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BERLIN inyourpocket

June - July 2013

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A long-awaited and well-deserved summer has arrived in Berlin. The tourists are back in numbers, filling the streets and restaurants in especially the Mitte district. A number of new hotels have opened recently in response to the increasing number of visitors; see the reviews for the Waldorf Astoria, Das Stue and Scandic hotels for three great accommodation options.

June and July are outdoorsy months for Berliners, and there's plenty of festivals that visitors can join. On Friday 21 June music played on the dozens of stages across the city celebrates the longest day of the year (see page 13); during following two days it's time for the annual gay pride festival, with a huge parade near Brandenburger Tor (see p. 14). There are many smaller events, like the wonderful Bergmannstrasse Jazzfestival on 28-30 June.

Whatever you do in Berlin this summer, make sure to let us know of any tips or comments you may have, at berlin@inyourpocket.com. Enjoy Berlin.

Berlin In Your Pocket: online, on PDF and in your iPhone.

Cover story

The elegant colonnade of the Alte Nationalmuseum stretches along the Spree river towards the dome of Berlin's cathedral on Museum Island. Elsewhere on the island there's a lot of construction work; a new museum entrance building is being built beside the Pergamon Museum, and the royal palace and a new metro station are being built opposite the church.

From the mayor

Since the fall of the Berlin Wall nearly 25 years ago, Berlin has experienced breakneck change: its infrastructure was modernized from the ground up, while entire city districts were either created from scratch or thoroughly remodeled. Moreover, Berlin has become a capital not only in the political sense, but culturally and intellectually as well. As a result, it is now considered one of the most exciting and diverse cities in all of Europe.

Berlin finds its positive image reflected in its tourist industry statistics: more and more people are visiting our city to see its countless attractions for themselves. These include, for example, the ubiquitous traces of a turbulent and emotional history and the city's compelling museums, which invite you to browse the world's cultures. The contemporary art scene, too, has long since found a home in Berlin, proof of which can be seen in the city's hundreds of galleries, many stellar collections – often exhibited in innovative settings – and, most recently, the new temporary art gallery in the heart of the city.

Great art can of course also be experienced in Berlin's opera houses and its many renowned theaters. Its wide range of orchestras – including the Berliner Philharmoniker, the Staatskapelle, the Deutsches Symphonie Orchester, the Rundfunksinfonie Orchester, and countless others – is unmatched in its quality and diversity. And let's not forget Berlin's exciting club scene and the many different restaurants, pubs, and bars that make the city the place to be for anyone looking for cosmopolitan flair and the latest trends.
In this spirit, I would like to wish you an eventful stay in Germany's capital city – welcome to Berlin!

Klaus Wowereit
Lord Mayor

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Editor's note

The editorial content of In Your Pocket guides is independent from paid-for advertising. Sponsored listings are clearly marked as such. We welcome all readers' comments and suggestions. We have made every effort to ensure the accuracy of the information at the time of going to press and assume no responsibility for changes and errors.

Drinks & Alcohol

Germans like their beer, drinking about 107 litres per capita per year (down from 136 litres 15 years ago). Unfortunately Berlin's local brew, the slightly sour Berliner Weiße, is only really palatable '*mit Schuss*', with a shot of sweet fruit sirup. Cocktails and long drinks of varying quality and price are available in a multitude of places. Non-alcoholic drinks often sipped in Berlin include *Apfelschorle*, a refreshing mix of apple juice and sparkling water, and Club-Mate ('kloob mah-tea') ice tea, made with extract of the South American maté plant, caffeine and tannins, and is popular with local hipsters as it comes in a screw top bottle so you can hiply tote it around (or drink to just below the top label and top it up with wodka).

Crime & Safety

Berlin is a relatively calm and safe place. Instances of petty crimes are low compared to other Western European capitals, though you shouldn't still always keep an eye on your valuables and never leave bags, wallets and mobile phones unattended. Just like anywhere else, be careful when walking in unlit streets late at night. Race-related hassles seldom occur in Berlin's touristed central areas.

Electricity

Electrical current in Germany is 220v AC, 50 Hz via standard European round, two-pin sockets. Converters can be bought at the airport and large electronics shops, and many hotels will have them at the front desk too.

Money

Germany uses the euro (€). Banknotes come in denominations of €5, €10, €20, €50, €100, €200 and €500. Coins, whose design depends on in which country they were minted, come in denominations of 1, 2, 5, 10, 20 and 50 cents and €1 and €2. Credit and debit card payment is possible in a wide range of shops, restaurants and nightlife venues, though always have cash on you for small payments just in case. This guide indicates which places do not accept plastic. ATMs can be found everywhere; those that charge for transactions clearly indicate the fee during the process. Exchange offices can be found at the major train stations.

Visas and entry formalities

EU citizens can stay in Germany as long as they like, though registration at a *Bürgeramt* office is officially required for stays more than a few months. Citizens of Australia, Canada, Hong Kong, Japan, Malaysia, New Zealand, Mexico USA and a few others can enter Germany without a visa for a maximum of 90 days in any six month period. All other nationals need to apply for a German visa in advance. Note that there's no passport control between Germany and the other 14 European 'Schengen' countries, and visas to any of these are valid for travel in Germany too. All visitors need a passport that is valid for at least fourth months from the date of arrival; EU citizens can enter with a valid EU identity card too. Check the MFA website for the latest immigration details: www.auswaertiges-amt.de.

Climate

Basic data

Population: Germany: 81,751,602; Berlin: 3,460,725
Longest river in Germany:
Rhine, 1319km. The Spree is 403km.
Highest point of Germany: Zugspitze, 2962m
Highest point of Berlin: Teufelsberg, 114m
Highest natural point of Berlin:
Victoriapark Kreuzberg, 66m
Berlin's territory: 900 square kilometers

Europe In Your Pocket

It's now 21 years since we published the first *In Your Pocket* guide - to **Vilnius** in Lithuania - in which time we have grown to become the largest publisher of locally produced city guides in Europe. We now cover more than **75** cities across the continent (with **Tbilisi**, in **Georgia**, the latest city to be *pocketed*) and the number of concise, witty, well-written and downright indispensable *In Your Pocket* guides published each year is approaching **five million**. We also publish an **iPhone app**, including more than 40 guides, which can be downloaded for free from the *AppStore*. Search for 'IYP Guides' by name.

To keep up to date with all that's new at *In Your Pocket*, *like* us on **Facebook** (facebook.com/inyourpocket) or follow us on **Twitter** (twitter.com/inyourpocket).

Although Berlin is lodged in the middle of the great empty vastness of northeast Germany, it's very well connected to the rest of civilisation by bus, train, Autobahn and air. Once in Berlin, you'll wish that your home town had such good public transport.

Public transport

Berlin's integrated network of **U-Bahn** (*Untergrundbahn*, underground trains), **bus**, and **Straßenbahn** (trams) run by BVG and **S-Bahn** and **RE** (*Schnellbahn* and regional commuter trains run by DB) usually works like a dream. Just remember the number or colour and end station of the line you want to use, and you'll be navigating the labyrinth-like stations like a local.
Most S/U-Bahn trains, buses and trams run every 5-15 minutes during the day. M buses and trams run every half hour at night; U-Bahn trains run every 15 minutes on weekend nights, with N buses following their routes every half hour (starting from Hackescher Markt) on weekday nights.
Tickets can be used on all BVG, S-Bahn and local RE train services. Vending machines have instructions in English and accept coins, often banknotes and cards too. Berlin's AB travel zone contains nearly everything; you'll only need an ABC-ticket for Potsdam and Schoenefeld airport.
With a *Einzelfahrschein* (AB-zone €2,40, ABC €3,10) you can travel one-way for up to two hours with unlimited transfers; it's cheaper to buy four tickets at once (Vier-*Fahrten-Karte*, €8.40). Buy a €1,40 **Kurzstrecke** (short distance) ticket if you want to travel up to three S/U-Bahn stops, or up to six stops by bus or tram. If you anticipate a lot of travelling, get the **Tageskarte** (day card, valid until 03:00 the next morning; €6,50) or the **seven-day pass** (€28). Groups of up to five people are best off with a **Kleingruppenkarte** (group day ticket, €15,50). The multi-day **Berlin Welcomecard** is valid for transport and some attractions.
Before boarding the S- or U-Bahn, always **validate your ticket** by punching it in the yellow or red machines near the end of the platforms. On buses and trams, the machines are on board. Public transport uses the honour system, and there are regular checks by uniformed and plainclothes **inspectors**. If you are caught without a ticket (or with an unvalidated one) you'll be fined €40 on the spot.

Taxis

Berlin's friendly and ubiquitous beige Mercedes taxis can be called or hailed on the street. They can also be found queing at S/U-Bahn stations and near nightlife hotspots. Not all taxis accept credit cards, ask when you book. Prices are the same day and night; flagfall plus the first kilometre is €3,40; then up to 7km it's €1,65/km, thereafter €1,28/km. Waiting costs €25/hr. For short hops hail a taxi already driving in the direction you need to go and immediately ask for the *Kurzfahrstrecke* tarriff; €4 for 2km. By the way, *Funk* means radio.

Street smarts

The Prussians certainly missed a trick when they decided it was a really smart idea to number houses up one side of the street and back down the other. Number 1 may well be opposite number 453. Thankfully, most Berlin street name signs indicate which numbers can be found along each block. The peculiar German letter ß, pronounced as an 's', is used in the word for street, Straße. Some common German street-related words:

Allee	avenue	**Platz**	square
Straße	street	**Tor**	gate
Ufer	riverbank		

Arriving in Berlin

By plane
Tegel airport (TXL) is 7km northwest of the city centre. Behind the airport information desk in the main hall are the BVG public transport ticket office and the luggage office. Nearby are a post office and ATMs. The TXL bus runs every 15-20 minutes between 05:00 and 23:30, and is the quickest connection to Hauptbahnhof station, Unter den Linden and Alexanderplatz. Bus X9 (every 5-10 minutes from 04:50 to 23:00) gets you to Zoo Bahnhof in 20 minutes. AB zone tickets can be bought from the BVG kiosk, the machines outside, or from the driver. A taxi to the city centre will cost about €18.

Schönefeld airport (SXF) is 20km southeast of the city centre. Walk or use the shuttle bus to get to the nearby station. Every half hour RE7 and RB14 trains run directly to Alexanderplatz and Hauptbahnhof, taking 20-25 minutes; the S-Bahn trains take about 40 minutes with one or two changes required. Take bus X7 to U-Bahn station Rudow for Kreuzberg. For all these options you'll need an ABC zone ticket.

By train
All trains stop at Berlin's gleaming, glass-sheathed Hauptbahnhof main station which has all the essentials; a supermarket, post office, toilets, showers, lockers and a tourist information centre. Use the S-Bahn, U-Bahn or buses to reach your final destination. International trains often also stop at Ostbahnhof, which is handy for Kreuzberg and Friedrichshain, and Spandau, where you can change for Charlottenburg.

By bus
Buses drop you off at the Zentrale Omnibusbahnof (ZOB), west of the city. The Messe Nord/ICC S-Bahn station is nearby, but catching the M49 bus to S/U-Bahn station Zoologischer Bahnhof will get you to the city centre faster.

City Funk, **tel. +49 30 21 02 02, www.cityfunk.de.**
Funk Taxi Berlin, **tel. +49 30 26 10 26, www.taxifunkberlin.de.**
Spree Funk, **tel. +49 30 44 33 22, www.taxi443322.de.**
WBT Funk Taxi Berlin, **tel. +49 30 26 10 20, www.funk-taxi-berlin.de.**
Würfel-Funk, **tel. +49 30 21 01 01, www.wuerfelfunk.de.**

Driving

With wide roads, calm traffic and ample free parking, Berlin is one of the easiest European capitals to navigate by car, though for city centre sightseeing public transport is definitely easier.
Day visitors are advised to **Park & Ride**; leave your car for free at a dedicated S-Bahn station and continue by S-Bahn train. Arriving on the A10 highway use Buch station; A100 - Innsbrucker Platz; A111 - Jungfernheide; A113 - Bundesplatz; A114 - Pankow; A115 - Heidelberger Platz.
All cars entering the city centre within the S-Bahn ring must have an **Umwelt-Plakette** (environmental badge sticker), which can be ordered online before your trip (for around €30) via the Climate Company, www.umwelt-plakette.de, tel. +49 30 398 87 21 40, or purchased (from €5,50) at Dekra and TÜV garages around Berlin.

Cycling

As long as it's dry, getting around Berlin is really best done by bicycle. It's a flat city, there are plenty of cycle paths and wide bus lanes for you to use and you see so much more from the saddle than from the U-Bahn train window. Note that cycling on the pavement is illegal and may get you fined, even though everyone does it. Cycling across town may take a while, though for €1,60 you can take your bike on an S/U-Bahn train too. There are dozens of **bike rental** places, most charging €10-12 per day. The urban bike trip planner www.bbbike.de can suggest low-traffic and cobblestone-free routes across Berlin.

Alex Rent-a-Bike **G-2, Alte Schönhauser Straße 31 (Kaffeemitte), Mitte, Ⓜ U Weinmeisterstraße, tel. +49 176 67 09 28 56, www.alex-rent-a-bike.de.** Bike rental for €8 per half day or €15 per day, and tours too. ▶ Open 08:00 - 22:00.

Berlin on Bike **G-2, Knaackstraße 97, Prenzlauer Berg, Ⓜ U Eberswalderstraße, tel. +49 30 43 73 99 99, anmeldung@berlinonbike.de, www.berlinonbike.de.** Choose from two regular guided bike tours: the *Berlin Wall Tour* (Tue, Thu, Sat at 11:00) covers 11km of the Wall and includes a visit to one of the last border watchtowers; the *Berlin´s Best* tour (Mon, Wed, Fri, Sun at 11:00) rolls past the city's main sights. Themed tours of the east, Kreuzberg and nightlife are on demand. Tours start in court 4 of the Kulturbrauerei, or join at the Berliner Bank on the corner of Eberswalder Straße and Schönhauser Allee. There's also regular bike rental. Reservations required. ▶ Tickets €19, including bike.

Call-a-Bike, **tel. +49 30 700 05 22 55 22, www.callabike.de.** Rent a solid *Callbike* for €0,08 per minute (maximum €15 per 24hrs) and pay by credit card. The bikes can be found parked at train stations and other points throughout central Berlin. Register your credit card via one of the touchscreens, online or by phone.

Finding Berlin Bikes **I-4, Schlesische Straße 29/30 (2nd courtyard), Kreuzberg, Ⓜ U Schlesisches Tor, tel. +49 176 99 33 39 13, www.findingberlin-tours.com.** Rent a vintage fixed gear bike; a 1970s Bianchi Randonneur perhaps, or the swish Lady Kotter, for €13-15 per day. A lock is supplied; helmets, accessories and guided tours are available too. ▶ Open 10:00 - 13:00. Closed Sun.

Driving

With wide roads, calm traffic and ample free parking, Berlin is one of the easiest European capitals to navigate by car, though for city centre sightseeing public transport is definitely easier.

Tourist information

Berlin Infostore **E-2, Hauptbahnhof station, Mitte, Ⓜ S/U Hauptbahnhof, tel. +49 30 25 00 25, www.visitberlin.de.** The helpful staff at the official Berlin tourist offices can provide a wide range of information and publications. ▶ Open 08:00 - 22:00. Also at F-2, Brandenburger Tor south wing (open 09:30 - 18:00); C-3, Kurfürstendamm 22 (passage, open 10:00-20:00, Sun 9:30-18:00).

Transport & Sights Cards

Discounts are a welcome relief, so if you are planning to travel around town a lot and see more than one museum, get a reduced rate card. Note that students and youths may get better reductions at museums using their student ID cards.

Berlin WelcomeCard, **www.berlin-welcomecard.de.** The *Berlin WelcomeCard* is a combined transport and reduction card (museums, bike tours/rental, boat tours, etc) valid for zone AB or zone ABC (which includes Potsdam and Schönefeld airport). Cards are valid for 48 hours (AB €18,50, ABC €20,50), 72 hours (€24,50/26,50) or 5 days (€31,50/36,50). Cards are sold from BVG ticket machines, tourist offices, S-Bahn offices, hotels and kiosks. The similar *CityTourCard* (www.citytourcard.com) is a little cheaper, with restaurant, bar and club discounts geared towards younger travellers: 48 hours (AB €16,90, ABC €18,90), 72 hours (€22,90/24,90) or 5 days (€29,90/34,90).

Get2riCard, **tel. +49 30 438 09 80, www.get2card.de.** A tourist discount card (€24, valid for seven days) that allows you to get two for the price of one, whether it's the admission to a club, museum, cinema, nights at a hostel or hotel, or food and drinks at a wide range of bars and restaurants. For sale at most theatre ticket agencies.

Museum Pass Berlin, **www.smb.museum.** 60 museums, including the permanent collections of the *Staatliche Museen* (state museums), can be visited with the Berlin Museum Pass (€19/9,50, valid three days). It's for sale at the museums, tourism offices and online.

Day visitors are advised to **Park & Ride**; leave your car for free at a dedicated S-Bahn station and continue by S-Bahn train. Arriving on the A10 highway use Buch station; A100 - Innsbrucker Platz; A111 - Jungfernheide; A113 - Bundesplatz; A114 - Pankow; A115 - Heidelberger Platz.
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Trains

Deutsche Bahn (DB, German Railways) runs sleek 300km/hr highspeed ICE (InterCity Express) trains, EC (EuroCity) and IC (InterCity) trains. **Train tickets** are considerably cheaper when purchased well in advance; book online at www.bahn.de and print print your own ticket. Cheap last-minute DB tickets for German destinations can be found at www.bahn.ltur.com. To explore the region, get the excellent-value **Brandenburg-Berlin-Ticket** which allows unlimited regional (RE) train travel for up to five people for one day, for €28 total (€21 after 18:00); for €39 the **Schönes-Wochenende-Ticket** has a similar deal but for all Germany at weekends. The **Quer-durchs-Land Ticket** (€42 for one person, additional people €6 each) is the weekday version.
Berlin is well-connected to foreign cities by rail, with direct daily connections to Amsterdam, Brussels, Budapest, Copenhagen, Prague, Rome, Vienna and Zurich.

Deutsche Bahn (DB) **E-2/3, Hauptbahnhof station, Ⓜ S/U Hauptbahnhof, www.bahn.de.** The Bahn team is quick to answer questions on their Facebook page.

The Berlin-based betterplace.org provides a new and unique way linking various kinds of projects to potential donors across the world. Their online platform allows fundraisers of aid projects, events and other charitable causes to promote their proposal; users can then decide to donate any amount of money to a specific project need (such as €20 for a wheelbarrow) or more generally (such as 'building a school in Kenia'). Betterplace.org passes on 100% of all donations to the projects. Going beyond simple financing, donors can sometimes also offer their time, experience or goods in kind to projects. What makes betterplace.org unique is it's transparency ensured through donor feedback: users familiar with the projects can rate them online, add comments and videos, and easily promote the project via social media.

