



Den Kongelige Samling

KGL SAMLING

Rosenborg Slot

Welcome to Rosenborg Castle

Wayfinding at Rosenborg

Ground floor

First floor

Second floor

Basement

The Treasury

Kings and queens at Rosenborg Castle

Welcome to Rosenborg Castle

This folder gives you an overview of the castle and grounds and an introduction to the individual rooms.



About Rosenborg Castle

Rosenborg was built as a country seat by Christian IV in the early 17th century and quickly became The King's favourite castle. With his colourful personality, building projects and many wars, Christian IV left a deep imprint on Danish history.

Christian IV governed together with the Diet, but in 1660, his son Frederik III introduced royal absolutism. Many of the furnishings in the castle reflect the splendour of the absolute monarchy.

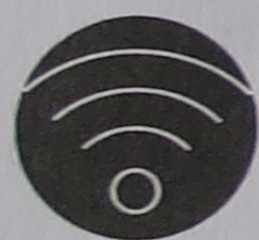
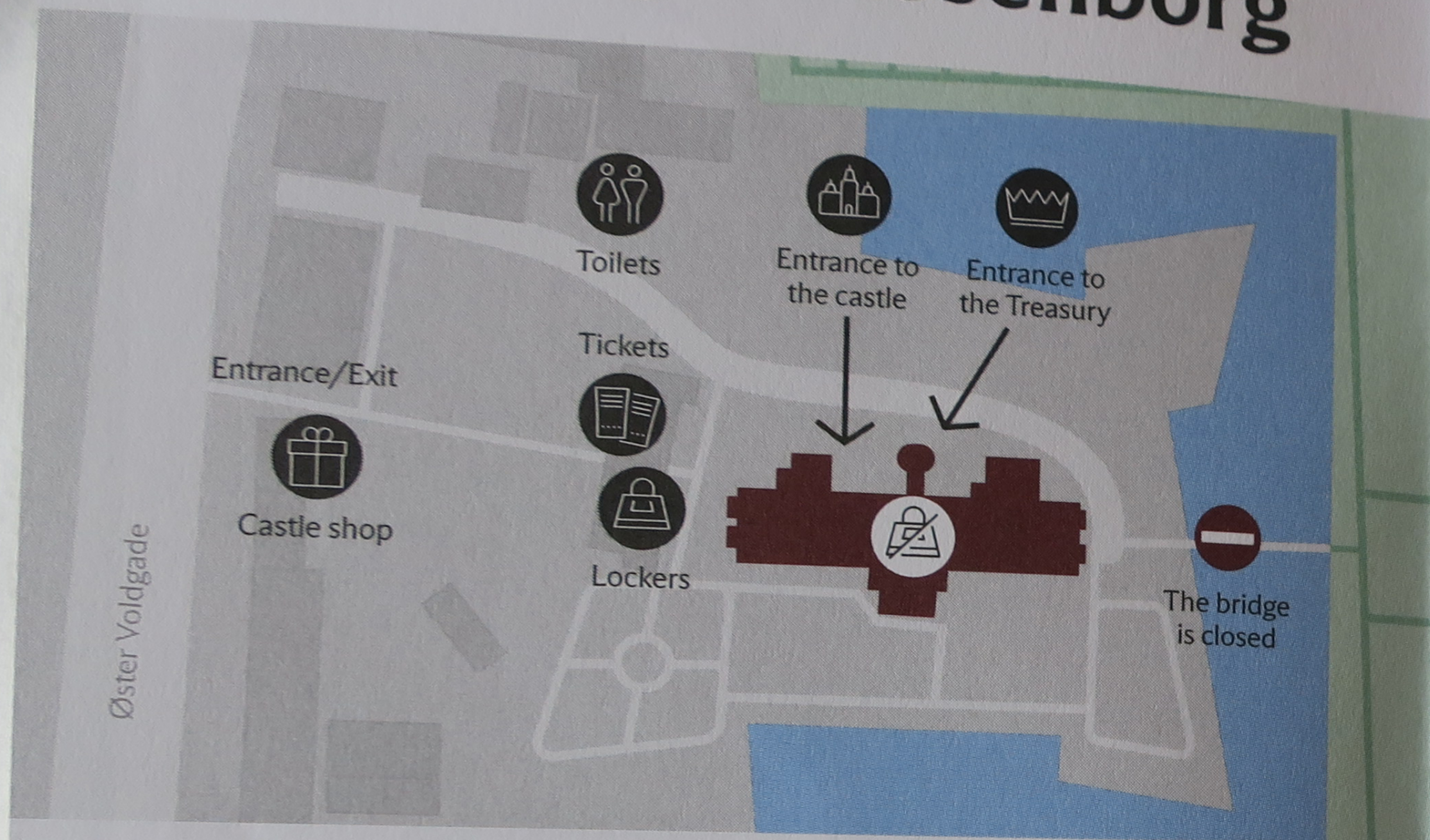
Rosenborg remained a royal residence until around 1710. Since around 1660, it was also used to store the finest objects in the King's possession. This collection could be shown to royal guests as a mark of the wealth and position of the Danish-Norwegian kingdom in Europa. In 1838, Rosenborg opened to the public as a museum.

The ground floor and first floor are structured as a chronological journey through the royal lineage from Christian IV to Frederik VII. The Great Hall on the second floor shows the splendour of the absolute monarchy, with anointing chairs and woven tapestries.

Under the castle, you find the basement and the Treasury. The first room holds the royal collection of precious objects, often acquired as gifts from foreign rulers or as spoils of war. The Treasury holds the Danish royal crowns and crown jewels.

In the back of the folder, you can see the Danish kings and queens you will hear more about at Rosenborg.

Wayfinding at Rosenborg



The castle has free Wi-Fi: 'Rosenborgfreewifi'.



Find the perfect memento of your visit in the castle shop. Explore unique souvenirs and specially designed products that reflect the history of Rosenborg Castle.



