



PRESS RELEASE



Mauterndorf Castle

A journey back to the Middle Ages and a great tip for a family excursion

Trade routes across the Alps once led straight through Mauterndorf Castle: it was a major toll station and gave the town its name. Today young and old can retrace the history of Archbishop Leonhard von Keutschach and delve into medieval life and times.

The sundial over the main gate probably once greeted traders, scoundrels and travelers on their journey across the Alps: everyone had to pass through Mauterndorf Castle where purses were opened to pay the toll. The castle was first documented as a toll station in 1002. Construction of the castle and its 44-meter defense tower began at the beginning of the 13th century. Today's appearance was given by Archbishop Leonhard von Keutschach, who used Mauterndorf as a summer residence. Mauterndorf Castle is one of three surviving toll stations along the "Via Imperialis," the Roman trade route connecting north and south. The condition of the 700-year-old defense tower with its spectacular view is unique in Europe and can be viewed on guided tours.

Everyday life with the archbishop: meals without silverware and a bath in a washtub

Life-size figures – people in period costumes and animals – as well as reenacted scenes from life inside the castle invite visitors to travel back in time to the Middle Ages. Arrangements for a hunting party have been made: the audio-guide tour begins at the toll station and leads visitors through the spacious courtyard. Interesting details on "Attack and defense" are provided in the cellar, "real" people, their medieval occupations and ways are encountered in the entrance hall, young and old can dress up in medieval costumes in the chamber and a festive table is being set in the Knight's Hall. The archbishop can be found in his private bed-chamber: bashfully sitting in a washtub! The tour of the defense tower is a true highlight: the former use of the tower with its treasure chamber, dungeon, emergency shelter and tower room is reenacted on six floors. A special tour for children is available as well as an audio-guide tour in eight languages.

More information on Mauterndorf Castle

Mauterndorf Castle serves as the setting for a medieval pageant very popular with children and adults. Special theme tours and romantic evening tours as well as educational museum programs for children are also available. The castle accommodates the Lungau Regional Museum, a large playground, a ballroom and a castle tavern. The Lungau region is a 90-minute drive from the city of Salzburg.

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Open daily May – October from 10 AM – 6 PM

Jan. – April: Tues, Wed, Thurs, Fri from 10:30 AM – 6 PM