

Key to Symbols

- SBB/RhB ticket counter
- Information units
- Car parking
- Taxi
- Rent-a-Bike/Bikestation
- Pedestrian area
- ATM
- Hospitals
- Theatre
- Vantage points
- Park+Ride
- Coach parking
- Bus stop
- Toilets
- Playground
- Hiking paths
- Shopping centre
- Tourist Info, Chur Tourismus

Hotels

- Hotel ABC
- Hotel Chur
- Hotel Drei Könige
- Hotel Franziskaner
- Ambiente Hotel Freieck
- Hotel Post
- Hotel Stern Chur
- Zunfthaus zur Rebleuten
- Bogenstrakt Hostel SENNHOF

Sights

- Old St. Nikolai Monastery
- Bärenloch (see over)
- Episcopal Palace and Court
- Vazerol monument, Regierungsplatz
- Haus Zschaler
- Kirchgasse / Antistium (see over)
- Malteserturm
- Oberer Spaniöl
- Obertor (see over)
- Town Hall City of Chur (see over)
- Gate tower to the Episcopal Court
- Unterer Spaniöl
- Haldenhütti
- Italienische Brücke

Churches

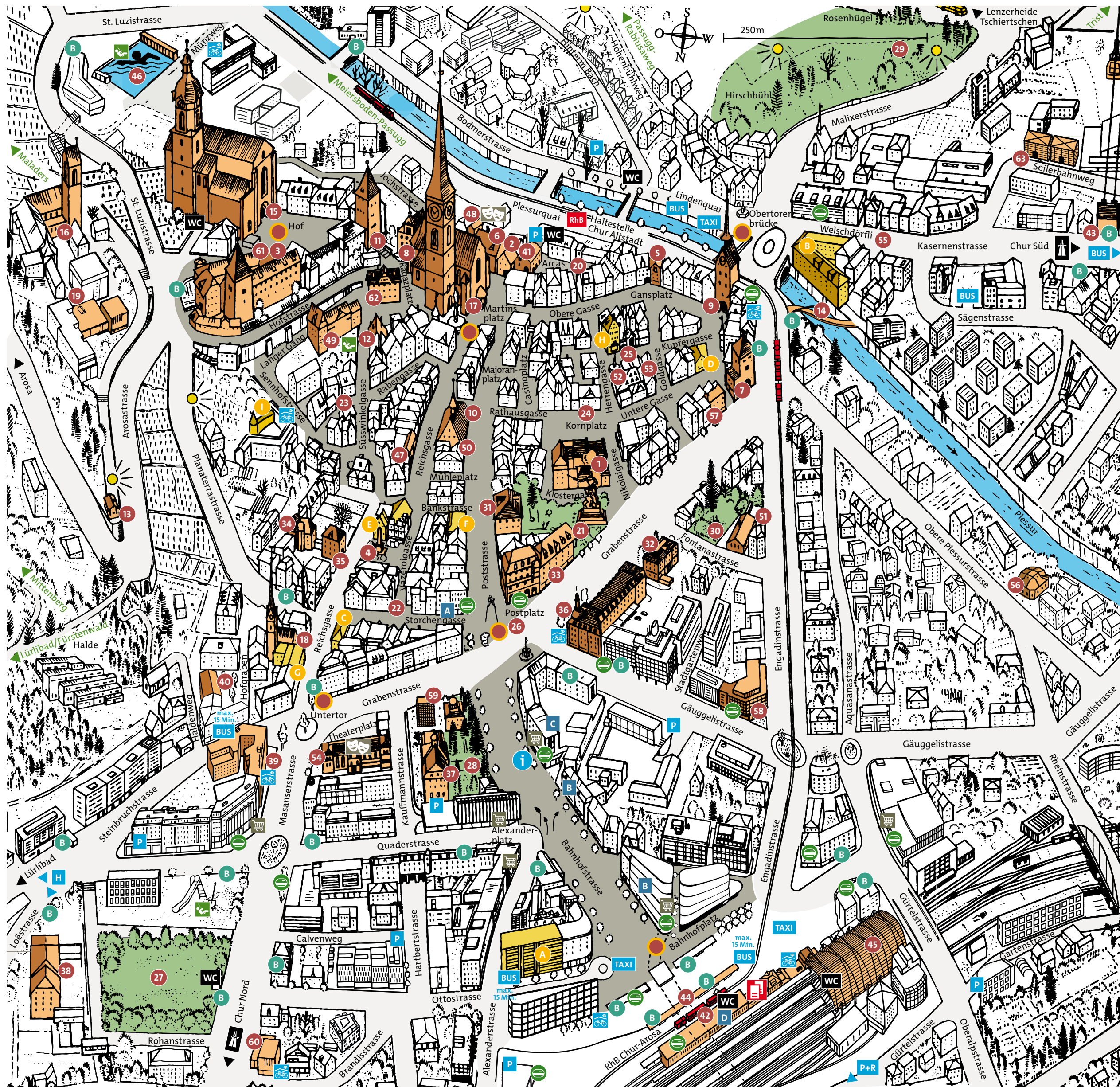
- The Cathedral St Mary of the Assumption (see over)
- St. Luzi Church
- St. Martin Church (see over)
- St. Regula Church
- Excavations at the St. Stephan Church

