

GUIDED TOUR
of
SCHÖNHAUSEN PALACE AND GARDENS

We will visit Schloß Schönhausen in Pankow, Berlin, the summer residence of Frederick the Great's wife, Prussian queen Elisabeth Christine. Used regularly from 1740–97, the castle's outstanding 17th and 18th century interior décor has been preserved: The magnificent ballroom and elegant stairways; wall coverings and luxurious furnishings in the queen's living quarters and state rooms; the richly stuccoed ballroom, the only late Rococo space in Berlin preserved in its original form.

During the National Socialist period Schönhausen served as a main depot for so-called "degenerate art." Several thousand confiscated works of art were stored here, before being sold abroad to acquire foreign currency.

After World War II the palace served as the official residence of East Germany's (GDR) head of state, Wilhelm Pieck. The office of president was abolished after Pieck's death in 1960 and the palace was eventually converted to a state guest house, accommodating high-ranking official guests of the GDR government, such as Leonid Ilyich Brezhnev, Fidel Castro and Mikhail Gorbachev. Wilhelm Pieck's office and a guest apartment convey an authentic impression of the self-image practised by the Socialist Unity Party (SED) dictatorship.

The tour will be in English and last approximately 60 minutes. Afterwards we can gather for refreshments at Café Sommerlust in the outdoor garden on the Schönhausen premises.

DATE: Saturday, 30 May 2026 at **10:40 hrs.**

VENUE: Schloss Schönhausen, Tschaikowskistraße 1, 13156 Berlin

MEETING POINT: Entrance to the castle, at the Schlosskasse

MEETING TIME: **10.20 hrs**

Please check in with the on-duty *BHA* Board member

REGISTRATION: Please reserve places by 18.00 on Wednesday, 27 May, preferably by e-mail to this address: EventsRegistration@bha-ev.org or call 030 8431 6659 (Answerphone).

- Cost: Members no charge. Members' guests €5. Non-members €10.

- Priority will be given to *BHA* Members.

GETTING THERE:

- S-Bahn: S1 to Schönholz, then change to Bus 150 to Herman-Hesse-Str./Waldstr.
- S-Bahn: S2 to S+U Pankow, then change to Bus 250 to Herman-Hesse-Str./Waldstr.
- S-Bahn: S5 to Hackescher Markt, then change to Tram M1 to Herman-Hesse-Str./Waldstr.

NOTES:

- Please note the palace has a lift, wheelchairs are allowed, but prams are not allowed.

Forthcoming *BHA* dates:

- 27 Jun - Guided tour of Fort Hahneberg.
- xx Jul - Guided tour of Biesdorf Palace and gardens.
- 15 Aug - Visit to Blücher Kaserne, Kladow.

Members: Please wear your name badge if you have one. Children welcome.

Suggestions from members are always welcome
by e-mail to [\[Office@bha-ev.org\]](mailto:Office@bha-ev.org) or write to *BHA*, Clayallee 135, 14195 Berlin.

BHA Bank A/C: Deutsche Bank, IBAN: **DE29 1007 0848 0337 5623 00.**