

Once in a Lifetime

Travel and Leisure Redefined

Coverage of Archaeological Ruins of the Abbey of St. Maurice

Savioz Fabrizzi Architectes

» Saint Maurice Abbey, Switzerland, 2009–2010 «

Located for over 1,500 years on a rocky site in the heart of the Swiss Alps, the Abbey of Saint Maurice—formerly protected by the rock—has been regularly threatened by falling boulders over the centuries. Called upon to protect the archaeological ruins of the Abbey, the agency Savioz Fabrizzi Architectes has designed a roof that separates the facades of the building from the cliffs. Dotted with stones, it lets in light to create a serene atmosphere. This calm space, which had been quite dangerous, now invites quiet contemplation.

Fixed at one end, a metal structure embedded in the rock assures the preservation of the roof, while the mesh top traps any falling rocks and the bottom collects rainwater. A project that fits perfectly into the environment, as well as into the course of history.

