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„Blossom, Germany’s Florence...“
Johann Gottfried von Herder

Dresden, the state capital of the Free State of Saxony, is located right in the heart of Europe, at the thoroughfare of East and West. The city’s location in the border triangle of Germany, Poland, and the Czech Republic offers superb opportunities for cultural, economic, and political cooperation.
Northern latitude.......................... 51° 02’ 55″
Eastern longitude ............................ 13° 44’ 29″
Sea level (Elbe River gauging station) ...... 103 m above sea level
Lowest point (Cossebaude).................... 101 m above sea level
Highest point (Triebenberg)................... 383 m above sea level
Dresden ranks 4th in a comparison of the surface areas of large German cities - behind Berlin, Hamburg, and Cologne.

Total surface area: 32,848 ha (328.48 km²)

27 km east-west expansion

23 km north-south expansion

which are attributable to:
- Residential housing space: 5,382 ha
- Industrial and commercial space: 2,061 ha
- Traffic area: 3,381 ha
- Recreational area: 1,689 ha
- Farmland: 10,605 ha
- Forests: 7,169 ha
- Surface area of water bodies: 682 ha
- Other use: 1,879 ha

[Link to Dresden Statistik: dresden.de/statistik]
Dresden ranks 12th in a comparison of the population of large German cities – behind Berlin, Hamburg, Munich, Cologne, Frankfurt on the Main, Stuttgart, Düsseldorf, Dortmund, Essen, Leipzig, and Bremen.

**557,098 INHABITANTS**

Population with primary residence

- of whom are women ....................... 279,040 (50.1 percent)
- men ......................................... 278,058 (49.9 percent)
- of whom are Protestants ................. 78,782 (14.1 percent)
- Catholics ................................ 25,776 (4.6 percent)
- of whom are foreigners ................... 41,154 (7.4 percent)

Population with secondary residence ..................5,769 inhabitants
Population density ..................................1,697 inhabitants/km²
Average age ........................................43 years

**Housing**

- Number of dwellings ........................................ 298,761
- Number of households ....................................... 301,418
- Rent level (average value) ... 6 euros per square meter (base rent)
- Rent increase (average value) ......................... 2 percent per year

**Fact!**

About 2,500 couples got married in Dresden in 2017.

**Forecast**

The population will grow – until 2030, at an estimated 5 percent which equals 29,000 persons. Dresden anticipates to have 582,600 inhabitants by then. The largest increases are to be expected for young people aged 15 to 24 (about 28 percent), followed by senior citizens aged 60 and older (about 9 percent).
In the municipal elections on May 25, 2014, the citizens of Dresden chose a new City Council which consists of 70 seats. In accordance with the Saxon Municipal Ordinance, the Lord Mayor chairs the City Council. The next election of the City Council will be held in 2019.

Allocation of Seats to the Parliamentary Groups

- **AFD**: 4 seats
- **FDP/CITIZENS’ FACTION**: 5 seats
- **SPD**: 9 seats
- **ALLIANCE 90/ THE GREENS**: 11 seats
- **DIE LINKE**: 17 seats
- **CDU**: 21 seats
- **NON-ATTACHED CITY COUNCILS**: 3 seats

On July 5, 2015, the citizens of Dresden elected Dirk Hilbert (a member of the independent party Unabhängige Bürger für Dresden e. V.) as their Lord Mayor. He chairs the City Council and also heads the City Administration. The next election of the Lord Mayor will be held in 2022.
Departments of the City Administration

- Finances, Personnel, and Legal Affairs: Dr. Peter Lames
- Education and Youth: Hartmut Vorjohann
- Public Order and Security: Detlef Sittel
- Culture and Tourism: Annekatrin Klepsch
- Employment, Social Affairs, Health, and Housing: Dr. Kristin Klaudia Kaufmann
- Urban Development, Construction, Transport, and Real Estate: Raoul Schmidt-Lamontain
- Environment and Municipal Utilities: Eva Jähnigen

City Honors

- Honorary citizenship
- Honorary medal
- Honorary coin

City Awards

- Art and Promotional Award (annually)
- Dresden Excellence Award (science; annually; together with the Dresden – City of Science network)
- Sports and Promotional Award (annually)
- Dresden Integration Award (annually)
- The Most Beautiful Garden Community (annually; together with the Stadtverband Dresdner Gartenfreunde e. V. association of garden friends)
- Dresden Poetry Prize (every 2 years)
- Erlwein Award (architecture; every 4 years)
PARTNER CITIES

Dresden maintains 13 city partnerships in Europe, Africa, America, and Asia. The alliance is lively and vibrant due to student and youth exchanges, cooperations among clubs and associations as well as cooperations in business, science, culture, politics, and administration.

