



Press release

The Munic Christmas tree is from Königsdorf

(Nov. 27, 2023) A Christmas tree from the district of Bad Tölz-Wolfratshausen will be the landmark of the Christkindlmarkt (Christmas market) on Marienplatz (main square) this year. The 50-year-old Serbian spruce from the municipality of Königsdorf measures around 25 metres in height and around 60 centimetres in diameter at its lower trunk. The tree previously stood at the idyllic campsite at Lake Bibisee, north of Königsdorf. It had to be felled anyway as it stood surrounded by numerous caravans and awnings: as a shallow-rooted tree, it posed a considerable safety risk in dry weather and storms.

The tree was felled in the presence of representatives of the municipality of Königsdorf, loaded onto a heavy goods vehicle and seen off with representatives of the local press on November 7.

The heavy-haulage operation started during the night of November 8, when the tree set off on its 40-kilometre journey to the Bavarian capital, passing through three districts on its way. The Christmas tree was finally delivered to Marienplatz at 6 am the following morning.

A team from Munich's professional fire department used heavy-duty equipment to ensure the tree was erected and then lowered and wedged into a two-metre-deep hole in the ground in front of the Neues Rathaus



(New Town Hall) by means of a crane. Staff of the street lighting division in the city's construction department will be decorating the tree with fairy lights over the next few days.

Economical LED lighting is being used once again this year. At the opening of the traditional Christmas market at 5 pm on November 27, the Mayor of Munich, Dieter Reiter, together with Königsdorf Mayor Rainer Kopnicky, will officially hand over the tree to the people of Munich as the bells of the Alter Peter church are sounded. During the Advent season, 21 local associations from the municipality of Königsdorf will be running a mulled wine stand in the courtyard of Munich Town Hall until December 23. In addition to the mulled wine, regional snacks will also be on offer such as farmhouse bread with crackling lard, vegan spreads, ham and cheese. The spruce from Königsdorf will be a splendid sight to behold, lit by 3,000 candles until Epiphany on January 6, 2024. Rather than being switched on in the morning, the lighting will not go on until dusk from around 4 pm onwards: the idea here is to do more to save energy again this year, in addition to using LED technology. The lights will be switched off at 11 pm. Removal of the tree will start on 10 January.

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