

The Berlin Wall in 3D: Augmented reality app MauAR

The MauAR app is now available for download free of charge. The app uses augmented reality to create a lifelike visualization of the Berlin Wall, and explores the history of the city's division in several episodes.

Using smartphones or tablets, augmented reality enhances your perception of the real-world environment with overlaid information. In the case of MauAR, this means: When you start the app at a location where the Wall once stood, your device will display an interactive 3D model of the Wall whenever it is pointed at a location along the former course of the Berlin Wall, which extended for approximately 160 kilometres. An integrated map shows users where the Wall once stood.

A special feature allows users to switch between three different points in time (1961, 1971 and 1981) to see how the Wall shaped Berlin's cityscape over three decades and how the Wall and its system of barriers evolved to form a lethal border system.



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The episodes

In five special episodes featuring animations, images, videos, texts, sounds and music, MauAR shows how the Berlin Wall changed between 1961 and 1989.

Two fictional characters – one from the East and one from the West – describe their experiences of the period from their own perspectives: Andreas, born in East Berlin, is celebrating his thirteenth birthday on 13 August 1961 when he watches from his kitchen window as the border is closed. Johanna comes from West Berlin and witnesses the building of the Wall at the age of fifteen. Users can accompany her as she discovers the western face of the Berlin Wall.

App users who are unable to travel to Berlin can still view the stories in the app along with a sample section of the Wall from any location around the world.

MauAR and the festival week

Five special episodes are being created in collaboration with Kulturprojekte Berlin on the occasion of the festival week “30th Anniversary of the Peaceful Revolution – Fall of the Berlin Wall”. During the festival week, these episodes will recount the events that unfolded at the original locations of the Peaceful Revolution. At Alexanderplatz, for example, users can become virtual participants in the demonstration of 4 November 1989.

The app can be downloaded at www.mauar.berlin, and will initially be available in the Apple app store.

This digital resource will continue to be available after the festival.

The MauAR app is a collaborative project by Kulturprojekte Berlin and BetaRoom, and will be presented at the “30th Anniversary of the Peaceful Revolution – Fall of the Berlin Wall” festival week.

For further information and images to download, see www.mauerfall30.berlin.

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