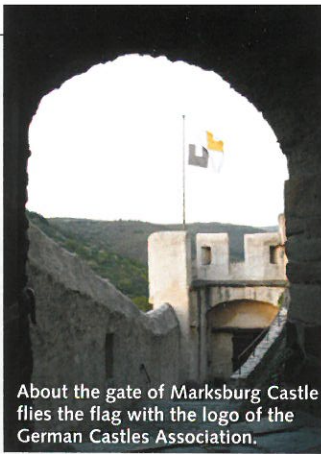


## DEUTSCHE BURGENVEREINIGUNG e.V.

The German Castles Association for the preservation of historical military and residential buildings (DBV) was founded in 1899 in Berlin "to stop the on-going destruction and incorrect restoration of castles and other historical fortifications". It is the oldest national citizens' initiative for the preservation of historical monuments in Germany. Membership is open to everyone!

Since 1900 the German Castles Association has been the owner of Marksburg Castle. It is the seat of the association and its main office. Since 1999 its special library and archive are at Philippsburg Palace down at the bank of the river. The Marksburg was handed over to the DBV with the objective to open it to the public as an exemplary late medieval castle and life on it in the late Middle Ages.

Deutsche Burgenvereinigung e.V., Marksburg, 56338 Braubach, Tel.: 0049-2627-536 · Fax: 8866 · [www.deutsche-burgen.org](http://www.deutsche-burgen.org) · eMail: [info@deutsche-burgen.org](mailto:info@deutsche-burgen.org)



About the gate of Marksburg Castle flies the flag with the logo of the German Castles Association.

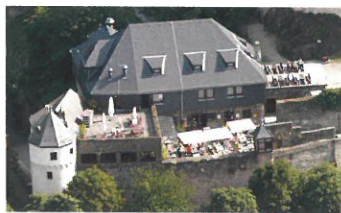
## Museum Shop

In our shop you will find an extensive selection of fine gifts and keepsakes, inspired by the Middle Ages. Alongside a wide choice of guide books you will find engravings, knight's arms, textiles, jewellery, accessories, a comprehensive range of picture postcards and many other gifts and souvenirs. A castle-themed children's section has everything a would-be-knight or princess might need; games, toys, colouring books and costumes. *Opening times as per the castle.*



## Castle Inn

The castle's restaurant offers hot and cold drinks, ice cream, cakes and catering from light snacks to a full meal as well as a magnificent view of the Rhine Valley from the open Terrace!



*Opening times as per the castle.*

## Marksburg Castle is open daily throughout the year!

The castle can be visited in the course of a guided tour taking about 50 minutes. Visitors will be shown round by guides who recount the history of the fortress and describe what life was like in such castles during the Middle Ages.

A large parking site is located directly beneath the castle gate. Unfortunately, due to the uneven terrain a castle visit may prove very challenging for people with disabilities.

### Hours of Operation:

**SUMMER (March - October):** each day 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (tour starting every few minutes; last admission 5:00 p.m.).

In summer season **periodical English guided tours** for individual visitors start every day at 1:00 and 4:00 p.m.

**WINTER (November - February):** each day 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. (first and last admission; tour starting on the hour). Days off: December 24th + 25th

Foreign visitors can follow the regular guided tour with an information sheet in their own language. English or French speaking visitors can loan a booklet with the complete text of the guided tour in English or French to be used during a German guided tour.

Foreign groups can have a guided tour in English, French or Japanese. Guided tours for groups require advance booking.

