

CASTLE
OLD TOWN
RAITENHASLACH ABBEY
MARIENBERG
PILGRIMAGE CHURCH

English



HISTORIC BURGHAUSEN
EXTRA LONG

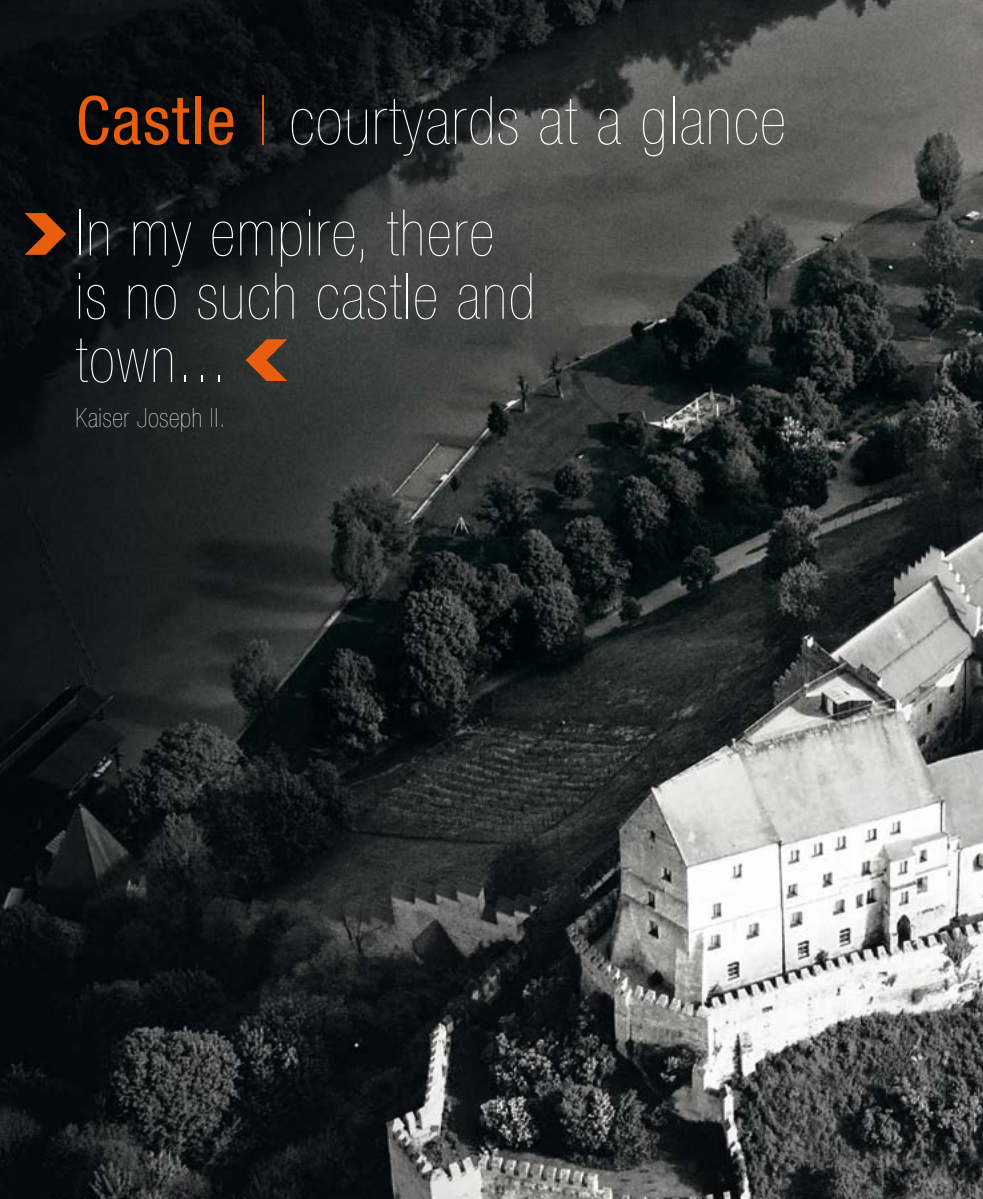


BURGHAUSEN
WORLD'S
LONGEST
CASTLE

Castle | courtyards at a glance

➤ In my empire, there is no such castle and town... ◀

Kaiser Joseph II.

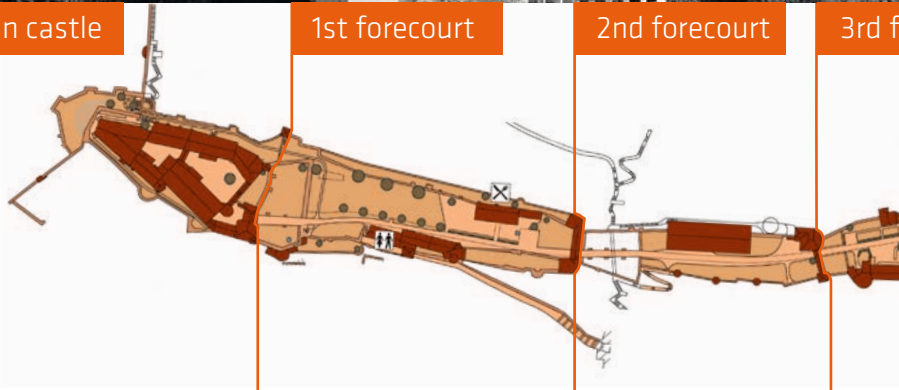


Main castle

1st forecourt

2nd forecourt

3rd f



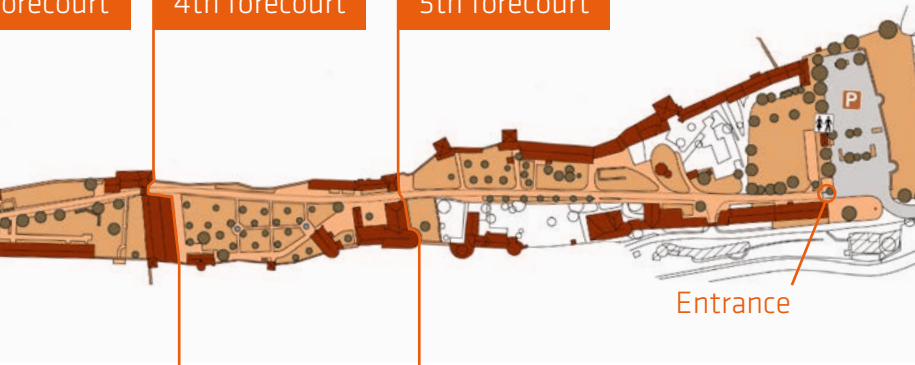


longest castle in the world (1,051 m)

1st forecourt

4th forecourt

5th forecourt



Entrance

Castle | Architectural history



Historic building: view of the main castle

2nd/1st c. BC

Presumably a Celtic sectional fortification

8th/9th c.

Presumably the fortified official court of the Agilolfingian dukes for the protection of salt shipping

11th/12th c.

Seat of the Count of Burghausen (until 1164); first castle expansion under Sighard X of the Aribones (around 1090); Henry the Lion is in possession of the castle; further expansion under the Wittelsbachs (from 1180)

13th c.

Completely new facility under Duke Henry XIII of Lower Bavaria after the first partition of Bavaria (1255); second residence of the Dukes of Lower Bavaria after Landshut; border stronghold against Salzburg and Passau; oldest preserved structure (main castle)

14th c.

Now fully expanded as a defence facility

15th c.

The most important construction period under the last Dukes of Lower Bavaria (Henry the Rich 1393-1450, Ludwig the Rich 1450-1479, George the Rich 1479-1503); expansion of the facility to its current form comes under pressure from the Turkish threat (1480-1490); ducal residence; the castle is a self-contained community (defence and residential castle)



The main castle - the oldest preserved structure of the world's longest castle

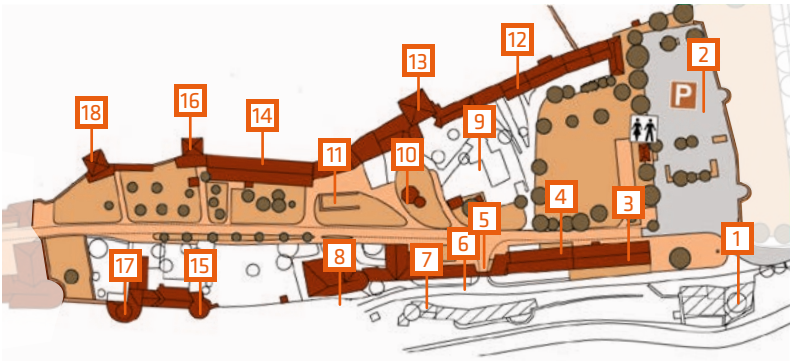
16th c. Loss of the castle's residential character after the Landshut War of Succession (1503-1505); Princes' residence (sons of Albert IV the Wise); the castle continues to be of great military importance as a main weapons site; minor modifications; begin of decline