Future fact!
In 2019, Dresden will celebrate as many as three partner city anniversaries: 60 years with Wroclaw and Coventry and 10 years with Hangzhou.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>Country</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1959</td>
<td>Coventry</td>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1961</td>
<td>St. Petersburg</td>
<td>Russia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1967</td>
<td>Skopje</td>
<td>Macedonia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1971</td>
<td>Ostrava</td>
<td>Czech Republic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1975</td>
<td>Brazzaville</td>
<td>Congo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1978</td>
<td>Florence</td>
<td>Italy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1987</td>
<td>Hamburg</td>
<td>Germany</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1988</td>
<td>Rotterdam</td>
<td>Netherlands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>Strasbourg</td>
<td>France</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1991</td>
<td>Salzburg</td>
<td>Austria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1992</td>
<td>Columbus/Ohio</td>
<td>USA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Hangzhou</td>
<td>China</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Fact!
Florence and Florence on the Elbe River – close ties for 40 years now.
For almost 30 years now, Dresden has been investing into high tech and the associated research. Specific strong points are found in the superb networks that exist between business and science, in the available pool of young professionals, and in interdisciplinary cooperation. This is accompanied by the versatile mixture of industrial branches and high-performance crafts.

Today, Saxony’s state capital is a microelectronics venue that is acknowledged around the globe and assumes a leading role in Europe. Every second chip produced in Europe comes from Dresden. The branch unites about 1,500 companies, 48,000 employees, and an annual turnover of 13 billion euros under its roof in Dresden.

Dresden also exhibits the highest density of researchers in all of Germany. Nowhere else do so many scientists work at one location – based on the total number of employees; all told, about a third. And when it comes to the total number of research facilities, Dresden also heads the field – in 5th place behind Berlin, Munich, Hamburg, and Cologne.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Branch</th>
<th>Employees</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Public administration, education, health care, and social services</td>
<td>78,110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trade, transport, hotels and restaurants</td>
<td>51,296</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Freelance, scientific, and technical services</td>
<td>49,251</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The manufacturing industry</td>
<td>34,371</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The arts, entertainment, and other services</td>
<td>12,693</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information, communication</td>
<td>12,326</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The construction industry</td>
<td>10,976</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial and insurance services</td>
<td>5,591</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Real estate and housing</td>
<td>3,708</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture, forestry, fishery</td>
<td>434</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Existing Businesses

48,936 COMPANIES

which belong to:
Trade ..............................................................12,050 (24.6 percent)
Crafts ................................................................   6,476 (13.2 percent)
Industry ............................................................. 666 (1.4 percent)
Others (services et al.) .................................29,744 (60.8 percent)

Core Competences
■ Microelectronics, information and communication technology
■ Nanotechnology, new materials
■ Life sciences, biotechnology

Fact!
As the first city in Germany, Dresden has been debt-free since 2006.

Active in Dresden

Future fact!
Business setup to follow
Science and Research

- 14 universities, universities of applied sciences, and universities of cooperative education
- 12 institutes of the Fraunhofer Society (largest venue in Germany)
- 5 institutes of the Leibniz Association
- 3 institutes of the Max Planck Society
- 1 research center of the Helmholtz Association
- BioInnovationCenter Dresden
- Max Bergmann Center of Biomaterials
- Nanoelectronics Center Dresden
- TechnologyCenter Dresden
- The United Nations University’s research institute FLORES

Administrative and Service Center

- Seat of the State Government and the State Directorate
- Seat of the Municipal Court, Regional Court, Higher Regional Court as well as Labor Court, Administrative Court, and Social Court
- Regional head offices of banks, insurances, and associations
- 1 consulate general and 15 honorary consulates headquartered in Dresden
- Congress and conference centers, International Congress Center Dresden
- Messe Dresden trade show grounds with 4 halls and about 23,000 m² of exhibition space as well as 13,500 m² of open space, conference center Börse Dresden

Fact!
7,000 new jobs were created in Dresden in 2017.

