

Berliner Festspiele

**Gropius Bau • Venue Hire**

## Location

Gropius Bau is one of the most important exhibition venues in Europe. Centrally located in Berlin within walking distance of Potsdamer Platz, it attracts up to 500,000 visitors each year. Gropius Bau showcases acclaimed contemporary and archaeological exhibitions and has become a renowned venue for presenting modern and contemporary art in dialogue with archaeology and cultural history. Its programme has forged an international reputation based on its commitment to exploring new experiential realms.

In addition to presenting a genre-spanning exhibition programme, the Gropius Bau is available for hire for events, gala dinners, receptions, conferences, lecture series and film screenings.



© Gropius Bau, Mathias Völzke

## A Building with History

Gropius Bau embodies a perceptive and varied examination of the exhibition venue's history and its present-day identity. In 1881, Gropius Bau opened as a museum of decorative arts. Designed by Martin Gropius, in close cooperation with Heino Schmieden, the building was developed with architect Karl Friedrich Schinkel's fundamental design principles in mind. The Renaissance-style building served as the venue for various institutions and collections. In the years before 1945, the Museum of Decorative Arts and the School of Decorative Arts, Museum für Vor- und Frühgeschichte, the Ostasiatische Kunstsammlung des Völkerkundemuseums and the Kunstbibliothek were located here.

In 1945, the building was heavily damaged during one of the last major bombing raids on Berlin. The north facade and the upper floors were almost completely destroyed and the museum holdings in the cellar were burned. The planned demolition of the ruin was halted by the actions of the Prussian Cultural Heritage Foundation and Edwin Redslob, the co-founder of the Free University of Berlin, as well as interventions by Bauhaus founder Walter Gropius. Gropius Bau was ultimately designated a historical landmark building in 1966. Reconstruction began in 1976 and it was officially reopened in 1981, at that time in the form of a raw building shell. Because it was situated directly on the Berlin Wall, the entryway to the building had to be relocated from the former main portal on the south side.

After 1986, Gropius Bau served as temporary headquarters for the Berlinische Galerie, the Werkbund-Archiv – Museum der Dinge and the Jewish department of the former Berlin Museum. The new main entrance finally reopened after the fall of the Berlin Wall. In 2001, the Berliner Festspiele took over the operation and management of the venue.

## Atrium

The brightly illuminated, glass-enclosed atrium on the ground floor is Gropius Bau's central space. Featuring a 600 m<sup>2</sup> inner area and a 540 m<sup>2</sup> surrounding gallery, it is the largest space for hire. The atrium can accommodate events with large numbers of guests. Stand-up receptions for 700 people as well as seated meals for 450 people are possible.



© Gropius Bau, Ellen Clemens

## Facilities

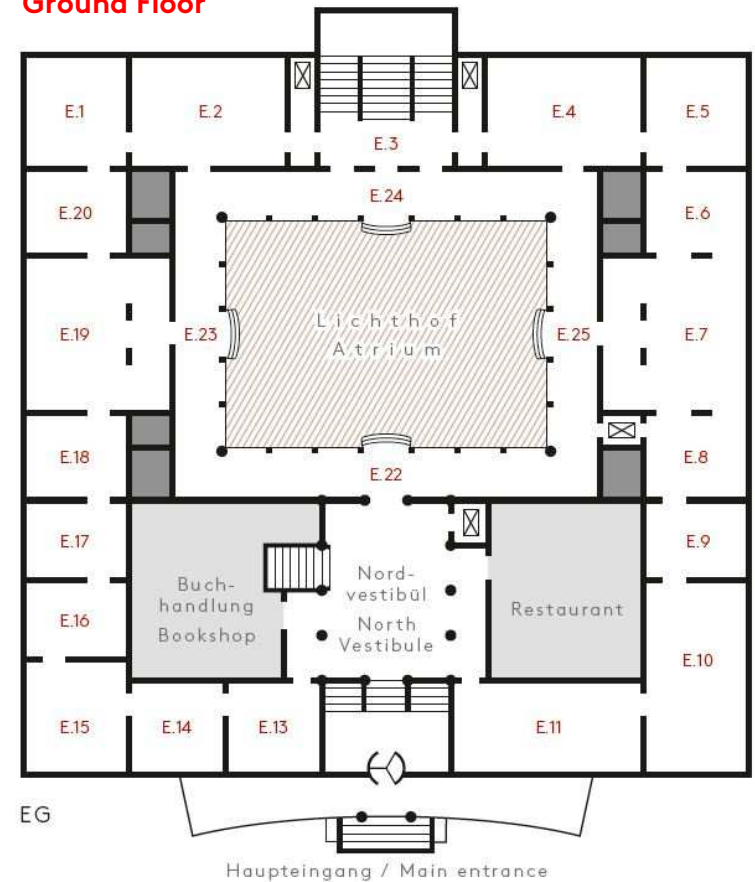
Size  
1140 m<sup>2</sup>

Accommodates  
Seated meal: 450 people  
Stand-up reception: 700 people

Technology  
Sound system  
4 Loudspeakers  
1 Sound mixer  
1 Lectern with microphone  
Price exclusive of VAT and event technicians

**Space hire**  
Price on request

## Ground Floor



## North Vestibule

The North Vestibule (130m<sup>2</sup>) is located near the entrance area of Martin-Gropius-Bau and can accommodate stand-up receptions for up to 100 people. Featuring a glass cupola ceiling, overhead lighting and a circular opening between the main floors, it can be used for stand-up receptions held on both the ground floor and the first floor.