17th c. Fortifications strengthened against the threat of the advancing Swedes (1632)

18th c. Expansion of outer fortifications according to the system of master fortress builder Marshal Sebastian de Vauban (1633-1707); turmoil of the Wars of Succession in the first half of the 18th century; extensive rebuilding (garrison castle from 1763); 1779 Peace of Teschen: Burghausen becomes a border town as the Inn section is lost to Austria

19th c. All outer fortifications torn down by French troops under General Ney (1800-1801); Napoleon declares the castle no longer fit for use as a fortress (1809); modifications, demolition, levelling and privatisation of parts of the castle; discharge of the garrison (1891); start of large-scale renovations to the main castle (1896); renovation work on the entire castle facility since 1960/1970

Castle | 5th forecourt



Under the rule of the Rich Dukes of Lower Bavaria, the outermost forecourt, measuring over 200 metres in length, housed the workplaces and living quarters of the court officials and court craftsmen. They subsequently accommodated the government officials of the Burghausen tax office. From 1507 to 1802, Burghausen had the central function of a Bavarian administrative town alongside Munich, Landshut and Straubing. The present-day names of the buildings are reminiscent of its responsibilities: Forstmeisterturm (Master Forester's Tower), Gerichtsschreiber-Turm (Court Clerk's Tower) and Rentmeisterei (Tax Officer's Residence).

This castle courtyard was originally heavily guarded on the main attack side to the north. A formidable rampart, the "Schütt", sealed off the castle here with a neck ditch and a fortified wall. This defensive structure was torn down in 1800/1801 under Napoleonic rule. The only secure entrance to the castle from the town or from the north was through Christophstor (Christoph's Gate). The Rentmeisterei, the residence and office of the most important official, is situated directly next to this gate. Today, this building is home to the House of Photography, Dr. Robert-Gerlich-Museum. Contemporary art exhibitions by artist group "Die Burg" are regularly held inside the Forstmeisterturm (Master Forester's Tower), also known as the "Liebenwein Tower".

1 Öttinger-Torturm (Öttinger Gate Tower) Until 1836 the sole entrance from the north over a drawbridge through the Öttinger gate in the gate bailey; through the "Große Bastei" (large bastion) to the left of the "Rentmeisterei" (tax officer's residence) – **3** today the "Haus der Fotografie" (House of Photography) – and past the "Kanzler-Turm" (Chancellor's Tower) **4**, to the right through "Christophs-Tor" (Christoph's Gate) **5** with the Bavarian coat of arms into the 6th courtyard; straight on over the Hofberg hill **6** leading into town

2 Curaplatz (car park) Formerly the moat and bailey with the "Schütt" – a powerful, eight-metre-high crossbeam filled with soil – between the Öttinger gatehouse and the "white tower" which no longer exists (Pesnitzer or Offenhamer Tower); used as a barracks and silo (demolished in 1800-1801); ward wall appears to have been rebuilt in 1965-1966



3

Tax officer's residence – today The House of Photography and tourist information „Burg 1“

7 **Prechtl-Turm (Prechtl Tower)**

Gate tower to the town (building clerk's living quarters, later residence of tax payment collector); 1779-1806 residence of the executioner who previously lived in Ach on the opposite bank of the Salzach river. 1,100 people were executed at the Burghausen tax offices in the period from 1748 to 1776 alone. 1916: temporary residence of the poet Rainer Maria Rilke

8 **Rentschreiberei (tax clerk's offices)**

(Tax offices = government and financial authority): current form of residential and defence tower dates back to pre-1661

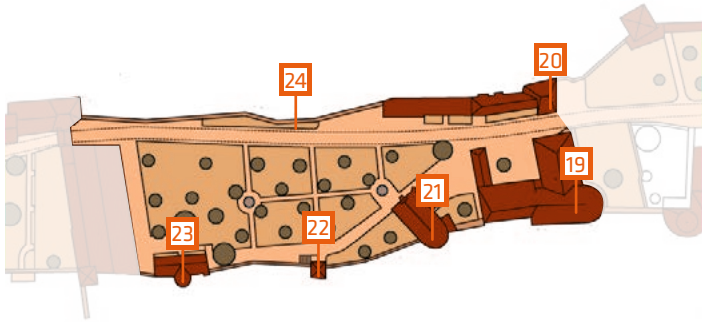
9 **Roßmühle (horse drawn mill)** abandoned in 1780; 17th century building (former tax courier building); fundamentally altered in the 19th century

Castle | 5th forecourt

- 10 Brunnenhaus mit Uhrturm (well house with clock tower)** 16th/17th century
-
- 11 Pferdeschwemme (horse pond)** 17th/18th century; The Salzach boats were later constructed over this brick-nogged hollow
-
- 12 Residences** of craftsmen and tax couriers
-
- 13 Forstmeisterturm (master forester's tower)**
14th century; annex built in 1551; with elector's coat of arms from 1640
-
- 14 Hofbaustadel or Zimmerstadel (courtyard building or carpentry barn)**
-
- 15 Zimmermeisterturm (master carpenter's tower)**
-
- 16 Gerichtsschreiber-Turm (court clerk's tower)**
(Forestry clerk's tower, previously "master horseman's tower"): 14th century; 16th/17th century housing unit at the core
-
- 17 Röhrenkehrer-Turm (chimney sweep's tower)**
Living quarters of the electoral court's master chimney sweep Franz Carl Cura (1716-1769), who twice daringly liberated his home town from enemies in the Austrian War of Succession
-
- 18 Benefizienturm (beneficiary's tower)** 14th century; structural modifications 1557; outer castle residence and residence of court chaplain



Castle | 4th forecourt



The office of the Hofkastenamt, which was the central tax collection office for subjects in the Burghausen tax authority, was located right next to the entrance to the fourth forecourt. The Rich Dukes of Bavaria-Landshut received more than half of their income from the food deliveries from their farmers, including grain, poultry, eggs and lard. The granary steward and tax keeper in their neighbouring towers were responsible for the administration of the natural produce. Both buildings have seen major changes.

The castle courtyard then opens up into vast gardens. The wooded garden was originally used by the Vicedom, the duke's local representative. The outer castle chapel, called Hedwig's Chapel, is a shining example of late Gothic architecture. It was built between 1479 and 1489 by Duke Georg der Reiche (Georg the Rich), who is immortalised together with his wife Hedwig, daughter of the King of Poland, in a founder's relief inside the chapel. Embrasures surround the choir, which formed part of the fortifications. The Gärtnersturm (Gardener's Tower offers stunning views of the old town and the vantage point on the west surrounding wall looks out over Lake Wöhrsee and towards Marienberg in the south.

19 Kastenamt (tax offices)

(Administration of the ducal or electoral court estates and taxes and a silo; central collection and settlement offices for all sovereign taxes); previously in Pesnitzer Tower: tax office tower (reconstructed in 1803); southern residential building in the 17th and 18th century (forestry office until 1961). Interior renovation from 1966-1969; part of the moat has been preserved on the east side

20 Kastengegenschreiber-Turm (tax keeper's tower)

With guard's living quarters added later: originally linked with the "Hofkastenamtshaus" (court tax office building) via an archway; rebuilt in 1805 after a fire; the building erected above the tower foundations was torn down in 1997 due to dilapidation; 2009: levelling of the secured castle vault of the former tower initially as a viewing platform with a possible new use planned

21 Outer castle chapel known as Hedwig's Chapel

Built by master court and fortress builder Ulrich Pesnitzer in 1479-1489 by order of Duke George the Rich and his wife Hedwig, daughter of the Polish King Kasimir IV (Landshut wedding); inauguration in 1489; tower and arching attributed to Burghausen Master Hans Wechselperger and to Wolf Wiser; a jewel of late Gothic architecture



21

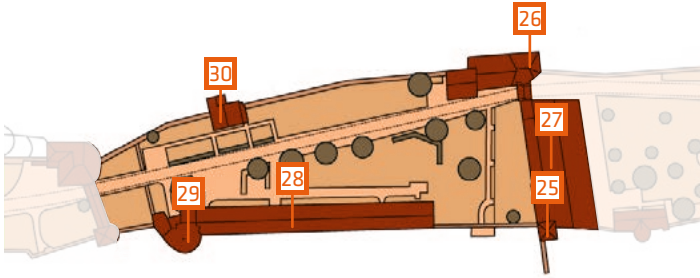
A jewel of late Gothic architecture – Hedwig's Chapel

22 Gärtnerurm (gardener's tower) Redesigned as a viewing tower in 1963; park formerly named "Vizedomsgarten" (the Vicedom Garden) – the Vicedom was the duke's permanent representative; Vicedoms were first mentioned in official records post-1392; after 1514 they lived in the main castle

23 Spinnhäusl Jail for female prisoners; the main substance of the building dates back to the 16th century; reconstruction in 1968

24 Aussichtspunkt (vantage point)
View of Lake Wöhrsee (original bed or old branch of the Salzach river) and the "Pulverturm" (Gun Powder Tower) – turrets and battery tower built between 1440 and 1480; cornerstone of the town fortifications and castle barbicans ("Unterer Schanz" stretching from the Salzach river to the Gun Powder Tower). In the background: the Heilig Kreuz leper church, constructed in 1477, and the "Wallfahrtskirche Marienberg" (Marienberg Pilgrimage Church) – a pearl of the Rococo period (1760-1764)

Castle | 3rd forecourt



The third forecourt was originally sealed off by a wall and could be accessed via a gate. The tower right next to the gate was the official residence of the bailiff. Inside the tower, the bailiff had to guard prison cells and an interrogation room, where prisoners were questioned under torture. The adjacent wing, which was built after the 16th century, was used as a prison in the 18th century.

