

1st of August 2023
Press Release



World Youth Day reviews the opening of the international gathering

The World Youth Day (WYD) Lisbon 2023 Foundation made a review of the main indicators that were registered until this. These mark the beginning of the biggest international gathering of young people with the Pope, which happens in Lisbon from the current day until the 6th of August:

- Until this moment, 354,000 pilgrims from all over the world have completed their registration, with every country in the world being represented except for the Maldives. In this World Youth Day with the most nationalities in its history, the countries with the most registered pilgrims are Spain (77,224), Italy (59,469), Portugal (43,742), France (42,482) and the United States of America (19,196);
- Th WYD Lisbon 2023 also has a great presence of pilgrims coming from Portuguese-speaking countries: Brazil (5,826), Angola (752), Cape Verde (940), Sao Tome and Principe (513), Mozambique (312). Guinea Bissau (122) and East Timor (62);
- In a WYD that aims to be inclusive towards everyone, the WYD Lisbon 2023 has 1,753 pilgrims with different types of disabilities registered, of which 135 are deaf, 241 are blind and the remaining have either reduced mobility or intellectual disability. During the gathering there will also be both Portuguese and International sign language interpretation service;
- Regarding the housing, 1,626 public spaces were made available in the three host dioceses - Lisbon, Setúbal and Santarém. These can house up to 295,151 pilgrims. 8,831 Host Families will also house 28,618 pilgrims;
- In terms of volunteer number, the gathering can count with the support of more than 25,000 registered people coming mostly from Portugal, Spain, France, Brazil and Colombia;
- The WYD Lisbon 2023 catering network has the support of 1,800 adhering establishments, with a contracted supply of 2.7 million meals for the gathering;



- The WYD Lisbon 2023 will have 688 bishops present, of which, 30 are cardinals. The countries with the most bishops represented are: Italy (109), Spain (70) France (65), United States of America (61) and Portugal (36);
- Regarding the accreditation of social media professionals, about 5,000 people are registered;
- Aside from Central events, the WYD Lisbon 2023 has other initiatives. The [Youth Festival program](#) features more than 600 events taking place in 90 different locations, with the participation of more than 2,500 artists;
- Committed to being the most sustainable WYD in its history and in line with Pope Francis's proposals for an integral ecology, 17,980 trees dedicated to the WYD 2023 have been planted.

About the WYD

The World Youth Day (WYD) is a gathering of young people from all over the world with the Pope and it was instituted by Saint John Paul II in 1985. Since then, it has been moment for gathering and sharing to millions of people around the world.

The first edition happened in 1986 in Rome and since then, the WYD has been in the following cities: Buenos Aires (1987), Santiago de Compostela (1989) Czestochowa (1991), Denver (1993), Manila (1995), Paris (1997), Rome (2000), Toronto (2002), Cologne (2005), Sidney (2008), Madrid (2011), Rio de Janeiro (2013), Krakow (2016) and Panama (2019). On the 27th of January 2019, during the conclusion of the Word Youth Day in the Panama City, it was announced that Pope Francis's choice for for the next edition of World Youth Day would be Lisbon. WYD Lisbon 2023 will happen from the 1st of August to the 6th of August 2023.

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