

Cantonal  
Museums  
of the Valais

March  
– Sept.  
2015



Programme  
Events  
Exhibitions



Exhibition:  
*Im—*  
permanence.  
The Valais  
on the Move

13.06.15 —  
03.01.16

The museums of Art, History and Nature have joined forces and skills to present a major exhibition. *Impermanence* shows the changes that have taken place through the geological ages and until the dawn of the 22<sup>nd</sup> century. If you believe that the Matterhorn is changeless, that the Valais is Catholic and both French- and German-speaking, that the borders of the canton are fixed, that the Conches Valley is far from the centre, and that the snows are eternal... then you are in for a surprise. This exhibition upsets established ideas and offers a different, unexpected and stimulating vision of the canton. *Impermanence* is fully interactive and invites the public to act and ask questions about the future—of the Valais and of the planet.



Impermanence. The Valais on the Move  
Le Pénitencier  
Exhibition Centre of the Cantonal Museums  
Rue des Châteaux 24 – Sion  
13.06.2015 to 03.01.2016  
June to September: Tues. – Sun. 11:00 – 18:00  
October to January: Tues. – Sun. 11:00 – 17:00  
www.musees-valais.ch



Event:  
*The de Courten  
Panels*  
on Centre Stage at  
the Théâtre les Halles

24.04 —  
30.04.15

In an exceptional event presented by the History Museum and the Théâtre les Halles, the luxurious interior decoration of the mansion of the de Courten family in Sierre painted in 1766 will be shown in the original arrangement. This will be a unique opportunity to rediscover the complete ensemble of 18 monumental canvas panels in the "Rehearsal Hall" of the theatre in Sierre. Saved from the destruction of the living room for which it had been designed, this decoration has not been seen in its entirety in over 60 years. *Love is the Doctor, the School for Husbands, Sganarelle, Tartuffe, Mélicente and the Learned Ladies* were all subjects taken from the comedies of Molière. Reason enough to present this first-rate cultural legacy in a major venue of contemporary stage productions.



*The de Courten Panels* on Centre Stage  
Théâtre Les Halles  
Route Ancien Sierre 13 – Sierre  
Only from the 24<sup>th</sup> to the 30<sup>th</sup> of April 2015  
Opening hours:  
14:00 – 17:00 (closed Mondays)  
www.musees-valais.ch



2015  
Agenda

March –  
September

March  
01.03

First Sunday  
of the month,  
free admission

03.03

Vacation at  
the Museum  
– Workshop at the  
Nature Museum (Ger.)

April  
03.04

Vacation workshop  
at the Museum (Fr.)

05.04

First Sunday of  
the month,  
free admission

07.04

Vacation workshop  
at the Museum (Fr.)

10.04

Vacation workshop  
at the Museum (Fr.)

23.04

Opening of the event  
*The de Courten  
Panels on Centre  
Stage at the Théâtre  
les Halles, Sierre*

24 –  
30.04

*The de Courten  
Panels on Centre  
Stage at the Théâtre  
les Halles, Sierre*

26.04

Guided tour of *The  
de Courten Panels*  
on Centre Stage, with  
Romaine Syburra-  
Bertelto, Théâtre les  
Halles, Sierre, 16:00 (Fr.)

May  
03.05

First Sunday  
of the month,  
free admission

17.05

Celebration  
of Castles and  
Museums

June  
07.06

First Sunday  
of the month,  
free admission

12.06

Opening  
of the exhibition  
*Impermanence.  
The Valais  
on the Move*

13 –

14.06

Special inauguration  
weekend of the exhi-  
bition *Impermanence*

13.06 –

03.01.16

*Impermanence,*  
exhibition

July  
05.07

First Sunday  
of the month,  
free admission

August  
02.08

First Sunday  
of the month,  
free admission

07 –  
08.08

Activities for the  
official celebration  
of the Bicentennial

Sept.  
06.09

First Sunday  
of the month,  
free admission

12 –  
13.09

European  
Heritage Days

24.09

Lecture: *Une his-  
toire du paysage  
au prisme des col-  
lections du Musée  
d'art du Valais,* Céline  
Eidenbenz, museum  
director, 20:00. (Fr.)

25 –  
26.09

Experiment Days,  
the Nature Museum  
commemorates the  
200th anniversary of  
the Swiss Academy  
of Sciences. (Fr.)

Coming  
soon!

