



Tour Information



Art and Architecture in South Tyrol





Passports

You may need to renew your British Passport if you are travelling to an EU country. Please ensure your passport is less than 10 years old (even if it has 6 months or more left on it) and has at least 6 months validity remaining from the date of travel. EU, Andorra, Liechtenstein, Monaco, San Marino and Swiss valid national identification cards are also acceptable for travel.

For more information, please visit: [passport checker](#)

Visas

As a tourist visiting from the UK, you do not need a visa for short trips to most EU countries, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland. You'll be able to stay for up to 90 days in any 180-day period. For all other passport holders please check the visa requirements with the appropriate embassy.

For further information, please check here: [travel to the EU](#)

For all other passport holders please check visa requirements with the appropriate embassy.

Italian Consulate-General: "Harp House", 83/86 Farringdon Street, London EC4A 4BL.

Tel: (0)20 7936 5900. Fax: (0)20 7583 9425.

Open Mon-Fri 0900-1200

Email: consolato.londra@esteri.it

Website:

http://www.conslondra.esteri.it/Consolato_Londra



Tickets

Included with your detailed itinerary is an e-ticket, which shows your flight reference number. You will need to quote/show this reference number at the check-in desk, and you will be issued with your boarding pass. Online check-in is not available.

Your Group Scheduled or Club Class ticket is non-transferable and non-refundable. No refund can be given for non-used portions.



Baggage allowance

We advise you to check the baggage allowances carefully as you are likely to be charged the excess if you exceed the weight limit. Maximum weights for single bags apply.

With British Airways your ticket includes one hold bag of up to 23kg plus one cabin bag no bigger than 56 x 45 x 5 cm and a personal bag (handbag or computer case) no bigger than 45 x 36 x 20 cm.

Please contact the airline for further information.

<http://www.britishairways.com>

Labels

Please use the luggage labels provided. It is useful to have your home address located inside your suitcase should the label go astray.

Departure Tax

The departure tax is included in the price of your flight tickets.

Border Control

At border control, you may need to:

- show a return or onward ticket.
- show you have enough money for your stay.
- use separate lanes from EU, EEA and Swiss citizens when queueing.

Taking food into EU countries

You are not able to take meat, milk or any products containing them into EU countries.

Transfers

On arrival in Verona, transfer to Rovereto to explore the 'old town' and then on to Bressanone and the Grüner Baum hotel.

Special Requests

If you haven't already done so, please notify Travel Editions of any special requests as soon as possible to allow sufficient time to make the necessary arrangements. Please note that some airlines may charge for use of wheelchairs.



Accommodation

Grüner Baum Hotel, Bressanone

Centrally situated in Bressanone, the Grüner Baum Hotel is a seventh-generation family-run hotel that features a typical Tyrolean style with wood and furnishings. Hotel facilities include bar, restaurant, wellness centre with sauna, steam room, jacuzzi, and both indoor and outdoor pools. The restaurant is open for lunch and dinner and is a great place to sample traditional, regional cuisine. The comfortable bedrooms are spacious and equipped with mini-bar, air-conditioning/heating, safe, TV, hairdryer, free wi-fi and private bathroom with bath or shower.

For more information, please visit the hotel's website:

<https://www.gruenerbaum.it/en/gruenerbaum-hotels.html>



Food

Italian food rivals French in the hearts and taste buds of many gastronomes and the regional cuisine, of which the locals are very proud, wonderfully reflects the climate and local produce. Delicious pizza, pasta and risotto dishes are present everywhere throughout Italy with provincial specialities and sauces. However, this region of Italy also has its own specific cuisine and the traditional Tyrolean food found here is one of Italy's most distinct regional cuisines, with influences from Germany, Austria, Hungary, and Italy, which ensures a very rich and interesting cuisine.

You will find familiar Veneto dishes like Pasta e fagoli and polenta here, as well as more Germanic dishes such as knodeln, spaezli, and goulash, all based on locally sourced products grown here; fruits from the valleys; grapes and other crops cultivated on hillside terraces; cows, goats and sheep raised in mountain pastures; trout from streams fed by ice cold glaciers; game and mushrooms from the forests; and a variety of cheese and cured meats from pigs, sheep, and dairy cows. A typical lunch in South Tyrol will often include wooden boards piled with speck, cheese and Schüttelbrot in a country-style pub in an alpine meadow or Törggelen cellar.

