South Tyrol Nature Parks

UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITE

South Tyrol's mountain ranges are surrounded by sheltered valleys, where they gently ascend up to heights of 2,000–2,200 meters, where they slowly merge with the krummholz landscape. The Swiss pine spread above sea level that have not been cleared by man, take the form of a typical coniferous forest. In the extensive Swiss pine forests it is possible to observe wildlife such as the capercaillie, the lesser spotted eagle, the ibex, the chamois or the wall lizard. The Cantonal Nature Park of South Tyrol is the only site in Switzerland where the chamois is found in the wild. The Iberian ibex, which for centuries was traditionally used as summer pastures for the local shepherds are still standing. Although these settlements have disappeared, traces of their presence can still be found. In the nature reserves, the landscape is characterized by ancient forests, the presence of man can be seen and felt in many places. Centuries of traditional forestry methods and the adaptability of this species to the varying environmental conditions have an important role in the protection of the park area. About the villages that are scattered throughout the Nature Park are still small meadow villages with houses made of stone and wood. The Swiss pine forests thrive on their slopes at altitudes between 1,200 and 1,400 meters, where they form broad forests and have branches down to the ground. The understorey of these forests is extreme park. The subalpine meadows farther up four bee hives with pointed tups and branches that reach down to the ground. The spine forests are under quite safely, but when exposed to human pressure, they are easily susceptible to damage. The Dolomites UNESCO world heritage site was added to the list of the UNESCO World Heritage Sites in 2009, following a proposal to protect the natural and cultural heritage of the Dolomites. It is the second largest world's natural heritage site. Today, the Dolomites are a major tourist destination and a symbol of the beauty and diversity of nature.
South Tyrol Nature Parks
Nature parks are of utmost importance for the preservation of all species, both flora and fauna, and for their ecological education and research, providing an opportunity to experience nature. The concept is based on a few clear principles:
1. South Tyrol Nature Parks protect and preserve the diversity of the mountains, with their habitats, plants and animals.
2. Information, environmental education and a special service offer options to new understandings of nature and promote good governance.
3. The Nature Parks are open to the public for public use.
4. Forest and alpine farming and transhumance are maintained using sustainable methods.
5. No construction is permitted (except for the forest and alpine farming and transhumance) no overdevelopment, mines, gravel mines or use of water for hydroelectric industrial purposes is allowed.

A Brief Overview of the Nature Park
Everyday life is not easily conceivable unless on a daily basis become aware of the nature and its power. South Tyrol offers us the chance to do this. 30,882 hectares of natural landscape are the pastures of Fanes, Senes/Sennes, Fosses and many other mountain lakes beneath pale bleak rocks. Vasamontes, the flowering paradise located at the feet of the Hohen Gaisl/Croda Rossa and the Dürrensteins/Dolomia Plätzwiese/Prato Piazza, the flowering paradise located at the feet of the Nature Park. Between the forest lands it is possible to take the full advantage of the views, the climate and the useful power of Alpine meadows. In the southwest area of the Park, at the foot of the Kährlakofel/Croda Largo, La Val di Polsa, St. Leonhard/San Leonardo, Stern/La Villa and Sankt Martin in the valley a road branches (with bus service in the summer) off to Ponticello parking area in Altpragsertal/Valle di Braies Vecchia.

Lago di Braies, set in a rock basin, is the most impressive lake in all South Tyrol. The Pragser Wildsee/Pragser Wildsee is a small lake bathed in light, against the forces and dangers of nature. The Pragser Wildsee/Pragser Wildsee is located on the left bank of the Brenner Pass valley and is thus part of the Pragser Wildsee/Pragser Wildsee. Beneath an imposing wall sits Pedraces, St. Leonhard/San Leonardo, Stern/La Villa and Sankt Martin in the valley at the feet of the Pragser Wildsee/Pragser Wildsee. Beneath an imposing wall sits Pedraces, St. Leonhard/San Leonardo, Stern/La Villa and Sankt Martin in the valley at the feet of the Pragser Wildsee/Pragser Wildsee.

The South Tyrol Nature Parks are protected areas of national importance. The Nature Park is a special landscape: the pastures of Fanes, Senes/Sennes, Fosses and many other mountain lakes beneath pale bleak rocks. Vasamontes, the flowering paradise located at the feet of the Hohen Gaisl/Croda Rossa and the Dürrensteins/Dolomia Plätzwiese/Prato Piazza, the flowering paradise located at the feet of the Nature Park. Between the forest lands it is possible to take the full advantage of the views, the climate and the useful power of Alpine meadows. In the southwest area of the Park, at the foot of the Kährlakofel/Croda Largo, La Val di Polsa, St. Leonhard/San Leonardo, Stern/La Villa and Sankt Martin in the valley a road branches (with bus service in the summer) off to Ponticello parking area in Altpragsertal/Valle di Braies Vecchia.

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