Fact!
The export rate of 52.4 percent is above the federal German average.

Fact!
Surplus of 38,767 inbound commuters

Fact!
Municipal investment volume amounted to 340 million euros in 2018

dresden.de/wirtschaft
CULTURE AND RECREATION

Dresden is a European hub of culture and a vibrant, bustling place. The cityscape with its unique architecture is praised around the globe. Museum treasures, stages, and festivals attract millions of visitors. Dresden wants to become a European Capital of Culture in 2025. The focus here is on challenges and potentials for social interaction.
MORE THAN 50 MUSEUMS
ABOUT 30 GALLERIES

including:
- Old Masters Picture Gallery
- Green Vault
- Albertinum with New Masters Picture Gallery and Sculpture Collection
- Porcelain Collection
- German Armed Forces’ Museum of Military History

Fact!
20 percent increase in visitors in 2017

Fact!
28 percent increase in visitors in 2017
World-famous ambassador of music

The Dresden Kreuzchor
(Choir in the Church of the Holy Cross)

- Dresden Transport Museum
- German Hygiene Museum Dresden
- Dresden City Museum
- Dresden City Art Museum
- Dresden Technical Collections
- Die Welt der DDR – Private GDR Museum

dresden.de/kultur
MORE THAN 30 STAGES

including:

- Saxon State Theater Dresden with Semper Opera House and Staatsschauspiel
- Dresden Cultural Palace
- Cultural center Kraftwerk Mitte with Dresden State Operetta and tjg. Dresden Theater Junge Generation
- Hellerau – European Center of Arts Dresden
in the cultural center
Kraftwerk Mitte

Dresden State Operetta

Cultural and art associations, approx. 300
Movie and film theaters, about 20

Important Libraries and Archives
- Central Saxon State Archives Dresden
- Saxon State Library – State and University Library Dresden
- Dresden City Archives
- Dresden Municipal Libraries

Important Ambassadors of Music
- Saxon State Orchestra Dresden
- Dresden Philharmonic Orchestra
- Dresden Kreuzchor

Important Festivals, Festivities, and Markets
- Dresden Music Festival
- International Dixieland Festival
- Canaletto – The Dresden City Festival
- Dresden Semper Opera Ball
- Film Nights on the Banks of the Elbe River
- Bunte Republik Neustadt Cultural Festival
- Tanzwoche Dresden – International Festival for Contemporary Dance
- Dresden Night of Museums
- Dresden Steam Engine Festival
- Steam Ship Parade
- Dresdner Striezelmarkt Christmas Market

Monument Protection
- 8 urban conservation areas
- 9,775 cultural monuments

dresden.de/events
GREEN CITY

With over 60 percent of its surface area covered with forests and green spaces, Dresden is one of Europe’s greenest cities. The Dresden Heath, the Grand Garden, the Elbe River meadows, vineyard slopes, and parks not only characterize the metropolitan area, but also the citizens’ lifestyle. For many centuries now, farsighted urban planning has shaped and continues to shape Dresden’s image as a part of the Elbe River valley landscape.

890 HA
of green spaces and recreation areas

792 HA
in 369 garden communities

Public Green Spaces
Grand Garden ................................................................. 147 ha
Dresden Zoo............................................................... 12 ha
Botanical Garden ......................................................... 3.3 ha
Zwinger Palace and Park............................................ 6.5 ha
Pillnitz Palace and Park.............................................. 28 ha

Protected Areas
10 landscape protection zones .............................. 12,238 ha,
including the Dresden Heath, which equals 15 percent
of the urban area
Mild climate, Mediterranean flair

253 HA
in 4 nature reserves

2,095 HA
of Elbe River flood plains
(at 9.24 m)

10 Flora-Fauna-Habitat areas.............................. 1,901 ha
3 bird sanctuaries ..................................................... 1,609 ha
138 natural monuments.............................................. 134 ha

Other Facilities
■ Vineyards with.................................................... 24 ha
■ 58 cemeteries with ............................................ 172 ha
■ About 25,000 trees in municipal parks and green areas
■ About 54,000 trees along streets
■ About 950 playgrounds with public access
■ About 300 fountains and waterworks

dresden.de/stadtgruen
Just like the Arabian Nights – fairytales are told in the former cigarette factory’s dome today

For about 10 years now, Dresden has been one of Germany’s cities with the highest number of child births, based on the total population. Families can rely on the fact that their children will get a place in a day care facility. Multifaceted programs are offered for leisure and recreation.
Child Care

54,000 girls and boys are supervised in nurseries, kindergartens, after-school care or day care facilities in Dresden.