Traditional desserts include plenty of rich tortes, such as the *Torta di riso* (almond, rice and amaretto custard-like cake), almond and apple cream tarts, and sweet pastas, including sweet ravioli with fruits. Ice cream and sorbets are equally popular, especially in the warmer months. Specific to South Tyrol is the famous and very tasty Apple Strudel, made from apples that are grown in the region. You can find lots of other inspiring apple deserts to choose from too.

Strong Italian espresso coffee is served after the meal and will be black, in small cups, unless a *cappuccino* is requested.

Table service is common in most restaurants and bars. Usually, a discretionary service charge is added to your bill in restaurants and bars, and no further tipping is required.

For more information about the cuisine of the region visit <https://www.italyfoodies.com/blog/south-tyrol-food-guide-trentino-alto-adige-italy>



Drink

The world's largest wine producer, Italy is home to some of the oldest viticulture regions. The wines are named according to their grape variety or after their village or area of origin. Excellent wines are produced throughout Italy, with local wines offering great value and quality.

South Tyrol is one of the country's prolific wine regions, with many varieties found in the region's wine production; Chardonnay, Cabernet, Schiava, Merlot, Moscato, Pinot Noir, Sauvignon Blanc, Pinot Blanc, Gewürztraminer, Müller-Thurgau and sparkling wines are all grown and produced here.

Apéritifs such as *Campari* and *Punt e Mes* are excellent appetisers, while Italian liqueurs include *Grappa*, *Stregga*, *Galliano*, *Amaretto*, *Sambuca* and *Limoncello*.

Meals included in the holiday are:

Breakfast daily and two dinners at the hotel with wine included.



Destination

The South Tyrol/Sud Tirol/Alto Adige is now the northernmost region of Italy, bordering, to the west, Switzerland, and to the north and east, Austria. To the south and west lie Lombardy and Milan, to the south lies Trentino, the province with which the South Tyrol is most allied and has most in common in terms of its history and terrain.

Not only the region but also the towns and villages each tend to have at least two names, a German and an Italian one and this reflects the extremely complex history of the region. German tends to be spoken in the mountains and Italian in the urban centres. However, there is another language, Ladin, which is spoken by some parts of the population and is a curious remnant of South Tyrol's Roman past.

The architecture of South Tyrol embodies a fusion of past and present, characterized by the contrast between the shapes and forms of the countryside and those of the urban environment. In the meeting of these elements a unique charm is expressed across the region. While the valleys and small villages are dotted with old farmhouses, ancient wineries and traditional huts and shelters, the cities are filled with both historic and contemporary buildings and numerous monuments, from the Romanesque era to magnificent Art Nouveau era.

In addition to numerous churches, monasteries, forts, and stately farmhouses that bear witness to South Tyrol's eventful history, a new building trend is taking hold in South Tyrol, one that emphasises the preservation of cultural heritage and yet is open to contemporary forms at the same time. Local materials and the tasteful integration of buildings into the surrounding landscape are at the centre of this movement, resulting in a new stylistic idiom in South Tyrol.

Join Clare Ford-Wille to discover the art and architecture of this splendidly picturesque region.

Places of interest included in the tour:

Rovereto

The historic town of Rovereto, which dates back several centuries, is dominated by a castle and a medieval city, which remains rich in Palaces and other historic buildings that reflect various architectural trends from the 17th to 19th centuries - from the Baroque to the Neo-classical and Liberty style. The medieval village of Saint-Thomas around the castle is separated by the Leno torrent, the inhabitants of the village would enter the fortress via the Forbato Bridge. Saint Thomas still retains the typical characteristics of a medieval age.

For more information, please visit:

<https://www.visitrovereto.it/en/discover/territory/rovereto-city-of-culture/>

Gries Church, Bolzano

This historic parish church is found in the middle of an antique cemetery. It is a late Gothic building, dating back to the early 1400's, and hosts two stunning treasures: the altar of Michael Pacher (1471-75) and the Romanesque wooden crucifix of 1200. The first one is undoubtedly a masterpiece of Gothic art, while the second one is considered of great relevance.

