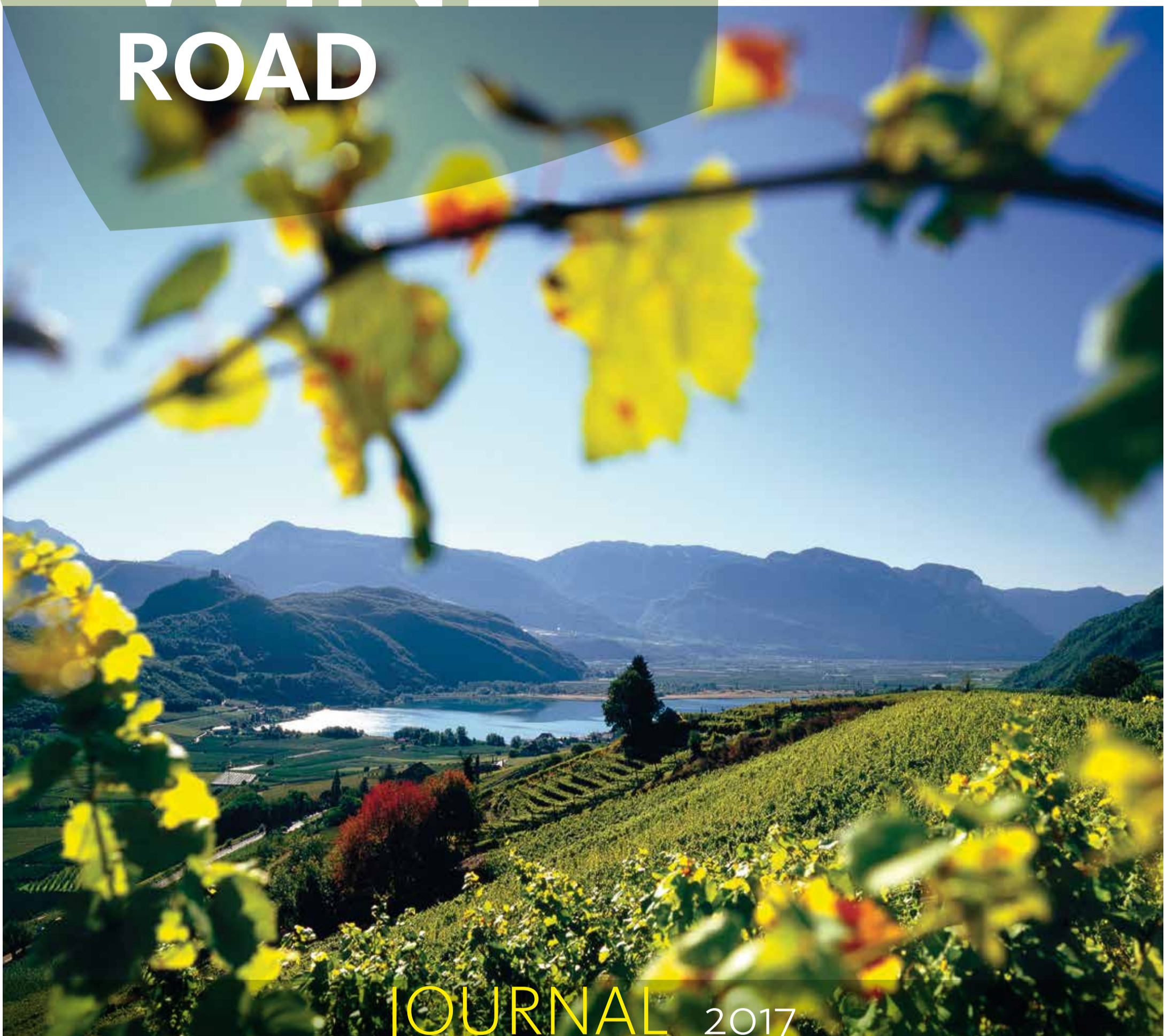


South Tyrol WINE

ROAD



JOURNAL 2017

mediterranean

South Tyrolean Wine Road, the biggest wine paradise in South Tyrol
Through vine landscapes by bike
South Tyrolean cuisine – Quo vadis?



> White wines with an intense aroma grow on the sunny steep slopes to the north-east of Bolzano, while the St. Magdalener red wine grows on the hill of the same name to one of the most noble and strong Vernatsch types in South Tyrol.

Enjoy with all your senses |

Christian Haas loves to **hike to the left and right of the South Tyrolean Wine Road**. Be it in spring when the snow-covered Dolomite peaks contrast with the white blooming orchards, or in spring when the leaves of the vineyards and the mixed forests at higher altitudes glow in the most beautiful colours. Peter Righi has a tip for all those who want that little bit more. He is very fond of **E-bike excursions**.

Lisa Maria Kager brings the **feeling of the vast ocean to the narrow foothills of the Val d'Adige Valley**. Be it a party on the pier or an ice-cream sundae on the shores of Lake Caldaro... a Mediterranean climate, surrounded by vineyards, a Lake Garda feeling throughout the year, just less crowded. Skating over the frozen Monticolo lakes just outside Appiano in winter, cycling over the root stocks and pine needles with your mountain-bike in summer.

