



Centre de géologie et glaciologie

Les Haudères, Val d'Hérens (VS)

Exhibition space covering geology, glaciology and the culture linked to soapstone



Photo Carlo Ghelmezzì



Presentation

The Hérens Valley is well known for its peaks permanently covered with snow and its glaciers, but also for its rich cultural heritage. It is also situated on interesting bedrocks, corresponding to the former ocean between the Adriatic-African and the European continent. Rocks formed between 5 and 30 km depth can be seen at the surface!

This museum explains the regional geology and the main features of the landscape formed by the glaciers and a changing climate. It gives you some hints what to you could visit, either on your own, with a App for smartphones (<http://igd.unil.ch/geoguide/guides/herens/>) or guided by scientists.

Special attention is given to a particular rock, called soapstone (steatite): its formation, the ancient quarries/mines typical for the area and its use for stoves, oil lamps, building stones and sacral art.

The center is also an archive with a small library and many booklets to buy.



Location

5 km south of Evolène, in the center of the village Les Haudères, Chemin de l'école, across from Hotel Veisivi.

Opening periods

July and August and other periods of school vacation during the year: Thursday and Sunday afternoon from 3 to 6 p.m. or on demand (phone: + 41 27 283 40 00, e-mail : evolene-region@valdherens.ch).

More inform.: <http://www.evolene-geologie.ch>

