



Bebenhausen Monastery and Palace

AN EXTRAORDINARY ENSEMBLE
IN AN IDYLLIC SETTING



Visit. Marvel. Enjoy.



Baden-Württemberg
State Palaces and
Gardens



The cloister was the centerpiece of the monastery

From Monastery to royal hunting palace

Attractively set in a peaceful valley, Bebenhausen Monastery is one of the best-preserved Cistercian abbeys in southern Germany. Founded between 1180 and 1183 by Rudolf, Count Palatine of Tübingen, the monastery was taken over by Cistercians a few years later—and promptly became one of the wealthiest monasteries in the region. After the Reformation swept through in 1534, and a boarding school was established in 1560, the number of monks dwindled, until the monastery was finally dissolved in 1648.

The abbey's *idyllic woodland setting* also appealed to the kings of Württemberg. Bebenhausen passed into their possession in 1807, when much church property was officially annexed by German

states. From 1868 on, parts of the monastery complex were converted into a royal hunting palace, which became a favorite venue for the monarchs and their entourages.

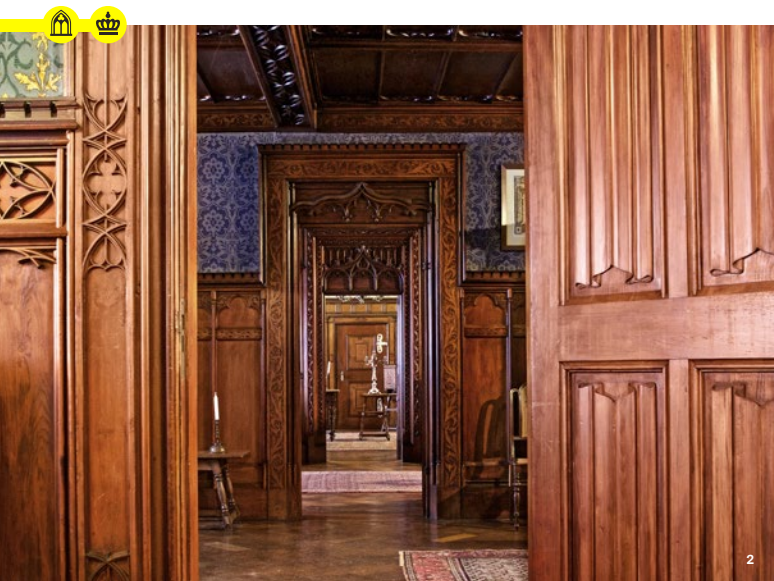
Today, surrounded by the Schönbuch Nature Reserve, Bebenhausen vividly conveys the atmosphere of a Medieval Cistercian monastery, offering an experience unmatched anywhere else in southern Germany. Guided tours illuminate the lives of the monks and schoolboys, describe the lavish royal hunting parties and give insights into the buildings' architectural features. The hunting palace also offers interesting tours.

The Medieval monastery complex at Bebenhausen is nestled in the gently rolling hills of the Schönbuch Nature Reserve. Some of its buildings were converted into a royal hunting palace in the 19th century.

Bebenhausen Monastery (Kloster Bebenhausen)

The church, main monastery building, abbot's residence, guest-house and infirmary, surrounded by walls and guarded by towers, are located on a terrace above the Goldersbach Valley. The outer precinct of the monastery, with an assortment of buildings, is directly adjacent. The famous Summer Refectory, a light and airy hall with two aisles and a fan-vaulted ceiling, demonstrates the mastery of its Gothic architects.

Pure Historicism: The suite of rooms in the king's apartment



The summer refectory, where the monks dined in the warmer seasons, illustrates Gothic architecture at its most elegant

Bebenhausen Palace (Schloss Bebenhausen)

The 19th century interiors, inspired by the Gothic and Renaissance styles, make Bebenhausen an important architectural heritage site. But the Green Room has a distinct Art Nouveau character. After Württemberg ceased to be a monarchy in 1918, the royal couple, Wilhelm II and Charlotte, were given the right to remain in Bebenhausen for the remainder of their lives. The royal bathroom and kitchen are well worth seeing: *The luxurious bathroom, dating from 1915*, is unusually well preserved. *The kitchen* also represented the height of modernity when it was installed in 1915—and it remains in its original state until today.



The kitchen, built for the last royals of Württemberg, remains intact

The unusual pulpit in the monastery church tells many colourful stories



Visitor information

Opening hours and guided tours

Monastery Open all year round;
Visits possible without a guided tour;
guided tours available on a seasonal basis

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

Palace kitchen Open on a seasonal basis;
Visits possible 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.kloster-bebenhausen.de/en/visitor-information

Contact and information

Bebenhausen

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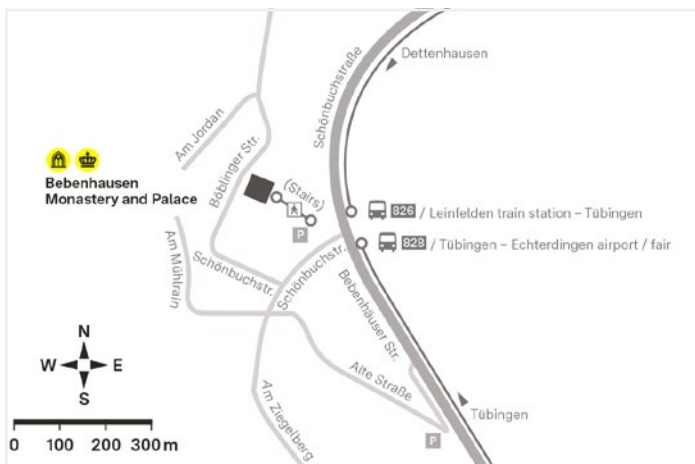
www.kloster-bebenhausen.de/en

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



6

How to find us



By public transport: Take bus line 826 from Stuttgart to Tübingen via Leinfelden; or bus line 828 from Tübingen to Echterdingen airport/fair. Further information, including on charging stations, can be found online.

Information about all our monuments

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