Examples of current projects include the Gelbe Villa project that helps 600-800 children every year with free computer workshops, preparing them for a career in which they need to be familiar with technology. The Berliner Stadtmission charity collects donations to help homeless people with food, medicine, clothing and shelter in the cold winters; a bus picks up those who want to spend the night in a house that sleeps up to 100 people, others are given blankets and hot food and drinks. An example of a project abroad is Nkosi's Haven, which offers long-term residential care for HIV/AIDS infected mothers, children and orphans in Johannesburg, South Africa.

Betterplace
tel. +49 30 76 76 44 88 44
change@betterplace.org
www.betterplace.org

Berlin is blessed with a large number of quality theatres and halls, top-quality artists and relatively cheap tickets - and an annual cultural budget of over €900 million to fund it all.

Opera & Classical Music

Komische Oper F-3, Behrenstraße 55, Mitte, Ⓜ U Französische Straße, tel. +49 30 20 26 00, www.komische-oper-berlin.de. Starting off as the *Theater Unter den Linden* in 1892, the building's monumental neo-baroque main hall survived wartime bombing, and reopened in 1947. It shows classic music, ballet and opera pieces. Translations in English are shown on a screen on the seat in front of you. ▸ Tickets €9-150.

Konzerthaus Berlin F-3, Gendarmenmarkt 2, Mitte, Ⓜ U Stadtmitte, tel. +49 30 203 09 21 01, www.konzerthaus.de. Together with the Deutscher and Französischer Dom churches, the Konzerthaus forms Berlin's most spectacular architectural ensemble. Built by Friedrich Schinkel in 1821, it was destroyed in the war and only reopened as a concert hall in 1984. The Berliner Sinfonie-Orchester plays at the venue. ▸ Tickets €10-99.

Philharmonie E-4, Herbert-von-Karajan-Straße 1, Tiergarten, Ⓜ S/U Potsdamer Platz, tel. +49 30 25 48 89 99, www.berlin-philharmonic.de. The crumpled-looking yellow modernist building behind the chrome glitz of the Potsdamer Platz developments was once just as revolutionary as its new neighbour. The excellent Phil orchestra is directed by Liverpudlian Sir Simon Rattle. ▸ Tickets €7-220.

Staatsoper im Schillertheater C-3, Bismarckstraße 110, Charlottenburg, Ⓜ U Ernst-Reuter-Platz, tel. +49 30 20 35 45 55, www.staatsoper-berlin.org. The venue for Daniel Barenboim's award-winning Staatskapelle orchestra. Temporarily housed in the Schillertheater until renovations of their grand theatre on Unter den Linden are completed in 2014. ▸ Tickets €14-220.

Shows

There's always something on in Berlin; these venues often have revue-style shows suitable for a foreign audience. The prices listed here indicate the cost of regular tickets, which may fluctuate depending on the show or day of the week.

Admiralspalast F-3, Friedrichstraße 101, Mitte, Ⓜ S/U Friedrichstraße, tel. +49 30 47 99 74 99, www.admiralspalast.de. This former army bathhouse was famous for its cabaret, operetta house, spa and brothel in Berlin's roaring 20s. Hitler cleaned up their acts in the 1930s, installing a private box so that he could watch his favourite operetta ‚The Merry Widow', and Brecht tried out his new theatre here from the 1950s. With several theatres, it now puts on plays, concerts and musicals. ▸ Shows Tue-Sun 20:00. Tickets €21-79.

Berliner Residenz Konzerte B-3, Spandauer Damm 22-24, Charlottenburg, Ⓜ S Westend, tel. +49 30 526 81 96 96, www.concerts-berlin.com. The Berliner Residenz Orchestra plays famous Baroque-era works by candlelight, with musicians in period costumes - a unique opportunity to get a good idea of what it was like to attend a party in the 18th century. Guests can combine the concert with a tour of Charlottenburg castle or a trip on the river Spree, and dinner amidst hundreds of candles. ▸ Dinner 18:00, concert 20:30. Tickets €29-79.

Blue Man Group **E-4, Marlene Dietrich Platz 4, Mitte, Ⓜ S/U Potsdamer Platz, tel. +49 18 05 44 44, www.bluemangroup.de.** The (quite literally) Blue Man Group has been wowing audiences for years at their Bluemax Theatre, with a show that is a kaleidoscope, a whirlwind, a puzzle, psychedelic, and many more adjectives that people just haven't managed to sum up the visually and musically powerful show with. The few texts that are spoken are in English. ▸ Shows Tue, Fri 21:00; Wed, Thu, Sat 18:00, 21:00; Sun 18:00. Tickets €65-77.

Friedrichstadtpalast **F-3, Friedrichstraße 107, Mitte, Ⓜ U Oranienburger Tor, tel. +49 30 23 26 23 26, www.friedrichstadtpalast.de.** No one does over-the-top better than the producers and long-legged dancers and acrobats of Friedrichstadtpalast. This venue normally puts on the glitziest, biggest revues in town. ▸ Tickets €19-95.

Tipi am Kanzleramt **E-3, Große Querallee, Tiergarten, Ⓜ U Bundestag, tel. +49 30 39 06 65 50, www.tipi-am-kanzleramt.de.** Continuing a tradition that started a century ago in Berlin, the Tipi team wine, dine and entertain guests for an evening in their elegant year-round tent in Tiergarten park. Before the show starts, gourmet food is served. Then it's over to the artists featured that night to entertain the audience. ▸ Shows 20:00, Sun 19:00. Tickets €15-45.

Berliner Residenz Concerts

Enjoy classical concerts and a festive dinner in royal surroundings. Baroque-era culinary delicacies and musical masterpieces are combined in the magical surroundings of the extravagant former summer residence of the Hohenzollern dynasty.

June 1, 8, 12, 15, 19, 21, 22, 27, 28, 29; July 2, 3, 9, 10, 12, 13, 16, 17, 19, 20, 23, 24, 30, 31: "Masterpieces of the 17th and 18th centuries, by J.S.Bach, G.F.Händel, W.A.Mozart, A.Vivaldi and Frederick the Great and his court composers."

June 9 & July 14: Works by Vivaldi, Paganini, Kreisler, Piazzolla & Corda on violin and guitar, by Duo Cordi.

Berliner Residenz Konzerte, Spandauer Damm 22-24, Große Orangerie of Schloss Charlottenburg, tel. +49 30 25 81 03 50, www.concerts-berlin.com.

Ellington Hotel events

Berlin's grooviest hotel is well-known for its relaxed **Jazz brunches**, held Sundays between 11:30 and 14:30 in the **Duke restaurant**. A set fee allows you to sample anything from the buffet, while talented Jazz musicians take care of the atmosphere. Brunchtime performances are taken care of by artists such as the Craig Burton Duo, the Larissa Duo and the Jeffrey Dimen Duo.

Ellington Hotel, D-4, Nürnberger Str. 50-55, tel. +49 30 68 31 50, www.ellington-hotel.com.

Wintergarten Variété **E-4, Potsdamer Straße 96, Tiergarten, Ⓜ U Kurfürstenstraße, tel. +49 30 58 84 33, www.wintergarten-berlin.de.** One of Berlin's famed variety theatres was revived here as a dinner theater. Seated around tables, you'll enjoy a show with acrobats, magicians, clowns, jugglers and more. Before the show, waiters take orders for meals which are served during the break. New shows are put on several times per year. ▸ Shows Wed-Sat 20:00, Sun 18:00. Tickets €25-60.

Theatre, Music & Dance

Berlin has dozens of venues for performances. There's lots of great theatre, but most of it is German-language; it's getting better, with English plays or surtitles in some theatres. Berlin is the world capital of contemporary dance; look for shows by Sasha Waltz, perhaps the best choreographer around. The Staatsballett Berlin is the main classic dance company. Tanzraumberlin magazine (www.tanzraumberlin.de), available at the venues, lists all dance events.

English Theatre Berlin **F-5, Fidicinstraße 40, Kreuzberg, Ⓜ U Platz der Luftbrücke, tel. +49 30 691 12 11, www.etberlin.de.** Berlin residents, whether native English speakers or not, come to this theatre for the edgy programming on the little black box's stage. ▸ Tickets €14-18.

Halle Tanzbühne **G-1, Eberswalder Straße 10-11, Prenzlauer Berg, Ⓜ U Eberswalder Straße, tel. +49 30 44 04 42 92, www.halle-tanz-berlin.de.** A monumental school gym, used for excellent modern dance productions by the Toula Limnaios company. ▸ Tickets €15.

Hebbel am Ufer (HAU) **F-4, Hallesches Ufer 32, Kreuzberg, Ⓜ U Hallesches Tor, tel. +49 30 259 00 40, www.hebbel-am-ufer.de.** Three small theatres (the others at Stresemannstraße 29 and Tempelhofer Ufer 10) perform experimental theatre (often in English or mute) and dance. ▸ Tickets €11-18.

Kookaburra **G-2, Schönhauser Allee 184, Prenzlauer Berg, Ⓜ U Rosa-Luxemburg-Platz, tel. +49 30 48 62 31 86, www.comedyclub.de.** Laughing matters at Berlin's premier comedy club, which has English-language stand-up comedy with Kim Eustace every first Tuesday of the month, the interactive ComedySportz show every second Tue & Sat, burlesque with Jack Woodhead every third Tue & Sat and an open mic every first Sat. ▸ Tickets €8-10.

Radialsystem V **H-4, Holzmarktstraße 33, Friedrichshain, Ⓜ S Ostbahnhof, tel. +49 30 288 78 85 88, www.radialsystem.de.** A fantastic theatre, dance and music venue in an old pumping station along the Spree river. There's a restaurant and café too. ▸ Tickets €5-41.

Events

Classical music

5 June, 20:00
Grigorij Sokolov (piano)
Works by Schubert and Beethoven
PH

7 June, 20:00
Deutsches Symphonie-Orchester Berlin, Christoph Eschenbach
Conductor: Christoph Eschenbach; Works by Brahms and Schumann
PH

8 June, 18:00
Tango de Amor
Aydar Gaynullin (accordion)
PH

9 June, 20:00
Mandelring Quartett, Laura Ruiz Ferreres (clarinet)
Works by Brahms and Haydn
PH

10 June, 20:00
Rudolf Buchbinder (piano)
Works by Beethoven
PH

13 June, 20:00
Pietro Massa (piano)
Works by Debussy, Granados, and Albéniz
PH

14-16 June, 20:00
Berliner Philharmoniker
Conductor: Sir Simon Rattle; Benjamin Britten's War Requiem op. 66
PH

Venue list Berlin

AD – Admiralspalast, Friedrichstraße 101-102, tel. +49 30 47 99 74 99, www.admiralspalast.de.

AR – Arena, Eichenstraße 4, tel. +49 30 533 20 30, www.arena-berlin.de.

HB – Hamburger Bahnhof Museum, Invalidenstraße 50-51, tel. +49 30 39 78 34 11, www.hamburgerbahnhof.de.

MP – Mindpirates, Schlesische Straße 38, www.mindpirates.org.

NA – Neue Nationalgalerie, Potsdamer Straße 50, tel. +49 30 266 26 51, www.neue-nationalgalerie.de.

OS – Olympiastadion, Olympischer Platz 3, tel. +49 30 688100, www.olympiastadion-berlin.de.

OW – O2 World, Mühlenstraße 12-30, tel. +49 30 20 60 70 80, www.o2world.de.

PH – Philharmonie, Herbert-von-Karajan-Straße 1, tel. +49 30 25 48 80, www.berliner-philharmoniker.de.

WB – Waldbühne, Glockenturmstraße 1, www.waldbuehne-berlin.de.

ZS – Zitadelle Spandau, Am Juliusturm, tel. +49 30 354 94 40, www.zitadelle-spandau.de.

Event tickets

Tickets can be purchased at the venues, via hotel concierges, at ticket offices (also in major department stores) and online.

Eventim, tel. +49 180 557 00 70, www.eventim.de. An online booking service with event tickets mailed or available for home printing.

Hekticket **C-4, Hardenbergstraße 29d, Charlottenburg, Ⓜ S/U Zoologischer Garten, tel. +49 30 230 99 30, www.hekticket.de.** Ticket shops and online sales (for home printing, pick-up or mailing). Reduced same-day tickets for shows and attractions are available after 14:00. Also at Karl-Liebknecht-Straße 13, Mitte. ▸ Open 10:00 - 20:00, Sun 14:00 - 18:00.

Koka 36 **H-4, Oranienstraße 29, Kreuzberg, Ⓜ U Görlitzer Bahnhof, tel. +49 30 61 10 13 13, www.koka36.de.** Kreuzberg's Konzertkasse has tickets in their shop and online (German only), for mailing and pick-up. ▸ Open 09:00 - 19:00, Sat 10:00 - 16:00. Closed Sun.

Papagena, tel. +49 30 47 99 74 44, http://khs.papagena.de. Regular and reduced price tickets for classical music, opera and theatre. Call for English-language service.

Wintergarten: CultiMulti

© Andreas Brueckelmair

Until 17 August, the Wintergarten's 'CultiMulti' show offers an acrobatic excursion into the glitzy world of variety show in the multi-faceted cultural mix of a metropolis, presented by comedian and former policeman Murat Topal who investigates Berlin's ethnic urban jungle. Artists include a Russian hand-on-hand duo, an Indian pole artist, and there's music ranging from Sade to Tarkan, from hip hop to trance.

Wintergarten Variété, Potsdamer Straße 96, Tiergarten, U Kurfürstenstraße, tel. +49 30 58 84 33, www.wintergarten-berlin.de. Shows Wed-Sat 20:00, Sun 18:00.

Exhibition: Diversity Destroyed

The Jewish-owned "Wilhelm Philippi Lighting House of the West" at Kurfürstendamm 203 in Berlin was destroyed in the Kristallnacht, 10 November 1938. © Stiftung Deutsches Historisches Museum/Sergej Horovitz

It's 80 years ago that the Nazis seized power in Berlin in 1933, and 75 years since the Kristallnacht pogrom of November 1938. The "Diversity Destroyed - Berlin 1933-1938" exhibition at the German Historical Museum is the starting point for an exploration of Berlin's memorial sites within the framework of a comprehensive programme of exhibitions and events across the city throughout 2013. Opened on 30 January – the day Hitler was appointed Reich Chancellor – it examines the fateful year of 1933 as well as the time before and after the forcible establishment of the Nazi dictatorship. It shows how the social diversity and cultural avant-garde that had turned 1920s Berlin into a pulsating metropolis were destroyed after 1933. There are English-language tours every Friday at 14:00.

Until 10 November.

Deutsches Historisches Museum, Unter den Linden 2, Mitte, Ⓜ Hackescher Markt, tel. +49 30 20 30 40, www.dhm.de. Open 10:00 - 18:00.

Torchlight parade through the Brandenburg Gate on the occasion of the 3rd anniversary of Adolf Hitler becoming Chancellor. Berlin, 30 January 1936. ©Stiftung Deutsches Historisches Museum

Dalí - The Exhibition at Potsdamer Platz

With over 450 exhibits, the new museum and cultural highlight 'Dalí - The Exhibition at Potsdamer Platz' offers the most complete overview of Dalí's virtuous and experimental mastery in almost all art techniques, right here in the heart of Berlin. As Dalí once said: "Come into my brain". In keeping with this spirit 'Surrealism for all', visitors to Berlin now have the chance to discover 'their Dalí'.

Dalí - The Exhibition at Potsdamer Platz, Leipziger Platz 7, Mitte, Ⓜ Potsdamer Platz, tel. +49 700 32 54 23 75 46, www.daliberlin.de. Open 12:00-20:00, Sun & holidays 10:00-20:00. Admission €11, reduced €9.

© DaliBerlin.de

16 June, 20:00
Orchester BerlinClassicPlayers
Conductor: Ulrich Riehl; Works by Vivaldi and Mozart
PH

17 June, 20:00
Deutsches Symphonie-Orchester Berlin
Conductor: Clemens Schuldt; Works by Beethoven, Prokofiev, Martinu, and Ishii
PH

20 June, 20:00
Daniel Stabrawa (violin), Rafal Blechacz (piano)
Works by Bach, Ysaÿe, Debussy, Mozart, and Szymanowski
PH

22 & 23 June, 20:00
Deutsches Symphonie-Orchester Berlin
Conductor: Tugan Sokhiev; Works by Mendelssohn Bartholdy, Korngold, and Schubert
PH

26 & 27 June, 20:00
Staatskapelle Berlin
Conductor: Yannick Nézet-Séguin; Works by Mozart, Szymanowski, and Shostakovitch
PH

Concerts

6 June, 20:00
Rush (Rock)
OW

Fete de la Musique

ge$h © Hannes Früh

On 21 June 1982, Paris saw the first ever Fete de la Musique festival. Organised in order to bring contemporary music out onto the streets on the longest day of the year, the festival quickly gained popularity and soon branched out to other countries. Now hundreds of cities worldwide organise their own festivals on **21 June**, making it the largest cultural event dedicated to present-day music. Berlin's streets, squares, theatres and clubs are the stage for the festival shows and events take place all over the city, across an amazing 88 stages. Best of all, it's all free.

The huge list of events is overwhelming and it's worth looking up a programme to see what's interesting. During the day there are open-air stages in all districts, while at night the party moves indoors in theatres, clubs, and churches with music varying from punk rock to accordion orchestras, jazz and Latino to classical choirs.

The KulturBühne bei Dussmann Das KulturKaufhaus stage, near Friedrichstrasse station, presents acoustic rock and folk by *ge$h* at 17:00, singer/songwriter Konrad Wissmann at 18:30, and alternative, folk and blues by Andrea Schroeder at 20:00. The Gretchen Club at Obentrautstrasse 19 in Kreuzberg is organising the BNRxOYE Blockparty, starting outdoors at 16:00 but continuing inside the club all night long. At the Institut Français on Kurfürstendamm 211, Jazzwerkstatt has a day of live jazz performances lined up from 16:00-22:00.

Fete de la Musique, 21 June, various locations, admission free, www.fetedelamusique.de/en.

Skream

Your favourite celebrities within reach!

Madame Tussauds, near the Brandenburg Gate at Unter den Linden, has nearly 100 life-like wax figures; from international stars to sports legends, historical heroes and German celebrities. You're whisked on a journey of discovery past all these famous people, with plenty of interactive elements. Pose with Lady Gaga, Brad Pitt, Marlene Dietrich or Rihanna; lie on Sigmund Freud's couch or enter a battle of wits with Albert Einstein. New from 7 June: German footballer Mesut Özil.