Bressanone/Brixen

Art, culture and history play an important role in the historic city of Bressanone where there is much to see. This South Tyrolean town is over 1000 years old, the oldest in Tyrol, and was often a stopover for Emperors on their travels. It later became a splendid cathedral town. Bressanone lies to the northeast of Bolzano on the confluence of two rivers, the Isarco and the Rienza. It was conquered by Drusus in 15 BC and was the seat of the Prince-Bishop from 1027-1803, when it passed briefly to Bavaria and then Austria until 1919, when it became part of Italy.

For more information, please visit:

<https://www.dolomites.org/valle-isarco-eisacktal/bressanone-brixen/>

Hofburg Palace, Bressanone

Hofburg, the medieval city palace of the bishops of Brixen, was built in the thirteenth century. Its magnificent inner courtyard ranks it amongst Tyrol's most impressive Renaissance buildings. It was redone in the Baroque style in the eighteenth century under Prince-Bishop Kaspar Ignaz Graf Künigl, who also had the rooms of the prince-bishopric and the imperial living quarters redesigned. In 1973, the seat of the bishop was moved to Bolzano. Today Hofburg Palace houses the Diocesan Museum, a collection of nativity scenes, and the diocesan archives.

For more information, please visit:

<https://www.hofburg.it/?lang=en>

Bressanone Cathedral

The cathedral of Brixen/Bressanone, one of the most important sacred buildings in the region, dates to the year 980 AD. Due to a major fire in the 12th century, it was redesigned in Romanesque style with a three-aisled nave and two façade towers. In the 18th century the baroque reconstruction took place, to which the cathedral owes its present appearance. Inside, the baroque idea of triumph was brought to perfection with wonderful ceiling paintings, including Paul Troger's Adoration of the Lamb. The cathedral has a valuable interior with 33 different types of marble. The high altar, which was completed by Tehodor Benedetti, is one of the most important baroque altars in Tyrol. In addition, this church was equipped with a magnificent organ.

For more information, please visit:

<https://www.brixen.org/en/culture/highlights/bressanone-cathedral.html>

Abbazia Di Novacella

One of the oldest monasteries in the Tyrol, the Abbazia Di Novacella was founded in 1142 as an Augustinian order. The monastery was lavishly endowed with vast lands and has always, and continues to be, very self-sufficient, and today is considered to be one of the oldest active wineries in the world. The monastery was once a hospice and refuge for pilgrims. Today Novacella runs several enterprises, ranging from agriculture to viticulture, and operates as an education centre.

The monastery's architecture features an eclectic mix of Romanesque, Gothic, Renaissance and Baroque styles.

For more information, please visit:

<https://www.kloster-neustift.it/en/>

Bolzano/Bozen

Bolzano/Bozen, the largest town of the area, lies in the centre of the southern part of South Tyrol and has been the capital of the province since 1927. It developed partly because it lies at the confluence of two of the main rivers, the Isarco and the Talvera, which unite and flow into the Adige about three kilometres to the southwest. The town has a dignified, old centre with the Piazza Walther von Vogelweide, named after the famous minnesinger, (a minnesinger is a 'German lyric poet and singer of the 12th – 14th centuries, who performed songs of courtly love'), in the middle of which is a statue of Drusus, stepson of the Emperor Augustus, who conquered the region in 15 BC.

For more information, please visit:

<https://www.bolzano-bozen.it/en/bolzano.htm>

Duomo di Bolzano/Bolzano Cathedral

The Assumption of Our Lady Cathedral is Bolzano's chief landmark. Consecrated in 1180, this impressive church is considered a gem of Romanesque and Gothic architecture. A special feature are the gargoyles and balustrades outside, which remind of Notre Dame in Paris. Inside, the cathedral houses numerous artworks, such as a Madonna portrait, the Crucifixion fresco on the tower wall and the baroque Chapel of Grace. The gates, the Romanesque Lion Portal and the "Leitacher Törl", are also beautifully decorated.

Chiesa di San Francesco

The Gothic buildings of this Franciscan church dedicated to St Francis, date back to the first half of the fourteenth century. Behind the choir gallery is a wooden altar with doors carved by Hans Klockner (16th century), which is considered one of the most famous Gothic works of art preserved in a church at Bolzano. According to popular belief the chapel was visited by the young Saint Francis and his father.

