

# BMW Welt & Factory Tour

Since it opened in 1973, the BMW Museum has been one of Munich's leading tourist attractions. More than 200,000 people a year have visited the building next to BMW's "four-cylinder" skyscraper near the Olympic Park, making it the #2 museum in Munich after the Deutsches Museum.

In the summer of 2008, a larger and more ambitious BMW Museum opened as part of **BMW Welt**, or "BMW World," which combines:

- The all-new **BMW Museum**, with 5,000 square meters of exhibition space (compared to 1,000 square meters at the old facility).
- A **BMW Delivery Center**, where German BMW buyers and customers from overseas can pick up their new cars.
- A redesigned **BMW Plant Tour**, where visitors can see everything from the Press Shop (where body parts are made out of huge steel coils) to the Engine Construction Shop and final Vehicle Assembly line.



The two-hour guided tour lets you walk right into the middle of the action: During your visit to the body shop, for example, you'll be surrounded by giant conveyors that lift car bodies into place for automated welding by computer-controlled robots. Other highlights include the "wedding" of engines and car bodies (with a cluster of automatic bolt-drivers rising up to lock the engines into place) and a final-assembly line where cars from different series--many of them customized for individual buyers--are put together one after the other in a remarkable display of logistical efficiency.

Whether you're a liberal who's concerned about worker welfare or a capitalist who values productivity and quality control, you'll be impressed by the thought that has gone into making the assembly line "worker-friendly." Examples:

- As cars move along the line, assembly teams ride with them on a moving belt instead of trying to walk and perform assembly tasks at the same time.
- Conveyors and other devices position car bodies at the most comfortable level for each task. (For example, near the end of the line, where license plates are bolted on, the cars are lifted up so workers don't have to bend down.)
- The plant is cleaner and better lit than many people's kitchens, and there's less noise than you'd expect.



The Tour cost €6 per person and is limited to 30 people. Payments for the BMW Welt & Factory Tour will be collected at the Beer Garden on arrival day.

To sign up for this tour, [RSVP HERE!](#)