

## Town Centre

**1 Piazza Walther Platz:** built in 1808 under the order of Massimiliano di Baviera, to whom it was initially dedicated, it later took on the name of Johannesplatz in honour of the Archduke Giovanni of Austria. Today's name dates back to 1901 (with Fascist period interruption) and was a dedication to Walther von der Vogelweide, one of the most important medieval musical poets (Minnesänger) of German background. The imposing figure in the centre of the square representing him was erected in 1889 and was the work of Heinrich Natter, a sculptor from Val Venosta - Vinchgau, and his works are also seen in many other European towns.

**2 Piazza Stazione - Bahnhofplatz:** the railway station building in its present aspect was built in the Fascist period (1928) by Angiolo Mazzoni. It was a refronting of the eighteen hundreds station which from the mid century period was fundamental to the Verona to Innsbruck line. The station exterior features ornate sculptures in porfido stone with interpretations of Electricity and Steam and up in the clock tower of Flowing Waters. The works are by Franz Ehrenhöfer. Opposite the station is the Fountain of Frogs, an updated resurfacing of that of 1930. In the station park there was once the Civic Theatre but this was destroyed by bombs in World War II.

**3 Cathedral** (Mon-Sat 10 am-5 pm, Sun 11 am-5 pm): The cathedral was heavily bombed in 1943 but was carefully restored over the years. It is dedicated to Maria Assunta and is the Cathedral of the Diocese of Bolzano - Bressanone. It is considered as the most important gothic style church example in the region. It dates back in origin to the 6th century and was completed around 1420, synthesizing, over a few decades, the intervention of Lombard mastery with the Gothic style of the Suevian mastery. The bell tower, the recognised emblem of Bolzano, having an open fretwork spire in sandstone, which stands 65m tall, was built by the Suevian architect, Hans Lutz von Schussenried, between 1501 and 1519.

*Outside* you can see: **External:** produced in sandstone, it is a simple face with bell-tower and with a Roman portal accompanied by plinths supporting stilofori lions. The doors are now in bronze with depictions by M. Defner, a sculptor from Innsbruck (1989). At the side there is a fresco featuring the face of the Virgin Mary on a throne and holding Baby Jesus, and which dates back to the end of the fourteen hundreds.

*On the north side:* the beautiful Crucifix by the Veronese School, with a small votive image bearing the symbol (shell) of the pilgrim of Santiago de Compostela, the Wine Door with fine engravings, also called the bride's door (where promised young women entered), where the sale of wine was permitted through an ancient privilege.

*On the south side* and worthy of note is the Roman portal, it known as "of the priests", and it is framed by two columns with budded capital. At the side is the turret of the staircase giving access to the bell-tower, it having 3 lantern holders in stone.

*Inside:* three naves of the same height (Hallenkirche), the Gothic sandstone pulpit sculpted by Hans Lutz von Schussenried, the baroque altar in polychrome marble (1710-1720) by the Veronese Ranghieri and Allio, conceived by J. Pozzo, the Crucifix (1420), the baroque chapel of the graces added in 1745 with frescoes by Karl Henrici (1771), on the altar, the venerated statue of Maria lactans by Veronese School of 1200. The Archduke Ranieri of Austria (Crown-Prince of the Lombard-Venetian Kingdom from 1818 to 1848), who died in Bolzano in 1853, is buried in the crypt situated below the high altar.

In the churchyard south of the building you can view the monument to Peter Mayr, he having fought for the liberty of the Tyrolean population against the Napoleonic-Bavarian troops. He was killed by these same troops in 1810.

**4 Church and cloister of the Dominican Order** (Mon-Sat 8 am-6 pm, Sun 12 pm-6 pm): This is a substantial complex which was founded in 1272 and built by Nordic masters and conserves to this day Gothic vaults and baroque elements and gothic paintings which are the prime examples of such works in the whole province, and this despite the partial demolitions at the end of the eighteenth century and during the World War II bombings. The church has 3 naves separated by large octagonal pillars and with a large choral area. On the right wall there are 14th century frescoes depicting Madonna on a throne with Baby Jesus (1379), and is the work of a Veronese artist, and is accompanied by a work of St. George and the dragon, an elaborate fresco in Gothic style. On the left wall of the Merchants Chapel with its baroque altar there is the pala of Guercino (1655) which features the Vision of Soriano. The church has many precious examples of Bolzanine painting of 1300 on the eastern side of the cloister and on the west wall of the church. However, the jewel of the entire complex is the chapel of San Giovanni, a long and narrow side chapel with the most magnificent fresco cycle of the Giotto School in the province. Dedicated to San Giovanni after the name of the Florentine head of the Rossi-Botsch family, they wealthy Florentine bankers having settled in Bolzano, and they commissioning the work. The scenes from San Nicolò's life on the last register of the east wall are of particular interest, as well as the 'Triumph over Death' fresco in the first register of the same wall, and San Bartholomew's torture on the north wall. The works illustrate the refined aspects of the architectural structure, the intensity of the figures and the cruel realism of San Bartholomew's torture. In the square pillared cloister there are apart from the S. Giovanni chapel, the Chapter Hall and the Santa Caterina chapel with frescoes dating back to the 14th century. Annexed to the complex