Squares / Parks

- Arcas (see over)
- Fontanapark (see over)
- Gigerplatz
- Hegisplatz
- Kornplatz (see over)
- Pfisterplatz / Zunfthaus zur Rebleuten (see over)
- Postplatz (see over)
- Quaderwiese / Quader outdoor ice rink
- RhB-Park
- Rosenhügel
- Stadgarten (municipal park)

Administration

- Altes Gebäude
- Former state building (cantonal court)
- Graubünden Cantonal Bank
- Cantonal library, cantonal archive
- Neues Gebäude (cantonal government)
- Former postal building / city library (see over)
- Rhaetian Railway administration building (see over)
- Quader school building
- Stadthaus
- City archives
- Haus zur Metzg (Citizens' community)



Experience culture, enjoyment and history.

Welcome to Chur, Switzerland's oldest city and the cultural centre of Graubünden. This traditional bishopric city delights visitors with its beautifully preserved old town, the bishop's castle and the imposing three aisled Cathedral of St. Mary's Assumption. If you want to discover Chur, don't miss a guided tour of the old town – an exciting journey through history and narrow streets.

As the capital of the canton, Chur is home to three cantonal museums that showcase fascinating aspects of local culture. You will also encounter art at every turn in public spaces – including around 25 surprising works of street art that creatively enrich the cityscape.

The car-free old town with its winding alleys invites you to enjoy a leisurely shopping spree. Over 130 restaurants and numerous cosy cafés provide culinary diversity and, with their mild climate, give the city a Mediterranean flair that tempts you to enjoy yourself and linger.

Gateway to Graubünden.

Charming Chur is an ideal starting point for unforgettable discovery tours in the region. A highlight is the local mountain Brambrüesch, Switzerland's only urban summer and winter sports resort that can be reached directly from the city centre by cable car. As the hub of the Rhaetian Railway, Chur provides access to well-known holiday resorts such as Davos, St. Moritz and Arosa, as well as the world-famous panoramic routes of the Bernina and Glacier Express. Tschierschen and other idyllic mountain villages are also easily accessible by post bus.



Transport

- SBB / RhB railway station (see over)
- Chur-Brambrüesch aerial cableway
- Bus station Chur Bus
- PostBus station (see over)

Culture & Leisure

- Sand outdoor swimming pool
- Birth house of Angelika Kauffmann
- Klibühni
- Marsöl
- Municipal gallery
- Postremise cultural centre
- Literaturhaus Graubünden
- Werkstatt Chur
- Chur Theatre / Cantonal Parliament (see over)
- Welschdörfli (see over)
- Lia Rumantscha
- AdventureRooms
- GKB Auditorium

Museums

- Museum of Fine Arts (see over)
- Museum of Natural History (see over)
- Cathedral Treasure Museum (see over)
- Rhaetian Museum (see over)
- Roman Excavations, Welschdörfli (see over)

