



Ellwangen Palace

THE IMPOSING RESIDENCE OF
ABBOTS AND PROVOSTS



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Baden-Württemberg
State Palaces and
Gardens

Large and stately, Ellwangen Palace (Schloss ob Ellwangen) is a prominent landmark for the town of Ellwangen.

Perched imperiously on a ridge overlooking the former monastic city of Ellwangen, the palace was first mentioned in historical records in 1266. Known as the “*abbots’ castle*”, the fortified structure provided a grand home for the abbots of the Benedictine monastery in Ellwangen. The old walls of the castle complex, dating back to the time of the Medieval Hohenstaufen dynasty, are still partly visible. However, in later years, Ellwangen’s prince-abbots and prince-provosts altered, expanded and renovated their residence with astounding regularity.

Renaissance and Baroque masterpieces

Between 1603 and 1608, the palace was remodelled in the Renaissance style, on the orders of Prince-Provost Johann Christoph I von Westerstetten. This design—a four-sided structure built on a

The palace chapel and its 17th century interior



Graceful and harmonious: the Renaissance courtyard possesses singular beauty

trapezium-shaped floorplan, with towers in all four corners – still defines the appearance of the complex today. The *Arkadenhof*, a courtyard bounded by three stories of elegant arcaded balconies, is a remarkable architectural achievement. After a fire the following century, the palace was renovated in the Baroque style. In addition

The royal Throne Room harks back to the time when the palace was New Württemberg’s seat of power





to lavishly redecorated interiors, the new features included a double staircase, completed in 1726, a mansard roof on the main building, and a majestic Throne Room. In the early 19th century, many church territories were officially annexed by German states. As a result, Ellwangen Palace passed into the possession of the royal family of Württemberg. In 1815 and 1816, the banished king of Westphalia, Jérôme Bonaparte (a brother of Napoleon) and his wife Katharina (the daughter of the king of Württemberg) had several rooms refurbished prior to taking up residence.

A throne room with a view

Today, the palace provides an atmospheric setting for theater performances, which take place every year throughout the summer. The former rooms of the prince-provosts were converted into a museum in 1908. Both the Throne Room, *which is often used for concerts due to its excellent acoustics*, and the Tower Room provide a unique view of the town of Ellwangen.

Visitor information

Opening hours and guided tours

Palace museum Open on a seasonal basis;
Visits possible with or without a guided tour

Grounds Open free of charge all year round during the day

Please check our website or call our hotline on +49 7251 74-27 70 before your visit to find out current opening and closing times.

Our website also provides information on accessibility, discounts, special tours and other important details relevant to your visit.

Current information



At a glance

For details of our current opening times, tours, events, admission prices and catering, see:

www.schloss-obellwangen.de/en/visitor-information

Contact and information

Ellwangen Palace

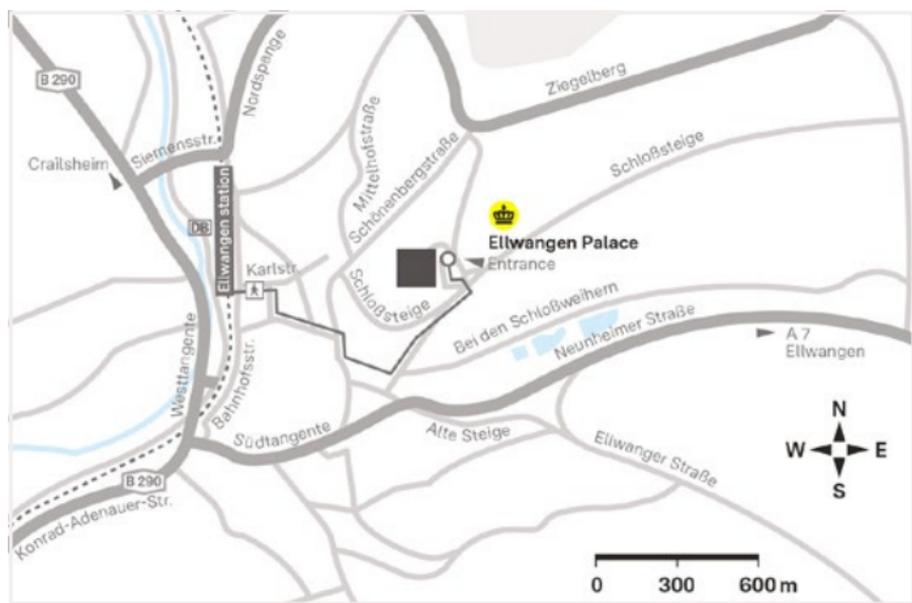
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General information and tour registration

Palace Museum
Phone +49 7961 5 43 80
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www.schlossmuseum-ellwangen.de



How to find us



The walk from Ellwangen station takes approximately 15 minutes.
Further information, including on charging stations, can be found online.

Information about all our monuments

Staatliche Schlösser und Gärten Baden-Württemberg

Schlossraum 22a
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Phone +49 7251 74-27 70
Daily 8:00 AM–8:00 PM
(information only,
no reservations/ticket sales)
info@ssg.bwl.de



www.schloesser-und-gaerten.de/en

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