

Latest trend: healthy living spaces!

Passive House Open Days from 6 till 8 November 2020 – virtual and in-person visits

Darmstadt, Germany. Not only is the demand for home ownership increasing, awareness relating to a healthy living environment is also growing. Those participating in the Passive House Open Days in early November will be able to see and experience for themselves how Passive House buildings not only protect the climate but also contribute to a healthy living environment. From 6 till 8 November 2020, residents all around the globe will open their Passive House homes to the public. Many of these offers will be virtual tours, but personal visits are also possible.



This Passive House in Curis-Mont-d'Or, France, may be visited during the International Passive House Open Days. Find more information in the Passive House Project Database (ID: 5330).
© éco2travaux

Extremely energy efficient buildings like Passive House buildings are not only becoming more and more accepted due to their low energy consumption, they also offer advantages in regards to living healthy. In winter, the heat remains inside for a long time. In summer, though, the heat stays outside in the case of well-insulated buildings such as Passive House buildings. In addition, the heat recovery ventilation system provides fresh air constantly. The fresh air filters in the ventilation system as recommended by the Passive House Institute can also reduce the risk arising from aerosols in addition to protection from dust and germs.

Building better than required

Experts agree that those seeking to build houses should go significantly beyond the usually inadequate local legal requirements and build more energy efficient than prescribed. The Passive House Open Days offer the opportunity to obtain information about the Passive House standard in a convenient way. For Professor Wolfgang Feist, founder of the Passive House Institute and co-initiator of the Passive House Open Days, the advantages for private home-owners and investors are obvious: "Passive House buildings provide a better quality of indoor air, a high level of living comfort and permanently affordable energy costs – this makes the energy transition affordable for everyone, and real estate can be managed sustainably."

International Passive House Open Days

6-8 NOVEMBER 2020

Experience it for yourself! #iPHopendays

More information on
www.passivehouse-international.org

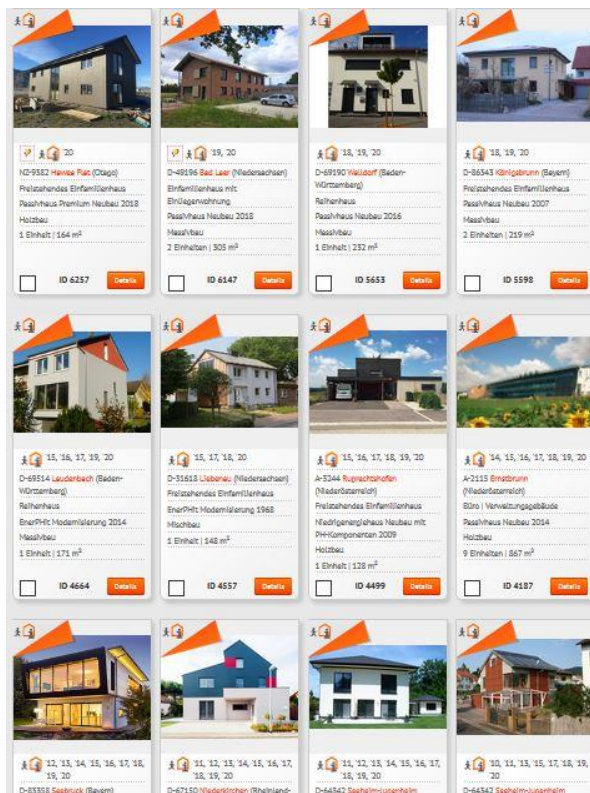


International Passive House Days
PASSIVE HOUSE RESIDENTS WORLDWIDE OPEN THEIR HOMES

6-8
November
2020

A variety of viewing options

Retrofits on a large scale must also be implemented for the energy revolution to take place in the building sector. Buildings that have undergone energy retrofits can also be viewed during the Open Days. The project database of the Passive House Institute at <https://passivehouse-database.org> lists all the options for viewing, which are continually updated. On account of the



current situation, most of these will be offered in the form of virtual tours, but there are some Passive House buildings in Europe as well as around the world which will be open for in-person visits.