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Hotels

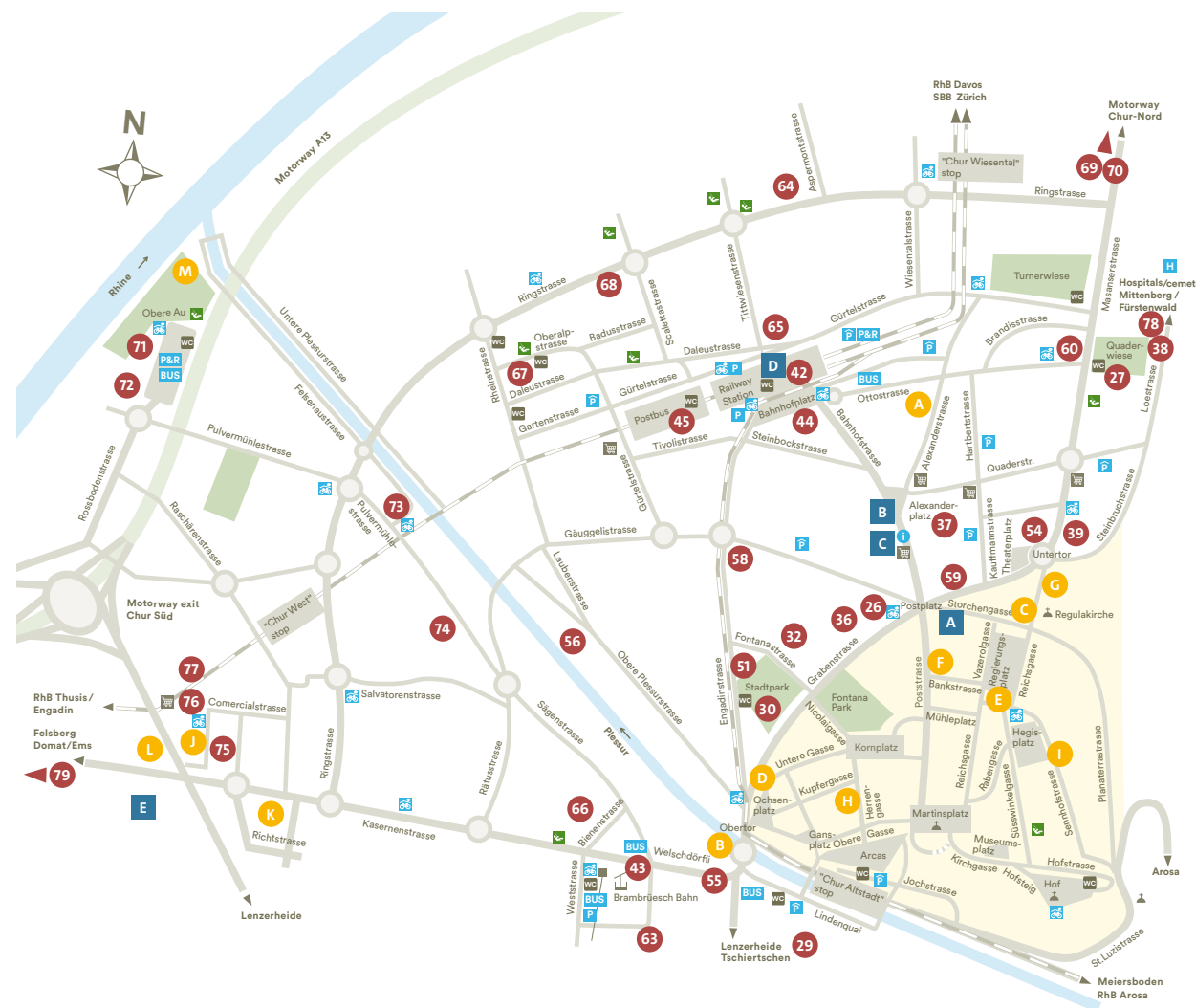
- J** Hotel Mercure Chur City West (bus no. 6)
- K** Hotel Ibis (bus no. 10/11/12)
- L** Hotel Sommerau (bus no. 10/11/12)
- M** Campingsite Camp Au (bus no. 2)

Museums

- 64** Forum Würth Chur (bus no. 5)

Culture & Leisure

- 65** Titthof (bus no. 5)
- 66** Kulturhaus (bus no. 10/11/12)
- 67** Erlöser Church (bus no. 3)
- 68** Comander Church (bus no. 3/4)
- 69** Heiligkreuz Church (bus no. 3)
- 70** Church Masans (bus no. 3)
- 71** Chur sports and event facilities (bus no. 2)
- 72** AREON event hall Chur (bus no. 2)
- 73** Climbing centre (bus no. 2)
- 74** Padelta (bus no. 2)
- 75** Giger Bar (bus no. 10/11/12/6)
- 76** City West shopping centre (bus no. 6)
- 77** blue Cinema (cinema/VR/sport bar, bus no. 2)
- 78** Torculum (bus no. 3)
- 79** Quadrel Boulder Domat/Ems (bus no. 11)



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Chur



2 Bärenloch

The Bärenloch, or "bear hole", is one of the most enchanted places in the city of Chur – and at the same time one of the bestpreserved parts of the Old Town. The origin of this name, given to the two interior courtyards between Arcas Platz and Kirchgasse, is unknown – yet it is an appropriate description all

the same. However, in ancient documents the dark Bärenloch is referred to as "curschellas", a late Latin term simply meaning "small courtyard rooms". Indeed, the two rooms still seem small and cramped to this day, thus making the Bärenloch a good example of the living situation in late Medieval Chur.