© Gropius Bau, Ellen Clemens

## Facilities

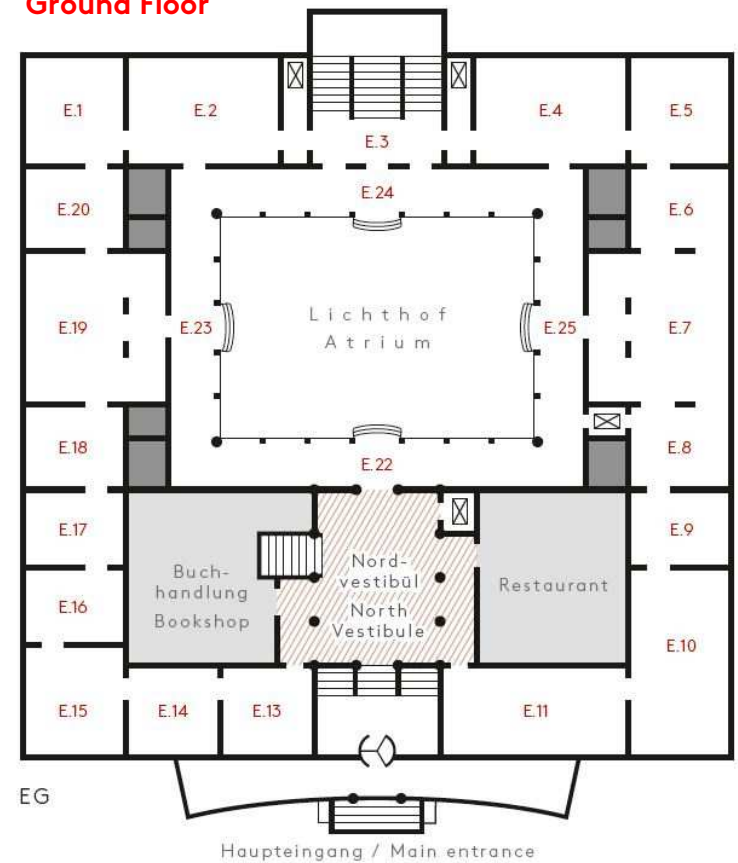
Size  
130 m<sup>2</sup>

Accommodates  
Stand-up reception: 100 people

Technology  
Sound system  
4 Loudspeakers  
1 Sound mixer  
1 Lectern with microphone  
Price exclusive of VAT and event technicians

Space hire  
Price on request

## Ground Floor



## Atrium Gallery on the First Floor

The gallery (540 m<sup>2</sup>) can be used for small functions of approx. 200 people (seated meal) or 350 people (stand-up reception). The gallery on the upper floor provides an impressive view of the atrium and the exhibition installations of various artists.



© Gropius Bau, Ellen Clemens



## Facilities

Size  
540 m<sup>2</sup>

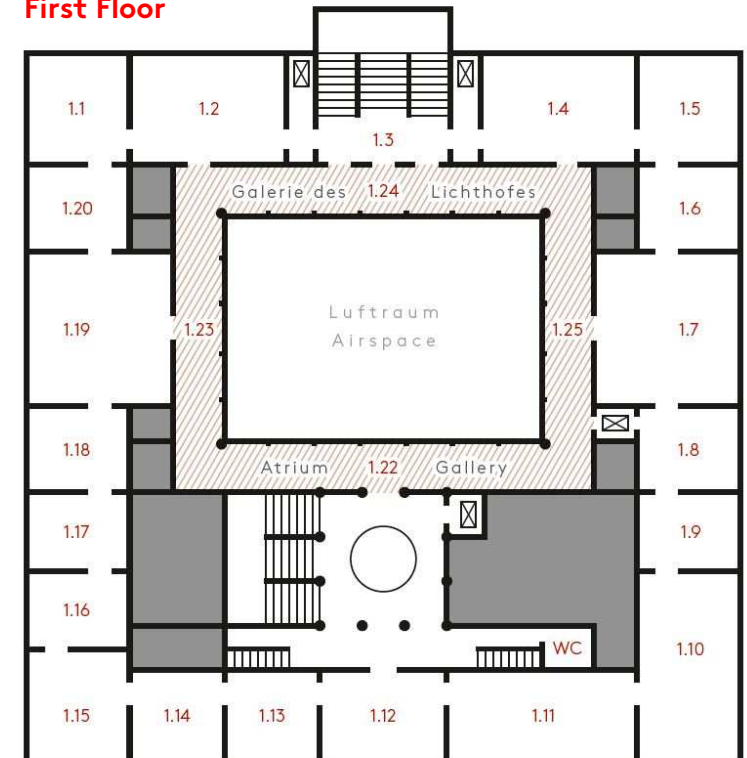
Accommodates  
Seated meal: 200 people  
Stand-up reception: 350 people

Technology  
No sound system available

## Space hire

Price on request

## First Floor



1. OG

# Contact

Berliner Festspiele

## Gropius Bau

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### Public transportation

U-Bahn Line 2 (stop: Potsdamer Platz)

S-Bahn Line 1, 2, 25 (stop: Potsdamer Platz or Anhalter Bahnhof)

Buses: M29 (S Anhalter Bahnhof) / M41

### Date

April 2019