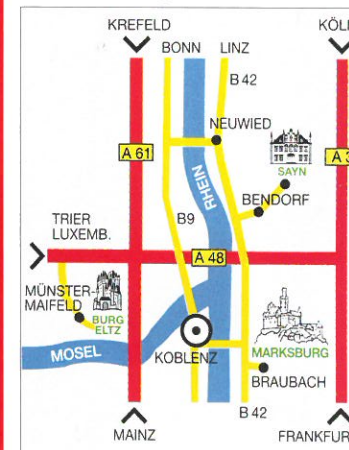
### Address:

Marksburg · 56338 Braubach · Internet: [www.marksburg.de](http://www.marksburg.de)  
Phone: 0049-2627-206 (customer service) · Fax: -8866  
e-Mail: [marksburg@deutsche-burgen.org](mailto:marksburg@deutsche-burgen.org)

For updated admission fees, please see our internet site, also for particular information about the castle, its history and its objects of interest – available in English, French, Dutch, Italian and Russian!



### How to get here:



Text & Graphic: Gerhard Wagner, Deutsche Burgenvereinigung; Translation: Maresi Wagner © 2013

# The Marksburg Adventure



The only hilltop castle  
along the Middle Rhine  
never to be destroyed!



The castle of the German Castles Association

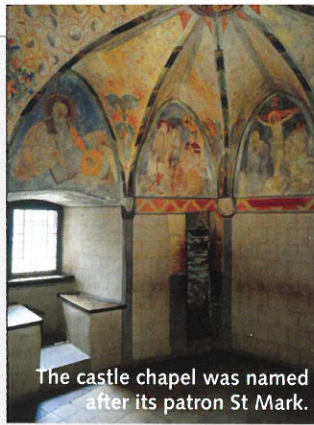
is one of the

*Meisterwerke*  
between  
Rhine and Moselle



A slender keep towering over the great halls, four heavy gates leading up to the courtyard, narrow stairways and battlements, living quarters for servants and noblemen, a herb garden in the bailey...

A visit to Marksburg Castle will give you an unforgettable insight into life six hundred years ago with an exciting and informative tour taking you through our outdoor and indoor museum: Where did the servants dine? Where did the noble family sleep? And where did the knights go to the toilet?



The castle chapel was named after its patron St Mark.

1231



The coat of arms of the Lords of Eppstein who erected the first buildings in the 13th century.

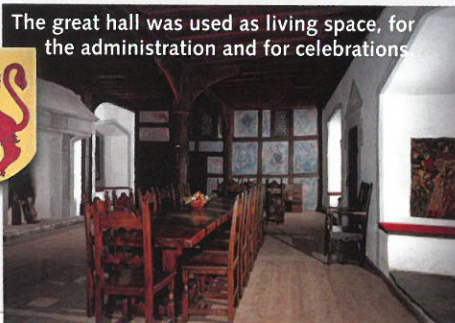
Entering the great hall, the bower, the kitchen, the wine cellar, and even the privy will guarantee a unique and close-

up impression of everyday life in the Middle Ages. Meanwhile, a detour to the torture chamber will give insight on why torture chambers most often didn't actually exist on medieval castles...

1283



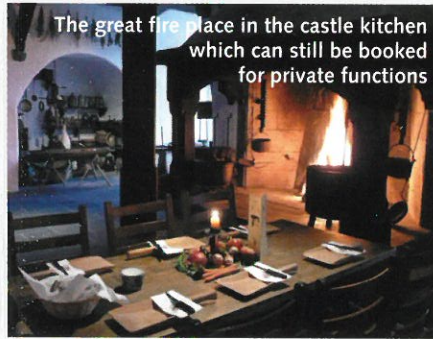
The Counts of Katzenelnbogen expanded the castle to its present shape and size.



The great hall was used as living space, for the administration and for celebrations

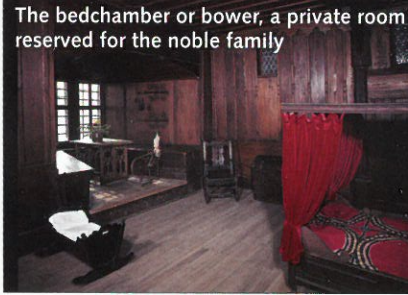
Marksburg Castle is the only hilltop castle along the Middle Rhine which has never been destroyed or fallen to ruins, a true textbook example of a medieval stronghold.