More than 10,000 new places have been created in Dresden’s child care facilities over the past 10 years.

Children’s Day Care

- 402 children’s day care facilities, of which are
- 178 children’s day care facilities funded by the municipality, including
  - 4 nurseries
  - 8 kindergartens
  - 58 after-school care facilities
- 108 combined facilities
- 224 children’s day care facilities funded independently, including
  - 9 nurseries
  - 14 kindergartens
  - 39 after-school care facilities
- 162 combined facilities

Infants’ Day Care

- 406 places in children’s day care facilities for infants and toddlers

Private Facilities

- 6 privately owned and funded children’s day care facilities

Recreational Facilities

- 49 houses in city districts as well as centers for children, adolescents, and families
- 6 adventure playgrounds and city farms
- 45 social school work programs
- 10 social street work programs
- 21 junior fire departments

In addition, there are such city-wide services as

- tjq. Dresden Theater Junge Generation
- 1001 Fairytales (Yenidze)
- Youth & Art School Dresden
- Heinrich Schütz Music Academy Dresden
- Children’s University Dresden
- Children’s Museum “World of Senses” (German Hygiene Museum Dresden)
- Adventureland Mathematics (Dresden Technical Collections)
- Youth Eco House
- Park Railway (Grand Garden)
- Children’s Tram “Lottchen”
- Playmobile “Whirlwind”
- Skate Park Lingnerallee
- Children’s and Adolescents’ Library “medien@age”
- Youth Information Service
- Holiday Pass (offered in the summer)

Future fact!

Dresden continues to meet the legal entitlement to a placement in a care facility also in the future. Two more day care facilities will open by 2020.

dresden.de/kita
In addition to children’s day care facilities, another focus of the municipal investments is on schools. The city invests not only into renovation and expansion projects, but also into new buildings. Education is of intergenerational significance in the growing city.

Public Schools

144

- 141 schools funded by the State Capital Dresden, including:
  - Grundschulen (primary level) ........................................ 70
  - Oberschulen (secondary level) ........................................... 27
  - Gymnasien (secondary level) .......................................... 18
  - Schools for children with learning difficulties .................. 13
  - Vocational school centers ........................................... 10
  - Medical vocational school .............................................. 1
    (at the Municipal Hospital Dresden-Friedrichstadt)
  - Schools providing second-chance education .................... 2
    (Abendoberschule and Abendgymnasium (evening classes at secondary level))
  - 3 schools funded by the Free State of Saxony, including:
    - Oberschule (secondary level) ........................................... 1
      (in the Palucca University of Dance Dresden)
    - Gymnasium (secondary level) ........................................ 1
      (Saxon Regional Grammar School for Music Carl Maria von Weber Dresden)
    - Medical vocational school ............................................ 1
      (Carus Academy – University Hospital Carl Gustav Carus Dresden)

Independently Funded Schools

Schools funded by about 40 independent entities complement Dresden’s school landscape, including:

- Dresden International School
- HOGA Schools
- Waldorf Schools
- Semper Schools
Number of Students

40,000
students are enrolled in Dresden

Number of Pupils

74,000
pupils were instructed in Dresden during the school year 2017/2018

Universities

14
universities, universities of applied sciences, and universities of cooperative education

including:

- Dresden University of Technology (TU Dresden) (German University of Excellence since 2012)
- HTW Dresden University of Applied Sciences
- HfBK Dresden Academy of Fine Arts
- Dresden University of Music “Carl Maria von Weber”
- Palucca University of Dance Dresden
- University of Church Music Dresden
- Protestant University of Applied Sciences Dresden
- Dresden International University
- United Nations University (UNU FLORES)
- SRH Hotel Academy Dresden
- FHD University of Applied Sciences Dresden – state-recognized university
- HFH Hamburger Fern-Hochschule University of Applied Sciences – Study Center Dresden
- Dresden University of Cooperative Education (BA Sachsen)
- Saxon Academy of Administration and Economics Dresden (S-VWA)

