



# Mineral water trails

## SAN JON DADAINT

NATURAL MINERAL SPRING

### NAME

The name of St. John, in Romansh *San Jon*, is a common identification and location name. *Dadaint* means *inside* or *within* and in this case signifies *further into the valley*.

### MAIN COMPONENTS

Calcium Ca <sup>2+</sup>	116 mg/l
Magnesium Mg <sup>2+</sup>	36 mg/l
Hydrogen carbonate HCO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>	325 mg/l
Sulphate SO <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup>	163 mg/l

### PARTICULARITIES

The San Jon Dadaint untapped mineral spring consists of a spring complex with several sources in the form of ponds. The sediment is coloured red by iron oxide deposits. The water from two of these sources seeps away again after a short flow distance of only six metres. The largest part of the spring complex is formed by a spring stream, which exudes stair-like limestone sinter deposits before seeping away again after about 60 metres.

In the immediate vicinity, between the individual sources, there are several formations of lady's slipper (*Cypripedium calceolus*) with numerous flowering shoots.

In summer, the spring ponds can temporarily dry out, which is why small animal species with an adapted life cycle primarily exist here.

«Resound the praise of God our Lord!  
Ye purling fountains, tune his praise,  
and wave your tops, ye pines!»

From the oratorio «The Creation» by Joseph Haydn (1732 – 1809)

# SPRING HABITAT

## SPRINGS – SPECIAL WATERS

Cool, consistent water temperature, oxygen- and nutrient-poor groundwater provide a habitat for specialised species.

## BIODIVERSITY

- Turbellaria, small crabs
- Caddisflies and stoneflies
- Grass frog
- Mosses and flowering plants

The fat leaf, a carnivorous plant, can «catch» insects with its sticky leaves and digest them. It generally likes damp locations.

To protect themselves, caddisfly larvae build a quiver by sticking plant particles and small stones together with the help of spider secretion.



*Pinguicula alpina*, fat leaf, © Daniel Küry



*Pseudopsilopteryx*, caddisfly, © Verena Lubini



*Dictyogenus fontium*, stonefly larvae, © Daniel Küry

## HAZARD AND PROTECTION

With increasing pressure of use and climate change, the number of near-natural springs is dwindling. Human and livestock footfalls impair these sensitive habitats.

Dismantling abandoned catchments, ensuring sufficient residual water in new catchments, fencing off spring areas are measures to protect and upgrade sensitive spring areas.