



Something just for you: why not enjoy the castle in a very different way:

Celebrate a special day!

The castle vaults provide a picturesque setting for all kinds of celebrations with room for up to 80 people to eat, drink and dance.

Birthday parties for children to remember

We have created a detective game for children to explore the castle or dress up in periodic costumes available for your kids to celebrate a „Children’s Birthday Party of an Earl or a Countess“, involving a guided tour of the castle, juice and games where the children can try out their handicraft skills. Our programme also includes games of hide-and-seek and afternoon fairy-tale readings.

Getting married?

Tie the knot in the castle! You may choose to say your vows in the library room on the second floor or in the magnificent garden hall on the ground floor.



Please come and visit us!

Service

- Museum shop and guided tours
- Audio guide for adults in German, English and for children; use is included in the admission fee
- Birthdays, weddings and other celebrations

Events

- Major events in the castle and park
- Concerts, readings, exhibitions

Catering in the vault cellar

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Opening hours

March through October
Daily (except Monday and Friday)
11a.m. – 5p.m.
November through February
Wednesday, Saturday
and Sunday 11 a.m. – 5 p.m.
special arrangements available

Accessibility

The castle is not barrier-free and we do not have a lift. We apologise for the inconvenience.

Photos

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Stand 02/2025



Welcome to Schloss Ahrensburg

A jewel with more than 400 years of history





The Ahrensburg castle – a true jewel from the Renaissance era

The families Rantzau and Schimmelmann each owned the Ahrensburg castle consecutively for seven generations.

It was built around **1585** by Peter Rantzau, envoy of the King of Denmark, as a three-wing mansion featuring four elegantly designed corner turrets and surrounded by a moat.

Starting in **1759**, Heinrich Carl Schimmelmann had major alterations made to the castle.

The Schimmelmanns left the estate in **1932**.

The castle museum opened in **1938** under the trusteeship of the newly established castle society.

Until **1946**, the castle served as a home for refugees and was a vocational training school until **1954**.

The castle museum was reopened to the public in **1955**.

In **2003**, the castle became a private foundation.

The castle was renovated extensively between **2009** and **2016** and the park was also reconstructed.



Experience 400 years of Schleswig-Holstein aristocratic culture

Visitors are invited to experience this unparalleled exhibition of aristocratic culture. You will be provided with slippers so that you can glide over precious parquet floors and peruse 400 years of history.

The furnishings, exhibiting a grand collection of high-quality furniture, paintings, crystal chandeliers and Meissen china, represent the stately past of a bygone era.

Step right in

The ground floor represents the 18th century. The dining room with its wooden wall panelling and the magnificent garden hall are particularly impressive. This is also where concerts and weddings take place.



The Histories Gallery – an entertaining presentation of the history

„Where did the toilets used to be? And how did they used to do the washing?“ Visitors to Ahrensburg Castle often ask questions like these and now these are being answered: in the Histories Gallery on the 1st floor. Here the visitors have the possibility to discover a lot of interesting things about the three main aspects - „the castle, its inhabitants and the staff“, digitally, haptically, interactively and using the classic method of reading.



There are also some film clips here from two Edgar Wallace films that were filmed in the castle.

It is possible to smell the cleaning detergents that were used 100 years ago at the scent station. Numerous photos document digitally the six large restorations that took place between 2009–2016.

There is a lot to discover and a lot of interesting things to learn: take your time and have a comfy seat!

Precious treasures displayed in beautiful rooms

A flight of stairs from the rococo era leads to the first floor which invites you on a tour through the 18th century into the more „bourgeois“ 19th century, from classicism to Biedermeier style.

The captivating Emkendorf hall exhibits the „Blue Furniture“ from 1780 and also contains a fine collection of high-quality landscape paintings.

Creatively painted wallpaper decorates the adjoining Pellicia-Kabinett. Furnished in 1855, the banqueting hall was designed for festivities; the beautiful flute clock in this room plays a minuet composed by Haydn.

All the other rooms are of a somewhat more private but no less precious character and were used as living-rooms and bedrooms.

