

The Richard Wagner Museum Bayreuth

Richard Wagner's former residence, "Wahnfried" and the Richard Wagner Museum Bayreuth have been reopened to the public since July 26th, 2015: After three years of construction, the extensive Bayreuth Museum project, including the renovation of Wahnfried House and the newly-constructed wing added to the museum, was completed. The Richard Wagner Museum now presents itself in a completely new way, with the building extension and three different permanent exhibitions, each with its own theme.

Wahnfried House

In Wahnfried House, visitors will experience a documentation of the life, work and art of Richard Wagner in an authentic ambience. The ground floor reflects Richard Wagner's life, giving insights into the era around 1880, and the everyday lives of the family. Many friends and well-known personalities of the day were visitors to the house. Documents from the Manuscript and Sketches collection of the National Archives are presented in a changing exhibition on the mezzanine floor. On the lower-ground-floor level, in the Treasury, visitors can trace Richard Wagner's work method right up to the final original score. The "Interactive Score" in the adjacent room turns the various aspects of the transformation of the score to sound and music into a rare experience.

The New Building

The new museum building in the western part of the garden was designed and built by well-known Berlin architect Volker Staab. From the foyer with the museum shop, the visitor accesses the Forum temporary exhibition hall. The new area is a multi-use space, and with its generously-proportioned windows, benefits greatly from the atmospheric quality of the historical grounds. The permanent exhibition on the lower ground floor is devoted to the History of Performances of the Bayreuth Festival to the present day. This is a presentation of the unique collection of historical stage set models, original costumes and technical stage apparatus from the Bayreuth Festival theatre. Permanent and temporary exhibitions can be viewed either as part of a tour or individually. In the cinema visitors can view a widely diverse program of films.

Siegfried Wagner House

Siegfried Wagner House, directly adjacent to Wahnfried House, where Winifred Wagner lived until her death in 1980, has been preserved with its original 1930s décor, and is open to visitors for the first time. This includes the listed fireplace room, the dining room and garden room with its adjoining terrace with fountain and tea pavilion. Here, the history of Wagner's ideology is set out, the close connection between Bayreuth and the National Socialist dictatorship is examined

and the personal relationship between the Wagner family and the National Socialists and Adolf Hitler is documented. The administrative offices of the Richard Wagner Museum are located upstairs.

The National Archives

In accordance with the statutes of the Richard Wagner Foundation Bayreuth, the National Archives manages and preserves its holdings according to the appropriate scientific and conservatorial principles governing librarianship and archiving systems. Furthermore, it is directed to collect and preserve written and pictorial documents as well as printed works and objects relating to the life, work and lasting impact of Richard Wagner in order to make them available to the public as a central research resource for scientific research and publications as well as for permanent and special exhibitions of the Richard Wagner Museum (Wahnfried House). The most important collection is Richard and Cosima Wagner's handwritten estate, that is, Richard Wagner's music, poetry and prose manuscripts.

The Richard Wagner Museum as important cultural historical site

The Richard Wagner Museum Bayreuth is an important German cultural historical site, where the life, works and lasting influence of Richard Wagner are researched and presented in a unique way and made tangible in a multi-sensory experience. The aura of Richard Wagner's authentic living and working environment and the enormous cultural significance of the house with its turbulent, ambivalent and dubious history, the sophisticated yet also sensual presentation of the comprehensive permanent exhibition as well as diverse events and special exhibitions make repeated visits to the Richard Wagner Museum an inspiring experience for connoisseurs and laymen alike.

Information for visitors

Richard Wagner Museum
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95444 Bayreuth
Phone: 0921-75728-16

Mail: info@wagnermuseum.de

Web: www.wagnermuseum.de

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/RichardWagnerMuseumBayreuth/>

Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/rwm_bayreuth/

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/Wagnermuseum>

Opening hours

Museum

September until June

Tuesday to Sunday
10am to 5pm

July and August

Monday to Sunday
10am to 5pm

National Archives (after registration)

Monday to Friday

8.30am to 12.30pm

Monday to Thursday

2pm to 4.30pm

Contact

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