

STREET FESTIVAL INFORMATION

OCCASION & MOTTO

28 years of division – 28 years of unity

For 28 years, the Berlin Wall divided Berlin into East and West – for 28 years, Berlin and Germany have been reunited. The “intermediate period” between the fall of the Berlin Wall and full reunification lasted just under eleven months. A time that remains one of the most historic and politically exciting, but also (given its far-reaching consequences) one of the most socially influential periods in German and European history.

The Berlin Wall, erected in Berlin in 1961, turned West Berlin into an island and literally cemented the division of Germany. It also became a worldwide symbol of division. The spontaneous end of East Germany (most visibly manifested in the fall of the Berlin Wall on the 9th of November 1989) laid the foundation of a process that culminated in German unity on the 3rd of October 1990 – a unique historic process that was neither predicted nor planned. The genesis of 3rd October 1990, when East Germany entered the constitutional domain of West Germany, is a peaceful one. Germany’s reunification was preceded by a peaceful revolution; it is also the result of a peaceful, international negotiation process and would have been neither explainable nor even possible outside of this context. The subsequent social process of growing together has not yet been completed, even after 28 years of German unity. This story can only be told in Berlin.

A shared present and future

This is the basis for our endeavour to examine the achievements of the past 28 years and the associated challenges that our society faces today. One look at the current news is enough to conclude that nationalisms long thought overcome are now flourishing, that a globalised economy and a society that is better and more internationally networked than ever before faces political recourse to an “us first!” mentality, ethnic or religious conflicts, and national egoisms. While fear of the unknown might be an understandable driving force of human action, the use of a political “Without You!” it is not. The history of German unity shows that overcoming social and political fears – with all its associated difficulties, challenges and uncertainties – is profitable, reinforcing and promising for the future over the long term. It might take 28 years or more, but a look back at 28 years of German unity shows that it only works from a socially inclusive standpoint, only internationally, only with you.

Motto: NUR MIT EUCH (Only with you)

Thus, NUR MIT EUCH (Only with you) is the motto for the celebration surrounding the 2018 Day of German Unity in Berlin. This also includes seeing Day of German Unity guests as more than mere visitors; they are also direct participants and co-creators who themselves contribute to the festivities’ design and implementation in a participatory process. The element of participation extends through all areas and is constitutive for the entire public celebration. It only works with you – nationally and internationally. Given the political situation in 2018 and in light of sometimes precarious European unity, NUR MIT EUCH (Only with you) can be more than a motto – it is a model that can be carried into the future.

BERLIN AS HOST

Berlin, Berlin, we are celebrating in Berlin!

Wherever it says Berlin, Berlin has to be inside: The capital represents **history, creative culture, sport and innovation**. Additionally, the growing attractiveness of **the bar and restaurant scene** is drawing more and more tourists to the Spree. This brand should be communicated through the partners involved, the staging and the programme itself. A form of **Berlin's authenticity**, it embodies the aspirations set forth with the motto NUR MIT EUCH (Only with you) since the planning, implementation and content communication only works in a participatory process. The celebration has to do justice to the occasion with both the choice of locations and the programmes offered; they should always relate to the content of the occasion and aspirations of the celebration.

