



Active leisure time with mules



The use of mules is still very diverse today. The animals are used for riding and driving as well as for trekking. Farmers are still convinced of the excellent characteristics of mules.

Even today, mules are still used for carrying and pulling in agriculture and forestry. Their sure-footedness, their stamina and their social behavior are reliable attributes for us humans for a harmonious coexistence.

Thank you for your support

The Swiss Mule Museum shows you lots of interesting facts about mules and hinnies.

Stiftung
Maultier-Museum Schweiz
3946 Turtmann
IBAN CH97 0026 3263 1199 8901 C

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Welcome to Törbel

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The Mule Museum in the Valais mountain village of Törbel is integrated into the popular guided tours of the „Urchigs Terbil“ association. The museum can also be viewed separately.

The museum can **ONLY** be visited by appointment:
+41 75 421 11 68 or
urchigs-terbil.ch

Entrance fee

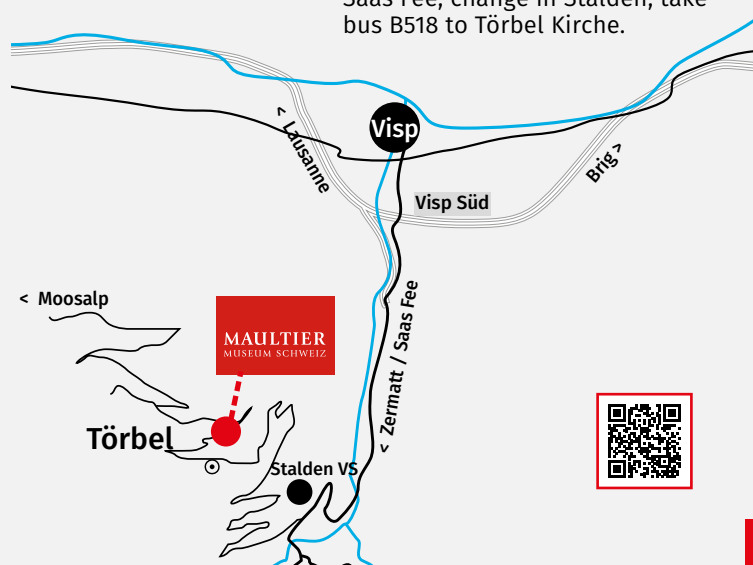
CHF 30 for up to 6 persons,
from 6 persons CHF 5 per
person.
Duration approx. 1½ hours.



How to get there

By car: to Visp, exit Visp Süd in the direction of Saas-Fee or Zermatt; in Stalden take Törbelstrasse in the direction of Moosalp, continue to Törbel, parking lot just past the church.

By public transport: from Visp by train in the direction of Zermatt or bus B511 in the direction of Saas Fee; change in Stalden; take bus B518 to Törbel Kirche.

