



Schwendau Community History & Origins

Schwendau was first mentioned in around the year 1200 in the oldest land register (property register) of the Archbishopric of Salzburg - namely as "Swentowe", which translates loosely to "meadow clearing".

At that time, the property of the Salzburg archdiocese, the largest landowner in the Zillertal Valley, was administered by the three mayor's offices of Schwendau, Zell (Celle) and Fügen.

In turn, the villages of the inner part of the Ziller Valley belonged to the office of Schwendau, which, in addition to Schwendau, also included Laimach, Schwendberg, Brandberg, Mayrhofen, Ginzling and Finkenberg.

The court and the bailiff of Schwendau are mentioned in old manuscripts up to the 16th century. The area near the "Drei Linden - Three Linden Trees", which are still standing today, was the venue for the local court.

Exact population figures have only been available since 1810, when there were 637 inhabitants living in 82 dwellings. The number of inhabitants decreased to 439 by 1890, because of migration to the newly established industrial towns in the Lower Inn Valley. People also left the valley for religious reasons.

In the last few decades, however, the population has increased steadily again. One of the great "sons" of the village is the former national singer Simon Halaus, the "Thunder of America".

In 1973, the municipality of Schwendau was awarded its municipal coat of arms, with a bar of silver slanting to the right through a green background and a black axe. The municipality flag is white and green.

