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The roof above the staircase in the residential palace in Würzburg boasts the largest ceiling fresco in the world, the absolute highlight of Giovanni Battista Tiepolo's (1696–1770) creative career. The Residenz, now a UNESCO World Heritage Site, was the seat of Würzburg's prince-bishops. One of the dynasty, Johann Philipp von Schönborn, began implementing Balthasar Neumann's designs in 1719.

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The idyllic Kesslerhof in the mountains of the Black Forest is surrounded by tall pine trees. The product of several centuries of building and extension, pounded by wind and weather, the complex is both home and working farm.

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Page 12/13:

The Benedictine monastery of Andechs in Upper Bavaria atop a 760 m (2,493 ft) hill is a place of pilgrimage for worshippers of God and the monks' brew alike. Pilgrims have been coming here since the 12th century; the famous beer was first served in 1455.

Page 14/15:

Potsdamer Platz in Berlin has been reborn; once the busiest square in Europe, today it resembles an open-air museum of contemporary architecture. One of the prime exhibits is the Sony Center, covered by an enormous glass tent roof designed by Helmut Jahn.