



# BAVARIAN ROYALTY AND NATURE

8 days / 7 nights on the tracks of Ludwig II

Born on 25th August 1845 in Schloss Nymphenburg, King of Bavaria from 1864 to 1886 and death on b13th June 1886 in Lake Starnberg, King Ludwig II of Bavaria was and is still the most important figure and personality in Bavaria. Even before he died, the king had already become something of a legend. "I want to remain an eternal mystery to myself and others", Ludwig once stated, and it is this mysterious element that still fascinates people today. His vivid imagination, his tendency to isolate himself, and his pronounced sense of sovereignty were also already evident when Ludwig was a child. In 1864, Ludwig II acceded to the throne at the age of 18 without any experience of life or politics but adored by women. Crown Prince Ludwig was already fascinated by the music dramas and writings of Richard Wagner. In 1864 he summoned Wagner to him and in the following years, Munich became the music capital of Europe with the premieres of "Tristan und Isolde" (1865), "Die Meistersinger von Nurnberg" (1868), "Das Rheingold" (1869) and "Die Walküre" (1870).

In 1866, Ludwig II suffered the biggest defeat of his life: the expanding state of Prussia conquered Austria and Bavaria in the "German War". From then on, Bavaria's foreign policy was dictated by Prussia and the king was only a "vassal" of his Prussian uncle. From 1885 on foreign banks threatened to seize his property. The king's refusal to react rationally led the government to declare him insane and depose him in 1886 — a procedure not provided for in the Bavarian constitution. Ludwig II was interned in Berg Palace. The next day he died in mysterious circumstances in Lake Starnberg, together with the psychiatrist who had certified him as insane.

Along with the "Fairy-tale King" was the nature involved in his life. Mountains, lakes, a beautiful scenery with the Alps in background make the surroundings very amazing and brings you to dream with an unreal world, full of fantasy and peace. We invite you to live your own fantasy in the fairy-tale adventure of the Bavarian Royalty and its nature. We are sure you won't be disappointed.

### DAY 1 INTERNATIONAL FLIGHT - MUNICH

Arrival at the international airport in Munich, the capital and the largest city of the German state of Bavaria. Located on the River Isar north of the Bavarian Alps, Munich is the third largest city in Germany, behind Berlin and Hamburg. Its native name, *München*, is derived from the Old High German *Munichen*, meaning "by the monks' place". Our representative will assist you in getting your rented car. Then drive to the city and check in at the selected Hotel. Later on, walk through the historic city center, including Karlstor Gate, the Cathedral of Munich (Frauenkirche), the Odeon Square and Marienplatz (Mary Square) where the city hall is located. Overnight.

DAY 2 MUNICH Nymphenburg Castle

Breakfast at the hotel. In the morning, drive to the Nymphenburg Schloss, a baroque palace that was the main summer residence of the rulers of Bavaria and where Ludwig II was born. One of the most famous sights of Munich is open to the public but also continues to be home and chancery for the head of the house of Wittlesbach, the descendants from Ludwig II. Visit of the Palace with its different pavilions, the carriage museum (one of the greatest coach collections in Europe), the porcelain collection and the park. After the visit comeback to the hotel. In the afternoon you can drive to Dachau and visit the concentration camp from the II. World War. You can of course stay in the city and stroll around and go shopping. At the evening, we suggest you to have dinner at the Hofbräuhaus, a very popular brewery restaurant with local food and the best beer. Return to the hotel. **(B)** 

**DAY 3** MUNICH Herrenchiemsee Castle

Breakfast at the hotel. Full day excursion to Chiemsee, around 87 km south from Munich. The "Chiemsee", "the bavarian sea" is the largest lake in Bavaria. This term has a real origin: On one side, it can be experienced in the approximately 80 square kilometer lake, changes in the tide as the sea. Secondly, you can call it a legacy of the Chiemsee primeval Thetis Ocean, which once

## PRICE PER PERSON EN DOUBLE OCCUPANCY

EUR 1.192.-

Single supplement EUR 420.-

Car rental for 8 days from

EUR 250.- for 2-4 persons

# 2024 – 2025 DAILY DEPARTURES APRIL THROUGH NOVEMBER

Upon request, you can start the tour any day of the week. Please send us an E-mail or call us to check your dates for availability. Thus, the order of the excursions /tours can vary depending on it. And if you have a group, we will be very happy to send you a special offer with bus or rental cars.