Madame Tussauds | Unter den Linden 74
www.MadameTussauds.com/Berlin
Open daily 10:00-19:00.

Cinemas

Foreign film offerings in German cinemas are often dubbed so check www.critic.de/ov-movies-berlin or look in listings magazines like *Tip* and *Zitty*, for subtitled films; these are marked in with *OmU* or *OmengU* (original version with German/English subtitles) and *OF* or *OV* (original version); *DF* means German version.

Arsenal E-4, Potsdamer Straße 2, Kreuzberg, Ⓜ S/U Potsdamer Platz, tel. +49 30 26 95 51 00, www.arsenal-berlin.de. This little art house cinema is in the basement beneath the Film Museum in the Sony Center. International films are the normal fare. ▶ Tickets €6,50.

Babylon Mitte G-2, Rosa-Luxemburg-Straße 30, Mitte, Ⓜ U Rosa-Luxemburg-Platz, tel. +49 30 242 59 69, www.babylonberlin.de. A filmhouse for great directors, Babylon has a great program, but often films are dubbed into German. The building itself is a 1920s example of New Objectivity. Watch for occasional screenings of silent films accompanied by the historical organ from 1929. ▶ Tickets €7.

Central Kino G-2, Rosenthaler Straße 39, Mitte, Ⓜ S Hackerscher Markt, tel. +49 30 28 59 99 73, www.kino-central.de. Art-house films and mini film fests take place in this small, but comfy cinema at the very back of a scruffy courtyard. ▶ Tickets €6,50, Tue, Wed €5,50.

Cinestar Event & Original E-4, Potsdamer Straße 4, Tiergarten, Ⓜ S/U Potsdamer Platz, tel. +49 30 26 06 64 00, www.cinestar.de. With a sleek ambience, a cocktail bar, roomy seating (even love seats) and a Taxi Driver carpet, the Cinestar Original cinema is loved by English-speakers and film purists for screening blockbuster and arthouse movies in their original version. The Cinestar Event cinema shows 3D movies and documentaries in German on the biggest screen in town. ▶ Tickets €6-11.

Hackesche Höfe G-2, Rosenthaler Straße 40, Mitte, Ⓜ S Hackescher Markt, tel. +49 30 283 46 03, www.hackesche-hoefe.org. Many foreign films play here, so speakers of languages other than German could get by here as long as the films aren't dubbed; many have German subtitles. ▶ Tickets €8; Mon, Tue €6,50.

Sputnik G-5, Hasenheide 54, Kreuzberg, Ⓜ U Südstern, tel. +49 30 694 11 47, www.sputnik-kino.com. Berlin's highest cinema screens a lot of indie films, many in English, and sometimes very long ones. In a back courtyard of a large complex, it may seem a bit dicey working your way to the theater, but it's safe, small, and friendly. Bricks make up part of the furniture. ▶ Tickets €5-6,5.

Film festivals

Apart from the huge Berlinale film festival in February, Berlin has over 40 smaller international film festivals throughout the year, often focused on a country or theme.

4 June: Webcuts Internet Filmfest, CK99, Revaler Str. 99, www.webcuts.org
30 May-1 June: XPOSED Queer FF, Kino Moviemento, www.xposedfilmfestival.com
25-30 June: Recontres Internationales, Haus der Kulturen der Welt, www.art-action.org
2-7 July: Fashion Film Festival, various locations, www.fashion-week-berlin.com

Ask the concierge

Berlin's top hotels all have concierges that are there to make the guest's lives easier. They can inform you about current events, book tickets, make restaurant reservations and hand out copies of *Berlin In Your Pocket*, transport maps, and brochures. Concierges can be recognised by the crossed golden keys on the lapels of their jackets.

7 June, 20:00
Hugh Laurie & Copper Bottom Band (Blues)
AD

9 June, 19:30
Depeche Mode (Synthie Pop)
OS

12 June, 19:00
KISS (Rock)
WB

17 June, 20:00
Dead Can Dance (Gothic Rock)
ZS

18 June, 19:00
Portishead (Trip Hop)
ZS

18 June, 19:30
Iron Maiden (Hard Rock)
OW

22 June, 19:00
Queens of the Stone Age (Stoner Rock)
ZS

1 July, 19:00
ZZ Top (Rock)
ZS

2 July, 20:00
Rihanna (Pop)
OW

Christopher Street Day Parade

The original street may be part of New York City, but Berliners celebrate Christopher Street Day as if the occasion were named after their famous gay English expatriat, Isherwood, who wrote his famously adapted Berlin Stories ('Cabaret') from his Nollendorfstraße apartment in Schöneberg.
Isherwood's 1920s stomping grounds is where roughly 350,000 celebrants throng in their thongs during the **Gay Pride Festival** (1 - 23 June). The festivities culminate with the **street parade** on June 22, which marks the anniversary of the 1969 uprising of queers against a police raid of the Stonewall bar on Christopher Street. Even scores of straight parents bring their kids to the street festival – the costumes, dancing and freaks whip the pants off any cartoon show. See www.csd-berlin.de for details. Wherever you're from, put your pride on, take some clothes off, and head to Schöneberg to join in.

BLUE MAN GROUP

DISCOVER THE WILD SIDE OF BERLIN.

In a city dominated by mainly German theater shows, the BLUE MAN GROUP show at Potsdamer Platz offers a wonderful solution for any tongue-tied foreigner in the city. The New York production is a unique form of entertainment that communicates with its audience by way of gestures, expressions and music rather than words. In the show, three bald-headed blue men whisk the audience away on a funny, entertaining, thrilling and unique musical journey. Now the show, which has been thrilling audiences in Berlin since 2004, is introducing an 'international edition' in which English text has been creatively integrated into the production, making it even easier for visitors from abroad to follow along.
Come see the BLUE MAN GROUP perform at the Stage BLUEMAX Theater at Potsdamer Platz.

BLUE MAN GROUP
©BMP
Stage BLUEMAX Theater
Potsdamer Platz Berlin

BLUE MAN GROUP, Marlene-Dietrich-Platz 4, Stage BLUEMAX Theater, Tel. (+49) (0) 18 05 44 44*, www.bluemangroup.de/international
Daily shows except for on Mondays. Tickets from €54,90.

*€ 0.14/min. calling from a German landline.
Cellphone charges max. € 0.42 min.

Exhibitions

12-15 June, from 19:00 **MP**
Art Porn Week
A pornographic art experience with films, installations, performances, readings and music. Drop by on Thursday for Lady G. and the Dildo Orchestra. Information: www.mindpirates.org/artporn.

Until July **NA**
Divided Heaven - 1945-1968
The 1950s economic miracle and the construction of the Wall, Cuban Missile Crisis and the Vietnam War, Sputnik and Apollo, Kennedy and Mao - contrasts and conflicts determined the years between 1945 and 1968. The visual arts in this period reflect the atmosphere of the Cold War and the associated political ideologies.

Until 18 August **HB**
Martin Kippenberger: sehr gut | very good
The life and work of artist Martin Kippenberger are inseparable. The painter, actor, writer, musician and dancer lived excessively. The enfant terrible of the art scene is one of the most important artists of the 20th century. He died in 1997, and would have been 60 years old this year. On this occasion, the Hamburger Bahnhof presents the rich diversity of his oeuvre.

Until 1 September **AR**
Tutankhamun - His grave and treasures
An impressive replica of King Tut's grave and treasures, as they were found in Egypt's Valley of the Kings 90 years ago, allows modern-day explorers to discover the pharaonic tomb all over again.

Irish Harp & Kilkenny

Kilkenny Irish Pub

Fun & football, a drink or two and a bite to eat go hand in hand. And if that's what you're after, the Kilkenny Irish Pub is where you find it. Watch all major sport events, Champions League, Premier League, Formula One etc. on large screens, together with locals and tourists from all over the world.

G-3, Am Zwirngraben 17-20, Mitte, Ⓜ S Hackescher Markt, tel. +49 30 283 20 84, mail@kilkenny-pub.de, www.kilkenny-pub.de. ▶ Open Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Sun 11:00 - 01:00, Fri, Sat 11:00 - 03:00.

Irish Harp Pub

Just one minute off Kurfürstendamm, the Irish Harp Pub is a haven for music and sports fans alike. Two bars, a cozy ambience, four large TVs and two big screens provide the setting for a great night out, or an afternoon full of excitement and entertainment while following international football, rugby and other sports, or playing a round of darts.

B-4, Giesebrechtstraße 15, Charlottenburg, Ⓜ U Adenauerplatz, tel. +49 30 22 32 87 35, mail@harp-pub.de, www.harp-pub.de. ▶ Open 10:00 - 01:00. €-€€.

EUROPEAN CAPITAL OF CULTURE

RĪGA | 2014

EIROPAS KULTŪRAS GALVASPILSĒTA
EUROPEAN CAPITAL OF CULTURE

Since reunification, the old city centre district *Mitte* (meaning 'middle') has rightly snatched back the title of most-visited district from Charlottenburg. On and off the boulevard Unter den Linden are baroque and classical monuments to Prussian culture. The architecturally humbler but more neighbourhood-like *Scheunenviertel* area allows the casually chic to saunter from courtyard gallery to sidewalk café. Only traces are left of the Jewish community that lived here from the late 17th century, welcomed by the Great Elector Friedrich Wilhelm.
Between Mitte and Charlottenburg, the huge Tiergarten park began as the Great Elector's hunting grounds in the 1600s. Traffic passes through it, doing a dosey-doe around the Siegessäule victory column. The Straße des 17. Juni leads east to the Brandenburger Tor; just south of it are the state museums of the Kulturforum and the Potsdamer Platz district with its soaring corporate buildings.

Getting there
Arrivals by plane and train usually end up at Hauptbahnhof station, central for the city but not really close to anything. S-Bahn trains from the top level link to the east and west of the city, while the fancy new two-stop U55 U-Bahn line takes sightseers straight to Brandenburger Tor.

Pocket Walk
Start off at Brandenburger Tor and the Reichstag before heading south past the Holocaust memorial and Potsdamer Platz to the Topographie des Terrors exhibition and the adjacent stretch of Berlin Wall. Follow Zimmerstraße for the Stasi Exhibition and Checkpoint Charlie. Walk north along Friedrichstraße and turn right at Mohrenstraße for Gendarmenmarkt square, before ambling to Unter den Linden via Bebelplatz. Walk east past the Neue Wache and Berliner Dom, turn left into Spandauer Straße, and pass through Hackescher Markt station. Visit the Hackesche Höfe complex before walking down Oranienburger Straße for the Neue Synagoge. You can catch the S-Bahn from here back to Brandenburger Tor.

Symbol key

Child friendly	Facilities for the disabled
Home delivery	Live music
No credit cards	Nearest S/U-Bahn station
Outside seating	Non-smoking room
Take away	Internet
Wi-Fi	

Additional symbols for hotels

Air conditioning	Credit cards accepted
Guarded parking	Conference facilities
Fitness centre	Restaurant
Sauna	Swimming pool

Dinner price guide

The number of euro symbols in our restaurant, café and nightlife reviews indicates the approximate price level based on a main course with a glass of wine.

€€€€ Expensive; more than €30 per person.

€€€ Not cheap; €20-30 per person.

€€ Middling; from €10-20 per person.

€ Cheap; less than €10 per person.

Hotels

Over €200

Adlon **F-2, Unter den Linden 77, Mitte, Ⓜ U Unter den Linden, tel. +49 30 226 10, adlon@kempinski.com, www.hotel-adlon.de.** The reconstructed, historic Adlon hotel has views of the Brandenburger Tor, unfussy 1920s-style rooms with cherry wood, black marble and rich fabrics, plus the staff provides impeccable service. Often voted the best hotel in Germany and even Europe, this is the only place to sleep. ▸ 375 rooms (302 singles €240 - 310, 302 doubles €290 - 360, 72 suites €520 - 3800, 1 Presidential suite €8500). Breakfast extra. ★★★★★

Das Stue **D-4, Drakestraße 1, Tiergarten, Ⓜ U Wittenbergplatz, tel. +49 30 311 72 20, www.das-stue.com.** The luxurious, family-owned 'living room' hotel, set in the 1930s Danish embassy building, attracts an interesting mix of creatives and business visitors. The 1920s-style bar and many rooms overlook the zoo, with ostriches and antelopes peering back at you. The rooms and grand suites are spread across the old and new wings, adorned with beautiful wooden and copper details. A small pool can be found in the spa area, and there's the first-class Cinco restaurant. ▸ 80 rooms (70 doubles from €200, 20 suites €290-740).

Hilton **F-2, Mohrenstraße 30, Mitte, Ⓜ U Stadtmitte, tel. +49 30 202 30, info.berlin@hilton.com, www.hilton.com.** Maybe it's the excellent breakfast and not the privileged view on Gendarmenmarkt that keeps guests coming back. The formal rooms are supplemented by good restaurants and exotic spa treatments. ▸ 591 rooms (singles €145 - 345, doubles €145 - 345, suites €220 - 1145). Breakfast extra. ★★★★★

Hotel de Rome **F-3, Behrenstraße 37, Mitte, Ⓜ S/U Brandenburger Tor, tel. +49 30 460 60 90, info.derome@roccofortecollection.com, www.hotelderome.com.** Overlooking Bebelplatz, this top-class hotel occupies a magnificent former bank building from 1889. Wooden panelling, marble and even shrapnel damage pervade the high-ceilinged lobby and rooms, and the bank's vault is now a 20-metre pool. ▸ 146 rooms (103 singles €395 - 495, 103 doubles €395 - 495, 43 suites €595 - 4100).

Marriott **E-4, Inge-Beisheim-Platz 1, Mitte, Ⓜ S/U Potsdamer Platz, tel. +49 30 22 00 00, www.marriott.com.** Ten floors of superb rooms and conference facilities overlooking the Platz. The lobby has a serenely spinning 3-tonne black granite globe, and the copper facade of one wall plays an unearthly light show. That plus a wellness centre and a classic Art Deco New York bar and grill make this one of Berlin's finest hotels. ▸ 379 rooms (350 singles €159 - 219, 350 doubles €159 - 219, 9 suites €350 - 1200, 80 executive room €199 - 259). Breakfast extra. ★★★★★

Ritz-Carlton **E/F-4, Potsdamer Platz 3, Mitte, Ⓜ S/U Potsdamer Platz, tel. +49 30 33 77 77, berlin@ritzcarlton.com, www.ritzcarlton.com.** A gilt-edged hotel with superlative services, gourmet dining and fake marble Corinthian columns lining a sweeping staircase in the lobby. The classic dark wooden bar opens with a ceremony every evening at 18:00 and serves over 400 fine fruit brandies. ▸ 302 rooms (singles €250 - 360, doubles €280 - 440, 40 suites €330 - 5000). Breakfast extra. ★★★★★

Westin Grand **F-3, Friedrichstraße 158-164, Mitte, Ⓜ S/U Friedrichstraße, tel. +49 30 202 70, info@westin-grand.com, www.westin.com/berlin.** Enviably well-located and used in GDR times for Party bigwigs, the Westin is classically furnished, with a copy of the Adlon's marble staircase situated in the lobby, a round pool, an upmarket restaurant and suites with butler service. ▸ 358 rooms (25 singles €136 - 350, 273 doubles €136 - 375, suites €379 - 930, 15 junior suites €279 - 565, 1 presidential suite €986 - 1930). Breakfast extra. ★★★★★

€150-200

Berlin, Berlin **D-4, Lützowplatz 17, Tiergarten, Ⓜ U Nollendorfplatz, tel. +49 30 260 50, info@hotel-berlin.de, www.hotel-berlin.de.** Mostly known for its conference facilities, this large 1958 hotel is in a central but rather bland area just south of Tiergarten park. The glam period lobby and restaurant give way to comfortably furnished rooms, in a variety of styles. There's live sports action in the bar, while peace can be found in the summer garden restaurant. ▸ 701 rooms (103 singles €100 - 195, 569 doubles €100 - 245, 29 suites €220 - 900). ★★★★

Mandala **E-4, Potsdamer Straße 3, Tiergarten, Ⓜ S/U Potsdamer Platz, tel. +49 30 59 00 00 00, welcome@madison-berlin.de, www.themandala.de.** Excellent rooms and apartments for both short and long-term stays. The Potsdamer Platz hotel location has great views over Tiergarten park and hosts the top-notch Facil restaurant and Qiu lounge; the suites at Friedrichstraße 185-190 are close to all the action. ▸ 157 rooms (157 suites €130 - 5800). Breakfast extra. ★★★★★

€75-150

Honigmond & Garden Hotels **F-2, Tieckstraße 12, Mitte, Ⓜ S Nordbahnhof, tel. +49 30 284 45 50, honigmond@t-online.de, www.honigmond.de.** Two meticulously restored buildings with sparsely furnished rooms with original wooded floors makes for a homey feel. The nearby Garden Hotel dependence (Invalidenstraße 122) has a garden with a lawn and goldfish pond for frolicking around in summer. ▸ 24 rooms (singles €59 - 109, doubles €79 - 159).

Park Inn Berlin Alexanderplatz **G-3, Alexanderplatz 7, Mitte, Ⓜ S/U Alexanderplatz, tel. +49 30 238 90, berlin.hotel@rezidorparkinn.com, www.parkinn-berlin.com.** Towering 40 stories over Alexanderplatz, Germany's third-largest hotel is as central as it gets. Business rooms are all renovated and stocked with a coffeemaker and ironing board. By far the best choice for the direction-impaired. ▸ 1012 rooms (318 singles €89 - 125, 671 doubles €89 - 125, 23 suites €130 - 185). Breakfast extra. ★★★★

Scandic Potsdamer Platz **E-4, Gabriele-Tergit-Promenade 19, Mitte, Ⓜ U Mendelssohn-Bartholdy-Park, tel. +49 30 700 77 90, www.scandichotels.com.** The large hotel between Potsdamer Platz and lovely Gleisdreieck Park straddles the handy U2 metro line. Inside, it's all about eco-friendly Scandinavian design; every floor has a season theme that determines the look of the halls and the furniture in the comfy rooms. No single-serving packaging in the breakfast room; the honey is even produced in the bee hives on the roof. The staff treats guests in a fresh, informal way, and the hotel is perfect for disabled travellers, and children. Free wifi. ▸ 561 rooms (doubles from €85, suites from €127).

Restaurants & Cafés

Asian

Jolly **F-3, Am Kupfergraben 4, Mitte, Ⓜ S/U Friedrichstraße, tel. +49 30 20 05 95 01, service@restaurant-jolly.de, www.restaurant-jolly.de.** Opposite the Pergamon Museum, with tourists, trams and S-Bahn trains gliding by the windows, Jolly is a spacious and modern restaurant with delicious Cantonese Chinese and Thai dishes. Specialities include dim sum and Peking roast duck, served with pancakes and special sauce, but there's also a wide variety of soups, and good portions of stir-fried meals and Thai curries, with servings of fluffy rice. ▸ Open 11:30 - 23:30. €€.