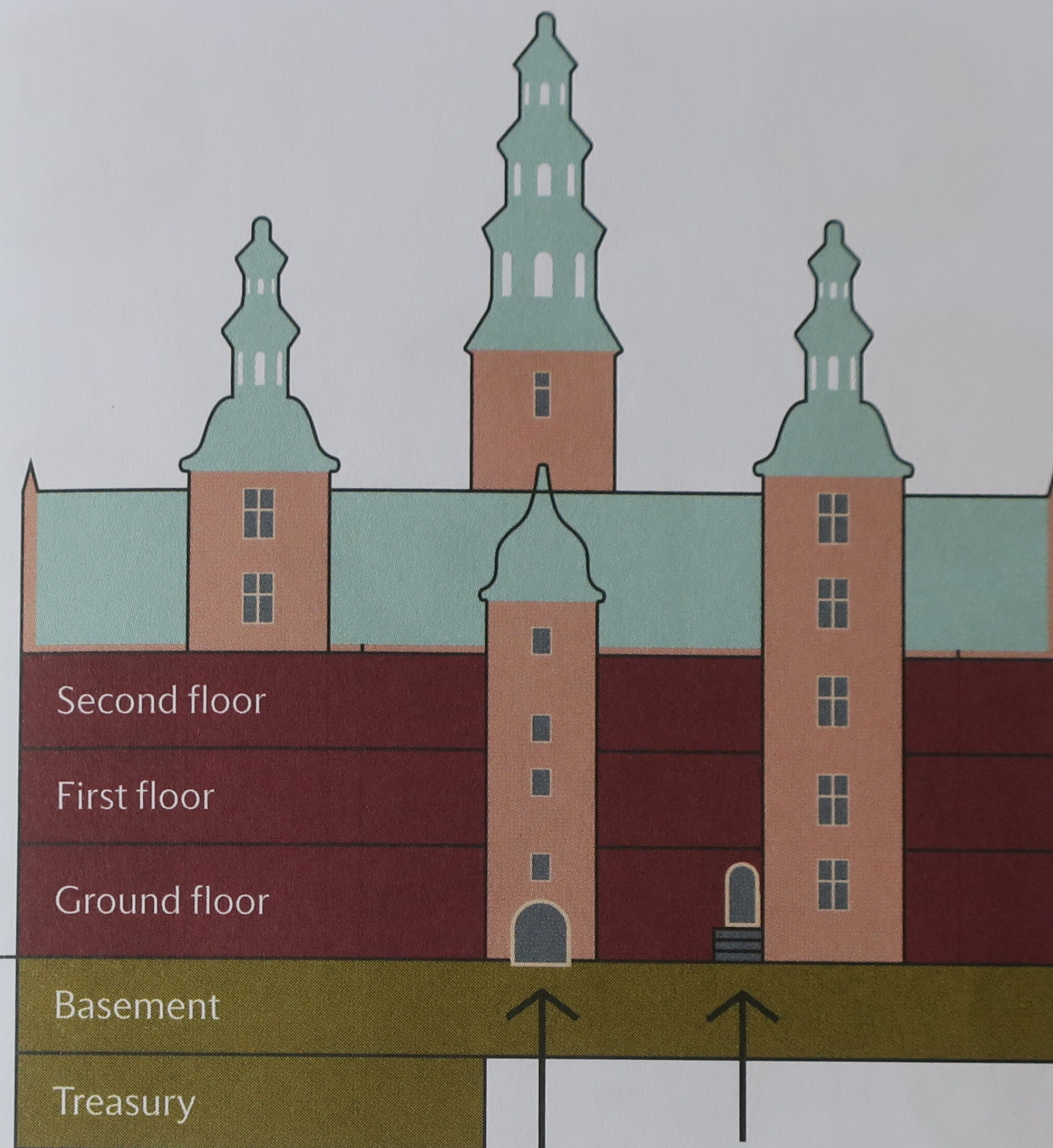
Do not touch objects and wall decorations in the castle, as they are very old, fragile and precious.



Photography is allowed throughout the castle, also using flash. Tripods or selfie sticks are not allowed.



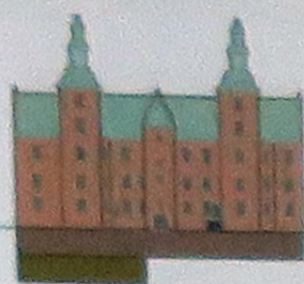
Bags larger than 15 x 23 x 15 cm are not allowed in the castle. Rucksacks are also not allowed.



