



# Bruchsal Palace

THE OLDEST ECCLESIASTICAL BAROQUE  
RESIDENCE ON THE UPPER RHINE



Visit. Marvel. Enjoy.



**Baden-Württemberg**  
State Palaces and  
Gardens



A magnificent Rococo-style highlight: The palace's Marble Hall was constructed based on a design by Balthasar Neumann

### The restored prince bishop's residence

Construction on Bruchsal Palace as the residence of the Speyer prince-bishops started in 1722. The design of the *Baroque* palace, consisting of over 50 individual buildings, was under the aegis of the art lover Prince-Bishop Damian Hugo von Schönborn.

The magnificent interior furnishings were carried out by his successor, Franz Christoph von Hutten zum Stolzenberg. Numerous artists, who had previously worked on the Würzburg Residence, outfitted the small but appealing staterooms in the Rococo style.

The last princely resident was Margravine Amalie von Baden in the 19th century. Following her death in 1832, the former prince-bishop

residence was primarily used by public authorities and the army. The Palace Museum, established in the 1920s, existed until March 1st, 1945 – the date of the destruction of the town and the palace of Bruchsal.

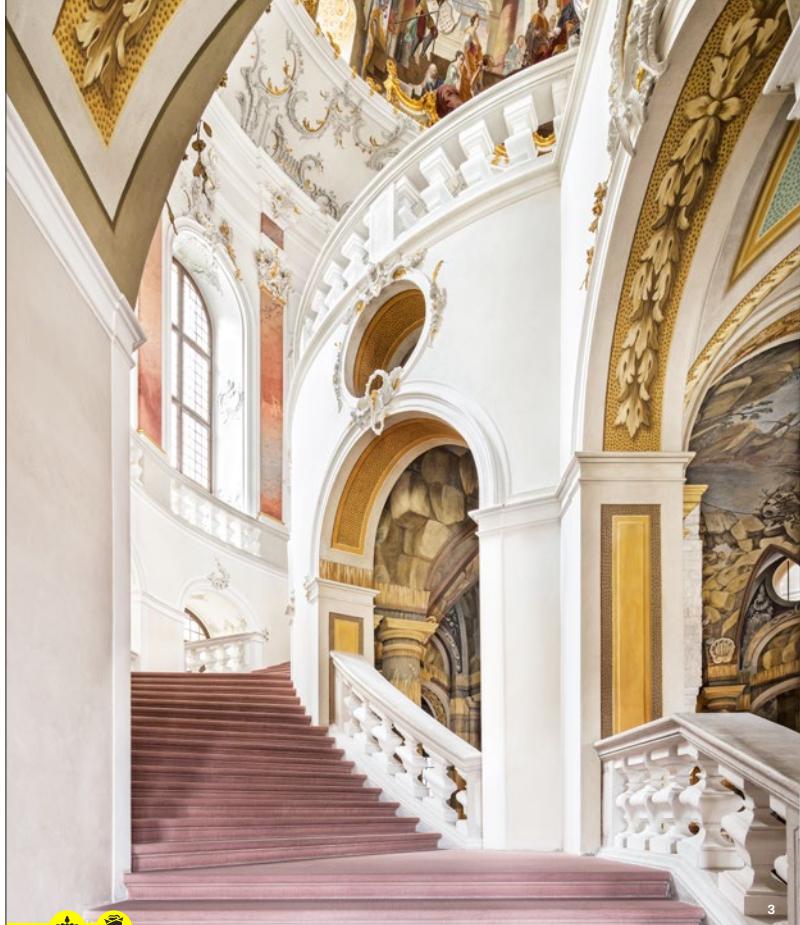
The long reconstruction was crowned by the opening of the re-fitted Bel-Étage state apartments in May, 2017. Now that the reconstruction is complete, the palace's opulent rooms and the prince-bishop's apartments can be viewed. We recommend combining your trip with a visit to the *Municipal Museum of Bruchsal* and the *German Museum of Mechanical Musical Instruments*. Round out your day with a stroll along the idyllic chestnut-lined paths of the palace gardens.

**Bruchsal Palace (Schloss Bruchsal) is one of the most majestic prince-bishop's residences in Germany. It is famous for its opulent staircase, constructed by Balthasar Neumann, known as the “crown jewel of all Baroque staircases”.**

#### **Stunningly Baroque**

Visitors entering Bruchsal Palace's *cour d'honneur* (three-sided grand courtyard) are greeted by a splendid and colorful sight. The buildings are richly ornamented with stucco and paintings, the eaves decorated with golden dragon gargoyles. From 1728 on, the famous architect Balthasar Neumann built the *magnificent staircase*, “unrivalled in the ingenious uniqueness of the palace and high degree of spatial poetry”. From the dark netherworld, astonished visitors are—still today—conducted up into shining heights. Rarely has the ascending of a grand staircase provided so many fascinating insights and prospects! Schönborn's successor,

The restored Throne Hall with the precious “Famous men after Plutarch” tapestries



An elegantly winding staircase, constructed in Balthasar Neumann's signature style

Franz Christoph von Hutten, completed Bruchsal Palace with the sumptuous decoration of the Princes' and Marble Hall while providing the staterooms in the Bel-Étage with elegant stucco and exquisite furniture.