Manngo **G-2, Mulackstraße 29, Mitte, Ⓜ U Weinmeisterstraße, tel. +49 30 28 04 05 58, www.manngo.de.** A friendly and deliciously enticing Vietnamese with a small, perfectly formed menu and a curious collection of Klimt artworks on the walls. The authentic curry, satay, spring rolls and soups are very affordable, while fresh juices, Bia Hoi and Saigon beer also up the ante. ▸ Open 12:00 - 24:00, Sat 13:00 - 24:00. Closed Sun. €.

Monsieur Vuong **G-2, Alte Schönhauser Straße 46, Mitte, Ⓜ U Weinmeisterstraße, tel. +49 30 99 29 69 24, www.monsieurvuong.de.** Hanoi and Saigon have landed in a chic little red Vietnamese restaurant in Mitte. There are only five dishes and two daily specials, but they're so delicious you'll be ordering a second bowl of rice to soak up the leftover sauce. After your *gói bo*, try some jasmin or artichoke tea. Prices have risen and you'll have to fight the über-cool crowds for a table as Mr. Vuong doesn't take reservations. ▸ Open 12:00 - 24:00. €.

Van Long **Reinhardtstraße 8, Mitte, Ⓜ U Oranienburger Tor, tel. +49 30 28 23 570, www.van-long.de.** Best visited for the wide range of Vietnamese specialities, from all parts of the country, Van Long also has some tasty Thai options served in a modest space decorated with Vietnamese art. Try the specials such as the *Cha Ca La V ng* fish that you finish grilling at your table, or the *Lau chay* clay pot with tofu and vegetables. ▸ Open 12:00 - 24:00. €€.

Austrian

Brecht-Haus Kellerrestaurant **F-2, Chausseestraße 125, Mitte, Ⓜ U Oranienburger Tor, tel. +49 30 282 38 43, www.brechtkeller.de.** The recipes served here are those of a busy Austrian actress making do with East German ingredients, so though decent, it's not the *Tafelspitz* (rump steak) that's famous, but the spirit of the place where playwright Berthold Brecht and his actress wife Helene Weigel lived. The small basement cellar is full of family photographs and original set models of plays like *Mother Courage*. Also inside is what could only be described as a romantic brick-lined lounge area. A wall separates a terrace from the cemetery where the couple are buried. ▸ Open 18:00 - 01:00. €€.

Fast food

DomCurry **F-3, Gendarmenmarkt 1 (Hilton hotel), Mitte, Ⓜ U Französische Straße, tel. +49 30 202 30 44 55.** Elevating fast food to a gatronomic experience, the Hilton allows you to style your own currywurst using top-quality ingredients, right beside the Deutsche Dom on Gendarmenmarkt. There are several types of sausage (ostrich, eco, fish), sauces and bread to choose from. ▸ Open 11:00 - 18:00. €.

Beer houses

Gaffel Haus **F-3, Dorotheenstraße 65, Mitte, Ⓜ S/U Friedrichstraße, tel. +49 30 31 01 16 93, www.gaffel-haus-berlin.de.** Serving the famed Gaffel Kölsch beer from Cologne in the small glasses typical for that city, Gaffel, a large and authentic beer house serving traditional German cuisine, lives up to expectations. Try the *Fooderplaat* snack plate with sausages and black pudding, the herring filet or the roast beef, or the excellent Wiener Schnitzel. On Friday after 17:00, drop by for the Eisbein (pickled ham hock) special, which includes a beer and a glass of Kabänes herb liqueur. When FC Köln plays on Sundays, Gaffel is full of cheering fans. ▸ Open 12:00 - 24:00, Sun 12:00 - 22:00. €€.

Manngo

Fine dining

Aigner **F-3, Französische Straße 25, Mitte, Ⓜ U Französiche Straße, tel. +49 30 203 75 18 50, www.aigner-gendarmenmarkt.de.** One of Berlin's best places to eat, Aigner is truly international, as its name, concept and all the old furnishings originate from a famous Viennese café that closed in the 1980s. Master chef Herbert Beltle and his team serve award-winning dishes with ingredients sourced fresh from the market. ▸ Open 12:00 - 02:00. €€€.

Borchardt **F-3, Französische Straße 47, Mitte, Ⓜ U Französische Straße, tel. +49 30 81 88 62 62, www.borchardt-restaurant.de.** Borchardt didn't have to invest much to make a good first impression - the mere height of the ceiling and the building's original tile floors whisper class and luxury. The money and creative energy goes into the kitchen, which comes up with a different menu each day to keep its regular clientele surprised. Leave the pork to the Germans, the beef dishes here are delectable. ▸ Open from 11:00. €€€.

Facil **E-4, Potsdamer Straße 3, Tiergarten, Ⓜ S/U Potsdamer Platz, tel. +49 30 590 05 12 34, www.facil.de.** At the Mandala Hotel's Michelin-starred gourmet restaurant, chef de cuisine Michael Kempf creates elegantly light fare using only fresh, local products direct from the market. The menu changes daily and has an emphasis on tasty vegetables and exotic herbs. Facil's design is a post-modern, glass-box Asian pavilion with a large central skylight that retracts. ▸ Open . Closed Sat, Sun. Open 12:00 - 15:00, 19:00 - 23:00. Closed Sat, Sun. €€€€. ★

Fischers Fritz **F-3, Charlottenstraße 49, Mitte, Ⓜ U Französische Straße, tel. +49 30 20 33 63 63, www.fischersfritzberlin.com.** The restaurant's name comes from a tongue-twister and the light, fish-focused menu is for a very refined palate. Chef Christian Lohse has won several of the Michelin stars that appear none too oft in Germany. The German chef first trained in Dijon and has since pleased gourmands such as those at *The Dorchester* in London and the Sultan of Brunei (as a private chef). The dining room has light woods, deep carpets and a fireplace. ▸ Open 12:00-14:00; 18:30-23:00. €€€€. ★★

Lutter & Wegner **F-3, Charlottenstraße 56, Mitte, Ⓜ U Französische Straße, tel. +49 30 202 95 40, www.l-w-berlin.de.** Classy, traditional, and with a link to the actor who put the sparkle in German wine in 1811, this is the place to share a bottle of Sekt before or after a concert at the Konzerthaus on Gendarmenmarkt. There's a warren of rooms in which to carve out a cosy niche. Germans know their roasts, and you can trust the national committee that dubbed the Sauerbraten here the best in Germany in 2003. ▸ Open 11:00 - 03:00. Closed Sun. The warm kitchen closes at 01:00 while the *Weinstube* serves cold dishes until 03:00. €€€.

Margaux **F-3, Unter den Linden 78, Mitte, Ⓜ S/U Brandenburger Tor, tel. +49 30 22 65 26 11, www.margaux-berlin.de.** Rich cuisine by Chef Michael Hoffmann at this Michelin-starred restaurant, which uses only the best ingredients for a daily menu that is chosen by quality of supplies. Fish are only line-caught, mostly in the Atlantic and in Brandenburg. Save room for the French cheese plate. A good way to sample the cuisine is the four- or seven-course dinner. ▸ Open 19:00 - 22:30. Closed Mon, Sun. €€€-€€€€. ★

Paris-Moskau **E-3, Alt-Moabit 141, Tiergarten, Ⓜ S/U Hauptbahnhof, tel. +49 30 394 20 81, www.paris-moskau.de.** Many train passengers rolling into Hauptbahnhof assume this lonely and unusual half-timber house from 1898 is related to the railroad, as it sits along the tracks that link Paris and Moscow, but the fine restaurant inside has more connections to the Mediterranean. Dishes include stuffed quail, steak with pumpkin and pike-perch. ▸ Open 18:00 - open end. €€€.

VAU **F-3, Jägerstraße 54/55, Mitte, Ⓜ U Französische Straße, tel. +49 30 202 97 30, www.vau-berlin.de.** It's easy to spell and rhymes with wow, and the latter is the word-of-mouth that has kept chef Kolja Kleeberg's restaurant fully booked for years. Using many products from the Berlin area, Michelin-starred Kleeberg follows his mentor Josef Viehhauser's rule: never more than three products on a plate. ▸ Open 12:00 - 14:30; 19:00-22:30. Closed Sun. Open 12:00 - 14:30, 19:00 - 22:30. Sun closed. €€€€. ★

German

Alpenstueck **F-2, Gartenstraße 9, Mitte, Ⓜ S Nordbahnhof, tel. +49 30 21 75 16 46, www.alpenstueck.de.** Wiener Schnitzel with Schwabian potato salad, Maultaschen with Bavarian creme are just a few of the dishes available at Alpenstueck, a designer restaurant with a traditional twist. The chef prepares southern German and Austrian home cooking with fresh ingredients, changing the menu every three days. A feast for the eyes and the palate. ▸ Open 18:00 - 01:00. €€.

Mutter Hoppe **G-3, Rathausstraße 21, Mitte, Ⓜ S/U Alexanderplatz, tel. +49 30 241 56 25, www.prostmahlzeit.de/mutterhoppe.** Head down the winding staircase into this restaurant in the Nikolaiviertel district. You'll find the space divided into cosy, low-ceilinged nooks with upholstered banquettes and historic photos and drawings on the painted walls. Heavy meat dishes are the meals to order here. The kitchen offers sides not served at other German restaurants, including green beans wrapped in bacon. Make reservations; or try their sister restaurant *Julchen Hoppe*, a few doors further towards the Spree. ▸ Open 11:30 - 24:00. €€.

Restauration 1840 **G-3, Am Zwirngraben 8-10, Ⓜ S Hackescher Markt, tel. +49 30 24 72 74 01, post@berlin-1840.de, www.berlin-1840.de.** Located in a vaulted space under the S-Bahn tracks, this traditional Berlin restaurant designed to recall the golden 1920s serves regionally sourced international cuisine, including local favourites such as *Sülze* (cold knuckle), *Buletten* (meatballs) and *Currywurst* sausage. There are good seasonal wines, and the bar staff can shake up a great cocktail. ▸ Open 09:00 - 24:00.

Schwarzwaldstuben **F-3, Tucholskystraße 48, Mitte, Ⓜ U Oranienburger Straße, tel. +49 30 28 09 80 84, www.schwarzwaldstuben-berlin.com.** Bambi meets Berlin chic at the trendy Black Forest themed Schwarzwaldstuben, which has a friendly atmosphere, bedraggled animal heads mounted on the walls and heavy mix-matched furniture. Regional treats include *Maultaschen* (ravioli-like pockets in broth) and *Schnitzel*. ▸ Open 09:00 - 24:00. €€.

Weihenstephaner **G-3, Neue Promenade 5, Mitte, Ⓜ S/U Hackescher Markt, tel. +49 30 84 71 07 60, www.weihenstephaner-berlin.de.** The one eatery on the sunny square that delivers a "hey, this is Germany!" experience. The Weihenstephaner brewery restaurant has dirndel-clad waitresses who serve simple and satisfying Bavarian specialities (like white sausages). The outdoor tables have typical blue-and-white checked tablecloths; inside, the rooms are rustic but elegant. ▸ Open 11:00 - 01:00. €€.

Zille-Stube **G-3, Spreeufer 3, Mitte, Ⓜ U Klosterstraße, tel. +49 30 242 52 47, www.zillestube-nikolaiviertel.de.** The name is in homage to Berlin artist Heinrich Zille, whose illustrations line the walls above upholstered banquettes and wooden banisters. Dominating the menu are typical Berlin meat dishes like *Boulette*, *Kohlroulade* (beaf-stuffed cabbage leaves), *Sauerbraten* (marinated pot roast) and *Rostbratwurst*. ▸ Open 12:00 - 22:00. €€.

Zum Nussbaum **G-3, Am Nussbaum 3, Mitte, Ⓜ U Klosterstraße, tel. +49 30 242 30 95.** What seems a charming old German restaurant is in fact a charming new German restaurant. The legendary *Under the Nut Tree Inn* used to stand on a street on the island 200m to the southwest. When the war-ravaged area was rebuilt in the 1980s, the inn was reconstructed here. Most patrons don't care for authenticity, and tuck into the well-priced Berlin specialities with curious translations, such as ‚brown rolls with dripping'. ▸ Open from 12:00. €.

International

Dressler **F-3, Unter den Linden 39, Mitte, Ⓜ S/U Friedrichstraße, tel. +49 30 204 44 22, www.restaurant-dressler.de.** 1920s Berlin lives on a bit here on the boulevard, between Brandenburger Tor and the Komische Oper. There's Art Deco wooden paneling, large mirrors, and good bistro and proper restaurant meals served in a very relaxed atmosphere. Also in Charlottenburg at Ku'damm 207. ▸ Open 08:00 - 01:00. €€€.

Ganymed **F-3, Schiffbauerdamm 5, Mitte, Ⓜ S/U Friedrichstraße, tel. +49 30 28 59 90 46, www.ganymed-brasserie.de.** Strolling along the Spree or after a show at the beloved Berliner Ensemble, stop off at Ganymed's historical rooms for Alsatian Flammkuchen, French choucroute and beers, oysters, wines and the *menu du soir*. The terrace has a view of the Spree and the trains pulling into Friedrichstrasse station. ▸ Open 12:00 - 24:00. Kitchen from 12:00 until 24:00. €€€.

Nola's am Weinberg **G-2, Veteranenstraße 9, Mitte, Ⓜ U Rosenthaler Platz, tel. +49 30 44 04 07 66, www.nola.de.** This hip restaurant overlooks a sloping park. The predominantly Swiss menu lends itself to the terrace, which is perfect for pretending to be in the mountain air of St. Moritz. Breakfast is served until 16:00 and you can order meals until midnight. ▸ Open 10:00 - 01:00. €€.

Back to school at Die Schule

The Die Schule restaurant in the Prenzlauer Berg district is not just a place for trying German cuisine. It's the watering hole for adult students from all around the world who are learning German at the GLS language school, in the same complex. They're greatly helped by the location of the school in a vibrant neighbourhood with plenty of bars, restaurants and quirky boutiques.

Die Schule, Kastanienallee 82, Prenzlauer Berg, tel. +49 30 780 08 95 50, www.gls-restaurant.de.
GLS language school, tel. +49 30 78 00 89 27, www.gls-berlin.de.

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Oranium **F-3, Oranienburger Straße 33-34, Mitte, Ⓜ S Oranienburger Straße, tel. +49 30 30 88 29 67, www.oranium.de.** Just down the street from the Neue Synagoge, Oranium is a pleasant all-day café/restaurant/bar with plenty of dark wood, a long bar and pretty lights. There are great breakfasts (served until 16:00), lunches and good-value dinner options. The menu is as international as it can get; for something special try the chicken with strawberry/chili sauce. Wash it all down with a cocktail or two. ▸ Open 09:00 - 01:00, Fri, Sat 09:00 - 03:00. €€.

Reinhard's **G-3, Poststraße 28, Mitte, Ⓜ U Klosterstraße, tel. +49 30 242 52 95, www.reinhards.de.** Reinhard's friendly staff can whisk a coffee to your table in no time, or if you're here for the food, one of the light meals. The large restaurant is situated in the Nikolaiviertel, and is well-positioned for a break during a city walk. ▸ Open 09:00 - 24:00. €€-€€€.

Traube **F-2, Reinhardtstraße 33, Mitte, Ⓜ S/U Friedrichstraße, tel. +49 30 27 87 93 93, www.traube-berlin.de.** In an elegant building from 1840, ‚The Grape' serves gourmet cuisine together with an excellent range of wines. Dishes are often Alpine-inspired: cross-over food from southern Germany, Alsace, Switzerland and Austria. Guests can choose from a la carte dishes or compose their own menus, with or without wines. The two-course set lunch menu is great value. ▸ Open 12:00 - 15:00, 18:00-23:00, Sat 18:00 - 23:00. Closed Sun. €€€.

www.inyourpocket.com

Food with a view

Käfer Dachgarten **F-3, Platz der Republik 1,Tiergarten, Ⓜ S/U Brandenburger Tor, tel. +49 30 22 62 99 33, www.feinkost-kaefer.de.** When time is money, you may as well spend it on a good meal while visiting the Reichstag dome. Make a reservation to be whisked up to your meal and a 180-degree view of eastern Berlin. German specialities are highlighted and a regional name appears in most main course listings. Last orders are taken at 21:30. Bring ID to get into the buidling. ▸ Open 09:00 - 10:15, 12:00-16:30, 18:30-24:00. €€€.

Panorama Café **E-4, Potsdamer Platz 1, Tiergarten, Ⓜ S/U Potsdamer Platz, tel. +49 30 25 93 70 80, www.panoramapunkt.de.** The 1930s-style café at the top of the Potsdamer Platz viewing point has large windows and an open terrace with great views over Berlin, and serves coffee, cakes and other snacks. ▸ Open 11:00 - 19:00. Admission €5,50/4.

Sphere **G-3, Panoramastraße 1a, Mitte, Ⓜ S/U Alexanderplatz, tel. +49 30 247 57 58 75, www.tv-turm.de.** The TV tower's rotating restaurant at 207 metres gives you a spin around the city in 30 minutes. Soups, salads and light meals accompany your city tour, with attractive daily specials often the best choice. Do make reservations, or wait for a table while circling the observation level. ▸ Open 10:00 - 24:00. €€€.

Italian

Al Contadino Sotto Le Stelle **G-2, Auguststraße 36, Mitte, Ⓜ U Rosenthaler Platz, tel. +49 30 281 90 23, www.alcontadino.com.** Be sure to book ahead at ‚the farmer beneath the stars' as this Italian restaurant is often full. The good pastas, excellent lamb dishes and sweet desserts are all worth a try. Their new Mozzarella Bar nearby at Auguststrasse 34 has small appetisers to eat in or take away, and is also a deli with mozzarella and other Italian specialities. ▸ Open 18:00 - 24:00. €€.

Japanese

Cocolo **G-2, Gipsstraße 3, Mitte, Ⓜ U Weinmeisterstraße, tel. +49 17 23 04 75 84.** A completely authentic and great-value Japanese *ramen* noodle soup restaurant, complete with

Sophieneck

an open kitchen emitting clouds of fragrant steam, cramped conditions on shared benches and a line of waiting guests. Start off with a bowl of salty green beans, choose from five delicious broths, have an Asahi beer and remember to slurp. ▸ Open 18:00 - 24:00. €€.

Sushi Circle **F-3, Französische Straße 48, Mitte, Ⓜ U Französische Straße, tel. +49 30 20 38 79 60, www.sushi-circle.de.** This sushi bar caters less to the guests of the upscale hotels in the area and more to shoppers and office workers on the go. If you're not quick enough to grab the pieces passing by on the bar's conveyor belt, be patient and it will circle around again. If not, ask the sushi chef stuck in the middle to whip a request off for you. ▸ Open 12:00 - 23:00, Sun 18:00 - 23:00. €.