#### **INCLUDED SERVICES**

- 7 nights in 4\*\*\*\* hotels with breakfast.
- All excursions and transfers mentioned in the program with local english-speaking tour guide.
- Entrance fees for all visits in Museums and Monuments.
- . 24 h. support via Whatsapp.

### NOT INCLUDED

- o International and local flights
- o Local airport taxes
- o 8-days rental car in the category of your choice. We will help you with pleasure selecting the car you want.
- o Parking fees at the hotels and visits
- o Tips for Guides, drivers and Porters
- o Personal expenses
- o Optional tours
- o Other services not mentioned here





covered almost half of Europe. Upon arrival to the Lake, crossing with a ferry to the biggest Island where the Herrenchiemsee Palace is located. The unfinished New Palace was built between 1878 and 1885. Ludwig only had the opportunity to stay within the Palace for a few days in September 1885. After his death, all construction work discontinued, and the building was opened for the public. Unlike the medieval design of Neuschwanstein Castle, the New Palace is, in a sense, a Neo-Baroque monument to Ludwig's admiration of King Louis XIV of France. In the great hall of mirrors, the ceiling is painted with 25 tableaux showing Louis XIV at his best. It was to have been an equivalent to the Palace of Versailles. Visit of the gardens and rooms, including the Hall of Mirrors, the Hall of Peace and the Hall of War. After the visit, go back to Munich. Rest of the day at leisure. Overnight. (B)

# DAY 4 MUNICH – STARNBERGERSEE (Lake Starnberg)

After breakfast, we will leave the hotel and head to Lake Starnberg, where Ludwig II was found dead. The lake is located only 26 km from Munich. The beauty of the landscape and its attractions opened for the hiker on a riverside path that leads over long distances around the lake. Among the most famous places counts Rose Island, one of King Maximilian II of Bavaria commissioned country Park. Check-in at the selected hotel. Today is planned a light trekking around the lake, visiting also Rose Island greeted with a small island villa, the "casino". Short break for lunch in a regional restaurant (not included). Overnight at Starnberg Lake (B)

### DAY 5 STARNBERGSERSEE – LINDERHOF - HOHENSCHWANGAU

After breakfast, leave this idyllic place and continue to the highlight of the trip in Hohenschwangau. On the way, we make a short stop to visit Linderhof, the "royal villa" of Ludwig II who enlarged the existing "Hunting Lodge" of his father. The interesting thing to visit in this palace is the neo-rococo style building with a staircase copy of the existing one at the Versailles Palace, the hall of mirrors, the bedchamber, Venus Grotto wholly artificial and built as an illustration of the Wagner's "Tannhäuser", the Moorish Kiosk and the Moroccan House among others. After the visit, continue to your hotel. Accommodation. Overnight **(B)** 

## DAY 6 HOHENSCHWANGAU

This is a small town located between the Castle of Neuschwannstein and Hohenschwangau. In the morning we will visit the Castle Hohenschwangau (lit: *High Swan County Palace*), a 19th century palace, the childhood residence of King Ludwig II of Bavaria and built by his father, King Maximilian II of Bavaria. The Castle was built on the remains of the fortress Schwangau, which was first mentioned in historical records dating from the 12th century. The visit continues to the Neuschwanstein Castle, a 19<sup>th</sup>-century Romanesque Revival palace, commissioned by Ludwig II as a retreat and as an homage to Richard Wagner. The palace appeared prominently in several movies and was the inspiration for Disneyland's Cinderella Castle. After the visit, take a walk at the shores of the Alpsee, the ideal place for a trekking on royal tracks. Overnight. **(B)** 

## DAY 7 HOHENSCHWANGAU - MUNICH

After breakfast, we will go to the Tegelberg, a hill opposite to the Palace of Neuschwanstein for a wonderful and unforgettable view of this palace. We will take the funicular to climb at the top of the Tegelberg and then do a light trekking in the surrounding area, enjoying a unique landscape. Return to Munich. Overnight. **(B)** 

## DAY 8 MUNICH – AIRPORT

Breakfast at the hotel. In the morning, the day is at leisure until we depart to the airport for your connecting flight to your next destination or back home. In the meantime, we will suggest you to finish your visit to Bavaria with the Residence, a former palace of the Wittlesbach Family who reigned Bavaria for centuries and used it as their residence and seat of government (from 1385 until 1918). If you prefer, you can use the time for the last shopping in downtown Munich or visit the Allianz Arena, the most modern football stadium belonging to the Bayer Munich, or the BMW-World Museum, you have the decision. At the given time drive to the airport and return the car before you check-in at the airline for your flight back home. End of our services. **(B)**