

Südtirol Jazzfestival Alto Adige 2026: Ten days of musical adventure between industrial charm and alpine peaks

From 26 June to 5 July 2026, South Tyrol will once again become a stage, and the Südtirol Jazzfestival Alto Adige invites you to discover the latest developments in European jazz across more than 50 concerts – in venues that could hardly be more different one from the other. Set against a backdrop of industrial architecture, urban squares and alpine landscapes, the programme is designed for anyone who wants to let themselves be guided by musical surprises and unusual listening experiences, using their curiosity as a compass.

Sound at the heart of the festival

The festival opens on 26 June at the NOI Techpark in Bolzano. For this year's opening, the artistic director's trio – Stefan Festini Cucco, Max von Pretz and Roberto Tubaro – will make a strong musical statement, and for the second year running, the festival will begin with a jazz orchestra concert. This year, the Norwegian Gard Nilssen Supersonic Orchestra will kick the festival off. The formation of wind players and a triple rhythm section unleash a force that gives the term 'supersonic' a tangible, physical dimension. Musicians of the orchestra will also be performing in a variety of projects at different venues across the region throughout the opening weekend and the rest of the festival. With this choice, the festival consistently underlines its focus on contemporary European jazz and places current developments around the theme of 'sound' at the heart of the programme.

Jazz in everyday life

In 2026, the musical journey will take the audience to well-known and beloved venues as well as to surprising new discoveries. Whilst the legendary late-night concerts at Batzen Sudwerk and the KABARILA Jazz Ritual – now in its fourth year – will provide the festival's tried-and-tested atmosphere, the programme is expanding significantly this year. New venues such as AHOI Mini Golf and Piazza Alcide Berloff in Bolzano, Haus Guggenberg in Bressanone and the Free University of Bolzano bring jazz right into the heart of urban life.

When the landscape becomes a stage

At the same time, nature remains a central element of the festival's concept. New projects in the Vallunga valley in the Dolomites, in the 'Wunderwald' on the Renon, a Jazz & Hike to the old mining village St. Martin am Schneeberg, and a flower meadow concert in Pufels allow landscape and sound to merge into a harmonious stage. Traditional inns such as Gasthof Zum Hirschen in the Sarntal valley or Hotel Bad Ratzes in Fiè allo Sciliar are also part of this year's programme. Whether on mountain meadows or in industrial sheds, on town squares or in nightclubs: the Südtirol Jazzfestival Alto Adige 2026 promises ten days full of musical energy – and many new perspectives on what jazz can be today.