Turkish

Hasir **G-3, Oranienburger Straße 4, Mitte, Ⓜ S Hackescher Markt, tel. +49 30 28 04 16 16, www.hasir.de.** Don't let the Grand Bazaar-style hawker at courtyard entrance put you off: the red marble entrance way leads not to apple tea and a pile of carpets but to Europe's best Turkish restaurant for cuisine and service. The most upscale restaurant of this Berlin chain prepares its many lamb dishes either over a wood coal grill or within a stone oven. ▸ Open 11:30 - 00:30. Also at Adalbertstraße 10 in Kreuzberg, and Maaßenstraße10 in Schöneberg. €€.

Cafés

Barcomi's Deli **F-5, Sophienstraße 21, Mitte, Ⓜ S Hackescher Markt, tel. +49 30 28 59 83 63, www.barcomis.de.** Barcomi's is well known for its house-roasted coffee and luscious American hand-made baked goods. In the cake window there are several kinds of cheese cake, lemon meringue cake, devil's food cake, pecan pie and other heavenly creations. Bagels can be eaten with Philly cream cheese spreads, and at the Mitte outlet there's salad, sandwiches and soups. The Kreuzberg *Kaffeeösterei* outlet (Bergmannstraße 21) has coffee fresh from the roaster in the window. ▸ Open 09:00 - 21:00, Sun 10:00 - 21:00. €.

Sankt Oberholz **G-2, Rosenthaler Straße 72a, Mitte, Ⓜ U Rosenthaler Platz, tel. +49 30 24 08 55 86, www.sanktoberholz.de.** A large two-floor café overlooking the busy street crossing. Something of a public workspace for IT entrepreneurs from the surrounding *Silicon Allee* internet startups, it's the ideal place to crack open a Mac and get some work done using the free wifi and electricity plugs. Or just come for the coffee, bagels, muffins and New York cheesecake. ▸ Open 08:00 - 24:00, Fri 08:00 - 03:00, Sat 09:00 - 03:00, Sun 09:00 - 24:00.

Sophieneck **G-2/3, Große Hamburger Straße 37, Mitte, Ⓜ U Weinmeisterstraße, tel. +49 30 283 40 65, www.sophieneck-berlin.de.** A favourite of locals and tourists alike, Sophieneck is one of the most charming cafés in Mitte. Located near Hackescher Markt since the revamp of the district in 1984, it has resisted trendification, staying true to its warm mishmash décor of art nouveau and poster art. The menu offers delicious Central European fare, accompanied by an international wine list. ▸ Open 12:00 - 02:00.

Nightlife

Bars

Aufsturz **F-3, Oranienburger Straße 67, Mitte, Ⓜ S Oranienburger Straße, tel. +49 30 28 04 74 07, www.aufsturz.de.** The great 19th-century explorer Alexander von Humboldt lived in this building, but nowadays the only expeditions done here are through the long drinks menu, listing dozens of excellent Belgian, German and other beers. Have a Kwak beer to really kick off your night. Prices are reasonable and the place looks good, with changing modern art exhibitions on the walls. Our favourite Oranienburger Straße haunt. ▸ Open from 12:00.

August II **F-2, Auguststraße 2, Mitte, Ⓜ S Oranienburger Straße, www.augustthesecond.de.** A sleek after-hours long drinks and champagne bar, in subdued light and colours, hung with a huge chandelier, backed by a top-class toilet and elevated by unintrusive house music. It may look closed but just ring the doorbell at the *All* sign to be let in, and try the Moscow Mule for a drink that eats vegetables and kicks. ▸ Open 20:00 - 05:00. Closed Mon, Sun.

Bar Babette **H-3, Karl-Marx-Allee 36, Mitte, Ⓜ U Schillingstraße, tel. +49 176 38 38 89 43, www.barbabette.com.** Poised to soak up the spill-off from Kino International across the street, this bar is the latest glass-box resident on the block. The socialist-era building is all windows, so you can spy the crowd lining the low banquettes around the perimeter before walking in. The loft's doorways once led to massage rooms but now open onto a communal floor, where groups will continue sitting in circles on the wall-to-wall carpeting. ▸ Open 18:00 - 02:00, Fri, Sat 18:00 - 06:00.

Belushi's Bar **G-2, Rosa Luxemburg Straße 39-41, Mitte, Ⓜ U Rosa-Luxemburg-Platz, tel. +49 30 81 45 39 60, www.belushis.com/bars/berlin.** Belushi's is a home away from home for sports fans, beer lovers, and connoisseurs of delicious home-made burgers. Based on the American sports bar, this friendly chain pub especially caters for English speakers and anyone who can't bear to miss a crucial match. ▸ Open 10:00 - 02:00. €.

Billy Wilder's **E-4, Potsdamer Straße 2, Mitte, Ⓜ S/U Potsdamer Platz, tel. +49 30 26 55 48 60, www.billywilders.de.** Low-backed booths and an oval bar make this the idea spot for people-watching, though you'll mostly be watching other tourists and businesspeople. On the walls are scenes from Wilder's films, such as *One-Two-Three* (shot on location as the Wall went up), which starred Jimmy Cagney, and Horst Buchholz from Prenzlauer Berg. Sandwiches, salads and drinks are served lightning fast: waiters zap your order to the bar with hand-held computers. ▸ Open daily from 09:00. €.

Eschschloraque Rümschrümp **G-3, Rosenthaler Straße 39, Mitte, Ⓜ S Hackescher Markt, www.eschschloraque.de.** An island of insanity in a sea of overpriced Hackescher Markt pomp: this veritable den of delights and monsters can be found hidden at the dark end of a graffitied courtyard. There are disturbing metal beasts sticking from the crumbling walls, affordable beers and cocktails, a stage, plenty of smoke, and a wonderful set of characters intent on having a good night out. In summer, the outdoor cinema in the back yard shows foreign films in original version. ▸ Open from 14:00.

Harry's New York Bar **D-4, Lützowufer 15 (Grand Hotel Palace), Tiergarten, Ⓜ U Nollendorfplatz, tel. +49 30 25 47 80, www.esplanade.de.** Known for its drink menu consisting of nearly 200 choices, at Harry's you step back to a time when the key elements for unforgettable nights were great drinks, great music and great friends. Enjoy live music by a jazzman tickling the ivories. ▸ Open 16:00 - 02:00, Fri, Sat 16:00 - 03:00. Closed Sun.

Kumpelnest 3000 **E-4, Lützowstraße 23, Tiergarten, Ⓜ U Kurfürstenstraße, tel. +49 30 261 69 18, www.kumpelnest3000.com.** Stragglers of all sexual orientations head here for a nightcap or one last drunken spin on the tiny metal dance floor. The velvet paintings and carpeted walls are fascinating after a couple of drinks, and so are the scruffy patrons apparently: it's known as a hook-up bar. ▸ Open 19:00 - 05:00.

Mein Haus am See **G-2, Brunnenstraße 197, Mitte, Ⓜ U Rosenthaler Platz, tel. +49 30 27 59 08 73, www.mein-haus-am-see.blogspot.com.** It's all about seeing and being seen at some Mitte bars; the ‚My Lake House' makes it very easy with its large slope of seating steps overlooking a landscape of granny furniture lit up by discoball sparkles and all draped with nattering locals and backpackers from adjacent hostels. Open 24/7, it's a cafe, bar and restaurant all at the same time. On the menu are drinks, exotic coffee varieties and chilli hot choc, as well as great breakfasts (till 18:00), tasty burgers, pasta dishes and snacks. At night, DJs spin music. ▸ Open 24/7. €.

Newton Bar **F-3, Charlottenstraße 57, Mitte, Ⓜ U Französische Straße, tel. +49 30 20 29 54 21, www.newton-bar.de.** Men smoke cigars beneath Helmut Newton's life-size shots of nude Amazons and their dates sip expertly made cocktails. Dress sharp to compliment all the black leather and dark green marble. ▸ Open 10:00 - 03:00, Fri, Sat 10:00 - 04:00.

Posh **E-4, Voxstraße 4, Mitte, Ⓜ S/U Potsdamer Platz, tel. +49 30 25 29 90 00, www.posh-bar.de.** A small, rather desolate-looking Australian bar, lost in a corner of Potsdamer Platz. The only thing Oz about it are the Australian wines and beer; otherwise it's a cocktail bar (120 kinds) in disguise. Happy Hour 17:00-21:00. ▸ Open 17:00 - 02:00.

QIU Lounge **E/F-4, Potsdamer Straße 3 (Mandala Hotel), Tiergarten, Ⓜ S/U Potsdamer Platz, tel. +49 30 59 00 00 00, www.qiu.de.** A calm, sleek lounge above the Mandala Hotel's discreet entrance on Potsdamer Strasse. You might spot a celeb, or the three million colours the fringed lamps are said to display in changing chameleon fashion. Their shade remains lily white during the day, when Mediterranean lunches are served at the low-lying couches or at the bar. ▸ Open 12:00 - 01:00, Thu, Fri, Sat 12:00 - 03:00. €€€.

Kaffee Burger

Club – Bar – Live & DJs

Kaffee Burger, well known through Wladimir Kaminer's Russian Disco, offers events, concerts and djs late into the night, 7 days a week.

Sun-Thu €1 • Weekends €5

Kaffee Burger | Torstraße 58-60, 10119 Berlin
www.kaffeeburger.de

Reingold **F-2, Novalisstraße 11, Mitte, Ⓜ U Oranienburger Tor, tel. +49 30 28 38 76 76, www.reingold.de.** A lounge glowing in amber tones recalls the thirties with an oversize drawing of Thomas Mann's forlorn offspring, Klaus and Erika, and leather and velvet seating. Though it often has a DJ, no one dances here. It's a setting for making stationary moves on your date, or your tapas. ▸ Open from 19:00. Closed Mon, Sun.

Strandbar Mitte **F-3, Monbijoustraße 3, Ⓜ S Oranienburger Straße, tel. +49 30 283 68 77, www.strandbar-mitte.de.** A lovely open air ‚beach bar' (with no sand) beside the Spree. Grab a deckchair or a bench by a table and slurp down some nicely priced cocktails. It's a great spot to chill out after overdosing on the collections on Museum Island, just across the bridge. There's dancing by the riverside most nights too; try out some salsa, tango an swing dance moves here. ▸ Open from 10:00.

Victoria Bar **E-4, Potsdamer Straße 102, Tiergarten, Ⓜ U Kurfürstenstraße, tel. +49 30 25 75 99 77, www.victoriabar.de.** Grown-ups who appreciate a well-mixed cocktail make up the clientele of this retro-sleek bar. Slide onto an olive-green banquette and let the wood panelled walls evoke the times when you snuck drinks out of your parents' liquor cabinet. Happy hour is until 21:30. ▸ Open 18:30 - 03:00, Fri, Sat 18:30 - 04:00.

Clubs

Kaffee Burger **G-2, Torstraße 60, Mitte, Ⓜ U Rosa-Luxemburg-Platz, tel. +49 30 28 04 64 95, www.kaffeeburger.de.** The patterned wallpaper and wood panelling has withstood decades of the alternative scene's smoke and its stuck-in-the-Socialist-Sixties-look is perfect for DJ/author Vladimir Kaminer's wild and sweaty *Russendisko* nights. Happenings like poetry slams and jams start evenings that end with DJs spinning anything from Balkan and surf rock to samba. ▸ Open from 21:00.

Roter Salon **G-2, Volksbühne, Rosa-Luxemburg-Platz 2, Mitte, Ⓜ U Rosa-Luxemburg-Platz, tel. +49 30 24 06 58 06, www.roter-salon.de.** This place probably began with a faded elegance, but let's say it's just settled in after ten years of clubbers bouncing off its red walls. Most nights feature electro pop, electro lounge, and electroclash - the music Berlin is known for. ▸ Open 22:00 - 04:00. Closed Tue, Sun.

Sage Club **H-4, Köpenicker Straße 76, Mitte, Ⓜ U Heinrich-Heine-Straße, tel. +49 30 278 98 30, www.sage-club.de.** The drag queen managing the velvet ropes may not be representative of the scene inside (button-down shirts and tight tank-tops, all worn in the gender-specific way), but you're welcome to dress cross-gender anyway. Rock, punk, and metal duke it out on Thursday, while Friday and Saturday bring out the house fans. ▸ Open Thu-Sun 23:00 - 05:00.

Week-End Club **G-3, Alexanderplatz 5, Mitte, Ⓜ S/U Alexanderplatz, www.week-end-berlin.de.** A club, bar, gallery and lounge set on the 12th floor of the beautifully hideous *Haus des Reisens* (the GDR state travel agency specialising in saying ‚no') on the corner of Otto-Braun-Straße. ▸ Open Thu-Sat 23:00-04:00.

Pubs

Kilkenny Irish Pub **G-3, Am Zwirngraben 17-20, Mitte, Ⓜ S Hackescher Markt, tel. +49 30 283 20 84, mail@kilkenny-pub.de, www.kilkenny-pub.de.** The three large rooms withing the Hackescher Markt S-Bahn station offer more than enough space for natives and tourists to eat homemade food, meet and mingle, party and follow live sports events. Large TVs and screens make sure that you won't miss a single goal. Irish and German beer, whiskey and other cold beverages flow freely. ▸ Open , Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Sun 11:00 - 01:00, Fri, Sat 11:00 - 03:00.

Oscar Wilde **F-2, Friedrichstraße 112a, Mitte, Ⓜ U Oranienburger Tor, tel. +49 30 282 81 66, www.oscar-wilde-irish-pub.de.** A brash, large, Irish pub that fills up with expats and visitors whenever there's a football rolling over some foreign field. Its big screen shows Sky Sports, Premiership, Champions League and mixture of international sport, while the kitchen churns out Irish food, including all-day breakfast, and a menu that changes every week. Every Friday and Saturday there's live music, and every second Friday a wild karaoke party; Monday night is quiz night. ▸ Open 12:00 - 02:00, Fri, Sat 12:00 - 03:00, Sun 12:00 - 24:00.

Sightseeing

Landmarks

Brandenburger Tor **F-3, Pariser Platz, Mitte, Ⓜ S/U Brandenburger Tor.** Berlin's landmark monument is one of 14 city gates completed in 1792 by Carl Langhans. Nike, the goddess of victory, drives the four-horsepower chariot atop the gate. German armies used to begin their parades here, the fascists spoiled the gate by staging their torch-lit parades through it, the war badly damaged it, and then the Wall essentially bricked the patched-up gate in for decades. Berliners celebrated the Wall's fall in 1989 by standing on it in front of the gate, and after renovations the gate is the proud focus point of the renewed square again.

Soda Club

Gendarmenmarkt **F-3, Markgrafenstraße, Mitte, Ⓜ U Französische Straße.** Twin cathedrals-turned-museums (dating to the early 1700s), the *Konzerthaus* (from 1818, by Carl Langhans) and a row of luxury hotels make up this classic square. The name stems from the mid-1700s when military regiments were stationed here.

Neue Synagoge **F-3, Oranienburger Straße 28-30, Mitte, Ⓜ S Oranienburger Tor, tel. +49 30 88 02 83 00, www.centrumjudaicum.de.** The gilded cupola of the New Synagogue is one of the most eye-catching sights in Mitte. Exhibits strikingly balance the restoration of the Alhambra-inspired synagogue from 1866, with preserved evidence of its destruction, first on *Kristallnacht* on November 9, 1938, and then through Allied bombs. Documents and photographs remember the thriving Jewish community of the neighbourhood, many of whom worshipped here in what was the largest synagogue in Germany. A subtle but effective sound installation adds to the experience. ▸ Open Sun, Mon 10:00- 20:00, Tues-Thur 10:00-18:00, Fri 10:00-17:00; Mar & Oct until 14:00 on Fri; Nov-Feb also Sun-Thu until 18:00. Sat closed. Admission €3,50/3.

Nikolaiviertel **G-3, Nikolaikirchplatz, Mitte, Ⓜ U Klosterstraße, www.stadtmuseum.de.** Berlin's tiny medieval heart is the Nikolai Quarter, whose only truly medieval-looking building today is the Nikolaikirche. The church dates to 1230 and was rebuilt along with the entire quarter in the 1980s to mark Berlin's 750th birthday in the area in which the fishermen's settlement first began. No one was trying to outdo Walt Disney here, and many of the buildings have the simple, concrete facades that the GDR government could afford. The small shops in the area mostly deal in toys and souvenirs and tourists gladly fill the sunny tables at the restaurants that face the river. On Rathausstraße, there's a row of restaurants that flaunt old-fashioned Berlin cuisine and atmosphere. Other rebuilt historic buildings in the area date to the 1700s, such as the Ephraim-Palais and Knoblauchhaus. Both have changing exhibits related to Berlin.

Kilkenny Irish Pub

Potsdamer Platz **E/F-4, Ⓜ Potsdamer Platz.** Once a busy intersection at the modern heart of a thriving metropolis, Potsdamer Platz was heavily damaged in the war, and suffered again when most remaining buildings were demolished to make way for the Wall's death strip. Hotel and office skyscrapers now add a cosmopolitan edge to the city, while to the east Leipziger Platz is almost rebuilt. The most popular public space and architectural attraction is the **Sony Center**, with its huge atrium and tent-like roof, best viewed at night for its impressive lighting. The neighbouring **DaimlerChrysler complex** holds architecture by Renzo Piano and Richard Rogers, and the Arkaden shopping mall.

Reichstag **F-3, Platz der Republik 1, Tiergarten, Ⓜ U Bundestag, www.bundestag.de/htdocs_e/visits.** The name together with its monumental size make most people associate Germany's neoclassical parliamentary building with the Nazis, but they have little history here. After hosting parliamentary sessions since 1894, it was set on fire just one month after Hitler was appointed chancellor in January 1933. It was a conference centre in the years during which it abutted the Wall, while later artist Christo famously wrapped it in cloth. It was used as parliament again after a reunited German government returned to Berlin in 1999. Renovated by Sir Norman Foster, this building is perhaps the most public federal building in the world through its glass dome. On the rooftop, photographs documenting the building's history circle the rim above the parliament chamber. Two ramps spiral up the side of the dome, an engineering feat even more fascinating than the panoramic view from the top. It's best to book an entry time to the dome or for the 90-minute guided tour of the building in advance online; otherwise queue up for remaining places at the visitor centre just across the road. Photo ID is required. ▸ Open 08:00 - 23:00. Prebooked rooftop access every 15 minutes. Guided tours at 09:00, 10:30, 12:00, 13:30, 15:30, 17:00, 18:30, 20:00. Admission free.

