



ESO OPEN HOUSE DAY 2024



3 October, 10:00–17:00

Welcome to the **European Southern Observatory!** There is a lot to discover at the ESO Headquarters today. The map will help you find your way.

Need help? Just ask a member of our staff. You can recognise them by their badge. As ESO is an international organisation, our staff speak various languages.

Programme

1

Welcome to ESO. Ask for information and get material about ESO. Children can pick up their passport here to collect stamps. Collect stamps at all activities and get the chance to win a prize (prizes can be collected from area 2).

2



ESO Supernova Planetarium & Visitor Centre. Experience an interactive exhibition that will leave you in awe of the Universe we live in. Discover the planetarium shows, join a guided tour of the exhibition (pre-booking at the ESO Supernova reception required), or travel to the ESO telescopes in virtual reality. Entry is free but donations are most welcome.

For information about the planetarium shows, please check the screens at the ESO Supernova entrance and ask staff at reception about tickets if you have not already booked online.

ESOshop — Looking for souvenirs or gifts? Browse books, postcards, magnets and much more.

Activities for kids — Get your face painted or get hands-on with our arts and crafts activities! Once you have visited all stamp stations, pick up your prize here.

Final stamp station (ESO Supernova).

3



ESO and ALMA exhibitions with models, Ask an astronomer. Embark on a journey into and around some of ESO's most breathtaking sites and groundbreaking instruments. Learn more about ESO's telescopes and science. Our astronomers will happily answer any questions you have. You will recognise them by their "Ask an astronomer" badge.
ALMA stamp station.

4

Chill videos. Take a moment to relax by watching incredible images from the ESO sites in Chile and listening to a chill out session.

5

Picture book presentation. *Paul und Marie reisen zu den Sternen* is a story by Maria Breuer, with illustrations by Daniela Kunkel (Carlsen Verlag). For kids aged 3 years and older, duration 20 minutes.

6



Extremely Large Telescope (ELT) activities, Ask an engineer. Explore the world's biggest eye on the sky. View the most recent video of the ELT construction in the Chilean Atacama Desert and explore the ELT in a virtual reality experience. If you have questions, look for one of our staff members wearing an "Ask an engineer" badge. You can also build your very own mini telescope out of Lego (limited number available)! **ELT stamp station.**

7

Guided tours of ESO. Join our guides on a tour through our premises and learn more about ESO. Pre-registration at the reception of the main ESO entrance is required. Tours are available in German and English.

8



ELT prototype components, astronomical instrumentation, and mechanical workshop. ESO builds some of the largest telescopes in the world. Learn about astronomical instruments, how we test the ELT's prototype components, and how we optimise the performance of our telescopes. Visit the mechanical workshop and see live machining from raw material to precision parts that will be installed on ESO's telescopes. A number of limited-edition machined mini-ELTs will be given away in exchange for a contribution to the ESO Charity Group. **ESO stamp station.**

9

Human Resources. Want to join the ESO team? Talk to our HR staff about working at ESO and how to apply!



Programme

10

Talks, live connection to Chile and videos. Here you have a chance to talk live to one of our telescope operators at ESO's observatories in Chile, listen to astronomers talk about fascinating science, or enjoy brief videos about ESO and the work that we do.

11

Cafeteria. Grab a free drink or, for a small donation to our Charity Group, enjoy an international buffet with food from around the world, home-made by our staff.

12

Observing with a telescope. If we have clear skies, astronomers will show you the Sun using a special filter on their telescopes.

13

Infrared photography. Have your infrared picture taken! Demonstration of magic experiments with an infrared camera.

14



Youngsters Corner. Looking for future co-workers! Experience how creative, exciting and varied technology is. Come with us on a hands-on tour, with workshops and experiments — or simply ask us questions to your heart's content! **VLT stamp station.**

15

Comet factory. What are comets made of? Find out at this spectacular comet-making demonstration.

16

Night-sky photo collection, Inclusive astronomy. Explore star and planet formation through touch. Admire vistas of the night sky and astronomical objects.

17



Visit the ESO Observatories in Chile. Information desk for public visits to our observatories in Chile.
La Silla stamp station.