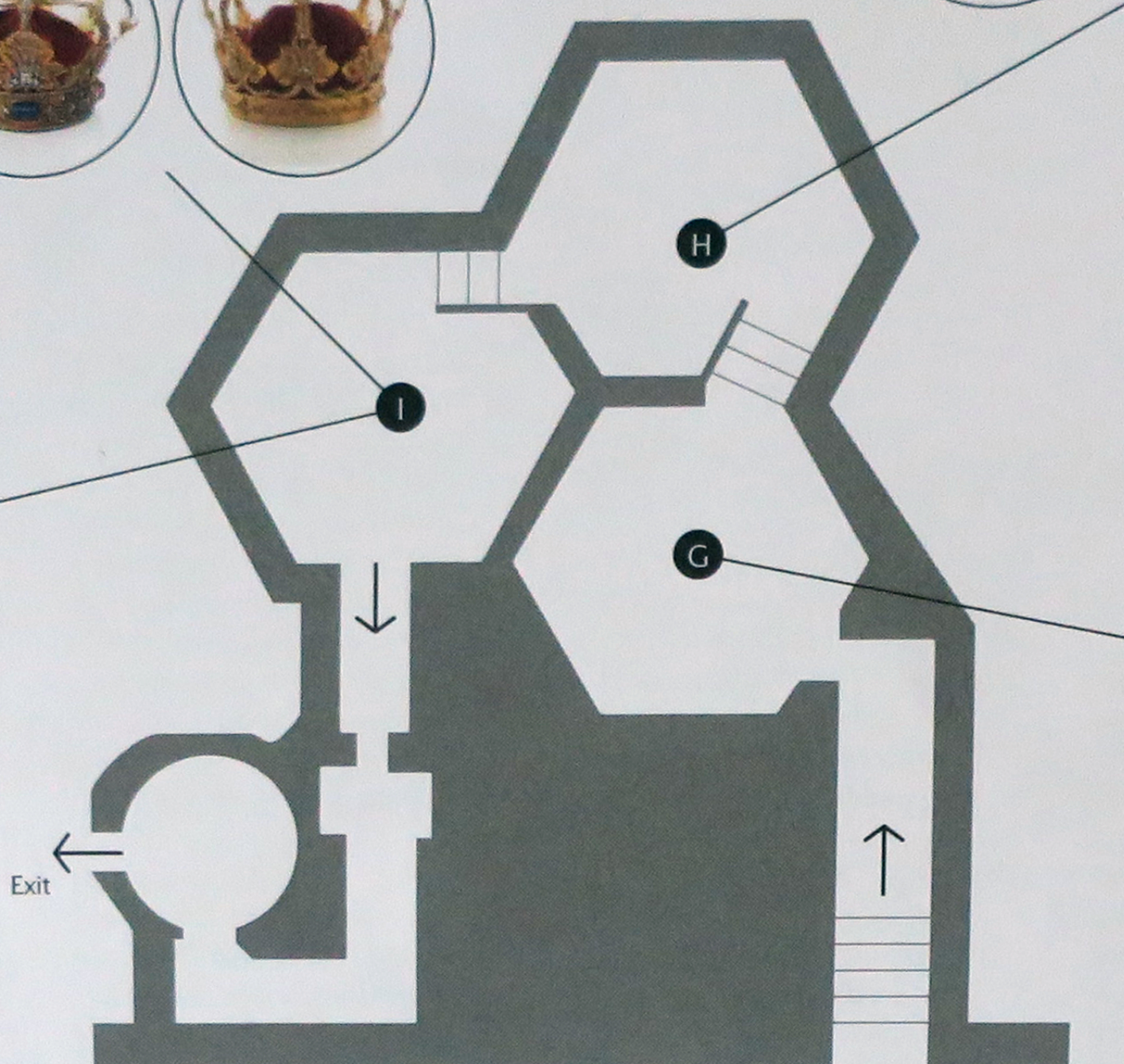
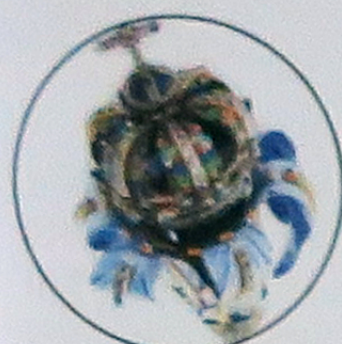
1. Your tour starts here

2. Your tour continues in the basement and the Treasury. Exit the castle and enter from the outside.





The Treasury



G. UPPER SECTION / In the middle is Christian III's sword of state from 1551. Used at coronations, it was last in use in 1648. The wall-mounted display case on the left holds the gilt-silver Oldenburg Horn from around 1400. Another wall-mounted display case shows the British Order of the Garter awarded to Christian IV, the oldest insignia of this order in the world.

H. MIDDLE SECTION / Christian IV's crown from 1596 (middle display case) is decorated with symbols of royal virtues. A display case opposite contains a baptismal dish, a pitcher and two solid gold candlesticks. The baptismal set has been used by all royal children since 1671 and is still in use today. Beneath it is the Lex Regia, the Danish Act of Succession of 1665, in a silver box bearing Frederik III's monogram. The act was the constitutional basis of the absolute monarchy.

I. LOWER SECTION / In the middle are the crowns of the absolutist kings and queens, dating from 1671 and 1731, respectively. The

Crown of the Absolute Monarchs was used at the anointments of all Danish kings from Christian V until Christian VIII. It weighs more than 2 kilos and is set with sapphires, garnets and diamonds, while a ruby with a sapphire stripe adorns the top of the cross. The queen's crown was made for Christian VI's queen, Sophie Magdalene, in 1731, but the precious stones are believed to originate from the queen's crown of 1648. This crown too was used at anointing ceremonies along with the other regalia, including the sceptre, the orb, the coronation sword and the ointment jar, which are seen in the case on the rear wall. The regalia were the foremost royal emblems; the word means 'the attributes of the king'. The last coronation took place in 1840, but the crown is still used at the funeral of a monarch. Here, you can also see the Orders of the Elephant and Dannebrog belonging to the Sovereign of the Orders as well as the crown jewels, which are at the disposal of The Queen.



