



Visiting the German Bundestag

Information on services
for visiting groups and
individuals for the year 2008



I. Services for visiting groups and individuals

1. A visit to the roof terrace and dome of the Reichstag with a view of the parliament and government quarter

1.1. Times/Access

- Daily from 8.00 to 24.00 hrs
Last admission 22.00 hrs
- West portal, right entrance (West B)

1.2. No advance bookings taken

1.3. Closure of the dome and roof terrace

- The dome and roof terrace will be closed all day on 24 December 2008 and from 16.00 hrs on 31 December 2008.
- For information about the closure at other times (31 March–4 April, 7–11 July, 21–25 July, and 20–24 October 2008), please see our homepage, www.bundestag.de, the leaflets available at the entrances and the (Berlin) daily newspapers, or contact the Visitors' Service by telephone (cf. section II.1.); access will nevertheless be provided to the roof terrace.

The [roof garden restaurant](#) east of the dome with a view across historic Berlin is open daily from 9.00 to 16.30 hours and from 18.30 to 24.00 hours. Visitors who have already reserved a table can enter the building via the entrance below the west portal to the right (West C). Tables can be reserved by telephone on +49(0)30-22629933 or by mail: kaeferreservierung.berlin@feinkost-kaefer.de.

2. Talks on the visitors' gallery of the plenary chamber

Talks are held [on the visitors' gallery of the plenary chamber](#) of the German Bundestag during periods when parliament is not sitting.

2.1. Programme

- 45-minute talk on the functions, working methods and composition of parliament, as well as the history and architecture of the Reichstag Building, followed by a discussion
- Unaccompanied visit to the dome possible if desired

2.2. Booking

Please [book in writing](#) as early as possible due to limited availability (see section II.1.1.).

2.3. Times/Access

- Only applies to periods when parliament is not sitting (cf. section III.)
- Mon – Fri from April to Oct 9.00–18.00 hrs
(until 22.00 hrs if demand requires)
from Nov to March 9.00–17.00 hrs
- Sat, Sun and public holidays (except Good Friday, Easter Sunday, Day of National Mourning, Christmas and New Year's Eve)
from April to Oct 9.00–18.00 hrs
(until 22.00 hrs if demand requires)
from Nov to March 10.00–16.00 hrs
- Tuesdays talk for school groups 11.00 hrs
(from Nov to Feb, specifically for pupils 7th to 9th year of schooling)
talk in English 12.00 hrs
talk in French 13.00 hrs
- Wednesdays talk for school groups 11.00 hrs
(specifically for pupils in the 7th to 9th year of schooling)
- Every hour on the hour
- West portal, left entrance (West A) for "pre-booked visitors"

2.4. Tours unavailable

21 March (Good Friday), 23 March (Easter Sunday), 16 Nov (Day of National Mourning), 24–26 Dec (Christmas) and 31 Dec 2008 (New Year's Eve).



3. Visits to plenary sittings

Watch a [plenary sitting](#) of the German Bundestag “live” from the public gallery of the plenary chamber.

3.1. Programme

- Approx. 1-hour visit for visiting groups and individual visitors
- Unaccompanied visit to the dome possible if desired

3.2. Booking

Please [book in writing](#) as early as possible due to limited availability (see section II.1.1.).

3.3. Times/Access

- Only in weeks when parliament is sitting (cf. section III.)
 - Wed 13.00 – approx. 16.00 hrs
 - Thu 9.00 – approx. 22.00 hrs
 - Fri 9.00 – approx. 14.00 hrs
- West portal, left entrance (West A) for “Registered visitors”

4. Visits at the invitation of a Member of Parliament

Subject to certain restrictions, Members of the German Bundestag can invite [visiting groups](#) (at least 10 participants) to make a [study visit](#) or [visit to a plenary sitting](#). Please note that the demand for these specially funded offers usually greatly exceeds the maximum available capacity.

