



# Wäscherschloss Castle

INTACT FORTIFICATIONS  
OF THE STAUFERS



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**Baden-Württemberg**  
State Palaces and  
Gardens

## In the heart of Staufer country, Wäscherschloss Castle (Burg Wäscherschloss) is a striking example of a ministerial castle from the heyday of the House of Staufen.

Wäscherschloss Castle is located in the region known as the “Cradle of the Staufer Dynasty,” not far from Hohenstaufen, in the ancestral homeland of the famed house of medieval dukes, kings and emperors. Of the many castles belonging to ministers and vassals that once surrounded the Staufer ancestral seat like a wreath, Wäscherschloss Castle is *the most complete*. The castle was built in the first half of the 13th century.

### A fortress in the ancestral homeland of the Staufer family

The relatively small castle sitting atop a chain of hills above the Beuten valley impresses because of the willful figure it cuts. The *nearly 10-meter-high polygonal rusticated walls* surrounding the entire structure and its trapezoid courtyard is especially striking.

The interior of the half-timbered structure brings the Staufer era to life



10-meter-high walls surround the fortress, which served as an outlying estate for the region below their ancestral seat on Hohenstaufen

To the west, the palas rises up, offering a gorgeous view of Hohenstaufen, the ancestral seat of the House of Staufen. The representative half-timber stories were added after the Staufer period, in the 15th century and again at the end of the 17th century.

### A castle named after a stream

It was likely after 1200 that Staufer imperial minister Walter von Schüpf built a defensive and residential tower on the land. As a high-ranking official, he was often away with Duke Philipp of Swabia and Emperor Friedrich II, traveling through the realm, thus leaving his tower in the hands of his representatives. As of 1271, the castle was occupied by Konrad “the Washer,” a knight of Hohenstaufen. His surname, likely inspired by the stream flowing through the Welzheim forest that was used for washing, was transferred to the castle as well. After it passed to the Rechberger family in 1274, the castle changed hands many times, until it finally became part of the Kingdom of Württemberg in 1806.

## Hiking area with countless Staufer monuments

Wäscherschloss Castle sits in the heart of the historic Staufer countryside. In addition to the numerous of Staufer structures, the *beautiful landscape and three Kaiserberg mountains* – Hohenstaufen, Rechberg and Stuifen – invite visitors to a deeper exploration of the region. A visit to Wäscherschloss Castle can be extended by a detour to Lorch Monastery and its significant Staufer burial place, or up the Hohenstaufen hill.

From Wäscherschloss Castle, visitors can look across at Hohenstaufen, the ancestral seat of the House of Staufen



# Visitor information

## Opening hours and guided tours

**Castle** Open on a seasonal basis;  
Visits possible with or without a guided tour

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 and admission prices, see:  
[www.burg-waescherschloss.de/en/visitor-information](http://www.burg-waescherschloss.de/en/visitor-information)

## Contact and information

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Visit our other Staufer monuments:  
[www.klosterlorch.de/en](http://www.klosterlorch.de/en)  
[www.burgruine-hohenstaufen.de/en](http://www.burgruine-hohenstaufen.de/en)

Version: 01/2025; All information subject to change!



## How to find us



By bus: From Göppingen take bus 932 to “Wärscherhof”, from Schwäbisch Gmünd take bus 932 to “Wärscherhof” and from Lorch take bus 931 to “Friedhof”.

Further information, including on charging stations, can be found online.

## Information about all our monuments

### Staatliche Schlösser und Gärten Baden-Württemberg

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no reservations/ticket sales)  
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