

# Bavaria and Ludwig's Palaces

The Arts Society North West Area



Neuschwanstein Castle



Ettal Abbey

Bavaria evokes images of fairytale royal castles and breathtaking Alpine scenery, traditional villages and centuries-old crafts. This idyllic region is the perfect place to discover opulent palaces, Baroque architecture, stylish alpine towns and one of Europe's most significant art galleries boasting a vast collection of Old Master paintings. Also, home to Germany's highest mountain, Zugspitze, Bavaria offers delightful vistas at every turn and a fascinating culture with its roots in a medieval past.

**£1689** per person\*

19th September 2026

6 Days 5 Nights

## What's included

- Return flights between Manchester and Munich
- Private coach hire in Austria for all transfers and excursions
- English speaking guide for the daily excursions
- English speaking tour manager
- 5 nights half board accommodation
- City tax
- Guided tour of Neuschwanstein Castle
- Guided tour of Hohenschwangau Castle
- Guided tour of Ettal Abbey
- Guided Tour of Linderhof Castle
- Guided tour of Kempten Residence
- Visit to Kempten & Fussen
- Guided tour of The Munter House,
- Time in Garmish - Partenkirchen
- Guided tour of Alte Pinakothek, Munich (flight times permitting)

## Extras

- True single rooms - no supplement
- DSU supplement - £125 p.p (twin/double for sole occupancy)

*The exact order of excursions will be included in your itinerary, which you should expect to receive approximately 2-3 weeks prior to departure.*

*\*Based on a minimum of 30 members travelling. Should fewer travel the price will increase.*

**Please note: Due to the nature of the tour, historic attractions are accessed via many stairs and slopes. Therefore, you must ensure that you have suitable mobility to walk unaided to gain entry.**

*The coaches will not be able to get close enough to entrances to avoid walking.*

## How to book

Please see the accompanying document





Hohenschwangau Castle

## Neuschwanstein Castle

Spiralling out of the Alpine foothills like a castle from a fairytale, Schloss Neuschwanstein is surely one of the most romantic castles in Europe. This idealistic Romanesque revival castle was commissioned by King Ludwig II of Germany in the 19th century and was inspired by his love of Wagner's operas. Picturesque and theatrical, its turrets rise from the rugged, forested hills of beautiful Bavaria whilst inside, operatic frescoes adorn opulent rooms which provide a stage for presenting German mythology.

## Hohenschwangau Castle

Schloss Hohenschwangau is a neo-Gothic creation and was the summer residence of King Maximilian II. Built upon the 12th century ruins of a fortress of the Knights of Schwangau, its buttery yellow façade sits warmly against the forested surroundings. This royal residence embodies an idealisation of the Middle Ages and today tells the story of the Bavarian Kings.

## Linderhof Castle

This rococo royal villa takes inspiration from the Palace of Versailles and is where King Ludwig II spent most of his time. Smaller than his other castles, the residence is no less magnificent inside: opulent and ostentatious rooms are packed with treasures, jewels and quirky inventions. Outside, the beautiful gardens are staged with equal care and take inspiration from the Orient and from Wagner's operas.

## Kempten Residence

A magnificent, breathtaking baroque monastery dating back to the 1600s with richly decorated interiors and impressive artworks. Kempten Residence was the official residence of Prince-Abbot Roman Giel von Giesberg who lavished money and the expertise of many architects to create the monumental monastery complex. In the 1700s, the residential rooms, which are in the late régence style, were created with the incredible Banqueting Hall, a magnificent example of the Bavarian rococo style.



Garmisch-Partenkirchen

## Ettal Abbey

Beautifully baroque, this Benedictine monastery is known for its amazing frescoes and stunning rococo vestry. The pretty domes of Ettal Abbey are home to monks who produce beer, liqueur, and cheese on site, and also run a bookstore.

## Kempten & Fussen

The charming alpine towns of Kempten & Fussen boast rich cultural heritage and many delightful attractions and inviting streets to discover. Fussen is nestled at the foot of the Alps, and the spectacular highlights are the impressive castles of Neuschwanstein and Hohenschwangau, built for King Ludwig II.

## The Munter House

Overlooking the beautiful town of Murnau with stunning views is the 'Russian House', the country house where Gabriele Münter lived with Wassily Kandinsky and, later, the art historian Johannes Eichner. It has been beautifully restored in appearance to the golden years of 1909-1914. Murnau is where the famed 20th century arts movement Blue Rider originated.

## Garmisch - Partenkirchen

The pretty town of Garmisch-Partenkirchen sits in an ideal Alpine location, with spectacular mountain vistas for miles around. Formerly the home of composer Richard Strauss, this winter sports paradise has a lovely old-fashioned charm and is situated at the base of Germany's highest mountain, Zugspitze.

## Alte Pinakothek, Munich

Housed in a beautiful neo-Renaissance building opened in 1826, the gallery is home to Bavaria's vast collection of Old Master paintings from the late Middle Ages, Renaissance, Baroque and Rococo periods. Master pieces include a self-portrait by Albrecht Dürer, the largest Peter Paul Rubens collection. Whilst the Italian gallery includes the only Leonardo da Vinci in Germany, several works by Raphael, and further paintings by all major artists from Giotto to Titian and Canaletto.

## Hotel Edelweiss, Lermoos

Surrounded by the mountains of the Tyrolean Zugspitz area with stunning views of the beautiful Alpine landscape, the lovely 4-star Hotel Edelweiss is situated in the Austrian village of Lermoos. The hotel features spacious rooms and excellent leisure facilities including an indoor pool & sauna. The hotel's friendly team offer a warm welcome with attentive service. Guests can enjoy food & drinks in the hotel's restaurants & bars or simply relax in the lounge.



Courtesy of Edelweiss Hotel