
A castle and its lords

The Cadolzburg experience





Albert Füracker, MdL
State Minister

We wish you an
exciting visit
to Cadolzburg!



Martin Schöffel, MdL
State Secretary

The castle as a seat of government

'Cadolzburg' was first mentioned in a document in 1157. In the mid-13th century it was acquired by the burgraves of Nuremberg from the (Hohen-)Zollern family who rebuilt it; only the so-called crypt, which is probably from the previous 12th-century building, is older. During the following centuries the castle was extended to create a prestigious complex.

When in the 14th/15th centuries the Hohenzollerns came into conflict with the city of Nuremberg, the ambitious rulers of Franconia made Cadolzburg their seat of government. After the court was relocated, the castle continued as an important administrative centre of the Brandenburg-Ansbach margraviate until the end of the 18th century.

At the end of the Second World War the castle went up in flames. A few decades ago the Bavarian Palace Department began to restore it, first securing the rock on which it stood and the building substance. The opening of the museum in 2017 marked the completion of the conversion of the Old Palace that was commenced in 2005.



Gold guilder, probably 1470 – 1486



From burgraves to electors

The Franconian Zollerns' centre of power was the 'land below the hills' around Cadolzburg and Ansbach. Here they issued documents, gave orders, dispensed justice, waged war, received high-ranking guests, celebrated and went hunting – and here they kept their supplies, payment in kind, important documents and cash.

After acquiring prosperous areas 'above the hills' around Bayreuth and Kulmbach the burgraves finally achieved another, massive increase in status: from 1415/1417 Friedrich VI and his sons were electors of the Mark Brandenburg, and were thus included among the seven rulers entitled to elect kings, the most powerful princes in the German Empire. For decades they ruled Franconia from Brandenburg. When the two branches of the family separated on a permanent basis at the end of the 15th century, the golden age of Cadolzburg came to an end. The descendants of Friedrich and Albrecht however went on to become Prussian kings and German emperors – but never forgot their Franconian roots and were not afraid to acknowledge them publicly.



View of the castle garden, which includes authentic vegetables and dye plants from the Middle Ages and the Renaissance (top);

Mace, c. 1500 (below)



The museum: 'A castle and its lords. The Cadolzburg experience'

With an exhibition area of around 1,500 m², Cadolzburg has become an attractive castle museum. It is designed to provide an entertaining and informative encounter with the late medieval period that was the golden age of Cadolzburg. This period is not always so remote, grey and unapproachable as many people think! Here you can admire splendid outfits and quotes from the princes, have fun playing unique history games and experience impressive media installations. The exhibition of course also includes numerous original objects and elaborate reproductions. It describes everyday topics such as cooking, sleeping, the composition and timetable of the court, legal relationships, politics, communication and representation, as well as war in the period when firearms were first introduced, hunting, dancing and tournaments. In addition, the building itself can tell numerous





From left to right:

Children's programme with horses in front of the old horse trough in the Lower Castle of Cadolzburg;

Crossbowman, c. 1430 (Friedrich-Alexander-University Erlangen, University Library B 12);

A digital guide to the museum – the tablet gives you glimpses of the castle's past;

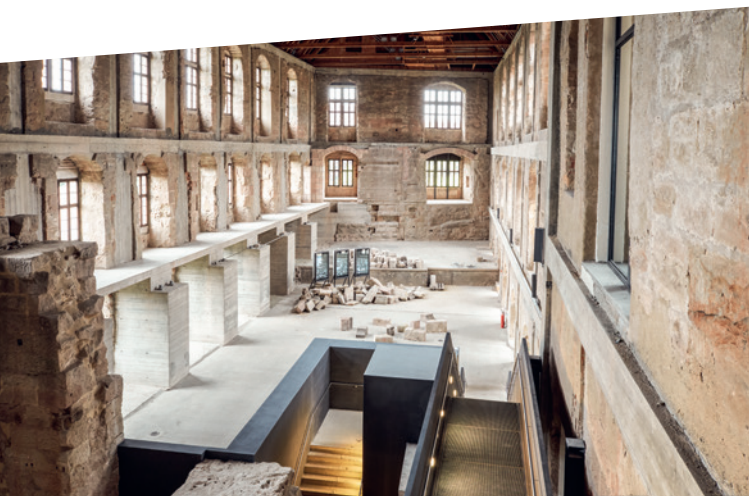
The history of the Cadolzburg Hohenzollerns comes alive with the family tree and other presentations;

Guided tours with a hands-on approach and workshops for all age groups;

The New Castle illustrates both Cadolzburg's powerful history and the massive destruction during the

stories of its own about its various usages and eras. A multimedia guide, finally, gives visitors the opportunity to take an individualized tour of the exhibition by means of additional explanations, forms of presentation and in-depth information. Here contemporary museum resources enable visitors to experience for themselves what it was like to live in a 15th-century princes' castle.

A comprehensive event and communications programme at the castle provides additional insight into the everyday culture of the Late Middle Ages and further artistic presentations. Cadolzburg can also be experienced as a stop on the Hohenzollern cycle and hiking trail.



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Cadolzburg Castle

Burghof 3
90556 Cadolzburg
Tel. +49 9103 70086-15 (ticket desk,
Tue. – Sun.); -22 (information,
booking, events, Mon. – Fri.)
burg-cadolzburg@bsv.bayern.de
www.burg-cadolzburg.de

Opening times

April – September: 9am – 6pm
October – March: 10am – 4pm
Closed on Mondays
(including public holidays),
1 January, Shrove Tuesday,
24, 25 and 31 December.

Wi-Fi

Free Wi-Fi is available in large areas
of the main castle and the bailey.



Organizer



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Schlösserverwaltung

80020 München
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#schloesserbayern
schloesserblog.bayern.de

Further Hohenzollern places of interest

www.hohenzollern-orte.de
www.erlebnisradweg-hohenzollern.de

Transportation

Train from Nuremberg and Fürth
www.bahn.de
www.vgn.de
'Burg' car park at Am Höh buck
(a ten-minute walk from the castle)