Until 1878, a tuff stone building stretched across the entire length of the castle courtyard on the town side. This building, known as the "Haberkasten", was used as stables for around 100 horses and as storage for animal feed. It was demolished to make space for the garrison. In 1960, a much smaller building was erected, which is now used by Burghausen Town Council.

According to legend, the humanist and Bavarian historian Johannes Turmair von Abensberg lived in the free-standing "Aventinus" residential tower, which has a late Gothic stepped gable on the Lake Wöhrsee side. He resided in Burghausen from 1509 to 1510 and was a tutor for the Wittelsbach princes Ludwig and Ernst.



Passway in the 3rd forecourt on the left the former stables and oats barn, on the right The Aventinus House



30

The Aventinus House - reported to be the former residence of the princes' teacher Aventinus

25 Hexenturm (Witches' Tower)

Prison tower with cells and dungeons. Last witch trials in Burghausen in 1751, last execution (by sword) in 1831

26 Folterturm (Torture Tower)

(Also known as Henchmens' Tower, Bailiffs' Tower and The Iron Prison): "Fragstatt" (torture chamber), prison cells and dungeons. The torture chamber existed with its original instruments until 1918, when it became living quarters; has been accessible to the public as a museum for a number of years; joined to the Witches' Tower by a vaulted corridor or "Foltergang" (torture passage)

27 Zuchthaus or Arbeitshaus (prison or workhouse)

Initial existence from 1574-1661; on a plan dated 1661 referred to as a new armoury, later also used for a dual function as a tax keeper's residence and hospital; expanded in 1751-1752 along the old barricade as a "Fronfeste" (prison) with a covered "Foltergang" (torture passage); abandoned in 1811

28 Langer Kasten or Haberkasten (long barn or stables and oats barn)

Built around 1400 for "Marstall" (stables) and feed stocks; storeroom with food supply for the garrison (previously 120 m long); abandoned in 1878 (garrison gym); largely rebuilt in 1960-1961 as a youth hostel used for this purpose until 1993, site of the Athanor Theatre Academy 1995-2014, now used by the Burghausen Town Council.

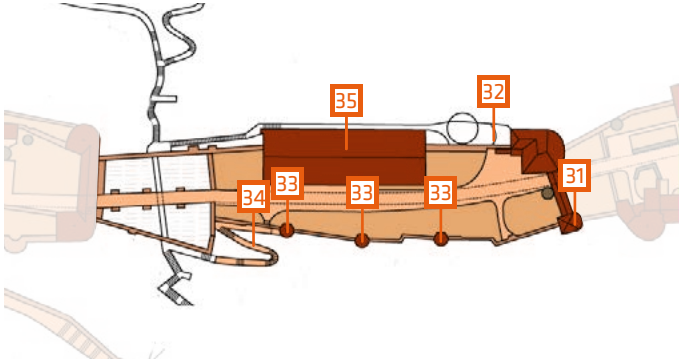
29 Kornmesserturm or Getreidewärtlerturm (corn measurer or grain keeper's tower)

Living quarters of the estate manager, later became the residence of the interior castle sexton; sutlery during the garrison period

30 Aventin-Haus (known as The Aventinus House)

The defence tower was enlarged by an annex (with a late Gothic staircase); residence of the chaplain of the inner castle chapel, later the living quarters of the garrison priest; records indicate that this was the residence of the eminent humanist and father of Bavarian historiography, Johannes Turmair von Abensberg, known as Aventinus, who lived on the castle grounds between 1509 and 1510 as a teacher to Princes Ernst and Ludwig (the sons of Albert IV). The horse pond and water fountain on the west side of the courtyard no longer exist.

Castle | 2nd forecourt



The second forecourt was only slightly altered after the expansion carried out by Georg der Reiche (Georg the Rich) at the end of the 15th century and its original form has therefore been relatively preserved. The courtyard is dominated by the impressive three-storey Alte Zeughaus (Old Armoury), which according to an inscription on the first floor was used as a granary in 1427. Firearms and weaponry were stored on the ground floor and were guarded by the master gunsmith, who resided in the adjacent Büchsenmeisterturm (Master Gunsmith's Tower) to the north. Two swallow-tail battlements, commonly known as "Schwurfinger" (referring to the thumb and first two fingers raised to swear an oath), mark the passage from his residential tower to the fortifications. Underneath, there is a passage leading to the beautiful view of Lake Wörsee. The three round "Pfefferbüchsen" (pepper pots) on the town side were used as guard and lookout towers. The wall opening was created at a later date and provides a passage to the castle walkway into the old town.



The master gunsmith's tower: popularly called "Schwurfinger"



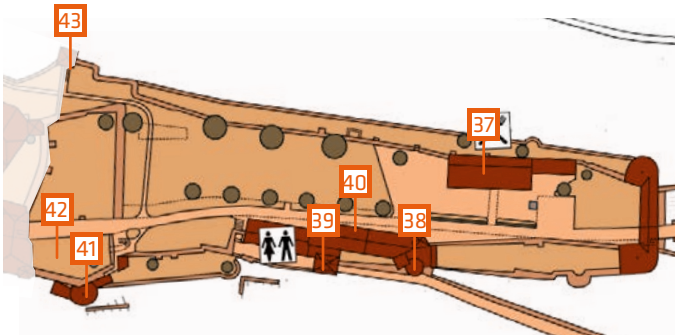
33 Guard and look-out towers: known as the pepper casters

31 Büchsenmeister-Turm or Zeugwärtl-Turm (master gunsmith's or armoury guard's tower) Gatehouse between two towers with a diagonal wall 3.5 m thick, connecting walkway above; armoury guard's quarters; in the 19th century the "Majorswohnung" (battalion commander's quarters). On the west side ornamental battlements (swallow-tail battlements commonly known as "Schwurfinger" referring to the thumb and first two fingers raised to swear an oath) and passage to the "schöne Aussicht" (splendid view) - formerly the "Halsgerichtsstätte" (courts for the judgement of capital crimes) **32** with a footpath to Lake Wörhsee

33 Pfefferbüchsen (known as the pepper casters) Guard and look-out towers; the third tower has a passage to the "Stethaimer-Weg" (Stethaimer way) - **34** footpath to the "Stadtpfarrkirche St. Jakob" (St. Jacob's parish church) and the town square

35 Kurzer Kasten (short barn - former armoury) Dating from 1427; three-storey tufa/ashlar construction; intermediate ceilings of heavy wood design each supported in the middle by seven masonry pillars. Weapons and munitions armoury with silo. According to a 1533 munitions inventory, 185 guns were stored here on the two lower floors, among them the "Esl" - a heavy stone gun -, munitions and many other devices. The castle itself housed 134 guns at that time (falconets, blunderbusses, harquebusses, culverins, etc.) together with 6,666 lead and iron bullets. Restoration took place in 1692 and during the second half of the 19th century (lower roof truss). On the north side of the gable, the edge of the roof of the unfinished weapons smithy can still be seen.

Castle | 1st forecourt



The entrance to the first forecourt is through the formidable Georgstor (Georg's Gate), which is preceded by a deep moat with a wooden bridge. Georg's Gate stands at the narrowest part of the ridge. It was built in 1494 by Georg der Reiche (Georg the Rich). The coats of arms on the gate relate to the alliance formed upon his marriage to Hedwig of Poland. Like the "Schütt" at the start of the castle complex, the purpose of Georg's Gate is to protect. At this point in the complex, it was essential to protect the inner castle area, which contained the main castle. Duke Georg specifically issued a watch order for the two guards of this gate. The walls on the west and east side also served a defensive purpose; both were additionally protected by outer bailey complexes.