Dresden University of Technology

Saxony’s largest university, Dresden University of Technology, accounts for 30,100 students, of whom 13 percent come from abroad. The TU unites people from 70 countries under its roof.
**Fields of Study**

- **43%** Engineering Sciences
- **29%** Law, Business and Economics, Social Sciences
- **29%** Humanities
- **14%** Natural Sciences, Mathematics
- **10%** Agriculture, Forestry, Nutritional Sciences, and Veterinary Medicine
- **7%** Fine Arts and Art History
- **5%** Human Medicine and Health Sciences
- **4%** Military Academy of the German Armed Forces Dresden
- **2%** Senior Citizens’ Academy for Science and Art
- **1%** Adult Education Center (VHS)

**Other Educational Institutions**

- Military Academy of the German Armed Forces Dresden
- Senior Citizens’ Academy for Science and Art
- Adult Education Center (VHS)

**Future fact!**

In 2019, the VHS will celebrate its 100th anniversary.
Dresden has been a member of the WHO’s European Healthy Cities Network for almost 30 years now. Many activities together with partners motivate people to adopt a health-conscious behavior and do more exercise. Additional topics include environmental factors and mobility behavior.

7 hospitals
621 dentists
3,381 physicians
154 veterinarians
120 pharmacies

Nursing Care Facilities
Homes for the elderly.................................................................................. 2
Nursing homes............................................................................................. 61
Day care and short-term care facilities....................................................... 42
Assisted living facilities ............................................................................. 52

Transitional Homes
Emergency centers for children and adolescents ......................... 2
Shelters (girls, women, men)................................................................. 3
Transitional homes for the homeless....................................................... 8
Apartments for the homeless................................................................. 16
Transitional homes for asylum seekers.............................................. 15
Apartments for asylum seekers............................................................. 334

Social Services and Helpdesks
Social services of the Youth Welfare Office in the city districts.... 9
Family counseling centers................................................................. 10
Youth counseling center................................................................. 1
Youth and substance abuse counseling center ......................... 1
Substance abuse counseling and treatment centers ............... 5
Mobile substance abuse counseling .............................................. 1
Community centers for senior citizens........................................ 19
Social-psychiatric services............................................................... 4
Contact and information center for self-help groups............... 1

dresden.de/gesundheit
Running, walking, cycling, skating, hiking, ice skating, beach volleyball, water sports – there are numerous opportunities to be active in Dresden. Whether it be alone, together with the family, or in a group; exercise is fun here. One reason is: Nature can be experienced almost everywhere in the city.

Popular Sports
About 108,500 members, who include:
- About 35,000 children and adolescents
- About 90 individual disciplines

381 sports clubs

dresden.de/sport
Important Sports Facilities
- DDV Stadium
- Heinz Steyer Stadium
- EnergieVerbund Arena
- Margon Arena
- Ostra Sports Park
- Horse race track

Public Indoor and Outdoor Swimming Pools
Swimming complex............... 1
Combined indoor and outdoor swimming pools ...... 2
Indoor swimming pools........... 4
Outdoor swimming pools...... 7
Bathing areas ....................... 2

Important Sports Events
- International Youth Diving Meet
- International Ski World Cup
- International Short Track Speed Skating Championships
- Such running events as the Oberelbe Marathon, Dresden Marathon, Team Challenge
- Velorace Cycling Cup
- Dresden Chess Festival
- Horse Racing Days
With its direct link to the federal expressway, its airport, train stations, and Elbe River port, Dresden is superbly integrated into the European transport network. The city’s public transportation system provides quick and easy access to all urban destinations. There’s also much to see for technology enthusiasts in Dresden.

Dresden International Airport
- 9 km north of the city center
- Non-stop destinations in Germany and abroad
- Major hubs several times a day (e.g. Munich, Frankfurt on the Main, Düsseldorf)
  Recent figures per year:
  - About 1.7 million passengers
  - About 30,000 aircraft movements
  - About 455 t of cargo

Rail Network
- DB rail connections to cities in Germany and abroad
- Commuter rail connections to municipalities in the Upper Elbe River valley
- Connections to tourist destinations for excursions with the traditional narrow-gauge railroads (Lößnitzgrundbahn, Weißeritztalbahn)

Cycling Paths, Pedestrian Paths
- Cycling paths and combined cycling and pedestrian paths with a length of 411 km, including:
  - Elbe River Cycling Path on the left and right banks of the Elbe River
  - Pedestrian paths with a length of 125 km

Fact!
12 percent of all distances are traveled by bike.

