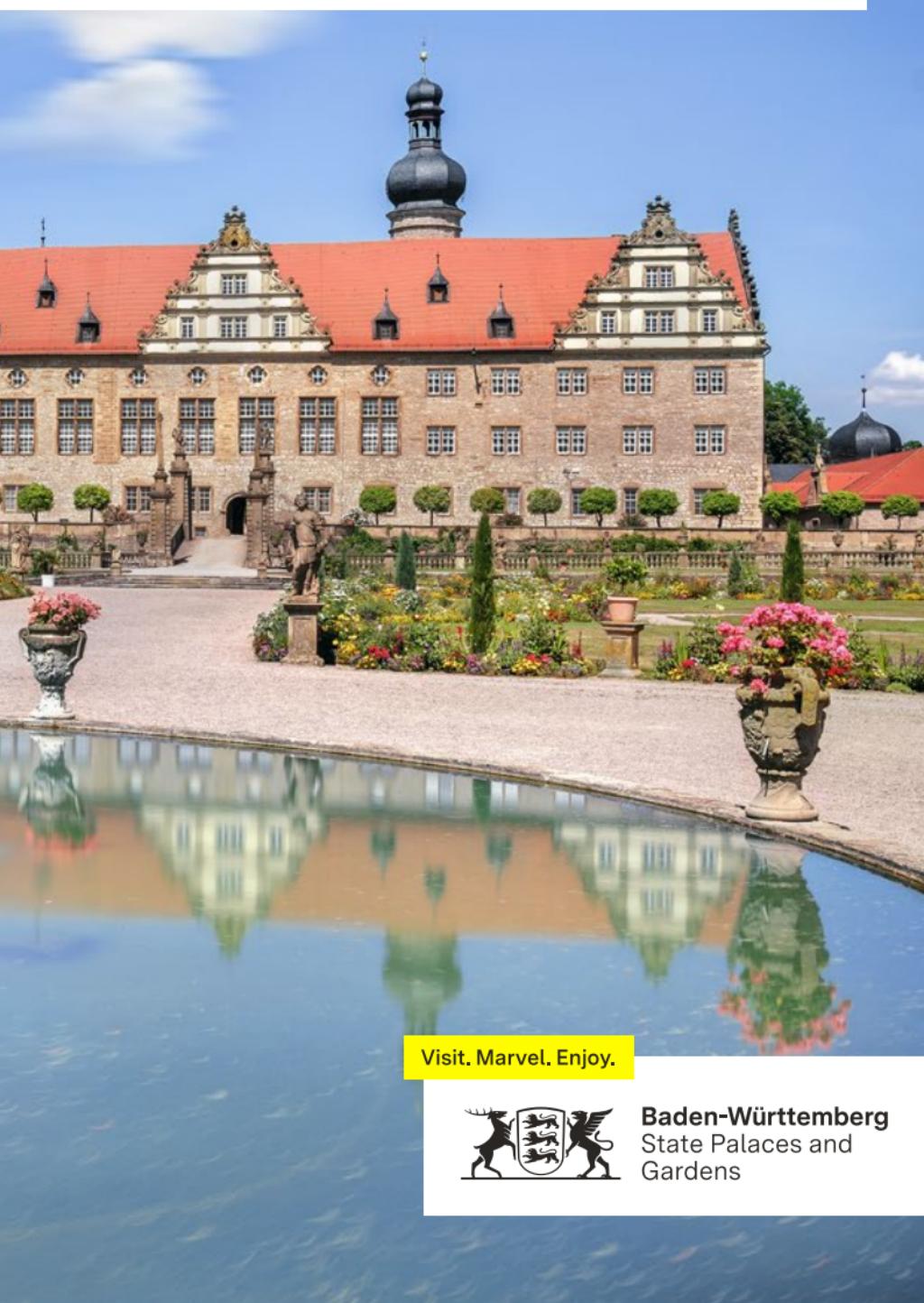




Weikersheim Palace and Garden

A RENAISSANCE AND
BAROQUE DELIGHT



Visit. Marvel. Enjoy.



Baden-Württemberg
State Palaces and
Gardens



From the air, the astonishing layout of Weikersheim is revealed: The palace is triangular!

Magnificent and idyllic

Weikersheim Palace is one of the most important comital residences in the state. Built around 1600 in the Renaissance style by the House of Hohenlohe, the palace underwent an extensive renovation in 1709 under Count Carl Ludwig. Following his marriage to the higher-ranking Princess Elisabeth Friederike Sophie of Oettingen-Oettingen, and the considerable dowry that accompanied her, the residence was lavishly furnished. The *"Charming Chambers"* house the most precious furniture, a porcelain cabinet and the princess' bed—painstakingly restored, they've shone like new since 2022.

The successors only used the former residence as a secondary seat, which is why Weikersheim Palace is particularly well preserved, largely in its original condition. Many of its Baroque treasures are hard to find elsewhere, such as the *state beds*, with elaborate carvings and magnificent fabrics, Ansbach glazed earthenware, and gold leather wallpaper.

The old palace kitchen is a reflection of the grand passion of Weikersheim Palace's original builder: Count Wolfgang II von Hohenlohe was a renowned alchemist. The accompanying alchemist's garden in which the lab once stood is now home to plants with purported special properties.

