



Deutscher Bundestag

## Visiting the German Bundestag

Information on services for visiting groups  
and individuals for the year 2010





Services for visiting groups  
and individuals

## **A visit to the roof terrace and dome of the Reichstag Building with a view of the parliamentary and government district**

The roof terrace and dome of the Reichstag Building are open from 08.00 hrs to midnight daily (last admission: 22.00 hrs). Please use the right entrance of the West Portal (West B).

No advance bookings or reservations are taken; please bear in mind that you may face a long wait, particularly during peak tourist periods.

The dome and the roof terrace will be closed all day on 24 December, and from 16.00 hrs on 31 December. In addition, the dome will be closed to visitors from 8 to 12 March, from 26 to 30 July and from 18 to 22 October to allow cleaning work to be carried out. The roof terrace can still be visited at times when the dome is closed.

For information about additional closures of the dome, please consult our website, [www.bundestag.de](http://www.bundestag.de), the signs at the entrances, or contact the Visitors' Service by telephone:

■ +49 (0)30 227-32152 and +49 (0)30 227-35908



## **Audioguide to the dome of the Reichstag Building**

In the course of 20 minutes, your personal guide to the dome will share with you all the most important facts about the Reichstag Building and its surroundings, the German Bundestag, the work of Parliament, and the sights you can see during your 230-metre-long ascent and descent. The easy-to-use audioguides, which you can obtain on the roof terrace, are available in ten languages: German, English, French, Spanish, Italian, Portuguese, Polish, Russian, Turkish and Dutch. From spring 2010 onwards, special audioguides will also be available for children and for people with disabilities.

The audioguide is not available when the dome is closed.

## **The rooftop restaurant**

The rooftop restaurant east of the dome is open daily from 09.00 to 16.30 hrs and from 18.30 hrs to midnight. Visitors who have already reserved a table can reach the rooftop restaurant via the entrance below and to the right of the West Portal (West C). Tables can be reserved by calling +49 (0)30 226-29933 or sending an email to: [kaeferreservierung.berlin@feinkostkaefer.de](mailto:kaeferreservierung.berlin@feinkostkaefer.de).



## **Lectures on the visitors' gallery of the plenary chamber**

Lectures are available on the visitors' gallery of the plenary chamber. In these 45-minute lectures you will learn important facts about the functions, working methods and composition of Parliament, as well as the history and architecture of the Reichstag Building. Lectures begin every hour on the hour. Following the lecture, you will have an opportunity to visit the dome.

As we can only offer a limited number of places, we request that you book in writing.



Lectures on the visitors' gallery of the plenary chamber are only available when Parliament is not sitting (see p. 21):

Monday to Friday

■ from April to October: 09.00 to 18.00 hrs  
(until 22.00 hrs if required)

■ from November to March: 09.00 to 17.00 hrs

Saturday, Sunday and public holidays

■ from April to October: 09.00 to 18.00 hrs  
(until 22.00 hrs if required)

■ from November to March: 10.00 to 16.00 hrs

Tuesdays: lectures in foreign languages

■ English: 12.00 hrs

■ French: 13.00 hrs

Wednesdays: lectures for school groups

■ Lower-secondary school pupils (specifically for pupils in the 7th to 9th year of schooling): 11.00 hrs

Please use the entrance on the left side of the West Portal (West A), labelled "Angemeldete Besucher" (registered visitors).

*Lectures are not available on the following public holidays:*

2 April (Good Friday), 4 April (Easter Sunday), 14 November (Day of National Mourning), 24 to 26 December (Christmas) and 31 December (New Year's Eve).



## Visits to plenary sittings

Watch a plenary sitting of the German Bundestag “live” from the public gallery of the plenary chamber. You will spend around an hour watching a Bundestag debate. Afterwards, you will have an opportunity to visit the dome.

As we can only offer a limited number of places, please book in writing well in advance. Information on how to do this can be found in the section “We’re glad to be of assistance!”.

Visits to plenary sittings are only possible in weeks when Parliament is sitting, at the following times (see p. 21):

- Wednesdays from 13.00 to approx. 16.00 hrs
- Thursdays from 09.00 to approx. 22.00 hrs
- Fridays from 09.00 to approx. 14.00 hrs

The visitors’ galleries can be reached via the West Portal, left entrance (West A).





## Visits at the invitation of a Member of Parliament

Members of the German Bundestag can invite visiting groups (with a minimum of 10 participants) for a *study visit* or a *visit to a plenary sitting*. Please note that the demand for these specially funded offers usually greatly exceeds the number of places available.

A *study visit* includes a 45-minute lecture on the functions, working methods and composition of Parliament, as well as the history and architecture of the Reichstag Building; a discussion with the Member of Parliament who invited the group; a snack and a group photo. You will then have an opportunity to visit the dome.

A *visit to a plenary sitting* lasts approximately an hour. It is followed by a discussion with the Member of Parliament who invited the group, a snack and a group photo. You will then have an opportunity to visit the dome.



