#UnbeatableTogether

Venue Guide
Brandenburger Gate

Closing Ceremony

WWW.BERLIN2023.ORG/EN
Welcome to the Special Olympics World Games Berlin 2023!

This guide will give you all the information you need for your visit to the Special Olympics World Games Berlin 2023. Including how to get there, our services, and information about our venues.

We invite you to join us as we work towards a more inclusive future. From cheering on our athletes in the stands, to learning and broadening your horizons at our festival and cultural program. At the end of your visit, you will not only have watched our athletes in action, but you will also have become an active part of a movement.

This is not just an event to attend, but an event to join. Be part of the inclusion revolution!
Brandenburger Gate
Venue for Closing Ceremony

Address to Brandenburger Gate
Pariser Platz
10117 Berlin
District Berlin Mitte

Find it on Google Maps.

Find more information on transport here.
# Spectator Venue Guide

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Venue Overview

1. Olympiapark
2. Messe
3. Wannsee
4. City
5. SSE
6. Bowling
7. Grünau
8. Bad Saarow
Venue Overview
Venue Specific Information

Closing Ceremony

- Gates open: 18:00
- Ceremony: **19:00-22:00**

The Closing Ceremony is not only a big celebration but also an opportunity for all participants and visitors to celebrate accomplishments, enjoy together as a community, and to say farewell.

Let us look back, celebrate, and be celebrated together!

This event is already sold out for the general public. All accreditation except Volunteer accreditation are free to enter with their credential.
Checklist & Prohibited Items

To ensure your visit to Special Olympics World Games Berlin 2023 is an unforgettable experience, please consider the following points and plan your journey well in advance:

☑ Please remember your ticket & credentials
☑ In the case of a discounted ticket, please have ID proof ready
☑ If you have a mobile ticket, please remember to charge your phone sufficiently beforehand.
☑ Plan your journey in good time and in a sustainable way: public transport (VBB-ticket) is included in all paid tickets
☑ Please bring appropriate clothing for the weather, as not all venues are covered (consider rainwear, sun protection, etc.)
☑ Install the official “Berlin2023” App on your mobile phone to keep up to date with all the latest information

To ensure on-site safety and uninterrupted competition, you are not allowed to take certain items into the area of the Brandenburger Tor. Please make sure to observe the following rules:

☒ Weapons of any kind (e.g., pepper spray)
☒ Glass containers, cans, or bottles, or other objects made of glass
☒ Water bottles larger than 500ml
☒ Items bigger than A4 paper size (210 x 290 mm); including bags
☒ Alcoholic beverages/drugs
☒ Straight umbrellas (non-collapsible)
☒ Smoking is not permitted at all our venues

On our website, you will find a complete overview of all prohibited and permitted items!
“Berlin 2023” Games App

Download our official Berlin 2023 App to help plan your visit and always have the most up-to-date schedules!

- Customize the app according to your needs: Follow athletes and mark venues & sports as favorites
- Want to know what is going on at the moment? Find all competitions, events, and awards ceremonies at a glance
- Stay up to date with push notifications and announcements, for example when there are changes to the schedule

The App is available in German, English, Easy Language German, and Easy Language English as a free download from the Apple App Store and Google Play Store under the name “Berlin 2023”
On Site Services

Info Point

There will be six Info Points for the Closing Ceremony. They are located at the entrances and the area in front of Brandenburger Gate. The following services are provided:

• Lost and Found
• Storage of Personal Items
• Accessibility Information
• Wheelchair Loan
• Sensory Backpack Loan

Food & Drinks

There will be catering stands located across the venue.

First Aid

The location of the first aid station is marked on the venue map, which you find here.
On Site Services

Live Broadcasting

There will be live broadcasting of the closing ceremony on June 25.

Lost and Found

All found items can be handed in at the Info Point. If you have lost an item, you can fill out a report at the Info Point or online.

Merchandise

There will be two Fan Shops at the Closing Ceremony. They are open on June 25 from 18:00-22:00.

Toilets

The location for toilets (including accessible toilets) can be found on the venue map. They are located across the venue at Brandenburger Gate.
Accessible On-Site Services

Accessibility toilets

There will be accessible toilets located next to the general toilets on Straße 17 Juni and close to Scheidemannstraße.