Out of all of the buildings on the Lake Wöhrsee side, including the stables for the horses, the brewery and the Pfisterei (bakery), only the latter is largely still intact. Today it is the castle café. On the opposite side, you can still see the lowly dwellings of the cart drivers and stable servants on the ruined fortifications, standing at just 1.30 m high. This is where the route from the old town ends up. This entrance was protected by the gate, baileys and guards' walkway with embrasures on the town side.

36 Georgstor (George's Gate)

Formerly "St. Elsbethen-Tor", "Hochtor" or "Prinzenturm", named after the tower warden Jacob Primbs, who had to move from the castle keep to the main castle in around 1600; current form of gatehouse dates back to around 1494, with a double coat of arms in a late Gothic stone frame commemorating the marriage of Duke George the Rich to Hedwig of Poland (Landshut wedding 1475); the Bavarian coat of arms on the left and the Polish coat of arms on the right.

Western castle wall still at original height; on average the castle walls were between 6 m and 10 m high. "Pfisterei" (bakery) and ducal stables of 1478 no longer exist; a part of the former brewery near the well was used as a building materials shed 37 and is now the castle café.

38 Turm des "obersten Stuhlknappen" (tower of the "elite sentinels")

Battlements crown; (a "Stuhlknappe" is a warning sentinel who is always at the ready); quarters of the Vicedom guard. Along with the main castle (primary castle staff), the second courtyard was part of the inner castle quarters. Whoever entered these quarters without permission was punished by having their ears cut off.

39 **Stephanstor-Turm (Stephan's Gate Tower)**

Castle walkway into town (royal path, known as "Kasenberg" in the 19th century)

40 **Housing for royal stable workers and carriage drivers** A court bindery after the royal stables were closed down; a canteen during the garrison period

41 **"Rundel" otherwise known as "Kammerer-Turm" (Kammerer Tower)** From here, there is supposed to be an underground walkway into the town that even goes under the Salzach river through to what is today Austria. The well-known Burghausen folk music researcher and museum director Hans Kammerer lived here.

42 **Gedeckter Zugbrunnen (covered draw well)** Over 50 m deep; three small gates in the moat (8 m deep and 27 m wide): to the south is the lower vault of the outer gatehouse; to the north are stairs to the first forecourt, to the east is the "Rundel"

43 **Aussichtsturm (viewing tower)** Formerly the tower held the entrance to the lower bailey, today it is a viewing tower, now with new access to the baileys

Georg's Gate with the Bavarian and Polish coats of arms

36



Inner castle courtyard | Main castle



Large parts of the main castle were built as early as the second half of the 13th century under Duke Heinrich XIII of Lower Bavaria. The expansion of the castle to its present state predominantly took place during the reign of the Lower Bavarian Duke Georg der Reiche (Georg the Rich, 1479-1503). Under the impression that there was a threat from the Turkish army, he had the castle complex built primarily with military matters in mind. This clearly explains the entrance to the main castle – it was built to protect the royal couple and their immediate court.

A bridge crosses the eight-meter-deep and 27-meter-wide neck ditch and leads through the gatehouse, which was built in around 1482. This shielded the innermost castle area together with the castle keep, the shield wall – each protected by embrasures – and the gate room, where the gatekeeper and guards resided.

The upper and lower baileys provided additional protection against the enemy. The narrow forecourt takes you through to the impressive inner castle courtyard with its buildings constructed from tuff stone blocks. On the left-hand side, to the east, there is the Dürnitzstock (Knights' Hall) with the dining hall for the court household and servants, as well as storerooms and the castle chapel, St. Elisabeth. The Palas (royal residence) is situated at the outermost point of the castle ridge, facing south. It held the living quarters for the royal couple and their immediate court. The female members of court resided in the Kemenaten-trakt (Bower Wing), which completes the courtyard to the west. Today, this is where the Burghausen Municipal Museum displays its collections. The State Castle Museum and the State Gallery are located in the Palas.

On the left the entrance to the heated room, on the right the entrance to the bower (today the town museum)





52 53

View from the panoramic terrace of the museum housing the state collection overlooking the treasure chamber and Elisabeth Chapel

44 Torbau mit Torzwinger "Vorhöfl" (gatehouse with gate bailey "forecourt") 1480-1490 (altered in mid-16th century) with gatekeeper's quarters (barrel vault in around 1550); entrance to the upper bailey **46**

45 "Gärtlein auf der Altan" ("little garden on the balcony")
Since 1932 open-air stage for the Meier-Helmbrecht plays (oldest German village epic), where the audience sits on the parade ground in front of the bailey

47 Bergfried (castle keep)
Seven storeys; adjoining wall to the right with coats of arms, defence wall up to the height of the 5th storey with original shield and shooting rooms still intact

48 Inneres Burgtor (inner castle gate)
Portcullis slot still visible; remains of a late Gothic fresco on the interior (16th century) and a garrison hour bell

49 Dürnitz (heated room) A double-nave, late Gothic dining and day room with 13th century exterior wall; underneath is the "Zehrgaden" (storage room), above is the ballroom or music room (today museum rooms); the museum ticket office and exhibition cabinets, displaying literature about Burghausen as well as other items are located on the ground floor of the heated room

50 Kemenate (bower)
13th century; residence of the duchess and her royal household; annexes along the old fortifications initially in the inner courtyard, then at the end of the 15th century branching outwards; storey added in 1872; today the town museum

51 Schwibbogen (15th century flying buttress)
With Bavarian and Baden coat of arms (commemorating the marriage of William IV to Jakobäa von Baden 1522)

Inner castle courtyard | Main castle



Town museum at the main castle

52 Schatzkammer (treasure chamber) Built in 1484 on the site of the collapsed "großer gescheibter Turm" (large slab tower). At the time the chamber housed George the Rich's repository including 500,000 minted gold ducats, which were transported on 70 carriages, each drawn by six horses, with other valuable household goods during the Landshut War of Succession in 1503

53 Innere Schloßkapelle "Elisabeth-Kapelle" (inner castle chapel known as Elisabeth Chapel) Built around 1255; modifications and expansion work in 1417 and 1475; the oldest Gothic church in South Bavaria

54 Kerker also known as "Ganns" (dungeon for high-ranking prisoners) Dungeon for high-ranking prisoners, among them Count Siboto III of Falkenstein (1247-1249), Archbishop Pilgrim II of Salzburg (1387-1388), Duke Ludwig the Bearded (1446-1447) and the Swedish field marshal Count Horn (1634-1641)

55 Palas (ducal palace) Ducal residence; basement to first floor 12th/13th century; interior renovation in around 1480. Major alterations to internal building structures, as in the whole main castle, in the late 18th and 19th century (garrison period); today a museum housing the state collection

56 Unterer Zwinger (lower bailey) Connected to the barbicans at the Gun Powder Tower

The Powder Tower



57

Powder Tower

57

Powder Tower

To the west of the castle and Lake Wöhrsee, situated on the Eggenberg, the imposing, robust Powder Tower is a prominent landmark.

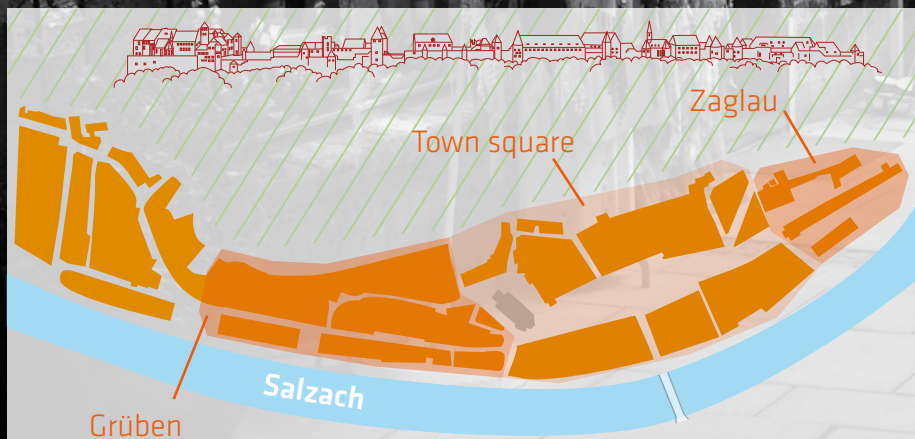
A guards' walkway linked the complex with the exposed barbican, built in 1488. With its six gun emplacement platforms, the barbican served to defend the castle and was therefore constructed in front of it. Guns and gunpowder were stored in the tower for defensive purposes.

The overall diameter of the building is 18 metres, and the walls are five metres thick on average. In emergencies, stocks and a 22-metre-deep well ensured an independent supply of food and water for the garrison.

