



### **Ilseburg Abbey Foundation**

The Foundation was created in August 2000 by Maria Princess of Stolberg-Wernigerode, and is the first private foundation for a cultural monument in the State of Sachsen-Anhalt. It is an independent foundation with headquarters in Ilseburg/Harz. Its aim is to reconstruct and maintain Ilseburg Abbey and its outbuildings and open them to the public.

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### **Restoration Work**

Restoration work in the abbey began in 2001. The roof and roof truss of the monks' former dining hall (refectory) were renewed, as was the roof of the former dormitory.

In 2003 roofing work on the south wing and restoration of the refectory were begun. The vault of the unique chapter house was showing cracks, which were rapidly widening. In 2004 several iron girders were put in to stabilise the vault. But further work in cooperation with the Curator of Monuments is urgently needed.

When this restoration is completed, and the necessary funds for reconstruction have been raised, the Benedictine abbey at Ilseburg will take its place not only as a monument of national importance and one of the oldest buildings in the Harz region, but also as a special example of the Hirsau architectural style, which originated in Ilseburg. The abbey will again become accessible as a building of European importance.

At present the reconstruction of the working quarters is also being planned, so that they can become available nationally for tourism and cultural use.