Cold War Berlin

The physical division of Berlin during 28 years, and the development of two completely separated cities on both sides of the Wall that ran between them, has led to huge differences that cannot be erased in a matter of a few years. Key sights relating to this era are the **Gedenkstätte Berliner Mauer** in Prenzlauer Berg, **Checkpoint Charlie** in Mitte with the **Haus am Checkpoint Charlie** Wall museum, **BlackBox Cold War, Wall Panorama** and **Stasi exhibition**, and the **Tränenpalast**, the former border crossing beside Friedrichstraße station. Get insights into daily GDR life at the **DDR Museum** in Mitte and the **Museumswohnung WBS 70** out in the suburbs.

Churches

Berliner Dom **G-3, Am Lustgarten, Mitte, Ⓜ S Hackescher Markt, tel. +49 30 20 26 91 36, www.berlinerdom.de.** The fourth incarnation of this Protestant church dating from 1905 might not look as massive if the Stadtschloss were still standing across Unter den Linden (the GDR regime demolished the castle in 1951). The royal Hohenzollern dynasty worshipped and was buried here. The climb up to the dome's rim is forgiving, with broad staircases, side exhibit rooms and good views. ▸ Open 09:00 - 20:00, Sun 12:00 - 20:00. Oct-March open until 19:00. Admission €7/4.

Deutscher Dom **F-3, Gendarmenmarkt 1, Mitte, Ⓜ U Stadtmitte, tel. +49 30 22 73 04 31, www.bundestag.de/kulturundgeschichte/ausstellungen/wege.** The baroque ‚German Church' from 1701 was completed with an impressive domed tower in 1785; badly damaged by fire in the war it was only renovated in the 1980s. Owned by the state, the bare interior now houses an exhibition about the development of parliamentarian democracy in Germany - and how it came to fail so tragically in the last century. Be sure to see the views from the windows and the impressive building models on the top floor. Free tours in English are possible throughout the day; no booking is required for individual visitors. ▸ Open 10:00 - 19:00. Closed Mon. Admission free.

Französischer Dom **F-3, Gendarmenmarkt 5, Mitte, Ⓜ U Stadtmitte, tel. +49 30 20 64 99 22, www.franzoesischer-dom.de.** The northernmost domed tower in the Gendermenmarkt's grand architectural triptych dates back to 1785, and similarly to its counterpart was badly damaged in the war. It now has regular concerts in the simple baroque Friedrichstadtkirche church to the rear. Enter from the other side for the Huguenot museum (in German and French only), dedicated to the thousands of French protestants who moved to Berlin in the 17th century. Yet another entrance leads to the viewing balcony at 40 metres above street level, with great views all around. ▸ Open 12:00-17:00, viewing balcony 10:00-19:00, closed Mon. Admission €2/1, viewing balcony €2.50/1.

Memorials

Führerbunker **F-3, In den Ministergärten, Mitte, Ⓜ S/U Potsdamer Platz.** No educational historic plaques mark the site where Hitler committed suicide on April 30, 1945. For the last month of his life, Hitler lived roughly eight meters below ground in an air-raid shelter topped by a four-metre-thick, reinforced concrete ceiling. The unremarkable spot can be reached by walking to the end of In den Ministergärten, off Ebertstraße. A parking area surrounded by a pre-fabricated apartment complex covers the location, which was entirely sealed off during the complex's construction in 1988-89. The bunker was once accessed through the *Festsaal* (ballroom) behind the *Reichskanzler-Palais* on Wilhelmstraße.

Memorial to the Murdered Jews of Europe **F-3, Cora-Berliner-Straße 1, Mitte, Ⓜ S/U Brandenburger Tor, tel. +49 30 26 39 43 36, www.stiftung-denkmal.de.** This bluntly named memorial avoids any vagueness surrounding the term Holocaust. Six million Jews are estimated to have been killed by the Nazis and this site serves as Germany's national memorial to those victims. The design by American architect Peter Eisenmann is a field of 2,700 concrete *stelae*, or pillars, of varying height, creating an undulating landscape that fills two city blocks. The memorial has an undergound information centre which is not suitable for children. ▸ Information centre open 10:00-20:00, Oct-Mar 10:00-19:00. Closed Mon. Admission free.

Neue Wache **F-3, Unter den Linden 4, Mitte, Ⓜ S/U Friedrichstraße.** Germany's national war memorial is housed in the former royal guard house of the Prussians. The neoclassic building from 1819 was the first commission the famed Karl Friedrich Schinkel received in Berlin. The sole image inside is that of a woman cradling her son, though the son is an adult and has presumably lost his life on the battlefield. The sculpture is an enlargement of a *pieta* by Berlin artist Käthe Kollwitz. The inscription in front of the sculpture reads *To the victims of war and tyranny*. Above it is an open skylight that was added in 1931, when the building first became a war memorial. ▸ Open 10:00 - 18:00.

Museums

Black Box Cold War **F-4, Friedrichstraße 47, Mitte, tel. +49 30 216 35 71, info@bfgg.de, www.bfgg.de.** The exhibition at Checkpoint Charlie discusses the state of the world during the Cold War, explaining the global links between the Berlin Wall, the Korean War and the Cuban missile crisis. Along the street a free gallery of photos and texts highlights the main events that took place here. ▸ Open 10:00 - 18:00. Admission €5/3,50.

Dalí - The Exhibition at Potsdamer Platz **F-4, Leipziger Platz 7, Mitte, Ⓜ S/U Potsdamer Platz, tel. +49 700 32 54 23 75 46, www.daliberlin.de.** The Spanish master of surreal, Salvador Dalí, left a rich heritage of amazing artworks when he went to molten-watch land himself. Over 450 exhibits can be viewed at this permanent exhibition near Postdamer Platz. See true genius and craftsmanship in the many paintings, sketches, books, films, objects, and documents that are on show here. English-language tours can be booked ahead. ▸ Open 12:00 - 20:00, Sun 10:00 - 20:00. Admission €11/9, tours €6.

Third Reich Berlin

Wilhelmstraße, the centre of government in Prussia, continued to be so under Nazi rule. Between Unter den Linden and today's Niederkirchnerstraße, the only non-Reich structure in 1936 was the British Embassy, which still holds its ground today in a modern building. The sole remaining example of fascist architecture is the former **Reichsluftfahrtministerium** (Air Force Ministry) built in 1935 by Ernst Sagebiehl. The grey building that once struck fear into the heart of Londoners is now the Finance Ministry. Hitler's **New Reichs Chancellory** stood on Voßstraße but was demolished after the war. Not to let the red marble of its obnoxiously long hallway go to waste, the Russians lined the nearby Mohrenstraße U-Bahn station with it. The center of Nazi terror was on Prinz-Albrecht-Straße, today's Niederkirchnerstraße. The **Topography of Terror** exhibit explains the functions of the various offices – including the SS and Gestapo - that once occupied the site.

Deutsches Historisches Museum **F-3, Unter den Linden 2, Mitte, Ⓜ S Hackescher Markt, tel. +49 30 20 30 40, fuehrung@dhm.de, www.dhm.de.** Who'd have thought to look for a Prussian war chest in this early 18th-century building sitting pretty-in-pink by the Spree? This former arsenal houses the German History Museum, with its dazzling extension designed by architect IM Pei. English tours on Fridays at 14:00. ▸ Open 10:00 - 18:00. Admission €8/4. Free for visitors under 18.

Gedenkstätte Berliner Mauer (Berlin Wall Memorial) **F-2, Bernauer Straße 111 & 119, Mitte, Ⓜ S Nordbahnhof, tel. +49 30 467 98 66 66, www.berliner-mauer-gedenkstaette.de.** The excellent national memorial site for the divided Germany has a documentation centre covering the Berlin Wall's history in text, slides and dramatic film footage. An unscathed section of Wall runs along the street; walk behind it to peer through a crack in the *Hintermauer* rear wall to see a preserved section of death strip as it looked in the 1980s, complete with a patrol road, wires and a watchtower. Just up the street, the Chapel of Reconciliation is built on the spot of a church demolished to make way for the border defences. Walk on towards Mauerpark for several more open-air exhibitions on the Wall. ▸ Open 09:30-19:00, Nov-Mar 09:30-18:00. Mon closed. Admission free.

Gemäldegalerie **E-4, Matthäikirchplatz 8, Tiergarten, Ⓜ S/U Potsdamer Platz, tel. +49 30 266 42 42 42, www.smb.museum.** Berlin's largest art museum has 72 rooms full of works spanning the 13th to 18th centuries. German masters include Dürer, Cranach the Elder, and Holbein. The Italian works of Botticelli, Titian, Raphael and others are from the 13th to 16th century, those of the Dutch from the 15th and 16th centuries. The Rembrandt collection, one of the world's largest, has 16 works. ▸ Open 10:00 - 18:00, Thu 10:00 - 22:00. Closed Mon. Admission €8/€4.

Hamburger Bahnhof **E-2, Invalidenstraße 50-51, Mitte, Ⓜ S/U Hauptbahnhof, tel. +49 30 39 78 34 11, hbf@smb.spk-berlin.de, www.hamburgerbahnhof.de.** Berlin's wonderful modern art museum is situated in a converted train station. It's well worth a visit by those curious about the expressiveness of a sculpture made of animal fat (Joseph Beuys) or urban dwellers fixated by bars of neon lighting (Dan Flavin). Andy Warhol and Marcel Duchamp are the other familiar stars of this post-1960s collection. ▸ Open 10:00 - 18:00, Sat 11:00 - 20:00, Sun 11:00 - 18:00. Closed Mon. Admission €10/5.

Haus am Checkpoint Charlie (Wall Museum) **F-4, Friedrichstraße 43-45, Kreuzberg, Ⓜ U Kochstraße, tel. +49 30 251 20 75, www.mauermuseum.de.** A homespun *Great Escape* museum of false trunks, tools, videos, even a submarine, and stills of tunnel-digging attest to necessity and desire being the mother of invention. Visit this museum for dramatic stories of separated lovers, freedom-seeking families, and fed-up senior citizens in the GDR who breached the Wall. The museum also has art interpreting the concrete division of the city, an exhibit on human rights movements. ▸ Open 09:00 - 22:00. Admission €12,50/9,50.

Museumsinsel

The cluster of majestic nineteenth century neoclassic buildings on the tip of the island in the Spree offers the avid or the temperate museum-goer a number of impressive collections of art, history and ethnology, covering many facets of ancient and oriental culture, as well as their cross-overs into modernity.

Alte Nationalgalerie **G-3, Bodestraße 1-3, Mitte, Ⓜ S Hackescher Markt, tel. +49 30 266 42 42 42, www.smb.museum.** Cézanne, Rodin, Monet, Degas and Liebermann are some of the artists whose works hang around this museum of 19th-century art. The temple-like structure itself was built in 1876, and is surrounded by a beautifully battered colonnade. ▸ Open 10:00 - 18:00, Thu 10:00 - 20:00. Closed Mon. Admission €10/5.

Altes Museum **G-3, Am Lustgarten, Mitte, Ⓜ S Hackescher Markt, tel. +49 30 266 42 42 42, www.smb.museum.** This neoclassic building by Prussia's star architect Schinkel was custom-made in 1830 for the art collection of the royal Hohenzollerns. Classical antiquities were the focus, and today the museum uses pottery and sculptures to take you on a well-presented tour through ancient Etruscan, Greek and Roman history. ▸ Open 10:00 - 18:00, Thu 10:00 - 20:00. Closed Mon. Admission €10/5.

Bode-Museum **G-3, Am Kupfergraben 1, Mitte, Ⓜ S Hackescher Markt, tel. +49 30 266 42 42 42, www.smb.museum.** The opulent Bode Museum presents a variety of beautiful artefacts, ranging from sculpture and European painting collections, many religious and/or morbid, to the Byzantine wing, which offers insight into the daily life of a disappeared culture. ▸ Open 10:00 - 18:00, Thu 10:00 - 20:00. Closed Mon. Admission €10/5.

Neues Museum **G-3, Bodestraße 1-3, Mitte, Ⓜ S Hackescher Markt, tel. +49 30 266 42 42 42, www.smb.museum.** Built in 1855, damaged in the war and only restored in 2009, the 'New Museum' is new again and is full of ancient art. The excellent Egyptian Museum and Papyrus Collection are housed here, with spectacular finds such as the famous busts of Queen Nefertiti and King Echnaton. The Pre- and Early History collection has finds from ancient Troy and Lycopolis to medieval Germany. One room exhibits eleven rediscovered statues that were considered to be 'degenerate art' by the Nazis. ▸ Open 10:00 - 18:00, Thu 10:00 - 20:00. Admission €12/6.

Pergamon Museum **G-3, Am Kupfergraben, Mitte, Ⓜ S Hackescher Markt, tel. +49 30 266 42 42 42, www.smb.museum.** The Pergamon has the best of Berlin's classical antiquities: the Greek Pergamon Altar, the market gate of Miletus and the blue-tiled Ishtar Gate and processional way from Babylon. The Pergamon Altar's enormous frieze depicts the battle between the gods and the giants, with gals like Athena, Aphrodite and Artemis wiping out their opponents like robed Charlie's Angels. Near-East antiquities, with an emphasis on Assyria and Iran, and Islamic art round out the museum's treasure chest. The audioguide has an instructive 30-minute highlights tour. ▸ Open 10:00 - 18:00, Thu 10:00 - 20:00. Admission €12/6.

Märkisches Museum (City Museum) **G-3, Am Köllnischen Park 5, Mitte, Ⓜ U Märkisches Museum, tel. +49 30 24 00 21 62, www.stadtmuseum.de.** Berlin's city museum is set in an impressive purpose-built complex from 1908, emulating local architectural styles and donned with a brick tower. Inside, Berlin's cultural history with exhibitions about diverse aspects of life in the city is displayed in 50 rooms. ▸ Open 10:00 - 18:00. Closed Mon. Admission €5/3, first Wed free.

Museum für Film und Fernsehen (Film and TV Museum) **E-4, Potsdamer Straße 2 (Sony Center), Tiergarten, Ⓜ S/U Potsdamer Platz, tel. +49 30 300 90 30, www.deutsche-kinemathek.de.** Hooray for Hollywood, but remember that some of the personalities that gave it glamour and style came from Germany. Actors Marlene Dietrich and Peter Lorre, directors Billy Wilder and Josef von Sternberg came out of a country with a strong film-making tradition. Photo stills, footage, set designs and costumes provide glimpses of the familiar, and exhibits on Leni Riefenstahl's shooting of Olympia (1936) and Nazi entertainment cq propaganda films will impress ‚seen-that' film buffs. The museum ends with special effects and science fiction. ▸ Open 10:00 - 18:00, Thu 10:00 - 20:00. Closed Mon. Admission €6/4,5

Museum für Naturkunde (Natural History Museum) **F-2, Invalidenstraße 43, Mitte, Ⓜ U Naturkundemuseum, tel. +49 30 20 93 85 91, www.naturkundemuseum-berlin.de.** All the wonders of nature under one roof; a grand collection illustrating the evolution of life as well as the diversity and beauty of nature. The largest mounted dinosaur in the world towers over visitors in the main hall, and elsewhere there's the aardvarks, the early 20th-century dioramas, meteorites, the most famous fossil of Earth history (the ancient bird *Archaeopteryx lithographica*), giant shells and the gorilla Bobby from the primates hall. ▸ Open 09:30 - 18:00, Sat, Sun 10:00 - 18:00. Closed Mon. Admission €6/3,50.

Neue Nationalgalerie **E-4, Potsdamer Straße 50, Tiergarten, Ⓜ S/U Potsdamer Platz, tel. +49 30 266 42 42 42, www.smb.museum.** You'd think that the art world had gone to minimalist extremes when passing Mies van der Rohe's empty glass box of a museum; the 20th century treasures are all underground. The marvellous permanent collection features Otto Dix, George Grosz, Paul Klee, Wassily Kandinsky, Picasso and Leger, among others. ▸ Open 10:00 - 18:00, Thu 10:00 - 22:00, Sat, Sun 11:00 - 18:00. Closed Mon. Admission €8/4. Temporary exhibitions extra.

Sammlung Boros (Boros Collection) **F-3, Reinhardstraße 20, Mitte, Ⓜ S/U Friedrichstraße, tel. +49 30 27 59 40 65, www.sammlung-boros.de.** Take a showpiece World War II bunker, previously used to store fruit and to house one of Berlin's infamous clubs; spend five years renovating it, fill the 80 rooms with wonderful, controversial modern art and build a huge penthouse apartment on top of it. This is exactly what advertising executive Christian Boros and his wife did, and visitors are welcome to view the collection on excellent English-language guided tours which need to be booked online. The artbunker reopens with a new exhibition on 17 September 2012. ▸ Open 16:00 - 20:00, Fri 14:00 - 18:00, Sat, Sun 10:00 - 18:00. Admission €10.

EXHIBITION BLACKBOX COLD WAR

Checkpoint Charlie
Friedrichstraße 47 / corner Zimmerstraße | 10117 Berlin-Mitte

Daily 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Visitors' service **info@bfgg.de**
More information **www.zentrum-kalter-krieg.de**

HERE, CONTEMPORARY HISTORY COMES ALIVE

Tränenpalast **F-3, Reichstagufer 17, Mitte, Ⓜ S/U Friedrichstraße, tel. +49 30 467 77 79 11, www.hdg.de/berlin.** The *Border Experiences* exhibition highlights the everyday reality of the border running through Berlin. The glass pavilion beside Friedrichstraße station was the main border crossing between West and East Berlin between the 1960s and 1990. Trains from West Berlin arrived here, separate from the East German platform, and arrivals were checked, searched, regularly humiliated, and required to exchange 25 marks. Those visiting family and friends in the East may never see them again, hence the name ‚Palace of Tears'. Suitcases of memories tell the stories of GDR emigrants, escapees and returnees; maps show the planning of the implementation of the Wall, photos recall the political tensions that saw US and Soviet tanks face each other in October 1961, and there are videos of a lady working in the *Intershop* duty free kiosk and a glum border guard, indignant that the Wall (and his job) didn't last 100 years as promised. ▸ Open 09:00 - 19:00, Sat, Sun 10:00 - 18:00. Closed Mon. Admission free.