Old town

➤ The town looks as if it has been cut out of an old German painting and set down here. ◀

Adalbert Stifter





The Grüben: formerly a centre for manual traders, today a shopping and gastronomy mile

Town square



History of the town



Former electoral court government building – today the assembly rooms and town library

7th/8th c.

A precondition for the emergence of a settlement with a water customs station on the Salzach river was a castle whose prominence and expansion over the centuries would have a decisive influence on the development of Burghausen. After the dismissal of Duke Tassilo III (in 788), the castle becomes the sovereign possession of the Carolingians.

11th/12th c.

First mentioned in the official records as an imperial property (1025). Later, Emperor Konrad II appoints the Counts of Burghausen to administer the fiscal assets (1027). Duke Henry the Lion takes possession of the castle and valley settlement, which already had an urban character (1164).

13th c.

First the castle (in 1180) and then the town (in 1229) become the property of the Wittelsbachs; it is presumed that the town charter was conferred shortly afterwards. From 1255, after the first partition of Bavaria, the town experiences the beginnings of a political and economic upturn as the second residence of the Dukes of Lower Bavaria. The trading of salt from Hallein in particular is the lifeblood of the town.

14th c.

Conferral of important privileges is granted to the town by Emperor Ludwig the Bavarian (1336 and 1343). Expansion of the town to the north and south (Zaglau and Spitalvorstadt). Town fire in 1353. Administrative centre as a sovereign tax authority and "Vitztumamt" (seat of governmental power and financial administration) from 1392.

15th/16th c.

The town flourishes and experiences its hey-day under the last three



32

Mediterranean flair at the Bichl

Dukes of Lower Bavaria, Henry, Ludwig and George, known as "the Rich" (1393-1503). Devastating town fire (in 1504). After the Landshut War of Succession, the town is the seat of one of the four tax authorities in the newly partitioned Bavaria (1505) with 15 administrative and judicial districts. Assignment of the magistrate's office (1581). Loss of the main source of income from the salt trade with the establishment of the ducal salt monopoly (in 1594). Beginning of a period of administrative and economic decline lasting for several centuries.

17th/ 18th c.

Heavy casualties and strains during the Thirty Years War (1618-1648) and during the Wars of Succession (1701-1714 and 1740-1745). Burghausen becomes a border town with the surrender of the Inn quarter and the subsequent loss of the economically ideal hinterland (Peace of Teschen follows the Bavarian War of Succession from 1778-1779).

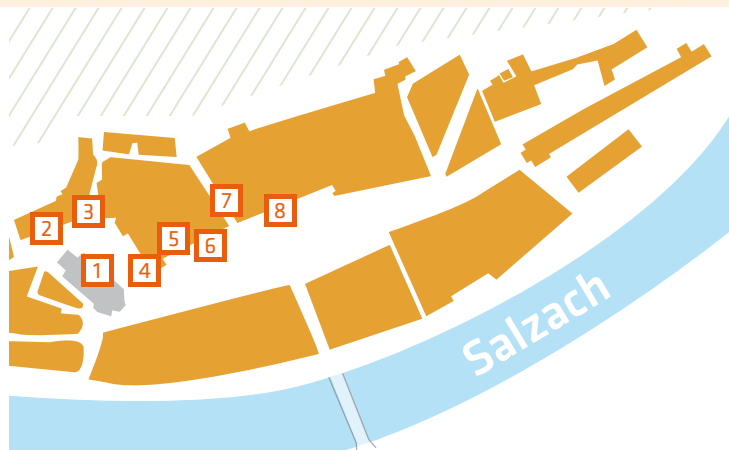
19th c.

The town appears to be under a curse: the hardships of the Napoleonic Wars and the dissolution of the government (1802), the town is stripped of the title of "capital" bestowed in 1688 (1807), the loss of river navigation and the withdrawal of the garrison (1891) result in the decline to an insignificant small town.

20th c.

Economic upturn after the establishment of the Wacker plants (1915). The new town emerges. The unique, self-contained character of the old town is preserved. Restoration of the old town begins with the construction of a flood-control dyke and quay (1969-1971).

Old town | Town square & Zaglau



The oldest core of the settlement is presumed to be in the southern part of the square (first half of the 12th century). The architectural character of the core settlement reflects the period of reconstruction after the town fire of 1504. The typical shape of the buildings in the Inn-Salzach region has developed from the 15th century alpine farmhouse; the buildings have blind walls, which are remnants of firewalls from the late Middle Ages in the spirit of the stylistic period; the buildings were originally late Gothic.

1 Pfarrkirche St. Jakob (St. Jakob parish church)

Consecrated in 1140. The church was reconstructed after the town fire of 1353 by the guild of master builders near to St. Jakob. Partially destroyed in the town fire of 1504. Tower: foundation stone ceremony in 1470; a supplementary structure was built above the gallery in 1721-1726; dome 1778-1781. Reconstruction and partial remodelling after collapse of the southern nave (1851-1855). Mainly neo-Gothic interior; a large number of high-quality epitaphs.

2 Pfarrhof (rectory) (house no. 16)

Original building burnt down in 1578; a new one was built in 1731 to replace the building from 1651; redesign after fire damage in 1898. Renovations in the 20th century.

3 Chorregentenhaus (choir master's house) (house no. 18)

dates back to the first half of the 16th century. The earliest official document about church music in St. Jakob dates back to the 14th century, the term "Chorregent" refers to a conductor of a trained full-time choir from 1617 onwards. Franz Xaver Gruber (1787-1863) was given lessons by Georg Hartdobler in Burghausen from 1805-1806; he is the composer of Silent Night and other prominent church music. Together with the former "Pfarmsnerhaus" (house of the sacristan no. 17), this forms the new building of the "Pfarrzentrum St. Jakob" (St. Jakob parish centre) with a newly designed facade (consecrated in December 2000). Along with the former "Kaplanhaus" (house of the chaplain no. 21) – the core of which dates back to the 16th century – this building was renovated in the late 20th century; footpath to the castle (Stethaimer-Weg otherwise known as "Kasernberg" walkway).



1

St. Jakob parish church

4 **Former Stadthaus der Herzöge (Dukes' town house)** (house no. 36)
Parts of the building date back to the second half of the 15th century; facade was built in around 1700; later became the nobility's preferred residence.

5 **Hotel Post** (house no. 39) Formerly the "Gasthof zur Krone", a guest house originating in the 16th century. Remarkable vaults on the ground floor and in the cellar. Franz Carl Cura took the building by force on 16 October 1742 in order to liberate his home town (see commemorative plaque and sign on the building facade).

6 **Stadtapotheke (town apothecary)** (house no. 40)
The site of the oldest chemist in Bavaria; the building dates back to 1596. Rococo facade with charming stucco ornaments. Damaged by bombs in 1945 along with two neighbouring houses (nos. 37 and 39).

7 **Geistwirtgaßl**
In 1555 steep footpath to the castle; in 1740 walkway to the town; also known as "Kasernberg" in the 19th century.

8 **Bayerischer Hof restaurant** (house no. 45/46)
Previously a "Wolfertsederbräu" (brewery) in the 17th and 18th century. Living quarters of the leader of the rebellion and Bavarian patriot, Johann Georg Meindl, during the Peasant's War of the Innviertel in 1705.

Old town | Town square & Zaglau



- 9** Known as the **“Rauchhaus”** (house no. 49) Formerly the “Altmannisches Haus” in the 16th and 17th century; beautiful Rococo facade dating back to 1762 with “Auge Gottes” (Eye of the Lord) inscribed on the tympanum.
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- 10** Known as the **“Buchleitner-Haus”** (house no. 59) 17th century; “Gmainer Statt Officierhaus” in 1762; later became the main guard quarters of the garrison.
-
- 11** **Hofberg** This name dates back to 1466; in 1332 it was referred to as “Schloßberg”; paving dates back to 1500; medieval footpath can still be seen. “Sporeturm” (for customs duties on the pavement!) at the same height as the fortifications was pulled down in 1805; formerly the only arterial route to the north.
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- 12** **Ludwigsberg** Built in 1835-1836 using stone brick from the old north bailey. Halfway up the hill there is a commemorative plaque for King Ludwig I.
-
- 13** Former **Bischöfliches Seminar (episcopal institute)** (house no. 89) Southern third of the “new” ducal salt depot of 1590 which existed at a length of 90 m until 1852; from 1920 accommodation for pupils of the Salesians (until 1986), then “Städtische Musikschule” (municipal music school). Today the building is part of the Kurfürst-Maximilian-Gymnasium grammar school. The “Zaglau-Torturm” (also called “Jesuitentor”) stood at the same height as house no. 87 until it was burnt down in the fire of Zaglau in 1863; this building formed the end part of the inner town fortifications to the north.
-
- 14** **Studienkirche St. Joseph** Former church of the Jesuits (1630-1631) with an annexed convent to the north of the building. Early Baroque-style facade with a magnificent main entrance (door dates back to 1781). Reconsecrated in 1874 after the fire of 1863; original building was almost completely destroyed; taken from the former “Jesuitenaula” (ancient assembly hall of the Jesuits) in the grammar school.

