



The bedroom in Nymphenburg Palace where King Ludwig II was born in 1845

Nymphenburg Palace in Munich

Nymphenburg Palace with its Baroque architecture, extensive park and pavilions is one of Europe's cultural masterpieces. It was here, in this summer residence of the Bavarian electors and kings, that Ludwig was born on 25 August 1845. He was christened the very next day in the famous Steinerne Saal (Great Hall).

Marstallmuseum

The Marstallmuseum in Nymphenburg has close connections with Ludwig II. The exhibits include portraits of his thoroughbred riding horses, depicted by the artist F. W. Pfeiffer against romantic backdrops, and the king's ornamental, golden coaches and sleighs are the highlight of the museum. The most unusual vehicle is the small Gala Coach, which could be mounted on runners for the winter. The exquisite Putti Sleigh (*model shown on the right*) was ahead of its time with electric lighting. The crown held up by putti functioned as a lantern, with a bulb which was operated by a con-



Nymphenburg Palace (top left); Linderhof Palace (top right); Horse portrait/Marstallmuseum (bottom left); Moorish Kiosk in Linderhof

cealed battery. The magic glow of this sleigh light was a source of wonderment to the population when the king passed by on one of his night-time trips.

The Munich Residence

King Ludwig II gradually redesigned his Crown Prince Apartment in the Munich Residence in Louis Quatorze style. He also commissioned a conservatory, a free-standing vault of glass and iron constructed on the roof of the Banquet Hall Building. It housed an exotic landscape of coconut and date palms and an artificial lake. Unfortunately neither the apartment nor the conservatory are still in existence.

Linderhof Palace

With this palace, finished in 1878 and the only one Ludwig II completed and actually lived in, the Rococo age experienced a revival. The richly ornamented façade of this relatively small palace conceals a world of opulence, radiant with gold and gleaming mirrors, with wall hangings and paintings, velvet and silk, crystal chandeliers, lapis lazuli, malachite and porcelain. The main features of the beautifully landscaped park are the St. Anna Chapel, the "Königshäuschen" (King's Cottage), the ancient Royal Lime Tree with a platform where the king sometimes took breakfast, the Moorish Kiosk with the Peacock



The Venus Grotto in Linderhof is designed to show the interior of the Venusberg, the home of Venus, a setting in the opera "Tannhäuser"

Throne, the Moroccan House, Hunting's Hut and the Hermitage of Gurnemanz. An "open sesame" rock leads to the artificial Venus Grotto with a waterfall and lake.

The King's House on Schachen (shown below)

Ludwig II selected a unique setting with a view of the Zugspitzmassif for a mountain lodge. The wooden building with its rather modest exterior conceals a hall on the upper floor furnished with Oriental splendour. The king sought the seclusion of the mountains to celebrate his birthday and his name day in the lavishly decorated Turkish Hall furnished with divans and a fountain. The King's House can only be reached on foot, either from Elmau or Garmisch-Partenkirchen.



NYMPHENBURG PALACE AND MARSTALLMUSEUM

Schloss- und Gartenverwaltung Nymphenburg
Schloss Nymphenburg · Eingang 19 · D-80638 München
Tel. +49 (0) 89 17 90 80 · Fax +49 (0) 89 17 90 86 27
sgvnymphenburg@bsv.bayern.de

OPENING TIMES:

1 April – 15 October: 9am – 6pm
16 October – 31 March: 10am – 4pm

MUNICH RESIDENCE

Verwaltung der Residenz München
Residenzstr. 1 · D-80333 München
Tel. +49 (0) 89 29 06 71 · Fax +49 (0) 89 29 06 72 25
residenzmuenchen@bsv.bayern.de · www.residenz-muenchen.de

OPENING TIMES:

1 April – 15 October: 9am – 6pm
16 October – 31 March: 10am – 5pm
Last admissions 5pm (summer) or 4pm (winter)

LINDERHOF PALACE AND THE KING'S HOUSE ON SCHACHEN

Schloss- und Gartenverwaltung Linderhof
Linderhof 12 · D-82488 Ettal
Tel. +49 (0) 8 82 29 20 30 · Fax +49 (0) 88 22 92 03 11
sgvlinderhof@bsv.bayern.de · www.linderhof.de

