

## The Palast



**The Palast is known for its unique programme and theatre size. Here, Berlin's great revue tradition lives on, today bringing viewers state-of-the-art shows. The theatre is unequalled in size: on the world's largest theatre stage, the Palast is home to the biggest long-running revue shows in the world.**

A legendary theatre, the eventful history of the Palast dates back to 1919 when Max Reinhardt opened the Great Theatre, which has been called Friedrichstadt-Palast since 1 November 1947. Since 1984 it has been housed in a gigantic new building at 107 Friedrichstraße in Berlin's Mitte district in the heart of the East End Theatre District.

When you first see the building from Friedrichstraße, it doesn't look that big. But appearances can be deceiving. The building is 80 metres wide, 110 metres long, and encloses a space of 195,000 cubic metres. The enormous building is the last historic landmark building that was built in the GDR. Inaugurated on 27 April 1984, it represents a special architectural contemporary witness to the inner German division in the past.

After the fall of the Wall, the Palast established itself as the first address in reunified Germany for extravagant and spectacular show entertainment.

Following extensive investments into the millions, the Palast continues to be Europe's biggest and most modern show palace.

Exclusive seats for the most discriminating guests can be found in the Wall Sky Lounge. It is the world's first Sky Lounge in a theatre and gives six people the opportunity to watch the show from above in their own separate lounge area with their own bar.

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Friedrichstadt-Palast Berlin

Friedrichstraße 107  
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Dr. Berndt Schmidt

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Senator for Culture and Europe



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The colourful history of the Palast and the theatre district in the Friedrichstraße area is also the subject of a permanent exhibition in the foyer. Moreover, the exhibition features a giant contemporary aerial photo that pinpoints the locations of the entertainment venues from the much-discussed "Golden Twenties". Annually, including guest performances and festivals, almost 700,000 people attend performances at Germany's most visited theatre.

As the last prestigious building to be erected before the political transformation, the Friedrichstadt-Palast represents both the apogee and the end point of the age of "palaces" in the GDR. Due to its historical and artistic significance and its special place in the city's landscape, the Berlin State Office for the Preservation of Historic Monuments, the "Landesdenkmalamt", added the building to the list of protected monuments on 3 March 2020.

## Figures, data and information on the Palast

It opened on 27 April 1984 with the inauguration of Friedrichstraße 107

### The building

Building time:	39 months
The building's architects:	Walter Schwarz, Manfred Prasser, and others
The auditorium's architect:	Werner Hoffmann
Construction management:	Professor Erhardt Gießke, Doctor of Engineering Jürgen Ledderboge, engineer
Date of addition to the list of protected monuments:	03.03.2020
Building area:	7,700 m <sup>2</sup>
Enclosed space:	195,000 m <sup>3</sup>
Reinforced concrete:	ca. 18,000 m <sup>3</sup>
Length:	110 m
Width:	80 m
Height:	32 m

### Auditorium

Seats: 1,899 seats, including 4 wheelchair seats

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Wall Sky Lounge: 6 luxurious leather chairs (air chairs) with a private bar

### Stage

Performance space: 2,854.02 m<sup>2</sup>

1 flying system for the main stage

2 person flying systems in the auditorium

1 soundproofing curtain

1 demarcation curtain

1 iron curtain and two smoke curtains

**Front stage** 12 m diameter

Optional

Cover disk: black mirror

Lifting podium: revolving, round platform with hydrostatic slide bearings

Water basin 2 m high, approx. 160,000 litre capacity, filled it weighs 225 t

### Production-related fixtures

2 proscenium surrounds proscenium cladding, stage left and right

2 downstage platforms former orchestra and chorus stage (left and right of the proscenium), each 70 m<sup>2</sup> (140 m<sup>2</sup> in total)

Zylindra cylindrical revolving stage, 50 tons on front stage lift with 12 m diameter revolving platform and 6.45 m in height; incl. 3 podiums with lift area, crystal podium, 3 sway poles and 3 toaster stage lifts

Crystal prism Crystal prism with 6 ice glass crystal constructions, each 3.3 m high, on a revolving stage in the crystal podium, independent control of rotation and folding/unfolding

Toaster 3 artistes' lifts, each 1.2x1.2 m, speed 4 m/sec

Sloping Stage affixed to revolving stage 18 m in diameter, adjustable tilt to 30 degrees

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Step bridge	bridge construction, 16.5x4 m, fully mobile and walkable
Mirror blinds	2 frames with mirrors on rotating panels (8x10 m), 24 mirrors per side (total 96 mirrors), limitless rotation
Double wheels of steel	2 tons, with 8.5 m headroom, 2 rotating constructions, each consisting of a middle section (4 m) and two running cages (2 m diameter) on each end
Funhouse Hat	2 stories, 4 windows and door, 4 tons, 9x11x5 m
Mask	mask construction, projection area 6x3 m

### Stage tower

- Height: 32 m
- 40 hand pulleys
- 32 electrically operated point hoists
- 12 mechanical hoists
- 19 steel band hoists

### Lighting

- 1,000 conventional spotlights in total, thereof 480 conventional spotlights in the show
- 736 LED spotlights in the show
- 167 moving lights and 128 LED moving lights, thereof 41 units with 1000 W-LED lamps
- 132 LED special effects spotlights
- 13 smoke machines, 5 atmosphere/haze-smoke machines
- 8 smoke jets with colour LED MagicFX
- 6 AquaLow Fog units (water-based smoke machine for ground fog)
- 60 colour changers
- 6 follow spots
- 6 LED colour high-performance stroboscopes, 8 Atomic stroboscopes
- LED colour RGB strip: 1.2 km in length, 45,680 LEDs with video control
- 4 MA lighting controllers

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36 computer-controlled showgirl lineup headdresses

### **Lasers**

4 high-performance RGB LED lasers, 10 W

1 high-performance RGB LED laser, 5 W

### **Video**

1 video projector 30.000 lm

7 video projectors 20.000 lm

3 video projectors 13.000 lm

12 video projectors 10.000 lm

1 video projectors 6.000 lm

11 video servers

1 full-HD camera

3 matrix switchers

### **Sound**

Digital mixing console: AVID VENUE S6Lwith plugin integration (1x FOH, 1x In-ear & onstage monitoring)

Public address system with SPAT REVOLUTION real-time 3D audio mixing engine; object-based surround-sound, digitally linked to over 160 loudspeakers in the auditorium

Latest generation digital wireless microphone system

### **Small ballet hall**

Size: 366.66 m<sup>2</sup>

Mirrors: 110 m<sup>2</sup>

Ballet barres: 77 m

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### **Large ballet hall**

Size:	445 m <sup>2</sup>
Mirrors:	60 m <sup>2</sup>
Ballet barres:	80 m

### **Costume workshops**

A good 1,000 costumes are made annually

4 dressmakers and 1 master dressmaker

7 tailors and 2 master tailors

2 headpiece creators

2 master shoemakers and 1 employee

### **Costume room**

Size: 410,50 m<sup>2</sup>

Costumes: Almost 4,000 on 320 m of clothes racks

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