

THE CABINET OF CURIOSITIES AT THE ABBEY LIBRARY

Winter Exhibition
Abbey Library of St Gall
25 November 2025 to 19 April 2026



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BEAUTIFUL AND UNUSUAL OBJECTS PAST AND PRESENT

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Baroque Hall

The roots of our modern museums lie in the so-called cabinets of curiosities or *Kunstkammern* of the 16th to 19th centuries, which were created mainly at princely courts. Here, all sorts of curiosities were collected, along with artworks and coins. The prince-abbot of St Gall also had such a cabinet of curiosities, which was linked to the library and is partially preserved to this day. The exhibition takes visitors back to the baroque world of collecting and shows how modern libraries and museums deal with rare items of all kinds.

Opening hours

Monday to Sunday, 10 am – 5 pm

Admission prices

Entire Abbey District CHF 18|16|12|10

Audio guide to the Abbey District
and the old town

D|E|F|I CHF 5

Public guided tours

Daily at 1 pm, in German
Bookings for guided tours and
information: tours@stiftsbezirk.ch
Phone +41 71 227 34 19

Exhibition catalogue

Available from the shop or via our
website

Address

Abbey Library, Klosterhof 6d
9000 St Gall, Switzerland

www.stiftsbibliothek.ch

www.stiftsbezirk.ch

www.st.gallen-bodensee.ch

Image on the front

Anonymous, cherub with brushes, palette, pencils,
model of a head, roll of paper and book, c. 1770,
wood, polychrome. The right-hand side of the cherub
has been cleaned. The patina is visible on the left.
Baroque Hall of the Abbey Library, at shelf L.



STIFTSBIBLIOTHEK
ST. GALL

WELTKULTURERBE
STIFTSBEZIRK ST. GALL

Kanton St. Gallen
Kulturförderung



SWISSLOS

sg.
kath.
ch

st.gallen



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra
Eidgenössisches Departement des Innern EDI
Bundesamt für Kultur BAK



unesco
Stiftsbezirk St. Gallen
Weberseil seit 1983



unesco
Das Nibelungenlied,
Handschrift B
Eingetragen in das
internationale Register
Memory of the World seit
2009



unesco
Dokumentarisches Erbe
der ehemaligen Abtei
St. Gallen
Eingetragen in das
internationale Register
Memory of the World seit
2017