Wolfgang Maier is amazed by the **elegant aroma of cherries that the Pinot Noir** from Mazzon near Montagna features as a result of the cool September nights. He is impressed by the Gewürztraminer from the opposite side of the valley, whose grapes mature around the harbour of Sella near Termeno at an altitude of 600 metres above sea level. Peter Seebacher tells us where the treasures of the South Tyrolean Wine Road are hidden: Looking for the dark side of wine, he enters the wine cellars.

And there is **star chef Herbert Hintner**, who has been working in the cuisine of the restaurant 'Zur Rose' in Appiano for 44 years. Not only does he have his very own idea of good cuisine, behind the scenes he holds cooking courses and provides suggestions and ideas for the 'Südtirol Gasthaus' group. Wolfgang Maier was talking to him.

The locals truly appreciate **good wine and good food**. Therefore, the easy recipe when looking for the best wines and the best food to the left and right of the South Tyrolean Wine Road is very easy: Ask around, try it out, and simply enjoy.

Yours, Ralf Scholze

Ralf Scholze

Studied mathematics and is a theoretical physicist, trained IT specialist for mainframe computers, passionate freelance journalist and photographer, Wine&Food lover, South Tyrol junky with wanderlust, extremely curious, loves to discover the world with his wife and his two dogs, be it in the valleys of the Dolomites or in the wine cellars.



Südtirol Bolzano

WINE AND DOLOMITES IN THE ITALIAN ALPS

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urban-alpine

Bolzano Bozen, two souls in one heart
Leave the heat behind, away up the mountain you
Sport is like Music

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South Tyrolean Wine Road

The biggest wine paradise in South Tyrol. 'Prosit!' – 'Salute!' – 'Santé!' – 'Skoll!' – 'Zum Wohl!' – People have believed in the mystical and beneficial power of wine since antiquity. South Tyrol is the oldest wine growing region in the German-speaking area. Wines have been produced in this area for more than 2,500 years. >



The South Tyrolean Wine Road starts in Nalles and leads to Appiano and Caldaro.

It also leads to Bolzano via Terlano and into the Bassa Atesina region to Bronzolo, Vadena, Ora, Montagna, Egna and Salorno. From there, it continues to Magrè,

Cortaccia and Termeno via Cortina. The most well-known and, due to its cultural landscape, probably most beautiful road in South Tyrol, was established in 1964, following the example of the German Wine Road. During the Middle Iron Age (6th to 5th Century BC), the Rhaetians implemented systematic wine culture with the growing, cultivation and cutting of vines. In 15 BC, the Romans invaded the Val d'Adige Valley in the north, starting with the Po plain, and conquered the area of South Tyrol. They were amazed by the blooming wine landscape. The first Roman winemaker in South Tyrol known by name is legionnaire Cornelius, who ran an impressive wine farm in Cornaiano, near Appiano, which had splendid panoramic views. Today, an educational wine path leads through the archaic-looking wineries in Cornaiano which, for the most part, are characterised by the 'Pergeln', the traditional South Tyrolean wine arbours.

Wine characterises the landscape – the South Tyrolean Wine Road's vineyard area stretches over 4,250 hectares, which corresponds to 84% of all vineyards in South Tyrol! With a great deal of more than 1,800 hours of sun each year, the position of the vineyards

in the valley provides the ideal conditions for producing fruity, strong red wines with Alpine elegance – above all the indigenous Lagrein and Vernatsch vines. Lagrein and Vernatsch, which is also called 'Bozenäure', were identified as precious local wines in Medieval documents. The heavy, dark red Lagrein is still one of the most prominent red wines in South Tyrol. In the 20th century, the 'St. Magdalena' supervisory syndicate laid the foundations for Vernatsch wine originating from the St. Magdalena hill to receive the highest praise in wine industry magazines by holding consultations, comparative wine tastings and by drafting the St. Magdalena guidelines.

The most prominent South Tyrolean white wine is the Pinot Blanc. Excellent Pinot Blanc grows in soils with a large lime content, such as those at higher altitudes in Appiano, the biggest wine-growing community in the region. Here, the Pinot Blanc develops its special, fruity apple notes, Alpine spiciness and nervous acidity. Lake Caldaro/Kalterer See gave Vernatsch, which grows nearby, its name. Thanks to the almost Mediterranean climate, the wine develops an elegant, fruity flavour. The Lake Caldaro Vernatsch features a bright to strong ruby red colour, fruity and fresh aromas with notes of cherry, raspberry, bitter almond and violet. Kalterersee wine – produced according to the strict rules of the Kalterersee Charter – is a Vernatsch for every day and every occasion.

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



Vinum Hotels South Tyrol | 30 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 wine cellars during guided tours, seminars and tastings. www.vinumhotels.com

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

Sparkling | Since the beginning of the 19th Century, sparkling wine has been produced according to the classic bottle fermentation method. South Tyrol's manufacturers of sparkling wines, produce about 250,000 bottles per annum in careful manual work. It is marked through its fresh, sparkling finesse, its lovely dry fruitiness and typical light yeast tones. www.suedtirolersekt.it

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

< The enchanting vine landscape surrounding Termeno (left) and the villages along the South Tyrolean Wine Road are a pleasure for eye and soul. Wine growers and wineries await you for guided tours and tastings.