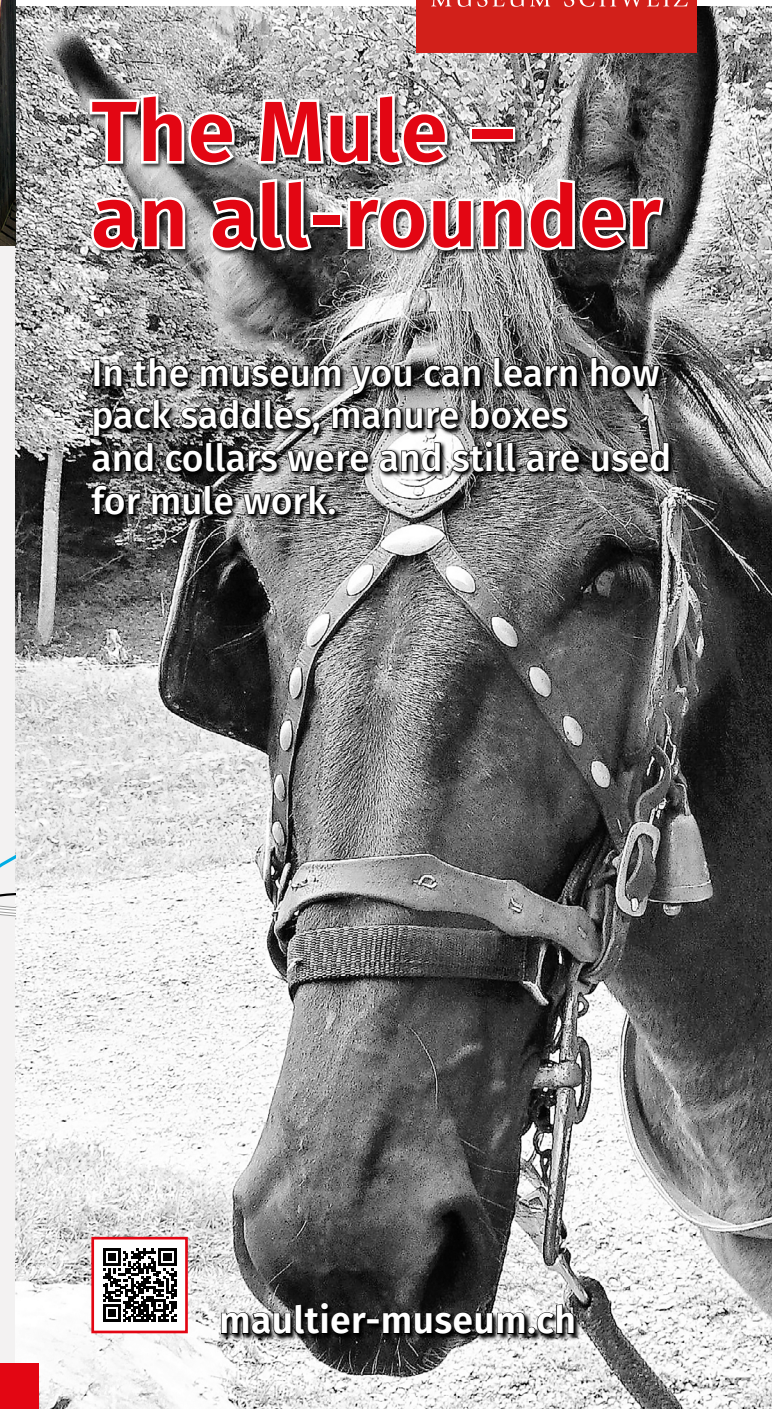


Törbel in Valais

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The Mule – an all-rounder

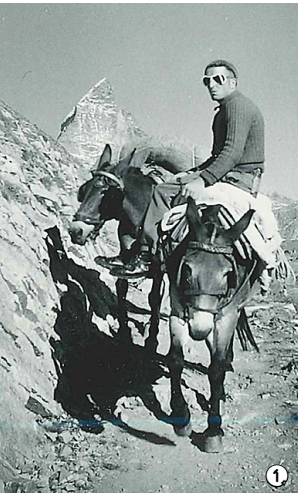
In the museum you can learn how pack saddles, manure boxes and collars were and still are used for mule work.



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The Mule Museum in Törbel in Valais – no coincidence



①

In 1850, the golden years of tourism began in Saas-Fee and Zermatt, where many mules and their mule skippers were in demand for transporting luggage and tourists. The construction of power stations in the 20th century also offered the mule skippers welcome opportunities to earn money. Until the 1980s, encounters with mules were an everyday occurrence in the village of Törbel ①.



②

In the fall, the mules brought the containers filled with grapes from the vineyards down in the valley up to the Driel (wine press) in the village. If necessary, they carried the full wine barrels back to the innkeepers and cooperatives in the valley after pressing ②.

Agriculture in Valais was practiced at several altitude levels, from the bottom of the valley up to the alpine pastures. Mules were there – as indispensable helpers ③.

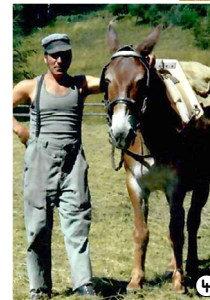
In the fields around the village, they pulled plows, harrows and loaded sledges over grass or snow and logs from the forest ④.

The mules are still used in the army today in the Trains unit. They are an indispensable support for rough terrain and heavy loads ⑤.

Törbel, the mountain village in the Valais, was widely known for its many mules and their mule drivers. It was not until the end of the 1930s that Törbel was developed with a road. Before that, people walked on foot and, if necessary, with a mule as a load carrier ⑥.



③



④



⑤



⑥

Even today, mules are reliable partners for humans.