trained political scientist, wine & food enthusiast, print lover, new media junky and twitterer, and deeply rooted South Tyrolean with great wanderlust. He loves to hike the mountains with his family in summer and winter, and actually wants only one thing: up to the top. Except in those moments, when he is in a wine cellar.



Why have these differences emerged?

The differences are due to social and economic requirements, combined with the wish for representative architecture. Apart from Nalles and Terlano, the wine villages along the Wine Road are characterized by closed streets, which, in this form, date back to the Middle Ages, but have been redesigned during early modern times. A tendency towards airy shapes and open-plan buildings can be noticed. The street fronts, however, are closed off.

What is the exact meaning of the term 'Oltradige construction style'?

The term 'Oltradige construction style' was introduced by the art historian Josef Weingartner in the early 20th century. It marks the construction habits of early modern times, and describes the construction style between 1550 and 1650. The relatively tranquil political situation during the Thirty Years' War made the Oltradige region a preferred place for the Innsbruck nobility, who moved to the farms here and started their wine businesses. The Comacini construction masters introduced an Italian construction style, which was oriented on Renaissance shapes. The 'open-plan' constructions led to bigger and more windows. Bifora and trifora windows brought more air into the buildings. Central halls created stately business rooms from which it was possible to enter the private areas of the inhabitants. The entrance was characterized by open staircases and loggias, and corridors were moved outside the building.

Nowadays, some wineries try to find a balance between old and new architecture. Is this possible?

Each period has the right to be authentic and to not be reproduced in its shapes. There are excellent and exemplary solutions with regard to cellar construction. Just think of the Manincor Winery designed by Walter Angonese or the Termeno Winery designed by Werner Tscholl. ■ Peter A. Seebacher



Awarded for pleasure

High-quality food, handicraft art and creativity are the ingredients of South Tyrolean gastronomy, which receive

high praise in the best Restaurant Guides. The gastronomy has an equal partner in local wine producers: Italian and international wine guides test the quality of South Tyrolean red, white and sparkling wines on a regular basis, and honour the best of them with valuable awards.

WINE GUIDES

FALSTAFF WEIN GUIDE 2017/2018 93-98 POINTS	VINI BUONI D'ITALIA 2018 LE CORONE	GAMBERO ROSSO 2018 TRE BICCHIERI
98 Terlaner 1991 Rarity Cantina Terlano	Gewürztraminer Brenntal 2015 Cantina Cortaccia	Pinot Bianco Sanct Valentin 2015 Cantina San Michele, Appiano
96 Appius 2012 Cantina San Michele, Appiano	Gewürztraminer Lunare 2015 Cantina Terlano	Pinot Bianco Sirmian 2016 Cantina Nalles Magrè
95 Terlaner Sauvignon Quarz 2015 Cantina Terlano	Gewürztraminer Nussbaumer 2015 Cantina Termeno	Pinot Grigio Riserva Giatl 2015 Peter Zemmer, Cortina ssdv
95 Gewürztraminer Nussbaumer 2015 Cantina Termeno	Schiava Gschleier Vecchie Vigne 2015 Cantina Cornaiano, Appiano	Chardonnay Laföa 2015 Cantina Colterenzio, Appiano
95 Pinot Nero Riserva Vigna Ganger 2014 Cantina Cornaiano, Appiano	Kalterersee Classico Superiore Plantaditsch 2016 Tenuta Klosterhof, Caldaro	Terlaner Sauvignon Quarz 2015 Cantina Terlano
94 Lieben Aich Sauvignon 2015 Tenuta Manincor, Caldaro	Santa Maddalena Moar 2015 Cantina Bolzano	Müller Thurgau Feldmarschall von Fenner 2015 Tiefenbrunner, Cortaccia
94 Terlaner Riserva Nova Domus 2014 Cantina Terlano	Santa Maddalena Classico Rondell 2016 Glöggelhof – Gojer Franz, Bolzano	Gewürztraminer Auratus Crescendo 2016 Ritterhof, Caldaro
94 Sauvignon Blanc Riserva Rachtl 2014 Tiefenbrunner, Cortaccia	Lagrein Mirell 2014 Ansitz Waldgries – Christian Plattner, Bolzano	Gewürztraminer Riserva Brenntal 2015 Cantina Cortaccia
94 Gewürztraminer Vend. Tardiva Terminum 2014 Cantina Termeno	Lagrein Riserva Abtei Muri 2014 Cantina Muri-Gries, Bolzano	Gewürztraminer Nussbaumer 2015 Cantina Termeno
93 Chardonnay Riserva Vigna AU 2014 Tiefenbrunner, Cortaccia	Lagrein Riserva Grafenleiten 2015 Obermoser – Thomas Rottensteiner, Bolzano	Kalterersee Classico Superiore Pfarrhof 2016 Cantina Caldaro
93 Terlaner Pinot Bianco Vorberg 2014 Cantina Terlano	Lagrein Riserva Sond 2015 Thomas Pichler, Caldaro	Santa Maddalena Classico Antheos 2016 Ansitz Waldgries – Christian Plattner, Bolzano
93 Sauvignon Blanc Oberberg 2015 Tenuta Kornell, Terlano	Moscato Giallo Passito Salvadori 2014 Cantina Nalles Magrè	Santa Maddalena Classico Rondell 2016 Glöggelhof – Franz Gojer, Bolzano
93 Sauvignon Mantele 2016 Cantina Nalles Magrè	Gewürztraminer Vendemia Tardiva Terminum 2014 Cantina Termeno	Pinot Nero Schweizer 2013 Franz Haas, Montagna
93 Sauvignon Sanct Valentin 2016 Cantina San Michele, Appiano		Pinot Nero Riserva Trattmann Mazon 2014 Cantina Cornaiano, Appiano
93 Sauvignon Tannenberg 2015 Tenuta Manincor, Caldaro		Lagrein Riserva Abtei Muri 2014 Cantina Muri-Gries, Bolzano
		Lagrein Riserva Staves 2014 Tenuta Kornell, Terlano
		Lagrein Riserva Taber 2015 Cantina Bolzano
		Riserva Extra Brut 1919 2011 Kettmeir, Caldaro