4.1. Programme

- **Study visit:** 45-minute talk on the functions, working methods and composition of parliament, as well as the history and architecture of the Reichstag Building; discussion with the Member of Parliament who issued the invitation; snack; group photo; unaccompanied visit to the dome if desired
- **Visit to a plenary sitting:** Approx. 1-hour visit to a plenary sitting; discussion with the Member of Parliament who invited the group; snack; group photo; unaccompanied visit to the dome if desired

4.2. Times/Access

- Study visits: cf. section I.2.3.
- Visits to plenary sittings: cf. section I.3.3.

4.3. Further information

Please address inquiries directly to the Member of Parliament who issued the invitation or his/her constituency office.

5. Guided tours

The following 90-minute tours are available during periods when parliament is not sitting (cf. section III.); max. number of participants: 25.

5.1. Tour of the Reichstag Building

- Topics: the functions, working methods and composition of parliament, as well as the history and architecture of the Reichstag Building
- Unaccompanied visit to the dome if desired
- daily, with the exception of times when Parliament is sitting and the public holidays listed under 5.6.:
 - 10.30 hrs, 13.30 hrs, 15.30 hrs, 18.30 hrs
- West portal, left entrance (West A)

5.2. Tour of the Reichstag Building for families

- For families with children from 6 to 14 years
- Talk designed for children on Parliament’s tasks, way of working and composition, as well as on the history and architecture of the Reichstag Building
- Unaccompanied visit to the dome if desired
- Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays at 10.00 hrs
- North entrance (Reichstag Building), with disabled access



5.3. Art and architecture tours

In the Reichstag Building

- Sat, Sun and public holidays 11.30 hrs
- West portal, left entrance (West A)
- Unaccompanied visit to the dome possible if desired

In the Paul Löbe Building or Jakob Kaiser Building

- Sat, Sun and public holidays 14.00 hrs, 16.00 hrs
- North entrance (Reichstag Building), with disabled access
- Unaccompanied visit to the dome possible if desired

In the Marie Elisabeth Lüders Building

- Sat, Sun and public holidays 12.00 hrs, 14.00 hrs
- North Entrance (Marie Elisabeth Lüders Building), with disabled access
(note: unaccompanied visit to the dome not without queuing time)

5.4. Tours of buildings for foreign visitors

On request, tours can be provided at various times in the following languages: Danish, English, French, Italian, Norwegian, Polish, Portuguese, Russian and Spanish. For 6 to maximum 25 participants.

5.5. Booking

Please [book in writing](#) as early as possible due to limited availability (see section II.1.1.).

5.6. Tours unavailable

21 March (Good Friday), 23 March (Easter), 16 Nov (Day of National Mourning), 23–26 Dec (Christmas), 31 Dec 2008 (New Year's Eve)

6. German Bundestag Historic Exhibition

- Title: “Milestones – Setbacks – Sidetracks, The Path to Parliamentary Democracy in Germany”
- Tours possible by prior arrangement: tel.: +49 (0)30-22730431, fax: +49 (0)30-22730438
- On request in the following languages: English, French, Italian
- Opening hours: Tuesdays to Sundays from 10.00 hrs to 18.00 hrs (19.00 hrs from May to September)
- Venue: Deutscher Dom, Gendarmenmarkt 1, 10117 Berlin-Mitte
- Current information on the exhibition and films in the Deutscher Dom can be found on the Internet at: www.bundestag.de/ausstellung/wege

7. Slide show

- Topic “Technology, energy and the story of the construction of the Reichstag Building”
- In weeks when parliament is sitting (see section III.) Wednesdays at 14.00 hrs, Thursdays at 9.00 hrs, 12.00 hrs and 15.00 hrs, Fridays at 9.00 hrs and 11.00 hrs
- No guided tour of the building, unaccompanied visit to the dome if desired
- For 10 to maximum 30 participants, duration: approx. 90 minutes
- Please [book in writing](#) as early as possible due to limited availability (see section II.1.1.).