**5 Capuchin Church** (Mon-Sun 7 am-6 pm): The church and the annex were built between 1599 and 1606 within the Castle Wendelstein estates of the Counts of Tyrol. From the time of the old castle some merlo brick-type work is visible in vicolo Wolkenstein. It has a magnificent altar piece by Felice Brusasorci (1600), above the main altar, which features S. Francesco receiving the second Foundation Order.

**6 Via Goethe Straße** leads to Piazza delle Erbe: The narrow street lined with medieval style houses and buildings brings one to the colourful and lively Piazza delle Erbe, heart of the town centre, home of the famous fruit and vegetable market daily (except on Saturday afternoon, Sunday and public holidays). The long and curved pattern of the piazza testifies to its medieval origin; it was in fact built after the knocking down of the town walls in 1277 along the lines of the defensive ditch. The Neptune fountain, with a statue with his trident and bronze shells, by G. Mayr di Fiè (1745), is on the corner with via Portici. It has been classified amongst the one hundred most beautiful fountains in Italy and is also called "Gabelwirt" (Innkeeper with fork). On the corner with Via Museo a plaque on the facade of the neo-Gothic building, commemorates the old "Al Sole - Zur Sonne" hotel where eminent personalities such as Goethe, Herder and Emperor Giuseppe II, resided between 1783 and 1790.

**7 Franciscan Church and Convent** (open Mon-Sat 10 am-5.30 pm, Sun 2.30-5.30 pm): Franciscans settled in the town around 1221. The original building was in Gothic dating back to the early years of the 14th century and in part modified in the 15th century. A 3 nave style construction. The church choir is embellished by modern stained glass windows by Widmoser. The church has a magnificent wooden altar by Hans Klocker of Bressanone dedicated to the Nativity (painted wood - 1500). The cloister is a perfect Gothic example with many frescoes elaborated between the 14th and 17th centuries. There are also 13 large canvas with paintings illustrating the story of San Francesco, these works of the Bolzano Franciscan brother H. Aufenbacher (1719).

**8 Via Dr. Joseph Streiter Gasse:** Via Joseph Streiter was named after the poet, jurist and mayor of Bolzano in the second half of the XIX century. It corresponds to the north moat of the medieval village and the buildings on the south side correspond to the buildings of the north side of the arcades. The first part of the street is very attractive, especially in the summer: an open-air bar, shops, restaurants and decorations next to the fish stalls create a unique atmosphere. Many arches running through the street give it a medieval character. Number 25 was the entry to the old Town hall.

**9 Via dei Bottai - Bindergasse:** Via Bottai is one of the most characteristic streets of the town centre with its beautiful ironwork signs, of which "Cavallino Bianco" with its newly revealed frescoes is a fine example. There are one or two former inns and the historical hotel "Luna Mondschein" is on the right as one walks out of town. The Natural Science Museum (see museum route) is situated at the end



is the Monteverdi Conservatory, home to the prestigious Ferruccio Busoni international piano competition.

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of the street in what used to be the administrative office of Massimiliano I, Emperor and Count of Tyrol (built in 1512). "Ca' de Bezzi", a favourite destination for many artists is just around the corner from the museum.

**10 St. George Church** in via Weggenstein Straße (Mon-Sat 8 am-6 pm, Sun 10 am-6 pm): The church was part of the Teutonic Order present in Bolzano since 1203 and was built by Suevian masters in gothic style at the end of the 14th century. Of note is the collection. The elegant building is worth a visit for its collection of stems, mortuary shields, gravestones and flags of the members of the order that can be dated to between the 17th and 18th centuries. It has one of the town's most important marble altars with an altarpiece of M. Knoller (1799), featuring St. George and the Dragon.

