



## Moths

Exhibition until 15 April 2018

Moths, or nocturnal butterflies, are discreet and little-known creatures. They deserved the monograph published with the support of the Nature Museum. This study, the result of a great collective effort, catalogues and describes the 600 species of moths found in Switzerland. Many enthusiasts joined forces in order to study, identify and draw these engaging butterflies.

The exhibition reveals the richness of their world and demonstrates the value of such a publication for the protection of the environment. The original plates illustrating the monograph, drawn by Hans-Peter Wymann, serve as a guiding thread through the exhibition and have become part of the Nature Museum's collection.



4 February:  
free bilingual guided tour

Eric Philippoz Exhibition until 11 Nov. 2018

Eric Philippoz, winner of the Manor Valais Cultural Prize 2017, occupies a room of the Valais Art Museum with his installation: *Le carnotzet*. This type of wine cellar plus estaminet, a folk invention and place of sociability usually reserved for initiates, has been reinterpreted by the artist from a contemporary angle. According to the critical and offbeat approach that characterizes the artist, he built "his carnotzet" in the image of his personality and the references that nourish his practice, giving us a sort of 3D self-portrait. From the hunting trophies to the karaoke of gay bars, he calls clichés into question and marvels at their ambivalence.



Prolongation Let's Walk: take a step, take a stand

The exhibition of the Art Museum has been prolonged until 18 March 2018.

Le Pénitencier, Sion  
Tue – Sun: 11:00 – 17:00



Coming soon: RISK

The Nature and History museums propose an immersion in an alpine territory marked by natural risks. The exhibition will examine our relationship to the environment by calling our perception of the risks in question. It is part of the RISK project being conducted by

the Archives de l'Etat, the Médiathèque Valais and the Cantonal Museums under the auspices of the Service de la Culture.

Starting 09.06.2018  
Le Pénitencier, Sion

Coming soon: Looking at glacier archaeology

An exhibition of the History Museum.

Because of the increased warming of the climate, glaciers are bringing to light remains that have been trapped in the ice for decades, centuries, or even millennia. These frozen remains provide valuable information on human movements and the uses of high altitude zones in the course of time.

Starting 06.10.2018  
Le Pénitencier, Sion



## Events

Every first Sunday of the month, the cantonal Museums offer interesting activities free of charge. For example:

Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> April

In the three Museums Bring your baskets and fishing rods: it's time for an Easter egg and rabbit hunt!

Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> June

The table is ready! The History Museum initiates you into culinary practices from prehistory until the present day. Take home some braided dough with saffron to bake yourself.

## Festival of Castles and Museums

20 May

A festive day devoted to families, entirely free of charge, and offered by the partners of the sites of Valera and Tourbillon to launch the cultural season and celebrate International Museum Day. Among the must of the day, the performance of Eric Philippoz *Leave the Ice-Axes against the Wall*, proposed in the context of his exhibition *Le carnotzet* at the Art Museum.



## Are you on holiday?

Come to the Museums and have some exciting and fun experiences!

15 February: "Things that crawl in the night" (*Ça grouille dans la nuit*), at Le Pénitencier, 14:00–16:00, 7–11 years

16 February: "The table's ready!" (*A table!*) at the History Museum, 14:00–16:00, 8–12 years

30 March: "Strange eggs" (*Drôles d'œufs*) at the Nature Museum, 14:00–16:00, 7–11 years

3 April: "Karaoke Swing", at the Art Museum, 14:00–16:00, 8–12 years

6 April: "In the Apse of the Valera Basilica" (*Au chevet de la Basilique de Valère*), 14:00–16:00, 9–13 years

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

## How to find us?



The three Museums, the Valera Basilica and its Treasure, and Le Pénitencier are all located in the high old town of Sion (accessible from May to September with the tourist train *Le P'tit Sédunois*).



For more information:  
[www.musees-valais.ch](http://www.musees-valais.ch)  
You will also find the Valais Cantonal Museums on Facebook!