Hidden Disabilities Sunflower

We are members of the global Hidden Disabilities Sunflower network, and our staff and volunteers will be prepared to assist Sunflower wearers. The Hidden Disabilities Sunflower helps to discreetly indicate that the wearer has a health condition that is not immediately obvious to others and highlights the potential need for support. For more information or to purchase Sunflower products in advance of the games, visit Hidden Disabilities Sunflower.
Accessible On-Site Services

Accessible Viewing Platform

An accessible viewing platform can be found near the Info Point located at the stage area. The exact location can be found on the venue map for Closing Ceremony. Chairs for companions can be provided as needed at the venue.

Walker

Should you require a walker, you are permitted to bring it to the venue. Once you have found your seat, our team can assist to find a safe place to store the walker and return it to you when required.

Assistance Animals

Guide and assistance animals are allowed at the Brandenburger Gate as support for people with disabilities if they are required for medical purposes.

Please note: Dogs are not allowed inside our venue (excluding guide dogs). Please keep in mind that it is not possible for you to bring your dog with you into the enclosed area of the venue at Brandenburger Gate.
Accessible On Site Services

Inclusive Services

— Audio description devices (available at Info Point) will be available in German for selected sessions. You can find the schedule [here](#). You can pick up the device at the Info Point or fill out the [online registration form](#) to reserve a device. To receive the device, we ask you to fill out a form at the Info Point.

— Sign language interpretation will be available in German sign language. You can find the schedule [here](#).

— Sensory backpacks will be available for loan at each Info Point. The packs include earplugs, sensory toys, wayfinding maps, and other tools.

— Wheelchairs will be available for loan at the Info Point if required. They can be pre-booked via [visit@berlin2023.org](mailto:visit@berlin2023.org).

Quiet and Prayer Room

Being in a crowded and busy environment can be overwhelming. There is a place for you to assist with sensory overload, meditate, pray, or just be by yourself for a minute. Each room is barrier-free and contains some yoga mats, ear defenders, and sensory toys.

You can find the room next to the Info Point on Straße des 17. Juni. You can ask at the Info Point for assistance and access to the room.
Arrival by public transport (the entire VBB network is included in every paid ticket):

**S-Bahn**
- “S Brandenburger Tor” with operating lines S1, S2, S25 & S26
- Walking from the station to the venue will take approximately 10 minutes.

**Subway (U-Bahn)**
- “U Brandenburger Tor” with operating line U5
- Walking from the station to the venue will take approximately 5 minutes.

Station “S Brandenburger Tor” is not wheelchair accessible. We advise for barrier-free traveling to use the U-Bahn instead.

Active travel – by bike, e-bike & e-scooter
- Brandenburger Gate is also easy to reach by bike. Bicycle racks are located at Dorotheenstraße and at Unter den Linden.
- Another option is to arrive by Bolt e-scooter or e-bike to and discover Berlin at your own pace. Please keep in mind e-scooters can only be used to reach Brandenburger Gate. In the venue itself, using and parking is prohibited.

Did you know:
If you come to the Games with your bike or a Bolt e-scooter or e-bike, you have the chance to win merchandise from the Special Olympics World Games 2023 or one of two Bolt ride credits of 30€ each! To find out how, go to Greener Games!
Transport Information

Please keep in mind road closures and limited parking areas while planning your trip.

Arrival by taxi or carpooling
Recommended drop-off and pick-up location: along Scheidemannstraße (taxi stand at Reichstag) and Alte Potsdamer Straße (taxi stand Marlene Dietrich Platz).

Arrival by car
The Special Olympics does not provide parking for spectators (please see accessible parking for those with permits).
Parking spaces near the venue are very limited and subject to a charge. There are only a few parking spaces near Ebertstraße or Paul-Löbe-Allee.

Accessible parking
There are no accessible parking spots available for Brandenburger Gate. We recommend not to drive to this area and to arrive by public transport instead.

Helpful tools along the way

— The app GuideMeGo helps to find your way around the city when you need assistance. Several functions are available including video chat.

— The app VBB Easy is aimed at cognitively impaired people to help them navigate through Berlin and the region. It shows you possible routes, you can save different locations and you receive tips during your journey. You can also request help via the app.
Berlin WelcomeCard Special

Get the limited WelcomeCard from visitBerlin for just 9€ and discover the city with their attractive offers!

- Get a **discount of up to 50%** with more than 180 partners, including highlights such as the TV Tower or the DDR Museum
- **Online guide** with all partners, tour recommendations and much more
- **Valid for 72h** from 12 June until 25 June

Get your ticket [here](#)
The Special Olympics Festival is a unique and inclusive experience for all: colorful stage programs, many participatory offers and sports activities invite all Games' attendees, visitors and Berliners to locations spread throughout the city, bringing sport and culture together. Come along and look forward to a varied program!

