

Historical Walk Tour 2



Tourist-Information • 82496 Oberau • Schmiedeweg 10
+49 (0) 8824 93973 • Telefax +49 (0) 8824 8890
info@oberau.de • www.oberau.de

Our second historical walk starts at today's parish church of St Ludwig.

Although the church in its present form dating back to 1938 is little appealing to most visitors and worshippers, there is a painting of St Ludwig inside, which is worth seeing and which was a gift to the parish from the Fairytale King Ludwig II, as well as beautiful glass windows donated by His Royal Highness Prince Regent Luitpold of Bavaria.

We pass the Bundesstrasse 23 and use one of the two paths to the church of St Georg on the Kirchbichl. It was until 1875 that this small church, first mentioned in a document as early as in 1315, but set up as early as in the 8th century, was the place of worship of the Oberau people. It is one of the oldest sacred buildings in the region.

St Georg, the present construction of which dates back to 1664, was renovated substantially in the 1980s. The ceiling fresco in this modest baroque building was painted by the fresco painter, or "Lüftlmaler", Franz Seraph Zwinck, just like a painted cloister which is worth seeing.

The mountain cemetery is probably one of the most beautiful cemeteries in Upper Bavaria. Part of the graveyard is said to have been taken in by a castle. The legend has it that it belonged to a wealthy count who was killed in a crusade. His sons are said to have been doomed by an old woman because they fought a battle for succession with the sword. Since then they have been doomed to fight as ghosts until eternity.

Continuing from St Georg, we use the cloister down the valley and follow the street to Oberammergau until the end of the village. At the Untermberg inn, we turn into the Alte Ettaler Strasse. There is a building almost at the end of the flat path (house no. 35) on the left side, in which bread was baked since 1683, initially for the Ettal monastery. Later on, it became an inn.

This is where waggoners used to stop for a bite to eat or stay overnight before overcoming the steep Kienbergweg with their wagons. This house, too, was home to several generations of the ancestors of Ludwig Thoma.