



South Tyrol – Land of Myths and Legends

How Durnholz Lake Came Into Being

A large farm once stood on the very spot where Durnholz Lake is now located. It was the most wonderful farm in all Durnholz: the most beautiful of cattle grazed on its lush pastures, its fields yielded forth the best grain, and the farmer could afford to take his children and all his servants to church on horseback.

When the vast meadows of this farm were mowed and the Heuintun (introduction of the hay) was in progress, the Ave bell rang forth from the church tower. This was the signal for work on the fields to stop. The farmer always heeded the Ave bell. Today, however, he disregarded the signal. He decided to continue work, and even added: "... and may water flood my whole farm." He loaded up on the rest of the hay and brought it into the barn. Lo and behold: The same evening, a strong wellhead sprang up at his house. When the people went to church the next day, which was a Sunday, his whole farm was gone and a large lake stood in its stead.