



*I wish you a fascinating visit to Würzburg!*

**Dr. Markus Söder, MdL**

*Bavarian Minister of State of Finance, Regional Development and Regional Identity*



*View of the East Garden*

## Würzburg Residence and Court Garden

The former residence of the Würzburg prince-bishops is one of the most important baroque palaces in Europe and today it is on UNESCO's World Cultural Heritage list. Originally designed for Prince-Bishop Johann Philipp Franz von Schönborn by the then young and unknown architect Balthasar Neumann, it took sixty years to complete; the shell of the palace was built from 1720 to 1744 and the interior finished in 1780. Neumann's world-famous staircase, roofed by an unsupported vault, was decorated in 1752/53 by the Venetian Giovanni Battista Tiepolo with a ceiling fresco representing the four continents. The painting, measuring 18 x 30 metres, is one of the largest frescos ever created. The magnificent sequence of rooms begins with the Vestibule and Garden Hall and continues via the staircase and White Hall to the Imperial Hall, also with frescos by G. B. Tiepolo.

*Cour d'honneur with the Franconia Fountain*



The vaulting of these rooms even withstood the devastating fire of 1945, while the ceilings and floors of the Imperial Apartments flanking the Imperial Hall were destroyed. The furnishings and wall panelling had been removed beforehand, enabling the rooms to be reconstructed. Restoration was completed in 1987 with the reopening of the Mirror Cabinet. There is a total of over 40 palace rooms to visit, with a rich array of furniture, tapestries, paintings and other 18th-century treasures, as well as suites of furniture from the Tuscan period. The Court Chapel, accessible through the inner courtyard, is one of the finest examples of religious art in Würzburg. A walk in the Court Gardens is a delight for both nature- and art-lovers. The water basin encircled by yew trees clipped into the shape of cones forms the present centre of the South Garden. In front of the magnificent east façade is a terraced garden decorated with groups of putti by Johann Peter Wagner.

*Staircase (left); Mirror Cabinet (right)*



*Marienberg Fortress and the Old Main Bridge from the north-east*

## Marienberg Fortress

The original castle on the Marienberg was probably a small fort built early in the 8th century by the Franconian-Thuringian dukes, together with a church. From 1200 an unusually large castle was built, which was extended during the Middle Ages and the Renaissance. Following the storming of the castle in 1631 by the Swedes, Prince-Bishop Johann Philipp von Schönborn built a circle of massive bastions to protect it. In 1945 the fortress was almost completely burned out; its reconstruction was completed in 1990. On the first floor of the Princes' Building Museum (administered by the Bavarian Palace Department), is the Bibra Apartment, the Princes' Hall with early Gothic arcatures and the large Echter family tapestry, as well as a treasury and vestment chamber from the era of the prince-bishops. On the second floor is the 'Museum für Franken', documenting the history of the fortress and town. The Princes' Garden was reconstructed in 1937/38 on the basis of plans dating from the early 18th-century.

*St Mary's Church and well house in the fortress courtyard*



**INFORMATION**  
 Schloss- und Gartenverwaltung Würzburg  
 Residenzplatz 2, Tor B · 97070 Würzburg  
 Tel. +49 931 35517-0 · Fax +49 931 35517-25  
 www.residenz-wuerzburg.de · www.schloesser.bayern.de

## WÜRZBURG RESIDENCE AND COURT GARDEN

### OPENING TIMES OF THE RESIDENCE

April–October: 9am–6pm  
 November–March: 10am–4.30pm  
 Last admission: 30 min. before closing time

### GUIDED TOURS OF THE RESIDENCE:

April–October: every 20 minutes, last tour at 5pm  
 Tours in English daily at 11am, 1.30pm, 3pm and 4.30pm  
 November–March: every half an hour, last tour at 3.30pm  
 Tours in English at 11am, 1.30pm and 3pm  
 Duration: 45–50 min. The Southern Imperial Apartments (with Mirror Cabinet) can only be visited within a guided tour.  
 & Lift available

### OPENING TIMES OF THE COURT GARDENS

Daily until dusk, 8pm at the latest

### REFRESHMENTS

B. Neumann – café, restaurant, wine bar  
 Tel. +49 931 46771944

### TRANSPORTATION

Train to Würzburg main station, bus (April–October) from 'Juliuspromenade' stop to the Residence, bus to the 'Mainfranken Theater' stop or tram to the 'Dom' stop