OPENING TIMES OF LINDERHOF PALACE:

1 April – mid-October: 9am – 6pm
mid-October – 31 March: 10am – 4pm

OPENING TIMES OF KING'S HOUSE ON SCHACHEN:

From the beginning of June to the beginning of October, depending on the weather; Guided tours at 11am, 1, 2 and 3pm

NEUSCHWANSTEIN CASTLE

Schlossverwaltung Neuschwanstein
Neuschwansteinstr. 20 · D-87645 Schwangau
Tel. +49 (0) 83 62 93 98 80 · Fax +49 (0) 8 36 29 39 88 19
svneuschwanstein@bsv.bayern.de · www.neuschwanstein.de

OPENING TIMES:

1 April – 30 September: 9am – 6pm
1 October – 31 March: 10am – 4pm

OPENING TIMES OF THE TICKET CENTRE:

1 April – 30 September: 8am – 5pm
1 October – 31 March: 9am – 3pm
Tel. +49 (0) 83 62 93 08 30 · Fax +49 (0) 8 36 29 30 83 20
www.ticket-center-hohenschwangau.de

All castles are closed on 1 January, Shrove Tuesday, 24, 25 and 31 December.

HERRENCHIEMSEE PALACE

Schloss- und Gartenverwaltung Herrenchiemsee
D-83209 Herrenchiemsee
Tel. +49 (0) 8 05 16 88 70 · Fax +49 (0) 80 51 68 87 99
sgvherrenchiemsee@bsv.bayern.de · www.herren-chiemsee.de

OPENING TIMES* OF NEW PALACE:

1 April – mid-October: 9am – 6pm
mid-October – 31 March: 9.40am – 4.15pm

OPENING TIMES* OF KING LUDWIG II MUSEUM AND THE MUSEUM IN THE AUGUSTINIAN MONASTERY WITH THE GALLERY DEVOTED TO CHIEMSEE ARTISTS

1 April – mid-October: 9am – 6pm
mid-October – 31 March: 10am – 4.45pm

OPENING TIMES* OF JULIUS EXTER ART GALLERY

1 April – mid-October: 9am – 6pm
mid-October – 31 March: closed

* The opening times are dependent on the annual boat timetable and are subject to alteration (for information: Tel. +49 (0) 8 05 16 88 70)

ROSE ISLAND, LAKE STARNBERG

Bayerische Schlösserverwaltung/Außenstelle Starnberger See
Max-Zimmermann-Str. 11 · D-82319 Starnberg
Tel. +49 (0) 81 51 69 75 · Fax +49 (0) 81 51 36 81 23


OPENING TIMES OF CASINO:

1 May – 15 October: 12pm – 6pm, closed Mondays
16 October – 30 April: closed

INFORMATION ON FERRY SERVICE:

tel. +49 (0) 17 17 22 22 66

Further information:

 Bayerische Verwaltung der staatlichen Schlösser, Gärten und Seen
Postfach 20 20 63 · 80020 München
Tel. +49 (0) 89 17 90 80 · Fax +49 (0) 89 17 90 81 90
info@bsv.bayern.de · www.schloesser.bayern.de

