

## Culture

Many castles and residences on the hills and slopes of the region are a testimony to times where the locals defended their grounds from the many peoples crossing these lands who all left traces of their cultures behind. Over the centuries South Tyrol was influenced by farmers, merchants and even miners. Vineyards on gentle slopes and rolling hills and countless apple trees in the valley form a harmonious countryside.

### Brief historic overview

The area surrounding Terlan boasts a very favourable microclimate. It is therefore no wonder, that evidence of human settlement in the area dates back extraordinarily far. The oldest traces stem from the neolithic period (around 2000 BC). On the Greifenstein motte e.g. remnants of clay vessels from prehistoric times were found in the year 1966. At the Patauner farm in the village of Siebeneich a celtic tombstone was found in 1961. The name TERLAN is first documented in 828 as "Taurane" and in 923 as "Torilan". In time it evolved into the name as it is today. In medieval times Terlan was the seat of the Court of Neuhaus. Its jurisdiction included today's villages of Terlan, Andrian, Nals and Vilpian. The last female Tyrolean sovereign, Princess Margarethe of Görz-Tirol, known as Margarethe Maultasch, frequently resided in Castle Neuhaus above Terlan. For this reason the ruins of the castle are nowadays better known by their vernacular name "Maultasch Ruins" rather than by their actual name "Neuhaus". In the 16th century mining had its heyday in Terlan. It was mostly potter's ore that was mined for and later turned into silver. However, the yield became sparse and therefore mining came to an end in the region. In the 20th century, around 1907, the mines in Terlan and Nals were reopened once more. In Terlan-Kreith the mines were worked in with some interruptions up to the 1950s. The silver mine brought wealth to the citizens of Terlan. This is mostly expressed in the magnificent building of the parish church with its precious gothic frescos. The name of one of Terlan's favourite red wines the "Silberleiten" also alludes to its illustrious past.

The heraldic figure of Terlan.