Live online tours

"There will also be some live online tours where the participants will be able to ask questions. The online building tours offer the possibility to successively view five or six impressive Passive house buildings on various continents, that's certainly one advantage of the online format," says Giorgia Tzar of the international Passive House Association in Darmstadt. The website provides information on all other events this weekend.



The viewing options are listed on www.passivehouse-database.org and are continually updated.
© Passive House Institute

For the 17th time

The Passive House Open Days are organised by the IG Passivhaus Deutschland in cooperation with Passivhaus Austria and the International Passive House Association (iPHA). This year the worldwide event is taking place for the 17th time.

The owner will give a virtual tour of this house in New Zealand, so people from all around the world can easily participate in this tour. © J. Holmes

General Information

Passive House buildings

With the Passive House concept the heat loss that typically takes place in buildings through the walls, roof and windows is drastically reduced. With the five basic principles – high-quality thermal insulation, windows with triple glazing, avoidance of thermal bridges, an airtight building envelope, and a ventilation system with heat recovery – a Passive House building needs very little energy. Passive House buildings can therefore dispense with classic building heating systems. Such buildings are called "passive houses" because a major part of their heating demand is met through "passive" sources such as solar radiation or the heat emitted by occupants and technical appliances.

In a Passive House building, the heat is retained for 10 to 14 days because it escapes very slowly. For this reason, active heating is needed only during extremely cold days and only a small amount of energy is required for providing this remaining heating. A Passive House building also offers an advantage in the summer: the excellent level of insulation ensures that the heat stays outside, therefore active cooling usually isn't necessary in residential buildings. Due to the low energy costs in Passive House buildings, the utility costs are predictable - a fundamental principle for affordable homes and social housing. A Passive House building thus consumes about 90 percent less heating energy than an existing building and 75 percent less energy than an average new construction.

Passive House & NZEB

The Passive House Standard already meets the EU requirements for Nearly Zero Energy Buildings. According to the European Buildings Directive *EPBD*, all member states must specify requirements for so-called NZEBs in their national building regulations. These came into effect in January 2019 for public buildings and will apply for all other buildings from the year 2021.

Pioneer project

The first Passive House in the world was built in Darmstadt-Kranichstein (Germany) 28 years ago by four private homeowners. Dr Wolfgang Feist was one of them. Ever since the homeowners moved in with their families in 1991, these terraced houses have been regarded as a pioneer project for the Passive House Standard. With its newly installed photovoltaic system, this flagship Passive House now utilises renewable energy and received the Passive House Plus certificate for this reason.



The world's first Passive House building in Darmstadt. © Peter Cook

Passive House and renewable energy

The Passive House Standard can be combined well with on-site renewable energy generation. Since April 2015, the new building classes "Passive House Plus" and "Passive House Premium" have been available for this supply concept.

Passive Houses worldwide

Passive Houses buildings for all types of uses now exist everywhere. In addition to residential and office buildings there are also kindergartens and schools, sports halls, swimming pools and factories built as Passive House buildings. The first Passive House hospital in the world is currently being built in Frankfurt am Main. Interest in Passive House is growing. In view of the consumption of resources in industrialised countries and climate protection, municipalities, businesses and private people are increasingly implementing new constructions or retrofits to the Passive House Standard.

Passive House Institute

The Passive House Institute with its headquarters in Darmstadt (Germany) is an independent research institute for highly efficient use of energy in buildings. The Institute founded by Dr Wolfgang Feist holds a leading position internationally with regard to research and development in the field of energy efficient construction. Among other things, Dr Wolfgang Feist was awarded the DBU Environmental Prize in 2001 for developing the Passive House concept.



Dr Wolfgang Feist
© Peter Cook

International Passive House Conference

The 25. International Passive House Conference will take place in Autumn 2021 in the German city of Wuppertal. www.passivehouse-conference.org

Contact: Katrin Krämer / Press Officer / Passive House Institute / www.passiv.de
Mail: presse@passiv.de / Tel: +49 (0)6151 / 826 99-25