

TABLE TALK



Casa Fortunata is a treasure trove of beautiful items for the home and housed in a most picturesque setting.

Accessories, more than anything else, add personality to a home. A simple meal is transformed into a banquet, the daily grind turned into a celebration, and items on a desktop move a dull Monday into the relaxation experienced on a superb Saturday. "Every day is a celebration. One can always find an occasion," says Ingeborg Wille, the founder of Casa Fortunata, Munich's shop on Maximilianstrasse specializing in items for the well-laid table and exquisite accessories for the home. If the name sounds familiar, it may be because the shop owner was directress of the Dallmayr Boutique for more than forty years. The tradition of quality goods, exclusive brands, and the same dedicated and knowledgeable team that customers came to expect from the Dallmayr Boutique is now at Casa Fortunata. "The idea to open this separate enterprise originally came from our customers when they knew that the Dallmayr Boutique was

closing. They gave us the courage to continue the longstanding tradition," says Mrs. Wille.

FORTUNATE FIND

Searching for a suitable location after Dallmayr Boutique closed in 2006, Mrs. Wille found within a fortnight the gorgeous summerhouse that would become the perfect palette. Here she could use a storied backdrop to create a veritable treasure trove of beautiful table items, accessories, and giftware.

Casa Fortunata is located on this most historical avenue with imposing buildings protected as historical monuments that date from the nineteenth century. One of the inner courtyards situated along the street provides the picturesque setting for the shop. Walk from Maximilianstrasse through a passage with elegantly decorated display windows. In the wonderful inner courtyard, you



find yourself in front of a romantically vegetated villa, which is where Casa Fortunata is located.

"Finding this idyllic location was a twist of fate, pure fortune," she says. "For this house carrying an Italian name in the heart of Munich is not trendy, but symbolic."

Both the location of Casa Fortunata and the site of the house inspire Munich visitors to spend time in the shop. Occupying two floors is a range of exquisite goods, precious pieces of porcelain, glass and silver, opulent bouquets, fine textiles, and festive interiors waiting to be discovered. End tables or liquor cabinets made of rare woods and solid bronze invite a closer look.

In the ancient vault of the basement, Casa Fortunata offers its rustic and Mediterranean range of merchandise. The ground floor lends itself to the more modern and sophisticated.

"The balanced mixture of the assortment we have ensures that a variety of tastes are satisfied," she says.

DISTINCTIVE ITEMS

Just as distinctive as the shop itself is the uniqueness of many of its items. Some of the items are hand-selected by the shop's owner and her team at international exhibitions. Many of the smaller items selected have enormous impact since the style is apparent in the attention paid to detail and in the keen sense of quality.

The individuality of Casa Fortunata is apparent with items in the shop produced by smaller artcraft enterprises. Works by silversmiths from Tuscany and handmade art glass from the Bavarian Forest, for instance, are one of a kind. Adding to this individuality is the ability to also carry porcelain from Limoges, >>



SILVER HONEYBEE

"There is nothing more to encourage a dinner table topic than a table inspired through exceptional," says Ingrid Wille, owner of Casa Fortunata. This silver honeybee table accent is surely one of those conversation pieces.



JOY OF GLASS

The joy of glass is boundless, and the ingenuity of glass artists enticing. Casa Fortunata's team carefully selects original designs of hand-blown crystal glass with something to suit any taste.



CAVIAR DISH

"The product is the star" is the motto of the humble celebrity chef Eckart Witzmann. Casa Fortunata selects some of its pieces, in this case a shellfish platter for caviar, complete with caviar spoons, where the rule is that form follows function.



SHELLFISH TUREEN

A design implemented in delicately restrained ceramics creates interest not only in what is steeping inside the tureen, but what decoration is on top.

“HAPPINESS IS NOT A COINCIDENCE, BUT THE ABILITY TO CREATE BEAUTIFUL MOMENTS TO BE REMEMBERED FOR LIFE.”
— INGEBORG WILLE, FOUNDER, CASA FORTUNATA



Ingeborg Wille

and unique Murano glass imported directly from Venice, Italy, to name a few.

“Naturally, we are tops in our field at selecting a wide range of exclusive brands, as well,” says Mrs. Wille.

ROSENTHAL MEETS VERSACE

Modern-day showpieces such as cups, dishes, vases, and trophies, designed by Gianni Versace, are a treat for the senses, and a popular item for brides-to-be searching for a rare pattern.

