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# Press Release

24 June 2026

## German-American Friendship Festival

**From July 1 to July 5, 2026, the U.S. Army Garrison Wiesbaden will once again welcome its German guests to the Wiesbaden U.S. residential area Hainerberg. Grand finale fireworks to celebrate American Independence Day on July 4, 2026, starting around 10:45 p.m.**

“As the United States of America celebrates our 250th birthday, we are honored to mark this historic milestone here in Wiesbaden, surrounded by our German friends and neighbors. America’s history and our German-American partnership are deeply intertwined, built on shared values, mutual respect, and decades of friendship. This festival celebrates both – America’s heritage and the enduring community bonds that have united our nations for more than 75 years," says Col. Ringo Midles, Commander, U.S. Army Garrison Wiesbaden.

The only festival entrance for non-U.S. military ID cardholders is located on New-York-Strasse. Furthermore, the organizer asks to make use of public transportation or to come on foot as there is no public parking on the installation. Please note, if the event reaches capacity, the installation gates will close until enough participants leave the event.

Guests can look forward to numerous rides, attractions, and sales booths. The physical well-being of visitors is well catered for with food stands, offering both German and American specialties. There will also be a beer garden!

Festgoers should bring euros (preferred) or dollars, since most—but not all—vendors accept credit cards and there's no ATM on-site.

"I am delighted that the German-American Friendship Festival is taking place again this year on the Hainerberg. With the 250th anniversary of the United States, this year’s event is sure to take on even greater significance, and I offer my heartfelt congratulations on this anniversary. Many residents of Wiesbaden have already made this event a fixture in their calendars, as evidenced by the high attendance figures in previous years. I would like to thank the U.S. Army Garrison for organizing this festival again this year, thereby highlighting the outstanding spirit of cooperation between the German and American residents of Wiesbaden, who have the opportunity to celebrate together. I wish us all a wonderful event, " says Mayor Gert-Uwe Mende, Lord Mayor of Wiesbaden.

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The festival will be open daily from July 1 to July 5 from noon to midnight. As every year there will be the traditional '4th-of-July' fireworks on Saturday. Please note that on July 4, New-York-Strasse will be close to traffic from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. to ensure safety during the fireworks display.

For the safety of all, non-service dogs and the following items may not be brought onto the festival grounds: glass bottles or alcoholic beverages not purchased at the festival, pocket knives or box cutters with locking blades, knives with blades longer than 5 inches, any type of fireworks or pyrotechnics, any type of firearms, any type of sprays that can be used for self-defense, no highly explosive or flammable materials, spray or aerosol cans, large/unwieldy items such as camping chairs, large camping backpacks, cannabis and bicycles.

Certified service animals are permitted so long as owners can provide proper documentation upon request.

Bags and/or backpacks will be checked before entering the festival area.

While there will be a first-aid tent on-site, patrons should dress appropriately for high temperatures, including light-weight clothes and hats, and stay hydrated with plenty of water.

For more information on the event, please visit:
https://wiesbaden.armymwr.com/calendar/event/german-american-friendship-festival/7298573/110574

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