Wall Panorama **F-4, Friedrichstraße 205, Mitte, tel. +49 30 695 80 86 12, www.asisi.de.** The round structure near Checkpoint Charlie houses an incredibly detailed 60 by 15 metre panoramic painting of the Berlin Wall and its scruffy surroundings as it looked in the mid-1980s. The artist Yadegar Asisi has captured the everyday banality of the Wall with fascinating small scenes of life, on both sides of the devide. English tours daily at 11:30 and 14:30. ▸ Open 10:00 - 20:00. Admission €10/8.50.

www.inyourpocket.com

Viewpoints

Fernsehturm (TV tower) **G-3, Panoramastraße 1a, Mitte, Ⓜ S/U Alexanderplatz, www.tv-turm.de.** The skewered disco ball on the tower peering over rooftops certainly brings a level of humour to Berlin's skyline. The 368-metre television broadcast tower, completed in 1969, 70m higher than the Eiffel tower and the tallest building in Germany, has an observation deck and the Sphere restaurant with a rotating floor. Photos point out the landmarks for you. ▸ Open 09:00 - 24:00. Admission €12/7,50.

Hi-Flyer Balloon **F-4, Wilhelmstraße, corner Zimmerstraße, Mitte, Ⓜ U Kochstraße, tel. +49 30 226 67 88 11, www.air-service-berlin.de.** Board the large helium balloon near Potsdamer Platz to enjoy excellent views floating 150 metres above central Berlin. The balloon is tethered to the ground with a steel cable, ensuring you land on the same spot 15 minutes later. On very windy days call ahead to check it's in service. No advance bookings; departures every 15 minutes. ▸ Open 10:00 - 22:00. Nov-Mar 11:00-18:00. Tickets €19/13.

Attractions

Berlin Dungeon **G-2, Spandauer Straße 2, Mitte, Ⓜ S Hackescher Markt, tel. +49 1805 25 55 44, www.thedungeons.com/berlin.** The new Dungeon is essentially a 60-minute trip past nine scary and funny live shows, where bilingual actors and special effects cherry-pick from 700 years of Berlin's history. Meet infamous characters like the monk Roderich or serial killer Carl Grossmann, learn about the plague in Klosterstrasse and about the fearsome torture chamber. Book online in advance for discounts up to 50%, and to skip the queue. ▸ Open 10:00 - 19:00. Admission €19/15. Children under 10 not allowed.

Panoramapunkt

© Landesarchiv Berlin

Panoramapunkt E-4, Potsdamer Platz 1, Tiergarten, Ⓜ S/U Potsdamer Platz, tel. +49 30 25 93 70 80, www.panoramapunkt.de. It takes just 20 seconds on Europe's fastest elevator to get shot up to Berlin's best viewpoint, on the 24th and 25th floor of this red brick skyscraper. Architect Hans Kollhoff's magnificent 1930s-inspired building refers to New York's skyscraping glory days but also resembles the Berlin bear, complete with a golden crown. On the top floors there's a short film and an exhibition about the amazing history of Potsdamer Platz square, which went from a world-class entertainment district to a Wall-divided wasteland and back again within a generation. The café and rooftop terrace offer great close-up views of Berlin's highlights: Brandenburger Tor, the Holocaust memorial, Unter den Linden, the former Wall zone and Tiergarten park. On lazy summer days, closing time is postponed for sunset. ▸ Open 10:00 - 20:00. Admission €5,50/4.

Legoland Discovery Centre E-4, Potsdamer Straße 4, Mitte, Ⓜ S/U Potsdamer Platz, tel. +49 30 301 04 00, www.legolanddiscoverycentre.de. The fun indoor Lego theme park below the Sony Center on Potsdamer Platz can entertain children and their parents for hours. Find out how Lego is made, see Berlin sights in miniature, visit the 4D cinema, go on the dragon ride, and let your fantasy run wild with thousands of bricks. Book online for discounts up to 50%, and to skip the queue. ▸ Open 10:00 - 19:00. Last admission at 17:00. Admission €16.

Madame Tussauds F-3, Unter den Linden 74, Mitte, Ⓜ S/U Brandenburger Tor, tel. +49 180 554 58 00, www.madametussauds.com/berlin. The popular Berlin outlet of the famous Madame Tussauds exhibition has wax lookalike statues of German and international celebrities ranging from Boris Becker, Albert Einstein, Will Smith and J-Lo to George Clooney. Book online for a 10% discount, 30% if you enter after 16:00. To avoid waiting for up to 1,5 hours, you could book a €23 ticket that allows you to skip the queue. ▸ Open 10:00 - 19:00. Admission €21/16.

Wildlife

Sea Life G-3, Spandauer Straße 3, Mitte, Ⓜ S Hackescher Markt, tel. +49 1805 66 69 01 01, www.sealife.de. The 35 marine environments with 5,000 animals in this large aquarium complex start local with the Spree River and proceeds to the depths of the Atlantic Ocean. The grand finale is a five-minute glass elevator trip through a massive 14 metre-high aquarium tower, where you rise up through schools of fish. Tickets booked online are cheaper and some allow you to skip the queue. ▸ Open 10:00 - 19:00. Admission €17,50/12,50.

Shopping

Books

Berlin Story F-3, Unter den Linden 40, Mitte, Ⓜ S/U Brandenburger Tor, tel. +49 30 20 45 38 42, www.berlinstory.de. Thousands of Berlin-themed books as well as T-shirts and souvenirs. The knowledgeable staff can find and order (or write) any Berlin book you're looking for. ▸ Open 10:00 - 19:00, Sun 10:00 - 18:00.

Department stores

Alexa Centre G-3, Grunerstraße 20 (Alexanderplatz), Mitte, Ⓜ S/U Alexanderplatz, tel. +49 30 269 34 00, www.alexacentre.com. A mall at the eastern end of Alexanderplatz square, with five floors and 180 shops, restaurants and cafés. There's a massive kids' area with a cinema and the LOXX model train exhibition. ▸ Open Mon-Sat 10:00-21:00, lower level from 08:00. Food court also open Sun 11:00-19:00. LOXX open daily 10:00-19:00.

Galeries Lafayette F-3, Friedrichstraße 76-78, Mitte, Ⓜ U Französische Straße, tel. +49 30 20 94 80, www.lafayette-berlin.de. The 1990s rebirth of Friedrichstraße wouldn't have been possible without this posh French department store. Architect Jean Nouvel's building has a fabulous gaping glass funnel in the centre. ▸ Open 10:00 - 20:00. Closed Sun.

Fashion & Shoes

Adidas Originals G-2/3, Münzstraße 13, Mitte, Ⓜ U Weinmeisterstraße, tel. +49 30 27 59 43 81. Adidas' flagship store in Mitte's trendiest shopping street has a sleek grey and white industrial look, and stocks the top products of the famed German brand, including retro sneakers and items that can't be found elsewhere. Take a seat in a barber chair to design your own shoes on the *mi adidas* screens. The selection of products on offer is changed often, making regular visits worthwhile. ▸ Open 11:00 - 20:00. Closed Sun.

Bag Ground G-2, Gipsstraße 23b, Mitte, Ⓜ U Weinmeisterstraße, tel. +49 30 27 58 31 77, www.bag-ground.com. Classic, daring, cute and affordable quality handbags from a variety of German and international designers. ▸ Open 12:00 - 20:00. Closed Sun.

Comme des Garçons F-2, Linienstraße 115, Mitte, Ⓜ S Oranienburger Straße, tel. +49 30 28 09 58 80. Chic Japanese design; fashion in the Black Shop and accessories next door. ▸ Open 11:00 - 19:00. Closed Sun.

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ic! berlin designs, produces and markets screwless sheet-metal glasses. They offer a worldwide unique screwless hinge by holding together both frame and temple with a detachable clip.
ic! berlin glasses can be disassembled and reassembled individually. Small unbreakable design miracles crafted by hand in Berlin. Interested in visiting our headquarter and the workshop? Write a short email to tour@ic-berlin.de.
ic! berlin shop, Max-Beer-Straße 17, www.ic-berlin.de.

East Berlin Supply Store G-2, Alte Schönhauser Straße 33/34, Mitte, Ⓜ U Weinmeisterstraße, tel. +49 30 24 72 41 89. Put that Prussian eagle on your chest in cotton, or wrap an East Berlin belt around your waist. You won't find these T-shirt, bag or jewellery designs anywhere else, and many make cool references to Berlin. ▸ Open 12:00 - 20:00, Sat 11:00 - 19:00. Closed Sun.

Onitsuka Tiger G-2, Alte Schönhauser Straße 20-22, Mitte, Ⓜ U Weinmeisterstraße, tel. +49 30 24 63 21 03, www.onitsukatiger.com. In a remarkable ambience of high quality materials and exciting design, combining traditional and modern Japan, Onitsuka Tiger presents the full variety of its Japanese shoe and apparel collections. ▸ Open 11:00 - 19:30, Sat 11:00 - 19:00. Closed Sun.

Skoda G-2/3, Alte Schönhauser Straße 35, Mitte, Ⓜ U Weinmeisterstraße, tel. +49 30 280 72 11, www.claudiaskoda.com. Claudia Skoda is the German designer who convinces even the thrifty that sometimes a dress is worth €450. Her form-fitting knit tops and dresses shimmer with acetate this season. Women with long torsos are especially in luck here. Men can choose from sweaters. ▸ Open 12:00 - 20:00, Sat 12:00 - 18:00. Closed Sun.

Markets

Berliner Trödelmarkt D-3, Straße des 17. Juni, Tiergarten, Ⓜ S Tiergarten, tel. +49 30 26 55 00 96, www.berliner-troedelmarkt.de. Most the vendors at this antique and craft market are well-organised, making finding that door handle, French glass vase, Turkish kilim, or amber necklace more of a shopping than rummaging experience. ▸ Open Sat, Sun 10:00 - 17:00.

Kunst und Nostalgiemarkt F-3, Am Kupfergraben, Mitte, Ⓜ S/U Friedrichstraße. Lining the way to the Pergamon Museum are canal-side stalls carrying crafts and souvenirs including red-and-green *Ampelmännchen* products. ▸ Open Sat, Sun 11:00 - 17:00.

If 'downtown' to you means wide, traffic-filled streets, crowds of shoppers, five-star hotels and tall buildings, then Charlottenburg comes closest to fitting the bill in Berlin. Left as a ruin after the war, the ruined Kaiser-Wilhelm-Gedächtniskirche church is the nexus of activity. Between it and Zoologischer Garten station, over a billion euros is being invested in impressive highrises, hotels and offices. Follow what becomes an increasingly silken ribbon down Kurfürstendamm (Ku'damm) and the setting becomes more genteel. West Berlin's young scene meets in the bars and cafés branching off Savignyplatz, even if the *Szene* has moved east. Nearby but isolated from the hoi polloi is Schloss Charlottenburg, the residence of King Friedrich I. This chapter also covers other parts of western Berlin: leafy **Wilmersdorf** and **Schöneberg**, the centre of gay Berlin since the days of Christopher Isherwood's *Berlin Stories*.

Getting there
Charlottenburg's nerve centre is Zoologischer Bahnhof station, along the main west-east raised city railway. From here's it's a short walk to many hotels and sights, or else hop on the M29 bus, going east along Tauentzienstraße and west down Kurfürstendamm.

Pocket Walk
Explore Charlottenburg from Zoologischer Garten station. Walk east to Breitscheidplatz for the ruins and modern reincarnation of the Kaiser Wilhelm Memorial Church. Stroll further east down Tauentzienstraße for the KaDeWe department store and other upmarket shops, or head west along Kantstraße to leafy Savignyplatz for calm cafés and refined dining, or southwest down grand old Kurfürstendamm for more shopping. When you're done, hop on the M45 bus from Zoologischer Bahnhof to visit Prussia's huge royal residence, Schloss Charlottenburg, and its beautiful gardens.

Symbol key

Child friendly	Facilities for the disabled
Home delivery	Live music
No credit cards	Nearest S/U-Bahn station
Outside seating	Non-smoking room
Take away	Internet
Wi-Fi	

Additional symbols for hotels

Air conditioning	Credit cards accepted
Guarded parking	Conference facilities
Fitness centre	Restaurant
Sauna	Swimming pool

Dinner price guide

The number of euro symbols in our restaurant, café and nightlife reviews indicates the approximate price level based on a main course with a glass of wine.

€€€€ Expensive; more than €30 per person.

€€€ Not cheap; €20-30 per person.

€€ Middling; from €10-20 per person.

€ Cheap; less than €10 per person.

Hotels

Over €200

Ellington Hotel **D-4, Nürnberger Straße 50-55, Charlottenburg, MU Wittenbergplatz, tel. +49 30 68 31 50, contact@ellington-hotel.com, www.ellington-hotel.com.** Set in a beautiful 1920s building near Kurfürstendamm and named after the American jazz legend, the Ellington's rooms have clean, understated and elegant design, with the Tower Suites offering great views. The Duke hotel restaurant serves up international cuisine in fabulous surroundings, and has regular jazz brunches. ▸ 285 rooms (singles €108 - 238, doubles €118 - 248, suites €168 - 428).

Hôtel Concorde Berlin **C-4, Augsburger Straße 41, Charlottenburg, MU Kurfürstendamm, tel. +49 30 800 99 90, concordeberlin@concorde-hotels.com, www.concorde-hotels.com/concordeberlin.** The French-run, 11-story Concorde impresses with sleekly designed rooms with fine woods, contemporary art and fantastic views from the upper floors. The curved corner suites have sliding walls and elegant free-standing bathtubs. ▸ 311 rooms (singles €230 - 280, doubles €240 - 300, 44 suites €280 - 950). Breakfast extra.

InterContinental **D-4, Budapester Straße 2, Tiergarten, MS/U Zoologischer Garten, tel. +49 30 260 20, berlin@interconti.com, www.interconti.com.** Near transport options, the Zoo and Tiergarten park, the InterContinental offers quiet nights in modern and spacious rooms, and conference facilities with intelligent business solutions. After work, there's gourmet food at Hugos and live music at the Marlene Bar. Further relaxation options can be found in the large spa complex, with several saunas and fitness facilities. ▸ 558 rooms (498 singles €165 - 350, 498 doubles €170 - 400, 60 suites €215 - 2500). Breakfast extra. ★★★★★

Kempinski Bristol **C-4, Kurfürstendamm 27, Charlottenburg, MU Uhlandstraße, tel. +49 30 88 43 40, reservations.bristol@kempinski.com, www.kempinskiberlin.de.** The elite Kempinski and Adlon are sister properties, but this is where well-travelled regulars feel more at home - out of the limelight, but still in upmarket lodgings on a swank corner of Ku'damm. ▸ 301 rooms (249 singles €265 - 326, 249 doubles €322 - 447, 52 suites €470 - 1800). Breakfast extra. ★★★★★

Palace **D-4, Budapester Straße 45, Charlottenburg, MS/U Zoologischer Garten, tel. +49 30 250 20, hotel@palace.de, www.palace.de.** Near the Europa Center shops and the zoo, gourmands feast at the First Floor restaurant and guests schmooze in the conference rooms that include Tai-Ping carpets, oak panelling and fireplaces. The staidly furnished rooms are large. ▸ 239 rooms (59 singles €200 - 300, 191 doubles €225 - 325, 32 suites €325 - 2150). ★★★★★

Savoy Berlin **C-4, Fasanenstraße 9-10, Charlottenburg, MS/U Zoologischer Garten, tel. +49 30 31 10 30, info@hotel-savoy.com, www.hotel-savoy.com.** Utterly un-Berlin, this stylish Cuban-flavoured abode once made Latin-music lover David Byrne a happy guest. Who knows who you'll trade smoke rings with in the cigar shop near the clubby Times Bar. ▸ 125 rooms (45 singles €142 - 222, 62 doubles €152 - 232, triples €192 - 272, 16 suites €202 - 292). ★★★★

Ellington Hotel

Swissôtel Berlin **C-4, Augsburger Straße 44, Charlottenburg, MU Kurfürstendamm, tel. +49 30 22 01 00, emailus.berlin@swissotel.com, www.swissotel-berlin.com.** Every room here has a Lavazza espresso machine and suites are cranking with Bang & Olufsen stereos. When you're done playing in your room, downtown western Berlin beckons. You'll never want to go home. ▸ 316 rooms (219 singles €160 - 310, 219 doubles €160 - 310, 14 suites €310 - 480, 11 junior suite €260 - 410). Breakfast €21. ★★★★★

Waldorf Astoria **C-4, Hardenbergstraße 28, Charlottenburg, MS/U Zoologischer Garten, tel. +49 30 814 00 00, www.waldorfastoriaberlin.com.** Berlin's newest luxury hotel, 118 metres high, occupies a prime spot near Kurfürstendamm and the Kadewe department store in western Berlin. Honouring its grand New York heritage, it's decorated in lavish Art Deco style, with artworks and decoration in the spacious rooms, and a café and bar with a 1920s Berlin theme. The library on the 15th floor with its concierge and great views is a comfortable place to relax. The Les Solistes restaurant run by star chef Pierre Gagnaire offers fine dining and 650 wines. ▸ 232 rooms (doubles from €250).

€150-200

Berlin Plaza **C-4, Knesebeckstraße 63, Charlottenburg, MU Uhlandstraße, tel. +49 30 88 41 30, info@plazahotel.de, www.plazahotel.de.** The Plaza has elegantly simple rooms equipped with all modern conveniences, such as allergy-free bedlinen and free wi-fi. The in-house Knese restaurant has solid traditional Berlin cuisine, and an attractive terrace. ▸ 131 rooms (singles €80 - 150, doubles €79 - 180, triples €105 - 200).

Bleibtreu **C-4, Bleibtreustraße 31, Charlottenburg, MU Uhlandstraße, tel. +49 30 88 47 40, info@bleibtreu.com, www.bleibtreu.com.** It's hard to tell the hip guests from the hip neighbours that share the deli and café fronting the boutique-lined street. The designer rooms operate by remote-control but are furnished using allergy-friendly, ecological, natural fabrics and furniture. ▸ 60 rooms (15 singles €115 - 157, 45 doubles €125 - 182).

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Grand Hotel Esplanade **D-4, Lützowufer 15, Tiergarten, Ⓜ U Nollendorfplatz, tel. +49 30 25 47 80, www.esplanade.de.** Overlooking the Bauhaus museum between Kurfürstendamm and Tiergarten park, the modern Esplanade has bright, well-furnished rooms and impresses with a large glass-covered atrium, the Harry's New York Bar and a sizeable spa and fitness centre. ▶ 394 rooms (singles/doubles from €99, 40 suites from €139). ★★★★★

Ku'Damm 101 **B-4, Kurfürstendamm 101, Charlottenburg, Ⓜ U Adenauerplatz, tel. +49 30 520 05 50, info@kudamm101.com, www.kudamm101.com.** Furnishings here echo the 1950s-70s, while 21st-century bi-colour rubber flooring is underfoot. Every room has designer chairs, and rubber toys in the white-tiled bathrooms, meant to emulate the Paris metro. The sunny top-floor breakfast room is just what you need to wake up. ▶ 170 rooms (34 singles €101 - 161, 136 doubles €118 - 178). Breakfast extra. ★★★

Hotels in Berlin

Finding accommodation is not such a problem in Berlin; the city has hundreds of hotels and thousands of beds. And in a city this large, every place can call itself 'central'. The hotel **categories** in this guide are based on the highest double room rack rate price, but actual prices often depend on the the season and booking method. Prices include VAT and breakfast unless mentioned otherwise. Apartment rentals are booking; renting one ofr a day or a month is usually much cheaper than checking into a hotel.

