



Media Information  
10th April 2018

**30th BMW International Open: “The Big Easy” Els, Ryder Cup captain Bjørn and more top players challenging Kaymer, García and Fleetwood.**

- **Ernie Els, four-time Major Champion and tournament winner in 2013, will be at the BMW International Open at Golf Club Gut Lärchenhof (20th to 24th June 2018).**
- **Ryder Cup captain Thomas Bjørn, Bernd Wiesberger, Stephan Jäger, Max Kieffer and Marcel Siem will also be competing.**
- **Variety of events and activities around the tournament.**
- **Tickets available at [www.bmw-golfsport.com/tickets](http://www.bmw-golfsport.com/tickets).**

**Munich/Cologne. The 30th BMW International Open boasts a top-quality field of competitors. Martin Kaymer (GER) and Sergio García (ESP) have already confirmed their participation to mark the anniversary of the tournament and they will be joined by another top-class Major winner, Ernie Els (RSA). They will be alongside Thomas Bjørn (DEN), who is hoping to lead Europe to Ryder Cup glory in September, Stephan Jäger (GER), who normally only appears on the PGA TOUR, local heroes Max Kieffer and Marcel Siem, as well as Austria’s top golfer Bernd Wiesberger. Race to Dubai champion Tommy Fleetwood (ENG) will be teeing off in Cologne too. Golf fans can also look forward to an exciting week away from the greens and fairways.**

**The stars.**

A good omen for Martin Kaymer and Ernie Els? These two Major winners also claimed victory in the two previous anniversary tournaments. In 2008, Kaymer became the only German pro to do so, winning the 20th BMW International Open. Five years later, the South African star received the accolade after his victory. Bjørn has also secured a spot on the list of winners – with two triumphs (2000, 2002). Last year, Garcia missed out by just one stroke. Currently tenth in the world rankings, the Spaniard is one of the favourites to claim the coveted title, as is Tommy Fleetwood, who topped the European Tour standings in 2017 and is now 13th in the world.



German golf fans can also look forward to seeing a homegrown shooting star who now rarely appears in Germany. Munich-born Stephan Jäger was able to qualify for the PGA TOUR this season. BMW Golfsport Ambassador Max Kieffer and Marcel Siem will reinforce the German contingent. Both hail from the Rhineland region and are especially looking forward to this “home game”. Bernd Wiesberger, who finished T24 at last week’s Masters, is hoping to claim his first title at a BMW tournament.

**The tournament week.**

The BMW International Open is much more than just a world-class golf tournament. In the course of its 30-year existence, it has also made a name for itself as an industry get-together, an opportunity to experience the world of BMW and a feel-good event. Of course, there is also plenty of room for sheer driving pleasure. Visitors can experience the first BMW X2 and many more BMW X models at the BMW xDrive Parcours. BMW i and BMW Hybrid models demonstrate how much pleasure electromobility can bring with free charging available at stations in the tournament location for those who are already using future-oriented, electric transport. Powerful BMW M cars and the BMW 7 series provide more highlights in the BMW exhibition.

Golf is not given short shrift – there are plenty of activities for children and adults, as well as more than 50 exhibitors with information about current trends. The covered event zone is the heart of the public area, boasting a digital scoreboard and a video wall. From Thursday to Sunday, a DJ and a live act will provide atmosphere as the day draws to a close. On Saturday, the acclaimed cover band “Decoy” will be on stage until the World Cup group match between Germany and Sweden kicks off.

**Admission prices and tickets.**

Tickets are available at [www.bmw-golfsport.com/tickets](http://www.bmw-golfsport.com/tickets). Admission is free from Wednesday to Friday, while children aged 15 and under benefit from free entry on all days of the tournament. Day tickets for Saturday or Sunday are available for 30 Euros, while a season ticket for the entire weekend costs 45 Euros. VIP tickets for the Fairway Club can be purchased for 225 Euros (Thursday or Friday) or 345 Euros (Saturday or Sunday).

**The partners.**

Tournament organiser BMW would like to thank Main Partners Emirates, Hilton, Rolex and Süddeutsche Zeitung, as well as Corporate Partners Allianz, Bowers & Wilkins, BOWMORE, HUGO BOSS, Julius Bär, Konica Minolta and SAP.



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