Religion

In the name of the Father

There is a Catholic church in every municipality. Protestant churches, mosques and other places of worship are more commonly found in cities (Brig-Glis, Visp, Sierre, Sion, Martigny, St-Maurice, Monthey). In Valais, unlike most Swiss cantons, the municipalities are responsible for covering church-related expenses. Only three municipalities (Törbel, Sion and Saxon) levy a direct church tax, while in the rest of the canton, parish deficits are covered by the municipal tax budget. Religion is not only a fixed part of the tax bill, it also shapes the canton's customs and calendar of events. Bank holidays usually coincide with important Catholic festivals.

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