

# BMW Factory - Leipzig

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We went in November to the BMW Factory, located near Leipzig, in Germany. The purpose of this tour was to better understand how a car is made and how to combine high technology and car assembling.

## Getting into the factory

The factory was a single huge building made in a shape of a hand. We were welcomed by a very qualified guide who explained us the different rules of this tour.

We first had to leave our coats and cameras in a locked room. All the factory was under the industrial secret which means that all the technologies used over there were the absolute propriety of the brand : BWM.

## Automatized production

The whole process is fully automatized. We saw very few people working in the factory whom were only doing jobs that machines could not do. In fact, it was a bit scary and unusual, because humans were helping machines, and not the way-round.

I was even surprised when I saw robots driving car parts along the process. Everywhere, loudly working around us, robot-arms were assembling the soon-to-be cars.

## A perfect building

The factory had a main building and five small annexes, which made the whole construction looking like a human hand. In each "finger", there were a different process and all the required materials were brought there by suppliers. The production line made a perfect way into the whole building, as a vein in a hand. Considering that, it is a lot easier to follow the car assembling along its way.

## Conclusion

All the cars made in the factory were already sold. The choice of assembling products that were already paid allows them to save money on not having a stock, waiting to be bought.

This visit showed us that automatism and high technologies are becoming more and more important in industry. We realized that our knowledge we are learning at school may be very useful in the future.