

DISCOVER

# TROGEN IN THE APPENZELL REGION

ITS BAROQUE DIVERSITY,  
ITS TRACES LEFT THROUGHOUT  
THE WORLD



The history and activities of the **Pestalozzi children's village** are documented in the local visitors' centre (60 minutes).

The multimedia exhibition **«The Zellweger Century»** provides information about the village centre (thematic introduction in the «Waschhäuschen» at Landsgemeindeplatz 15-30 minutes, audio tours and walks 40-90 minutes).

It takes 5-10 minutes to walk from the station to Landsgemeindeplatz and 10-15 minutes from the station to Pestalozzi children's village.

The short walking routes to the Pestalozzi children's village or the secondary school are shown on the reverse side of the town map.

## A MAJOR HISTORICAL CENTRE

Following the partition of the Appenzell region in 1597, Trogen became the seat of the councils and courts of Outer-Rhodes. In even years the cantonal assembly met in the square in the village centre on the last Sunday in April right up until its disbanding in 1997.

## NATIONAL SIGNIFICANCE

This village centre (a place of national significance) is unique in its combination of palatial stone houses and typical Appenzell wooden dwellings, dominated by the early classicistic church facade with its column structure. The present form of the village centre stems from the pre-industrial era, when everywhere in the region spinning, weaving and embroidery were cottage industries. The people thus employed prospered when the economy, dependent on the mills, factories and merchants, was healthy. That this was particularly the case in the second half of the 18th century is reflected in the buildings commissioned by the Zellweger and Honnerlag families, who between 1747 and 1810 erected one palatial home after the other. These families traded in linen, raw wool and woollen products internationally, their network including branches in the major European cities of Lyon and Genoa. The advent of industrialization, with the increased use of water-driven machines and new transport routes, however, spelled the end of Trogen's era as headquarters of an international firm. This was a blessing in disguise, for as a result the village today has retained its baroque and classicistic centre.

## INVIGORATING MOUNTAIN AIR AND SPECTACULAR VIEWS

The boundaries of Trogen have remained unchanged since the end of the 17th century. The community has a total area of 10 km<sup>2</sup> and is situated on the

northeast slope of Mount Gäbris. «Anyone looking for a glittering, sparkling spa experience will not find what they are looking for here», an advertisement of the 1880s begins. «But anyone who finds pleasure in fresh, invigorating mountain air, milk and whey, reasonably-priced guesthouses with friendly accommodations, splendid paths to hike on and grand mountain views will not be disappointed.» This description still applies today.

## EDUCATION, CULTURE AND CONVALESCENCE

A prestigious private school, which was later to become the secondary school, was founded in 1821, followed in 1823 by the cantonal library. Trogen's cultural life was further enriched with printing offices, a natural history centre and an art gallery. Visitors were delighted by both the historical village centre and the Honnerlag gardens with their promenades and summer houses. In the second half of the 19th century a hospital was erected and - influenced by the holiday camp movement - the Zellweger children's convalescent home for the sickly and nervous children of well-to-do families opened its doors. It was in these surroundings that the artist Sophie Taeuber-Arp grew up. The former hospital is now run by the Palais Bleu Association as a place where artists can live and work.

## FOR YOUNG AND OLD ...

Since 1903 Trogen has been connected to Sankt Gallen by an electric tram, which nowadays makes it convenient for visitors to come in winter. From the turn of the century until the 1970s boarders at the secondary school lived in the village. More recently the community's 1700 inhabitants have been experiencing a renaissance, the renovation of many buildings making the village centre even more attractive, and cafés and restaurants inviting visitors to drop in and relax.

## ... AND THE EXCEPTIONAL

In 1974, the former Martens spa hotels were renamed «Werkheim Neuschwende» and became a residential and working area for people with mental disabilities. Institutions such as the Tipiti organisation with its day-schools for children and young adults with special needs have located in Trogen. The Pestalozzi children's village, originally created in 1946 as a home for European war orphans, is today a place of intercultural exchange between young people from southeast Europe and Swiss school classes. This foundation is active in twelve countries throughout the world, where it strives to promote better access to good education. Today the vision of the founder of the Pestalozzi children's village, Walter Robert Corti, remains unchanged: to contribute to the creation of a more peaceful world through encounters and education.



**ZELLWEGER CENTURY**  
Landsgemeindeplatz 1, CH-9043 Trogen  
Tours +41 (0)71 343 64 21  
kontakt@jahrhundertderzellweger.ch  
Mon-Fri 8 a.m.-5 p.m., «Waschhäuschen» also Sat / Sun  
www.jahrhundertderzellweger.ch

**PESTALOZZI CHILDREN'S VILLAGE**  
Kinderdorfstrasse 20, CH-9043 Trogen  
Tours +41 (0)71 343 73 12  
besucherzentrum@pestalozzi.ch  
Mon-Fri 8 a.m.-12 noon, 1-5 p.m.  
Sun 10 a.m.-4.30 p.m.  
www.pestalozzi.ch

**COMBINED TOURS**  
+41 (0)71 343 64 21, +41 (0)71 343 73 12

**CULTURAL NETWORK**  
www.trogen.ch  
www.ar.ch/kantonsbibliothek  
www.museen-im-appenzellerland.ch  
www.textilland.ch  
www.appenzellerland.ch  
www.oberschwaben-tourismus.de



Rococo stucco work in the community hall



The interior of Trogen church and details of chancel painting

- KEY**
- Information
  - Paths
  - Car parks
  - Public transport
  - Restaurants
  - Cafeteria
  - Food
  - ATM



Secondary school Trogen



In the upper village



Pestalozzi children's village



«Waschhäuschen» as starting point for the «Zellweger century»



Palatial stone houses and church at Landsgemeindeplatz in the village centre of Trogen