

Photos: Local history museum collection



Maran in days gone by

TEXT: PETER FLÜELER

According to an official document from 1250, the first two farms in what is now known as Arosa belonged to the St. Luzi monastery in Chur: one called Prättsch, the other Maran. The German-speaking Walsers from Davos did not move to the Innerarosa region until the second half of the fourteenth century.

Thanks to the German doctor Alexander Spengler, Davos had more than 1'000 guest beds in 1885. The first 17 beds in Arosa were set up at Hotel Seehof in 1880. Spengler's patient, a German doctor by the name of Otto Herwig, moved to Arosa in 1883. At least one hotel as well as several boarding houses and dwellings sprang up on an annual basis. In 1888, Herwig became the first sanatorium physician in what we now know as Tschuggen.

When the first access road, referred to today as the Alte Poststrasse, was finally finished in 1890, Arosa already had hundreds of guest beds. It's easy to get to Arosa nowadays. The journey takes just six hours from Chur and transport is available three times a day. The railway followed in 1914.

Below Hof Maran's chalet construction are two farmhouses from the late eighteenth century (around 1790). The living room of the front one now serves as Bündner Stübli and the sun-scorched front of the rear farmhouse looks into the corridor which connects the restaurants to the hotel area. Even the first visitors to Arosa were likely to have been given food and drink at the Maran and, if needed, a night's lodging too. But for Arosa, the Maran has always been the destination of choice. Maran advertised its extremely healthy, sunny location in the local newspaper in 1898/99. Maran could be reached via a road and several woodland paths. As well as an ample drinks selection, the advert also made reference to the on-site boarding house, the doctor in the village and the twice-a-day postal service. Maran has been a popular destination for visitors and guests for more than 120 years.

In 1928/29, the former proprietor Halder built the bed wing with hall and bar. It survived the Great Depression in 1929, the difficult years that followed and the Second World War. In the 1950s, Halder sold Hof Maran to its current owner family, the Webers. In 1977, the west wing was constructed, another bed wing with a spa, conference rooms and sixteen rooms. This wing was expanded again in 2019/20 and another storey added.

Maran is so much more than just a hotel in Arosa. Maran is a popular place known by all and a big part of Arosa's draw thanks to its unique location and its long history.



Photo: Foto Homburger, Arosa

IT'S EASY TO GET TO AROSA NOWADAYS. YOU CAN MAKE THE JOURNEY IN SIX HOURS FROM CHUR WITH TRANSPORT AVAILABLE THREE TIMES A DAY.

Photos: Local history museum collection



SU MM ER

OUR SUMMER TIP

ALWAYS WORTH A TRIP,
EVEN IN THE OLD DAYS –
A DIP IN ONE OF THE
MOUNTAINS' MANY LAKES