



Interior of the Margravial Opera House ...

The auditorium – an architectural masterpiece in wood and canvas

The Margravial Opera House is modelled on Italian loge theatres of the period. The fully preserved tiers of loges made primarily of wood and canvas are installed as a free-standing construction within the stone exterior. The auditorium and stage form a single unit. The large stage portal framed by columns at the rear of the auditorium faces the court loge. The sculptures decorating the loge, like those above the stage, glorify the Hohenzollern dynasty and the founders of the theatre, Margrave Friedrich and Margravine Wilhelmine of Brandenburg-Bayreuth.

Coat of arms cartouche with the heraldic Brandenburg eagle and the Prussian royal crown



... looking towards the court loge

Baroque illusionist art – the painting and its restoration

The interior of the theatre was constructed in record time with some of the wooden architectural elements and sculptures prefabricated and painted elsewhere. Under the direction of the architects Giuseppe and Carlo Galli Bibiena, a masterpiece of ephemeral festival architecture was completed in 1748 in under four years. The restoration that took place from 2012 to 2018 re-established the original light and airy atmosphere of the illusionist painting in the auditorium with its overwhelming three-dimensional effect. The sustainable restoration work carried out on the opera house has now enduringly preserved the illusionist art of the Baroque age for future generations as well.

Illusionistic painting: Panel decorated with putti and a flower vase below the ceiling



Margravial Opera House: World Heritage & Museum



Bayerische
Schlösserverwaltung



unesco
Margravial Opera House
Bayreuth
World Heritage since 2012



I wish you a fascinating visit to the Margravian Opera House Bayreuth!

Albert Füracker, MdL

Bavarian Minister of State
of Finance and Regional Identity



The stage with the reconstructed stage set

The Margravian Opera House – a monument of Baroque festival culture

The Margravian Opera House is one of the most impressive remaining examples of festival architecture from the Baroque era. With an interior built entirely of wood, it was designed by Giuseppe Galli Bibiena, the leading theatre architect of his day. The driving force behind this exceptional project was Margravine Wilhelmine of Bayreuth (1709–1758), who was herself a writer, composer and director. The occasion for which the theatre was built was the wedding of her only daughter Elisabeth Friederike Sophie to Duke Karl Eugen von Württemberg in the year 1748. The festivities, which lasted 13 days, gave Wilhelmine an opportunity for representation far beyond the borders of her own state. Two Italian operas that marked the opening of the opera house were the highlight of the celebrations. The Margravian Opera House, which has remained virtually unchanged since this time, was inscribed in UNESCO's World Heritage List in 2012 as a unique monument of 18th-century festival and music culture.

Time traveller Carl (Simon Boley) takes our young visitors on a journey through the Baroque theatre world.

Interactive and inclusive – a new museum for a World Heritage Site

In the fascinating multi-media exhibition rooms of the new museum, visitors can experience the history of the opera house and the Baroque theatre world with all their senses. At the heart of the tour is the opera house itself, where the impressive work of interior design is shown in a new light. Interesting facts can be gleaned about Bayreuth theatre history as well as the building's initiator and its architect. The Baroque theatre world comes alive with the numerous interactive stations, models and original items. A spatial installation with multimedia accompaniment brings to life the princely wedding of 1748. Visitors can immerse themselves in the music of the 18th century by conducting a digital orchestra. Reconstructed theatre costumes recreate Baroque stage effects in every detail.

On the unique reconstruction of a Baroque stage visitors of all ages are invited to play a real part in the proceedings and function as stagehands, operating machinery and rearranging sets. A truly active understanding of the Margravian Opera House in all its complexity is guaranteed!

A Baroque stage where various effects can be tried out was reconstructed for the museum.



Redoutenhaus and Margravian Opera House

MARGRAVIAL OPERA HOUSE: WORLD HERITAGE & MUSEUM

Opernstraße 16 · 95444 Bayreuth
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www.bayreuth-wilhelmine.de



Margravian Opera House
Bayreuth
World Heritage since 2012

INFORMATION

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OPENING TIMES

April–September: 9am–6pm
October–March: 10am–4pm

The auditorium of the opera house may be closed temporarily due to event rehearsals.

Current information and list of days when the museum is closed:
www.bayreuth-wilhelmine.de

Closed on 1 January, Shrove Tuesday, 24, 25 and 31 December

♿ Accessible for wheelchairs; municipal parking spaces for the disabled (Wölfelstraße, Münzgasse)

The museum has an (audio) guiding system for the visually impaired as well as an audio guide in plain language (in German only).

TRANSPORT

Train to Bayreuth · Bus to 'Luitpoldplatz'
Parking facilities in the centre of Bayreuth: www.bayreuth.de

WI-FI

Free Wi-Fi available

A multimedia guide with an augmented reality function is available on devices loaned free of charge or via app download on your own device (please bring your own headphones). The 'Opernhaus Bayreuth' can be downloaded free of charge in the app stores.



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