Picture credits: Valais Cantonal Museums, Sion: O. Lovey; S. Ansermet; M. Martínez; G. Collignon; J. Straessle; lindaphoto.ch; B. Dubuis and M. Martínez; p. 3 Graphics by Jérôme Lanon based on photographic research by Eric Philippoz in the carnatzets at Ayent, 2017; p. 4 Valentine Carron (b. 1977), Gérard, 2016, collection of the artist.  
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Graphic design: Louisa Gagliardi - Printing: Schoechli. Translation: Jean-Marie Clarke.



## Valais Art Museum

With its focus on the history of landscape, the School of Savièse and contemporary art, the collection of the Valais Art Museum presents itself through an original thematic tour accentuated by certain artists (Ritz, Biéler, Burnat-Provins, Vallet, Duarte, Carron). You can discover works in dialogue with the Sublime in the Alps, the lost paradises of the Belle Epoque, the forces of nature, or the climatic issues of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. There are also temporary exhibitions at *Le Quatrième* and on *Le Créneau*, and a tour specially made for children, all the while strolling through the medieval castle and its picturesque terraces.



Place de la Majorie – Sion  
Tue. – Sun.: 11:00 – 17:00 (18:00 June – September)  
[www.musees-valais.ch](http://www.musees-valais.ch)

## Looking at landscape

Free guided tours and activities on the first Sunday of the month.

For visitors who are blind or have impaired sight, the Art Museum offers a *Touch & See* option.

## Valais Nature Museum



The Valais Nature Museum will surprise and enthuse you with its original approach. The various natural environments of the Valais serve as background. The tour begins in total immersion, with visitors at eye-level with the animals that inhabit the forests, as real as life. From room to room the tour brings out the relationship that humankind has had with his environment, from the origins until today. The design of the exhibition explains and questions our increasingly distant relationship to nature.

Rue des châteaux 12 – Sion  
Tue. – Sun.: 11:00 – 17:00 (18:00 June – September)  
[www.musees-valais.ch](http://www.musees-valais.ch)

## Man and Nature

Free guided tours and activities on the first Sunday of the month.

Due to renovation and expansion of the geological collection, the Nature Museum will be closed until 28 March 2018 inclusive.

## Valais History Museum

Located at the heart of an internationally famous monument, the Valais History Museum invites you to take a trip 50,000 years back into the past. The tour takes you through the former residences of the chapter canons and shows how the canton came into being over the centuries. The History Museum also presents treasures that are unique in the world and that bear witness to the lives of human beings in the Valais: the bronze ornaments of the Rhône Culture, medieval liturgical chests, or the collection of uniforms for the mercenary service. Families may take part in interactive and fun tours to discover these treasures.



Château de Valère – Sion  
October to May: 11:00 – 17:00 (closed Monday)  
June to September: daily 11:00 – 18:00  
[www.musees-valais.ch](http://www.musees-valais.ch)

## 50,000 years of history

Free guided tours and activities every first Sunday of the month.

The Steles from Le Petit-Chasseur  
These anthropomorphic steles unearthed in Sion are valuable vestiges of Neolithic art and prehistoric culture in the Alps. These treasures are on display at Le Pénitencier during temporary exhibitions.

## The Valera Basilica and its Treasure



The site of Valera combines an impressive landscape and a long religious heritage. Accompanied by a trained guide of the History Museum, you will discover the oldest church organ in the world still in working condition and the Basilica Treasure, which has recently been put on display in the former Hall of Archives. This Treasure features some extremely rare pieces: you will be able to admire precious Byzantine textiles, Oriental carpets, medieval chests, and the splendid carved and painted decoration of the Chapel of Guillaume de Rarogne. With its original presentation, this precious heritage bears witness to nearly 1,000 years of continuous occupation of the site by the Sion Cathedral Chapter.

Guided tours:  
October to May:  
Tue. – Sat. at 10:30, 12:00, 14:00 and 15:30, Sundays at 12:00, 14:00 and 15:30.  
June to September:  
Mon. – Sat. at 10:30, 12:00, 14:00 and 15:30, Sundays at 12:00, 14:00 and 15:30.

Due to major renovation work in the apse until June 2019, only the nave of the Valera Basilica will be accessible to the public. Check dates when the restoration site may be visited at [www.musees-valais.ch](http://www.musees-valais.ch)

Time for a snack?  
The Valera Cafeteria and its terrace are at your service during the opening hours of the History Museum.