The *Baroque Garden*, along the south side of the palace and based on the French example, remains a singularly preserved paradise that exudes a special magic from spring through fall. The majestic Baroque parterre is also surrounded by other gardens and avenues.

The palace and the town are intertwined. The Weikersheim marketplace is only a few steps from the palace bridge, which leads into the palace interior and its garden.

Weikersheim Palace (Schloss Weikersheim)

Weikersheim Palace (Schloss Weikersheim) is widely regarded as the most beautiful palace in the Hohenlohe region. And the glorious Baroque garden, with its colorful cast of statues, is sure to enchant and delight.

Set in the scenic landscape of the Tauber Valley, Weikersheim Palace lies at the heart of the small town of Weikersheim. With its beautiful garden, the palace embodies the Renaissance ideal of a country estate.

A Renaissance highlight in the southwest

In 1586, Count Wolfgang II von Hohenlohe (1546–1610) took up residence in the former moated castle and promptly ordered it expanded into a representative palace. *The lavishly decorated Knights' Hall*, built around 1600, constitutes a pinnacle of Renaissance architecture in southwestern Germany. It is one of the best-preserved ceremonial halls of its time. The wide ceiling in the hall is famous for its recessed panels adorned with colorful hunting scenes. Equally impressive is the depiction of animal figures on the walls—the elephant is a favorite.

A highlight in the princess' state apartments:
the precious bed



2



The Knights' Hall is very memorable! The large stucco sculptures depict game—including elephants

Dwarfs' gallery in a pleasure garden

When Count Ludwig von Hohenlohe (1674–1756) took possession of the residence at the start of the 18th century, and ruled here for almost 50 years, the palace and park were redesigned and have been maintained almost entirely to this day. The palace pleasure garden was constructed and crowned with an orangery, which had a harmonizing effect and borders the garden like a theater backdrop. The Hercules Fountain is located in the heart of the Baroque complex and features a dragon in the center that spits water many meters into the air. The most

A superb backdrop: The heated Orangery once sheltered valuable plants in the winter months; now it is an event venue



4



distinctive feature of the palace grounds: the 75 Baroque statues that populate the garden. Of these, the whimsical "Weikersheim dwarfs" are the best-known: Count Carl Ludwig has some of his retinue immortalized here in a dwarfs' gallery. While grotesque creatures lurk at the edge of the garden, the elegant statues in the parterre portray classical figures such as Apollo and Diana. There are also allegorical representations of the Planets, including Mercury, Saturn, Venus and Mars, the seasons, and the elements.

A garden full of surprises: The famous Weikersheim dwarf sculptures are not just ordinary garden gnomes



Visitor information

Opening hours and guided tours

Palace Open all year round;
Viewing only possible on a tour

Palace gardens Open all year round;
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

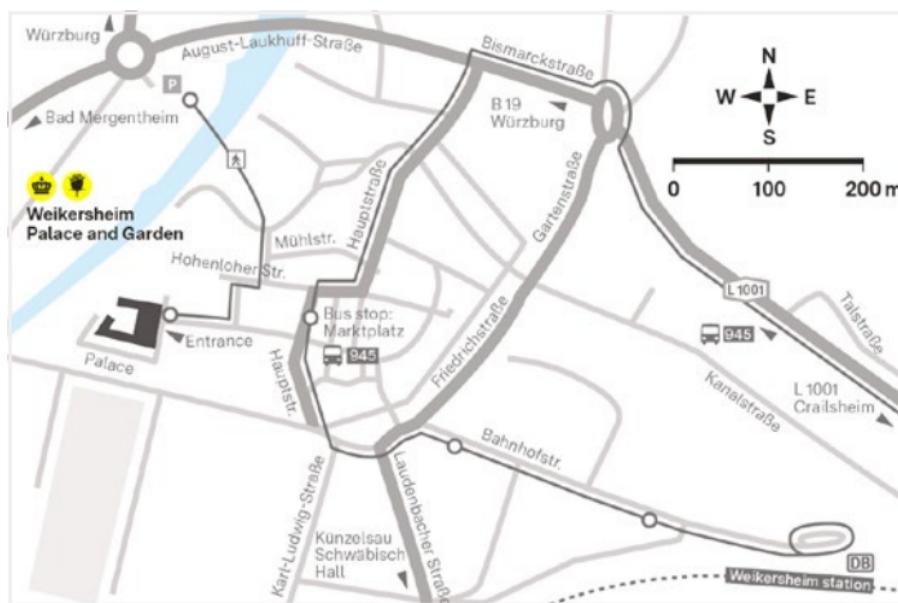
For details of our current opening times, tours, events and admission prices, see:
www.schloss-weikersheim.de/en/visitor-information

Contact and information

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How to find us



By public transport: From Bad Mergentheim to Weikersheim by train; alternatively, take the bus that runs between Crailsheim and Bad Mergentheim. Further information, including on charging stations, can be found online.

Image credit SSG/LMZ: cover photo, 2, 4. Günther Bayerl; 1 Achim Mende; 3, 5, 6. Niels Schubert // *The persons shown have been enhanced or modified by AI in some cases // Design concept: www.jungkommunikation.de

Information about all our monuments

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www.schloesser-und-gaerten.de/en