

Review

MMIG46 Fly-In to Dresden 2016 & Safety-Seminar with John Mariani

Thursday, 28. April – Sunday, 1. May 2016



The 28th April, 2016 was the day of arrival. One by one everybody arrived and was pleased to see each other again at the Welcome Buffet in the Hotel Kempinsky Taschenbergpalais.





To mark the 17th anniversary of the MMIG46 there was an invitation from the Group to a festive dinner in our hotel.

And on Friday, 29th April at 9:15 the day-long seminar with John Mariani started in the Steigenberger Hotel.

In the preceding days there had already been individual training – 3 hours for each pilot.

Some of the other participants were already looking forward to the promised 3-hour Segway Classic Tour to Dresden's highlights.



After the in-depth briefing, everybody tried to get accustomed to this unusual mode of transport. After all, it was supposed to be fun!



There are even dedicated pathways for these special two-wheelers!



The “Fürstenzug”, made of individual tiles, connects the Neumarkt to the Schlossplatz behind the Residenzschloss.



Our Segway guide, Claudia, knew how to give us the necessary information at each stop – here at the Zwinger. Once again, many thanks for your dedication.





We met up again for dinner in the Pulverturm with its special atmosphere.

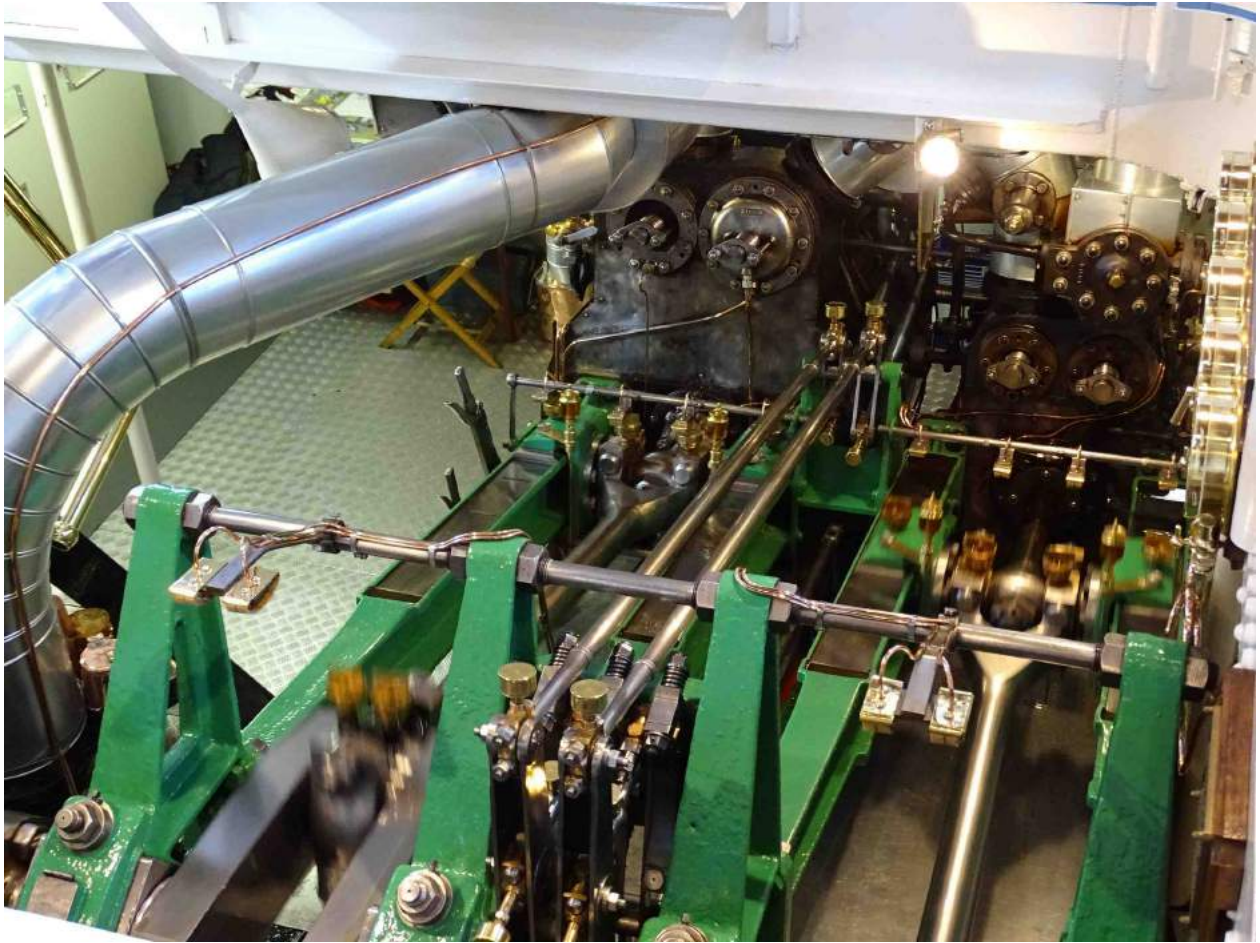
On Saturday, 30th April the seminar participants had to start again shortly after 9 with their day-long training.

