

The ladin culture, language and history

Alta Badia: Experience the 2000-year-old Ladin language and culture the authentic way.



Private Experience

Highlights

- ✓ Discover the "viles" and the Ladin way of life on a farm hike in Alta Badia.
- ✓ Get to know Ladin agriculture, culture and traditions
- ✓ Lunch with Ladin specialties with mini Ladin language course

The origins of the Ladin language date back 2000 years and the language is still spoken today in the Dolomite valleys. In the traditional villages of the Badia and Gardena valleys, the awareness of their own language - which is, by the way, the oldest in South Tyrol - decisively determines their identity and thus forms the cradle of South Tyrolean culture and way of life.

On this tour you will discover this special, oldest part of the culture and language of South Tyrol. Join us on a journey through the origins of the Dolomite valleys and the Ladin identity. Experience in an authentic way the beauty of this region, the way of life of the people and a unique, over 2000 year old culture, which has been preserved and lived in all its facets in the heart of the Dolomites until today.

Your Experience Manager

Who would be better suited to accompany you on this voyage of discovery through the Ladin identity than a real "local guide": Mrs. Anneliese Paratoni, herself a Ladin and a resident here, certified tour guide, book author and expert on Ladin culture, will accompany you on this experience tour on a voyage of discovery through the background and special features of the Ladin cultural world. Discover the Ladin way of life with us and look forward to many exciting encounters.

Ladin farm tour

You will be picked up in the morning in a comfortable Executive Van directly at the hotel and drive to Wengen, on the edge of the Fanes-Sennes-Prags Nature Park. At the "Costa Weiler", high above the valley at an altitude of 1,500m, you will start on foot along an ancient high-altitude trail through the well-tended cultivated landscape, with the impressive Dolomites as your backdrop throughout the day.

The "Viles" - the Ladin way of life

You will explore various "viles" one after the other, the original settlement form, which, in its typical Romanesque style, was strongly oriented towards social coexistence and thus enabled the survival of families as self-supporters in this remote area. In the "viles" there is not only a special architectural style, but also a whole philosophy of life, which clearly differs from the Germanic type of settlement, e.g. in the neighbouring Puster Valley, and ultimately constitutes the special type of people.

Experience living agriculture

You will be impressed by the fact that the viles are still inhabited and the people are still active on the farms. You will experience people working in the fields every day and carrying out farming activities with a casualness as if time had stood still.

Enjoying Ladin cuisine and immersing yourself in the Ladin language

This warmth will also pass through your stomach when, at lunchtime, you are served dishes in one of the viles. Eventhough the dishes consist of only a few ingredients, they are transformed into delicacies with a lot of love and effort. Whether Canci Checi, Panicia y Tutres, Crafuns Mori, Cütles da Pom, Fortaies...., the original recipes of these typical dishes were created in a time when it was a matter of pure survival, therefore very simple in content, but often very labour-intensive in preparation, because time was understood differently than today. Furthermore, in old days the preservation of food was vital, as it was preserved for several months with very special methods such as smoking, curing, drying, fermenting, boiling down. At the table there is the opportunity to learn in detail about Ladin cuisine and intangible cultural assets such as customs and religion, as well as to immerse oneself in the unique neo-Latin language.

Hidden place: The Chapel of St. Barbara

In the afternoon, the discussion of the various aspects continues while hiking. One highlight is the Chapel of St. Barbara, built on a rocky outcrop and perched on a hill above Wengen with incredible views over the valley. This is the perfect location to come to rest and absorb the many new impressions, so that they can linger for a long time and the day remains unforgettable. After a day full of exciting experiences and insights, you will return to your hotel.

Price information at the reception.