Chiesa dei Dominicani

Founded by the Dominicans, this medieval church was built in the 14th century in the early gothic style. The large east end is separated from the nave by a rood screen, beyond which is the Chapel of St. John that is covered in 14th century frescoes. In the cloisters are late 15th century frescoes by Friedrich Pacher.

South Tyrol Archaeological Museum

The South Tyrol Museum of Archaeology, situated in Bolzano, is the home of the preserved body of Ötzi the Iceman. Ötzi and his artefacts have been exhibited at the Museum since 1998 and form a permanent exhibition that covers three floors of the museum.

For more information, please visit:

<https://www.iceman.it/en/the-iceman/>

Vipiteno/Sterzing

With ties to the Fugger dynasty and silver mining, the City of Vipiteno is described as one of the most beautiful small towns in Italy. The 46m high landmark of the city, the Torre delle Dodici/Zwölferturm tower, is one of the most striking buildings. Its name is attributed to the fact that its bell rings at twelve to notify the citizens of lunchbreak. This small Alpine town, once a place of shelter for emperors and kings, is today a little gem, rich in historic-artistic treasures including many churches with artistic highlights from the Gothic period.

For more information, please visit:

<https://www.suedtirol.info/en/regions/bressanone-brixen-and-environs/vipiteno-sterzing>

Church of our Lady of the Marsh

This parish church is situated outside Vipiteno and is the highest church between Munich and Verona; 32 metres high while the nave is 38 metres long and 23 metres large. It was built on the ruins of a Romanesque church near the Roman cemetery. The works, directed by Hans Feur, started in 1417 and finished in 1451 while the 12-metre-high Gothic altar was added in 1458. In 1753 the church was restored by removing the Gothic parts and replacing them with Baroque decorations and frescoes. In 1860 the church underwent the last changes in neo-gothic style.

Church of St Elizabeth of the Palace of the Teutonic Order

This octagonal church was built according to a project by Giuseppe Delai between 1729 and 1733, on the site of an older chapel. Matthäus Günther of Augsburg designed both the main altarpiece and the frescoes of the vaulted ceiling, which depict St. Elisabeth and St. George, the protectors of the Teutonic Order. The walls and vaulted ceiling are embellished with the rich and extraordinarily refined stucco decorations by Anton Gigl of Innsbruck.

Vipiteno Town Hall/Rathaus

Vipiteno's impressive Town Hall was built from 1468 to 1472 in late gothic style while the angular 'Erker' (bay window) was added in 1526. In the courtyard is a Roman stone altar, dedicated to Mithras, and a milestone of the Emperor Septimius Severus, dating from the same period the military road was completed in 200 AD.

Church of the Holy Ghost

The oldest Gothic church in Vipiteno, built in 1399 within the main building of the Old Hospital. The stunning frescoes in the church, influenced by Giotto's style, were painted in 1402.

Reifenstein Castle

The Reifenstein Castle is one of the best-preserved castles in South Tyrol, well protected on a rocky hill. Until the middle of the 13th century the episcopal ministries resided at the castle and managed the surrounding countryside. In 1469 the castle was taken over by the Teutonic Order, which held it until the dissolution by Napoleon in 1809.

For more information, please visit:

<https://www.sentres.com/en/burg-reifenstein>

Trento

History, culture and nature form the foundation of Trento, the capital city of Trentino-Alto Adige. Founded by the Celts, the settlement was later conquered by the Romans. In 1004 AD Emperor Heinrich II appointed the bishops as the new rulers of the city. Despite several revolutions and uprisings, the bishops continued ruling the town until 1796 when Napoleon invaded the area. Trento then became part of the Austro-Hungarian empire. Trento boasts a culturally rich centre with monuments, manor-houses and castles.

For more information, please visit:

<https://www.trentino.com/en/trentino/trento-and-surroundings/trento/>

Trento Duomo

Trento's Cathedral is dedicated to Saint Vigilio and records indicate the first church was built on the burial ground of this saint, martyred in the fifth century but the church that stands today dates from 1212. The Cathedral is a beautiful Romanesque-Gothic building, with its famous wheel of fortune window facing out onto the piazza. The Duomo was the scene for one of the most important events in church history, when, between 1545 and 1563 the Council of Trent effectively launched the counter-reformation in Europe.