15 **Kurfürst-Maximilian-Gymnasium (grammar school)**

Built in 1662-1664; the building has features reminiscent of the late Renaissance and early Baroque periods; northern annex built in 1961-1963. The crowning feature of the building: the assembly hall restored in 1963 (former congregation hall), ceiling frescos on the second floor (Innozenz Anton Warathi) and abundant stucco detail dating back to 1730-1735 (beautiful concert hall). The high water level has left its mark on the base of the building as it borders the Salzach river.

16 **Vier Jahreszeiten (four seasons)** (house no. 95/96)

Previously a "Schmal" and "Bauernbräu" (brewery). Neo-classical facade originally on both houses, uniformly decorated after the fire of Zaglau in 1863. The Louis 16th facade survived the fire and the two-storey Gothic arcades in the inner courtyard were reconstructed in 1983.

17 **Taufkirchen-Palais** (house no. 97)

Residence of the Vicedom from 1736. Burnt down in 1742 during the attack on the town. Abundant Rococo ornamentation with heraldry of the alliance of Counts Tauffkirchen and Lerchenfeld. Napoleon's living quarters during his four-day visit to the region in 1809. At the end of the 19th century a "Königliches Rentamt" (sovereign tax authority), then a district court.

18 **Marienbrunnen fountain**

The fountain dates back to 1440, the pillars to the second half of the 17th century; the marble basin was partially reconstructed in the 19th or 20th century.

Taufkirchen-Palais



Old town | Town square & Zaglau



19 **Schutzengel-Kirche (church of the guardian angel)** and former Institut der Englischen Fräulein (former institute of the English Ladies – an order of sisters) house no. 100-101. The order was established in 1683. Late Baroque facade in three parts on the reconstructed building of 1731 (ceiling frescos by Innozenz Anton Warathi). The church was consecrated in 1746. The interior reflects the time of its construction (restored in 1988-1989). House no. 100 (built in 1889, dissolution of the institute in 2018)

20 **Bruckgasse (a lane to the Salzach bridge leading to Austria)**
Originally much narrower with eight arches spanning its length. There was a hall above the first bridge piling until 1715 ("obere Fleischbänke"). The original bridge from 1767 with a stately Baroque facade was demolished in 1886.

The town hall with its neo-classical facade



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The Barbarino house with its neo-classical facade | The Marienbrunnen fountain

- 21 Former **Regierungsgebäude (government building)** (house no. 108)
The building boasted three decorative Renaissance turrets in the mid-16th century; electoral Bavarian heraldry on the facade from the mid 18th century. Administrative centre of the sovereign tax authority, later an electoral government building (until 1802); from 1877-1934 royal institute of studies along with house no. 109. Today the assembly rooms and town library.

- 22 Former **Terrassencafé (outdoor café)** (house no. 111)
Late Gothic and mid 16th century. The brand name with the year 1550 is displayed in the windowsill. The café produced gingerbread and wax candles from 1639. Magnificent atrium with Renaissance arcades.

- 23 **Löwenbrunnen (lion fountain)** from 1658
Destroyed by bombs in 1945; reconstructed when the square was rebuilt in 1975-77; the heraldry lion survived and was added to the new fountain.

- 24 **Rathaus (town hall)** (house no. 112-114)
14th/15th century, formerly with a clock tower and dance hall. A "Rat der Zwölfer" (twelve-man council) is mentioned in the official records of 1307. These walls hold a dynasty tower. In 1439 the "Herren aus dem Holz" sold the building to the town. Neo-classical facade with heraldries of the town and of Bavaria dating back to 1788; extensive rebuilding over the years.

- 25 Former **Ständehaus (house of the estates)** (house no. 115)
Known as the "Haus am Steg" (house on the footbridge) in around 1400; it was part of the Bavarian estate in the second half of the 18th century. Beautiful early 19th century neo-classical facade, just like the neighbouring house no. 116 (known as the Barbarino house). Houses no. 117 and no. 118 had to be demolished to make way for the junction to the quayside in 1969, the Salzlande 26.

Old town | Gröben & Spitalvorstadt



The Gröben **27** was first mentioned in the official records of 1225 as a “fovea”, and as a “Grueb” in 1333. Almost all of the buildings were the craftsmen’s houses; they largely date from the late Gothic period. They were repeatedly deluged by devastating flood waters over the course of the centuries. Since the construction of the quayside **26** in 1969-1971, many of the houses have been renovated as part of flood protection measures. Parallel to the Gröben along the foot of the castle hill is the Messerzeile **28**, first mentioned in an official document in 1408, where mainly locksmiths and artist-craftsmen once lived.

29 **Messerzeile** (house no. 12) Belonged to the grammar school teacher Heinrich Faltermayer – the little boy in Ludwig Thomas’ “Lausbubengeschichten” (stories about naughty little boys) – in the second half of the 19th century.

30 Known as the **“Bildhauerhaus” (sculptor’s studio)** (Messerzeile house no. 2) 16th century like the “Uhrmacherhaus” (watchmaker’s house, house no. 6). This building was the residence and workshop of the noted sculptors of Burghausen, Johann Georg Lindt (from 1785) and Thomas Jorhan (from 1796). Ignaz Günther also worked with Lindt for a short time.

31 Known as the **“Malerhaus” (artist’s residence)** (Gröben house no. 142) This building was the former workshop of generations of della Croce artists (from 1758). The rear building housed the workshop of sculptors Johann Jakob Schnabl (1727) and Johann Georg Lindt (1758 – later house no. 2). House no. 143 was home of the artist Rechl (1650-1735). House no. 153 is another artists’ residence: Innozenz Warathi (1726), Johann Martin Seltenhorn (1759) and Kajetan Forster (1768). The row of houses from no. 153 to no. 162 had to be pushed back to make way for the widening of the street during reconstruction in 1973.

32 **Am Bichel** Called “Gasteig” in 1408 and later “Am Bühel”. Until the 19th century, this was the location of the municipal dance hall. In around 1860, a dream of a docking place for steamships along the Salzach. Before construction of the quayside it was the “Obeliskplatz” with war memorial.



The "Grüben"

Old town | Gröben & Spitalvorstadt



33 Formerly **Mautbeck** (Prechtl bakery, house no. 192) First half of the 16th century; high-water mark on the outside wall on the first floor (1598).

34 **Mautnerschloß (Mautner castle)** (house no. 193)
The building dates back to the 16th century; ducal/electoral toll gate on the Salzlände. A castle-like building housing the customs officers of Burghausen, later the electoral office of the toll gate and the royal customs office. Building modifications in 1912, renovated in 1976-1977. Today a municipal training centre with lecture halls and a jazz room in the basement. From 1877-1879 Ludwig Thoma lived here as a Latin pupil.

35 **Platzl** Dating back to the 13th century the "Platzl" was originally the outer point of the inner town fortifications with the Spital-Torturm (demolished in 1766), and the moat in front of it at the same height as the town wall leading down from the castle. The square was redesigned in 1860. The Fork of the Mautnerstraße **37**, previously known as "Lederergasse" and "Tuchmachergasse", and the Spitalgasse **38**, previously known as "Schiffgasse" and "Fischergasse". The outer part of Mautnerstraße (in around 1465 known as "Webergasse") leads through the Spitalvorstadt to the south-west end of the town wall with the former St. Johann-Tor (mentioned in an official document from 1335; demolished in 1806-1808 and in 1877) at the same height as house no. 240 **42**.

36 Former **Heilig-Geist-Spital mit Spitalkirche (holy spirit hospital with church)** Donated by Friedrich von Katzenberg, officer of the toll gate, in 1332; built in front of the town wall beside the stream (old effluent from Lake Wöhrsee) as was standard practice in the Middle Ages. District hospital from 1856-1956, then the St. Altmann episcopal institute; the Heilig Geist community centre since 1991. **Spitalkirche** (1325/30): One of the few sacred buildings in Upper Bavaria left over from the 14th century; reconstructed after the town fire (1512); redesigned to reflect the Baroque period in around 1777; new tower built in 1773. Baroque interior (second half of the 17th century); Gothic marble epitaph (1505-1530); marked by high water level. Renovated in 1933 and in 1969-1970.

39 New **Heilig-Geist-Spital (holy spirit hospital)** (house no. 250)
Former St. Joseph's hospital and poorhouse; already mentioned in official records as a house of brotherhood in 1503. Purchased by the town in 1955; following a period of reconstruction in 1965-1966, the building was modernised in 1989/90.

