



Inner courtyard of the Town Residence facing west

*Italian Hall (top left); Audience Room of the Birkenfeld Rooms (top right);
Detail of the ceiling painting by Hermanus Posthumus in the Venus
Room (bottom left); Arcade in the inner courtyard (bottom right)*

Landshut Town Residence

The Landshut Town Residence is an artistic and architectural gem, a spectacular Italian Renaissance palace transported into a northern setting. Duke Ludwig X of Bavaria, residing at Trausnitz Castle in his function as governor for his brother who ruled in Munich, laid the foundation stone for a new residence in the town in 1536. This was begun in the German Renaissance style under the direction of the Augsburg architect Bernhard Zwitzel, and later called the "German Building".

A journey to Upper Italy acquainted the Bavarian duke with the modern residences of the Italian princes, in particular the Duke of Mantua's Palazzo Te, and gave him fresh inspiration. Behind the German Building a second palace, the "Italian Building", was begun in 1537 under the direction of Italian architects, and eventually extended with two wings that linked it to the German Building. The spacious Residence complex thus surrounds one of the most beautiful Italian-style courtyards north of the Alps. Inside, the high vaulted halls were decorated by

Italian stucco-workers and painted by the artists Hermanus Posthumus, Hans Bocksberger the Elder and Ludwig Refinger with important picture cycles on biblical, mythological and historical themes. The complex was completed in 1543.

The Town Residence underwent alteration when Count Palatine Wilhelm von Birkenfeld-Gelnhausen resided here with his court from 1780 to 1799. It was then that the façade facing the old town was redesigned in its present neoclassical style. The apartments of the Count Palatine in the German Building, the Birkenfeld Rooms, are also from this period. The French neoclassical wallpaper in this flight of rooms, a rare example of early wallpaper, was found and uncovered when the rooms were restored from 1993 to 2003. It was put up when Crown Prince Ludwig, who later became King Ludwig I of Bavaria, occupied the Birkenfeld Rooms when studying in Landshut.

The halls of the Italian Building, the palace chapel and the Birkenfeld Rooms can be visited on the guided tour organized by the Bavarian Palace Department.

INFORMATION ON BOTH PROPERTIES

Burgverwaltung Landshut · Burg Trausnitz 168 · 84036 Landshut
Tel. (08 71) 9 24 11-0 and -44 (information line) · Fax -40
burgverwaltung.landshut@bsv.bayern.de

LANDSHUT TOWN RESIDENCE

Altstadt 79 · 84028 Landshut

OPENING TIMES OF THE TOWN RESIDENCE

April – September: 9am – 6pm

October – March: 10am – 4pm

Closed Mondays

Regular guided tours (duration ca. 45 minutes); last tour 5pm (summer) or 3.30pm (winter); last admissions 30 minutes before closing

♿ Lift available

REFRESHMENTS

Residenz-Café · Tel. (08 71) 27 46 46 · Closed Mondays

TRANSPORTATION

Train to Landshut, any bus to the "Altstadt" stop

Large car park (Grieserwiese)

"From dug-outs to information technology cluster" – an exhibition organized by the Landshut municipal museums. Find out about the history of Landshut and the area's rich archaeological treasures. Information: Tel. (08 71) 9 22 38 90 · museen@landshut.de

TRAUSNITZ CASTLE

OPENING TIMES OF TRAUSNITZ CASTLE

April – September: 9am – 6pm

October – March: 10am – 4pm · Open daily

The castle can only be visited by participating in a guided tour. The guided tours lasts around 45 minutes. The last tour is at 5pm (summer) or 3.30pm (winter). The Trausnitz Castle Chamber of Art and Curiosities, a branch of the Bavarian National Museum, can be visited without a guided tour.

Last admissions in each case 30 minutes before closing

♿ The guided tour of the castle involves stairs,
a lift is available for the Chamber of Art and Curiosities

REFRESHMENTS

Burgschänke · Tel. (08 71) 27 63-4 40 · Fax (08 71) 27 63-4 41

TRANSPORTATION

Train to Landshut, No. 7 bus to the "Kalcherstrasse" stop

100 parking places, 4 bus parking places in the Hofgarten car park

The Town Residence and Trausnitz Castle are closed on 1 January, Shrove Tuesday, 24.12., 25.12. and 31.12.

Information on all places of interest:



Bayerische Verwaltung der
staatlichen Schlösser, Gärten und Seen

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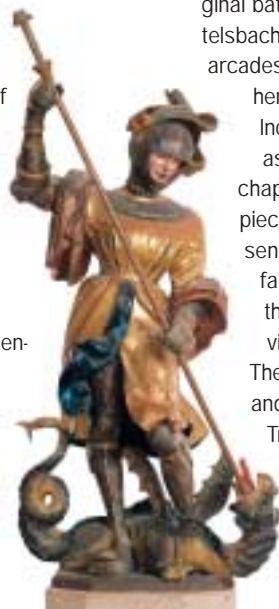
Trausnitz Castle from the southwest, in the foreground the Wittelsbach Tower



Wood-paneled Söllerstube (top left); Inner castle courtyard (top right); Old knights' Hall (bottom left); Fools' Staircase (bottom right and title)

Trausnitz Castle

Trausnitz Castle, a massive building that towers above the town of Landshut, was founded in 1204 by Duke Ludwig I, the "Kelheimer". For 250 years this ancestral seat of the Wittelsbachs was the residence and seat of government of the dukes of Lower Bavaria. The "Rich Dukes" of Bavaria-Landshut, Heinrich, Ludwig and Georg, ruling in the 15th century, played a particularly influential part in its development. Even today, at four-yearly intervals, the town still celebrates the "Landshut Wedding", re-enacting the wedding of Georg, son of Ludwig the Rich and Hedwig, the daughter of the Polish king in 1475. In the 16th century important additions were made to the castle and it acquired some of the attributes of a Renaissance palace. Thus today the exterior of Trausnitz Castle is dominated on the one hand by its medieval buildings such as the almost intact ring of fortifica-



tions with its peel towers, gate buildings and sections of the original battlements, as well as the high keep, known as the Wittelsbach Tower. With the magnificent inner courtyard with its arcades, on the other hand, the castle displays its Renaissance heritage.

Included in the tour of the castle are medieval halls such as the impressive vaulted Old Knights' Hall and the castle chapel with its important sculptures and the winged altarpieces of the Rich Dukes. The Renaissance epoch is represented with vaulted cabinets, panelled rooms and the famous Fools' Staircase with its monumental scenes from the Italian Commedia dell'arte. The tour culminates with a view of the town from the balcony. The Wittelsbach dukes were traditionally great collectors, and examples of their treasures are on display in the Trausnitz Castle Chamber of Art and Curiosities.

Figure of St George by Stephan Rottaler, ca. 1520, from the castle chapel

Landshut

Town Residence

Trausnitz Castle



Bayerische
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