## Online Information

## **The Germany Mystery**

## Fascinating Facts Neuschwanstein Castle

- Neuschwanstein Castle is one of the most popular castles in Europe. More than 1.3 million people visit it every year.
- King Ludwig II was a shy child who loved to pretend!
- The king designed the castle as a place of retreat. He loved music, particularly the music of composer Richard Wagner. He actually dedicated the castle to Wagner.
- The castle was opened to the public seven weeks after King Ludwig II's death in 1886.
- The ruins of two ancient castles were destroyed to create the site for the Neuschwanstein Castle.
- The latest technology was put to work in the castle. This included hot air central heat in the royal quarters, running water on every floor, and automatic flushing toilets. A lift was installed so servants did not have to carry meals upstairs.
- Fourteen woodcarvers worked for four years to complete the elaborate oak carvings in the king's bedroom!
- Many people say the Throne Room is the most impressive room in the castle. It looks like the inside of a magnificent church! The throne was never made due to the unexpected death of the king.
- The grotto, built with plaster-of-Paris, looks like a real limestone cave! It was a favorite place for King Ludwig to relax.
- King Ludwig loved nature. He gave specific instructions that the beautiful land around the castle was not to be disturbed by the building process.