Berlin is calling

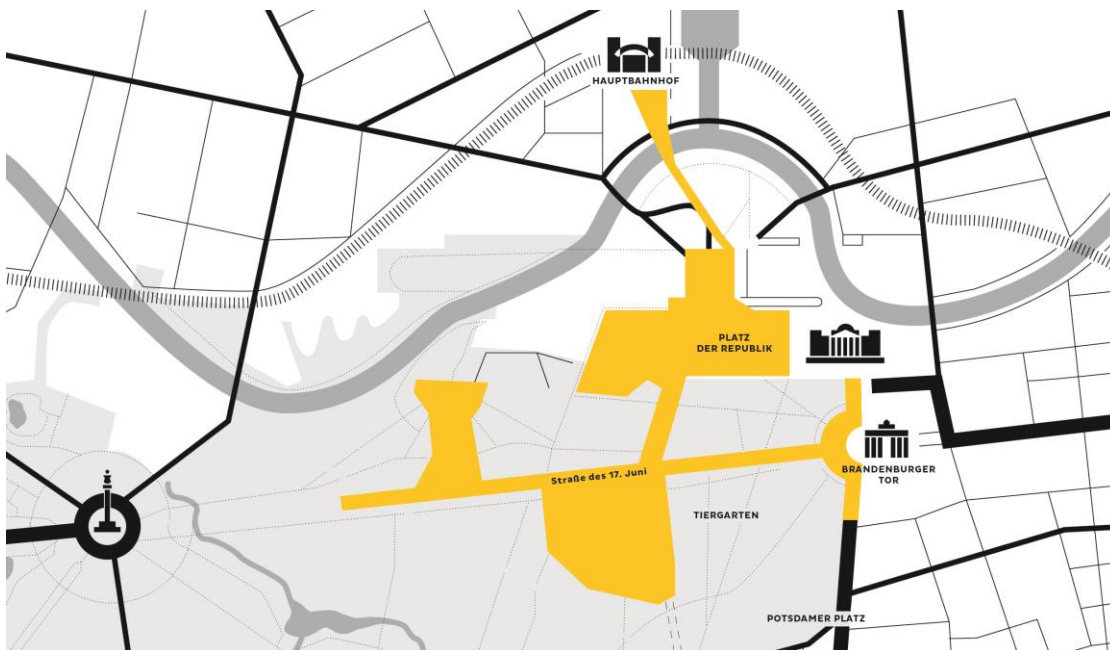
People from Berlin, Germany, Europe and around the world will be celebrating freedom, diversity and democracy together from the **1st to 3rd of October**. In this same spirit, Berlin will host a three-day celebration that will use history as an opportunity to examine the state of unity after 28 years and to present ideas for the future. At the same time, creativity and tolerance should reflect the **character of the city**. **Located at historical sites** of division and unity, the public celebration and the occasion itself will take on new significance and garner widespread attention. A three-day programme put on with many **hundreds of partners** will encourage participation and appeal to everyone. A number of these partners are **small and voluntary projects, associations and initiatives** that—though often invisible at first glance—are essential for society and democracy.

Location

Berlin as host offers a unique opportunity to rediscover the importance of the Day of German Unity. A festival area will be set up in the city centre with the Platz der Republik at its core. It will extend between the main train station (Hauptbahnhof) and Potsdamer Platz throughout the Tiergarten and **around the Reichstag and Brandenburg Gate**. Historic sites and landmarks, such as the Soviet War Memorial, the Brandenburg Gate and Platz des 18. März, will be integrated into the grounds to emphasise the occasion and reinforce the aspirations of the public celebration. The connecting element will be **a gallery, the "Einheitsband"**, showing the names of all German communities – more than 11,000. As a symbol for German unity, it spans hundreds of meters across the festival area. The gallery expresses German unity as well as the diversity of Germany in a simple yet appealing way. Thus, both the festival grounds and the programme offerings become part of **a journey of discovery throughout Berlin, Germany and Europe** – past, present and future.

Ceremonial activities

The ceremonial activities of the Day of German Unity start on the 3rd of October with **an entry in the city's golden book at the Säulensaal inside the Rotes Rathaus**. Afterwards, an **ecumenical service** will be held at the Berliner Dom (Berlin Cathedral), which will be shown live on German television (ZDF). Later, the **Festakt at the Staatsoper Unter den Linden** will be followed by a reception with the President of Germany. At this event, the handover for the next President of the Federal Council will take place. At the end of the official ceremony, the Governing Mayor of Berlin, Michael Müller, will pass the symbolic baton to his designated successor Daniel Günther, Minister President of Schleswig-Holstein.



