



Things worth knowing about the Technik Museum Sinsheim



Technik Museum Sinsheim: Source: TMSNH



The Technik Museum Sinsheim's new major exhibit since July 2024: U17 submarine. Source TMSNHSP

1. History

The history of the Technik Museum Sinsheim began in late 1980. During a meeting of technology enthusiasts the idea was born to give the public access to all the gems of technological history that had been restored, often in years of painstaking attention to detail. A museum club was founded and but few months later the Technik Museum Sinsheim opened its doors for the first time on 6 May 1981. From the beginning the museum was a great success and the ever increasing number of visitors made it possible to quickly extend the exhibition area from the initial 5,000 m² to more than 33,000 m². Besides many other vintage cars from all eras of automobile history and many other exhibit items the Technik Museum Sinsheim today presents the largest private collection of vintage Maybach, supercharged Mercedes, and Bugatti automobiles in Germany, several hundred motorcycles, aircraft, record vehicles, racing and sports cars, locomotives, military and utility cars, engines and much more.

In 1999 the museum club managed to acquire a Russian Tupolev Tu-144 supersonic passenger aircraft. In a spectacular transport, the aircraft was transported from Moscow to Sinsheim over land and sea and mounted in starting position on the roof of one of the museum halls in early 2001. Enough room was left for the only other supersonic passenger aircraft ever built, the French / British Concorde, which at that time was still in service. Only four years later this gap could be filled when a Concorde was donated to the museum by Air France after the retirement of their Concorde fleet. The Technik Museum Sinsheim is the only museum in the world in which the only two supersonic aircraft ever flying in regular service can be visited side by side.

Over the last three decades Technik Museum Sinsheim has been displaying over 3.000 exhibits throughout the world of technology and they are constantly increasing. Therefore, it was only a matter of time until the capacity limit was reached – new facilities were needed.

The Association's Board of Directors agreed on an extension- the so called Hall 3. The new museum hall is the venue for regularly changing special exhibitions. The current focus is on 'Fascination Tuning - VW vs Opel', an exhibition that brings the world of vehicle tuning to life. Technical innovation, individuality and passion come together here - a scene in which every vehicle bears a personal signature. The exhibition will remain dynamic until 13 September 2026: changing exhibits and special events ensure that there is always something new to discover.

In April/May 2023, the Technik Museen Sinsheim Speyer let the Republic take part in a very special event: From Kiel through the North Sea, the Netherlands and across the Rhine to Speyer - the exciting journey of the decommissioned Class 206 submarine to its temporary home in the cathedral city took three weeks. Arrangements were made until the summer of 2024 to ensure its onward transport to Sinsheim. Then it set off on 30 June 2024: on the water, on the road, tilted and righted, through narrow villages, over railway tracks and motorway and through the winding roads of the Kraichgau region - the U17 journey took four weeks until the metal colossus reached its final destination, the Technik Museum Sinsheim. People followed the journey on site and via livestream with great interest. Thousands flocked to the respective arrival points to see the submarine up close; they lined the riverside roads or accompanied the low-loader for kilometres. The new exhibit will be open to the public from spring 2025.

2. The IMAX 3D Cinema at the Technik Museum Sinsheim

In 1996, the Technik Museum Sinsheim created a unique film experience with the IMAX 3D large format movie theater. Never before had it been possible to admire 3D movies that even began to compare to this quality on a huge screen. Since then IMAX films have been casting a spell on over 5 million visitors in Sinsheim. In 2016, the IMAX 3D Sinsheim made history again because, as of March of this year, the IMAX 3D Sinsheim is presenting the brand new and revolutionary IMAX 4k laser technology as one of the first movie theaters worldwide.

The centerpiece of the new technology are two huge laser projectors which are projecting 2D- as well as 3D-films in a digital 4k quality onto a house-high screen. To be able to appreciate the true significance of these specifications you have to watch an IMAX film on a screen of this type. This innovative, dual 4k laser projection system by IMAX is providing the audience with the sharpest, brightest and clearest digital images of all times. In spite of the gigantic image size, the laser technology is accomplishing a brilliance and image sharpness surpassing the classical

film technology by far. The system was newly developed from scratch and besides the revolutionary laser projection system also includes a number of new, in-house developed IMAX technologies to present the viewer with an absolutely breath-taking experience.

The also completely new 12-channel surround-sound sound system with sub-bass, which makes the action of the film physically perceptible, is turning the IMAX experience into an adventure for all senses. The new system is producing even more power and precision than the previous one and provides an ultimate sound experience. The house-high loudspeaker system has been extended from six channels plus sub-bass to twelve channels, and is offering two additional side-speakers as well as four new overhead speakers. This way it is possible to position the film sound at any given location in the theater and it is thus possible to achieve an optimal listening experience for each and any visitor in the entire house. Owing to laser adjusted loudspeakers, calibration on a daily basis and non-compressed soundtracks, specifically mastered for IMAX, the audio experience in the IMAX 3D Cinema is also achieving a new dimension. During the day the IMAX 3D Cinema at the Museum Sinsheim is showing spectacular 3D-documentations on an hourly alternating basis, and as evening entertainment selected Hollywood blockbusters, also in 2D and 3D. For further information and a list of current films, please visit the website www.imax-laser-sinsheim.de

3. General Information

3.1 Organization

The museum is operated by a non profit association, the Auto & Technik Museum e.V., which has currently 5,000 members from all over the world. The museums are financed exclusively by membership fees, donations, and the admission fees. All surplus funds are used for the advancement of the museums. Everyone who is interested in technology and wants to support the museums can become club member. Companies and institutions are also welcome.

3.2 Special exhibitions and meetings

Every year many special exhibitions, vehicle meetings and other events are organized in the Technik Museum Sinsheim. Traditional events that take place every year are, e.g., the Ostalgia Convention, the US car meeting, and the motorcycle weekend. Information about the event calendar is available on the website of the museums.

3.3 Arrival

Both museums can easily be reached by car or public transport. The Technik Museum Sinsheim is located directly at the autobahn A6 between the cities of Mannheim and Heilbronn. Leave the

autobahn at exit 33b Sinsheim-Süd and follow the signs which will guide you directly to the free car and bus parking places. The museum can also easily be reached by public transport. Just a few minutes' walk away from the museum is the train station "Museum / Arena" at the railway route Heilbronn-Heidelberg. There is also a bus stop for the Sinsheim city bus directly at the museum.

3.4 Packages, accommodation and event service

A very attractive package is the "day pass" which includes the admission to the museum and to one IMAX movie. The museum also offers comfortable accommodation. Directly next to the Technik Museum Sinsheim is the four-star Hotel Sinsheim. For short trips the museum offers several packages comprising a visit to the museum and accommodation. These packages can be booked through the internet shop www.technik-museum.de/shop. In addition, there are also packages for tour groups and tour operators. For functions of all kinds and sizes a professional event service is available.

3.5 Opening hours, contact information and admission fees

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