Those taking part in the accompanying program were eagerly awaiting the planned historic paddle steamer tour to the castles of the Elbe. Destination: Schloss Pillnitz.





This rabbit has presumably been on the run since Easter...



Part of the paddle steamer's motor.





Castle Albrechtsburg.



Villa Stockhausen. This isn't the only place on the Elbe where wine is produced.



And now cultural heritage - Pillnitz Schloss and Park. This is the Wasserpalais.

August the Strong gave the former manor house to his mistress, Countess Cosel, and celebrated his Barock festivals here.



We were nearly there, but this quay at Schloss Pillnitz wasn't intended for us.

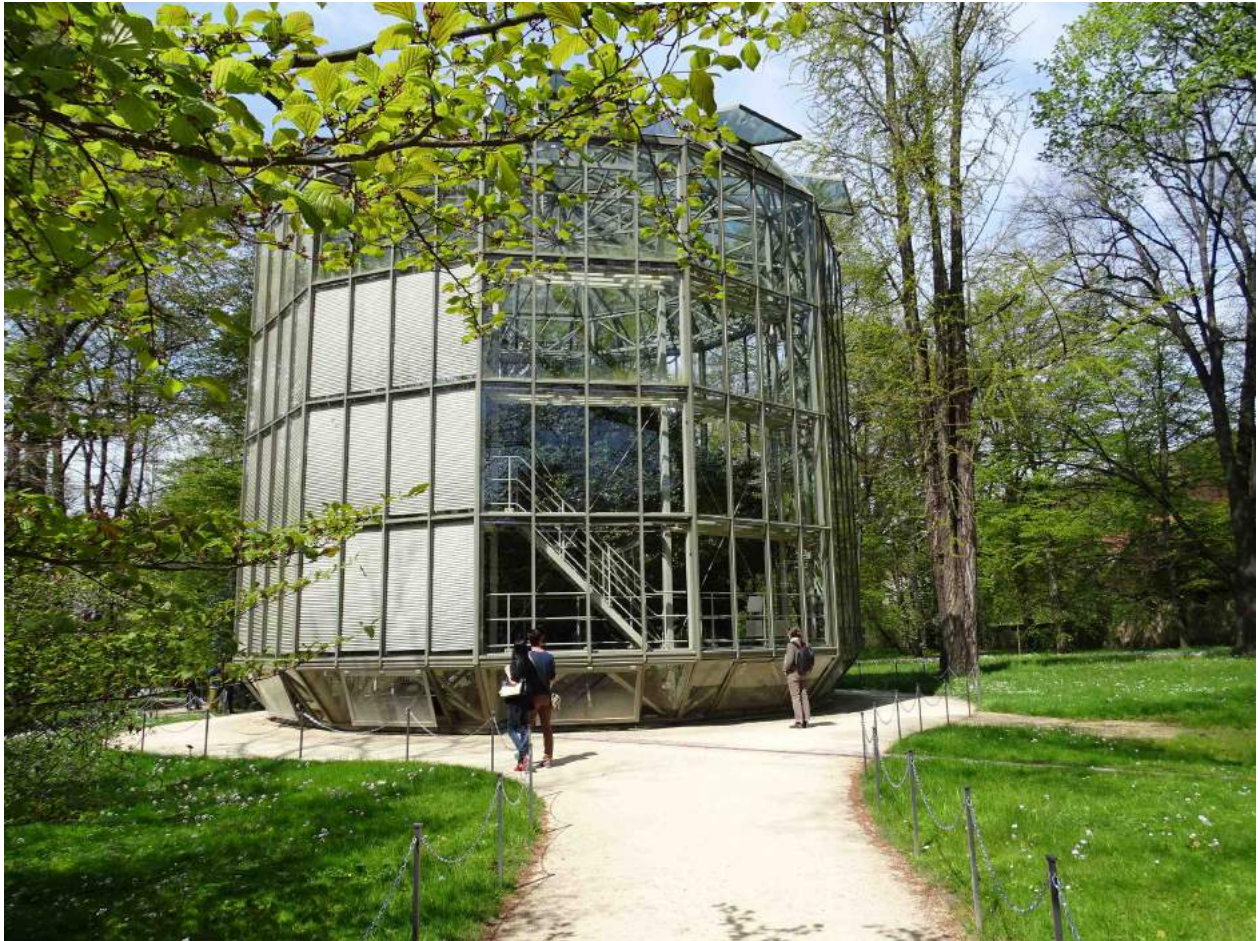


What shall we do now? Visit the park or the exhibition “The Maharadscha's Gardener”?
Luckily the majority opted for the really impressive park with its various special features.



Schloss & Park Pillnitz, the most important chinoise castle complex in Europe.





This movable (!) greenhouse (from 1992) houses a huge 8.5m high, ancient magnolia. In the summer the plant stands in the open air.