40 **Riemerschmid-Haus** (house no. 249)
Birthplace of Anton Riemerschmid, founder of the first German business school (1862); the building has undergone major architectural renovations.

41 Former **Kapuzinerkloster (Abbey of the Capuchin Order)** with church
Members of the Order first came here in 1618, then again in 1649 – the year of the plague epidemic in the town. The abbey was founded in 1654, and then extended in the late 19th century and in 1920. Holy brother Konrad was here as a neophyte in 1851; Workbishop Freiherr von Ketteler died here in 1877. After 1892, a seminary for young monks in the order; dissolution of the abbey and seminary in 1994. The building has been used as a youth hostel and a municipal music school since then. **Klosterkirche St. Anna (St. Anna abbey church)** (1654/56): Modest hall building with barrel vaults over the nave and choir; redesigned in 1940 and in 1966-1975; 18th and 20th century interior. The crypt of the Capuchins lies under the church.

Spitalvorstadt | The Mautner castle (today a training centre with lecture halls and a jazz room in the basement) | "Platzl" with a view of the castle



34



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Raitenhaslach Abbey

➤ Raitenhaslach is a jewel of the late Bavarian Baroque period, a theatrum sanctum that will take your breath away. ◀

Prof Wolfgang A. Herrmann
Chancellor of Munich Technical University





Raitenhaslach Abbey



The former prelate's building with "Pope's Room"



Art and culture

Raitenhaslach lies at a bend in the Salzach river, nestled in an unspoiled landscape. The abbey has belonged to the town of Burghausen since 2004. The grounds have since been redesigned to remove the offending brewery buildings and a trail of open spaces has been created to house temporary art exhibitions. A new stage has been erected in the inner courtyard intended for musical performances and plays. Several TV series have been filmed in Raitenhaslach. Today, the Raitenhaslach abbey is an international meeting place with a European profile. The Technical University of Munich has been running the TUM Science & Study Center Raitenhaslach here since 2016. It is a prestigious venue for national and international seminars, symposia, conferences and more.



The history of Raitenhaslach

The name "Raitinhaselach" was first mentioned in a Salzburg nomenclature of goods in around 788. In the period 1143-1146, the mother monastery in Salem am Bodensee founded the first Cistercian abbey in Altbayern (Old Bavaria) in Raitenhaslach. It remained standing until the period of secularisation in Bavaria in 1803. The abbey complex now consists of the "old abbey" with the church and water tower dating back to the 16th century and the "new abbey" with Baroque architecture from 1752. During the Baroque period, Raitenhaslach resembled a colossal building site under Abbot Emanuel II Mayr, who was a very ambitious builder. The prelate's building was completed, and the festival room and entire commercial wing were rebuilt. After a violent landslide on 5 August 1766, the abbey's interior (cloister area) was completely rebuilt. The final construction work was to the famous library wing, which was completed in 1785. This and almost half the other Baroque-style buildings were torn down again in 1803.



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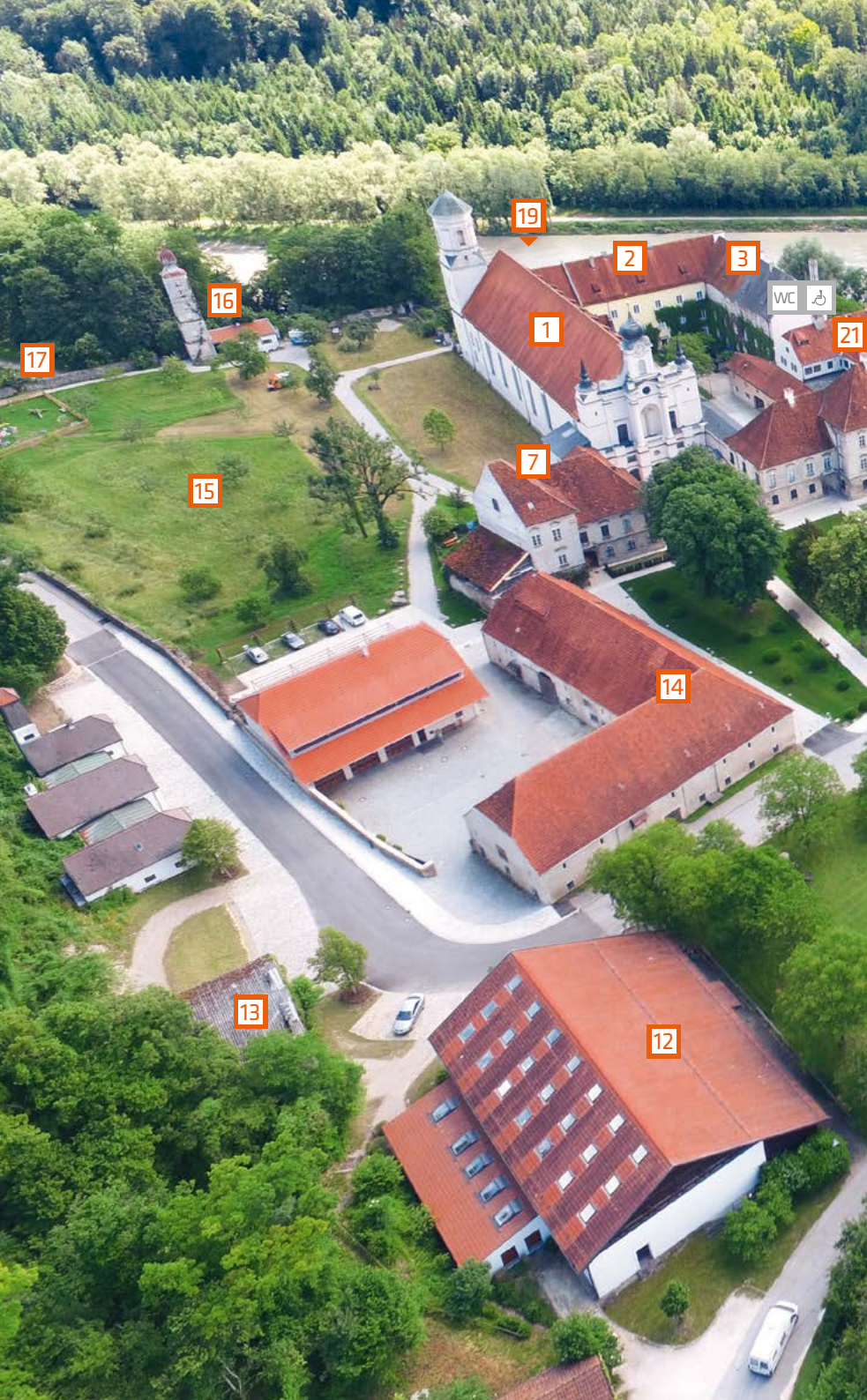
Today, the Aula maior, the festival room of the former abbey, is the heart of the TUM Science & Study Center Raitenhaslach and is highly regarded within the context of art history.



Raitenhaslach abbey church

8-9 September 1186 marked the consecration of the first church on the grounds of the Raitenhaslach Cistercian abbey. It was a gigantic building for its time, boasting a three-aisled Romanesque pillar basilica with an interior length of 60 m and a vaulted high nave. The church was reconstructed as a Baroque pilaster church in 1698 to mark the 600th anniversary of the order. The church was fitted with a sumptuous Baroque interior between 1743 and 1746 under Abbot Robert Pendtner in celebration of the abbey's 600th anniversary. The ceiling frescoes by Johann Zick depict the life story of St. Bernhard of Clairvaux of the Order of Cistercians.

In 1982, the five-year complete restoration of the abbey began, and it is now more beautiful than ever in its new splendour.



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Raitenhaslach Abbey | At a glance

1 **Klosterkirche (abbey church)**

Consecrated as a Romanesque pillar basilica in 1186, reconstructed as a Baroque pilaster church in 1698 to mark the 600th anniversary of the order and redesigned in a Bavarian Baroque style between 1743 and 1746 in celebration of the abbey's 600th anniversary – Rococo decor, a parish church since the period of secularisation.

2 3 **Former Konventbauten (convent buildings) with Baroque cloister and excavation**

Beautifully sculptured memorial stones.

2 **Katholischer Pfarrhof (Catholic rectory)**

3 **Grundschule (primary school)**

The school has been based in the same house for 200 years.

4 **Former Prälatenstock (prelate's building)**

One of the abbey's larger buildings with prelate's room known as the "Papstzimmer" (Pope's Room), prelate's chapel and attic – a structural highlight.

5 **Aula maior – the festival room of the former abbey**

(Stone hall) with frescos by electoral court artist Martin Heigl from Munich.

6 **Arkadengang (arcade passageway)**

With prelate's garden and atrium.

7 **Kleines Abteistöckl (small abbey building)**

8 **Former Wirtschaftstrakt des Klosters (commercial wing of the abbey)**

Later used as a malthouse.