**11 Church of St. John in Villa** (Sat 10 am-12.30 pm with occasional variations): Consecrated in 1180, this small church is the jewel of the town. The simple architecture of the main body is embellished by the church bell with mullioned windows with three and two lights dating back to the first half of 1300. The interior pictorial decoration is exceptional: travelling artists of the Giotto School introduced a new plastic style and an excellent fresco technique revealing extraordinary artistic and interpretative skills.

**12 Piazza Municipio - Rathausplatz:** Piazza Municipio is to the far east of Via Portici and the square has important buildings all around. The Town hall itself was a project by K. Hocheder from Munich together with the town's Civic Architect G. Nolte (1903-1907) and is in new baroque style with Jugendstil details. In the Council Chamber there are frescoes of G. Hofer (1908). On the east side is the Amonn building painted by R. Stolz and the archway opened in 1911.

**13 Via Portici - Laubergasse:** This arcaded street is witness to the merchant tradition of old Bolzano and constitutes the first urban nucleus as founded by the Principi Vescovi di Trento in the 12th century. The street runs in an east-west direction and so giving protection from the cold winds from the north. The new town incorporated a bishop's administrative centre (located on today's Piazza del Grano) and the merchants' houses which are still present in their original pat-

tern along the arcades. The merchants' houses comprised stores and stone-built storage cellars under the arcade level. Today these areas are home to modern shops. (Examples of how the old cellars were can be seen in the Merchants Palace 30). The narrow fronts along the street are decorated in different colours, with Erker (murals with small window openings embedded, and stucco). At various points along the way it is possible to pass through alleys to the streets beyond, and in the alleys there are many spiral staircases which lead up to many habitations and nowadays to offices as well. A very noble style alleyway is that which leads to street number 30, which was the former Town Hall and is now where the Municipal Records Archive can be found. The arches here are elaborately decorated with frescoes.

**14 The Weigh House:** Piazza del Grano, where the public weigh house was here situated had been part of the Vescovi di Trento castle, they the founders of the town, but this was by Mainardo II of Tirol in 1277, he so gaining control of this vital trade area. It became the corn market and until 1780 the public weigh house was here. The building was subjected to various modifications over the years and through to the 17th century. It remains as one of the town's oldest buildings. Worth noting is the short alley which leads from the square to the main arcade street. The thick stone type feature in front of the building is from the antique perimeter wall. Opposite there is a plaque which recalls the presence of S. Andrea's chapel in the castle. It was demolished in 1785.

**15 Via Argenterieri - Silbergasse:** running parallel to via Portici is Via Argenterieri, it originally formed the southern perimeter of the old town. On this street there is the Merchants Palace, immediately recognisable by the sets of steps leading up to it and the elegant doors, projected by the Verona architect, F. Perotti (1708-1729). It is now home to the Merchants museum. From a building called 'Troilo', decorated with geometrical frescoes, there is a narrow alleyway leading to Via Portici.

**16 Via and piazza della Mostra - Mustergasse and Musterplatz:** of eighteenth century origin and which are lined with elegant palaces of the bourgeois merchants of the time. Examples are Campofranco (corner with Piazza Walther) and Menz and Pock, pleasant view for passers-by, and then also in the square is the well-known historical restaurant "Zur Kaiserkron". Further along the street is the "Fink" restaurant, the cellar of which was the town jail.

**17 Galleria Sarnesi and Galleria Europa:** modern shopping and retail outlet galleries which both bring one out to the Free University of Bolzano, and at the opposite end of Galleria Europa there is via Museo which takes one to the South Tyrol Museum of Archaeology (for timetables see Museums menu bar).

## Gries

**18 Corso Libertà - Freiheitsstraße and Piazza Mazzini Platz:** an area of shops and retail outlets with prominent fascist style archways and covered walkways, construction of dating back to the 1930s. The Piazza itself has been recently redeveloped and there is now the bronze bust of Giuseppe Mazzini (1963). Continuing further down one comes to Piazza Gries, heart of the ancient Borgo di Gries, and which was an independent municipality until 1925. Its mild climate led to it being a popular tourist area and since the 19th century there have been several centres for treatment and convalescence. In the 1800s many elegant hotels, villas, gardens and lemon orchards emerged. Importantly much area was also dedicated to vineyards and many winecellars ("Keller") were in fashion. To this day the area enjoys a reputation for the production of Lagrein, a strong bodied red wine of local grape.

