Guidelines for guided tours on the grounds of the Dachau Concentration Camp Memorial Site

The Dachau Concentration Camp Memorial Site receives every year about 700,000 visitors coming from all over the world. Every day a huge number of guided tours take place. Due to this large number of visitors and the fact that the premises of the former KZ is the cemetery for more than 40,000 prisoners, the administration of the Memorial Site asks tour guides to respect a number of policies.

Who is allowed to offer guided tours?

Tours are essentially offered by two different providers:

- Non-commercial operators coming from institutions close to the Memorial Site (the Educational Department of the Memorial Site, different contemporary history associations, churches etc.). Cooperation agreements have been concluded with non-commercial providers regulating the way the work at the Memorial Site is organised and guaranteeing the regular training of the different guides. Training courses are offered every one or two years.
- Commercial operators (including tour guides and Munich Tourism operators). There are cooperative agreements with commercial operators as well. Those agreements stipulate that all providers of commercial tours have to be tested and licensed by the Memorial Site before being allowed to offer tours. This applies to all providers who organise guided tours of the Memorial Site on a regular basis.

The Memorial Site organises twice a year a condensed training course (4 to 6 sessions) for commercial providers. Attending one of those courses is highly recommended. After passing an exam (a test-tour), the respective tour guide will receive official authorisation to conduct guided tours on the grounds of the Concentration Camp Memorial Site. The test tour is obligatory also for new tour guides, who have been trained by the commercial providers themselves.

If you are interested in cooperation or want to participate in one of the training courses, please contact the Educational Department of the Dachau Concentration Camp Memorial Site (bildung@kz-gedenkstaette-dachau.de).

Please let us know via e-mail (besucherservice@kz-gedenkstaette-dachau.de) or directly at the visitors’ centre if you are going to give a tour at the Dachau Concentration Camp Memorial Site.

How should groups behave on the premises?

- The group should not exceed 30-35 people.
- The use of microphones or other types of amplifiers is not permitted neither in the buildings, nor outside (except headset solutions).
Please make sure that all exits and passageways are kept clear and show sufficient consideration for other groups and individual visitors.

Guided tours inside the crematorium building are not allowed.

The consumption of food during the tour is not desirable. Exceptions can be made for the benches on the path from the visitor centre to the Jourhaus.

Smoking is the crematorium area and in the buildings is prohibited.

During the tour visitors are allowed to sit on benches or other places provided for seating, but not on the floor in the museum or on the International Memorial.

In case of difficulties (e.g. the presence of Neo-Nazis on the premises or health problems of group members) you should immediately inform a member of the personnel. You will always find at least one attendant near the entrance to the museum, the cinema or the crematorium area.

Please note that the film has an age restriction. It should not be shown to children under 12 years of age. A visit of the Memorial Site is not recommended for children aged 11 and below.