



Press release from 24 August 2023

Movie Park Germany celebrates the darkest birthday party in park history: 25 years of Halloween Horror Festival!

Two new horror attractions, more entertainment, shows and scary surprises are brought to life in the anniversary year

(Bottrop-Kirchhellen, 24 August 2023) This year, the hour of horror strikes louder and scarier than ever before – The Halloween Horror Festival at Movie Park Germany celebrates its 25th birthday! Europe's largest Halloween event knows no mercy in its anniversary year and invites all Halloween fans to the darkest party in the park's history. The apocalyptic program plan includes two new horror attractions: "Final Stop" and "Murder Museum - The Art of Killing" are the devilish birthday present of the park to all Halloween guests.

Entertainment and shows are also coming to life in a bigger way to celebrate this milestone: the horror live show "Madhouse - Insanity Lives Here" continues with a new talent and last year's most popular horror artists. This year, the diabolical clapperboard S.I.K. leads the marsh of monsters as a walking character. Further scary surprises await Halloween fans with an hourly light show on Horrorwood Boulevard as well as the new 4-D movie "The Conjuring." The mapping show "Horrorwood Rises", DJ Max Bering & Friends and the popular hypnosis casting with Stephan Nölle will also return.

Meanwhile, more evil lurks in the back of the park: The Western-themed area transforms into "Hillbilly Town". In this context, the horror house located in this zone gets a slightly revised storyline with the new name "Secrets of St. Elmo - Last Hunt". The food offerings also receive a Halloween update.

"25 years of the Halloween Horror Festival is an important milestone for us and one we are very proud of," says Managing Director Thorsten Backhaus. "With the introduction of the event in 1998, Movie Park was the first pioneer to establish Halloween in German theme parks. In recent years, our event has evolved more and more into a festival, and we have been able to set new attendance records. Of course, we have some scary surprises planned for our guests for the big birthday."

On a total of 25 event days between September 30 and November 12, 2023, the Horrorwood Studios will welcome all fearless guests in keeping with the anniversary motto "Don't Try to Hide" and put their courage to the test.

In cooperation with the U.S. initiative "Haunters Against Hate," a symbolic Halloween day for a good cause will take place on October 7.

++ Detailed information on all novelties in the anniversary year will follow on the next pages ++

For more information: Movie Park Germany – press department
Ann-Katrin Dölken, Warner Allee 1, 46244 Bottrop-Kirchhellen
phone: + 49 2045/899-899 fax: +49 2045/899-36741
e-mail: presse@moviepark.de

www.moviepark.de



The new horror experience „Final Stop“: bitter end or light at the end of the tunnel?

Soulless evil lurks in the depths. An old, abandoned Los Angeles metro station harbors dark secrets. Those who had the guts to go down there never saw the light of day again. A film crew from the Horrorwood Studios has also disappeared into the endless catacombs of the Los Angeles metro while shooting their latest splatter movie. The studio management asks the guests for urgent help in finding the actors and the director, to bring the blockbuster to the screens on time. A last survivor of the production crew equips the volunteer search party with construction helmets and high-visibility vests. But as the group embarks on a dangerous rescue mission into the black void, a hideous nightmare comes true. Ominous creatures cavort in the tunnels and metro shafts. Infected by the Acid Rain, they are just waiting for their next victims. Surrounded by narrow corridors and leaky pipes, water and eerie sounds, the group must find its way out to survive. Those who do not want to be left in the sewers forever have only one choice: run, crawl and definitely do not turn around! But then the small light, which should initially show the way, dies out and leaves the group to its fate...

For the new **immersive horror experience "Final Stop"** underneath the grandstand of Studio 6, Movie Park Germany cooperates with the company "Haunted Lantern", which was commissioned for the horror houses "Wrong Turn" and "Secrets of St. Elmo" in the past. Only a small lamp, which is integrated into the helmets of the guests, lights the way and brings some light into the darkness – at least for a moment. "Our guests do not just have to crawl through tunnels or escape an underground labyrinth - the interplay between light and darkness also puts their courage to the test," says Halloween Project Manager Manuel Prossotowicz. Due to the path design, slightly different guest experiences are possible within the horror attraction. The new experience is suitable for ages 16 and up. IMAscore and IMAmotion are responsible for the music, project management, media content, concept design and structural implementation. Petro Art Production takes care of the design on site together with the IMAmotion team to put the guests directly into an authentic sewer setting.

„Murder Museum – The Art of Killing“: True stories haunt the guests

An unprecedented novelty becomes part of the 25th Halloween anniversary: Germany's first true crime horror house is coming up with "**Murder Museum - The Art of Killing**" and was inspired by true events.