The South Tyrolean Wine Road is a concentrated mix of Medieval castles, Renaissance palaces, picturesque villages, baroque churches and thousands of traditional wine growers, many of which produce their own wine according to ancient tradition. In Termeno, the home of the Gewürztraminer, the clay and limestone soils in the Sella harbour, 600 m above sea level, cause the wine to develop highly exotic aromas. The hints of rose petal and fresh lychee, orange peel and acacia honey, sugar fig and grapefruit essence invoke images of 'A Thousand and One Nights in Arabia'. Italy's best Pinot Noir grows on the gentle wine terraces of Egna-Mazzon, on the opposite side of the valley. This sensitive king of red wines develops its unmistakably elegant cherry flavour during Mazzon's cool September nights. At the annual National Pinot Noir Competition, which takes place in Montagna and Egna, an international panel of judges regularly ranks the Mazzon Pinot Noir among the best. ■ Wolfgang Maier





The dark side of wine

If you enter a wine cellar along the South Tyrolean Wine Road

you enter a world that is traditional, crazy, and modern, all at once. A world which is never boring and always good for a surprise. What is a person 34 years of age, able to do with its lifetime? One can start a family, establish their own winery – and dig a 130 metre long tunnel. Dominikus Morandell has done all of that. The Dominikus Winery in Caldaro is nowadays managed by his son Georg. It is not only known for its excellent wines, but also for the hand-dug cellar which is the winery's special attraction. In 1976, Dominikus Morandell decided to lay in the grapes of his farm himself and to produce his own wine. The only problem was that there was no cellar and no money to construct one. Hence, Morandell decided to work with a pickaxe, shovel and wheelbarrow and to build his own cellar. Once started, nothing could stop him and just until 2010, he continued digging further and further underneath his vineyard. When you pass through the door to the cellar today, you enter a completely new world. The walls are neatly decorated with stones, which the constructor has personally collected in the surroundings. The centrepiece of the cellar is the tasting room with a five-metre high vault and a giant, solid wooden table which would have been worth as King Arthur's round table. When finally

taking the steep stairs to the exit, you are in the middle of the vineyard from where you can enjoy a fantastic view of Lake Caldaro and the surrounding vineyards.

Only a few kilometres further down south, there is a monument of modern South Tyrolean cellar architecture. Located at the entrance to the village of Termeno you can see the new building of the Termeno Winery, constructed in 2009 and designed by the renowned South Tyrolean architect Werner Tscholl. If you are looking for the dark side of the modern, light-flooded glass-steel-concrete building whose colour and shape is reminiscent of a vine, you have to take a look into the noble ruby-red barrique cellar where one oak barrel is followed by another. The bright and dark side of the Termeno Winery – with regard to the architecture, but also in the glass – can be experienced best during a guided tour of the winery with wine tasting.

The St. Michael Winery in Appiano still believes in classic South Tyrolean cellar traditions. All the way down in the two-storey cellar covered by a majestic vault, you will find special rarities: giant wooden barrels decorated with hand-made reliefs. The oldest of these impressive barrels – decorated with an image of Emperor Franz Joseph – dates back to



< The true treasures are hidden underground: Protected from environmental influences, the wines mature to renowned delights in wonderful wine cellars and beautiful barrels.



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.

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

WineSafari | Enjoy a day centred on South Tyrolean wine, served by professional wine gourmets and enjoyed in good company. The mix of Mediterranean landscape along the South Tyrolean Wine Road, culinary delights and information about the country and its people, make this wine journey a real cultural treat. www.suedtiroler-weinstrasse.it

Wine Cellar Night | The Wine Cellar Night is the spectacular final of the South Tyrolean Wine Road Weeks on 10th of June 2017. Enjoy a unique insight into the wine cellars, barrels and bottles offered along the South Tyrolean Wine Road. Taste the best wines from the area, participate at events in traditional vaulted cellars and get to know the wine farmers personally. www.suedtiroler-weinstrasse.it

South Tyrol Wine Museum | The Wine Museum is located in the historic walls of the former Zehent cellar of the Kaltern-Laimburg domination, and latter Di Pauli Winery in Caldaro. A remarkable groined vault in the Torggl room dating back to 1693, oval doors embedded in stone and a deep cellar provide the building with this special atmosphere. The exhibition shows evidence of the centuries-old cultural history. www.weinmuseum.it

1913 and the next one back to 1924. Another barrel shows the image of Matthias Walcher who was the manager of the winery from 1936 for more than 25 years. So to say: wine history carved into the barrels.

Now that we have mentioned history: The history can be perfectly read from the methods and the approach taken in the wine cellars. In the San Paolo Winery for example, sparkling wine is stored in a former bunker dating from World War II, on Korb Castle in Missiano, wine is stored in French concrete eggs, and on the Alois Lageder Winery in Magrè, the wine barrels are exposed to music by Johann Sebastian Bach. The dark side of wine in South Tyrol has plenty to offer! ■ Peter A. Seebacher





Through vine landscapes by bike

The south of South Tyrol certainly is a sunny spot on planet earth. Hilly vineyards down to the porphyry walls around Bolzano and the historical wine villages, which are well settled below the protective barrier that is the Mendola Ridge, while the Val d'Adige valley opens up like a sunny gateway to the South. >



For a long time we have been wishing to discover the landscape between the Val d'Adige Valley in Terlano, the wine villages of Appiano and Caldaro and the technically demanding cycling routes at the Mendola Ridge and in the Monticolo forest.