GOURMET GUIDE

RISTORANT	Locality	+39	MICHELIN GUIDA ROSSA 2017	GAULT MILLAU ÖSTERREICH 2017	GAMBERO ROSSO 2017	GUIDA DELL'ESPRESSO 2017	OSTERIE D'ITALIA 2017
Bistro Arôme	Bolzano	0471 313030		13/20 ▲			
Bistro Humus	Bolzano	0471 971961		12,5/20			
Forsterbräu	Bolzano	0471 977243	🍴				
Gasthaus Haselburg	Bolzano	0471 402130		13/20		mentioned	
Gasthof Kohlern	Bolzano	0471 329978	🍴	13/20		mentioned	
Restaurant Laurin	Bolzano	0471 311000	🍴	15/20	80/100	mentioned	
Ristorante Löwengrube	Bolzano	0471 970032	🍴	14/20	79/100	mentioned	
Ristorante Lunas	Bolzano	0471 975642	🍴	12,5/20			
Wirtshaus Vögele	Bolzano	0471 973938	🍴		mentioned	mentioned	
Gasthaus Weißes Rössl	Bolzano	0471 973267			↓	mentioned	
Ristorante Zur Kaiserkrone	Bolzano	0471 303233		15/20	mentioned ▲	mentioned	
Gasthof Tiefthalerhof	San Genesio	348 033391					mentioned
Gasthof Lanzenschuster	San Genesio	0471 340012					mentioned
Gasthof Patauner	Terlano	0471 918502	🍴	12,5/20			
Ristorante Schwarzer Adler	Andriano	0471 510288					mentioned
Landgasthof Bad Turmbach	Appiano	0471 662339	🍴				
Ristorante Zur Rose	Appiano	0471 662249	🍴	17/20	88/100	🍷	
Ristorante Ansitz Pillhof	Appiano	0471 633100				mentioned	
Ristorante L'Arena, Weinegg	Appiano	0471 662511	🍴	14/20			
Ristorante Ritterhof	Caldaro	0471 963330		14/20	mentioned	mentioned	
Ristorante Siegi's	Caldaro	0471 665721				mentioned	
Taberna Romani	Termeno	0471 860010		14/20	↓↓		
Gasthaus Schwarz Adler	Cortaccia	0471 880224	🍴	13/20		mentioned	
Gasthof Dorfnerhof	Montagna	0471 819798	🍴				mentioned
Ristorante Johnson & Dipoli	Egna	0471 820323	🍴			mentioned	
Gasthof Fichtenhof	Salorno	0471 889028					mentioned
Fischerwirt	Val Sarentino	0471 625523		13/20 ▲			
Ristorante Terra	Val Sarentino	0471 623055	🍴	17/20		🍷	
Ristorante Braunwirt	Val Sarentino	0471 620165		15/20		mentioned	
Gasthof Ansitz Kematen	Renon	0471 356356	🍴				
Gasthaus Patscheiderhof	Renon	0471 365267	🍴	13/20	↓↓		mentioned
Bistro im Parkhotel Holzner	Renon	0471 345231		14/20			
Ristorante 1908, Parkhotel Holzner	Renon	0471 345232		15/20			
Gasthaus Signaterhof	Renon	0471 365353		13/20			🍷
Ristorante Zirmerhof Stube 1600	Redagno	0471 887215	🍴	13/20			
Ristorante Krone	Aldino	0471 886825	🍴	14/20	77/100 ▲	mentioned	
Ristorante Ploner	Aldino	0471 886556	🍴			mentioned	
Gasthaus Kürbishof	Anterivo	0471 882140	🍴	13/20	↓	mentioned	🍷