The recondite depths of a serial killers' mind still leave mankind speechless nowadays and attract a lot of interest. For some years now, the true crime scene has been booming like never before. The "Murder Museum" has made it its business to present the gruesome deeds of some notorious American serial killers in a unique exhibition. But it quickly becomes clear that the exhibition is increasingly departing from the museum character from room to room – and a back door opens to the bitter reality of the scenes. While the guests lose themselves more and more in the exhibition, a dark realization comes to light: among those present is a murderer...

For more information: Movie Park Germany – press department
Ann-Katrin Dölken, Warner Allee 1, 46244 Bottrop-Kirchhellen
phone: + 49 2045/899-899 fax: +49 2045/899-36741
e-mail: presse@moviepark.de



The new maze replaces the former "Hostel", which was first presented in 2017. The spatial arrangement is partially changed for the new attraction so that Movie Park's Creative Team can create a new experience. "With this horror house, we took a new approach. We are using true horror as horror. However, we deliberately do not want to imitate any of the famous killers as live actors and want to maintain a moral boundary." The rooms will feature thematically matching horror actors, taking all guests 16 and older into the dark depths of various murder mysteries. Original materials, such as from interrogations, will be integrated to make the attraction as authentic as possible. The new horror house is developed in cooperation with IMAscore and IMAmotion, Dekowerk and the STAR FM Creepy Hour podcast team. The latter were not only intensely involved in the research, but also provide thematically appropriate content for the queue with their voices.

Evil awakens in the spotlight: entertainment and show program

Together with cooperation partner Dark Thrills Entertainment, the Horrorwood Studios bring another horror live show to the stage in Studio 7 with the **return of "Madhouse – Insanity Lives Here"**. Sinister things continue to go on in the Black Hill Asylum where the patients of the godforsaken mental institution continue to undergo the next experiments of the dreaded hospital director Dr. Hans Killmen. The popular show from last year thus gets a sequel with an all-new talent playing with the audience's emotional boundaries: A one of its kind world record holder who was already featured on "America's Got Talent" will be part of the show as a new highlight. Some of last year's most popular performers also return to make nightmares come true on stage.

The Roxy 4-D cinema is haunted by a new demon. With "**The Conjuring**", one of the most successful Halloween movies of recent years flickers across the screen and lets guests become part of a paranormal experience that culminates in an exorcism.

The '**marsh of the monsters**' kicks off the beginning of each event day at 6 pm. As a new highlight, the diabolical clapperboard S.I.K. will be there to lead the monster flock as the dark ruler of the Horrorwood Studios. A special Halloween costume will be created for the walking character, bringing Halloween personality S.I.K. to life in physical form for the first time.

An hourly **light show** on Horrorwood Boulevard completes the Halloween offer, once again underlining the festival character of the event. The matching soundtrack is provided by long-time partner IMAscore.

Halloween can do more than spread fear! Together with the US initiative "**Haunters Against Hate**", the Halloween team of the park and the more than 250 monsters of the Horrorwood Studios will set an example for tolerance and equality on October 7. In addition to a large Halloween parade, the park will shine in rainbow colors in some places. After last year's successful event, Movie Park has decided to continue cooperating with the American non-profit

For more information: Movie Park Germany – press department
Ann-Katrin Dölken, Warner Allee 1, 46244 Bottrop-Kirchhellen
phone: + 49 2045/899-899 fax: +49 2045/899-36741
e-mail: presse@moviepark.de

www.moviepark.de





organization and to symbolically draw attention to their shared values on this upcoming day – because hate is the scariest thing of all.

The devilish attraction menu: eight horror houses and four scare zones

For the 25th mile- and tombstone of the Halloween Horror Festival, guests can look forward not only to two completely new horror attractions. The established mazes "Hell House", "The Slaughterhouse", "Project Ningyo" and "The Curse of Chupacabra" (this year for guests from 12 years of age) herald the doom in proven manner. The "Circus of Freaks" gets a completely new location and moves its ring of horror to the fourth themed area "**Fear Pier**", which is resurrected this year and awakens with new details. The Bochum-based show ensemble "Wallfahrer" also presents its immersive theater show on the pier up to four times an evening.

With "**Secrets of St. Elmo - Last Hunt**", the horror attraction located in the Western area also gets a slightly revised storyline. Cannibals, who cut human bones with their bare jaws, have occupied the abandoned mining village. A long tunnel has been built to protect the inhabitants. However, the barricade is destroyed by curious disaster tourists....

But there's much more lurking in the dense fog of the Western area: The themed area "The Dead West" is transformed into "**Hillbilly Town**". Belongings left behind by missing tourists can be found in the middle of the Wild West, backwoods cannibals roam around. Every half hour, the time of doom sounds and a curse haunts the godforsaken place: The inhumanly deformed creatures know no limits and go on the prowl – time to run for your lives!