Via Belenzani frescos

The wide street, Via Belenzani, runs north from the Piazza del Duomo, and enjoys some of the best of Trento's painted facades. This is the finest street in town, with a series of palaces painted with historical, classical, and mythological motifs and faux architectural details.

Castel del Buonconsiglio

The Buonconsiglio Castle was the residence of the prince-bishops of Trento from the 13th century to the end of the 18th century, and comprises a series of buildings of different eras, enclosed by walls and positioned slightly higher than the city.

For more information, please visit:

<https://www.trentino.com/en/highlights/castles/castello-del-buonconsiglio/>

Reading Suggestions

General guides that include some information on the region visited are:

BLUE GUIDE -Northern Italy: From the Alps to the Adriatica

CADOGAN GUIDE -Northeast Italy

INSIGHT GUIDE - South Tyrol

MICHELIN GREEN GUIDE – Italy Travel Guide

TOURING CLUB OF ITALY

Authentic Trentino-Alto Adige

Your lecturer / Guide

Clare Ford-Wille Clare has lectured in most areas of art history for over thirty-five years. She still teaches at the University of London, where she obtained her degree at Birkbeck, but also lectures regularly for Morley College, the City Literary Institute, the Victoria and Albert Museum and NADFAS societies throughout Britain, Europe, Australia and New Zealand. Every year since 1978 Clare has led art study tours to places of artistic importance throughout Europe and the USA, including Amsterdam, Padova, Vicenza, Ravenna and Bologna.

Clare has led several tours for Travel Editions to great acclaim and we are lucky to include her as a valued member of our team.

Clare will deliver two lectures during the tour.

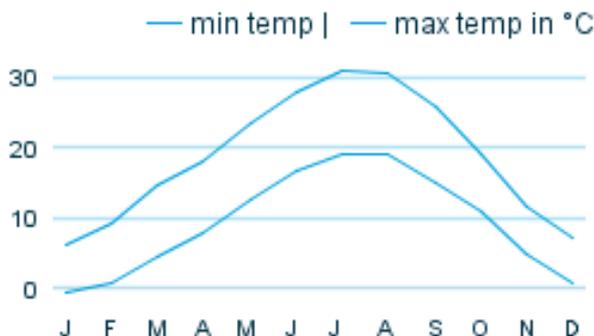
Tour Manager

Your tour manager will be on hand throughout the tour to ensure that everything operated according to plan. If you have any problems or questions, please see him or her immediately – it is often possible to resolve complaints or problems very quickly on the spot and do everything to help you enjoy your holiday.



The Basics

Climate – The weather at this time of year is likely to be pleasant, but evenings may get a little cool and there is the chance of the odd shower. Our best advice is to come prepared.



Time – GMT +2 hours (Summer time Apr-Oct); GMT + 1 (Standard time Nov-Mar).

Language – Italian

Religion – Roman Catholic

National holidays – New Year's Day (01 Jan); Epiphany (06 Jan); Easter Monday; Liberation day (25 Apr); Labour Day (01 May); Republic day (02 Jun); Assumption of Mary (15 Aug); All Saints' day (01 Nov); Immaculate conception (08 Dec); Christmas day (25 Dec); St Stephens day (26 Dec).

Currency – Euro. €1 = 100 cents. Notes are in denominations of €500, 200, 100, 50, 20, 10 and 5. Coins are in denominations of €2 and 1, and 50, 20, 10, 5, 2 and 1 cents.

Banks – Cashpoints compatible with international banking networks are located in all towns and cities, as well as airports, major train stations and other spots. They usually offer an attractive exchange rate. Those banks that still exchange foreign currencies into local money will always charge a transaction fee, so withdrawing money from an ATM usually represents the most logical means of obtaining euros.

Credit cards – American Express, Diners Club, MasterCard and Visa are widely accepted across the country. If you are eating at a restaurant, check prior to the meal that your card will be an acceptable form of payment. Even in cities, it is advisable to carry a supply of cash with you at all times. Varying amounts of commission can be charged.

Electricity – 220 volt, two-pin continental plug.

Drinking water – Tap water is safe to drink. (Although you'll find a huge amount of bottled water for sale too)

Shops & Museums – Department stores are open 0830-1930 Monday to Saturday. Most shops are closed between 1230-1530. Please note that some museums close on Mondays.

