

PRESS RELEASE

22nd FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS, October 9 – 18, 2026

Program highlights 2026 announced:

FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS transforms the Berlin Cathedral into a spectacular immersive experience with two event series from October 9 to 18

- With “Beyond the Light”, visitors can experience the altar area of the Berlin Cathedral in a whole new light during the first festival weekend from October 9 to 11. A total of eight 30-minute 3D video shows will illuminate the cathedral’s interior in vibrant colors accompanied by gentle background music.
- During the second half of the festival starting October 13, “FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS in Concert” offers a unique fusion of light and sound art across ten one-hour shows over five evenings. Live ambient sound sets by world-renowned DJs will meet three-dimensional light art inside the cathedral, perfectly synchronized with the music.
- The FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS 2026 takes place from October 9 to 18. At around 40 locations across Berlin, visitors can experience radiant symbols of social cohesion daily from 7:00 PM to 11:00 PM under the motto “Colours of Love”.
- The full festival program is available starting today at www.festival-of-lights.de.

Berlin, September 10, 2026. From October 9 to 18, the FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS will set radiant symbols for greater togetherness and mutual respect in society at 40 locations across Berlin under the motto “Colours of Love”. Among this year's special highlights are two distinct event series held inside the Berlin Cathedral.

“Beyond the Light” offers ten 30-minute 3D video shows set to gentle background music in the cathedral's altar space during the first weekend of the festival (October 9–11). Intricate light art illuminates the interior in vibrant colors, bringing even the finest details of the monumental architecture to life. Tickets are available online at <https://festival-of-lights.de/de/beyond-the-light/>.

Visitors can experience an even more intense and emotional setting inside the Berlin Cathedral during the second half of the festival, running from October 13 to 17, 2026. Across five evenings with a total of ten shows, “FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS in CONCERT” presents a unique fusion of light and sound art. This year’s lineup features world-famous musicians and DJs once again: Alle Farben, Westbam, Klangkarussell, Anja Schneider, Chris Bekker, and Ukai Ndamé will transform the cathedral - away from traditional club sets - into an extraordinary artwork merging light and sound. The three-dimensional video art is individually tailored to each artist's live performance. Each of the ten concerts is unique: as diverse as the music is, so too is the video art. No two shows are the same.

"With the two formats, 'Beyond the Light' during the first half and 'Festival of Lights in Concert' during the second half of the festival, visitors have a choice: Those who want to experience the interior of the cathedral in a completely different light without spending too much time will find the 30-minute 3D video projections with gentle musical accompaniment on the first three evenings perfect. For those who wish to dive even deeper into a colorful world of glowing hues and moving sounds, 'Festival of Lights in Concert' - with its unique synthesis of music and sound art - is the ideal experience," said organizer and festival director Birgit Zander during the presentation of the 2026 program highlights.

Tickets are available online at www.festival-of-lights.de/inconcert.



Festival motto "Colours of Love" represents love in all its facets

The 22nd edition of the Festival of Lights Berlin is centered around the theme "Colours of Love". Birgit Zander: "With great attention to detail, we combine light, art, and music with fresh perspectives, making Berlin's landmarks glow in bright colors and making our guests' hearts beat faster. This time, everything revolves around perhaps the most beautiful and profound feeling of all: love. Love has many facets and countless forms of expression. Love is not just a single moment - it is a wonderful feeling for life. We dedicate the ten evenings of this year's Festival of Lights to exactly this feeling and warmly invite visitors from all over the world to fall in love with Berlin. Celebrate 'Colours of Love' with us!"

For the 22nd year: free admission to all open-air attractions

Thanks to partners and sponsors, visiting all open-air attractions of the privately funded FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS has been free of charge every year since its inception in 2005 - and 2026 is no exception. "We are very much looking forward to inviting Berliners and guests from around the globe to experience fascinating light art and magical moments in Berlin," explains festival director Birgit Zander.

Major and special partners make the FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS possible

As in previous years, festival management has curated not only the artistic stagings but also the selection of sponsors and partners with great care. "It is particularly important to us that our partners align with our motto and actively support social cohesion and mutual respect in society," said Zander. The 2026 festival partners include major names such as McDonald's, Klarna, Life360, Ferrero Rocher, NVIDIA, Kearney, Sephora, Potsdamer Platz, GASAG, BSR, visitBerlin, Zagreb Tourist Board, WBM with the Nikolaiviertel, Das Center am Potsdamer Platz, THF / Tempelhof Projekt, SEBRACON, The Ritz-Carlton Berlin, and many more.

The festival program can be found at www.festival-of-lights.de/en/programme-2026/.

The full program for this year's Festival of Lights, detailed information on partners and illuminated buildings, as well as an interactive illumination map are available starting today at www.festival-of-lights.de/.

Tickets for the popular Lightseeing tours can already be booked on the festival website. The central distributor for this year's Lightseeing tours is festival partner visitBerlin.

The FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS 2026 is made possible by: McDonald's, Klarna, Life360, Ferrero Rocher, NVIDIA, Kearney, Sephora, Potsdamer Platz, GASAG, visitBerlin, Zagreb Tourist Board, WBM with the Nikolaiviertel, Das Center am Potsdamer Platz, THF / Tempelhof Projekt, BSR, SEBRACON, TV-Turm Alexanderplatz, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Commerz Real, John Jahr Haus, The Westin Grand Berlin, Olympiastadion, European Parliament, Fischer & Lustig, Bezirksamt Lichtenberg, The Ritz-Carlton Berlin, Metropolitan Chapter St. Hedwig's Cathedral, Grützmaker, OM Consult & Event, BEDE Catering & Eventmanagement.

Press contact:

Zander & Partner Event-Marketing GmbH
Savignyplatz 6, 10623 Berlin

E-Mail: presse@festival-of-lights.de

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For ease of reading, the generic masculine is used throughout this text. Unless otherwise stated, all references to persons refer to all genders.