Possibly, if our endurance levels play their part, even a tour to the Nature Park Monte Corno above the popular Bletterbach Gorge. Along the South Tyrolean Wine Road we find three round trips where the wine culture can be truly enjoyed and experienced. The three wine routes can be undertaken either individually or in combination. The shortest, almost 25 km of length, runs through the historical wine villages Cornaiano, Appiano and Caldaro, which are famous for their Pinto Grigio and the autochthonic 'Kalterersee'. The cycle tour begins in Caldaro on the square just in front of the large winery, crosses the Monticolo forest and the villages of Cornaiano, San Paolo and San Michele which invite for a little rest. The round trip is finally completed in the village of Caldaro with a visit of one of the nicely decorated wine bars. The southernmost of the three routes on the South Tyrolean Wine Road takes you from the wine villages of Cortaccia and Magrè further to Cortina and Salorno. You can return via Egna and Ora to Termeno and to the departure point at the centre of the historical wine village of Cortaccia. The

northernmost tour starts at Bolzano's Walther Square. It takes you to Cardano and Rencio, along the slopes of the wine hills of St. Maddalena, and along through Gries to Terlano, Vilpiano and Nalles. The way back takes you through Andriano and Frangarto back to Bolzano. Part of the route from Terlano to Bolzano can also be done by train. For the tour of today we have rented out electrically assisted pedal bikes from the bike rental and are cycling (wearing a helmet of course) along the South Tyrolean Wine Road – the oldest wine road in Italy, into the sun. With almost no effort we conquer the short ascents in the hilly wine area. The route takes you through Terlano, Nalles and Andriano to the hilly Oltradige, the beautiful cultivated landscape between the Messner Mountain Museum Firmian near Bolzano, Appiano and Lake Caldaro. We would like to explore the landscape along the traffic-free cycle tracks inbetween the villages from a different perspective and make a short stop in one or another winery.

Due to the climate and the advantageous geographical location, wine growing along the South Tyrolean Wine Road has had a long tradition. Even before the birth of Christ, the Raetians filled their wines into wooden casks. And later on, when the first alpine traverse was possible with the 'Via Claudia Augusta', pilgrims and merchants brought new knowledge about winegrowing and seedlings back home from their travels. In the early

Peter Righi

A publicist and experienced tourist expert, scenery discoverer and passionate South Tyrol aficionado who is constantly on the search for new things. Avid publication activities for renowned publishers and journals. Travelled for more than 30 years in the Alps, in northern Scandinavia as well as in the west of North Africa. Today employed as a journalist in the press relation office.



eppanBike | Days | During the eppanBike | Days from 6th to 13th of April 2017, 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

Vecia Ferovia dela Val de Fiemme | This annual mountain bike race takes place at the beginning of August. It starts in Egna and runs along the old railways of the Val di Fiemme Valley train via the San Lugano Pass to Molina di Fiemme. The difference of approximately 1,000 metres of altitude and great panoramic views make this race on one of the most popular MTB stretches a very special experience. www.castelfeder.info

E-biking in Bolzano and environs | Beautiful nature landscape, enchanting villages, pleasurable bike tours: Bolzano and environs is the perfect destination for E-bikers! Thanks to the comfortable electric assistance, cycling becomes a pure pleasure. On the valley cycling paths, you can enjoy a comfortable tour with the E-city bike. Those who prefer a MTB adventure can reach alpine pastures and mountains with an E-mountain bike. www.bolzanosurroundings.info

BIKE Woman Camp | Cycling in the vineyards, Yoga and relaxing at the lake: The Bike Women Camp taking place from 14th to 17th of September 2017 in Caldaro combines sports and pleasure in a brilliant way. Pros teach you the perfect cycling technique and show many tricks in workshops and seminars. Camp participants can test the top bikes of the season 2018 and cycle through picturesque vineyards on flow trails. www.kaltern.com

Termeno Bike Park | The MTB Technique Course in Termeno features a difference in altitude of 60 m and is divided into the three levels of difficulty blue, red and black. Even the blue line is steep and not easy to manage. On the red line, you have to cross 'bridges' in the form of separated tree trunks, while the black line features some jumps. www.tramin.com

Wine & Bike | The three bicycle routes run along the South Tyrolean Wine Road. The northern, central and southern wine routes, without any considerable ascents, meander medieval manors and castles, vineyards and passes right to the wineries. More information and GPS-tracks on www.suedtiroler-weinstrasse.it

< On the oldest wine road in Italy, the South Tyrolean Wine Road, you can choose from three different routes to cycle through the heart of the South Tyrolean wine region and taste some delicious wines along the route.

Middle Ages, Frankish and Bavarian monasteries produced wine goods on the climatically advantageous southern side of the Alps and called their wines 'Pötzner' and 'Traminer' according to their origins. Accompanied by the sound of the bike's running idle, the many manors, castles and palaces are noticeable which guard the land and which still bear witness to the affluence and the importance of this region. The places are influenced by the style of construction used in Oltradige, a late gothic style of construction with Italian Renaissance elements such as loggias, pillar arcades, jutties and crenelated walls. It is the architectonic realisation of the Italian lifestyle, the rural traditions, and the alpine influence.

