

Universalmuseum Joanneum Press

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Rosegger Museum

Rosegger Museum, Roseggerstraße 44, 8670 Krieglach
Opening Hours: April-October, Tue-Sun, 10am – 4pm
Information: +43-3855/2375, www.rosegger-museum.at

Picture material for the Rosegger Museum can be downloaded at the following link:
www.museum-joanneum.at/press/Roseggermuseum

In the permanent exhibition held in the former country home of Peter Rosegger (1843–1918), you can discover interesting and amusing details from the life and work of Rosegger through personal objects from his daily life, letters and documents. Even during his own life time, the author and poet was widely known, enjoying close contact with numerous artists of his own era.

The Rosegger Museum in Krieglach shows Peter Rosegger from a new angle in 2018, the centenary of his death, inviting visitors to learn about new, little known aspects of the writer, journalist, poet, forest lad and tailor's apprentice that was Rosegger. And so we have finally taken a long-overdue step, to move away from the cliché of the romantically idealised forest peasant boy wading through deep snow in winter, to present a critical, political, indeed at times self-promoting Styrian.

History of the Rosegger Museum Krieglach

In May 1877 Rosegger used the revenue from his first books to finance the purchase of arable land in Krieglach covering an area of almost one joch (about 0.57 hectares or 1.4 acres). He then had a country home built on this plot in the same year, based on his own designs. He had already begun planting trees on his property even before the first spade had been turned. Ultimately, 60 small trees grew up around his new home. Even today, three of the wonderful linden trees he planted still provide splendid shade. His house eventually consisted of seven rooms to live in, along with other side rooms. As early as September 1877 he moved immediately into the first completed but still damp room of the building and began working there. As a result, his health deteriorated to a worrying degree.

Every year, in Krieglach, after 'six months of earthly existence in the town... [he spent] six months of paradise in the country' from May to October. As his family grew in size, Rosegger extended his home, even building a wooden lodge (the so-called Almhaus [Alpine House] – today's Studierhäusl [little studio lodge]) in the garden in 1896. His hopes were pinned on the small building, constructed entirely of wood, to alleviate his asthma. He used it as a place of retreat and as a guesthouse.

The poet died in Krieglach on June 26th 1918. His widow Anna made efforts to sort through his literary work, and also closed Rosegger's studio and the room in which he passed away to preserve these for posterity. Anna Rosegger continued to live in Krieglach up to her death in 1932. In 1943 the Province of Styria acquired the property to mark the centenary of the poet's birth, opening it up to the general public in 1948. In 1963 the inheritors to Rosegger's estate also sold the Almhaus at the Landhaus. It was ceded to the Roseggerbund (the 'Rosegger Association') which operated a museum local history at this site from 1968 to 2013.