

# BAD ISCHL

## The imperial city in the heart of the Salzkammergut

A piece of paradise offers room for recreation, sports, congresses and conferences and cultural pleasures. It is perfect for holidays. Seemingly small things are big here. You can enjoy the peace, the scents of unspoilt nature, the wide view down from the mountains, resting under a shadowy tree, strolling through lanes. All kinds of sports are offered and the flair of the big, wide world in the heart of the Salzkammergut area will surround you.

## Kaiservilla

The little town of Bad Ischl in Upper Austria, the former summer capital of the great Austro-Hungarian Monarchy, has been associated with the Habsburg imperial dynasty for at least 700 years. The Imperial Villa in Ischl, the Emperor's summer residence, was described by Franz Josef I as "heaven on earth" for himself and his family.



The Villa was originally a wedding present from his mother, Archduchess Sophie, on the occasion of his marriage in 1854 to his teenage Bavarian cousin Elisabeth. Their engagement had taken place in Ischl the previous year. "Sisi", as she was known to the family, became renowned as Elisabeth, Empress of Austria, the most famous beauty of the 19th century, and still fascinates a worldwide public. Franz Josef built a

personal Cottage for her in the Imperial Park in English 16th-century "Elizabethan" style. The Villa and its estate are still redolent with memories of Elisabeth.

The Imperial Villa was also a stage on which the great powers of the 19th century carried out their diplomatic manoeuvres. It was here, on 28 July 1914, that Franz Josef signed the declaration of war on Serbia that was to escalate into two global conflicts and change the world.



Still a haven of peace and tranquillity, and still occupied by the Habsburg descendants of Franz Josef and Elisabeth, the Imperial Villa retains the ambience of a bygone age in the 19th century, and its association with great people and events. It does not take much imagination to visualise the crowned heads and major statesmen of the world who were received here, or the world-famous composers, writers and artists who flocked to Ischl in the wake of the Emperor's court during the decades of that glorious Indian summer of imperial Austria around the year 1900.

# Café Zauner



Founded 1832 in Bad Ischl, the Zauner Café & Pastry Shop has always been a traditional Austrian enterprise offering a large selection of top quality products. Our sweet history is a story of success. In times of the Austrian-Hungarian Monarchy we were appointed to be "k.u.k. Hoflieferant" ("Imperial and Royal Purveyor to the Court") and the Republic of Austria entitled us to use the Austrian National Coat of Arms. Keeping up traditions and preserving proven principles whilst being open-minded for advanced views has always been our highest commandment.

Giving highest priority to maintaining a consistent, high level of quality has been crowned with success. The Zauner-Team has always been conscientiously dedicated to implementing this philosophy in the parent house in Pfarrgasse as well as in the Esplanade Grand-Café Restaurant.



To combine in harmony the best of yesterday and today - this is the secret behind the unbroken special flair of house of Zauner. Firmly rooted in the present, we lovingly commemorate our history. To profit from the best of new trends, to live culture, to never forget the roots while always looking ahead to the future, to risk innovations whilst remaining faithful to oneself - that's our credo.



The Esplanade-Café Zauner turned out to be the meeting place of artists, such as the most famous operetta composers like Franz Lehár, Oscar Straus, Leo Fall, Leo Ascher, Edmund Eysler. Vocalists: Leo Slezak, Alfred Piccaver, Erik Schmedes, Richard Tauber, Helge Roswaenge, Writers; Hermann Bahr, Felix Salten ...

Every Friday the "Operettencafé" takes place at 16:00 o'clock. Enjoy 1,5 hours of swinging operetta-melodies that walks along with the famous cakes from Zauner. Entry is € 11,00

