



PRESSKIT 2026

FANTASY BASEL – The Swiss Comic Con | FantasyCon AG
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ABOUT THE FESTIVAL

FANTASY BASEL – The Swiss Comic Con is the largest Swiss festival for pop culture, cosplay and gaming and has been taking place annually over Ascension Holidays (May 14 to 16, 2026) at Messe Basel MCH.

Over three days, the festival covers a wide range of topics on an area of more than 100'000 m². From films and TV series, games, cosplay, comics, anime, manga, art, content creation, medieval market to board games and much more, there's lots to explore.

Over the past twelve years, FANTASY BASEL – The Swiss Comic Con has established itself as the most thematically diverse pop culture event in Europe. In 2025, the festival attracted more than 97'000 visitors. This year's edition is expected to attract over 100'000 attendees.

TOPICS A-Z
Actors
Anime
Artist Alley
Comics
Communities
Content Creators
Cosplay
Cosplay Contest
eSports
Exhibitions
Fandoms
Furries
Games & Game Design
Gaming Hall
Japan Corner
Just Dance Stage
K-Pop
Literatur
Manga
Martial Arts
Merchandise
Nintendo
Otaku
Photos & Autographs
Prop Making
Sports & Action Zone
Stars
Streetfood
Tabletop Games
Tattoo Art
Urban Art
VR
Workshops
Wrestling

FACTS & FIGURES



May 14 to 16, 2026



Messe Basel



100'000 m² exhibition space



more than 800 exhibitors



100'000 expected visitors



since 2015

THE MOST VERSATILE COMIC CON IN EUROPE

Be part of our journey. The universe is the limit.

FANTASY BASEL – The Swiss Comic Con has been fascinating fans of films, games, cosplay and comics for twelve years. In the meantime - and not only thanks to the great audience - it is now the largest pop culture convention in Switzerland and one of the most important ones in Europe.



2015

- 15'000 m²
- 20'000 attendees
- Visual by C-Line



2019

- 60'000 m²
- 54'000 attendees
- Visual by Christian Scheurer



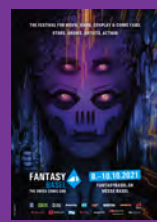
2023

- 77'000 m²
- 72'000 attendees
- Visual by Syrk



2017

- 50'000 m²
- 43'000 attendees
- Visual by Christian Scheurer



2021

- 70'000 m²
- 45'000 attendees
- Visual by Viktor Bogdanović



2025

- 100'000 m²
- 97'000 expected attendees
- Visual by Anna Steinbauer



2016

- 30'000 m²
- 30'000 attendees
- Visual by Maurizio Manzieri



2020

- Virtually
- Visual by Aiven



2024

- 90'000 m²
- 88'000 attendees
- Visual by Artgerm



2018

- 60'000 m²
- 52'000 attendees
- Visual by Enrico Marini



2022

- 70'000 m²
- 62'000 attendees
- Visual by Laura Braga



2026

- 100'000 m²
- 100'000 expected attendees
- Visual by Ingo Römmling

STARS & ACTORS

From fantasy series to superhero action: only at FANTASY BASEL – The Swiss Comic Con does Superman meet the Night King of the White Walkers. Every year, the festival welcomes stars from current films and series. The list of past guests contains names like Graham McTavish from The Hobbit and The Witcher, Natalia Tena from Game of Thrones, Dan Fogler from Fantastic Beasts and The Walking Dead, Duncan Lacroix from Vikings and Outlander, Cara Buono from Stranger Things or Kevin Sussman from The Big Bang Theory.

Besides various social media stars from platforms like Youtube and Twitch, world-famous illustrators, authors and artists such as John Howe (Lord of the Rings), Ulrich Schröder (Disney), Bernhard Hennen (German fantasy author) or Brian Ian Muir (Star Wars) are among the festival's regular guests.

TO THE STAR GUESTS



COSPLAY

The Cosplay Village accommodates over 50 national and international cosplayers and is incomparable in Europe.

Among the highlights are the daily cosplay contests on the main stage. This is where cosplayers present their self-made costumes and props from well-known films and video games in front of a jury of national and international cosplay stars. However, visitors are not required to wear a costume, most come in everyday clothes or their favorite nerd shirt.

TO THE COSPLAY LINE-UP

SPACE & SCI-FI

Science meets fiction in the sci-fi and space area: every year, the Swiss Space Museum invites visitors on an interactive journey through space. Top-class speakers and scientists are also invited to give exciting talks. In addition, international fan groups present huge fan models and panel discussions from the STAR WARS universe and other intergalactic spheres.

TO THE SCI-FI AND SPACE AREA



ART: COMIC, MANGA, URBAN & TATTOO

Visitors will also meet internationally successful artists from the urban art scene, fantasy illustrators and world-famous comic artists. Over 400 comic and manga artists from Switzerland, Europe and all over the world will be exhibiting in the Artist Alley, and individual motives will be engraved live under the skin in the tattoo art area. Comic stars such as Ralf König, Don Rosa and Enrico Marini have already taken part at the festival, as have Stanley Artgerm Lau, Anna Steinbauer, NICHTLUSTIG cartoonist Joscha Sauer and Lord of the Rings illustrator John Howe. Renowned book authors such as Bernhard Hennen and Markus Heitz have also been guests.

TO THE ARTIST ALLEY

GAMING & ESPORTS

Whether it's Tetris, Super Mario, Minecraft, Final Fantasy or Overwatch: The festival celebrates all facets of gaming!

Swiss game developers will be showcasing their latest games, while various exhibitors bring the latest gaming hardware, games and virtual reality and present one or two bargains. From retro games to up-and-coming eSports teams, the entire spectrum of the gaming universe will be represented and is sure to entertain young and older generations alike. And for those who prefer analog gaming, the board game, trading card and RPG game area will provide various highlights.

TO THE GAMING ZONE



MERCHANDISE, ACTION & FOOD

FANTASY BASEL – The Swiss Comic Con is not just a pop culture festival; in the merchandise area, fan articles of all kinds are available. There are also creative workshops and action zones to discover new hobbies and crafts.

The organizers have also provided plenty of entertainment, surprises, inspiration and culinary highlights; a varied selection of European, American and Asian street food will fill any hungry stomachs - including vegetarian and vegan options.

TO THE MERCHANDISE AREA

VISUAL 2026

Every year a different artwork is featured on our festival cover. The visual for this year's FANTASY BASEL - The Swiss Comic Con was designed by the great illustrator and comic artist Ingo Römbling.

Ingo is not only a successful graphic designer, comic artist, and cartoonist, but has also made a name for himself as a cover illustrator for well-known record labels such as Sony, BMG, and Napalm Records. He draws the "Malcolm Max" series for Splitter Verlag, various Star Wars comics for Panini Verlag, and his latest series, Metropolia, with Fred Duval has just been published.

With his dynamic, detailed style, he now gives our new visual a unique and fantastic expression.

**FANTASY
BASEL**
THE SWISS COMIC CON



THE FESTIVAL FOR MOVIE, GAME,
COSPLAY AND COMIC FANS.

Messe Basel | **MAY 14 – 16, 2026** | fantasybasel.ch



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