**19 Benedictan Abbey of Muri-Gries:** (Mon-Sun 9 am-7 pm). Piazza Gries, with the architectural complex of the Abbey and the walls of Gries on the right-hand side, is right in the middle of the quarter. The monastery, initially hosting Augustinian monks (1406), was damaged by peasant revolts in 1525 and destroyed during the Napoleonic wars. It was suppressed by the Bavarian government in 1807 and donated by the Austrian Emperor to Benedictine Muri Monks (Switzerland) in 1845. The oldest centre is the castle, built by the Morit-Greifenstein Counts in 1200, and whose original 'mastio' (tower) today is the church's bell tower. It hosts one of the heaviest bells in Alto Adige (5,026 kg). At the interior a church gothic in style with Roman traces also and a small cloister. At the end of the 18th century the abbey

- Tourist Information
- Carabinieri
- Police
- Town Hall
- Post Office
- Parking
- Cultural Centre Trevi
- Bus station
- Railway station

- Music Academy
- Auditorium
- University
- Library
- Theatre
- Museum
- Playground
- Taxi
- Luggage deposit
- Public toilet



church of S. Agostino was added, it today the parish church. A particular feature was the elaborate front designed by G. Sartori and in the church itself distinctive late baroque frescoes and seven altar blades, these all works of M. Knoller (1771–73), he one of the most important Tyrolean painters in the second half of the eighteenth century. In 1845 the emperor of Austria gifted the buildings to the Benedictine fathers of the Muri abbey in Switzerland and this order has remained in the abbey to this day.

In the Roman towers a collection of antique nativity scenes is kept (open Saturdays and Sundays 3–5 pm from December 1st to 31st and the 1st Saturday of Advent; from January 1st to February 2nd Saturdays 3–5 pm. From February to November is open the 1st Saturday of the month 3–5 pm. In July and August only on request). In the winecellars of the convent the most celebrated Lagrein red wine of the area is produced.

**20 Old Parish Church of Gries** (from April to October Mon–Fri 10 am–12 pm and 2.30–4 pm, from mid June to end of August Mon–Fri 10 am–12 pm): A little further north of piazza Gries the church bearing the same name, and with cemetery within the grounds. It is late Gothic, dating back to the early 1400, hosts two stunning treasures: the altar of Michael Pacher (1471–75) and the Romanesque wooden crucifix of the 13th century. The first one is undoubtedly a masterpiece of Gothic art of the wooden altars with casket and hatch remaining today, and features his emphasis on space which was very much appreciated and adopted by the Italian art movement while the second one, which probably in relation to north French sculpture is believed to be of foreign origin, is considered of great relevance. Continuing on from the church one reaches the Guncina walk (see 40).



**21 Piazza Tribunale - Gerichtsplatz:** the Courts, built in 1939 by architect Paolo Rossi stand opposite the finance buildings, and host a bas-relief by sculptor Hans Piffraeder. The development of the square is very much tied to the expansion of the town in the fascist period. On one side of the square are the Courts of Justice, with many steps leading up and high columns. It was built in 1939 by architect P. Rossi de' Paoli and M. Busiri Vici. Opposite the courts is the Palace housing the Financial Records Offices again built under fascist rule and elaborating a project of G. Pellizzari, L. Plattner and F. Rossi and fronted with a work by H. Piffraeder (1939) illustrating a celebrative narration of Mussolini on horseback. Today it has been depoliticised but kept as a historical testimony, and is accompanied by a written elaboration of Hannah Arendt, "No one has the right to obey" – in Italian "Nessuno ha il diritto di obbedire" (a project of 2017). In the middle of the square is the fountain of the Naiads, a bronze work of 1960 by Eraldo Fozzer.

## Castles

**22 Castel Roncolo - Schloss Runkelstein:**

Situated at the beginning of the Val Sarentino, to the north of the city, the castle is easily accessible on foot via the green-belt footpath along the Talvera River, or by bicycle along the cycle path. There is also a connection direct by taking the number 12 bus or by the free shuttle service from Piazza Walther. Free parking facilities are available for cars and bicycles at the entrance of the castle. Built in 1237 on a rock, the castle has been extended and restored several times and houses splendid frescoes depicting scenes of courtesan life, hunting scenes, chivalric competitions and episodes of everyday life. There are also literary cues, such as the representation of the story of Tristan and Iselt and the adventures of King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table. It is by far the greatest and best kept collection of profane frescoes of the Middle Ages. Cultural events and exhibitions take place regularly in the castle hall and the rooms are also very interesting. The castle has a restaurant service offering the opportunity to enjoy local delicatessen in a medieval ambience. Open: summer Tue–Sun 10 am–6 pm; winter Tue–Sun 10 am–5 pm. Info: tel. +39 0471 329808, www.roncolo.info.