THE CROWN JEWELS

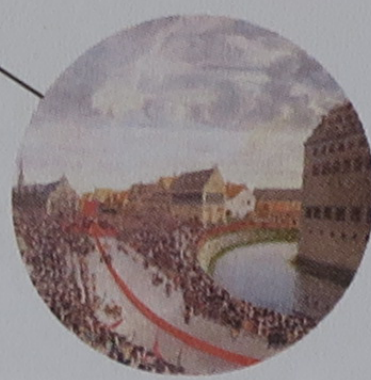
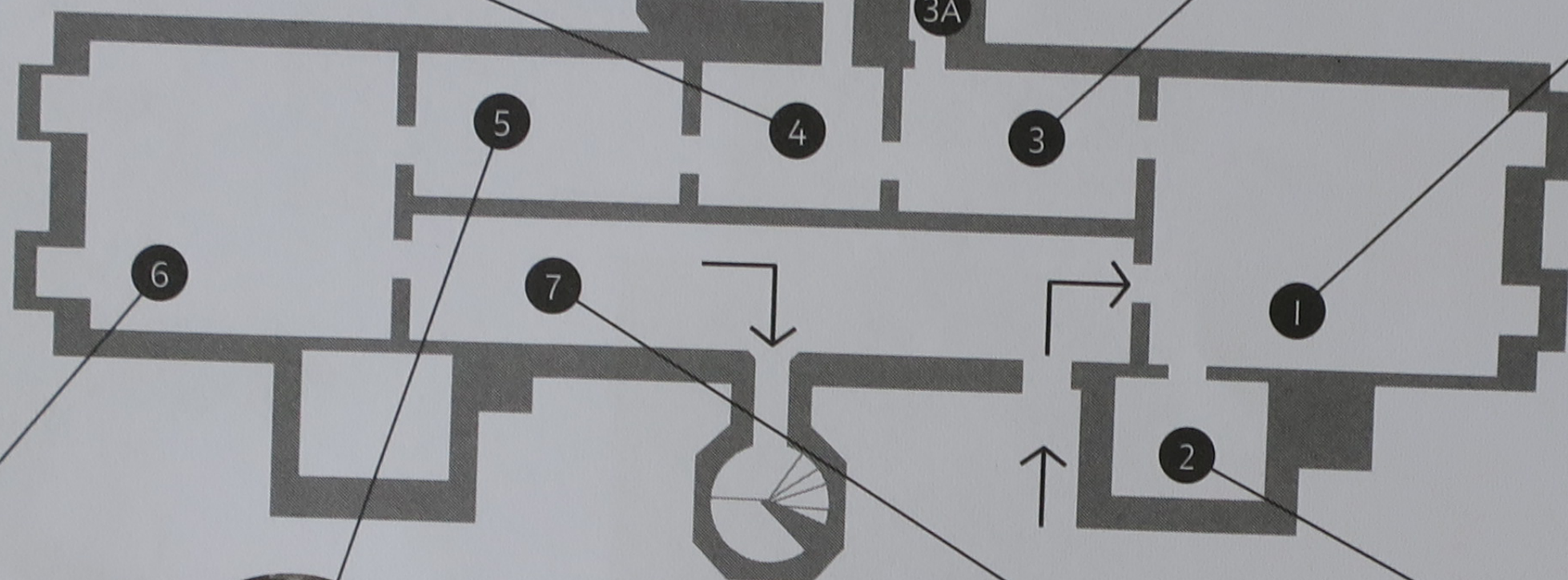
Queen Sophie Magdalene's will of 1746 decreed that her jewellery was not to be given to one person but was always to be 'with the Crown'. The crown jewels at Rosenborg consist of four sets of jewellery mounted with pearls and rubies, emeralds, rose-cut diamonds and brilliant-cut diamonds, respectively. The crown jewels may only be worn by the sitting Queen and only in Denmark. They are typically used on a few occasions a year, including at the New Year's levee.



Use our free Wi-Fi to connect with the internet in the Treasury: "Rosenborgfreewifi"



Ground floor



1. CHRISTIAN IV'S WINTER ROOM / Room 1 is currently under renovation. Afterwards, it will appear almost as it did during Christian IV's time with art from the Low Countries mounted in the wall panels. In the floor, there are three 'secret' music channels from the basement below, where the royal musicians played for the king and his guests.

2. CHRISTIAN IV'S WRITING ROOM / On the walls hang family portraits. The top right painting shows Christian IV's mother, Queen Sophie. Above the writing desk, his son Duke Ulrik with a dog. The large portrait shows Christian IV with his crown, which is now on display in the Treasury.

3. CHRISTIAN IV'S BEDCHAMBER / In this room, Christian IV passed away in 1648. The King's bloodied clothes were worn during a naval battle between Denmark and Sweden in 1644, in which the King lost sight in one eye. In the ceiling, Frederik III's queen, Sophie Amalie, is painted as Hera, the queen of the gods

3A. CHRISTIAN IV'S TOILET / The castle has three toilets, each with its own chute to the moat. The other two are on the upper floors. Originally, a door in the left wall led to the King's bathroom. The tiles are from Delft and were put up in 1705.

4. THE DARK ROOM / The wax figures depict Frederik III, Queen Sophie Amalie and their son Prince Jørgen.

4A. THE GARDEN ROOM / In 1706, Christian IV's bathroom was converted into Queen Louise's Garden Room with a double door to the private garden. The mythological painting is a celebration of the power of wine.

5. THE MARBLE CHAMBER / Decorated with Italian imitation marble in 1668, the room is a tribute to the absolute monarch. From left: the Swedish, Danish and Norwegian coats of arms. The ceiling's putti are bringing down the regalia from on high.

6. CHRISTIAN V'S CHAMBER / The King's and Queen Charlotte Amalie's portraits hang on the long wall. In the window sill, you can see the tip of a mouthpiece which probably enabled communication with the hall at the opposite end of the castle. In the ceiling painting, Christian IV's orchestra is playing.

7. THE STONE CORRIDOR / Christian IV's large genealogical chart with his ancestors' portraits and coats of arms has a central position on the wall. The large painting at the south end of the corridor shows the procession in front of Copenhagen Castle hailing Frederik as hereditary king in 1660.



You can read more in our online guide, which provides additional information about the individual rooms and objects.

