



Deutscher Bundestag

## Visiting the German Bundestag

Information on services for visiting groups  
and individuals for the year 2015





# Services for visiting groups and individuals

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

## **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 8.00 hrs to midnight daily (last admission: 22.00 hrs). In order to visit the roof terrace and dome, you must *register in advance*.

The online registration form can be found at the following address: [www.bundestag.de/htdocs\\_e/visits](http://www.bundestag.de/htdocs_e/visits). We regret that it is not possible to register by telephone.

Visitors who have not booked in advance can, if free places are still available, register to visit with just two hours' advance notice by going to the service centre on the south side of Scheidemannstraße, next to the Berlin Pavilion. The service centre is open from 8.00 to 18.00 hrs in the winter (1 November to 31 March), and from 8.00 to 20.00 hrs in the summer (1 April to 31 October).

The roof terrace and the dome are closed all day on 24 December and from 16.00 hrs onwards on 31 December. In addition, the dome is closed to visitors from 9 to 13 March, from 6 to 10 July, from 20 to 24 July and from 19 to 23 October 2015 to allow cleaning and maintenance work to be carried out. The roof terrace can still be visited 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 on +49 30 227-32152 or +49 30 227-35908 during the following hours: Monday: 9.00 to 15.00 hrs, Tuesday to Thursday: 9.00 to 16.00 hrs, Friday: 9.00 to 13:30 hrs.

### **Please note:**

*Parliamentary business, weather conditions and the security situation all affect whether visits to the dome can go ahead. We are therefore unable to guarantee that you will be able to visit the dome. It is sometimes necessary to cancel a visit to the dome at the last minute, even if the visit has been confirmed in advance. Unfortunately, it is impossible for us to notify you of last-minute cancellations by email, telephone or fax.*

### **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 eleven languages: Dutch, English, French, German, Italian, Polish, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, Turkish and Chinese. Versions of the audioguide designed for children and for blind people are available (in German), as well as an audioguide in simple German and a video guide for deaf visitors. The audioguide is not available when the dome is closed.

### **The rooftop restaurant**

The rooftop restaurant east of the dome is open daily from 9.00 to 16.30 hrs and from 18.30 hrs to midnight. Tables can be reserved by calling +49 30 226-29933 or sending an email to: [berlin@feinkost-kaefer.de](mailto:berlin@feinkost-kaefer.de).



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

Lectures are available in the visitors' gallery overlooking 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. In principle (see note on p. 4), you will have an opportunity to visit the dome following the lecture.

As we can only offer a limited number of places, we request that you book in writing. Information on how to do this can be found in the section "We're glad to be of assistance!".



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

Monday to Friday

■ from April to October: 9.00 to 18.00 hrs  
(until 22.00 hrs if required)

■ from November to March: 9.00 to 17.00 hrs

Saturday, Sunday and public holidays

■ from April to October: 9.00 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: 11.00 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

*Lectures are not available on the following days:*

3 April (Good Friday), 5 April (Easter Sunday),

15 November (Day of National Mourning),

23 to 26 December (Christmas) and 31 December

(New Year's Eve).



## Visits to plenary sittings

Watch a plenary sitting of the German Bundestag from the public gallery of the plenary chamber.

You will spend around an hour watching a Bundestag debate. (Please note that interpretation is not provided.) In principle (see note on p. 4), you will then 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 (see p. 21), at the following times:

- Wednesdays from 13.00 to approx. 16.00 hrs
- Thursdays from 9.00 to approx. 22.00 hrs
- Fridays from 9.00 to approx. 14.00 hrs





## 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 *visit to a plenary sitting* or a *study visit*. Please note that the demand for these specially funded offers usually greatly exceeds the number of places available.

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. In principle (see note on p. 4), you will then have an opportunity to visit the dome.

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, followed by a discussion with the Member of Parliament who invited the group, a snack and a group photo. In principle (see note on p. 4), you will then have an opportunity to visit the dome.

Facing page:  
The Bundestag's constituent sitting in the 18th electoral term on 22 October 2013. You can watch a plenary sitting live from the visitors' galleries.



## 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. In principle (see note on p. 4), you will then have an opportunity to visit the dome.

■ Daily at 10.30 hrs, 13.30 hrs, 15.30 hrs and 18.30 hrs (in German)

### Guided tour focusing on parliamentary history

At locations with special historical significance in the Reichstag Building, you will learn interesting details about the history of the building and the development of parliamentarianism in Germany from its beginnings to the present day. (Recommended for visitors aged 15 and over.) In principle (see note on p. 4), you will then have an opportunity to visit the dome.

■ Daily at 9.00 hrs, 10.30 hrs, 12.00 hrs, 13.30 hrs and 15.00 hrs (in German)



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

For families with children aged five 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. In principle (see note on p. 4), you will then have an opportunity to visit the dome.