The speed of the Pedelecs determines the daily rhythm during our trip which is also a pleasure for those who may not be used to cycling. The wineries along the route are well-prepared for cyclists: Once we have safely placed the bikes, there is water for the thirst firstly and secondly wine for the pleasure. Upon request and for a fee some wineries deliver the purchases made during the visit to the hotel, while we can unperturbedly continue the cycle tour. ■ Peter Righi





2017
Lake Stage
Performances

18th July
25th July **Álvaro Soler**
1st August **Silbermond**

Lakes seen differently

Shopaholics, surfer boys and culinary delights

The lakes in Bolzano and environs are not only great for cooling down in the summer; they are also home to a special attitude of life.

It is a hot summer day, bright sunshine and clear, blue skies. I am taking a deep breath... and jump. The cool water gently tickles my skin with every stroke. When I think of South Tyrol's lakes, this is exactly the picture that comes to my mind. Yet, these natural treasures offer much more than just the possibility to refresh when the weather heats up. There is a special lifestyle that surrounds the lakes in Bolzano and environs. It is not only the sport and cultural programmes organised by local clubs and businesses that contribute to the lakes' special flair... it is also the Mediterranean climate and their location among the vineyards, the cypress trees of Lake Garda or the forests which make us feel as if we were in a different world, depending on the season.

At the lake, all year round! Skating on the frozen lake and stretching my hand out to touch the reeds... these are some of my earliest childhood memories. That is how South Tyroleans start the lake season. When the ice on the Monticolo Lakes, near Appiano, and on Lake Caldaro begins to melt and the first liverworts start breaking through the mossy

soil, we all know that spring and the season for outdoor athletes is finally there. If you did not break out in your running shoes often enough during wintertime, it is high time to feel the forest beneath your feet as the warm season begins. Whether it is only for a short hike or a run around the lakes. If you prefer mountain biking you will definitely find the right trail for you between the lakes to let some steam off cycling across roots and pine needles. Or if you prefer the challenge with others you can participate in a marathon or triathlon, a sailing regatta, or in a windsurfing race on Lake Caldaro or at the Montiggelman super sprint triathlon. You can easily find the right challenge for you throughout the summer. Lake Caldaro has always attracted surfers and sailing enthusiasts. In the past few years stand-up paddlers have also joined in. All of them bring along the feeling of the vast ocean to the narrow foothills of the Adige Valley.

Aperitifs, revelry and mysticism. If you would rather not take part in the variety of lake sports on offer, you can make yourself comfortable in one of the lakeside restaurants instead and enjoy one of their delicious breakfasts, lunches or dinners. I prefer to sample the gastronomical delights between meals and often enjoy a bowl of ice-cream or an

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.



< Be it loud and colourful or quiet and relaxed at the lake shore: Water fascinates and radiates life, strength and quietness – during every season of the year.

Clean Lakes | Again in 2016 the lakes of Monticolo were awarded 'Five Sails' and declared the cleanest lakes in Italy by Lega Ambiente and Touring Club Italia. The main criteria are environmentally friendly management on the part of the public authority, sustainable tourism development and an intact environment. www.eppan.com

Fresh Wind | Thanks to Ora, a southerly wind coming from Lake Garda, which can be clearly felt on the hill of Castelfeder, sailing and surfing is usually possible on Lake Caldaro in the afternoons. Those who want to try this sport will find a surf school with certified surf instructors at Gretl am See at Lake Caldaro. www.kaltern.com

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

Biotope at Lake Caldaro | The reed-beds on the southern end of the lake constitute a protected nature reserve and nesting place for innumerable and rare birds and swamp animals. It is the only bigger living space of this type between Passo Resia/Reschenpass and Verona, and is right at the junction of the most important bird migration flight route. Scientists have registered more than 100 bird species; most of which are described in the viewing tower. www.kaltern.com

Hugo & Co. | If you want to end a day in proper style or start a relaxing evening, a Hugo aperitif is almost a must. This sparkling South Tyrolean aperitif with Prosecco, elderflower syrup, mineral water and fresh mint has conquered the world. However, also a Veneziano (Aperol Spritz), a glass of South Tyrolean wine or sparkling wine are ideal for having a chat about the day gone by or about life in general.

aperitif after checking out the current summer collection in the Lake Caldaro surf shop. Sitting at the lake surrounded by vineyards, sipping a delicious Veneziano while taking in the view of the reed and hills to the south is the perfect way to finish the day with true Italian feeling. Now and again, there is the chance to conclude such summer days by listening to great music at the various lake parties in Monticolo or in Caldaro, or even at the Lake Stage Performances.

Of course, having a good approach to life does not necessarily always have to mean that it is action-packed. If you long for rest and relaxation at the lake and the tranquillity of mystical milieu, simply drive south for a few kilometres. Lake Favogna which, with its natural Alpine flair, enchants all who visit, is located above Cortaccia, 1,034 metres above sea level. This local gem is a true delight on warm summer days. ■ Lisa Maria Kager





250 days of Wanderlust

Hiking from the end of March to the beginning of November

Where is that possible? Everywhere around the South Tyrolean Wine Road which probably offers the longest hiking season in the Alps!