9 **Klostergasthof (abbey guest house)**

Offering excellent hospitality with a beer garden and sun terrace.

10 **Park**

The site of temporary art exhibitions during the summer months.

11 **Dorfwiese (village green)**

A large family event and maypole ceremony is held here every even year on 1 May.



Abbot Robert Pemptner | A Baroque and Rococo gem: the abbey church | The abbey market – held every year in early summer

12 Turnhalle (gym)

13 Lindenkeller (Linden cellar)

Used to store the harvested grapes for the ice wine and to keep the summer beer cool, built in 1735.

14 Part of the former Stallungstrakt (stable block)

“Marstall”, various stables and tithe barn, parts of which were later used as garages.

15 Streuobstwiese (orchard)

A deer enclosure during the Baroque period, now a mixed orchard.

16 Wasserturm (water tower)

Dates back to the 16th century, the Cistercians were the great hydraulic engineers of their era and already had running water in their buildings at a very early time.

17 Fischteiche (fish pond), Forellenzucht (trout farm)

18 Salzach river

Has formed the border to Upper Austria since 1779 (Peace of Teschen).

19 Plättenanlegestelle (boat docks)

For short boat trips from Raitenhaslach to Burghausen and from Tittmoning to Raitenhaslach.

20 Fußweg (footpath) to the river Salzach and the boat docks

21 Former Brauerei (brewery)

The brewery was incorporated into the abbey complex after 1908.

Parking facilities

Parking facilities for cars and buses as you enter the site
Parking facilities at the abbey guest house for restaurant and hotel guests only

Marienberg Pilgrimage Church



The Marienberg Pilgrimage Church is referred to as the “Pearl of the Salzach Valley”. When the Cistercians moved their abbey from Schützing to Raitenhaslach, there was already a Marienberg “Capella”. Over the centuries, the church has been renovated, expanded and reconstructed, most recently in 1760.

For the new church, **Abbot Emmanuel II Mayr** commissioned court master mason Franz Alois Mayr (1723-1771) from Trostberg. The frescos are the work of Munich painter Martin Heigl, a student of Johann Baptist Zimmermann, whose body of work focuses on the Virgin Mary.

Prince Archbishop **Sigismund of Salzburg** consecrated the church on 1 May 1765. To reach the church visitors must climb the 50 steps, which represent the 50 Ave Marias of the Rosary. Upon entering the church, the room and its decor leave a lasting impression. In the middle of the room is the high altar with its 17th century image of the Miraculous Madonna by Johann Georg Lindt – one of the sculptors resident in Burghausen from 1758. The Virgin Mary is depicted as a Queen of Heaven with a sceptre in her hand and Baby Jesus in her arms, surrounded by angels and saints.

The **side altars** were crafted at the workshop of Georg Lindt and Georg Kapfer. The paintings on the Anna and Bernhard altars are the work of Peter Anton Lorenzoni, and those on the crucifix and Johannes altars are by Wilhelm Epple.

The interior of the church





Marienberg Pilgrimage Church

Marienberg Pilgrimage Church



The ceiling fresco by Heigl (1762-1764)

The **ceiling paintings** are the first high point of Martin Heigl's career as a fresco artist. Raitenhaslach Abbey provided him with a lot of work. The paintings in the pilgrimage church all make reference to the Mother of God and the Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary. The image above the high altar depicts the Annunciation, to the north is the Visitation, opposite is the Nativity, above the organ is the Presentation of Christ in the Temple and on the underside of the gallery is the 12-year-old Jesus in the temple.

The **cuppola paintings** present the observer with different levels and places – a ship with angels and people, representatives of the great Orders: Benedict, Bernhard of Clairvaux, Dominic, Norbert and Franciscus together on a cloud. We can see a lighthouse as a signpost to Christ and a shipwreck as a symbol of apostasy or the abandonment of faith, but there is also an image of paradise with the tree of life at its centre.

The highlight of the painting is the Gates of Heaven framed with roses, portraying angels leading people to their destination.

The seat of the parish was moved from Marienberg to Raitenhaslach in 1806, and the church at Marienberg was closed and turned over for demolition. The Miraculous Madonna and other interior features were brought to Raitenhaslach and some were sold at auction.

The long “fight for Marienberg” began when the Marienberg farmers protested against Judge Franz von Armansperg’s order to have the church torn down. Some of the protesters even locked themselves inside the church as “resistance fighters”. A begging letter was sent to the Bavarian Crown Prince and later to King Ludwig I himself to great avail, for the church held its first service again on 29 August 1811. The Miraculous Madonna was then returned to Marienberg on 15 January 1815.

All the artists involved in the construction of the church dedicated their work to the glorification of Mary. The latest renovations from 2001 to 2011 also served this purpose. Pilgrims, worshippers and postulants have been coming here for centuries. For many, it is a journey that gives them strength and answers.



Opening times:

The church is open all year round.

(except in bad weather conditions in winter)

For enquiries regarding church and prayer services:

➤ The Raitenhaslach parish office, pfarrei-raitenhaslach.de

➤ For enquiries regarding church tours:

➤ Burghauser Touristik, see the back page for contact details



The sower sows the good seeds, a relief on the pulpit | Putti with the “Arma Christi” (Weapons of Christ) on the crucifix altar



Activities | Highlights



GUIDED TOURS

The guided tours in the castle and the old town are fun and thrilling, on the trail of salt merchants, craftsmen, witches, knights and ghosts. Ideal for individual visitors, groups or school parties.

The themed tours are an extra special treat for kids. Be transported to another world and revel in the stories of the Burghausen castle and old town from the last one thousand years.

Group tours can be booked all year round.

Public castle tours:

From mid-March to the start of November on Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays at 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. From July to mid-September additional tours on Thursdays and Fridays at 2:00 p.m.

Public tours of the old town:

From April to October, every first Saturday of the month at 2:00 p.m.





PLÄTTE BOAT RIDE

Experience the town from a beautiful new perspective with a Plätte boat ride on the Salzach. You can gently glide through the charming landscape of the Salzach Valley. As you sail into Burghausen, an unforgettable scene comes into view – the grand castle looming protectively over the picturesque old town.

The musical Plätte boat rides with jazz music, Bavarian “Danzlmusik” or harp music, which are offered on selected dates, and the entertaining Plätte boat tales, which bring the characters of the medieval Salzach shipping scene to life, are particular highlights.

Public Plätte boat trips from Tittmoning to Burghausen take place from May to mid-October every Sunday at 2:00 p.m. (Registration required) In the summer holidays, we also put on public trips during the week.

Group trips can be booked from the end of April to mid-October.

Activities | Highlights



LAKE WÖHRSEE & BATHING

Lake Wörsee is Burghausen's bathing paradise in a glorious location with a view of the world's longest castle and one of the most pleasant bathing lakes in Bavaria. Fun, excitement, fitness and relaxation provide the Wacker open-air swimming pool and the Georg Miesgang inside swimming pool.



CYCLING

A cyclist's paradise opens up along the Salzach and Inn, where Bavaria and Austria come together: over 500 km of bike paths in the middle of natural and cultural landscape guarantee pedal enjoyment.



GPS CITY TOUREN

Interactive and multimedia GPS City Tours "A Tale of Smugglers, Rascals and Fish in a Salt Crust" and "Jazz in Burghausen – a Very Special Attitude to Life" take you on a journey of discovery of both the old town and the history of jazz in Burghausen. The interactive walks also take you past many of the architectural highlights that Burghausen has to offer. All tours start at the GPS column in the town square.



MUSEUMS & EXHIBITIONS

In three museums and an exhibition tower on the world's longest castle leads you get exciting insights into the past and contemporary art in the medieval castle ensembles: The House of Photography, the State Collection, the Town Museum and the Liebenwein Tower of the artist group "Die Burg".



PUBLIC ART

In Burghausen you can find art everywhere, whether in historic buildings or in public places. The town hall itself has become an impressive art gallery and invites you to have a look.



Castle walkway – idyllic path from the old town to the first forecourt



➤ Arrival by car

- A 94 / B 12** · München - Altötting - Markt/
Ausfahrt Burghausen (approx. 100 km)
- A 92 / A 94 / B 12** · Passau - Burghausen (approx. 85 km)
- B 20** · Salzburg/Freilassing - Burghausen (approx. 50 km)
- B 20** · Straubing - Burghausen (approx. 100 km)

➤ Arrival by train

München - Mühldorf - Burghausen

➤ Arrival by plane

- Munich-Erding airport**
- Franz-Josef-Strauß-Airport
- Salzburg airport (A)**
- W.-A.-Mozart Airport

Errors and misprints reserved.



BURGHAUSEN
WORLD'S
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CASTLE

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Other brochures

Tour guides
Package deals
Image brochures
Walking trails

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