
Favorite hotels and why

Posted by rbestor - 2007/06/29 00:26

Welcome to our new forum. We are here to answer your questions and participate in your discussions. To start with, perhaps in this thread you can tell us your favorite hotels in Germany, Austria and Switzerland.

I guess my all-time favorite, money be damned, is the Beau Rivage Palace in Lausanne. In Austria, there's nothing quite like Schloss Haunsperg in Oberalm bei Salzburg. In Germany, there are many but coming immediately to mind are the Art Nouveau in Berlin, the Gasthof Fraudorfer in Garmisch-Partenkirchen, the Abtei in Hamburg, and Hotel Anker in Marktheidenfeld.

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Re:Favorite hotels and why

Posted by freebie - 2007/07/16 04:50

We've been on several trips to Germany the past 10 years or so. We prefer B&Bs, pensions, and smaller family-owned hotels, but we've stayed in all sorts of places. Our favorites:

Bamberg: Hotel Brudermuehle. We last visited Bamberg in 2003, and enjoyed our stay at the Brudermuehle immensely. It is located in the middle of the Altstadt (Old Town) directly on the banks of the Regnitz River. It is in a well-maintained historic building, with a view of Bamberg's famous old Rathaus (Town Hall). Because it is an older building, rooms vary in size and configuration, but they are comfortable and clean with modern bath fixtures--though bathroom sizes do vary considerably. The hotel has a wonderful Franconian restaurant and the breakfast buffet is very good. Staff are friendly and helpful (at least they were to us, especially helpful when our luggage did not arrive with us due to flight delays).

Beilstein on the Mosel: Hotel Haus Lipmann is an absolute joy of a place to stay on the beautiful Mosel River. You probably do need a car as there is no rail service to the scenic little village of Beilstein. However, the river tour boats do stop here. We wanted a town that was quiet at night after a long day of sightseeing up and down the river, and Beilstein fit the bill. And choosing Haus Lipmann for our lodgings won me a lot of points with my wife. Clean and well maintained go without saying; excellent restaurant with outdoor dining overlooking the river. Very accomodating staff; excellent Mosel wines. Our room looked over the river--had a nice size bathroom, too.

Colmberg (near Rothenburg o.d. Tauber): We didn't stay in Colmberg because of the little village itself, but because my wife wanted to experience a castle hotel. We picked a good one. Burg Colmberg is an imposing castle on the hill overlooking the village--great views of the surrounding countryside. But inside the rooms are modernized (no cobwebs in the corners, and you don't have to use a chamber pot). A very good restaurant, and only a few minutes drive from Rothenburg. They also have a golf course.

Berlin: On our trip to Prague and Berlin last November, we broke from our usual pattern of staying in smaller places and chose the Arcotel Velvet on Oranienburgerstrasse, in what was east Berlin. Excellent location for getting to major sights in the city, many restaurants and clubs within walking distance--also has subway and bus stops right outside the door. Though we found that with 4 people taxis didn't cost any more than public transportation for many of our trips around the city. The Velvet is set up differently than most hotels--not your standard box room. An open bath design (though the toilet is in a separate room) in which the sink/bathing area is separated from the sleeping area by a filmy curtain (the bathtub and/or shower is tucked behind so you are not exposed the room as a whole while showering or taking a bath). The outside wall is completely glass--great views of the restaurants, clubs, and their patrons moving up and down the street. As with our other recommendations, the hotel staff were very helpful with everything from transportation and dining tips (they found a great Italian restaurant for us within easy walking distance of the hotel) to printing out airline boarding passes.

We have stayed at other nice places (and some not as nice), but these stand out.

Bill

Re:Bamberg hotel

Posted by basketman - 2007/07/16 09:32

Another winner in Bamberg is the St. Nepomuk. It sits right in the river and some rooms have a view straight up river to the beautiful old town. Still, you are only a five-minute walk to the center of town.

