The Castle offers a lovely atmosphere and perfect conditions for almost every kind of seminar or event, and is an extraordinary place for overnight stays and group accommodation.

Gollwitz Manor House is a encounter place, where Jewish and non-Jewish people can come together. It was opened in April 2009 after being completely renovated and it offers space for education, meetings, accommodation, conferences and special events.

The castle - situated in the village of Gollwitz, east of the city of Brandenburg an der Havel - is open for groups of different cultures, religions and ages.

Gollwitz Manor House considers itself as an educational institution for young people to support the non-formal education in many areas of study, in civic education, and bringing young people together. Racism, Anti-Semitism and group-focused enmity are some of the main topics of our educational work. We also offer trainings and educational courses for adults.

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A short history of the house

The foundation of the house goes back to medi eval times. Gollwitz Manor House was built in the second half of the 18th century, and it was until 1946 in the ownership of the Rochow family. As a result of the land reforms in the former GDR after World War II the building was home to a kindergarten and a school. The school was closed in 1977, and subsequently an educational institution took over the house and used it for teacher training purposes. By 1994 the castle had been abandoned. In autumn 1997 the local municipality of Potsdam-Mittelmark planned to accommodate 50 - 60 Jewish refugees from the former Soviet Union and Russia in the castle. However, the local council of Gollwitz objected to these proposals. Soon after, a civic initiative was founded with the support of the district government, which aimed to develop a new concept for the building. An encounter place for Jewish and non-Jewish people to support educational work against Anti-Semitism, Racism and group-focused enmity.

After a period of extensive refurbishment, this new encounter place opened its doors in April 2009. Today, the castle is owned by the "Foundation Gollwitz Manor House" within the German Foundation of Monument Protection.
Education

Citizen education is considered an essential part of our work. We offer various workshops and seminars and can adapt them to suit the individual needs of the group.

We include current political and social affairs and develop our programs accordingly.

You can book the following seminars:

- **Everything but simple**
  The history of the Middle East Conflict
- **Clips for more respect**
  Media workshop
- **Together we are strong**
  Team building and social interaction
- **The prejudice inside me**
  Anti-Bias - anti-discrimination work

Our tailor-made programs are suitable for all people from the age of 12. Programs are offered for 2-5 days and are suitable for youth groups, school classes and associations of people with an interest in those topics.

In co-operation with our participants, we are more than happy to create further and different learning modules which can include intercultural learning, drama or inclusion.

Encounters

Every year the team of Gollwitz Manor House organizes international exchanges with young people from different countries and special encounters with survivors of the Holocaust.

The main focus is the exchange between German and Israeli young people and professionals several times a year. Additionally, we have regular contact with partner organizations in the United States, the European Union and in other countries all around the world.

We are active:

- in a worldwide exchange of young people and professionals (bi- tri and multilateral)
- in the work with survivors of the Holocaust
- in developing special short projects within the framework of youth meetings

Accommodation

We offer 21 guest-rooms with up to 60 beds, ranging from single rooms up to rooms with six beds. All rooms are ensuite with either shower or bath. There is also one bedroom with wheelchair access on the ground floor. If requested, we can supply bed linen, towels, cots and high chairs for children.

Our menu features vegetarian dishes, including milk products and fish in accordance to Jewish diet, to enable people from different religious backgrounds to have meals together. Guests have regularly commented favourably on the excellent quality of the dishes, which are prepared mainly from locally sourced ingredients. In summer, participants can use the Barbeque facilities in the curtilage.

Visitors can enjoy the surrounding park, cycle along the cycle path by the river Havel and swim in the lake.

Facilities and equipment:

- **Lectern**
- **Presentation case**
- **Hi-Fi equipment**
- **Screens**
- **Digital projector including loudspeakers and cable**
- **Flipcharts and pin boards**
- **Wi-Fi throughout the house**
- **Television with DVD player**

Gollwitz Manor House presents literary evenings, concerts, theatre productions and exhibitions and extends a warm welcome to those planning their special event.

Conferences and special events

Gollwitz Manor House is ideal for conferences, meetings, seminars, workshops, theatre and choir rehearsals and can be booked for one or more days. The charming and beautifully restored castle offers a perfect venue in a peaceful location.

Rooms for conferences and meetings:

- Big seminar room with grand piano (L-shape, 110 m²) can be divided into two separate rooms by a concertina door:
  - Big seminar room (60 m²)
  - Grand piano room (50 m²)
- Conservatory/winter garden room (33 m²)
- Room with open fireplace and Piano (50 m²) & terrace
- Small room for groups (17 m²)

Facilities and equipment:

- Lectern
- Presentation case
- Hi-Fi equipment
- Screens
- Digital projector including loudspeakers and cable
- Flipcharts and pin boards
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Gollwitz Manor House presents literary evenings, concerts, theatre productions and exhibitions and extends a warm welcome to those planning their special event.

**Meeting people from different countries is an unforgettable experience. It creates connections between people and promotes intercultural learning by the participants.**