Kings and queens at Rosenborg Castle



Frederik II

★1534 🏰1559 †1588

Sophie
1557-1631



Christian IV

★1577 🏰1596 †1648

Anne Cathrine
1575-1612

Kirsten Munk
1598-1658

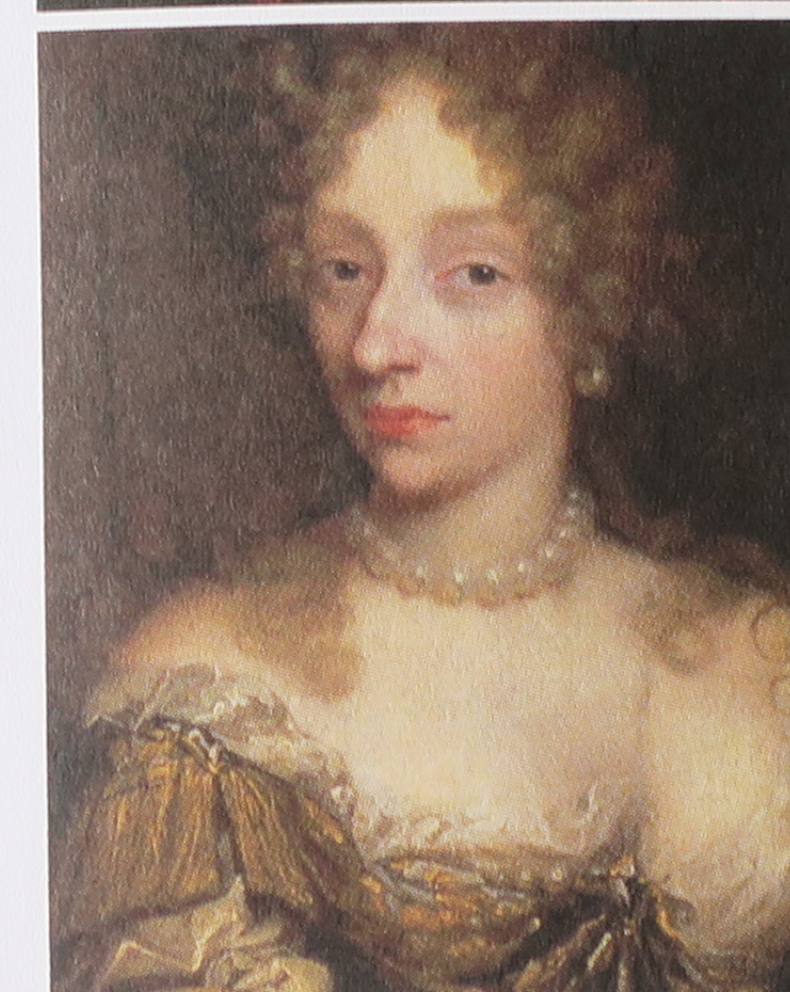


Frederik III

★1609 🏰1648 †1670

Sophie Amalie
1628-1685

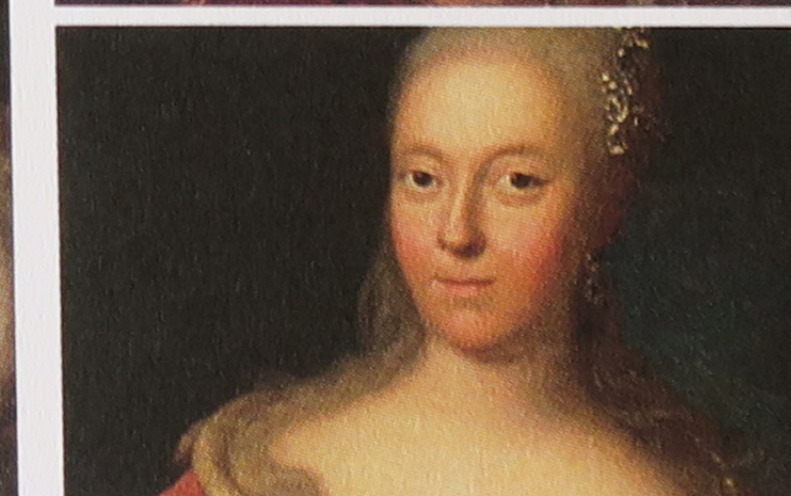
Of these, Christian IV, Frederik III, Christian V and Frederik IV, and their queens, stayed at the castle.