**23 Castel Mareccio - Schloss Maretsch, ancient walls and vineyards:**

The XIII century castle, situated right behind the historic city centre, is surrounded by fields of the fine Lagrein grape-vines and has stunning views of the Rosengarten. The original castle structure was modified in the 16th century with the addition of towers intended for habitation purposes. In 1477 it was purchased by the Römers and was transformed in a residence for representative purposes. In the various rooms there are renaissance frescoes of a profane nature. Over the years various nobility owned and ran the castle and its grounds. In more recent times, and having lapsed into a poor state of repair it was purchased by the Tourism Board in 1975 and today is a conference centre holding many cultural and enogastronomic events as well as temporary exhibitions. Info: tel. +39 0471 976615, www.mareccio.info.



**24 Castel Firmiano - Schloss Sigmundskron:**

Situated to the south west of Bolzano it was once the property of the Bishops of Trento, and as far back as 945 it was referred to in documents as Castel Formigâr or Firmian (from the Latin word Formicaria) and as such represents



the first recorded mention of a true South Tyrolean castle. Since its origin it was a stronghold of the Bishops of Trento and was later purchased by Duke Sigismondo of Austria, he a Count of Tyrol, in the second half of the 15th century and taking on the name of Sigmundskron. Over the centuries it was subject to typical fortlike improvements but also over more recent centuries fell into ruin. Today it has been restored as the Mountain Museum of Reinhold Messner (MMM Firmian). Open from the third Sunday of March until the second Sunday of November 10 am–6 pm (last entry at 5 pm), closed Thursdays. Info: tel. +39 0471 631264, www.messner-mountain-museum.it.



**25 Castel Flavon - Haselburg:**

Flavon Castle is open to the public as a restaurant and venue for parties and receptions. It can be accessed from the Aslago quarter: the road winds up the rocky point where the castle stands (ample parking). Great views can be admired over the Adige Plain, the town of Bolzano and the north (Salto Plateau, Val Sarentino, and Renon). It houses precious frescoes of the 1500. The construction goes back to the early 13th century when the Aslago-Haslach families were the first residents. Over time there have been various owners and various construction developments. Interior decoration features scenes from the Metamorphoses by Ovid (XVI sec.). Closed Mondays and Sunday evenings. Info: tel. +39 0471 402130, www.haselburg.it.

## Museums

**26 Civic Museum:** Eclectic style construction of between 1902 and 1904, it an elaboration of project by A. Delug, under the direction of the civic architect W. Kürschner. It was first opened to the public in 1905. It is characterised by the number of windows in general and double-arched windows in particular. Also featuring angular Erkers, turrets, and 2 upper floors with reconstructed towers. Its art collection constitutes an important reference for understanding of the South Tyrolean art, folklore and culture in general. Temporary exhibitions are catered for on the ground floor. At present the exhibitions are partially viewable. Open Tue–Sun 10 am–6 pm. Info: tel. +39 0471 997960, www.comune.bolzano.it/museo\_civico.



**27 South Tyrol Museum of Archaeology:** The South Tyrol Museum of Archaeology documents the entire history of the province from the Palaeolithic age to the Carolingian epoch. The museum is well known especially for Ötzi, the Iceman, exhibited with all his clothing and equipment, and artefacts of the bronze age. The first three floors are dedicated to this exhibition and collection. On the top floor there are temporary exhibitions dedicated to archeological themes. Open: Tue–Sun 10 am–6 pm, last admission 5 pm; July, August and December open every day of the week. Info: tel. +39 0471 320100, www.iceman.it.



**28 Museum of Nature South Tyrol:** The palace, which houses the Museum of Nature South Tyrol today, was formerly the administrative office building of Emperor Maximilian I. The marine aquarium is the main attraction and the suggested itineraries are also particularly interesting. It provides the visitor a historic, cultural and scientific guide through one of Europe's richest and most contrasting regions, and illustrates the formation and the characteristics of its Dolomitic origin and of the valley areas. Of note is the research and archiving of geological, botanical and zoological sectors. There is also a marine aquarium with coral examples. Temporary exhibitions are a popular feature of the museum, as are organised didactic visits. Open Tue–Sun 10 am–6 pm (last admission 5.30 pm). Info: tel. +39 0471 412964, www.natura.museum.