No such talk about senior sports with knickerbockers, red socks or plaid shirts! Hiking has long left its outdated image behind and amazes all age groups. This is not only the subjective impression of insiders, but also the result of various studies. The last comprehensive research report of the European Tourism Institute found out that the average age of active hikers is sinking continuously and is currently at 47 years. Nowadays, an increasing number of families with children and young couples take up hiking as well. At the same time, active hikers invest more money in the equipment and do more and more kilometres. All of that with a rising tendency. The more demands, stress and digitalisation occur in everyday life, so the assumption, the bigger is the need for tranquillity and nature during the leisure time. And even if not every holiday is explicitly booked as a hiking holiday, the hiking network offered is of major importance when choosing a holiday destination.

We admit: There is no lack in tours of different lengths and levels of difficulty in the Alps.

However, appealing routes which are also accessible off the peak season from May to September, are rare. Outdoor fans find everything they long for in Bolzano and environs. The hiking season along the South Tyrolean Wine Road starts in March, offers a highlight with the apple blossom at the beginning/middle of April, and ends with the wine and apple harvest in November – a record-breaking long period in the Alpine region. While guests in other areas already – or still – ski on the slopes of the valleys, down south around Bolzano you can put on your hiking boots. Those gap times, namely spring and late autumn, are in fact especially attractive. Not only because it is often too hot to hike from June to August, but for the amazing natural scenery offered by the vineyards, orchards and the higher mountain areas with their mixed forests before and after the hot summer months. Speaking of the apple blossom and coloured leaves – Bolzano and environs can get really colourful! The region along the South Tyrolean Wine Road offers a charming scenery: gentle hills, lush meadows, palm trees and cypresses, and a lot of castles and enchanting villages.

Many guided tours are organised: The village of Termeno for example offers Blossom

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



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 Kaltern on 23rd of April 2017. The motto of the Gewürztraminer Wine Hiking Day taking place in Tramin and surroundings on 28th of May 2017, is: experience, discover and enjoy the landscape and the wine. www.kaltern.com; www.tramin.com

Wine trails | Wine has been cultivated in South Tyrol for more than 3,000 years... and walking through the vineyards you can experience this wonderful part of South Tyrol. There are four wine hiking trails which guide you from Spring to Autumn through the local wine areas and their year-round process: The Terlano Wine Trail, the Cortaccia Wine Teaching Trail, the wein.weg in Caldaro and the Wine Teaching Trail in Cornaiano/Appiano. www.bolzanosurroundings.info

Castelronda | During the Castelronda event on the 10th and 11th 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

Stairways to heaven | Proud fortresses and magnificent castles, colourful church frescoes and individual, quiet chapels, picturesque villages and towns in a number of different cultural landscapes, entice you to climb the 'stairway to heaven', the Middle Ages in the heart of the Alps. Bolzano and environs has two pearls from the Romanesque: the St. Jacob chapel in Kastelaz near Termeno and the fortress chapel of Castle Hocheppan in Missiano/Appiano. www.stairwaytoheaven.info

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

< Long, longer, the longest: From early spring to the sunny autumn Bolzano and environs provides the ideal setting for a walk between blooming orchards, lakes, castles and vineyards.

Hikes and special culture and wine hiking weeks. You can go for asparagus hikes in Terlano or follow the traces of the Romans and the famous German painter Albrecht Dürer in Salorno and discover the fascinating nature and cultural attractions. Culinary delights welcome you everywhere: The typical South Tyrolean snack with bacon and Schüttelbrot (local crispbread) is part of the pleasant basic programme in numerous alpine huts. Even in autumn, hikers don't have to miss out on culinary highlights: Guests can participate in the typical 'Törggelen' tradition with new wine and roast chestnuts. Of course this tempting offer might cease your appetite for hiking a lot further. However, there are really worse things in life. In the end, the next statistic for hiking distances of the European Tourism Institute will possibly be a little lower – that is all. ■ Christian Haas



unique | **Egetmann Hansl's Wedding.** On Shrove Tuesday,

on 28th February 2017, Hansl Egetmann celebrates his wedding! Since 1591, every odd-numbered year on carnival Tuesday, this parade has been held in the alleys and streets of Termeno. The Termeno Egetmann parade is probably one of the oldest, strangest and liveliest carnival customs in Tyrol.

www.egetmann.com



royal | **Asparagus season in Terlan.** In April and May, ten

restaurants in the asparagus triangle Terlan, Vilpiano and Settequerce invite you to enjoy classic and creative dishes prepared from the white Margarete asparagus. Anyone who wants to get to know more about growing asparagus and the life of asparagus farmers can participate in a guided asparagus tour with Margarete, culinary asparagus hikes or carriage rides.

www.terlan.info



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 Caldaro.

www.bolzanosurroundings.info



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

and cultural events will run from 22nd April to 10th June 2017 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 10th June 2017 will be a special highlight and final event.

www.suedtiroler-weinstrasse.it



10 great moments

ALONG THE SOUTH TYROLEAN WINE ROAD

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 20th to 30th 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

musical | **Lake Stage Performances and Pop Festival.**



Music buzzes around Caldaro! Firstly at the legendary Lake Stage Performances which takes place on the 18th and 25th July and on 1st August 2017 on the lake stage with unique shows and a tingling atmosphere. And again, at the end of the season on the occasion of the 3rd Kaltern Pop Festival from 26th to 28th October with voices and sounds from Europe and from all over the world.

www.kaltern.com

savoury | **Törggelen, an autumn tradition.** Hiking, wine



tasting, enjoying farmhouse specialities 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 Törggele-time with rural restaurants and taverns offering hearty farming cuisine.

