**Over 31 000 visits, a world music premiere, guided tours with an assistance service for visually impaired and joint tandem cyclo tour around Velodrom – that was Open House Brno 2024**

**Next year's event will take place on 17-18 May 2025!**

**Brno festival of architecture and urbanism recorded a total of 31 912 visits, four times more than the initial event seven years ago and 4000 more than in the previous year. Moreover, collaboration with Brno Museum Night yielded further 23 thousand visits on Saturday evening.**

Almost 2000 people tuned into podcasts for individual tours and some 5000 visits took place online via YouTube. The greatest interest was in tours of the AZ Tower, the villas Engelsmann and Tesar, but also Franz Kafka Spital. From the curatorial intention of this year’s edition the Logopedic Elementary School and Kindergarten in the historic Rohrer villa with a modern annex or the Roma centre DROM attracted the most. At the same time, the visually impaired could enjoy a tandem ride at the Brno Velodrome or experience what it is like to stand on the top of tallest building in the Czech Republic.

**"***I want to thank all visitors of the festival, whose interest motivates us to innovate the content and look for other forms of accompanying programmes. I was very pleasantly surprised by the interest in places that are directly related to this year's themes of inclusion and accessibility. I am convinced that cities should be easily accessible to all their inhabitants, they should be transformed with respect to people with any form of disadvantage. It is inspiring to experience the so-called aha moments and to find out what can actually be a barrier. I see the festival also as a way to get closer to each other and I am very glad that this goal of Open House Brno is being fulfilled***,”** evaluates this year's festival its creative director and founder Lucie Pešl Šilerová from the Culture & Management Club.

This year's festival offered 116 locations in total, of which 42 were included in the curatorial intent of **Inclusion and Accessibility** in various ways. Entries to the most desirable places with the necessary reservations were booked out in units of seconds, reservations were needed for 48 venues in total. Seventy-six locations were accessible without reservations, while some of the places offered guided tours with reservations as well as free individual tours.

There were also twenty-two accompanying events such as workshops, lectures, exhibitions or musical performances.Visitors to the festival also saw the world premiere of Compositions for Electric Guitar and three string instruments by Ondřej Kyas performed by the Diversa Quartet and also a special performance by visual artist Lubo Kristek. Participants in the weekend event can also evaluate the whole course of the festival through questionnaires. Their answers will help organizers with preparations and improvements of the following editions.

**"***The festival could not be held without volunteers and the openness of the owners of individual buildings. The City of Brno with its owned or managed institutions is one of the largest owners, thus we are very grateful to the City for the financial and organisational support and cooperation and to Mayor Markéta Vaňková for the patronage she provided to this year's festival. For the support and cooperation, we would also like to thank the CTP company or food businesses, which made the festival more pleasant for our visitors through discounts. We also appreciate foreign volunteers from festivals in Vienna, Tallinn or Dublin and the overall support of 14 cities involved in the Open House Europe consortium this year, because sharing experiences is another step towards improving Open House Brno***," festival spokesperson Vratislav Vozník thanks the partners.**

**The organizers will add attractions from the year 2024 as well as from other European Open Houses throughout the year on www.openhousebrno.cz, on fb.com/openhousebrno and instagram.com/openhousebrno.**

**The festival is also part of Open House Worldwide,** a network of more than sixty cities around the world, organizing festivals of architecture for the public. The organized events reach more than two million people around the world every year. Brno has been part of this network since 2018.

The festival is now also part of Open House Europe project <https://openhouseeurope.org/> Thematic axes will allow Open House Europe to shape the agenda for a debate about contemporary and heritage architecture, its values and quality.

**Photos drive link** [**https://drive.google.com/drive/u/1/folders/1GcUDcoI\_MunzJBmThgiyJYfRhgBm6vEs**](https://drive.google.com/drive/u/1/folders/1GcUDcoI_MunzJBmThgiyJYfRhgBm6vEs)

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