Although very common in tourist towns in Italy, please note that street vendors selling all kinds of designer knockoffs are illegal and could land you with a hefty fine. Care should also be taken when buying antiques since Italy is renowned for skilled imitators.

Clothes & Shoes – You may like to bring a warm sweater for cool evenings. Light rain wear for the occasional storm and good flat/grip walking shoes are recommended.

Camera – bring plenty of memory cards/film and any spare camera batteries as these are not always available.

Bath plugs – The hotel has plugs for basins, but it is useful to carry a 'universal' one with you.

Telephones/mobiles – The guarantee of free mobile phone roaming throughout the EU, Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway has ended. Check with your phone operator to find out about any roaming charges that might be applied after 1st January 2021. A new law means that you are protected from getting mobile data charges above £45 without you knowing. Once you reach £45, you need to opt in to spend more so that you can continue using the internet while you are abroad. Your phone operator will tell how you can do this.

Tipping – To keep our tours affordable, we do not increase the tour price by adding in tips. However, in the tourism industry, there is a certain level of expectation that when receiving a good service, one awards with a tip. Tour Managers, Representatives, Guides and Drivers appreciate a tip at the end of their involvement with the tour, but this is entirely at your discretion. We believe in allowing you to tip according to your level of satisfaction with their services, but for your guidance about £2-3 per person per day for the tour manager is the norm.



Health

Doctor/Dentist/Chemist

Please talk to your tour manager if you are feeling unwell and they will organise for you to see a doctor.

Keep receipts for insurance claims.



Hospital

Your tour manager/hotel reception will arrange hospital transport.

Keep receipts for insurance claims.

General Health Advice

We suggest you take a good supply of your own individual medicines with you and always keep some in your hand luggage in case you get delayed or your luggage goes astray. General-purpose supplies for bites, stings, or scratches, and your usual medication for headaches, or stomach upsets are always recommended. Oral re-hydration sachets are excellent for topping up salt and glucose levels.

Visit the NHS 'Fit for Travel' website for more generally information specific to the country you are visiting – www.fitfortravel.nhs.uk

Sun Protection

Always ensure you take sufficient sun protection and moisturiser. A sun hat and sunglasses are also advisable.

Inoculations

You should check with your own doctor and take their advice as to which inoculations are required for the country you are visiting, as only they know your medical history and recommendations are liable to change at short notice.



Insurance

We strongly recommend that you take out an appropriate travel insurance policy when you travel abroad.

To be covered under your Travel Insurance Policy, if you become ill, it is essential that you contact a local doctor and telephone the emergency number of your insurance company. You will **NOT** be covered for any claim unless this procedure is carried out. Your insurance company will then decide on the best course of medical attention.

European Health Insurance Card (EHIC)

Before you travel, make sure you have got a valid European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) or UK Global Health Insurance Card (GHIC) or travel insurance with health cover.

You may not have access to free emergency medical treatment and could be charged for your healthcare if you do not have an EHIC or GHIC when visiting an EU country, or travel insurance with full healthcare cover when visiting Switzerland, Norway, Iceland or Liechtenstein. If you have an EHIC it will still be valid while it remains in date. Your European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) or Global Health Insurance Card (GHIC) will be valid if you are travelling to an EU country.

For further information about the GHIC please visit: <https://www.ehic.org.uk>



Emergencies

Should an emergency arise, please call our offices on:

00 44 20 7251 0045 (Mon-Fri 0900-1700)

Outside office hours, please telephone our emergency staff on:

00 44 7841 023807

PLEASE USE THESE NUMBERS ONLY IN THE EVENT OF A GENUINE EMERGENCY.

If you find that you need consular assistance during your holiday:

British Consulate General Milan

Via S. Paolo, 7

20121 Milan

Italy

Tel: +39 (0)6 4220 2431

Fax: +39 (0)2 8646 5081

Italy.consulate@fco.gov.uk

Open Mon-Fri 0930-1230 and 1400-1600. Phone lines open 0900-1700. Outside these hours a consular Emergency Service is in operation and can be contacted on +39 (0)6 4220 2413.

Travel Editions

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Email: tours@traveleditions.co.uk www.traveleditions.co.uk

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