18

Twinkling stars and air turbulence. Have you ever noticed that stars twinkle? This is due to turbulence in the atmosphere. In this experiment you will see how turbulence works, and you will learn how our telescopes can deal with it.



Enjoying
the day?

Share your photos and videos on social media using **#TagDerOffenenTür** and don't forget to tag us too:

-  @esoastronomy
-  @ESO Astronomy
-  @ESO
-  @ESOobservatory

Data Privacy Notice

Please note: Photographs and video recordings will be made during this event. These may contain non-directly identifiable people (e.g. group shots, wide-angle shots, shots from behind the head). If you are clearly identifiable, we will obtain your written consent. For more information about the use of this material and your rights please follow the link using the QR code.



Schedule

Start time	Activity	Language	Area	Suitable for
10:15	Picture book presentation	German	5	Kids > 3 years
10:20	Videos: <i>What is ESO?</i> <i>Chasing Starlight: The Largest Telescope Dome Ever Built</i>	English	10	All ages
10:30	Guided tour of ESO	German	7	All ages
10:40	Talk: <i>Astronomy in Science Fiction and Science Fiction in Astronomy</i>	English	10	All ages
11:00	Picture book presentation	German	5	Kids > 3 years
11:15	Talk: <i>ALMA — das andere ESO Observatorium</i>	German	10	All ages
11:20	Comet factory	German	15	All ages
11:30	Guided tour of ESO	English	7	All ages
11:45	Picture book presentation	German	5	Kids > 3 years
11:50	Talk: <i>Unser Sonnensystem</i>	German	10	Kids 6–12 years
12:00	Demonstration: Infrared camera	German	13	All ages
12:00	Guided tour of the ESO Supernova exhibition	German	2	All ages
12:25	Talk: <i>Love in the sky: the fantastic world of binary stars</i>	English	10	All ages
12:30	Picture book presentation	German	5	Kids > 3 years
12:30	Guided tour of ESO	German	7	All ages
12:45	Comet factory	English	15	All ages
13:00	Talk: <i>Kosmologie, Elemententstehung, explodierende Sterne</i>	German	10	All ages
13:00	Guided tour of the ESO Supernova exhibition	German	2	All ages
13:15	Picture book presentation	German	5	Kids > 3 years
13:30	Guided tour of ESO	German	7	All ages
13:30	Comet factory	German	15	All ages
13:35	Talk: <i>The ALMA search for our cosmic origins</i>	English	10	All ages
14:00	Guided tour of the ESO Supernova exhibition	German	2	All ages
14:00	Picture book presentation	German	5	Kids > 3 years
14:10	Live connection to ALMA, Chile	German	10	All ages
14:15	Comet factory	English	15	All ages
14:30	Guided tour of ESO	English	7	All ages
14:45	Talk: <i>Schnappschüsse ferner Welten: wie wir Exoplaneten fotografieren</i>	German	10	All ages
14:45	Picture book presentation	German	5	Kids > 3 years
15:00	Demonstration: Infrared camera	German	13	All ages
15:00	Guided tour of the ESO Supernova exhibition	English	2	All ages
15:20	Talk: <i>Einführung in das ESO La Silla Paranal Observatorium</i>	German	10	All ages
15:30	Picture book presentation	German	5	Kids > 3 years
15:30	Guided tour of ESO	German	7	All ages
15:30	Live connection to Paranal, Chile	German	10	All ages
15:45	Comet factory	German	15	All ages
16:00	Guided tour of the ESO Supernova exhibition	German	2	All ages
16:05	Talk: <i>Die Suche nach außerirdischem Leben</i>	German	10	All ages
16:15	Picture book presentation	German	5	Kids > 3 years
16:30	Comet factory	English	15	All ages
16:40	Videos: <i>What is ESO?</i> <i>Chasing Starlight: From black holes to proto-planets: ALMA's top discoveries.</i>	English	10	All ages



Legend

- Level 1 — Ground floor
- Level 2 — 2nd floor
- Level 3 — 3rd floor
- Outdoor activity
- ♿ WCs
- Main entrance
- ♿ Stamp station

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