

# Welcome to the Gesellschaftshaus

The "Gesellschaftshaus der Badischen Anilin- & Soda-Fabrik / Errichtet ihren Beamten und Arbeitern" (Society House of the Anilin- & Soda-Fabrik in Baden / Erected for its officers and workers), constructed from 1898 to 1900, was originally intended as a place where directors, authorized officers, as well as certain technicians and merchants could have their lunch near the factory. Until 1914, it also provided common rooms for the newly established works clubs such as the choral club of BASF, the works orchestra, or the workers club, also called "Yellow Club".

In addition to the wardrobe and a still existing bowling alley, the basement also housed the kitchen facilities. A large restaurant, a library for the workers with reading room, pool and game room were on the ground floor. The upper floor housed the casino for officers with its own library, reading, conversation, and smoking room. The Gesellschaftshaus owes its second name "Casino" to these premises. Already then, the ball room was dominant. After its renovation in the early 1920ies it was a recreation of the hall at the city palace in Brussels.

In an air strike in September 1943, the ball room burnt down completely, the restaurant and the kitchens could, however, still be used. The fact that warm meals were served here during the entire second world war, is recounted with pride.

Until the end of the 1940ies, the restaurant in the Gesellschaftshaus was the only usable large hall in the area of Ludwigshafen-Mannheim. The festivities surrounding the inauguration of the newly built Rhine bridge for example took place here in December 1948.

The Gesellschaftshaus of BASF underwent an extensive and elaborate renovation in 2000. The premises are now marked by a friendly color scheme and high functionality. Each room includes a network connection for example. Since the kitchen is at a central location, the distances to the individual rooms is very short. Furthermore, the Vinothek in cooperation with the wine cellar of BASF offers wine-related events on a regular basis.

Our restaurant is open to everybody from Monday to Friday from 6 pm on. The remaining premises in the Gesellschaftshaus are available for private and business festivities, as well as conferences. We are also at your service for events on weekends by arrangement.