**Press Release September 2020**

**News**

**30 years of German Reunification celebrated in Potsdam**

The celebrations in Potsdam will continue for 30 days. The “einheitsEXPO”, a special exhibition at which each of the federal states, the five constitutional bodies and the city of Potsdam are represented, opened on 4 September at various locations in the city centre. Owing to Corona, the celebrations will take place at various times and locations. Why Potsdam? Brandenburg currently holds the presidency of the Federal Council (Bundesrat). Although there will be no main celebration, there will be an official ceremony, to be held on 3 October in the presence of Frank Walter Steinmeier. There will be fewer guests than would normally be the case and the event will be televised by ARD. A traditional church service will be held in the Church of St. Peter and Paul in Potsdam. Also planned is an activity known as “Einheitsbuddeln”, whereby everyone taking part will plant a tree in his garden or on a designated green area. If everyone joins in, the result will be 83 million new trees planted in one fell swoop! Good for the climate and a great collective effort. Throughout the “einheitsEXPO”, social distancing and hygiene rules will apply and face masks will be compulsory. Exhibition layout: [www.potsdam.de/einheitsexpo-zum-30-jahrestag-der-deutschen-einheit](http://www.potsdam.de/einheitsexpo-zum-30-jahrestag-der-deutschen-einheit)

**Exhibition “**[**Shaping the World**](https://www.spsg.de/en/news/exhibition/potsdam-conference-1945-shaping-the-world/)**” in Cecilienhof Palace extended**

The exhibition to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the Potsdam Conference in Cecilienhof Palace has been extended to 31 October 2021. Group tickets have been available since 1 September 2020. Visitors to the exhibition are given a multimedia guide (available in German, English, French, Italian, Spanish, Polish, Russian, Dutch; Japanese, Chinese, Korean and Hebrew). The group price is 110 euros for adults and 77 euros for schools. The maximum group size is twelve and tickets must be booked in advance. As capacity is limited owing to social distancing rules in force because of COVID-19, we recommend that you book early. Tip: The “Cecilienhof SPSG” exhibition app can be downloaded free from the App Store or Google Play. The languages available are the same as for the multimedia guide. Individual visitors can book tickets for the exhibition at [www.ticktets.spsg.de](http://www.ticktets.spsg.de).

[www.spsg.de/en/news/exhibition/potsdam-conference-1945-shaping-the-world/](http://www.spsg.de/en/news/exhibition/potsdam-conference-1945-shaping-the-world/)

**Eisenhüttenstadt celebrates 70th anniversary this year**

One of Germany´s largest heritage sites has something to celebrate this year. Seventy years ago the SED Politburo of the GDR decided to establish the “Eisenhütten-Kombinat Ost” (steel mill combine), and a residential town for the local steelworks. On 18 August 1950, an axe was symbolically raised for the first time and construction work began. Today large areas of Eisenhüttenstadt are under a preservation order.

The town, which until 1961 was called Stalinstadt, has two sides to it. On the one hand there is the historic Fürstenberg district with its narrow lanes, an old fishermen´s quarter and a Gothic parish church which dates back to the 14th century. On the other hand, there is the “first socialist model city on German soil”, which became a world heritage site 40 years it was built.

In Eisenhüttenstadt nothing was left to chance. From 1950 onwards, the “ideal city for Germany”, as it was called during the GDR era, was created on the eastern edge of Brandenburg and the border with Poland. All the buildings and roads followed a precise plan. There are axis references to the steelworks, numerous coloured mosaics on building facades and staircases, as well as sculptures and large squares with extensive green areas between the apartment blocks. The idea was to combine work and living comfort with a social quality of life to form a political and cultural community. Whole residential areas in the town are under a preservation order and many of them have been modernised in recent years. None of this would have been possible without the Eisenhütten-Kombinat Ost – EKO for short. The company was the most important steel manufacturer in the GDR and as such was at the heart of the region then and still is today. [www.tor-eisenhuettenstadt.de/de/](http://www.tor-eisenhuettenstadt.de/de/) and [www.reiseland-brandenburg.de/suche/?q=eisenh%C3%BCttenstadt](http://www.reiseland-brandenburg.de/suche/?q=eisenh%C3%BCttenstadt)

Tourismus-Marketing Brandenburg GmbH is die tourism marketing organisation for the Federal State of Brandenburg. It markets the tourism product in Brandenburg together with its partners in the state. The TMB carries out press trips, organises media co-operations and provides journalists with information via its media service and social media channels. The latest information is available in the digital newsroom <https://presse.reiseland-brandenburg.de/>