■ Saturdays, Sundays and certain public holidays at 10.00 hrs, 12.30 hrs and 14.30 hrs (in German)

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

■ Saturdays, Sundays and certain public holidays at 11.30 hrs (in German)

In principle (see note on p. 4), you will then have an opportunity to visit the dome.

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

■ Saturdays, Sundays and certain public holidays at 14.00 hrs for the Paul Löbe Building and 16.00 hrs for the Jakob Kaiser Building (in German)

In principle (see note on p. 4), you will have an opportunity to visit the dome following the tour.

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

On request, tours can be held for groups with a minimum of 6 participants in Danish, English, French, Italian, Norwegian, Polish, Russian and Spanish – and, of course, in German.

*No tours are held on the following days:*

3 April (Good Friday), 5 April (Easter Sunday),  
15 November (Day of National Mourning),  
23 to 26 December (Christmas) and 31 December  
(New Year's Eve).

## Children's Days

On Children's Days (16 March, 18 May, 21 September, 9 November and 14 December), school classes or groups of children aged from five to 14 and accompanied by at least one adult can take part in a special children's tour of the Reichstag Building between 9.00 hrs and 14.00 hrs (last admission: 13.00 hrs). On request, children's tours can also be organised on alternative dates for school classes or groups of children, up to a maximum of 25 children. Please book well in advance by sending an email to [kindertag@bundestag.de](mailto:kindertag@bundestag.de).

## Role-playing game for young people

Secondary-school pupils from the 10th year of schooling upwards can learn how the German Bundestag works by playing the part of a Member of Parliament in a role-playing game entitled "Experiencing Parliamentary Democracy". The programme includes a tour of the Reichstag Building, lunch and, in principle (see note on p. 4), an opportunity to visit the dome. The role-playing game takes place on Mondays and Tuesdays, from 8.00 hrs to 14.30 hrs. The minimum group size is 25, the maximum 45. Details can be obtained by calling +49 30 227-32013 or visiting [www.bundestag.de/htdocs\\_e/visits/besgrupp/kindjug.html](http://www.bundestag.de/htdocs_e/visits/besgrupp/kindjug.html) or [www.bundestag.de/planspiel](http://www.bundestag.de/planspiel). Please book in writing:  
■ Email: [planspiel@bundestag.de](mailto:planspiel@bundestag.de)



## **The German Bundestag's exhibition on parliamentary history**

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 (beginning every 30 minutes between 11.00 and 17.00 hrs);
- Tours in English, French or Italian on request.

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

- Deutscher Dom, Gendarmenmarkt 1, 10117 Berlin
- Email: [historischeausstellung@bundestag.de](mailto:historischeausstellung@bundestag.de)

How to get there:

*U-Bahn (underground):* U2, U6 Stadtmitte;

U6 Französische Straße

*Bus:* 147 U Stadtmitte; TXL Unter den Linden/  
Friedrichstraße





DEM DEUTSCHEN VOLKE

We're glad to be of assistance!

## 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 30 227-30027

■ Website: [www.bundestag.de/htdocs\\_e/visits](http://www.bundestag.de/htdocs_e/visits)

*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:

■ Tel.: +49 30 227-32152 or +49 30 227-35908

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





## 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.

For security reasons, large pieces of luggage may not be taken into the Reichstag Building. No storage facilities are available on site.

At the central entrance for visitors on Scheidemannstraße (near the West Portal of the Reichstag Building), visitors will be asked to provide proof of identity and will be checked with metal detectors, while bags, coats and other items will be subject to an X-ray examination.

A visit to the German Bundestag is only possible if the following information is provided for all visitors: last name, first name and date of birth. The Visitors' Service provides a List of Visitors form for this purpose; when completing it for a group, please list visitors alphabetically by last name. When registering online at [www.bundestag.de/htdocs\\_e/visits](http://www.bundestag.de/htdocs_e/visits), you will need to provide this information for each visitor when you submit your request to allow it to be processed.

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

A version of the audioguide designed for blind people (with audio description and tactile resources) and a video guide for deaf visitors are available. There is also an audioguide in simple German.



## **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 at 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 30 227-36200

Further information is also available online at:

■ [www.bundestag.de](http://www.bundestag.de)



Sitting weeks  
of the German Bundestag 2015

- January 12.1–16.1 / 26.1–30.1
- February 2.2–6.2 / 23.2–27.2
- March 2.3–6.3 / 16.3–20.3 / 23.3–27.3
- April 20.4–24.4
- May 4.5–8.5 / 18.5–22.5
- June 8.6–12.6 / 15.6–19.6 / 29.6–3.7
- July and August: No sittings
- September 7.9–11.9 / 21.9–25.9 / 28.9–2.10
- October 12.10–16.10
- November 2.11–6.11 / 9.11–13.11 / 23.11–27.11 / 30.11–4.12
- December 14.12–18.12

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

- Wednesdays from 13.00 to approx. 16.00 hrs
- Thursdays from 9.00 to approx. 22.00 hrs
- Fridays from 9.00 to approx. 14.00 hrs

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

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