## **Guided tours**

Various 90-minute tours are available when Parliament is not sitting (see p. 21). Participant numbers are limited to a maximum of 25 people. As places are limited, we request that you book in writing well in advance. Information on how to do this can be found on p. 16.

### **Guided tour of the Reichstag Building**

We offer guided tours explaining the functions, working methods and composition of Parliament, as well as the history and architecture of the Reichstag Building. Afterwards you will have an opportunity to visit the dome. Guided tours of the Reichstag Building are held in weeks when Parliament is not sitting:

- Daily at 10.30 hrs, 13.30 hrs, 15.30 hrs, 18.30 hrs
- Please use the left entrance of the West Portal.

### **Tour of the Reichstag Building for families**

For families with children aged six to 14, we offer tours designed for children about Parliament's tasks, working methods and composition, as well as on the history and architecture of the Reichstag Building. You will then have an opportunity to visit the dome. Guided tours for families are held:

- Saturdays at 10.00 hrs, 12.30 hrs and 14.30 hrs
- Sundays and certain public holidays at 10.00 hrs and 12.30 hrs

Please use the North Entrance.



## **Art and architecture tours of the Reichstag Building**

■ Saturdays, Sundays and certain public holidays at 11.30 hrs

Please use the left entrance of the West Portal. Following the tour, you will have an opportunity to visit the dome.

## **Art and architecture tours of the Paul Löbe Building or the Jakob Kaiser Building**

■ Saturdays, Sundays and on certain public holidays at 14.00 hrs and 16.00 hrs

Please use the North Entrance of the Reichstag Building. Following the tour, you will have an opportunity to visit the dome.

## **Art and architecture tours of the Marie-Elisabeth Lüders Building**

■ Saturdays, Sundays and on certain public holidays at 12.00 hrs and 14.00 hrs

Please use the North Entrance of the Marie-Elisabeth Lüders Building. Following the tour, you will have an opportunity to visit the dome; however, you should bear in mind that waiting times are likely.

## **Guided tours for groups of foreign visitors**

On request, tours can be held for groups with a minimum of 6 and a maximum of 25 participants in the following languages: Danish, English, French, Italian, Norwegian, Polish, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish.

*No tours are held on the following public holidays:* 2 April (Good Friday), 4 April (Easter Sunday), 14 November (Day of National Mourning), 23 to 26 December (Christmas) and 31 December (New Year's Eve).

## Children's Days

On Children's Days (11 January, 1 March, 17 May, 13 September, 29 November, 20 December 2010), school classes or groups of children aged from six to 14 and accompanied by at least one adult can take part from 08.00 hrs to 14.00 hrs (last entrance: 13.00 hrs) in a special children's tour of the Reichstag Building. On request, children's tours can also be organised on alternative dates for school classes or groups with children. Please book well in advance.

## Role-playing game for young people

Secondary-school pupils 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, a snack, and an opportunity to visit the dome. The role-playing game takes place Mondays and Tuesdays, from 08.00 hrs to 14.30 hrs. The minimum group size is 20, the maximum 35. Details can be obtained by calling +49 (0)30 227-32013 or visiting [http://www.bundestag.de/htdocs\\_e/visits/besgrupp/kindjug.html](http://www.bundestag.de/htdocs_e/visits/besgrupp/kindjug.html)

Please book in writing:

■ Email: [planspiel@bundestag.de](mailto:planspiel@bundestag.de)

■ Fax: +49 (0)30 227-36101

■ Post: Deutscher Bundestag, Besucherdienst, Platz der Republik 1, 11011 Berlin; please label your letter with the word "Planspiel".



## The German Bundestag's historical exhibition

In the Deutscher Dom on Gendarmenmarkt, you can visit the German Bundestag's exhibition on parliamentary history entitled "Milestones – Setbacks – Sidetracks". On a total of five floor levels, the exhibition traces the historical development of the parliamentary system in Germany.

We offer:

- 90-minute tours for pre-booked groups of between 10 and 50 participants;
- 30-minute tours for individuals on a selection of topics covered in the exhibition;
- Tours in English, French or Italian on request.

The exhibition is open Tuesdays to Sundays from 10.00 to 18.00 hrs (19.00 hrs from May to September). Information about the exhibition can be found online at [http://www.bundestag.de/htdocs\\_e/visits/besgrupp/histaust.html](http://www.bundestag.de/htdocs_e/visits/besgrupp/histaust.html)

- Deutscher Dom, Gendarmenmarkt 1, 10117 Berlin

How to get there:

*U-Bahn (underground):* U2, U6 Stadtmitte; U2 Hausvogteiplatz; U6 Französische Str.

*Bus:* 147 U Französische Str.; 347 Jerusalemer Str.; 147 Werderscher Markt; TXL Unter den Linden/Friedrichstr.





We're glad to be of assistance!

The services offered by the Visitors' Service of the German Bundestag are free of charge.