## MARIENBERG FORTRESS WITH THE PRINCES' BUILDING MUSEUM

### OPENING TIMES OF THE PRINCES' BUILDING MUSEUM

April–October: 9am–6pm · Closed Mondays  
 Closed November–March  
 Last admission: 30 minutes before closing time

### OPENING TIMES OF THE MASCHIKULI TOWER

Easter Sunday, Easter Monday, 1 May, Whit Sunday, Whit Monday, 15 August and 3 October: 11am–4.30pm

### TOURS OF THE FORTRESS (excluding the Maschikuli Tower and Princes' Building Museum)

16 Mar.–Oct.: Sat., Sun./public holidays 10am, 11am, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm, 4pm; Tue.–Fri. 11am, 2pm, 3pm, 4pm and on request; tours in English: Sat., Sun./public holidays 3pm  
 Nov.–15 Mar.: Sat., Sun./public holidays 11am, 2pm, 3pm

& The rooms are only accessible via stairs

### REFRESHMENTS

Burggaststätte · Tel. +49 931 47012  
 'Schänke Zur Alten Wache' · Tel. +49 931 47012



**TRANSPORTATION**

Train to Würzburg main station, bus (April–October) to the 'Festung' stop

**VEITSHÖCHHEIM PALACE AND COURT GARDEN**

**OPENING TIMES OF THE PALACE AND GARDEN EXHIBITION**

April–15 October: 9am–6pm  
 Closed Mondays  
 Closed 16 October–March

Last admission: 30 min. before closing time

The historic rooms on the upper floor can only be visited by participating in hourly guided tours; groups must book in advance; the garden exhibition can be visited individually.

Audioguide for the Court Garden available in the museum shop

♿ The rooms are only accessible via stairs

**OPENING TIMES OF THE COURT GARDEN**

Daily until dusk, 8pm at the latest  
 Guided tours of the garden on request:  
 Tourist-Information Veitshöchheim:  
 touristik@veitshoechheim.de

**TRANSPORTATION**

Train to Veitshöchheim, bus from Würzburg main station to the 'Kirchplatz' stop, boat (Easter–October) from Würzburg 'Alter Kranen' stop to the Veitshöchheim 'Mainlande' stop

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

 Bayerische Verwaltung der staatlichen Schlösser, Gärten und Seen

Postfach 20 20 63 · 80020 München  
 www.schloesser.bayern.de

Title picture: View of the garden façade of the Residence



01./2017



Veitshöchheim Palace

View of the Parnassus

**Veitshöchheim Palace and Court Garden**

Only 8 km down the River Main from Würzburg, set in one of the most important Rococo gardens in Germany, is Veitshöchheim Palace, which until 1802 was the summer residence of the Würzburg prince-bishops. The summer residence was built on the site of a hunting lodge under Prince-Bishop Peter Philipp von Dernbach from 1680 to 1682 and was enlarged from 1749 to 1753 by Balthasar Neumann, who also redesigned the roof. The ceiling stucco-work by Antonio Bossi also dates from this time, and the staircase sculptures were completed by Johann Peter Wagner in 1780. From 2001 to 2005 the entire palace was renovated. In addition to the prince-bishop's apartments, the rooms furnished in around 1810 for the Grand Duke Ferdinand of Tuscany are particularly worth seeing.

On the ground floor is a permanent exhibition on the history of the Court Garden. The transformation of the grounds surrounding the palace into an ornamental pleasure garden was begun by Prince-Bishop Johann Philipp von Greiffenclau in 1702 with the laying out of terraces and lakes. Adam Friedrich von Seinsheim, who ruled from 1755 to 1779, indulged his special interest in gardens and redesigned it in its present rococo style. The garden complex, measuring 270 x 475 metres, is populated by over 200 sculptures by the Würzburg court sculptors Johann Wolfgang van der Auwera, Ferdinand Tietz and Johann Peter Wagner. Based on a cosmological programme, they include animals, representations of court society and personifications of the gods and the arts, assigned to the three sections of the garden – maze, pergolas and lakes.

Bedroom (left); View through a trellis pavilion (right)

Billiard room



**Würzburg**  
**Würzburg Residence and Court Garden**  
**Marienberg Fortress**  
**Veitshöchheim Palace and Court Garden**



Bayerische Schlösserverwaltung



United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization  
 Würzburg Residence with the Court Gardens and Residence Square  
 World Heritage since 1981