We invite you to try out our join-in activities, enjoy great performances, dance in front of the stages and learn more about Special Olympics.

Find more information on our website.
Festival at Neptunbrunnen

The Special Olympics Festival at Neptunbrunnen brings the World Games to the centre of the city. You are invited to come by and experience a colorful, public and inclusive festival program. Come along and enjoy music and stage performances, try out join-in activities in exhibitor booths and cheer on our athletes in the official 3x3 basketball competitions, which are taking place right next to the festival. Admission is free.

When: from 15 to 25 June
Daily from 14:00 to 22:00. Exceptions: On 17, 22 and 25 June, the festival closes already at 19:00
Where: Neptunbrunnen, Rathausplatz 1, 10718 Berlin

Find more information on our website.

Festival at Sommergarten, Messe Berlin

Messe Berlin’s Sommergarten will come alive this Summer! Join us for our outdoor celebration at our largest sport venue. Athletes, delegations and ticket holders can enjoy a stage program, performances, join-in activities at our exhibitor booths, and award ceremonies. Admission only with ticket and accreditation.

When: from 18 to 25 June
daily from 11:00-19:00, Exception: on the 25th the festival already closes at 14:00
Where: Sommergarten at Messe Berlin, Messedamm 22, 14055 Berlin

Find more information on our website.
Special Olympics Festival

Highlight Events at Brandenburg Gate

A wide-ranging and diverse program awaits you at the Special Olympics Festival Highlight Events at the Brandenburg Gate – Berlin’s most famous landmark, right in the middle of the city. Admission is free!

When:
- Sunday, 18 June: Family sports festival
- Monday, 19 June: Concert Evening as part of the Kultursommer 2023
- Wednesday, 21 June: Fête de la Musique

Where: Brandenburger Tor, Pariser Platz, 10117 Berlin

Find more information on our website.

Cultural Program

The cultural program includes inclusive top cultural offerings from various artists, collectives, and institutions. From theatre plays to guided tours, special museum offers, and musical highlights. Don’t miss out on the best of Berlin’s cultural scene. You can get your ticket information directly from the organisers.

When: 10 to 25 June
Where: various locations around Berlin

Find more information on our website.
Visit The Torch

Do you want the chance to take a photo with our official Olympic Torch?

Be sure to visit our Torch Experience booths at the following venues to see the torch up close and create a memory of your visit!

- Basketball Hall at Messe Berlin (thanks to Coca-Cola)
- Athletics at Hanns-Braun-Stadium at Olympiapark (thanks to Toyota)
- Equestrian at Reitclub am Olympiapark (thanks to Schufa)
Where can I find the sports schedule?
The schedule (all subject to change) is available [here](#). We also recommend you download our [app](#).

How do I leave a comment or ask a question?
We love to receive feedback both positive and constructive. To leave a comment or ask a question, you can contact us at [visit@berlin2023.org](mailto:visit@berlin2023.org) or you can visit one of our Info Points and the team will be happy to listen and assist.

Can I leave and come back? Are there pass outs?
Yes, you can re-enter at all our events. Please make sure to scan before entering and leaving the venue to ensure a safe re-entry process.

How can I be sure if I get free public transport with my ticket?
All paid tickets include free public transport within Berlin zones A, B and C. If you are not sure whether you can use public transport, you can check whether your ticket has the VBB logo on it. The ticket must be personalized with the traveler’s name. Please make sure you have valid identification with you for possible ticket checks on public transportation.

For more information and general question, please see our FAQs on our [website](#).

Did you enjoy your experience?
We would love your feedback. Please scan the QR-Code and tell us how we did!
How to Stay Involved

Become an active part and join as a volunteer. Have a look and see the possibilities for your home region:

Become a Volunteer [specialolympics.org]

Help us to transform a life and give people a chance to receive health and education:

— Donate | Special Olympics
— Spende | Special Olympics Projekte

Thanks for cheering and celebrating our athletes!

We hope you had a great time at the Special Olympics World Games Berlin 2023! Stay tuned for more and be a part of the inclusion revolution via social media:

Instagram
Facebook
Youtube
Twitter
LinkedIn
Photos
Special Olympics Inc.
Special Olympics World Games Berlin 2023 / Anna Spindelndreier,
Florian Conrads, Sarah Rauch, Stefan Holtzem, Tilo Wiedensohler

The content of this handbook reflects the planning status at the end of April 2023, subject to change.

Special Olympics
World Games Berlin 2023
Organizing Committee gGmbH
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