www.bolzanosurroundings.info

lively | **Village Festival in Egna.** The oldest village festival



in South Tyrol is celebrated at the beginning of August and impresses with delights from South Tyrolean and Italian cuisine, a lot of music and a traditional parade on Sunday. However, there are more celebrations in the other wine villages too: the 'Altmauer' Festival at the end of May in Ora, the Market Festival at the end of July and the Wine Festival in the middle of August, both in Caldaro.

www.castelfeder.info

personal | **Wine & Termeno Sensual Pleasures.** Termeno



is one of the oldest wine villages and is considered to be the origin of the worldwide famous Gewürztraminer vine. From 26th to 28th October 2017, guests can get to know the most important wineries and distilleries. The owners of the winery, enologists and master distillers will personally give you an insight into their work in the vineyards and in the wine cellars – wine tastings included.

www.tramin.com

subterranean | **Girlan Cellar Festival.** It is said that



the village underground of Corniano/Girlan is larger than the village above the ground. The reason for this is the deep, two-leveled cellars, which are often connected to each other. For those who would like to discover this world below, there is a rare opportunity from 1st to 3rd September 2017 at the Girlan Cellar Festival. The festival takes place only every four years.

www.eppan.com



South Tyrolean cuisine – Quo vadis?

An interview with
Michelin star chef Herbert Hintner

We meet Herbert Hintner, born in 1957, at the place where he has spent most of his time in the past 44 years... in the kitchen of the 'Zur Rose' gourmet restaurant in Appiano, an establishment which he and his sommelière and wife, Margot, are managing together. He is one of the most prominent South Tyrolean chefs, and has obtained international fame with authentic regional cuisine.

You have been a passionate chef for the past 44 years; 21 years ago you were awarded a Michelin star that you continue to defend successfully. Quite an achievement! How do you manage to maintain this excellent performance at all times? How do you motivate yourself each day?

If your chosen profession is also your passion, and if this passion still burns, you will never take it as a burden! Of course, I am nearly 60, so there are lots of things I don't do by myself anymore. I delegate quite a lot. For myself, a Michelin star is an award. For the guests, it's a

guarantee that they'll get good dishes. People know who I am – there are no gimmicks with food, no fancy shapes or anything like that. I'm a classic, purist chef and I've noticed the tendency, these days, towards a return to the classic cuisine I grew up with.

...however we do have to emphasize that the 'Rose' in Appiano is one of the best examples of a top restaurant which also opens for lunch. Where is your journey taking you? What does regionalism mean? How does home-style cooking develop?

You have to be very careful that you remain loyal to yourself. You can't just copy the way grandma used to cook, in the same way that it's not possible to copy the molecular cuisine one-to-one. Nowadays, there's not much left, but the remains are the authentic aspects of a region or a tradition. That's what gives you power.

The steep rise of South Tyrolean cuisine can be compared to the success of South Tyrolean wineries – no other province has so many '3 bicchieri', '5 grappoli' as South Tyrolean wines have. How would you assess the new wave of top cuisine in South Tyrol?

First of all, the people of South Tyrol deserve a huge compliment! They have always supported top-level gastronomy and continue to frequent the best guesthouses and restaurants. Of course, this shouldn't be taken for granted – it should be appreciated! The locals are probably our best and biggest method of advertising. Without their support, South Tyrolean chefs wouldn't have achieved the high number of awards they have.

Herbert Hintner was one of the trendsetters for fine, traditional country inns with good culinary ambitions. As a co-founder of the 'Südtirol Gasthaus' initiative, he's giving advice and generates ideas. What could and what should still be improved in our cooking?

'Südtirol Gasthaus' is definitely a great initiative. The biggest task for our chefs is to distance themselves from artificially produced flavours... they need to stay away from flavour enhancers! Only natural additives should be used when cooking, whether this is a vegetable stock or a soup. If we follow this path together, we are distinctively South Tyrolean!

■ Wolfgang Maier



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.