Christian V

★1646 🏰1670 †1699

Charlotte Amalie
1650-1714



Frederik IV

★1671 🏰1699 †1730

Louise
1667-1721
Anna Sophie
1693-1743



Christian VI

★1699 🏰1730 †1746

Sophie Magdalene
1700-1770

Kings and queens at Rosenborg Castle



Frederik V

★1723 👑1746 †1766

Louise
1724-1751

Juliane Marie
1729-1796

Christian VII

★1749 👑1766 †1808

Caroline Mathilde
1751-1775

Frederik VI

★1768 👑1808 †1839

Marie
1767-1852

Christian VIII

★1786 👑1839 †1848

Charlotte Frederikke
1784-1840

Caroline Amalie
1796-1881

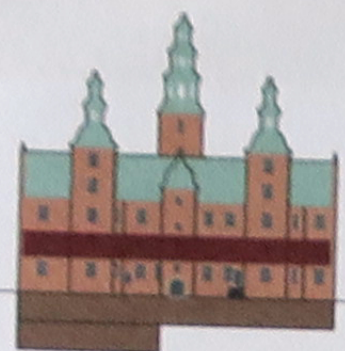
Frederik VII

★1808 👑1848 †1863

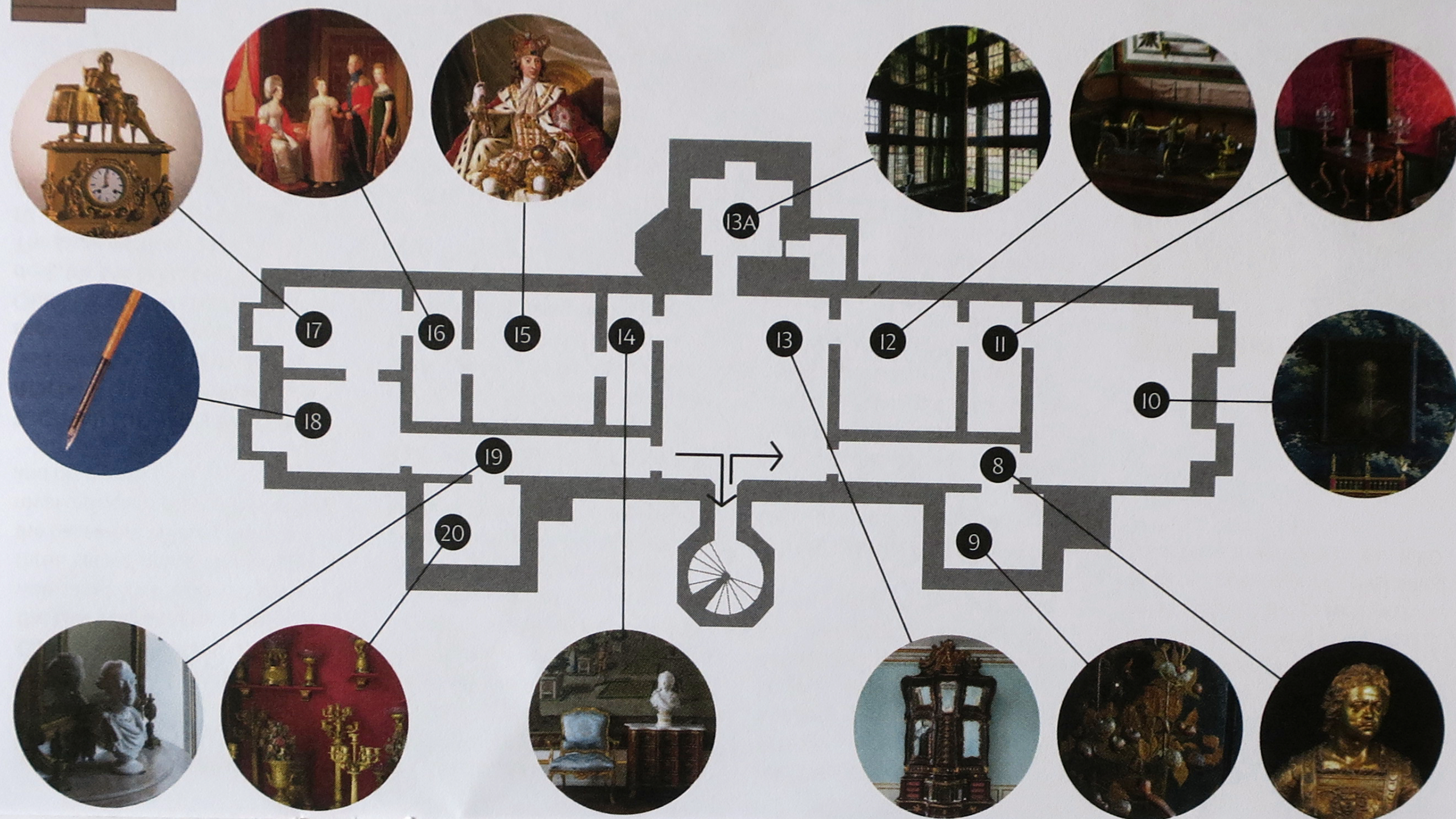
Vilhelmine
1808-1891

Mariane
1821-1876

Louise Danner
1815-1874



First floor



8. FREDERIK IV'S CORRIDOR / Bust of Tsar Peter the Great (1672–1725).

9. THE PRINCESS'S LACQUER CHAMBER / This room belonged to Princess Sophie Hedevig. The Chinese-style wall decoration from 1665 is one of the oldest of its kind in Europe.

10. FREDERIK IV'S HALL / The table with inlaid semiprecious stones was a present from the Grand Duke of Tuscany. The lenticular portrait is of Frederik IV and his sister Sophie Hedevig.

11. FREDERIK IV'S CABINET / The table, mirror and gueridons are made of boxwood. The design of the set shows strong influence from the age's fascination with Asia.

12. CHRISTIAN VI'S HALL / The painting above the door depicts Christian VI and Queen Sophie Magdalene along with The Crown Prince Couple, Frederik (V) and Louise. The tapestries show scenes from the life of Alexander the Great. Queen Sophie Magdalene turned ivory on the lathe seen under her portrait.

13. THE ROSE / The objects date to the time of Frederik V, when the flowing lines of the Rococo were fashionable. The large walnut cupboard contains a mechanical orchestra. Recent conservation has made it possible to recreate the original music.

13A. THE MIRROR CABINET / Christian V had this room decorated in 1686 with inspiration from the Palace of Versailles. At the time, mirror glass was extremely costly. Frederik IV kept his collection of erotica in the adjacent room.

14. FREDERIK V'S CABINET / The garden scene tapestries were woven in Berlin. In front of them hangs a rare amber chandelier. The birdcage by the window contains a clock, a music box and mechanical birds and was made in Paris.

15. CHRISTIAN VII'S HALL / The large portrait shows the King in anointing robes and regalia. The two wax busts show The Crown Prince and Carl, a commoner assigned as a playmate to The Crown Prince in keeping with child-rearing practices of the time.

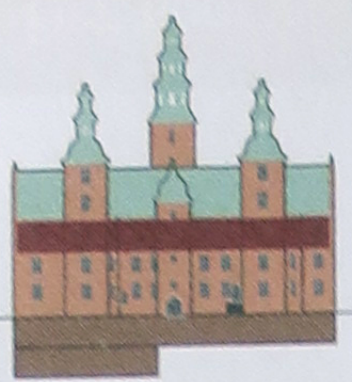
16. FREDERIK VI'S ROOM / The large portrait shows Frederik VI with his family. On the wall is a portrait of Louise Augusta, who was allegedly the result of Queen Caroline Mathilde's illicit affair with J. F. Struensee, the royal physician to Christian VII.

17. CHRISTIAN VIII'S ROOM / Christian VIII was the last of the absolute monarchs to be anointed. In the window niche hang paintings of his anointment in 1840. On the mantle clock, we see The King as art lover, surrounded by papers and books.

