

Dear visitors of HOHEN RÄTIEN, please note:

Private ground

Enjoy your visit to this historic site and the beautiful view of the Domleschg valley and „Viamala“-gorge.
Since approx. 1470 the hill and the complex of HOHEN RÄTIEN are privately owned, but we keep it open to the public. Please be respectful to the occasional residents.

Meadow & dogs

Please do not to walk on the tall grass and use the mown sidewalks instead.
Dog must be kept on a leash, if the cattle are in the field.

Danger



- Special care must be taken throughout the site.
- Be careful of the unsecured rock edges: the plateau drops 250m vertically on two sides.
- Keep an eye on children and make them aware of the surrounding dangers.
- Climbing walls is prohibited at all times throughout the entire site.
- You enter the facility at your own risk.
- We do not accept any liability.

Groups

HOHEN RÄTIEN is open to individual visitors.

Reservation in advance is required if you are visiting the site with school classes, groups (8 persons or more) or for special events.

Camping /overnight stays

HOHEN RÄTIEN is not available for camping and overnight stays.
Contact the municipality of Sils or the campground in Thusis for further information on camping locally.

Friends of HOHEN RÄTIEN

Get involved by becoming a partner.

To help HOHEN RÄTIEN remain open for visitors and enjoyment in the future, we would appreciate your support.
Your donation to friends of HOHEN RÄTIEN will ensure the consistent maintenance and security of the site

IBAN: CH04 0900 0000 7001 0261 8

A club membership is possible but not necessary, or mail to castle@hohenraetien.ch

For more information, please visit our website: www.hohenraetien.ch

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HOHEN RÄTIEN

historical site



There is much to discover on the „Munt Son Gion“. (Johannisberg)

Neither fortress nor castle of the nobility - so what is it? Come explore and put together the pieces of history.

The large rock plateau high above the Hinterrhein-River is one of the oldest settlement sites in Switzerland - an exceptional cultural asset in Graubünden with **4000 years of history**.

Due to its proximity to the Splügen Pass, HOHEN RÄTIEN was an important site on the transalpine route. As the prime connection between North and South Europe, many people and goods travelled through this region and stopped here.

Traces of settlements from the **Bronze and Iron Ages (2500-800 BC)** were found here, remains of a Roman station, **late antique sacred buildings with a baptistery and a baptismal font** from the 4th or 5th century. You will also find the church of St. Johann & Viktor which was once the **centre of the large parish** of Domleschg and Heinzenberg.

The inner castle-like complex is thought to be a „Sust“ with a muleteer's hostel and a sheltered warehouse area.

Discover for yourself what this historical gem has to offer. Enjoy the wonderful views of Domleschg, Heinzenberg and the Viamala Gorge. We invite you to linger and let your mind be carried away into times long past by reflecting beside the fountain or under the oak trees.

We hope your visit to HOHEN RÄTIEN will be memorable.

Admission for the visit of HOHEN RÄTIEN*:

Fr./€ 5.00 (Adults)

Fr. /€ 3.00 (Children 6 - 16 years)

Groups and schools can book in advance at a reduced price.

* Please pay your entrance fee at the cash box at the entrance.

Opening hours: The site is open all year round from 9.00h to 20.00h.

Visit our website www.hohenraetien.ch

HOHEN RÄTIEN

historical site

museen graubünden
museums grischuns
musei grigioni

PRIVATE PROPERTY / within UNESCO World Heritage RhB
Under the protection of the Swiss Confederation and Canton Graubünden

A: Secular part of the site

Function still uncertain: „Sust“ with hostel, horse changing station and warehouse, separated from the rest of the complex like a castle.

A1: Hoch Rialt

Core of the inner site. A possible „Susthaus“ with hostel. Two construction phases are clearly visible in the N and S walls.

Already „broken“ in 1470, huge cistern in the rock foundation, 1989 - 91 restored with impluvium roof. Viewing terrace accessible for visitors.

A2: Lower / Upper kennel

A3: Vaulted cellar

Foundation walls of indefinite date. Cellar with vaulted ceiling. Restaurant from about 1880 to 1914, ruined during WW1. 1974 - 76 restored.

A4: Presumably a warehouse

The purpose and use of this building is largely unknown. Presumably it is a later added warehouse. Former roof course: Gable in Rtg. NO/SW. 1972 - 73 restored.

A5: Fountain

Built in 1999 out of Val-Malenco serpentine stone. The water is piped over approx. 2 km from a spring on the Maiensäss Carschenna.

A6: Watchtower

Built around 1200 to guard access to the plateau. East and south walls collapsed in the 19th century. Inside, reddish masonry indicates destruction by fire. 1984 - 87 restored.

B: Sacral area

The church St. Johann & Viktor and its predecessor buildings dating back to Roman times with a late antique/early medieval baptistery and baptismal font.

B1: „Vicarage“

until 1505 presumed residence of the priests. Possibly the seat of the „Viztum“. Traces of great destruction and numerous alterations. 1975 - 78 restored. Today private accommodation. No access.

B2: Church St. Johann & Viktor

Once a parish and baptistery church for the whole valley (Domleschg and Heinzenberg) and thus the former centre of the large parish on the „Munt Sogn Gion“. Extension to the older sacral buildings (i) in the O/NO. Abandoned in the 16th century. 1980 - 81 restored and newly roofed.



B3: Predecessor church / Parochia de Rialt (first mentioned 1210)

An extension built on the foundations of even older porches. Presumably destroyed by an earthquake in 1295.

B4: Baptistery with baptismal font 4th/5th

2011-2018 reconstructed baptistery with beautifully preserved octagonal baptismal font. Served the first Christians for adult baptism.

B5: Late Roman building

forms the core of the sacral zone. Coin findings dated to the middle of the 4th century indicate the possible existence of a Roman temple that was later converted into an early Christian church.

B6: A former hospice

Found cup tiles of an early form of the tiled stove discovered during the archaeological excavation (2000 - 2006), suggest the presence of a medieval pilgrim hostel.

C: Not enclosed area (extra muros)

Not visible: Wall foundation possibly of a late Roman watchtower.

u: Enclosing walls

HOHEN RÄTIEN has no true fortification walls. The early medieval wall surrounding a great part of the plateau is still visible in some places. It was more of an enclosure than a defensive wall.



Public barbecues

we ask you to use the provided fireplaces for BBQ. You can find the wood at the edge of the forest by the saddle at the bottom of the hill.

Opening hours

The area is accessible all year round from 9.00h to 20.00h. Access to the St. Johann & Viktor Church, the Baptistery and the Hoch Rialt with its viewing platform is usually possible at weekends with the residents or members of the Friends of HOHEN RÄTIEN present.

rent a castle

You can also rent HOHEN RÄTIEN for weddings, parties or business events etc. Call 079 443 15 83 or email us at castle@hohenraetien.ch.

We will be happy to advise you.

Guided tours

Would you like to learn more about the fascinating history of this particular place? Book a guided tour at www.hohenraetien.ch to uncover the mysteries of this 4000-year-old gem.

Exhibition

In Hoch Rialt (A1) you will find a photo exhibition on the restoration work that has been going on for almost 50 years and to which numerous young people and members of the association (Förderverein) have contributed voluntarily.