



Main façade of the Ehrenburg on the Schlossplatz



Portrait of Duke Ernst I (left); “Hall of Giants” (top right); Duchess Luise’s bedroom (bottom right)



## Ehrenburg Palace

Ehrenburg Palace was built by the Coburg dukes in the 16th century as a representative town residence. The building, which was to be constructed on the site of a Franciscan monastery no longer in operation, was commissioned in the year 1543 by Johann Ernst von Sachsen-Coburg. Only five years later the duke was able to move his court from the fortress on the castle hill down into the town. Emperor Karl V is said to have given the complex with its three wings the name Ehrenburg (“Palace of Honour”) because the building was completed without the use of compulsory labour.

In 1690, after a catastrophic fire, Duke Albrecht embarked on the transformation of the palace into a baroque residence. Rooms with lavish stucco-work by artists from Upper Italy, the court chapel and the Hall of Giants have been preserved from this period. The magnificent hall acquired its name from the 28 massive atlases supporting the beams of the ceiling.

Duke Ernst I (reigned 1806–1844) began to remodel Ehrenburg Palace in the contemporary style only a few years after he came to



power. It was then that the building acquired its impressive neo-Gothic façade, designed by the architect Karl Friedrich von Schinkel and begun in 1810. For the interior André-Marie Renié-Grétry was summoned to Coburg from France.

Between 1816 and 1840 the apartments were renovated in the French Empire style on the basis of his designs and filled with magnificent furniture, clocks, chandeliers and tapestries from major Paris manufactories. Numerous portraits in the palace rooms and the bedroom of Queen Victoria, a frequent guest in Coburg, illustrate the far-reaching dynastic connections of the house of Sachsen-Coburg und Gotha, which rose in the 19th century to occupy a position of importance on a European scale by means of skilful marriage policy. Also of particular interest are two art galleries with works by Lucas Cranach the elder and Dutch and Flemish artists of the 16th and 17th centuries as well as romantic landscape paintings.

Pendulum clock in the shape of a lyre, attributed to Choiselat & Gallien, Paris ca. 1815

## EHRENBURG PALACE

### INFORMATION

Schloss- und Gartenverwaltung Coburg  
Schloss Ehrenburg · 96450 Coburg  
Tel. (0 95 61) 80 88-0 · Fax (0 95 61) 80 88-40  
sgvcoburg@bsv.bayern.de · www.sgvcoburg.de

### OPENING TIMES

April to September: 9am – 6pm  
October to March: 10am – 4pm  
Closed Mondays

Hourly guided tours until one hour before closing

⌘ Access on request · Only the second upper floor is accessible by lift

### REFRESHMENTS

Visitors’ waiting room with cafeteria

### TRANSPORTATION

Train to Coburg · All buses from the centre  
Large Ketschenanger car park · Further parking garages in the centre

## ROSENAU PALACE AND PARK

### INFORMATION

Schloss- und Gartenverwaltung Coburg  
Schloss Rosenau · Rosenau 1 · 96472 Rödental  
Tel. (0 95 63) 30 84-10 · Fax (0 95 63) 30 84-29  
sgvcoburg@bsv.bayern.de · www.sgvcoburg.de

### OPENING TIMES

April to September: 9am – 6pm  
October to March: 10am – 4pm  
Closed Mondays

Hourly guided tours until one hour before closing

⌘ There is no lift in the building.

### REFRESHMENTS

Rosenau Park Restaurant  
Tel. (0 95 63) 12 42 · Fax (0 95 63) 3 03 10  
Closed Mondays

### TRANSPORTATION

Train to Coburg · Bus 8311, 8312 to the Goebelwerk stop or train to Rödental/Oeslau  
70 parking places · 5 coach parking places

### ALSO AT ROSENAU:

The Museum of Modern Glass, part of the art collections of Coburg Fortress in the orangery in Rosenau Park  
Tel. (0 95 63) 16 06

Information on all places of interest:



Bayerische Verwaltung der staatlichen Schlösser, Gärten und Seen

Postfach 20 20 63 · 80020 München  
Tel. (0 89) 17 90 80 · Fax (0 89) 17 90 81 90  
info@bsv.bayern.de · www.schloesser.bayern.de



*The romantic Rosenau Palace was the summer seat of the Coburg dukes.*



*Landscape park with Swan Pond (top left); Marble Hall (top right); Duke's drawing room (bottom left); Viewing terrace (bottom right)*

## Rosenau Palace and Park

Rosenau Palace is picturesquely set in a romantic English landscape garden northeast of Coburg. In 1805 Duke Franz Friedrich Anton von Sachsen-Coburg-Saalfeld was persuaded by his son and heir Ernst to acquire the seat of the Lords of Rosenau, which dated back to the Middle Ages. After he took over the government, from 1808 to 1817 the new duke had the ruined building reconstructed in the neo-Gothic style. He wanted to create for himself a summer seat with particular emphasis on the building's medieval origins, in accordance with the romantic ideals of his time. The first ideas for the pointed arch architecture and tracery ornamentation were suggested by the young architect Karl Friedrich von Schinkel. The completion of Rosenau Palace was celebrated in 1817 on the occasion of the wedding of Duke Ernst III von Sachsen-Coburg-Saalfeld (from 1826 Ernst I von Sachsen-Coburg und Gotha) and Luise von Sachsen-Gotha-Altenburg with a knights' tournament "in Old German costume" on the meadows in front of the palace as well as fancy-dress balls in the Marble Hall. The living rooms and assembly rooms in Rosenau Palace are dominated by



*Queen Victoria, Prince Consort Albert, Prince Arthur and the Duke of Wellington on a miniature entitled "The First of May 1851"*

brightly coloured wall paintings in the neo-Gothic style and the original black-stained, polished Viennese Biedermeier furniture. The bright, comfortably furnished rooms reflect the duke's wish to combine "princely splendour with rural simplicity". In the year 1845 Prince Albert, the second son of Duke Ernst I who was born at Rosenau, visited the palace together with his wife, Queen Victoria of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland. "If I were not who I am", wrote the queen in her memoirs, "my real home would be here". The park surrounding the palace, in which aspects of the classical English landscape garden are combined with typical romantic elements, dates back to Duke Ernst I. Of the once numerous park buildings the neo-Gothic farm building, a grotto with a waterfall and a tournament column have been preserved. The neoclassical tea house is today used as the park restaurant, and the orangery houses a museum of modern glass. The viewing terrace is particularly attractive with its flower parterre, fountain and balustrade, and a splendid view of the Itztal.

# Coburg

## Ehrenburg Palace

## Rosenau Palace and Park