In 1993, Versace Italy joined forces with Rosenthal under the motto “Rosenthal meets Versace” to create an upmarket collection of tableware and gift items in the typical opulent and expressive style of Versace. One of the greatest couturiers of the twentieth century, the selected homeware pieces at Casa Fortunata by Versace for Rosenthal undoubtedly become part of the dinner conversation as part of a contemporary table setting.

Rosenthal began in 1879 when Philipp Rosenthal set up as a porcelain trader and established a porcelain painting department at Castle Schloss Erkersreuth close to the city of Selb. Throughout

the decades, Rosenthal remains fascinating, united, and motivated by the desire to create the best in design in every era. Rosenthal is now one of the leading international suppliers of contemporary table and living culture.

THERESIENHAL

Casa Fortunata is also known for its unparalleled selection of Theresienthal glass. At its manufactory where everything is handcrafted in Theresienthal, all steps, from melting the raw materials to coloring the crystal, have their own history. Many times this history reaches back thousands of years and therefore requires an exceptional level of expertise, care and precision.

Most of the glassmakers at Theresienthal have been working for the company for years, and the careful craftsmanship has been handed down from generation to generation.

EXCLUSIVE PARTNERSHIP WITH HEREND

Casa Fortunata also offers its own designed vases in association with the world-famous Hungarian porcelain manufacturer Herend.



Made specifically for Casa Fortunata, the design is limited to ten pieces worldwide.

“This is an opportunity for our exclusive clientele to ensure they own museum pieces of tomorrow today,” says Wille.

Herend, or Herendi as it is called in Hungary, has long been among the world’s most prestigious porcelains. Herend of Hungary is the world’s largest hand-made, hand-painted porcelain manufactory. It is still being produced at a small village north of Lake Balaton, about sixty-five miles from Budapest.

A European tradition since the mid-1800s, Herend porcelain has been given as giftware to emperors, kings, and queens, including Queen Victoria.

Known for its perfection in porcelain, one of Herend’s most popular sets is the Queen Victoria. The original set, introduced in 1851 at the First World Exhibition in London, was purchased by Queen Victoria herself.

SILK FLOWER COMPOSITIONS

Casa Fortunata has also gained a reputation in producing individual and exclusive silk flower compositions, a tradition that began with flower designers at the Dallmayr Boutique who continue to create the wonderful arrangements today.

“Our customers appreciate our individual and personal guidance, and our ability to fulfill any wish or request,” says Mrs. Wille.

HOLIDAY KEEPSAKES

Holiday time is especially glowing at Casa Fortunata. Seasonal artistic objects such as hand-painted Easter eggs are in great demand since no two are the same. At Christmas, decorations range from painted Christmas glitter balls to handmade angels and spectacular decorated Christmas trees.

At holiday time or any time, Ingeborg Wille’s mission is evident throughout the store.

“Happiness is not a coincidence, but the ability to create beautiful moments to be remembered for life. And this happiness can be cultivated,” she says.

Connoisseurs can discover these beautiful moments inside Munich’s Mediterranean oasis, the Casa Fortunata. ✪



Visit Casa Fortunata at Maximilianstrasse 22 Gartenhaus. Call 089.23.23.92.80, or www.casa-fortunata.de.



THE ART OF FLOWERS

The art of artificial flowers captures the beauty of a season, even during Munich’s dark winters. Striking perfection accents any table. The abundance of choices makes these arrangements not only lasting, but the perfect blend for any décor.



HEREND PORCELAIN MAGIC

Casa Fortunata carries an assortment of fine Herend, a favored brand historically among rulers, famous historical personages, leading businessmen and artists alike. Additionally, Casa Fortunata offers its own limited-edition designed vases in association with the world-famous Hungarian porcelain manufactory.



VERSACE DINNERWARE, MODERN STYLE

Rosenthal meets Versace. The result is called “Médaillon d’Or” — a dinner service that unites the classic elegance of the Rosenthal porcelain manufacturer with the glamorous style of the Gianni Versace fashion. Casa Fortunata carries an extensive array of this very sought-after line. The fascinating style of this Italian fashion emporium makes for a glamorous home.

OCCUPYING TWO FLOORS, CASA FORTUNATA SHOWCASES A RANGE OF EXQUISITE GOODS, PRECIOUS PIECES OF PORCELAIN, GLASS AND SILVER, OPULENT BOUQUETS, FINE TEXTILES, AND FESTIVE INTERIORS WAITING TO BE DISCOVERED.