365 days | Dolomites

Hiking, climbing, biking, skiing or simple amazement: The Dolomites, UNESCO World Heritage Site since 2009, and according to Reinhold Messner 'the most beautiful mountains in the world', offer wonderful nature experiences between high-alpine pastures, twisty pass roads, rough peaks and marking rock formations, during all seasons.

www.suedtirol.info



365 days | South Tyrolean cycling track

7 cities, 5 stages, 2 wheels: The South Tyrolean cycling track connects the various cities of South Tyrol with an adventurous cycling tour. The mix of Alpine and Mediterranean landscape guarantees a variety on each and every kilometre. As a guest you will be impressed by the cultural variety and the vibrant life in the historic main towns of the region.

www.suedtirol-radweg.it

March – November | Trauttmansdorff Castle

Plants from all over the world bloom and grow in more than 80 garden landscapes. No matter whether young or old, botanic expert or amateur, the Gardens of Trauttmansdorff Castle in Merano provide a unique mix of botanic gardens and leisure time attraction. The castle hosts the Touriseum, which covers 200 years of tourism history in Tyrol and Merano. www.trauttmansdorff.it

April – June | South Tyrol Balance

Stimulate your inner balance between Mediterranean landscapes and some impressive Alpine scenery. With the special BALANCE-offers from April to June, you will experience a well-balanced interaction between motivating exercises, recreational relaxation and healthy food-pleasures. Find your inner balance in the unique nature landscape of South Tyrol.

www.suedtirol.info/balance

Easter – November | Messner Mountain Museum

Six locations, six exhibitions, six adventures: The Messner Mountain Museum is a meeting point for mountains, humans and also each individual. Each visit is like a mountain tour, especially in nice weather, and an MMM round tour (with the MMM tour ticket) provides a unique experience!

www.messner-mountain-museum.it

362 Days | Ötzi, the Iceman

About 5,300 years ago, a man crossed the Tisen pass in Val Senales in South Tyrol. He was murdered there and his body was preserved by the ice. Today, the Iceman Ötzi can be visited in one of the most renowned museums in the world – the South Tyrolean Museum of Archaeology in Bolzano. The exhibition includes valuable objects that were discovered together with the Iceman. www.iceman.it

October | International Mountain Summit

For the past 10 years, the International Mountain Summit has attracted many visitors to Bressanone. Fans of the mountains and alpinism have a unique chance to meet the best and most popular mountaineers, climbers, mountain scientists, and philosophers, as well as other extraordinary people. Attendees can get to know their life stories in a wonderful setting surrounded by the summits of the Dolomites.

www.ims.bz

November | Merano WineFestival

At the beginning of November, the stylish ambience of the Kurhaus in Merano plays venue to one of the most important wine fares in Europe, the Merano WineFestival. The best wines and delicacies from all over the world can be tasted during the three days of the Festival. Tasted and rated are also different beers and spirits from the best breweries and distilleries in Europe. www.meranowinefestival.com

30th November – 6th January 2018 | Christmas Markets

The five original South Tyrolean Christmas Markets are as essential during the Christmas period in South Tyrol as the Silent Night song on Christmas Eve. Look forward to magical moments at the meeting point of cultures in the capital of Bolzano, the spa town of Merano, the former Bishops' town of Bressanone, the lively city of Brunico, and the merchants' town of Vipiteno. www.suedtirol.info

365 days | Mobility in South Tyrol

The Mobilcard gives you unlimited access to all public means of transport in South Tyrol, while the museumobil Card adds the entry to more than 90 museums and collections in South Tyrol. Tip: Many accommodations automatically hand out the guestcards (RittenCard, Winepass PLUS or Bolzano Card Plus) based on the museumobil Card with many more interesting additional services.

www.bolzanosurroundings.info

SOUTH TYROL top 10

timeless

visit cities, meet Ötzi, admire gardens
discover the Dolomites, climb mountains
healthy pleasure and sustainable mobility