Winner of the Manor  
Cultural Prize Sion  
2015, the group  
Barbezat-Villetard  
will take over the  
Art Museum starting  
on 28 November!

Details at  
[www.musees-valais.ch](http://www.musees-valais.ch)

# Valais Art Museum

The same landscape, differently

One landscape, many artists: the Valais Art Museum brings into a meaningful context works from the 18th century till today. This key institution for artistic creation in the region organises its collections in three main areas: landscape painting, the painters of the Savièse school ca. 1900, and contemporary works. A visit to the Museum is an invitation to experience alpine heights with the painters of Romanticism, to spend a never-ending Sunday in the company of Biéler, Burnat-Provins or Vallet, and to discover contemporary works that combine high tech and tradition (Abramovic, Carron, Duarte, etc.). Located at the foot of the Valeria and Tourbillon hills, it is housed in two castles. The tour of this unique site leads visitors to terraces with panoramic views.



Place de la Majorie—Sion  
October to May:  
11:00—17:00 (closed Mondays)  
June to September:  
daily 11:00—18:00 (closed Mondays)  
[www.musees-valais.ch](http://www.musees-valais.ch)

# Valais History Museum

50,000 years of history



Located on an internationally famous architectural site, the Valais History Museum invites you to take a 50,000-year journey through the past. The galleries occupy the former chapter residences and show how the canton was formed in the course of the centuries. The History Museum contains treasures that are unique in the world, like the funerary steles from the site of Le Petit-Chasseur (displayed at Le Pénitencier during temporary exhibitions), medieval liturgical chests, and uniforms of the Swiss Mercenaries. These objects are witnesses of the daily life of the inhabitants of the Valais, from its beginnings until today. To discover these treasures in a less serious way, playful and interactive tours are available for families. What better way to plunge into the past of this region of passage and trade, and to reflect on its future?



Valeria Castle—Sion  
October to May:  
11:00—17:00 (closed Mondays)  
June to September:  
daily 11:00—18:00  
[www.musees-valais.ch](http://www.musees-valais.ch)

# Valais Nature Museum

Humans and Nature



Through its original approach, the Valais Nature Museum has surprises and attractions for young and old. Gone are the traditional display cases with carefully classified animals: the eyes and the senses are in for a treat. The various natural environments of the Valais serve as decor. The visit begins with a total immersion: the visitors find themselves face to face with the animals that live in the forests, more real than life. The tour of the rooms documents the relationships that humans established with their environment, from the beginnings to our day. The presentation explains and questions our relationship with nature. The barriers between the visitors and the animals, absent at the beginning, become more and more apparent, a symbol of the increasing distance between humans and their environment.



Rue des Châteaux 12—Sion  
October to May:  
11:00—17:00 (closed Mondays)  
June to September:  
11:00—18:00 (closed Mondays)  
[www.musees-valais.ch](http://www.musees-valais.ch)

# In addition...



The Museums offer a wide range of activities:

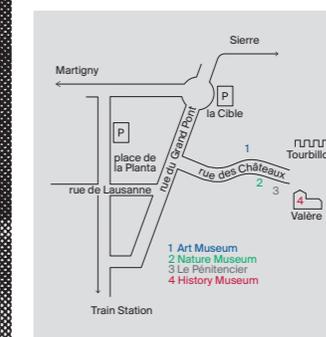
- Free admission one Sunday a month
- Guided tours upon request
- Workshops during school vacations (Mardi Gras, Easter, Autumn, Christmas)

- Key events such as the “Celebration of Castles and Museums” and “Night of the Museums”
- Special offers for schoolchildren

For more information:  
[www.musees-valais.ch](http://www.musees-valais.ch)  
Look for the Cantonal Museums of the Valais on Facebook!



Feeling hungry? The cafeteria and terrace at Valeria are at your disposal during the opening hours of the History Museum.



The three Museums and Le Pénitencier are all located on the heights of the Old Town of Sion.

Picture credits: Valais Cantonal Museums, Sion; G. Collignon, J.-Y. Glassey, M. Martinez, B. Aymon, D. Emery. Cover page: detail of *We are all astronauts*, Julian Charrière, 2014, Valais Art Museum. Page 2: detail of *Matterhorn*, Corinne Vionnet, 2006, Valais Art Museum. Page 5: works *Ohne Titel*, Pascal Seiler, 2012, and *Zeitdokument*, Maria Ceppl, 2002-6, Valais Art Museum— Graphic design: Louisa Gagliardi  
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