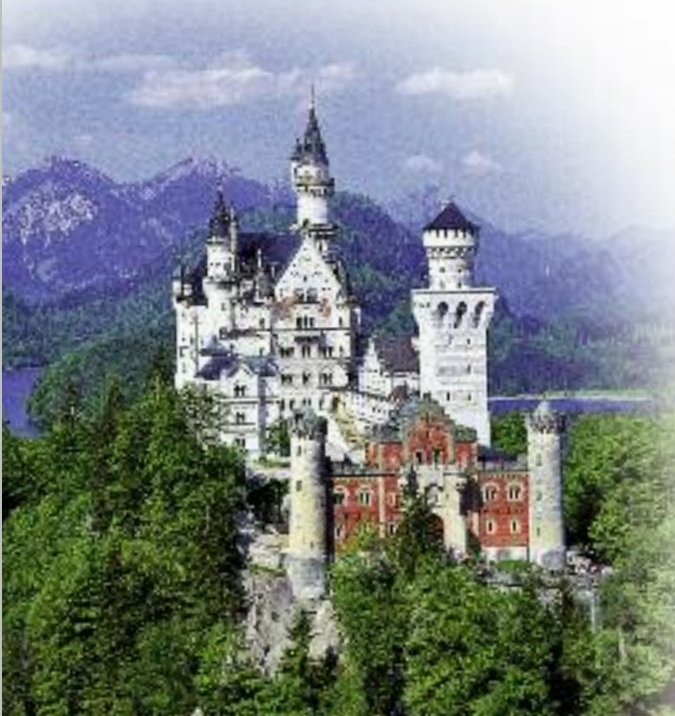




The Singers' Hall in Neuschwanstein Castle

Neuschwanstein Castle

Ludwig II spent a large part of his childhood in Hohen-schwangau Castle. Later he built Neuschwanstein, probably the most famous of his constructions, close by in a highly dramatic location on a cliff above the Pöllat



St. George and the dragon, mural in the Throne Room, 1886

Gorge. The interior is based on German chivalric legends and the operas of Richard Wagner. The Singers' Hall, modelled on the Wartburg near Eisenach, is decorated with scenes from the legends of Parzival and the the Holy Grail. The blue and gold Throne Room, inspired by Byzantine basilicas, is fifteen metres high and extends through two floors. It was never used.

Augustine Monastery Herrenchiemsee (Old Palace)

Benedictine Abbey–Monastery–Royal Palace: When Ludwig II acquired the Herreninsel in 1873 he had rooms in the monastery building later known as the Old Palace converted for his private use, and some of these have now been reopened to the public. In 1948 the Constitutional Convention met here to prepare the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Germany. This important chapter of German history is documented in the museum together with the history of the monastery. Also worth viewing are the illusionistic painting in the Imperial Hall and the Garden Room, the Julius Exter art gallery and the gallery devoted to Chiemsee artists.

Herrenchiemsee Palace (New Palace)

This palace was conceived as a Bavarian Versailles in honour of Louis XIV of France. Although building was still in progress when Ludwig II died in 1886, the costs of this huge complex were already higher than those of Neuschwanstein and Linderhof put



The Great Hall of Mirrors in Herrenchiemsee Palace

together. The State Bedroom was even more luxurious than its French model. The Mirror Gallery, almost 100 meters long, was lit by over 1,800 candles. The royal apartments are more intimate by comparison with these two staterooms. The geometrically designed French gardens with their famous fountains represent only a part of what was originally planned but never completed. Palace and gardens are surrounded by a naturally landscaped park. The modern King Ludwig II Museum has exhibits documenting the life and work of the king.

Herrenchiemsee Palace (New Palace)



King Ludwig II on arrival in Berg with his boat "Tristan", 1867



Rose Island (Roseninsel) in Lake Starnberg

In the summer hundreds of roses perfumed the air in the park of the little Island of Roses to which Ludwig II was particularly attached. He made frequent trips here from Berg Palace on his steamship "Tristan", and valued the seclusion of the island with its villa.

Only selected guests were allowed to visit, such as Richard Wagner, Empress Elisabeth of Austria (small picture on the left) and Czarina Maria Alexandrovna of Russia. After comprehensive renovation work the rooms of the villa, known as the Casino, and the rose garden with its white-and-blue glass pillar have been reopened to the public. A small exhibition documenting the history of the island is on display in the gardeners' house.



The rose garden on the east side of the Casino

The death of King Ludwig II

On 13 June 1886, the king drowned in Lake Starnberg near Berg Palace. The site is marked by a votive chapel on the shore and a cross in the lake. On 19 June 1886, he was ceremoniously laid to rest in the Royal Crypt of St Michael's Church in Munich.

King Ludwig II and his castles