8. Children's Days

On Children's Days (3 March, 9 June, 6 October and 1 December 2008), children aged from 6 to 14 and accompanied by at least one adult can take part from 8.00 hrs to 14.00 hrs (last entrance: 13.00 hrs) in a special children's tour of the Reichstag Building (for booking details, see section II.1.1.). We recommend that youth groups and school classes book as early as possible.

9. Role playing game for young people

Secondary-school students from the 10th year of schooling upwards can learn how the German Bundestag works by taking part in a role playing game entitled “[Experiencing Parliamentary Democracy](#)”. The programme includes a tour of the Reichstag Building and a snack. Unaccompanied visit to the dome if desired.

The role playing game takes place Mondays and Tuesdays, from 8.00 hrs to 14.30 hrs. The minimum group size is 20, maximum group size 35. Enquiries and questions about availability can be made by telephone: +49(0)30-22732013.





II. We're glad to be of assistance!

1. Booking/Information

No charge is made for the services provided by the Visitors' Service of the German Bundestag.

1.1. Booking

If you are interested in one of the visitors' services provided at the German Bundestag, please send a letter to the following address:

Deutscher Bundestag
 – Besucherdienst –
 Platz der Republik 1
 11011 Berlin

or, send a fax: +49(0)30-22 73 00 27

or, send an e-mail to: besucherdienst@bundestag.de

Information required

- The date and time when you wish to visit the Bundestag, the number of visitors and the service you are interested in
- Please give 1 to 3 alternative dates, in case it is not possible for your visit to take place on your preferred date
- Postal address, telephone number and/or e-mail address

Please note

On account of high levels of demand and limited capacity, we are unable to meet all requests. Short-term bookings for talks at weekends can only be processed if they are received at the latest on the Thursday before the proposed date.

1.2. Information

Further information can be found at www.bundestag.de (English version).

2. General information

- The minimum age for groups for all the tours and talks is 15 years – except for visits to the roof terrace and dome, tours for families and children's days.
- Disabled visitors with disabled ID, elderly or frail persons, parents with prams or buggies and visitors who have reserved a table at the roof garden restaurant are allowed access via the entrance below the West portal to the right (West C).
- For security reasons large pieces of luggage may not be taken into the Reichstag Building. No storage facilities are available on site.
- Bags, coats, etc. are subject to an x-ray examination and visitors checked with metal detectors in the entrance area.
- The German Bundestag reserves the right to alter all arrangements at short notice. Signs will be posted to announce any alterations made.

3. Information material

All visitors are free to take the information material on the German Bundestag provided in the entrance area at the west portal and in the cloakrooms on the visitors' gallery of the Reichstag Building. Alternatively, it can be obtained in writing from:

Deutscher Bundestag
 – Öffentlichkeitsarbeit –
 Platz der Republik 1
 11011 Berlin

or by fax: +49(0)30-22 73 62 00

Information material can also be ordered online at:

www.bundestag.de



III. Timetable of plenary sittings of the German Bundestag 2008

January	14/1-18/1, 21/1-25/1
February	11/2-15/2, 18/2-22/2
March	3/3-7/3, 10/3-14/3
April	7/4-11/4, 21/4-25/4
May	5/5-9/5, 26/5-30/5
June	2/6-6/6, 16/6-20/6, 23/6-27/6
September	15/9-19/9, 22/9-26/9
October	13/10-17/10
November	10/11-14/11, 24/11-28/11
December	1/12-5/12, 15/12-19/12

Plenary days are Wednesday 13.00 to approx. 16.00 hrs, Thursday 9.00 to approx. 22.00 hrs, Friday 9.00 to approx. 14.00 hrs.

Information for those who have not booked in advance:

During the winter months in particular, you can ask at the West portal, left entrance (West A) – the entrance for pre-booked groups – whether any places are still available to watch a plenary sitting or attend a talk on the visitors' gallery of the plenary chamber, or take part in a tour of one of the buildings.



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