

THE SEPULCHRAL CHAPEL ON WÜRTTEMBERG HILL



OPENING TIMES

1 MARCH TO 1 NOVEMBER
TUE – SAT 10 AM – 12 NOON
AND 1 PM – 5 PM
SUN AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS
10 AM – 12 NOON AND 1 PM – 6 PM

Closed 2 November to 28 February

GUIDED TOURS

*Group tours by arrangement;
 special tours as per schedule and by
 arrangement; also available outside
 opening hours (subject to a charge)*

ADMISSION

- ADULTS € 2.20
- CONCESSIONS € 1.10
- FAMILIES € 5.50
- GROUPS OF 20 OR MORE
- PER PERSON € 1.90

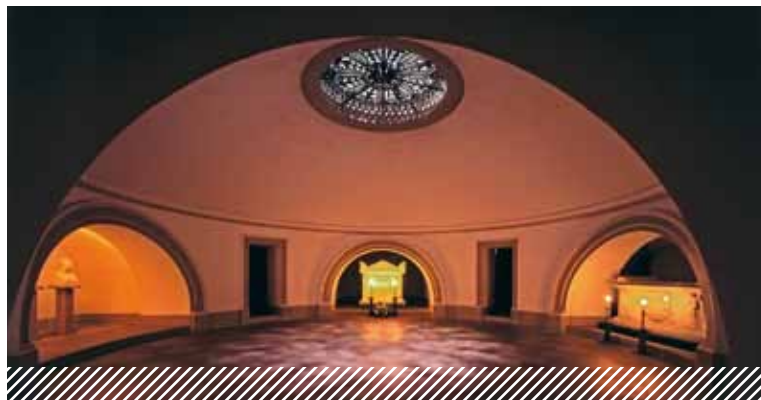
DISABILITY ACCESS

*Information is available at
www.schloesser-und-gaerten.de/disabilityaccess*

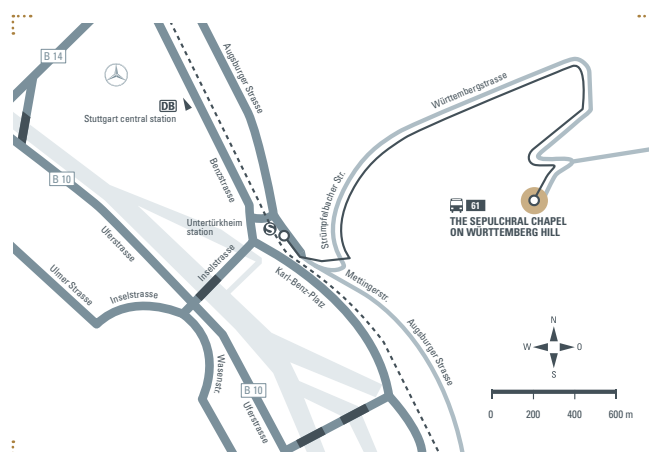
CONTACT US

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Last updated: November 2011
 All information subject to change



HOW TO FIND US



GETTING THERE

By public transport: from Stuttgart central station, take light rail (S-Bahn) S 1 to Stuttgart-Unterürkheim. From there, take bus number 61 to Rotenberg (terminus).

MORE INFORMATION
 Staatliche Schlösser und Gärten
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MONUMENT TO ETERNAL LOVE