Fact!
27 percent of all distances are traveled on foot.
Shipping
- Freight transport via the Alberthafen, a universal port and transshipment center for bulk goods
- Recent figures per year:
  - Handling capacity of about 49,600 t
  - 12 ships operated by the Saxon Steamship Company, including:
    - 9 historic paddle-wheel steamers (of which 7 date back to the 19th century)
    - 3 motor ships
- Recent figures per year:
  - 509,000 passengers

Road Network
- Federal expressways A 4, A 13, and A 17 with a length of 34 km, of which 3.7 km are tunnel routes
- Federal highways B 6, B 97, B 170, B 172, and B 173 with a length of 70 km
- State, county, and municipal roads with a length of 1,405 km
- 308 road bridges
- 5 road tunnels
- 260,035 registered motor vehicles, including 224,893 passenger cars

Public Transportation System
- 12 tram lines with a total line length of 213 km
- 27 bus lines with a total line length of 308 km
- 3 ferry lines across the Elbe River
- 2 historic mountain railroads in Dresden-Loschwitz (funicular railroad since 1895, suspension railway since 1901)
- Recent number of 157 million passengers per year

Fact!
- 39 percent of all distances are traveled by motor vehicle.

Fact!
- 22 percent of all distances are traveled by bus and train.
City, country, river – that’s typical of Dresden and the Elbland Region

Dresden attracts millions of visitors from Germany and around the globe every year. Tourist magnets include the Old Town with the Frauenkirche Dresden Church of Our Lady, the Semper Opera House, Zwinger Palace, and the Art Collections as well as the vibrant Neustadt district on the other side of the river. Even though one gets far on foot, the Elbland Region is best explored by bike or on board a steamer. Dresden and the surrounding region are a charming destination for discerning cultural tourists, relaxed active vacationers, and congress organizers alike.

TOURISM

Dresden wants to attract 5 percent more guests every year and promotes itself together with the Dresden Elbland Region.
Guests

**Dresden ranks 6th** in a comparison of Germany’s most popular city destinations – behind Berlin, Munich, Hamburg, Frankfurt on the Main, and Cologne

- 4.43 million overnight stays
- 2.17 million overnight guests
- Average length of stay 2 days
- 17 percent are foreign guests, most of them from the USA, Switzerland, Poland, Austria, and the Netherlands

**Nearby Destinations**

**SAXON SWITZERLAND, MORITZBURG CASTLE, MEISSEN...**

**Fact!**

The largest growth within 10 years – from 22,000 to 36,000 campers per year in Dresden

Congresses and Conventions

- 1.35 million participants in congresses and conventions per year
- 15,300 congresses and conventions per year
- Most of these events are held by the life science/biotechnology branch

Accommodation

- 193 facilities with .................................................. 22,774 beds
- 115 hotels with ..................................................... 20,183 beds
- 53 inns and bed & breakfasts with ......................... 1,191 beds
- 8 youth hostels and other hostels with .................. 980 beds
- 3 campgrounds with ............................................. 290 parking spaces

[dresden.de/tourismus](dresden.de/tourismus)
First a trading post and the seat of a margraviate, then an electoral and a royal residence, and later the state capital of Saxony – the city of Dresden looks back on more than 800 years of history. And continues to go strong.