6 Kirchgasse / Antistitium

In the shadow of the St. Martin Church is a row of houses of considerable historical significance. Situated on Martinsplatz itself, Haus Reydt, with its three-storey oriel, was built in 1574 in the late Gothic style. Adjoining it is Haus Menhardt, erected the same year and in

the same style. Next door is the even older Antistitium, whose neighbouring building contains important paintings from 1580. These depict, in a comical reversal of reality, rabbits catching a hunter. The Zunfthaus der Schneider (guildhall of the tailors' guild) was rebuilt following the city fire in 1464. Today it houses an armchair theatre.



9 Obertor

The Obertor, together with the Malteserturm and the Sennhofsturm, are the towers of the medieval fortifications that are still standing today. Thanks to its attractive appearance, the Obertor soon advanced to become one of Chur's landmarks. While the four-storey building, which narrows towards the top,

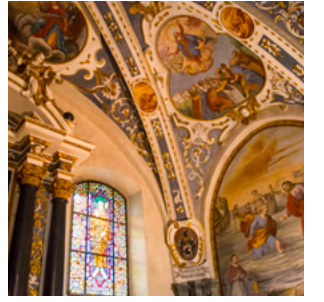
fits into the overall structure of the settlement, at the same time it stands apart from the other terraced buildings due to its light exterior. The paintings in the archway, some of which are based on old views of the city, date from the 20th century.



10 Town Hall City of Chur

Something is a bit crooked about Chur's politics – at least, that's what you might think if you took a closer look at the Town Hall. Due to its uneven ground plan and the sloping ridge of the roof, the building appears to be rather out of joint. That has nothing to do with the politics, but rather to

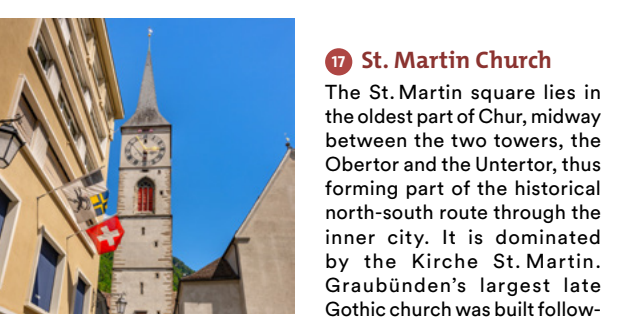
the building's history. After the city fire in 1464 it was reconstructed, and was subsequently renovated and extended on a number of occasions. Until 1554 it also housed the Spital zum Hl. Geist hospital. The interior of the Rathaus, with its cultural assets from various epochs, bears witness to its varied history.



15 Episcopal Court and Cathedral

The fortifications surrounding Chur's Episcopal Court make it look like a miniature town, high above the city. In the centre of the court stands the late Romanesque Cathedral, which was finally completed in 1272 after a construction period lasting over a century. Built

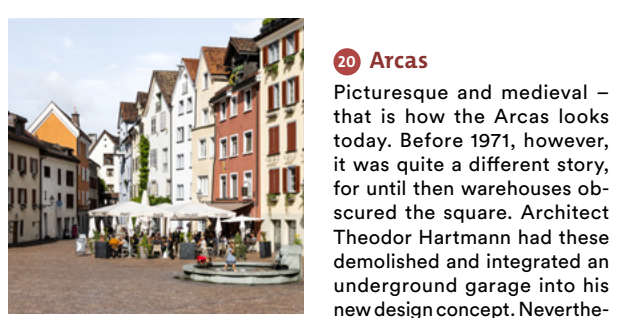
around it are the Episcopal Palace and the canons' houses, which progress down towards the city and finish up bordering onto a tower. This tower still houses a late Gothic drinking parlour from the early 16th century. First signs of settlement on this site date back to the late Bronze Age (1,300 – 800 BC).