**29 Museion - Museum of modern and contemporary art:** transparent and flexible architectural structure and designed by Architect's studio KSV Krüger Schubert Vandrei of Berlin, Museion has become a major museum of contemporary art at national and international level. Alongside exhibitions, the collection amounting to 4,500 works, a thematic topic is presented in rotation. The outside Passage area is used for events of a contemporary culture nature e.g. music, dance, performance. Didactic workshops are also organised for schools. Open: Tue–Sun 10 am–6 pm (last admission 5.30 pm), Thursdays 10 am–10 pm (last admission 9.30 pm). Info: tel. +39 0471 224311, www.museion.it.



**30 Mercantile Museum:** The museum is housed in the Mercantile Palace, already a centre of the prestigious Mercantile Magistrate, established by Claudia De' Medici in 1635. The museum chronicles the economic history of the city of Bolzano. It hosts an important art collection and many of its exhibits are in chronological order, this adding to the interest of the visit. The Hall of Honour, originally a room of the court, maintains to this day the atmosphere of old. Open: Mon–Sat 10 am–12.30 pm. Info: tel. +39 0471 945702, www.camcom.bz.it.



**31 Monument to Victory and Piazza Vittoria - Siegesplatz:** these go back to the fascist period when the modernisation and expansion of the city



were planned. (the so called Città Nuova). The location is on the other side of the Talvera bridge from the town centre. The whole area, of which Corso Libertà is also a part, includes the monument and the large square as background. The project was wanted by the fascist government and was coordinated by the regime's principle architect, M. Piacentini. The dedication was to the dead of the First World War and the Italian victory. Inaugurated in 1928, it comprises huge vertical columns and a representation of A. Dazzi. Under the monument's arch the sculptures of A. Dazzi, A. Wildt, L. Andreotti. In the substantial size crypt with frescos of G. Cadornin is "Bz '18-'45. A monument, a town, two dictators". Opened in 2014, it illustrates the history of the monument and a representation of the complex historical scenario of South Tyrol during the Fascist period, both from a national and international standing. Open: from 1st April to 30th September: Tue, Wed, Fri, Sat, Sun 11 am–1 pm and 2–5 pm, Thursday 3–9 pm; from 1st October to 31st March: Tue–Sat 10.30 am–12.30 pm and 2.30 pm–4.30 pm, Sun 10.30 am–12 pm and 3–5 pm. Info: www.monumentoallavittoria.com.

On the square itself there are also many imperial classicist style palaces built in the 1930s. Every Saturday morning the town market is held here.

**32 Cathedral Museum of Treasures:** The museum houses a splendid collection of sacred artworks from the Baroque epoch in South Tyrol. As well as the precious liturgical robes and flags painted by famous artists, the museum stands out for its collection of stunning XVIII century goldsmith work. Open: Tue–Sat 10 am–12 pm. Info: tel. +39 0471 978676.

**33 School Museum:** Today the School Museum is to be found in a new location at Rencio in a late Renaissance style building known also as Agnello ("Lamphaus"). It is the first museum of its type in Italy. It collects and exhibits documentary and didactic material and offers to the visitor the opportunity to know the many aspects of school life over generations living a very particular history. Many illustrated items including didactic materials, photographs, school reports, decorative items are on show and reconstruct the experience of three cultures living together in this region (Italian, German, Ladin). Visits may be booked any day for groups of min. 6 people, otherwise the museum is open Sat and Sun 3–6 pm (July and August on booking only). Tel. +39 0471 095474, www.comune.bolzano.it/museodellascuola.

**34 Antonio Dalle Nogare Foundation:** On the outskirts of the city, the Antonio Dalle Nogare Foundation rises from the mountain into which it was sculpted. Both architectural masterpiece and private museum for contemporary art, it offers a very rich exhibition and public program: temporary exhibitions on historical conceptual artists of the 60s and 70s, productions by emerging artists, workshops, conferences, dance and theatre performances and much more. The museum also hosts a selection of works from Antonio Dalle Nogare's private collection. Masters of conceptual and minimal art of the second half of the 20th century, such as Dan Flavin, Roman Opalka, On Kawara, Blinky Palermo, Günter Förg, Piero Manzoni, Dadamaino, Martin Kippenberger, Richard Long, Olivier Mosset and many others are presented to the public. Furthermore, the museum is home to two site-specific installations by world-renowned conceptual artists, Dan Graham and Robert Barry. For more detailed information: www.fondazioneantoniodallenogare.com. Open Fridays 5 to 7 pm (free guided tour at 6 pm), Saturdays 10am to 6 pm (free guided tour at 11 am), Tuesdays to Thursdays on appointment. Free entry.

