

RATIBOR CASTLE MUSEUM



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MUSEUM
SCHLOSS
RATIBOR

STADT
ROTH

RATIBOR CASTLE

1534

Margrave Georg the Pious of Brandenburg-Ansbach (1484-1543) starts building a hunting castle in Roth. He calls it Ratibor due to the fact that he finances it with the money coming from his Silesian principalities of Ratibor, Oppeln and Jägershof.

1791

The last Margrave of Brandenburg-Ansbach abdicates. The castle is sold to Johann Philipp Stieber, a manufacturer of gold braid.

1811

Stieber purchases the northern wing for his production.

1857

A district court is established in Roth. The Stieber Family sells the

main building to the Town of Roth to give accommodation to the court.

1892

Wilhelm von Stieber finances a new court building, thus repurchasing the castle. In the following years, he has it historically furnished by well-known artists and firms. The furnishings of margrave times had all been lost before. When redesigning the castle, Wilhelm von Stieber used styles from the Renaissance and Early Baroque times. The splendor rooms should emphasize the necessary requirements of a successful industrialist and media-tized prince.

1942

Stieber's widow Minna gave the castle as a gift to the Town of Roth.



Ceiling fresco



Dining room and music room



TOUR

Coming from the **idyllic castle courtyard**, you enter the magnificent **stairwell** through a sandstone archway at the southern side of the castle. Visitors feel as if they are entering an Italian palace from the time of the Renaissance. The **stained-glass window** depicts the principal and client Margrave Georg the Pious, surrounded by the coats of arms of him and his three wives. Above it you can see the coat of arms of the Stieber Family and their relatives.

The **stairwell** directly leads to the prestige rooms. On the right, you can see the **fireplace room** with its coffered ceiling and furniture in Renaissance style. Behind the richly ornamented door, you can find the so-called **music room**, which is kept in classical style, and the **Baroque room** with its original paintings dating back to the second half of the 18th century.

In another room, you can admire paintings by **Anton Seitz**

(1829-1900), a famous artist born in Roth. Up the stairs, on your left, you will get to the **dining hall** via the **conservatory**. This hall, rich in ornament, is entirely kept in the style of the Nuremberg Renaissance. The paintings thematically depict scenes from a typical dining hall. The huge painting above the sideboard shows a banquet at the House of Stieber. The guests are dressed in historical garments. Behind the dining hall, you can find the biggest room of the castle, the **ceremonial hall**. Looking at its style, it reminds you of Italian halls of the Late Renaissance and Early Baroque. Passing the walls, you can see scenes of Homer's *Odyssey* on imitated tapestry. Huge paintings decorate the stucco ceiling. They show various scenes and figures of the classical mythology. The central painting shows the **Triumph of Aphrodite**.

Another flight of stairs will lead you to the museum on the second floor.

RATIBOR CASTLE MUSEUM

You enter the Museum of the Town of Roth on the second floor. Wilhelm von Stieber's son originally lived here. Today this is the place where you can see the **historical legacy of the town's history**. In the big hallway of the museum with its beautiful plank ceiling, you will find some highly interesting exhibits, for instance, the so-called "Große Vettische Karte" (Great Vetter Map) of the Principality of Ansbach. On the almost two and a half square meter big chalcography, locations and their surrounding areas are illustrated in detail. So you will not only find miniature scenes of working in the quarries in Nuremberg's Imperial Forest but also Roth's gallows, a true remnant of our ancestors' drastic legal traditions. Another exhibit in the hallway is the former town flag of Roth, whose tradition holds that it was once embroidered by the Margravine Friederica Louise herself and was given to the citizens of Roth as a present in the first half of the 18th century.



The last surviving pieces from the construction period are the moose heads (above)
Detail of an upper middle-class doll's house, around 1885 (below)

everyday life are illustrated. One particular highlight worth mentioning are the doll houses, which reflect last century's typical bourgeois domestic life en miniature. Garments, jewelry and household goods complete this picture. Special attention should be paid to a fine collection of Middle Franconian pottery. In the last room, you will mainly find the pieces of furniture that were once part of the castle's interior. They connect the museum with the historical rooms on the first floor, which you will cross again on your way back.

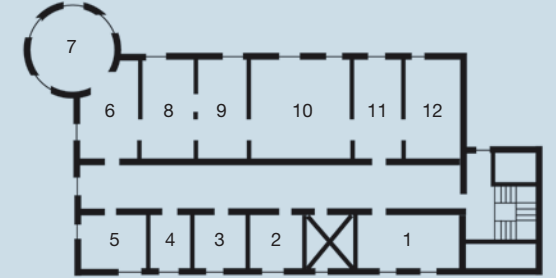
On the right side of the corridor, the tour will take you to a spatial alignment. This is where the **various domains of**



The Ceremonial Hall with scenes of classical mythology and Homer's Odyssey is the biggest room of the castle (360 m²)

Second Floor – Town Museum

- 1 The Administrative District of Roth
- 2 Historical Development of the Town of Roth
- 3 Religion and Church History
- 4 Crafts and Trades
- 5 Public Safety and Order
- 6 Organization and Associations
- 7 Tower Room
- 8-11 Family Life and Home (Garments, Toys, Household Goods and Ceramics)
- 12 Domestic Culture and History



First Floor – Historical Rooms



- 1 Seitz-Gallery
- 2 Baroque Room
- 3 Music Room
- 4 Fireplace Room
- 5 Stairwell
- 6 Conservatory
- 7 Dining Hall
- 8 Ceremonial Hall
- 9 WC
- 10 Gallery



Ratibor Castle Museum

Hauptstraße 1, 91154 Roth

Opening hours: 1st March till 30st November
Tuesday till Sunday from 10 a.m. till 5 p.m.
Open to groups after telephone enquiry

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www.schloss-ratibor.de

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