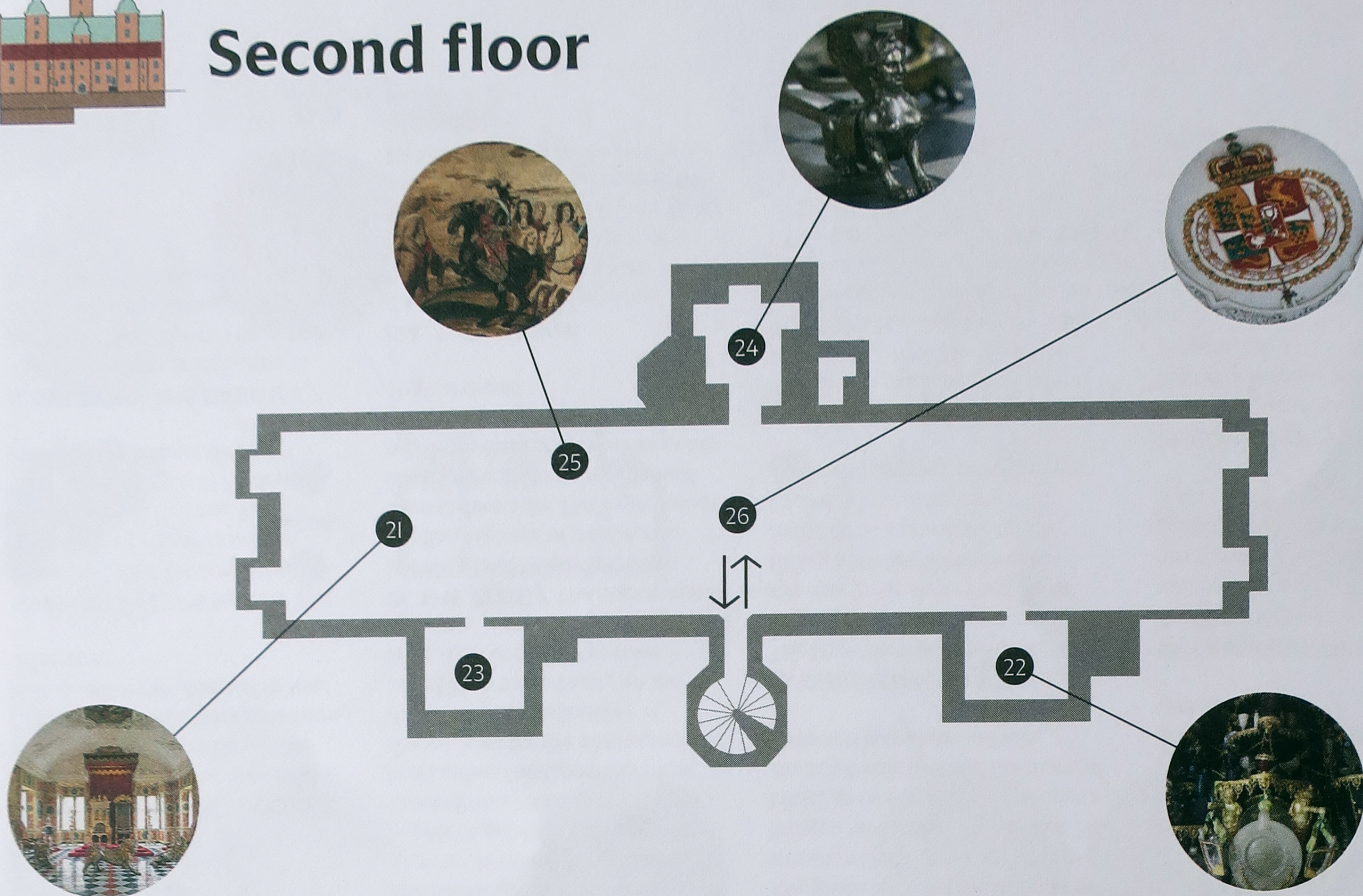
18. FREDERIK VII'S ROOM / Furnished for comfort and homeliness. In the display case lies the pen The King used to sign the first democratic constitution of 5 June 1849.

19. CORRIDOR / The walls are lined with family portraits; the bust is of Prince Frederik, Heir Presumptive (1753–1805).

20. THE BRONZE ROOM / The gilt bronze table decoration was made in Paris in 1829. This type of decoration was very fashionable at the time. Temporarily used for storage.



Second floor



21. THE GREAT HALL / The Hall shows the full splendour of absolutism. At one end of the Hall, three silver lions from 1665–1670 guard the king's and queen's thrones, which are made of silver and narwhal tusk. In the middle of the vaulted stucco ceiling is the national coat of arms, flanked by the Order of the Elephant and the Order of Dannebrog. On the walls hang 12 tapestries depicting Christian V's victories in the Danish-Swedish Scanian War in 1675–1679.

24. THE REGALIA ROOM / From around 1680, this tower room served as the national treasury. The regalia, including the crowns, were kept in the two wall cabinets. Next to it is the Green Cabinet, which held the treasures now on display in the castle's basement.

25. TAPESTRIES / In the 1690's, Christian V had the hall partially modernised, adding 12 tapestries showing his victories in the Scanian War of 1675–79. They were later moved to Christiansborg Palace but returned in 1999.

26. STUCCO CEILING / The present design dates from the early 18th century. In the middle: the national coat of arms, encircled by the Orders of Dannebrog and the Elephant. Along the sides: key political events during the early years of Frederik IV's reign, including the farmers' emancipation and the founding of the dragoons and the militia. The ceiling paintings, by Hendrik Krock, show the regalia: crown, orb, sword and sceptre.

22. THE GLASS CABINET / This room is unique in the world. In 1709, when Frederik IV visited Venice, the city presented him with an exquisite collection of glass, which he supplemented with glass from Saxony and other places on his return journey. In 1714, the collection was arranged as it is today, on consoles inspired by the Porcelain Cabinet at the Charlottenburg Palace in Berlin.

