



South Tyrol – Land of Myths and Legends

Dwarves Build a Church

The Church of St. Peter in Gratsch, above Merano (Meran) is said to be the oldest in the whole area. Legend has it that it was dwarves who built the church. It wasn't an easy task, though, the building of this church. For as soon as its construction had progressed as far as putting on the roof, the giants sitting on Tyrol Castle messed up all their work with one finger. The dwarves were helpless and quick to lose heart. Finally they decided to build the whole church, including the walls and roof, finishing it in one night while the giants slept. No sooner said than done! When the giants woke up the next day, they saw that construction was complete and could thus no longer damage the church.