

Culturonda® Dolomythos

12 ways to explore culture and customs in the Dolomites



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



World Heritage
Convention

SÜDTIROL

The other side of Italy

Your first cultural experience: reading

Directions for a tour through this brochure:

1. Leaf it through like a picture book. Forward and backward – just as you please.
2. You will see, in the Dolomites culture is far more than conquering mountaintops or making merry in a hut.



3. Now deepen your impressions. On the following pages you find links for internet research and reading tips.
4. The map at the end of the brochure shows 40 cultural experience points that testify to the tight connection between culture and feeling of being alive in the Dolomites.


Your second cultural experience: travelling



Culturonda® Dolomythos: 12 ways to experience culture in the Dolomites

There was a time, when climbing was a real frivolity. What sense should climbing a mountain have? Was there enough air to breathe high up in the mountains? Even in the Dolomites the mountain people didn't really want to go up there just for fun. It was the townspeople who discovered this passion. Thus pretty weird rope parties came to hang in the mountains: with tourists looking at the peak, and guides looking for crystals and chamois. The first made the Dolomites world-famous, the second made a living out of them.

200 years ago the mountains lost their fright and turned into a popular recreational space. The high Dolomites valleys were opened up and explored, Grandhotels offered comfort with a view, one mountaintop was sportily conquered after another. Gradually the Bleach Mountains – thus the Dolomites are called from time immemorial – revealed their secrets and unfolded a multifaceted life and culture history. According to Reinhold Messner they are the most beautiful mountains in the world. In 2009 the Dolomites were designated a UNESCO world natural heritage site. 250 million years of moved geology formed the natural wonder Dolomites



out of coral reefs. The region has been populated since the Iron Age. Raetians, Romans, Lombards left their traces, during World War I Austria and Italy traced their armed front through the mountains. Their long-lasting “conquerors” are the Ladins, the most ancient population of the Dolomites and today the third South Tyrolean language group. For millenniums the mountains have been their world, both as God’s creation and as devil’s handiwork. Hundreds of legends about witches, wild men, mysterious magic kingdoms give a key to everyday life in this world that was dominated by the power of nature for long.

Culturonda Dolomythos wants to forward this special cultural experience in the Bleak Mountains, and for this reason it has chosen twelve experience themes. With Culturonda Dolomythos those who wish not only to enjoy the superb landscape but also to understand the people and the myths of the Dolomites find a compact access to this high-contrast South Tyrolean cultural landscape.

| A trip into primeval times: www.bletterbach.info



| The rose garden of King Laurin: www.rosengarten-latemar.com



| A link between north and south: www.suedtirol.info/handicraft



| The minnesinger of the Dolomites: www.wolkenstein-gesellschaft.com



| Legends of the Dolomites: www.suedtiroel.info/legends



| The evolution of tourism in the Dolomites: www.grandhotel-toblach.com



| The pioneers of mountaineering: www.touriseum.it



| The fronts of World War I: www.lagazuoi5torri.dolomiti.org



| Mountain lakes and play of colours: www.valledibraies.info



| The Dolomites among mountains, peoples, languages: www.altabadia.org



| Natural monument: www.altapusteria.info



| Conservation areas: www.provinz.bz.it/nature-parks







| January | February | March

- Swing on Snow Alpe di Siusi/Seiser Alm: www.swingonsnow.com
- Snow Sculptures Festival in San Candido/Innichen and San Vigilio/St. Vigil: www.snow-festival.com
- Dolomiti Balloonfestival: www.balloonfestival.com
- The Farmers' Wedding in Castelrotto/Kastelruth: www.seiseralm.it/en/discover/culture/traditions
- Val Casies/Gsies Knödel Marathon: www.gsieser-tal.com
- Val Gardena Sprint: www.valgardena.it
- Südtirol Gardenissima: www.gardenissima.eu
- Sellaronda Skimarathon: www.sellaronda.it
- Pustertal Valley Ski-Marathon: www.ski-marathon.com
- Skikjöring and horse-drawn sleigh competitions in La Villa - Alta Badia: www.altabadia.org