Apocalypse of the senses: DJ Max Bering, hypnosis casting, mapping show

To make musical sparks fly as well, the next Halloween party takes place in the scare zone "Acid Rain". DJ Max Bering, known from PAROOKAVILLE, will also provide the soundtrack in the anniversary year for all those who want to insert a party scene into their horror movie. Under "**Max Bering & Friends**", well-known guest DJs will also be at the turntables on selected days this year. With **JC Zeller, Lost Identity, FRDY, T.M.O., MBP & EMPRA** there is still far from an end time mood and the Halloween anniversary party is just getting started!

A classic among the horror productions cannot be missing for the 25th anniversary: The 'hypnosis casting' blurs the boundaries between reality and illusion. **Master of the senses Stephan Nölle** has prepared his casting studio in the saloon again and is just waiting to take the guests into the subconscious with his hypnosis art.

The apocalyptic **mapping show "Horrorwood Rises"** once again turns the facades of "The Toymaker" store into a terrifying game of music, effects, and 3D graphics. On the occasion of the 25th anniversary, some new elements will be included.

For more information: Movie Park Germany – press department
Ann-Katrin Dölken, Warner Allee 1, 46244 Bottrop-Kirchhellen
phone: + 49 2045/899-899 fax: +49 2045/899-36741
e-mail: presse@moviepark.de

www.moviepark.de





More highlights during the 25th Halloween Horror Festival

On all Halloween days and during the NRW autumn vacations, Movie Park Germany offers its popular **Halloween for Kids** from 12 to 5 pm. In addition to a straw maze on the bumper car area of "Back at the Barnyard Bumpers" or a children's horror house, there are numerous family-friendly activities for all 4- to 11-year-old Halloween fans.

After dark, the **scary editions of some coasters** await guests! The "Movie Park Studio Tour - Final Cut" goes into operation. Meanwhile, the "Baboo Twister Express" lurks in the Western area. This year again, the Halloween version of the suspended looping coaster draws visitors into new in-between worlds with light effects and rock music. The wooden coaster "The Bandit" also shines in a new light. Movie Park Germany has specifically invested in a new lighting concept to highlight the Western area even more effectively.

A small **food mile** will be created on the forecourt of the "Baboo Twister Express". In addition, Van Helsing's Club will offer a **themed Halloween buffet** with appetizers, main course, and desserts in the anniversary year. Additionally, group bookings with seat reservations for up to a maximum of 150 people per time slot can also be made in advance. Three time slots will be available for this.

Tickets for the Halloween Horror Festival

Movie Park **admission tickets** include park admission and the Halloween Horror Festival with spooky atmosphere on the streets and ominous encounters with the monsters in four scare zones. Due to high demand in recent years, Movie Park Germany strongly recommends that all Halloween fans purchase a ticket *online*. However, the box offices will be open for all spontaneous visitors.

Timeslot tickets for the horror houses, however, can *only* be purchased online and must be booked in addition to park admission. Tickets will be available as usual from Mid-September at www.moviepark.de/extras. The park will soon inform about this on its social media platforms.

For the first time this year, there will also be a **VIP ticket**, which will include, for example, a VIP parking space next to the box office, a backstage tour and other Halloween highlights. More information will follow shortly.

More details can soon be found on the park's website at www.movieparkgermany.de or at www.halloween-horror-festival.de.

For more information: Movie Park Germany – press department
Ann-Katrin Dölken, Warner Allee 1, 46244 Bottrop-Kirchhellen
phone: + 49 2045/899-899 fax: +49 2045/899-36741
e-mail: presse@moviepark.de

www.moviepark.de





Movie Park Germany

Since 1996, Movie Park Germany has been offering its visitors shows, attractions and events all about film, with the motto: "Hooray, I'm in the movies!" Spanning approximately 45 hectares, the Park invites guests to immerse themselves in the world of film and find excitement, entertainment and thrill in more than 40 different attractions. Germany's largest film and amusement park is a special experience for young and old alike, having borne the TÜV distinction "OK for Kids" since 2006. Featuring Nickland, one of the largest NICK theme worlds worldwide, the Park is particularly suitable for families. Thanks to the in-house tour operator Movie Park Holidays, arranging a long journey with accommodation in nearby hotels is child's play. www.movieparkholidays.com. Movie Park is part of Parques Reunidos, one of the leading global operators of regional leisure parks with a well-diversified portfolio of more than 60 different assets (theme parks, zoos and marine parks, water parks and other attractions), spread out over 12 countries across Europe, North America, the Middle East, and Australia.

For more information: Movie Park Germany – press department
Ann-Katrin Dölken, Warner Allee 1, 46244 Bottrop-Kirchhellen
phone: + 49 2045/899-899 fax: +49 2045/899-36741
e-mail: presse@moviepark.de

www.moviepark.de