17 St. Martin Church

The St. Martin square lies in the oldest part of Chur, midway between the two towers, the Obertor and the Untertor, thus forming part of the historical north-south route through the inner city. It is dominated by the Kirche St. Martin. Graubünden's largest late Gothic church was built following

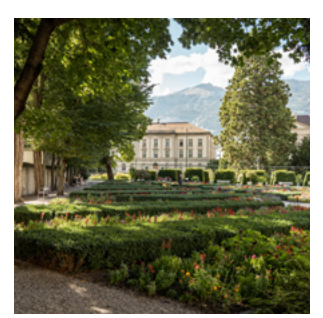
the city fire in 1464 using parts of the previous Carolingian building. An attractive feature is the three stained-glass windows painted by Augusto Giacometti in 1919. The Martinsbrunnen dates from 1716. Its basin is adorned with signs of the zodiac. Apart from the sign-holder and the columns, the fountain is still in its original state.



20 Arcas

Picturesque and medieval – that is how the Arcas looks today. Before 1971, however, it was quite a different story, for until then warehouses obscured the square. Architect Theodor Hartmann had these demolished and integrated an underground garage into his new design concept. Neverthe-

less, the Arcas has still retained its medieval character, for the row of houses extending towards the Plessur river are built onto the old city walls. And these – as can be seen at Arcas 25 – are thought to date from the 13th century. Nowadays, the medieval houses, with the modern open spaces in between, give the square a picturesque touch.



21 Fontanapark

Back in the 18th century, Fontana Park was a resplendent sight, with its exotic shrubs and plants, elaborate fountains and heated greenhouses. However, in those days it was a private pleasure garden. In 1727, diplomat Peter von Salis-Soglio built a house, the Altes Gebäu, together with a large garden at

Poststrasse. The present-day name of the park, which was redesigned in 2006, alludes to Benedikt Fontana, who died a hero's death in the Battle of Calven in 1499 during the Swabian War. A monument by sculptor Richard Kissling, created in 1903, is dedicated to Graubünden's version of William Tell.



24 Kornplatz

This square is older than its name; until the 17th century it was still known as Klosterplatz. Then the adjoining monastery was closed and a corn granary set up in the church. With the departure of the monks, the old name for the square also disappeared. The name Kornplatz (Corn Square) has remained to

this day – in spite of the fact that the once stringently controlled corn trade was liberalised in 1840 and the corn granary closed down. While the square served as a site for various markets right into the last century, these days it is an important intersection between the sleepy Old Town and the livelier modern district.



25 Pfisterplatz / Zunfthaus zur Rebleuten

In mediaeval towns, craftsmen united to form guilds to better promote their interests. With the onset of industrialisation and freedom of trade, the guilds disappeared during the 19th century. Pfisterplatz and the Zunfthaus zur Rebleuten remain as present-day witnesses to this past era. The domicile of the Pfisters, the bakers' guild, was located not far from here. The Rebleute (winegrowers) bought their guild house in 1483 and owned it until they disbanded in 1839. Since 1915, a large mural on the façade recalls bygone days.



26 Postplatz

The Postplatz is a hub of everyday life in Chur, for two important transport axes cross here. With its large department stores, Bahnhofstrasse, which continues into the Old Town as Poststrasse, constitutes the busiest shopping promenade in Chur. Grabenstrasse, which today leads the traffic around

the outskirts of the Old Town, is historically also a "strolling mile". For Grabenstrasse was designed as a typical 19th century boulevard – wide and impressive. Today it also marks the site where the former city walls once stood.



36 Former postal building / city library

The building, designed by architects Jean Béguin and Theodor Gohl, was built between 1902 and 1904 and is the largest neo-renaissance building in Chur. It is no coincidence that the building exhibits many features seen in other post offices in Switzerland: when it was

built, the "federal renaissance" was heavily subsidised by the state. Its construction is made yet more magnificent by its richly decorated facades and roof sculptures by the Genevan artist James Vibert. In 2017, Swiss Post left the location. The building was then restored and in 2018, the town library of Chur moved into the premises.



37 Rhaetian Railway (RhB) Administration Building

Large and grey, yet friendly – that sums up the building constructed by St. Moritz architect Nicolaus Hartmann between 1907 and 1910. While its grey, starkly structured façades give the building a majestic appearance, thanks to its large fore-

court it is not overpowering. The architecture is an expression of the so-called "Bündner Heimatstil", a movement that took up and developed the traditional style of building of the region. The prestigious yet agreeable administration building is regarded as one of the movement's most significant works.