THE SEPULCHRAL CHAPEL
 ON WÜRTTEMBERG HILL

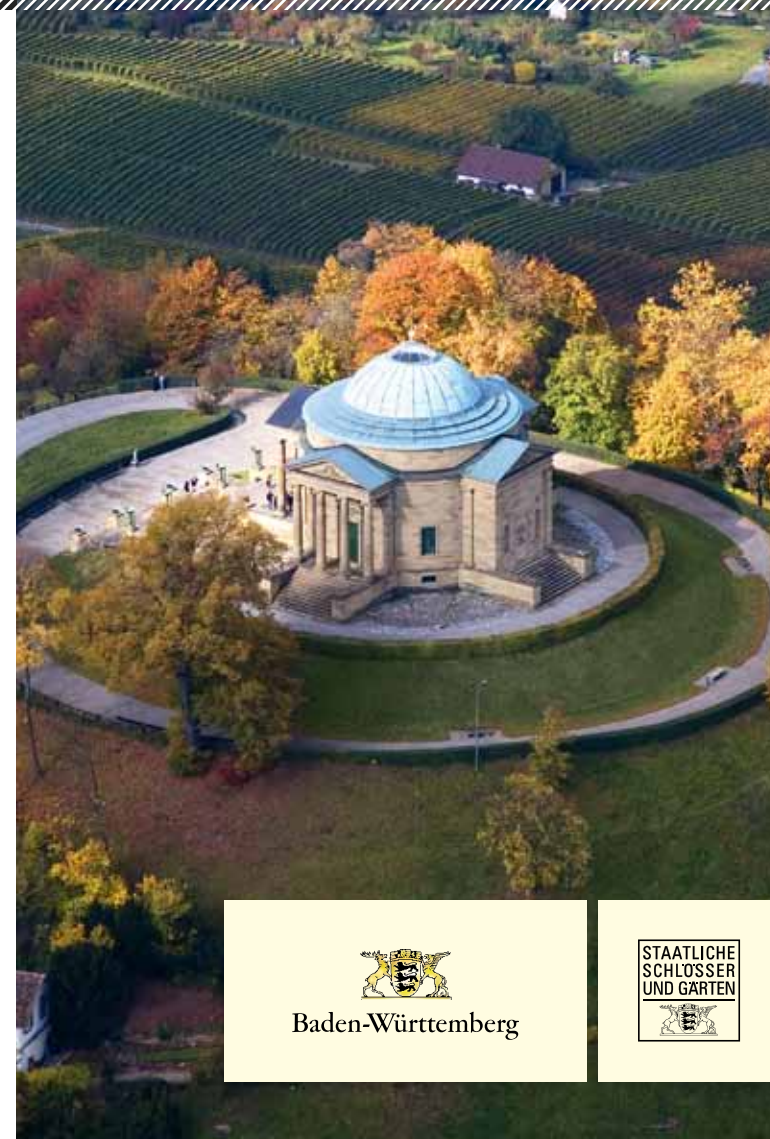


Photo credit: SSG, LMZ; concept and design: www.jungkommunikation.de

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The sepulchral chapel on Württemberg hill (*Grabkapelle auf dem Württemberg*) was erected by King Wilhelm I in memory of his beloved wife Katharina, who died at a young age. Offering spectacular views over Stuttgart, this monument to eternal love is considered Baden-Württemberg's most romantic spot.

The prominently positioned chapel, constructed between 1820 and 1824, overlooks the Neckar Valley. King Wilhelm purposely chose this deeply symbolic location on the site of *the former family residence of the dukes of Württemberg*. Moreover, it was one of Queen Katharina's favourite places.

❖ *The mausoleum in Rotenberg stands on the site of the former Württemberg family residence*



"LOVE NEVER DIES"

The inscription above the entrance to the chapel can be interpreted as King Wilhelm's promise, eternalised by this monument. Following the sudden death of his Russian wife on 9 January 1819, Wilhelm ordered the removal of the old Württemberg Castle and invited architects to submit plans for a mausoleum. He chose the design by Giovanni Salucci. Later, the King himself and his eldest daughter Marie Friederike Charlotte von Württemberg were also buried here. The tomb designated for his younger daughter Sophie remained empty – she married the King of the Netherlands and was laid to rest in Delft.

AN IMPRESSIVE MAUSOLEUM

Along with Rosenstein Palace, the sepulchral chapel in Rotenberg is one of the most impressive examples of neoclassical architecture in the Stuttgart region. *Inspired by the Pantheon in Rome*, Salucci created a circular structure made from local sandstone with three pillared porticos and steps leading up to it. The entirely white interior has a domed roof. The arrangement of pillars and the colossal statues of the four Evangelists reflect the neoclassical preference for severity and purity of style. To this day, the chapel serves as *a Russian Orthodox place of worship* and boasts an iconostasis (wall of icons and religious paintings). The graves are located underground – the double sarcophagus of the King and Queen lies next to the tomb of their daughter. Both are made from the finest Carrara marble.

❖ *Giovanni Salucci's neoclassical design is brimming with elegant details*



❖ *Reminiscent of the Pantheon in Rome, the sepulchral chapel guards the royal tomb*

Just a stone's throw away is a residential house that was also designed by Salucci. It was home to a chaplain and two choristers who were employed to regularly pray and sing for Katharina's salvation.