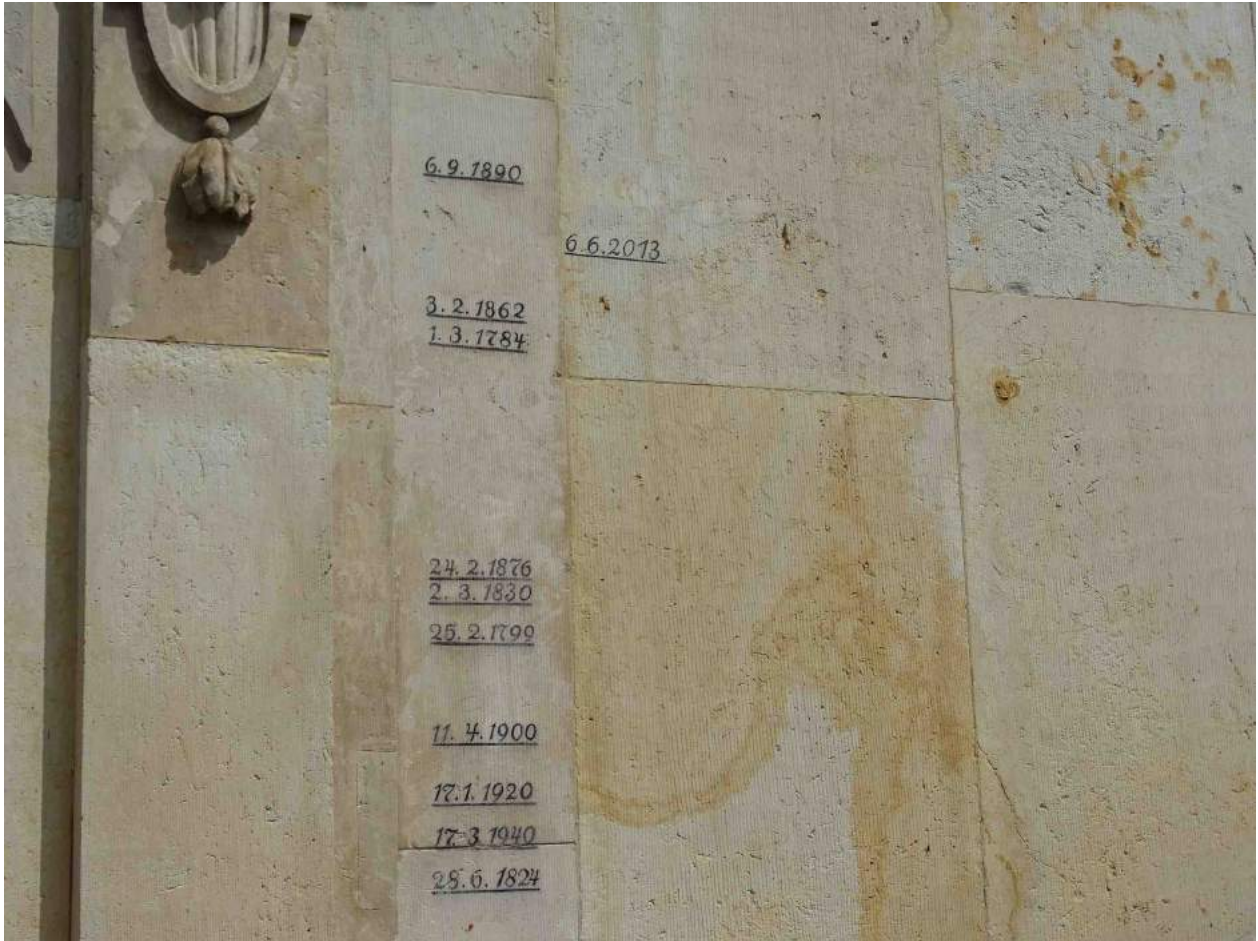
It is the last surviving specimen that must have arrived at the court in Dresden between 1780 and 1790.



The little study house.



This is how the upper-class residents of the castle progressed along the river Elbe.



High water marks at the castle.



On the way to an enjoyable lunch at the Pillnitz Castle Hotel, with the famous Lilac Garden.

The Lilac Garden at the New Palace. Here you can see lilac trees with a particular twisting growth.

The first of these Chinese Lilacs were planted in 1866.

The last time the river flooded, all these trees were under water, but luckily they all survived.

After lunch we were driven to the famous Bastei in the Elbsandstein Mountains.

On a short walk you could see the impressive and bizarre sandstone rock formations. And, of course, there was the fantastic view, too.





Caspar David Friedrich was inspired here to paint his famous picture *Felsenpartie im Elbsandsteingebirge*.



In the evening all the Dresden Tour participants met up again in Kastenmeiers restaurant to enjoy a really excellent dinner together.



Sunday, 1st May 2016. Once again the day of departure is upon us.

It's never easy to say good-bye in our group, but we take away many wonderful impressions and useful information concerning the safe handling of the PA46.