23. TEMPORARILY CLOSED

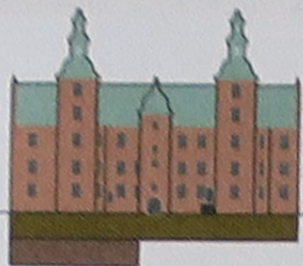


LIVING HISTORY

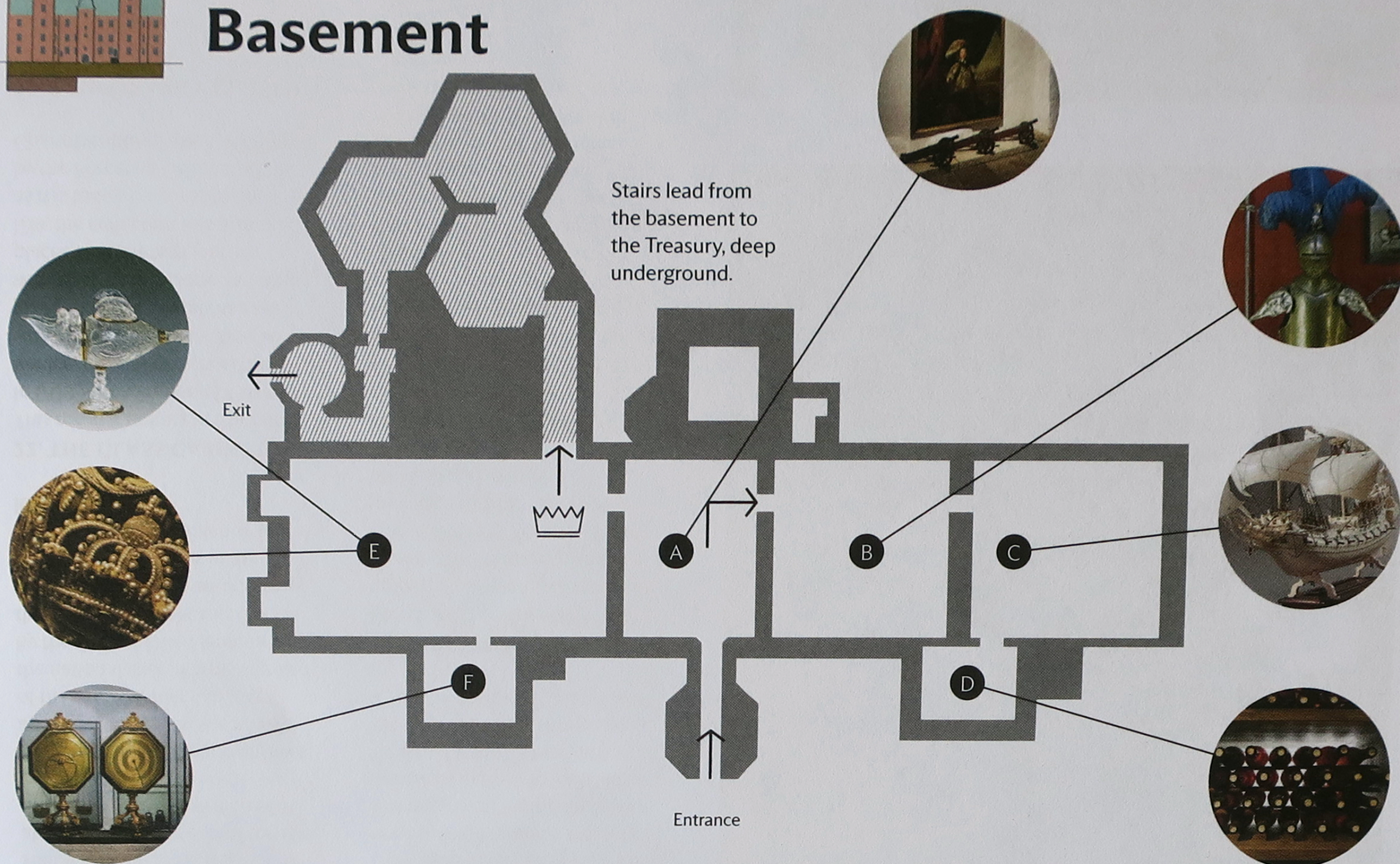
Some of the objects in the collection lead a double life: most of the time, they are on display in the castle, but on special occasions, they are used by The Royal Family. Since 1671, all royal children have been baptised in the font to the right of the thrones. When a deceased monarch's coffin is placed on public view in Christiansborg Palace Chapel before the funeral, it is guarded by the three silver lions from the Great Hall and adorned with the regalia from the Treasury.



The story continues in the Treasury in the basement. Exit the castle and enter from the outside.



Basement



A. BASEMENT ENTRANCE /

The large portrait depicts Christian V at the age of four and bears witness to his military upbringing. The cannons seen in the right-hand corner are on display in front of the painting.

B. WEAPONS AND WINE /

All the weapons on display were the personal property of Danish kings. They are organised into four categories: ceremonial, tournament, military and hunting weapons. The gilt war game in the middle of the room was made for the young Crown Prince Frederik (V). Using the figures, which represent the Romans versus the Carthaginians, he could practise military strategy as part of his early military education. Lined up along the wall are 11 barrels used for the so-called Rosenberg wine, its base white Rhine wine from 1598. Today, the barrels are empty, and

the wine is stored in steel tanks and bottles (on display in room D). The exhibited wine dates from 1615 and tastes like dry sherry vinegar. It is served only at the Kings New Year's banquet and other very special occasions.

C. IVORY AND AMBER / The turned and carved ivory objects are shown chronologically and span from 1575 to 1850. A few of the objects were made by members of the royal family, others were presents, but most were made by the kings' turners and carvers, who were often among the best in the world. Objects made of amber, 'the gold of the North', were sought-after collector's items at princely courts.

D. THE ROSENBERG WINE /

On the shelves are bottles of Rosenberg Wine (see explanation under room B).

E. THE GREEN CABINET /

The display cases by the door show Christian IV's riding gear from his coronation in 1596 and his son Prince Christian's wedding in 1634, both embroidered with gold and pearls. Other display cases show precious objects from the Green Cabinet organised according to material, as they were originally displayed. The middle case contains a flying-fish goblet of cut crystal given to Christian V after his conquest of the city of Wismar and made in Milan around 1580.

F. OLE RØMER'S ROOM /

Astronomer Ole Rømer (1644-1710) discovered 'the retardation of light', that is, its finite speed, while studying Jupiter's moons. Rømer built a planetarium (to demonstrate the orbits of the planets) and an eclipsarium (to calculate solar and lunar eclipses). The items on display were made in Paris and acquired by Christian V in 1682.



Use our free Wi-Fi to connect with the internet in the basement: "Rosenborgfreewifi"