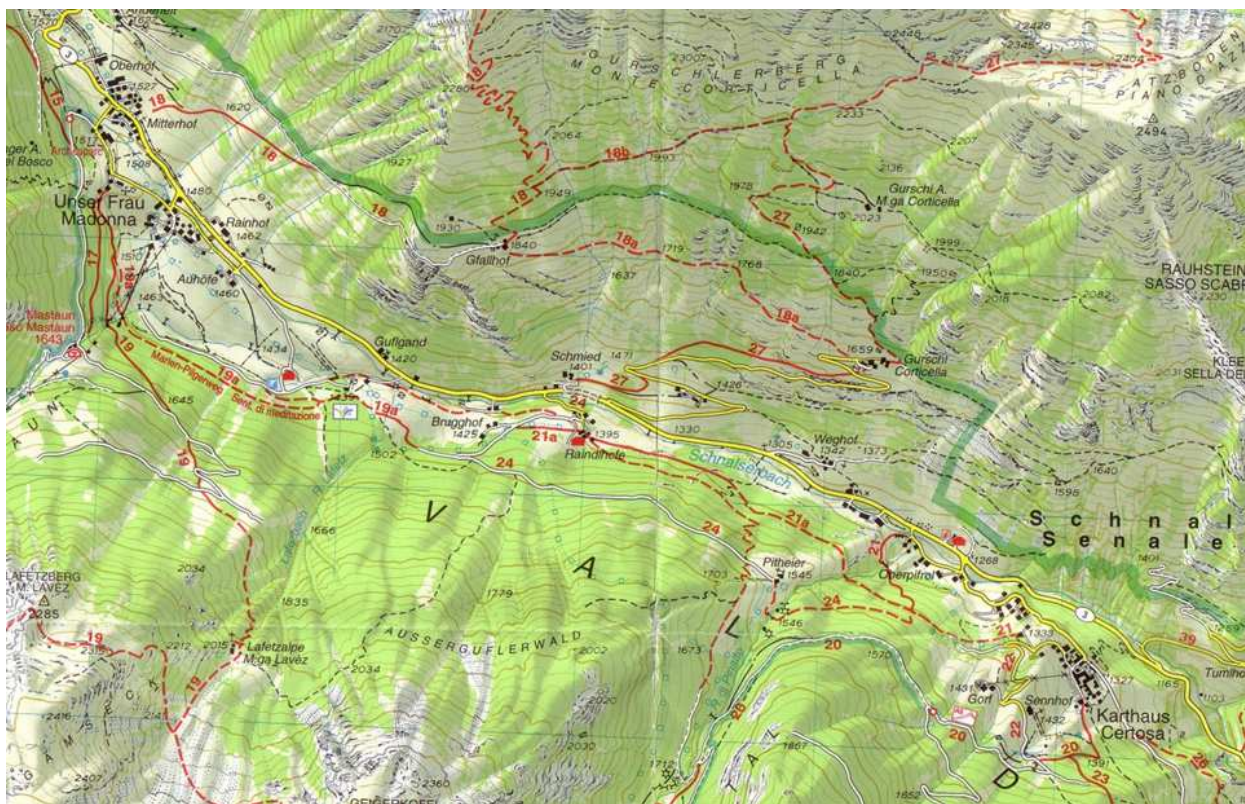


: Ötzis Lebensraum entdecken *Tracking Ötzi's trails*

Hike from Certosa to Madonna

Duration:	approximately two hours.
Change in elevation:	181 m, from 1,327 m to 1,508 m (594 ft., from 4,354 ft. to 4,948 ft.)
Trail marking:	Madonna, trails no. 21, 21a, and 19a
Difficulty:	easy, although good hiking equipment and concentration are recommended for this path.



Topographical map: Tabacco 04

You can arrive by public bus or tour bus to the large parking lot in Certosa. From here, if you and your group are interested and have the time, you can marvel at the remains of the wall of the Carthusian monastery Allerengelberg (the cloister, outer walls, kitchen, etc.). The monastery was founded in 1326, but as a result of the Josephinian reforms, it was disbanded in the eighteenth century. From the large parking lot, follow the trail signs to Madonna. The village road soon turns into trail no. 21 and later 21a and 19a, but always in the direction of Madonna. Very soon, the results of impressive landslides can be seen on the slopes on the other side of the valley, as can the retaining wall that was built in 1997.

After the small wooden bridge, with which you will cross the Penaud River which also lent its name to the side valley, the trail ascends gently, leads over a meadow, and then continues on comfortably. Along the way, you can look across to the other side of the valley once again and see historical farms that are typical to the Val Senales valley. The oldest farmhouse complexes date back to the twelfth century.

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About halfway along, you will pass by the Reindlhöfe, and from here, the trail continues uninterrupted along a logging road for approximately one kilometer (5/8 of a mile), after which it continues into the woods. The larch forest of the Val Senales valley with its characteristic shrub vegetation is the largest contiguous larch woodland in South Tyrol. Incidentally, the larch was already known to and used by Ötzi, and the quality of its wood is esteemed well beyond the Val Senales valley. In addition, the eye of the hiker will be pleased in the summertime with deep tones of green and in autumn with the golden-colored needles which bathe the entire valley in a very special atmosphere. Toward the end of the hike, the path climbs once again with a series of steps, to then continue along a brief flat section before descending. From here, it is already possible to catch a glimpse through the larch forest of the village Madonna, the largest of five villages in the Val Senales valley. Visible at a distance is the Church of St. Mary, which dates back to 1304 and which is the oldest pilgrimage church in all of Tyrol. The sculptures along the last section of the pathway are a part of the St. Mary's Path of Contemplation. After crossing the Mastaun Stream, you will soon reach the church square. Keep left for 150 m (150 yards) and you will arrive at the archeoParc Val Senales.

Literature recommendation:

Georg Mühlberger: *Die Karthause Allerengelberg in Schnals* [in German]. Lana: 1995.

Questions?

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