In the Middle Ages, the area between Bingen and Coblenz – the UNESCO World Heritage Site of the Upper Middle Rhine Valley – used to feature a castle every few kilometres. Many can still be spotted along the riverbanks and on the hilltops, but most are Romantic reconstructions that date back to the 19th century. Only a lucky few have managed to survive intact up until today, with Marksburg Castle presenting the most impressive example.



The great fireplace in the castle kitchen which can still be booked for private functions

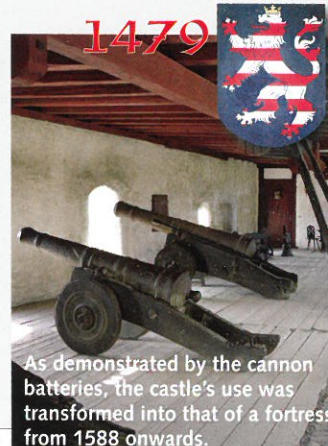
Gothic Hall Building, several towers, bastions and baileys compose a proud and monumental castle high above the romantic town of Braubach. Since the German Castles Association acquired it in 1900, Marksburg Castle has been the perfect gateway into the Middle Ages and – not least because of its fascinating guided tours – the most-visited castle along the Rhine.



The bedchamber or bower, a private room reserved for the noble family

The late medieval stronghold's value and significance are to be found in its complete conservation. Most construction phases date back to the 13th - 15th century. Today, keep, Romanesque Palas,

The Landgraves of Hesse used the castle and Braubach's Philippsburg Palace as their residence.



As demonstrated by the cannon batteries, the castle's use was transformed into that of a fortress from 1588 onwards.

One of the museum's primary objectives has always been to show the fascinating and often troublesome reality of medieval castle life far from fantasy and fairytale clichés.

Today's armoury presents a highlight of each tour: among swords and helmbards, the development of armour and weapons from the



The Gimbel Collection displays examples of armour from the Bronze Age to the early modern period.

The Kingdom of Prussia acquired the castle after the Prussian-Austrian War.

1866

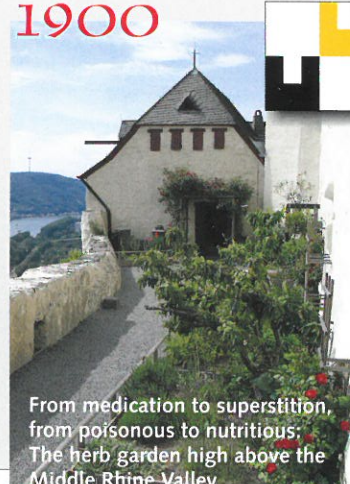


Another highlight while offering a breathtaking view across the Rhine Valley: the botanical garden in the former bailey, with over 150 different herbs and various plants which all played a vital part in medieval life.

A visit to Marksburg Castle offers unrivalled and often surprisingly enlightening insight into the Middle Ages with a close-up experience inside the walls and halls of noblemen, knights and servants.

Since over 100 years Marksburg Castle has been in the hands of the German Castles Association.

1900



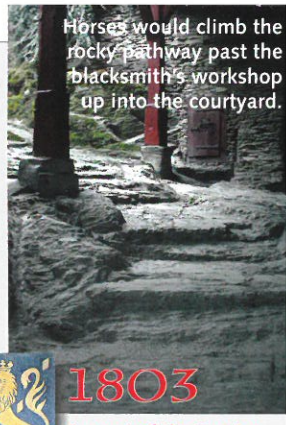
From medication to superstition from poisonous to nutritious: The herb garden high above the Middle Rhine Valley



1803

As part of the Duchy of Nassau, Marksburg Castle was used as a state prison.

Ancient Greeks to the end of the Middle Ages is displayed by twelve lifesizes figurines. This unique and invaluable collection dates back to the 19th century and is one of just very few in Europe.



Horses would climb the rocky pathway past the blacksmith's workshop up into the courtyard.