**35 Semi-rural House:** The small house located in Via Bari 11 is one of the very few "Semi-rural Houses" still standing today. In the 1930s, hundreds of these homes were built as a solution to the housing needs of the fast-growing working-class population. From the 1980s onwards, most of these homes were demolished in order to make space for high-density housing. The neighbourhood's desire to preserve the memory of the "Semi-rural Houses" led 2015 to the opening of an exhibition that explores the "Semi-rural Houses" history through photographs, videos, maps, three-dimensional models and captivating stories about everyday life. Open Saturdays 2.30–5.30 pm or everyday on request for groups of min. 6 people. Tel. +39 0471 095474, www.comune.bolzano.it/casasemirurale.

**36 Cinè Museum:** The Museum informs about movie- and tvtechnology of the local cinema's history. It presents projection machines of the past, video cameras, editing machines, flatbed editors, projectors, films etc. as well as historic documents, posters and documentary films. It proposes also film festivals, conferences and didactic activities, castings. Open Tue–Wed and Fri–Sat 9.30 am–12 pm and 3–6 pm. Closed in July, August and on holidays. www.cinemuseum.eu.

## Rencio and Santa Maddalena

The old centre of Rencio is located in a picturesque location around the church of S. Paolo (desecrated in 1786) and **S. Lorenzo 37**; the latter referred to for the first time at the end of the 11th century and still having the choral area and bell-tower in Roman style. It was subject to successive reworks, round apse and bell tower in 1712, and took on today's form in 1823. The interior features a small representation of the saints Lorenzo and Apollonia by M. Unterperger. Opposite is the 7th century fountain ("Ziggelbrunnen"). This is a major wine growing region, embellished by the slopes lined with grape vines. The



"Schiava" grape variety is cultivated here and vinified in the Santa Maddalena hills, hence the name of its famous ruby red table wine. Rows of wine farms line the hill and the Rencio quarry. Worth visiting is the church of **S. Maddalena 38**, of Roman origin, situated in a panoramic spot high up on the village hill, and it boasting a precious cycle of frescoes from the 14th century. Of interest also is the church **S. Martino in Campiglio 39**, on the other side of the valley, where there were once also vineyards. Today it does not enjoy the best position as it is between the A22 motorway and the Brennero highway. It stands out for its striking bell-tower. Consecrated in 1180 it has an exceptional frescoes decoration in fine state of repair, and which is witness to the gothic style local painting. Further information about opening hours of the churches is available direct from the tourist office (tel. +39 0471 307000).



## Walks

The **Guncina walk 40**: start from Piazza Gries where the church stands out tall and continue along via Martin Knoller, and on the left you will come to the walkway, it winding up the natural incline exposed to the sun. This promenade was opened in 1892 and dedicated to the Archduke Enrico d'Asburgo. The walk is extremely pleasant and looks over the town and provides wonderful panoramic views. The mild climate here favours the Mediterranean vegetation, it creating a botanic garden style walk of approximately one hour. If one wishes it is possible to descend in the ravine of the Fago Falls, there being a path for all of the 30 minute walk towards the river **Talvera walk 41**. At S. Antonio bridge there are various possibilities: joining the walkway on the right one proceeds by the river bank, a flat stroll along a green park area which was inaugurated in 1905. On this side of the river there is a bike path and a games area for children. On reaching the Talvera bridge one can cross to the historical town centre. If one however walks north along the river the path leads to Castel Roncolo (see 22), whereas if one crosses the river at S. Antonio one comes to the historical **S. Osvaldo walkway 42**, inaugurated in 1908. The walk is a fairly gentle uphill one along the foothills of Monte Tondo and offers many viewing points to look down on the town, the valleys around, and further along over to the Dolomites themselves. At a certain point there is a choice to proceed along to the village of Maddalena (about a one hour walk in total) or down to the S. Osvaldo area near to the historical centre. Crossing the Rencio area on the outskirts of town and going towards the Isarco river one comes to the Colle cablecar (about a 30 minutes walk) or continuing on to Virgolo, this by walking along the foothills of Colle, and continuing to Castel Flavon (about 90 minutes in total). Following the complete walking options and the wider perimeter choices one completes a ring around the town.

Every Wednesday up at Virgolo between 1530 and 1630 in the afternoon there is the chance to visit the Santa Sepolcro church, it of baroque origin, and also visit the small **S. Vigilio church 43**, decorated entirely with frescoes from the 14th century.

For further information on the walks please see the BORunning specifications and signage.

## Cablecars

There are 3 cablecars with stations within easy reach of the town centre and which take one up to plateau areas overlooking Bolzano.