#### **Painstakingly renovated**

In the Second World War, the entire ensemble was largely destroyed – although the valuable art objects had fortunately been evacuated in time. The *reconstruction* of Bruchsal Palace is undoubtedly one of

# Visitor information

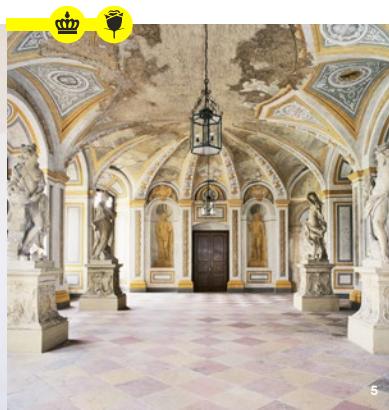
the architectural tours-de-force in the State of Baden-Württemberg. Since the reopening of the meticulously reconstructed banqueting halls in 1975, it has again been possible to gaze in awe at the former baroque display of splendor.

## Return of the original art objects

Until 2002, the rooms in the former prince-bishops' apartments, initially reconstructed in an unemotional and matter-of-fact style, displayed the rescued works of art in a museum-like presentation. Following a protracted renovation, the original layout of the apartments was restored. Today it is again possible to admire the original furniture, paintings and porcelain as well as the extensive and precious collection of *tapestries* in their proper spatial context. The reconstructed layouts include the imposing Throne Hall, the magnificently furnished Music Room and the Yellow Room with elegant *Roentgen furniture*.

In addition to viewing the palace rooms, a visit to the German Museum of Music Automatons and the Bruchsal Municipal Museum is also worthwhile.

The Garden Hall, leading directly into the palace's garden; it is decorated to reflect (right)



## Opening hours and guided tours

**Palace** Open all year round;  
Visits possible with or without a guided tour

**Palace garden** 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-bruchsal.de/en/visitor-information](http://www.schloss-bruchsal.de/en/visitor-information)

## Contact and information

### Bruchsal Palace

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[www.schloss-bruchsal.de/en](http://www.schloss-bruchsal.de/en)

### Information and tour registration

Service Center Schlösser Touren GbR  
Phone +49 6221 6 58 88-0  
[service@schloss-bruchsal.com](mailto:service@schloss-bruchsal.com)



## Make your visit a truly special one



### Monument BW

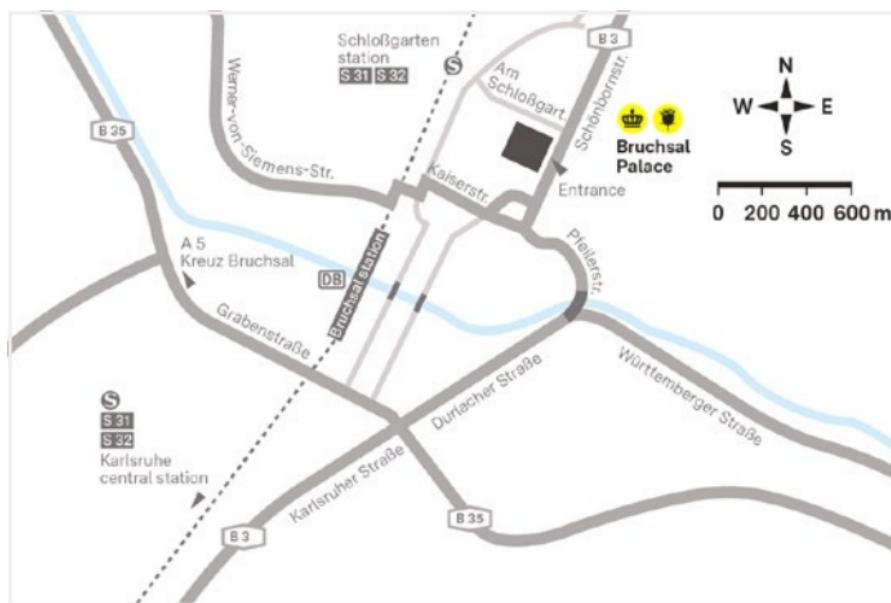
Download the app, select a monument and download the tour of your choice.



### Monuments 3D

Download the app, explore the monument and join us on a virtual journey.

## How to find us



By public transport: Take S 32 (toward Menzingen) or S 31 (toward Odenheim) from Karlsruhe central station or Bruchsal train station and get off at Schlossgarten.

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

## Information about all our monuments

### **Staatliche Schlösser und Gärten**

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Daily 8:00 AM–8:00 PM

(information only,  
no reservations/ticket sales)

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[www.schloesser-und-gaerten.de/en](http://www.schloesser-und-gaerten.de/en)