
SCHLOSS AMBRAS INNSBRUCK



THE FIRST MUSEUM IN THE WORLD

Ambras Castle Innsbruck is one of the most beautiful historic attractions in Austria and one of the top excursion destinations in Tyrol. Surrounded by extensive gardens, the castle is also just a short distance from the centre of the provincial capital Innsbruck.

A unique love story: The castle was a gift of love from Archduke Ferdinand II (1529-1595) to the beautiful Philippine Welser. However, as the daughter of an Augsburg merchant she was not befitting the status of the Habsburg emperor's son, so the wedding, the marriage and their children had to be kept officially secret.



Chambers full of treasures: Ferdinand II housed his collections in a specially constructed museum building. Everyone wanted to marvel at his precious items made of crystal, silver, gold and glass, his rare natural objects, as well as armours, weapons, paintings and exotic treasures: **the first museum in the world – one you truly have to see!**

In addition to the famous Kunst- und Wunderkammer (Chamber of Art and Wonders), you can also visit the armouries, the Spanish Hall, the original bath of Philippine Welser, the Strasser glass collection and the Habsburg portrait gallery (open in the summer months). Moreover, Ambras Castle Innsbruck has gained a reputation as a leading international destination for art lovers due to the outstanding quality of its special exhibitions.

IMAGE:

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Schloss Ambras Innsbruck - More than history!

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LOWER CASTLE

Most of the treasures collected by Archduke Ferdinand II can still be admired in three *Armouries* and the *Chamber of Art and Wonders*: They include crystal goblets, objects made of silver and gold, valuable glass, filigree examples of wood turnery, armour and weapons, paintings, scientific instruments, automata, rare, exotic and unusual objects, as well as luxury items from the New World and much more.

AMBRAS FOYER

In spring 2021 the *Ambras Foyer* introduced a new, state-of-the-art, user-friendly infotainment system. This uses an unconventional approach to tell the extraordinary love story of Archduke Ferdinand II and Philippine Welser, who made the castle their home, and to explain how the Ambras collections were built up. Multimedia stations offer an impression of life at a princely court in the Renaissance.

SPANISH HALL

The *Spanish Hall* was built around 1570 and is one of the most magnificent halls from the Renaissance period. With an abundance of natural light, the Hall is an impressive structure both in terms of its architectural and artistic design and is adorned with 27 full-length colourful portraits of the rulers of Tyrol. Besides its wonderful acoustics, it also makes a stunning setting for photographs.

UPPER CASTLE

(2024: Open from April to October)

The famous *Habsburg Portrait Gallery*, with more than 200 portraits spread over three floors of the Upper Castle, tells the story of the leading European dynasties and ruling houses.

The *Strasser Collection of Glass* is among the most significant collections of its kind in the world. Precious glassware from Europe's most important glass producing regions provides a fascinating insight into the history and technology of glass art from the Renaissance to the Baroque.

The architectural centrepiece of the Upper Castle is the *Inner Courtyard* decorated with grisaille; paintings executed entirely in shades of grey. With scenes from Roman history and ancient mythology, it is one of the largest and best-preserved examples of fresco painting from the sixteenth century.

The *Bathing Chambers of Philippine Welser* are the only bathing complex from the sixteenth century to have been completely preserved in their original form. With a sweat bath and enormous bathing pool, they provide a glimpse of Renaissance wellness culture.

The *Paradise and Medicinal Herb Garden* exudes the fragrance of healing plants and aromatic herbs based on the famous medicinal book belonging to Philippine Welser.

The history of the *Chapel of St. Nicholas* dates back to the fourteenth century. It took on its present-day appearance after extensive renovations in the nineteenth century. The *Collection of Gothic Sculptures*, including the famous Altar of St George dating back to the reign of Emperor Maximilian I, can also be accessed from the Inner Courtyard.

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OPENING HOURS

Daily from 10 am to 5 pm (November closed).

Note for 2024: The Upper Castle is open from April to October.

More information: www.schlossambras-innsbruck.at/en

ADMISSION PRICE 2023/24*

	<i>December 23 - 21. March 24</i>	<i>22. March 24 - October 24</i>
Adults:	€ 12	€ 16
Reduced:	€ 9	€ 12

Children & teens under the age of 19 are free of charge.

Annual Ticket: € 53 (€ 59 from September 24)

Annual Ticket Young Adults (aged 19-25): € 27

Annual Ticket Family: € 84

GUIDED TOURS & AUDIO GUIDE*

Public guided tour p.p.: € 6 plus admission

Groups up to 25 persons (guided tour 60 minutes): € 90 plus admission

Groups up to 25 persons (guided tour 90 minutes): € 140 plus admission

Audio Guide p.p.: € 5 plus admission

Audio Guide group (more than 10 people) p.p.: € 4 plus admission

IMAGE:

SPANISH HALL

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**Subject to change.*