**4.4 Colle - Kohlern cablecar:** South Tyrol had an important pioneering role in the development of cablecars in the early 20th century, the Colle cablecar (1908) being the first passenger cablecar in the world, and it covering an altitude difference of 840 m. It was built thanks to the flair

of J. Staffler from Bolzano, he identifying a great opportunity for tourism development. At the uphill station one of the original 6 seater cabins can still be seen today. Journey time is 6 minutes and up at Colle there are wonderful walks at all levels of difficulty.

**45 Renon - Ritten cablecar:** the new Renon cablecar is located just along from the railway station and there are cabins which leave every 4 minutes and arrive at Soprabolzano, up on the Renon plateau at a height of 1221 metres, just 12 minutes later. It is possible to cross parts of the plateau with the famous small train which goes across as far as Collabio, passing meadows and old farmsteads on the way. There are splendid views of the Dolomites, they particularly beautiful near sunset when they take on shades of crimson, just as depicted in the legends of King Laurin. At Longomoso it is possible to admire the great natural monument of the Earth Pyramids, they the highest of their type in Europe and dating back 25,000 years.

**46 S. Genesio - Jenesien cablecar:** located to the north of the town, reachable on foot by taking the path along the river Talvera or by car in the direction of Sarentino. Just a few minutes and one is up at the village of S. Genesio (1087 m), it situated just before the Salto plateau, at Monzoccolo (better known as Tschöggberg). From here there are great walks all over the plateau, accessible in all seasons, and affording the most magnificent views over the Dolomites.

## Extra

**Family:** Bolzano is a fascinating mix of culture, history and nature for the whole family. Directly in the historical centre you can find the Archaeological Museum (Ötzi) and the Museum of Natural Sciences. Wide green spaces with playgrounds await you along the Talvera Promenades from where you can also reach Castle Roncolo and the swimming pool K. Dibiasi, indoor in winter and outdoor in summer. Three cable cars will bring you up to the meadows and woods of Colle, San Genesio and Renon where you will have a wonderful panoramic view on the Dolomites and where you can do lots of hiking tours. Sports enthusiasts can enjoy the climbing hall Salewa Cube **47**.

**Bad weather program:** sometimes it rains in Bolzano, but don't worry! There are many museums waiting for you (we recommend to book the entrance at least one day in advance at the Ötzi Museum); markets, shops where you can find traditional South Tyrolean clothes and also typical local culinary delights. If you are interested in the history of the city, you can participate in one of our guided tours (see weekly program). Sports enthusiasts can enjoy the climbing hall Salewa Cube **47**.

### Guest Cards

**Bolzano Bozen Card:** your guest Card for Bolzano and environments. This card gives you a great number of advantages and is your personal admission to a world full of attractions and bonus. The guest card is only available in the partner accommodations.



**Mobilcard** lets you use the public bus and rail network for 1, 3 or 7 consecutive days.

**Museumobil Card** combines two offerings: the use of all means of public transport on 3 or 7 consecutive days and admission to over 90 museums in South Tyrol. Info: www.mobilcard.info.

**The water of Bolzano** is good. It is certified by the more than 150 controls that Seab carries out every year. Drink the tap water. It's good for the environment and your wallet.

Info: www.seab.bz.it/privati/acqua-di-bolzano.



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# Historic and cultural route

City Centre - Churches - Castles - Museums



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## Itineraries

### THE CITY CENTRE

ca. 2.5 km | 30 mins | accessible for everyone ♿

Piazza Walther, Piazza Domenicani, Via Goethe, Piazza Erbe, (optional: Via Museo, Via Cassa di Risparmio, Via della Roggia) Via dei Francescani, Via Bottai, Portici, Piazza Erbe, Via Argentieri, Piazza del Grano.

### BOLZANO & WINE

6 km | 1.45 h | 150 m difference in level

Piazza Walther, Portici, Ponte Talvera, Talvera Promenade, St. Osvaldo promenade, Hill of Santa Maddalena, Via Brennero, Piazza Municipio.

### GRIES

4.3 km | 1.10 h | urban option

Piazza Walther, Portici, Ponte Talvera, Corso Libertà, Piazza Gries, Old Parish Church, Via Segantini, Via Fago, Via Principe Eugenio, Via Montello, Via Guncina, Talvera Promenade, Ponte Talvera.

### GRIES

7 km | 2 h | hiking option

Piazza Walther, Portici, Ponte Talvera, Corso Libertà, Piazza Gries, Old Parish Church, Guncina Promenade, Talvera Promenade, Ponte Talvera.

The duration of the tours is meant without the visit to the attractions.



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