1206, the first documented mention of Dresden. 1216, first reference as a city. 1485, division of the Wettin territory; as a result, Duke Albert chooses Dresden as his residence. 1547, Duke Maurice gains electorship; Dresden becomes capital and residence of the Protestant Electorate of Saxony. 1549, Elector Maurice incorporates Altendresden (today’s Neustadt) into Dresden; seat of the joint public administration is located on the left bank of the Elbe River. 1685, a fire destroys Altendresden; first zoning plan for an entire city district (Wolf Caspar von Klengel). 1697, Elector Frederick August I (The Strong), ruler since 1694, converts to Catholicism and gains the Polish crown as King Augustus II. 1708, Johann Friedrich Böttger and Ehrenfried Walther von Tschirnhaus discover the secret of porcelain (Jungfernbastei Bastion). 1710, construction begins on Zwinger Palace (Matthäus Daniel Pöppelmann); it is completed in 1732. 1720, the building regulations of Governor Count Wackerbarth become effective; soon thereafter, transformation into a Baroque city. 1726, the cornerstone for the Frauenkirche Church of Our Lady (George Bähr) is laid; it is completed in 1743. 1732, Altendresden on the right bank of the Elbe River is renamed “New Town” (today’s Neustadt), and New Dresden on the left bank is called Altstadt (i.e. Old Town). 1739, the cornerstone for the Catholic Hofkirche Court Church (Gaetano Chiaveri) is laid; it is completed in 1754. 1756, Prussia conquers Dresden at the beginning of the Seven Years’ War. 1760, the fighting between Austrians and Prussians climaxes in Dresden; half of the city is destroyed. 1806, French troops occupy Dresden; Saxony raised to a kingdom through the grace of Napoleon. 1813, the French troops capitulate; Russian Prince Nikolai Grigoryevich Repnin-Volkonsky administers Saxony for one year as Governor-General. 1814, Prussian administration of Saxony. 1815, Saxony’s crown cedes half of its territory to the Kingdom of Prussia. The Surgical Medical Academy (precursor of the University Hospital) is founded. 1828, the Institution for Technical Education opens (precursor of the TU Dresden University of Technology). 1839, Germany’s first long-distance rail line (Dresden-Leipzig) is inaugurated with the steam locomotive Saxonia. 1871, the cornerstone for the Royal Saxon Court Theater is laid (it’s the second opera house designed by Gottfried Semper; his first one burnt down in 1869); it is completed in 1878.
1877, construction of the Albertstadt military facilities (garrison town). 1889, Heinrich Ernemann launches the production of cameras. 1901, the world’s first suspension railway starts its operation in Dresden-Loschwitz. 1905, the cornerstone for the New City Hall (Karl Roth) is laid; it is completed in 1910. 1918, the monarchy is abolished; Dresden is the capital of the Free State of Saxony. 1933, the National Socialists gain political control in Germany; Jews, Communists, and Social Democrats are banned from public offices and posts. 1938, Dresden also has its “Night of Broken Glass;” the synagogue which had been built by Gottfried Semper is set ablaze. 1939, outbreak of the Second World War; Dresden has 629,713 inhabitants according to a census taken on May 17. 1945, February 13 to 15, massive air raids of British and American bombers; up to 25,000 people die; 15 km² of the city is incinerated; the night from February 13 to 14 sees the heaviest bombing; May 7/8: The Red Army reaches Dresden-Neustadt; the Soviet Military Administration begins; November 3: The census registers 454,249 inhabitants in Dresden. 1946, the reconstruction of the city begins. 1949, the German Democratic Republic (GDR) is established; the communists assume complete power. 1952, the territory of the GDR is reorganized; Saxony is split into three districts; Dresden is a district capital. 1953, June 17: The people’s uprising in the GDR; Dresden also has strikes and demonstrations. 1965, Zwinger Palace is rebuilt as the first historic edifice. 1981, construction commences on Dresden’s largest concentration of prefabricated apartment blocks in Dresden-Gorbitz. 1985, the Semper Opera House reopens; work began in 1977. 1986, the reconstruction of Dresden’s Royal Palace starts. 1989, the Peaceful Revolution of the GDR; decisive for the spontaneous political demonstrations in Dresden is the night from October 3 to 4 when the second wave of trains carrying the political refugees from the Prague Embassy is to pass through Dresden’s central train station while at the same time the borders are closed to the ČSSR. 1990, the first free and democratic municipal elections are held after 1949; the federal states are reestablished in East Germany; Dresden is the state capital of the Free State of Saxony. 1999, marks the end of the most recent municipal incorporations which had begun in 1997. 2001, consecration of the new synagogue; construction had begun in 2000. 2002, the Elbe River flood peaks at a historic 9.40 meters (the normal water level is about 2 meters). 2005, consecration of the Frauenkirche Church of Our Lady; reconstruction had begun in 1993. 2006, 800th anniversary of Dresden; at the same time, City of Science. 2011, Dresden has 512,354 inhabitants according to the census of May 9. 2012, Dresden University of Technology is one of the eleven German Universities of Excellence. 2016, cultural center Kraftwerk Mitte Dresden (Dresden State Operetta, tjg. Dresden Theater Junge Generation) opens. 2017, Dresden’s Cultural Palace opens (after renovations).
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