

“The International Tracing Service (ITS) in Bad Arolsen serves victims of Nazi persecutions and their families by documenting their fate through the archives it manages.

The ITS preserves these historic records and makes them available for research.”

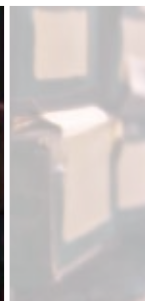


Guided tours:

Every first Tuesday of the month at 2:00 p.m.
Registration required.

Opening hours:

Monday to Thursday: 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Friday: 8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.



ITS Online

Further information on the International Tracing Service can be found on the web at www.its-arolsen.org. In addition to directions for reaching ITS, you will also find the regulations for access on the website, an application form for visitors, research forms, and applications for searching for family members or clarifying individual fates.

International Tracing Service (ITS)

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Visitor Information

Welcome

ITS Visitor Service

The International Tracing Service (ITS) in Bad Arolsen, Germany is one of the world's largest Nazi archives. It documents the fate of the millions of civilian victims of the national socialist regime. The documents archived by ITS include original records from concentration camps, details of forced labour, emigration lists, and files from displaced persons camps. Due to its sheer volume and relevance, the ITS inventory is unrivalled. Since November 2007, the archive has been accessible to researchers and is also open to visitors.



Visits by Victims and Family Members

Victims and their next of kin may visit ITS and look through their own personal documents. Prior to a visit, a tracing request should be filed, and an appointment should be scheduled. This allows the archive staff to check the inventory in advance and prepare the specific documents for a scheduled visit. In addition to granting access to files, ITS is of course also happy to give visitors a tour of the entire archive.



Guided Tours of the Archive

ITS offers regularly scheduled guided tours for groups of visitors. These tours provide insight into the archive's different departments. ITS's total inventory comprises 26,000 metres of original documents from the Nazi era and post-war period. With 50 million references on the fate of over 17.5 million people, the Central Name Index is based on an alphabetic-phonetic filing system that was developed especially for ITS. In addition to providing an overview of the archive's documents, the guided tours

offer information on the history of ITS, as well as the restoration and digitalisation of the documents. The tour guide also explains how ITS processes the humanitarian enquiries regarding the fate of individual victims, which are received from all over the world.

Open House for Research

Since the ITS archive has opened up to the public, scholars from research institutions, memorials, universities or museums have been able to examine the documents stored here. Researchers should file a research request and schedule an appointment prior to their visit to the archive in order for ITS to optimally support them in their efforts. Over the next few months, ITS will start compiling a more detailed index of the documents and will develop additional catalogues and finding aids. Access to the documents is explained in the user regulations, which can be viewed online and serve the protection of personal data. A reading room, where the documents can be studied, is open to visitors. An academic library is underway.



Guided Tour Dates

Visitors can take a guided tour in English at 2:00 p.m. on every first Tuesday of the month. ITS will be happy to accommodate other dates for group tours. For organisational reasons, tours must be enquired about in advance.