



THE WEAPON OF HEROES

In the 21st century, swords have lost much of their significance both as weapons and ritual objects. Nevertheless, they have remained omnipresent in popular culture: Luke Skywalker, Aragorn, Beatrix Kiddo and Eddard Stark: all of these fictional characters bear swords and fight with swords. Swords also have their place in shows, in martial arts or at medieval markets. But nowadays they are accessible to everyone regardless of origin, social status, age or gender.

Obi-Wan Kenobi to Luke Skywalker: "It's your father's lightsaber. The weapon of a Jedi Knight. Not as clumsy or as random as a blaster. An elegant weapon, for a more civilized age."
(Star Wars, Episode IV, 1977)

Would you like to hold a sword in your hand or learn how people fought with them? Then make sure not to miss our programme of special events!

lm
Landesmuseum
Württemberg

13.10.2018 –
28.4.2019

Special exhibition in
Stuttgart's Old Castle
www.schwert-stuttgart.de



OPENING HOURS

Tue to Sun 10 am – 5 pm | closed Mondays (except holiday Mondays)
closed 24.12. | 25.12. | 31.12.2018 | 19.4.2019
This exhibition is barrier-free.

ADMISSION

Adults 9 € | Concessions 7 €
Groups of 15 or more 7 € per person
Children and young people from 6 to 18 3,50 €
School groups (free admission for 2 accompanying adults) 2,50 € per pupil
„Maxi“ family ticket (2 adults + children under 18) 21,50 €
„Mini“ family ticket (1 adult + children under 18) 12,50 €

Tickets can also be ordered online at www.landesmuseum-stuttgart.de

Admission includes all permanent exhibitions and the hands-on exhibition "Räuber Hotzenplotz" in "Junges Schloss", the children's museum

As of October 2018, an exhibition catalogue will be available in the museum shop at a purchase price of 14.95 €

Tip: Join the Friends of the Museum for only € 50 per year and get free admission to all special exhibitions. One-year memberships are possible! Information and application forms can be found at www.landesmuseum-stuttgart.de

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OUR PARTNERS



VISIT US AT

www.schwert-stuttgart.de



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THE FASCINATING WORLD OF SWORDS

THE FASCINATING WORLD OF SWORDS

13.10.2018 – 28.4.2019

The sword has been with us for thousands of years – as a deadly weapon, as a burial object, as a symbol of prestige or as a valuable branded product. With its special exhibition “The fascinating world of swords” at Stuttgart’s Old Castle, the Württemberg State Museum will present impressive cutting and thrusting weapons dating back from the Bronze Age to modern times. Visitors will also be able to admire swords in paintings and medals, in medieval manuscripts as well as in best-seller novels and Hollywood productions. Come with us to explore the origin of this fascination!

Tip: Our blog will give you additional information about swords as well as about the upcoming special exhibition. Take a look and join in the conversation!
blog.landesmuseum-stuttgart.de

DEADLY WEAPON

The sword is not a simple weapon. It combines innovative craftsmanship and magical symbolic power in an effective killing tool. Making swords required rare raw materials, and artisans had to have in-depth technical know-how as well as great skill. The blade had to be both stable and flexible, heavy enough to put an enemy out of action and at the same time light enough for the bearer to carry it and wield it.

Aragorn to Frodo Beutlin: “If by my life or death I can protect you, I will. You have my sword.”
(*Lord of the Rings, The Fellowship of the Ring, 2001*)



SYMBOL OF POWER

The sword is a symbol of might, justice and liberty, but it also represents the power of decision over life and death. Not everyone was entitled to carry a sword, and only a few of those condemned to death had the privilege of being executed by the sword. Even today, in the United Kingdom, deserving personalities are knighted by accolade, being touched on the shoulder with a sword.

Eddard Stark: “The man who passes the sentence should swing the sword.”
(*Game of Thrones, Season 1, 2011*)



CULT OBJECT AND SACRIFICIAL OFFERING

In ancient times swords were used as sacrifices or burial objects, and people claimed that they had special magical properties. In the early Middle Ages, sword beads on the hilt or sheath served as amulets. Inscriptions called for the protection of gods or saints for the blades wand their bearers.

Saladin: “A cloak, a sword, a horse, a God to worship! What more do I need?”
(*Nathan the Wise, 1779*)

