

GERMANY

SIGGY AND HEATHER | EUROPE 2015 | WEDNESDAY, 20 MAY 2015

Schliersee Day 3

A wet, dreary day greeted us. We wanted to be doing something so we all agreed that an indoor activity was a good option. Off then via the van to a nearby lake - Chieminsee and its island castle.

The history of the Bavarian castles and the person that built them, Ludwig II, is a fascinating story. The opulence, the magnificence and the beauty makes you want to delve into the background of the person who commissioned them? In 1983 we saw Ludwig's other world famous castle, Neuschwanstein, but Herrenchiemsee castle is something else (he built 4 castles and other residences). Not as picturesque on the outside but unbelievable on the inside. It is opulent. The Hall of Mirrors is immense and rivals the one in Versailles. But the wonder for us was being able to view the bones of the building. After Ludwig's death, the unfinished bits were left as they were. Seeing the brickwork and raw materials behind the facade was fascinating. Herrenchiemsee is amazing from lots of perspectives. It is thought that Ludwig was finally murdered to stop his megalomaniac spending!

Warm and cosy in our multiple layers and rain gear we arrived back at the cosy B&B for a 3 course tea that we conjured up. We then sat around companionably doing what each of us wanted. What great friends we have.



WAY TO GO There is a 20min walk to the castle. The few tourists that were here did take the covered wagon but not the 4 visitors from Australia.



RAIN RAIN Must have been a disastrous day for the restaurateurs. Saw no-one at all outside for the whole day.



FOUNTAINS Amazing how boring the front of the building appeared to be when the "water park" was turned off. Fountains in full flow give this place a sense of movement and awe.

Herrenheimsee

