



## Ramsau Community in Zillertal

### History & Origins

The name Ramsau is derived from a medieval field name and means something like “Raben-Au - Raven-Meadow”. The raven depicted in the municipal coat of arms is also symbolic of this connotation.

“Ramsowen” is mentioned for the first time in a document in 1188 in the context of a donation by the Archbishop of Salzburg to Johannesspital Hospital in Stumm. “Ramsberg” appears in a document for the first time in 1350. Documents of that time make a precise distinction between the mountain settlement of Ramsberg and Ramsau, which is located in the valley. The development of this settlement, which took place slowly towards the end of the 13th century, mainly involved the archbishops of Salzburg, but also Tyrolean princes, the lords of Rottenburg, the Benedictine monastery of St. Georgenberg and the dukes of Bavaria.

Ramsau did not have the status of a village until the 16th century, when a “Captain of Ramsberg” is mentioned. He was responsible for collecting taxes and organising the military position. The office was assigned to a different Ramsau citizen every year.

In the 17th century, the Protestant doctrine had spread widely in Ramsberg and Ramsau, thanks to miners working in the Zell gold mining district nearby. The number of Protestants from Ramsau who had to emigrate to Silesia and other regions in 1837 was therefore particularly high at 102.

In 1817, Ramsberg was awarded the status of a political municipality. As the focus of community life shifted from Ramsberg to Ramsau after the Second World War, the community name “Ramsberg” was changed to Ramsau in November 1978.

Ramsau was only accessible via a narrow gravel road until 1900. In 1901, after endless discussions and opposition, the Zillertal Railway opened, connecting Ramsau to the wider world. Ramsau also received an asphalted road in the 1930s.

Hailing from a predominantly agricultural municipality, Ramsau in Zillertal has also developed very well in the trade and tourism sectors over the last decades. This structuring contributes to the fact that the municipality presents itself as a good business location and its businesses guarantee good employment.

