







What will make the atmosphere in Aachen so unique during these ten days?

More than ever, the Aachen Pilgrimage will be an event for the whole city of Aachen and the diocese. Experience a unique atmosphere around the cathedral and in the entire city centre.

- The open and festively radiant cathedral with the relics in the chancel
- Daily masses for pilgrims in Katschhof Square, during which the relics will be displayed
- Spiritual offerings in the churches around the city
- More than 100,000 pilgrims from Germany and around the world on the streets of Aachen
- The 'Discover me' programme of cultural events on the concert stage
- Cultural highlights during the evening events in Katschhof Square
- Cabaret and music on various stages
- Special tours at the Centre Charlemagne and the Cathedral Treasury
- Plenty of other themed and cultural events

**DISCOVER THE PILGRIMAGE 2023
IN AACHEN AND KORNELIMÜNSTER**
HEILIGTUMSFAHRT2023.DE/EN

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Individual pilgrims need not register. We do recommend that groups register with the Pilgrimage Office beforehand.

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**AACHEN
PILGRIMAGE**

DISCOVER ME

9 TO 19 JUNE 2023
HEILIGTUMSFAHRT2023.DE/EN

#HEIFA2023

I am over 700 years of tradition
and an heir of Charlemagne.

I am relics, the cathedral and Aachen.

I am a place of encounter with God.

I am an occasion for discussion and
a source of inspiration.

I am fellowship, spirituality,
culture and music.

I am an experience for people of all ages.

I am a feast of faith that is
celebrated every seven years.

I am the Aachen Pilgrimage.

Discover me.

AACHEN PILGRIMAGE

DISCOVER ME

What makes the Aachen Pilgrimage unique?

Since its very beginnings the pilgrimage, held every seven years since 1349, has been a special experience for pilgrims from around the world. And significantly more than that. It has been a space for spirituality, an occasion for cultural exchange and a wellspring for Aachen's links to the world. And it was always a space for discourse, for social reflection and even a place of protest against National Socialism. The Aachen Pilgrimage was always more than the veneration of relics dating back more than a thousand years. To this day, it still is.

What relics will pilgrims be coming to see?

The magnificent Shrine of St. Mary in Aachen Cathedral houses four cloth relics that are removed for the duration of the pilgrimage only once every seven years. For ten days they are displayed to pilgrims and venerated in numerous services. The relics are ancient cloths. Tradition has it that they are St. Mary's robe, Jesus' swaddling clothes, St. John the Baptist's beheading cloth and Jesus' loincloth.

In nearby Kornelimünster the apron cloth worn by Jesus at the Last Supper, his Sudarium and his shroud will be displayed over the same period.

It is said that Charlemagne received the seven relics as a gift from Jerusalem in 799 to consecrate his palatinate church – today's Aachen Cathedral. In 814 Charlemagne's son gave three of the relics to the newly-founded Imperial Abbey of Kornelimünster.

What does the slogan 'Who do you say I am?' (Mt 16.15) mean?

The Church is a place for culture and spirituality, for meeting and sharing, and for conversation and prayer. It is also a place where questions raised by society are put to the test with the value system of faith. The Aachen Pilgrimage and its programme of events will provide countless opportunities to do just that. The slogan 'Who do you say I am?' invites us to discuss how we see ourselves and others in society. Am I more than the sum of my likes in social media? How can we create understanding and respect between generations, nationalities and religions? What does Christian charity mean today? These are just some of the questions that will be raised by the programme of spiritual events during the Aachen Pilgrimage 2023.