## Booking

If you are interested in one or more of our services for visitors, please contact us:

- Deutscher Bundestag (Besucherdienst)  
Platz der Republik 1, 11011 Berlin
- Fax: +49 (0)30 227-30027
- Email: [besucherdienst@bundestag.de](mailto:besucherdienst@bundestag.de)

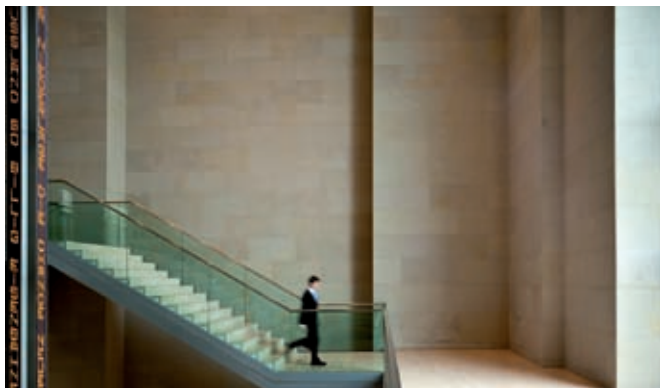
*How to book one of our services:* Please let us know the date and time when you would like to visit the Bundestag, as well as the number of visitors and the service you are interested in. Please also list one to three alternative dates/times, as we cannot always fulfil every request. Don't forget to include your address and your telephone number.

*Please note:* Given the high level of demand and limited capacity, we are unable to meet all requests. Bookings at short notice for lectures at weekends can only be processed if they are received at the latest on the Thursday before the requested date.

## Enquiries

If you have any questions regarding the services we offer, please contact us by telephone:

- +49 (0)30 227-32152 or +49 (0)30 227-35908.





## General information

The minimum age for participants in any of the services for groups is 15 years. This does not apply to visits to the roof terrace and dome, lectures for school groups, tours for families or children's days.

People with disabilities, elderly or frail visitors, parents with prams and visitors who have reserved a table in the rooftop restaurant are allowed access via the entrance below and to the right of the West Portal (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 and other items are subject to an X-ray examination and visitors are checked with metal detectors in the entrance area.

We reserve the right to alter all arrangements at short notice. Signs will be posted to announce any alterations made.



## Information for people with disabilities

The German Bundestag is accessible for people with disabilities. The Reichstag Building can be accessed by wheelchair users via ramps and also via the “Disabled Entrance” (West C). The exhibition on parliamentary history in the Deutscher Dom is also accessible. Wheelchairs are available on loan if required. Induction loops assist visitors with a hearing impairment in hearing plenary debates and lectures on the visitors’ galleries. For deaf visitors in groups of at least ten people, sign language interpreters can be provided – provided this is requested in writing well in advance. Assistance for people with a visual impairment and blind people is provided in the form of Braille labels and audio floor notifications in the lifts. A tactile model of the Reichstag Building and a tactile diagram of the plenary chamber and dome, as well as a tactile model of the parliamentary and government district, enable blind and visually impaired guests to explore the forums of German democracy.

On request, special tours can be held for blind and visually impaired people in groups with a minimum of ten guests.



## **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' level of the Reichstag Building. Alternatively, it can be ordered in writing from:

Deutscher Bundestag  
Öffentlichkeitsarbeit  
Platz der Republik 1  
11011 Berlin  
or by fax:  
+49 (0)30 227-36200

Further information is also available online at:  
[www.bundestag.de](http://www.bundestag.de)



Sitting weeks  
of the German Bundestag 2010

- January 18.1 – 22.1 / 25.1 – 29.1
- February 8.2 – 10.2 / 22.2 – 26.2
- March 1.3 – 5.3 / 15.3 – 19.3 / 22.3 – 26.3
- April 19.4 – 23.4
- May 3.5 – 7.5 / 17.5 – 21.5
- June 7.6 – 11.6 / 14.6 – 18.6 / 28.6 – 30.6
- July 1.7 – 2.7 / 5.7 – 9.7
- September 13.9 – 17.9 / 27.9 – 30.9
- October 1.10 / 4.10 – 8.10 / 25.10 – 29.10
- November 8.11 – 12.11 / 22.11 – 26.11 / 29.11 – 30.11
- December 1.12 – 3.12 / 13.12 – 17.12

In weeks when Parliament is sitting, plenary sittings take place:

- Wednesdays from 13.00 to approx. 16.00 hrs,
- Thursdays from 09.00 to approx. 22.00 hrs and
- Fridays from 09.00 to approx. 14.00 hrs.

At these times, *no tours or lectures* are offered.

### **Information for those who have not booked in advance**

During the winter months in particular, you can ask at the West Portal of the Reichstag Building, left entrance (West A) – labelled “angemeldete Besucher” (registered visitors) – whether any places are still available to watch a plenary sitting or attend a lecture on the visitors’ gallery of the plenary chamber, or take part in a tour.

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