THE STREET FESTIVAL IN DETAIL

At the heart of democracy – Presentation of the Federation and Federal States

The festival grounds are located around the **Platz der Republik**, site of Germany's reunification on the 3rd of October 1990, where **all 16 German federal states, the so-called Zipfelbund** (the four communities at Germany's furthestmost cardinal compass points) and **Germany's constitutional organs, including the German Bundestag, Bundesregierung** (Federal Government) and **Bundesrat** (Federal Council), will be presented together. This close cooperation between the states, communities and constitutional bodies offers a unique opportunity for a **little journey through German democracy** in the heart of the capital. Here, visitors can peer over the shoulders of politicians as though at a kind of condensed open house of Germany's governing bodies

In the footsteps of history – Historical & Cultural Remembrances

In light of its own division, the city of Berlin has a special significance in the context of unity. This will be emphasised at the public celebration with a Berlin-specific area **addressing historical and cultural remembrances**. Through this, it will become clear why the Day of German Unity is celebrated and how the processes of the past 28 years directly affect our present-day lives in Germany and Europe. This unique history of unity will be presented directly in front of the Soviet Memorial on the **Straße des 17. Juni** in cooperation with numerous partners, **foundations, initiatives, museums and institutions**. Together, they will

examine, discuss and demonstrate the state of unity after 28 years within the context of social challenges for the future. An **exhibition** about the “intermediate period” between the fall of the Berlin Wall and unity will shed light on Berlin’s special role. Partners include the Deutsches Historisches Museum (German Historical Museum), the Spionagemuseum (German Spy Museum), the Stiftung zur Aufarbeitung der SED-Diktatur (Federal Foundation for the Study of Communist Dictatorship in East Germany), the Bundeszentrale für politische Bildung (Federal Agency for Civic Education), the Robert-Havemann-Gesellschaft (Robert Havemann Society), the Stiftung Berliner Mauer (Berlin Wall Foundation) and many more.

City of the future – Innovation

German unity not only allowed two previously divided parts of the city to grow together; the **open spaces** it created – both physically and in the minds of its people – provided the historical basis for a **restart**. Berlin has been reinventing itself for 28 years and has become an innovation and start-up metropolis in Europe. Like the Berlin cityscape itself, decentralised offerings focused on innovation will be integrated into all areas of the public celebration across the entire festival grounds. A varied programme will give visitors the chance to get to know **social and technical innovations created in Berlin**, try them out and to contribute to their future.

Start small, hit it big – Children & Family

Children are the innovative minds of the future, and the public celebration will offer them plenty of opportunities to try things out. The basis for all planning is to design a **sustainable, children- and family-friendly area** that harmoniously fits into the Tiergarten. The most important topics are **integration, inclusion and cultural education**. Working in tandem with S27 – Kunst und Bildung (S27 – Art and Education), an experienced Berlin partner in the field of intercultural youth work, the public celebration offers a programme focused on integration and action.

The successful “Weltstadt” (World City) exhibition will also be presented in cooperation with S27: a walkable urban landscape that reflects the memory and future imaginings of young refugees in model form will be on display again for the Day of German Unity 2018.

Always on the move – Sport

Berlin is sport. As an Olympic Games host city and base, one of the most sought after venues in the world and a technical pioneer in the sports sector, the capital is a **unique sports metropolis**. More than 800,000 people are organised in sports clubs; the city is home to six professional clubs and hundreds of teams playing every kind of sport imaginable. Sport is a significant economic factor and provides important social impulses for **inclusion and diversity**. Together with the Senatsverwaltung für Inneres und Sport (Senate Department for the Interior and Sport), **clubs, athletes, associations and initiatives** in this context will represent the great diversity of Berlin as a sport metropolis and encourage visitors to participate. Sponsors enable charitable and smaller projects to participate as well. A javelin throwing simulator, various trendy sports, a BMX court and historic sports equipment, as well as numerous other offerings, provide a chance to join in and try it out. The sport campus, which stretches over a section of Straße des 17. Juni, also provides a glimpse at the future Berliner Sportmuseum (Berlin Sport Museum).