42 SBB/RhB railway station

In 1858, the first train steamed into Chur. Or rather, to the outskirts of Chur, for in those days, the region between the Old Town and the Rhine was largely undeveloped. However, long before the railway era, Chur was a key transport hub to the

north of the passes over the Alps. The architecture of the glass roof, which has spanned the railway lines and PostAuto forecourt like an archway since 1994, bears witness to this significant role. The main building on the Bahnhofplatz dates from 1878 and adjoins a restaurant, which was added in the early 20th century. Between 2001 and 2008 the station was extended and modernised, for which it won the Brunel Award in 2011.



54 Cantonal Parliament Building / Chur Theatre

Occasionally politics and theatre seem to be the same thing. But here in Chur they merely share the same roof. It was designed between 1861 and 1863 by architect Johannes Ludwig, who also built the Museum of Fine Arts. The conversion into a municipal theatre and a Grand

Council building in the same structure took place in 1959 according to plans by architect Martin Risch. In 2008/2009, the entrance to the Grand Council building on Masanserstrasse was redesigned, while the theatre doors open onto Theaterplatz. Today, the Chur Theatre presents a diverse stage programme with plays from Graubünden and around the world.



55 Welschdörfli

63 Roman Excavations

A "pleasure mile" with a Roman past – that is the Welschdörfli. In Roman times, a settlement comprising living quarters, workshops and a thermal spring stood close to where bars rub shoulders with clubs. The area was actually inhabited

much earlier; excavations on the Ackermann site have resulted in archaeological finds dating back to the Neolithic Age (5,000 – 1,800 BC). Since 1986 the finds from Roman times have been protected by special buildings designed by Graubünden architect Peter Zumthor and are accessible by the general public.

Information / viewings: Chur Tourism, tel. +41 81 252 18 18
Rhaetian Museum, tel. +41 81 257 48 40



59 Museum of Fine Arts

The ostentatious villa with its historicising use of forms is a typical building from the Neo-Renaissance period and dates from 1874 – 1876. However, the villa, with its two sphinxes either side of the steps and the Byzantine and Pompeian artwork in the interior, also has an exotic air about it. And not

without reason: the owner was the Bündner, Jacques Ambrosi-von Planta, a cotton merchant who lived for many years in Egypt, a fact that architect Johannes Ludwig took into consideration when designing the Villa Planta. Since 1919 the building has housed the Museum of Fine Arts. The museum's extension opened in 2016. The project, entitled "The Art of the Fugue" was designed by Estudio Barozzi Veiga of Barcelona.



60 Museum of Natural History

1872 the "Museum for Science and Culture of Graubünden" was founded. Also the nature collections were located here. 1919 the Natural History Collection in the Villa Planta at the Postplatz was relocated, and in 1929, on the same site, the new building for the "Natural History

and National Park Museum" was inaugurated. The heritage of Dr Moritz Blumenthal, who died in 1967, made it possible to unify all the departments of the museum in one site. In 1976, the new construction of the present museum, planned by the architect Bruno Giacometti, could be started in the Masanserstr. 31. On 21 March 1981 the exhibitions were opened to the public. naturmuseum.gr.ch, +41 81 257 28 41



61 Cathedral Treasure Museum

The Cathedral Treasure Museum comprises of two groups of objects: The actual Cathedral Treasure and the cycle of murals of the images of death from 1543, both of which are exhibited on two floors and are of unique value to visitors of all ages and specialists. The loca-

tion of the museum, the baroque Episcopal Palace in Chur, is a grown cultural monument of international importance and also one of the most important secular buildings in Graubünden. domschatzmuseum-chur.ch, +41 81 258 60 20



62 Rhaetian Museum

Once a manor house, now a museum for the public: The Rhaetian Museum presents the history of Graubünden from its beginnings to the present day. Changing special exhibitions and a permanent exhibition spread over four floors invite visitors on a journey through the centuries. It includes archaeo-

logical, cultural-historical and folkloric objects from across the canton of Graubünden – from prehistory and early history through the Middle Ages, the Renaissance and the Baroque period to the 19th and 20th centuries. Throughout the museum, there are activities aimed specifically at children. raetischesmuseum.gr.ch, +41 81 257 48 40



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