ITALIAN WINE GUIDES

VINI BUONI D'ITALIA 2017 LE CORONE	I VINI D'ITALIA DE L'ESPRESSO 2017 TOP 300	I VINI DI VERONELLI 2017 SUPER TRE STELLE	GAMBERO ROSSO 2017 TRE BICCHIERI
Gewürztraminer Windegg 2015 Brigl Josef, Appiano	Pinot Bianco Plattenriegel 2015 Cantina Cornaiano, Appiano	Pinot Bianco 2004 Cantina Terlano	Pinot Bianco Sirmian 2015 Cantina Nalles Magrè
Gewürztraminer Nussbaumer 2014 Cantina Termeno	Pinot Bianco Sirmian 2015 Cantina Nalles Magrè	Bianco Riserva LR 2013 Cantina Colterenzio, Appiano	Terlaner Pinot Bianco Eichhorn 2015 Tenuta Manincor, Kaltern
Gewürztraminer Atisis 2014 Cantina Colterenzio, Appiano	Pinot Bianco Riserva Vorberg 2013 Cantina Terlano	Terlaner I Grande Cuvée 2013 Cantina Terlano	Pinot Grigio Sanct Valentin 2014 Cantina San Michele, Appiano
Gewürztraminer Lunare 2014 Cantina Terlano	Sauvignon Voglar 2014 Tenuta Peter Dipoli, Egna	Chardonnay Löwengang biodinamico 2013 Tenutae Alois Lageder, Magrè	Chardonnay Löwengang 2013 Tenutae Alois Lageder, Magrè
Moscato Giallo 2015 Tenuta Ritterhof, Caldaro	Gewürztraminer Nussbaumer 2014 Cantina Termeno	Gewürztraminer Nussbaumer 2014 Cantina Termeno	Terlano Riserva Nova Domus 2013 Cantina Terlano
Schiava Vigne Vecchie 2015 Glöggelhof – Gojer Franz, Bolzano	Terlaner Riserva Nova Domus 2013 Cantina Terlano	Lagrein Riserva Porphy 2013 Cantina Terlano	Sauvignon Lafóa 2014 Cantina Colterenzio, Appiano
Lago di Caldaro Doc Classico Superiore Pfarthof 2015 Cantina Caldaro	Schiava Gschleier Alte Reben 2014 Cantina Cornaiano, Appiano	Lagrein Riserva Waldgries 2013 Ansitz Waldgries – Christian Plattner, Bolzano	Gewürztraminer Vom Lehm 2015 Cantina Castelfeder, Cortina ssvd
Santa Maddalena Classico 2014 Unterganzner – Josephus Mayr, Bolzano	Schiava Vigne Vecchie 2015 Glöggelhof – Gojer Franz, Bolzano	Cabernet Löwengang 2012 Tenutae Alois Lageder, Magrè	Gewürztraminer Riserva Brenntal 2014 Cantina Cortaccia
Lagrein Kretzer 2015 Kettmair, Caldaro	Santa Maddalena Classico Huck am Bach 2015 Cantina Bolzano	Merlot-Cabernet Sauvignon Iugum 2011 Tenuta Peter Dipoli, Egna	Gewürztraminer Nussbaumer 2014 Cantina Termeno
Lagrein Riserva 2013 Unterganzner – Josephus Mayr, Bolzano	Santa Maddalena Classico Antheos 2015 Ansitz Waldgries – Christian Plattner, Bolzano	Col de Rey Vigneti delle Dolomiti Rosso 2011 Podere Laimburg, Vadena	Gewürztraminer Auratus Crescendo 2015 Tenuta Ritterhof, Caldaro
Lagrein Riserva Porphy 2013 Cantina Terlano	Lagrein 2015 Cantina Muri-Gries, Bolzano	Lamarein 2013 Unterganzner – Josephus Mayr, Bolzano	Lago di Caldaro Bischofsleiten 2015 Tenuta Castel Sallegg, Caldaro
Lagrein Riserva Linticlarus 2013 Tiefenbrunner, Cortaccia	Lagrein Riserva 2013 Unterganzner – Josephus Mayr, Bolzano	Gewürztraminer Vendemmia Tardiva Terminum 2013 Cantina Termeno	Santa Maddalena Rondell 2015 Glöggelhof – Franz Gojer, Bolzano
Lagrein Riserva 2013 Ansitz Waldgries – Christian Plattner, Bolzano	Extra Brut Riserva 2010 Cantina Spumanti Arunda, Meltina	Moscato Giallo Passito Baronessa Baron Salvadori 2013 Cantina Nals Magrè	Lagrein Riserva 2013 Unterganzner – Josephus Mayr, Bolzano
Lagrein Riserva Taber 2014 Cantina Bolzano	Brut Riserva Hausmannhof 2006 Tenuta Haderburg, Salorno	Moscato Giallo Passito Serenade 2013 Cantina Caldaro	Lagrein Riserva Taber 2014 Cantina Bolzano
Comitissa Gold Brut Gran Riserva 2006 Martini Lorenz, Appiano	Brut Rosè Athesis Kettmeir, Caldaro	Moscato Giallo Passito Vinalia 2014 Cantina Bolzano	Pinot Nero Riserva Trattmann Mazon 2013 Cantina Cornaiano, Bolzano
		Le Petit Manincor 2014 Tenuta Manincor, Caldaro	Pinot Nero Bachgart 2013 Tenuta Klaus Lentsch, Appiano
			Cabernet Sauvignon Riserva Puntay 2012 Cantina Erste + Neue, Caldaro

GOURMET GUIDE

RESTAURANT	Locality	+39	MICHELIN GUIDA ROSSA 2016	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 0333391					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, Auener Hof	Val Sarentino	0471 623055	✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ▲	17/20		☞ ☞	
Ristorante Brauwirt	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 Zimerhof 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

April to 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

May | Days of Architecture

Different buildings everywhere in South Tyrol, amongst which farmhouses, hotels, private and public buildings of special architecture, can be visited during guided tours. Experience South Tyrol as a land of architecture with interesting constructions. You will learn about details of the planning phase, the construction work and you can look behind the façades. www.tagederarchitektur.it

30th June – 9th July | 35th Südtirol Jazz Festival Alto Adige

The whole of South Tyrol jams, when Jazz comes to the roads and squares everywhere in South Tyrol, behind historic walls and on alpine huts in summer. The 35th edition of the Südtirol Jazz Festival Alto Adige which plays an important role in the European music scene will amaze visitors with curious, varied and new sounds for ten days – simply jazz.

www.suedtiroljazzfestival.com

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

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

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

1st December – 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 80 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, discover the Dolomites and climb mountains
follow the architecture, feel the rhythm of jazz
healthy pleasure and sustainable mobility