Culture capital – Culture & Programmes

Art and culture are Berlin's calling card. Berlin's art and culture have a unique appeal that extends far beyond Germany. The public celebration should take this into account: Not only will there be a **main stage** at the Brandenburg Gate, but the entire grounds will feature art and performances of various kinds. Greats and less well-known players from the fields of **art, music and theatre** will present their works at the public celebration. The **musical programme** aims to bring the city's incomparable cultural offerings in all their diversity to a crowd as colourful and varied as the music itself, with an attractive range of sounds from karaoke ("Mauerpark-Karaoke") and street music to classical music. Aware of visitors' different interests, broadcaster and official programme partner Rundfunk Berlin-Brandenburg (rbb) will be providing a stage entertainment programme and reporting live from the public celebration via its television channel rbb-Fernsehen and various radio stations. Hitting the stage – or rather moving from the theatre stage to the public celebration – is the production "Grundgesetz" ("Basic constitutional law") by Polish director Marta Górnicka, which will be staged in cooperation with Maxim Gorki Theatre. It is a powerful statement for something that binds a society and transcends all party lines, political or religious views, gender and origin: the constitution. The concluding highlight will be a **large Unity Concert** at the Brandenburg Gate, which is being designed by Peace x Peace Festival initiators Fetsum Sebhat & Teddy Tewelde along with independent music curator Björn Döring.

Supporters

To do justice to the aspirations described – a considered combination of the occasion, motto and Berlin authenticity – we need support from **important social actors**. Apart from the partners, which develop and implement the programmes with and for the visitors, the street festival projects have been realised in close collaboration with companies that serve as the backbone of Germany's **economic performance** and **contribute to a stable democracy**, including H&M, Berliner Sparkasse and Gasag, Deutsche Bahn and other partners. These projects enrich the Day of German Unity both communicatively and tangibly on site in the festival area.

Angela Gallenz, HR Manager H&M Deutschland:

“We are looking forward to enter into this partnership with Berlin. This melting pot of different cultures, lifestyles and all kind of human beings is a perfect match for H&M, as this diversity and inclusion is an established part of our culture.”

Dr Johannes Evers, CEO Berliner Sparkasse:

“The Day of German Unity is on two counts an important event for us: The end of the separation of Germany and Berlin also brought about the reunification of Sparkasse in the western part and in the eastern part.”

Dr Gerhard Holtmeier, CEO GASAG:

“Under the motto NUR MIT EUCH, Berlin invites the whole republic to celebrate together the 3rd of October in the capital of Germany. As a modern energy supplier and provider from Berlin, we support this celebration. Therefore, we believe that public spirit can only be achieved through greater common ground. This could be an occasion to develop new similarities and to boost existing commonalities. For the younger generation, German unity is taken for granted, they grow up with it. For the older ones, the fall of the Wall and the historical circumstances changed their lives. The unity is a gift for everyone, and we should delight in it – together.”

Campaign

Unity, freedom, matter of course? With questions like these, the **campaign** for the Day of German Unity Berlin 2018 offers food for thought. Even in advance, questions are being asked that point to the festival's aspirations and the occasion. 28 years after reunification, the campaign calls for an in-depth look at what has been achieved since then, but also the societal challenges associated with reunification today.

A **German-wide campaign** will use outdoor posters, print-adverts and online promotional materials to pose various questions and encourage citizens to think and join in the discussion. Facebook, Twitter and Instagram channels for the Day of German Unity allow for limitless comments and discussion with hashtags #TDE2018 and #nurmiteuch. Because for all the questions, one thing is certain – It works NUR MIT EUCH (Only with you)!

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