

Press release

Cologne Tourist Board is now offering exclusive tours of the European Astronaut Centre

- *A new partnership with Space Time Concepts GmbH enables visitors to gain insights into manned space travel and the Astronaut Centre*
- *Cologne Tourist Board now arranges two-hour group tours in English and German*
- *This innovative offer increases people's awareness of Cologne as a centre of science*

COLOGNE, March 15, 2017. Through the Cologne Tourist Board, groups of visitors can now book exclusive tours of the European Astronaut Centre (EAC) on the grounds of the German Aerospace Center (DLR) in Cologne-Wahnheide. The tours are organized by Space Time Concepts GmbH. The service can be booked in either English or German and includes a presentation as well as a guided tour of the training centre. After the tour, visitors can ask questions regarding the work of the EAC, astronaut training and space travel in general. Tours are offered for closed groups of up to 25 participants. Larger groups can tour the facility on request. The Cologne Tourist Board is the exclusive marketing and sales partner for this offer and thus the organization that interested groups should contact. Bookings can be made by calling +49 (0)221 346 43 0 or by sending an e-mail to info@koelntourismus.de. Event agencies can send inquiries directly to [Space Time Concepts GmbH](#).

"We're proud of this new partnership," says Josef Sommer, Chief Executive Officer of the Cologne Tourist Board. "The congress unit of our company has had close relations with the EAC for many years. We are therefore delighted that this innovative service enables us to provide such a special experience to non-business-related closed groups whom we also offer many new guided tours of the city that we added to our programme for 2017."

"I love telling visitors about space travel and the work done at the EAC. It all began with the idea to make this unusual location available for conferences and events," says Laura Winterling, CEO of Space Time Concepts GmbH. "This expanded partnership now enables us to provide exciting insights into the centre to a broader audience."

Offer strengthens Cologne as a centre of science

The new tours emphasise Cologne's importance as a centre of science. The German Aerospace Center (DLR) and the EAC provide Cologne with great expertise in the aerospace sector. One of the focal points of the destination marketing activities in the MICE sector is precisely to emphasize these strengths. In doing so, the Cologne Convention Bureau (CCB) is linking its activities with the key industry sectors strategy of the German Convention Bureau (GCB). In the past, Cologne was at the centre of the international aerospace sector during the 26th Planetary Congress of the Association of Space Explorers (ASE), which was held in 2013. The cooperation between the CCB and the EAC began with the marketing activities that were conducted because the Cologne Science Forum's focal topic in 2013 was "aviation and space travel".

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About Cologne Tourist Board:

The Cologne Tourist Board is the official tourism organization of the city of Cologne and thus the first point of contact for visitors from all over the world, whether they're coming here on business or to

spend their leisure time. Together with its partners, the Cologne Tourist Board conducts marketing activities all over the world for Cologne as a travel destination and a convention venue. Its aim is to enhance the city's image and to position Cologne and its surrounding region as an attractive tourist destination and an outstanding convention location in the German and international markets. In the process, it aims to boost added value for the economy of Cologne and the surrounding region.
koelntourismus.de

About Cologne Convention Bureau (CCB):

The Cologne Convention Bureau (CCB) is Cologne's centre of excellence for all aspects relating to conferences and events. An affiliate of the Cologne Tourist Board, the CCB is the primary neutral port of call for event planners in need of assistance concerning Cologne as a venue for conferences, meetings and incentive events.
locations.cologne

About Space Time Concepts GmbH:

Space Time Concepts GmbH has ten years of in-depth experience when it comes to manned space travel, missions related to the International Space Station and the associated astronaut training. The company enables groups and businesses to discover the European Astronaut Centre on their own. This service includes customized presentations, tours, company events, and seminars and workshops in the rooms used for astronaut training.
spacetimeconcepts.com

Mit freundlichen Grüßen | kind regards

i. A. **Christina Gehlen**

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