April

May



| April | May | June

- Alta Pusteria International Choir Festival: www.festivalpusteria.org
- South Tyrol Jazzfestival in Brunico/Bruneck: www.suedtiroljazzfestival.com
- Summer Classics in Siusi/Seis: www.seiseralm.it/en/discover/culture/musicfestivals
- Summer on Presule Castle: www.schloss-proesels.it
- Oswald von Wolkenstein Riding Tournament:
www.seiseralm.it/en/discover/active/summer/horseback-riding

July

August

September



| July | August | September

- Sculpture Fair Unika in Val Gardena:
www.unika.org
- Schlern International Music Festival:
www.schlernmusicfestival.org
- ValgardenaMUSIKA:
www.valgardenamusika.com
- Folclore Festival: www.valgardena.it
- Gustav Mahler Musical Weeks:
www.gustav-mahler.it
- Lessons of Ladin cuisine at the farm Sotciastel in Badia - Alta Badia:
www.altabadia.org
- Traditional Ferragosto procession in La Villa - Alta Badia:
www.altabadia.org
- High pasture plays on the pasture Fodara Vedla:
www.fodara.it
- Witches' dance during the theatre week in San Martino/St. Martin: www.kronplatz.com
- "Eggentaler Schupfenfest" on the pastures of the Ega valley:
www.obereggen.com
- King Laurin's barn hike in Carezza/Karersee:
www.schupfenwanderung.com
- Guided hiking tours in the Nature Parks:
www.provinz.bz.it/nature-parks

October

December



For all events see: www.suedtirol.info/events

| October | November | December

- Long Night of South Tyrolean museums: www.provinz.bz.it/lange-nacht-museen
- Kastelruther Spatzen Festival: www.kastelrutherspatzen.de (in German only)
- Culture Autumn Gais: www.kulturweg-gais.it
- Market in Stegona/Stegen: www.bruneck.com
- Saint Leonhard horse parade in Alta Badia: www.altabadia.org
- FIS Ski World Cup Gardena-Gröden: www.saslong.org
- Speckfest in Santa Maddalena/St. Magdalena - Val di Funes/Villnöss: www.speckfest.it
- Christmas in Castelrotto: www.kastelruther-weihnacht.com (in German and Italian only)
- Christmas Market in Brunico/Bruneck: www.bruneck.com



Further reading

» The first world war in the Alps



The first World War in the Alps with the moving diary
"We are making peace"
Michael Wachtler
Publisher: Athesia Spectrum

» Guide to the Touriseum



Little guide to the Touriseum:
A trip round the Museum of
Tourism, published in June 2004
by South Tyrol Museum of Tourism
Trauttmansdorff Castel.
Josef Rohrer
Available through the Provincial
Museum for Tourism, the
"Touriseum": Tel.: +39 0473 270 172
info@touriseum.it

» The Dolomites.



Mountains of Coral. Origins,
History, Natural Attractions.
The world of nature. Origin,
story and nature.
Andrea Innocenti
Publisher: Bonechi

museumobil Card



- » The museumobil card combines two offerings: The South Tyrol-wide Mobilcard and admission to South Tyrol's museums.

For three or seven days purchasers of the museumobil card are entitled to free admission to South Tyrol's museums and use of public transport. Use of public transport is unlimited for the period, while free admission to museums is limited to one visit per card-holder.

Information at www.mobilcard.info

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Holiday Regions and Nature Parks in the Dolomites

- » Information Alta Pusteria/Hochpustertal
www.altapusteria.info
- » Information Plan de Corones/Kronplatz
www.plandecorones.com
- » Information Alta Badia
www.altabadia.org
- » Information Val Gardena/Gröden
www.valgardena.it
- » Information Alpe di Siusi/Seiser Alm
www.alpedisiusi.info
- » Information Catinaccio-Latemar
www.rosengarten-latemar.com
- » Nature Parks of South Tyrol
www.provinz.bz.it/nature-parks

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