Sylter Hof **D-3, Kurfürstenstraße 114, Schöneberg, Ⓜ U Wittenbergplatz, tel. +49 30 212 00, info@sylterhof-berlin.de, www.sylterhof-berlin.de.** Sylt may be a skinny island in the North Sea, but these suites in a high-rise are fat. For the cost of a normal room in Berlin, you get a fully equipped kitchen too (a supermarket is across the street) and rates go down for longer stays. ▶ 160 rooms (80 singles €69 - 120, 40 doubles €99 - 180, 40 suites €129 - 210). ★★★

€75-150

Best Western President **D-4, An der Urania 16-18, Schöneberg, Ⓜ S/U Wittenbergplatz, tel. +49 30 21 90 30, president@cca-hotels.de, www.cca-hotels.de.** Huge leather reclining chairs, cosmetic tables and an old-time clubby lounge make this a smart choice for business travellers. Besides the restaurant and bar, there's also a fitness centre and multifunctional meeting rooms. ▶ 178 rooms (25 singles €79 - 155, 153 doubles €96 - 183, 3 suites €189 - 305). Breakfast extra. ★★★★

SensCity Hotel Albergo **B-5, Hohenzollerndamm 33, Wilmersdorf, Ⓜ U Fehrbelliner Platz, tel. +49 30 86 88 90, stay@senscity-albergo.de, www.senscity-albergo.de.** Once a Russian Orthodox cathedral with onion domes until refurbishment in 1938, the corner building that now holds the Albergo is a good base for exploring western Berlin. Decorated flamboyantly by Italian artists, the hotel has spacious rooms with terracotta tiles, cherry wood furniture and a top-floor breakfast room. ▶ 36 rooms (singles €75 - 125, doubles €85 - 135).

Restaurants & Cafés

Asian

Suksan **D-4, Ansbacher Straße 4, Schöneberg, Ⓜ U Wittenbergplatz, tel. +49 30 21 01 86 73, www.suksan.de.** A short stroll from west Berlin's shops and sights, Suksan is a cosy Thai restaurant decorated with ample bamboo poles and palmleaf roofs. Drop by for the lunch specials, or dine on spicey Thai dishes accompanied by wine or fresh coconut milk, perhaps followed by a cocktail. ▶ Open 12:00 - 23:00, Fri 12:00 - 24:00, Sat 16:00 - 24:00, Sun 17:00 - 23:00.

Austrian

Ottenthal **C-4, Kantstraße 153, Charlottenburg, Ⓜ U Uhlandstraße, tel. +49 30 313 31 62, www.ottenthal.com.** The pleasure in this intimate, classy bistro is that of fresh, seasonal ingredients, often from the owner's home town, Ottenthal. Daily specials might include foam of goose liver or venison pie with apple-celery salad. The portion of *Wiener Schnitzel* could feed two. Service is excellent, and you can rely on wine recommendations (the list is extensive). Wines and other products from Ottenthal such as pumpkinseed oil, are available for purchase. This is truly one of our favourite spots. ▶ Open 17:00 - 01:00. €€€.

Schnitzelei **B-3, Röntgenstraße 7, Charlottenburg, Ⓜ U Richard-Wagner-Platz, tel. +49 30 34 70 27 78, www.schnitzelei.de.** Nearly as far from central Berlin as Austria, Schnitzelei is well off the beaten track, but well worth looking up. No tacky alpine decorations here, but a light take on the genre, with oak patterns and subdued lighting creating a good vibe. There are delicious schnitzels in different variations, though you may also want to try the German tapas. ▶ Open 16:00 - 01:00, Sat, Sun 12:00 - 01:00. €€. station. (€1-5).

Fine Dining

Die Quadriga **C-4, Eislebener Straße 14, Charlottenburg, Ⓜ U Augsburger Straße, tel. +49 30 21 40 56 50, www.brandenburger-hof.com.** Chef Sauli Kemppainen dishes up innovative Scandinavian cuisine in this intimate, Michelin-starred gourmet restaurant. The main room is in the style of a classic Berlin salon, with paintings from the Berlin Secessionist movement and KPM porcelain; the cherrywood chair design is by Frank Lloyd Wright, dating to 1904. ▶ Open 12:00 - 14:00, 19:00-22:00, Mon, Sat 19:00 - 22:00. Closed Sun. €€€€. ★

First Floor **D-4, Budapester Straße 45, Charlottenburg, Ⓜ S/U Zoologischer Garten, tel. +49 30 25 02 10 20, www.palace.de.** A Michelin star has been the beacon over Matthias Dieter's restaurant for years now, and visiting gourmands who can't move well after a seven-course meal make a point of staying at the Palace. The cuisine has touches of France and the Far East, and turbot with caviar or prawn is often on the menu. ▶ Open 18:30 - 23:00. Closed Mon, Sun. €€€€. ★

SUKSAN

Sawatdi Kap – welcome to Suksan. Experience a temple for Thai food and cooking culture in the heart of West Berlin, offering varied dishes with captivating aromas and tasty combinations that will tickle the palate. Quality, freshness, and healthy and original ingredients are central to our dishes, without losing sight of modern cuisine. Under bamboo roofs, Suksan seats over 60 guests in Thai settings. Let us take you on a culinary trip to the land of smiles.

Ansbacherstrasse 4
(corner of Kurfürstenstrasse)
tel. 21 01 86 73, www.suksan.de.

Hugos **D-4, Budapester Straße 2, Tiergarten, Ⓜ S/U Zoologischer Garten, tel. +49 30 26 02 12 63, www.hugos-restaurant.de.** The InterContinental's Michelin-starred French restaurant on the 14th floor has stunning views across the park to Potsdamer Platz. Chef Thomas Kammeier's cuisine is equally dazzling; expect subtle creations blending fine flavours in the lightest of dishes. ▶ Open 18:30 - 22:30. Closed Mon, Sun. €€€€. ★

Food with a View

Funkturm-Restaurant A-4, Messedamm 22, Charlottenburg, Ⓜ S/U Messe Nord/ICC, tel. +49 30 30 38 29 00, www.capital-catering.de. Berlin's Eiffel Tower is the shorter of the city's two TV towers. The viewing platform at 126 meters is the perfect starter for the tower restaurant, sitting pretty at 55 metres. There's an a la carte menu with changing lunch courses during the day, and hot or cold buffets in the evening. ▶ Open 11:30 - 23:00, Tue 18:00 - 23:00. Closed Mon. €€€.

German

April D-5, Winterfeldstraße 56, Schöneberg, Ⓜ U Nollendorfplatz, tel. +49 30 216 88 69, www.restaurant-april.com. This bistro is great value with a generous appetiser plate for two and various specials. The dining is a bit more formal out back, where tables get the white-linen treatment. ▶ Open 10:00 - 24:00. €-€€.

Knese C-4, Knesebeckstraße 63, Charlottenburg, Ⓜ U Uhlandstraße, tel. +49 30 88 41 34 48, www.restaurant-knese.de. Alt-Berliner, traditional ‚Old Berlin' cuisine, is on offer at rustic Knese. Try the *Königsberger Klopse*, meatballs with potatoes, the pork knuckle or the calf liver with apples, onions and potatoes for a taste of the Berlin of yesteryear at reasonable prices. There's also a selection of international meals and desserts for you to tuck in to. Wash it all down with some good South-African wine. ▶ Open 11:00 - 01:00. €€.

Renger-Patzsch D-5, Wartburgstraße 54, Schöneberg, Ⓜ U Eisenacher Straße, tel. +49 30 784 20 59, www.renger-patzsch.com. Upscale German dining with a difference. The interior is kept casual and simple, with all focus on the people and the food. Serving regional cooking, you can order dishes such as sauteed mushrooms in chervil sauce, pan-seared pike-perch and a selection of tasty Alsatian *flammekuchen*. The Sunday roast is a true feast, with wine-braised beef. ▶ Open 18:00 - 23:30. €€.

Suksan

Schöneberger Weltlaterne D-5, Motzstraße 61, Schöneberg, Ⓜ U Viktoria-Luise-Platz, tel. +49 30 21 96 98 61, schoeneberger_weltlaterne@yahoo.de, www.schoeneberger-weltlaterne.de. Come back to old West Berlin at this wood-panelled tavern on the southwest side of Viktoria-Luise-Platz. Schnitzel variations, *Berliner Eisbein* (pork knuckle with pea puree, *sauerkraut*, and boiled potatoes), *Oma's Rote Grütze* (a vanilla pudding with stewed red berries), and warm apple strudel make up the menu of traditional *Alt-Berlin* and Brandenburg cuisine. ▶ Open 17:00 - 24:00, Fri, Sat 17:00 - 02:00. €.

Zillemarkt C-4, Bleibtreustraße 48a, Charlottenburg, Ⓜ S Savignyplatz, tel. +49 30 881 70 40, www.zillemarkt.de. It's easy to imagine Heinrich Zille, a local artist famous for his charming portraits of Berlin's lower classes, stroll in and order a jellied boiled pork, stuffed cabbage leaves or a Berliner *Currywurst*. Zillemarkt serves breakfast, home-made cakes. lunch and dinner, and you can down a Zillebräu beer in the glass-ceilinged bar. ▶ Open 12:00 - 24:00, Sat, Sun 10:00 - 24:00.

Zillemarkt
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Tel. 030-881 70 40
Bleibtreustr. 48a, Berlin-Charlottenburg
www.zillemarkt.de

International

Diekmann C-4, Meinekestraße 7, Charlottenburg, Ⓜ U Uhlandstraße, tel. +49 30 883 33 21, www.diekmann-restaurants.de. Herr Diekmann was one of the first to grace Berlin's simple tables with some French finesse, even if it was in what began as a sandwich shop in 1976. Shelves and drawers of an old *Kolonialwaren* store line the walls, and Diekmann still uses French techniques to primp excellent ingredients.

Duke

Renger-Patzsch

Always on the menu are oysters and a selection of French cheeses. ▶ Open 12:00 - 01:00, Sun 18:00 - 01:00. €€€.

Dressler C-4, Kurfürstendamm 207, Charlottenburg, Ⓜ U Uhlandstraße, tel. +49 30 883 35 30, www.restaurant-dressler.de. A good place to go if you yearn to relive something of Berlin's roaring 1920s. Expect Art Deco wooden paneling, large mirrors, and good bistro and proper restaurant meals served in a very relaxed atmosphere. The menu changes every week. Also in Mitte, at Unter den Linden 39. ▶ Open 08:00 - 01:00. €€€.

Duke D-4, Nürnberger Straße 50-55, Charlottenburg, Ⓜ U Wittenbergplatz, tel. +49 30 683 15 40 00, www.duke-restaurant.com. Creative international crossover meals are served in the aptly named Ellington Hotel restaurant, set in a dazzling 1920s building near the Ku'damm. The open kitchen allows you to watch chef cook Florian Glauert create culinary treats. ▶ Open 11:30 - 23:00. €€€-€€€€.

Einhorn C-4, Mommsenstraße 2, Charlottenburg, Ⓜ U Uhlandstraße, tel. +49 30 881 42 41, www.einhorn-catering.de. A fabulous vegetarian lunchbar, with standing space only. Every day there's a completely different menu, with European and Mediterranean as well as Arab and Asian dishes. ▶ Open 10:00 - 17:00. Closed Sat, Sun. €.

Italian

Ali Baba C-4, Bleibtreustraße 45, Charlottenburg, Ⓜ S Savignyplatz, tel. +49 30 881 13 50, www.alibaba-berlin.de. A smokey, dodgy-looking Italian joint that is said to produce the best and cheapest pizza in town. The place is usually packed with people enjoying them, so Ali must be doing something right. ▶ Open 11:00 - 02:00, Fri, Sat 11:00 - 03:00. €.

Zillemarkt

renger-patzsch

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Francucci's **B-4, Kurfürstendamm 90, Charlottenburg, MU Adenauerplatz, tel. +49 30 323 33 18, www.francucci.com.** Francucci's kitchen churns out fresh, fresh food, with home-made pasta and bread and plenty of regional ingredients in dishes like the veal scallop with herbs, potatoes and black truffles. ▶ Open 12:00 - 23:00. €€€.

La Forchetta **A-5, Königsallee 5b, Wilmersdorf, MS Halensee, tel. +49 30 892 85 97, info@la-forchetta-berlin.de, www.la-forchetta-berlin.de.** An upmarket restaurant well within the city limits but overlooking lake Halensee. Only fresh Italian food is served here, including a delicious oven baked lamb. In summer, a romantic terrace is available. ▶ Open 12:00 - 24:00.

Locanda **B-4, Lehniner Platz 2, Charlottenburg, MU Adenauerplatz, tel. +49 30 31 80 69 68.** A tiny restaurant where Gianni can be found welcoming guests, cooking, pouring wine, serving food and washing dishes, all the while singing along to Italian classics. The pasta, fish and meat dishes are simple, and all simply delicious. Ask for the three-course surprise menu. Opposite the Schaubühne theatre. ▶ Open 10:00 - 23:00. Closed Sun. €.

Café Kalwil

Zwölf Apostel **C-4, Bleibtreustraße 49, Charlottenburg, MS Savignyplatz, tel. +49 30 312 14 33, www.12-apostel.de.** The alley next to the S-Bahn tracks leads to a grand interior with classicist decoration and angels on the walls. The Italian food - including wood-oven pizzas - served here is excellent, and from Monday to Friday the business lunch options offer good value. Also at Georgenstraße 2, under the S-Bahn track in Mitte. ▶ Open 08:00 - 01:00. €€.

Japanese

Sachiko Sushi **C-3, Jeanne-Mammen-Bogen 584, Charlottenburg, MS Savignyplatz, tel. +49 30 313 22 82, www.sachikosushi.com.** An innovative kaiten sushi restaurant - the oldest in town, dating back to 1995 - has little boats circling the restaurant with some of the best sushi in town. Not afraid to serve classic and new sushi varieties with world wines, here's your chance to have bonito with Sauvignon Blanc, or tuna rolls with Riesling. Beneath the railway arches. ▶ Open 12:00 - 24:00, Sun 16:00 - 24:00. Closed Mon. €€.

Cafés

Café am Neuen See **D-4, Lichtensteinallee 2, Tiergarten, MS/U Zoologischer Garten, tel. +49 30 254 49 30, www.cafeamneuensee.de.** The perfect Berlin biathlon is riding a bike through Tiergarten park, rehydrating with beer here, and then renting a rowboat on the adjacent lake. This café, restaurant and bar serves a breakfast of champions until 16:00 as well as regional food, coffee, cakes and cocktails. Food served till 22:00. ▶ Open 08:00 - 23:00, Sat, Sun 09:00 - 23:00. €€-€€€.

Café im Literaturhaus **C-4, Fasanenstraße 23, Charlottenburg, MU Uhlandstraße, tel. +49 30 882 54 14, www.literaturhaus-berlin.de.** Some guests may be sporting three-piece suits, straw hats, polished canes and freshly fluffed pups, but you don't have to be all that precious about eating at this literary hangout. Food runs from cheap sandwiches for aspiring writers and critics, to lamb. The 19th-century building has airy rooms that are pleasant to dine in on a sunny day. ▶ Open 09:30 - 01:00. €€.

Cafe Kalwil **D-4/5, Motzstraße 30, Schöneberg, MU Nollendorfplatz, tel. +49 30 23 63 88 18.** A cosy and straight-friendly café in gay old Schöneberg. Pink sofas and antique tables are arranged below glittering chandeliers, overlooked by a dozen portraits of strapping moustachioed men. There's fair trade coffee, quality teas, cakes by Wunderkuchen, sandwiches, light meals and more. ▶ Open 09:00 - 22:00. €€.

Grenander Morning Glory **D-4, Wittenbergplatz 3a, Schöneberg, MU Wittenbergplatz, tel. +49 30 75 52 77 21, www.grenander.de.** Pastries, muffins, croissants and rolls lie in waiting at the counter of this modern, earth-tone café. Great for breakfast, lunch or indeed something else to glorify your morning. ▶ Open 08:00 - 22:00. €€.

Nightlife

Bars

Alt Berliner Biersalon **C-4, Kurfüstendamm 225, Charlottenburg, MU Kurfürstendamm, tel. +49 30 884 39 90, www.alt-berliner-biersalon.de.** A favourite for many foreigners - a huge bar with cosy corners as well as areas where wild sports fans can watch a large screen. The bar serves well-priced German and international food as well as big breakfasts. Groups are welcome - actually you can fit 499 of your buddies plus yourself in here. ▶ Open 24hrs. €€.

Green Door **D-5, Winterfeldstraße 50, Schöneberg, MU Nollendorfplatz, tel. +49 30 215 25 15, www.greendoor.de.** This dimly-lit, cool bar doesn't take itself too seriously. An undulating wall with a recessed shelf for drinks leads to an improbable end of Gingham-checked wallpaper. A padded, green leather door protects those prone to bumping into things after a few rounds. Most of the crowd is thirty and up, and quite steady on their feet. ▶ Open 18:00 - 03:00, Fri, Sat 18:00 - 04:00.

Café im Literaturhaus

Hefner **C-4, Kantstraße 146, Charlottenburg, MU Savignyplatz, tel. +49 30 31 01 75 20, www.hefner-berlin.de.** The most happening spot on Savignyplatz is this cool cocktail bar on the corner with Kantstraße. Though the lengthy cocktail menu includes all the favourites, Hefner prides itself on having the best selection of Martini cocktails in Berlin. ▶ Open 16:00 - 03:00, Sat 13:00 - 03:00.

Zwiebelfisch **C-4, Savignyplatz 7-8, Charlottenburg, MS Savignyplatz, tel. +49 30 312 73 63, www.zwiebelfisch-berlin.de.** The name Zwiebelfisch is, among other things, the term used by printers to label a single letter that rebels and appears in a font unlike the letters around it. Aging, but still-kicking liberals come here to rest the weight of their youthful ideals and trade wisecracks with long-time owner Hartmut Volmerhaus. Jazz or classic music is piped in, and a selection of papers and magazines helps stretch out the beer or coffee. Hot meals, like goulash and Swabian Maultaschen are served up until 03:00. The tall tables abutting the bar are a brilliantly social arrangement. ▶ Open 12:00 - 06:00. €-€€.

Gay nightlife

Connection **D-4, Fuggerstraße 33, Schöneberg, MU Wittenbergplatz, tel. +49 30 218 14 32, www.connection-berlin.de.** Bumpin' and grindin' in the corridors and the ‚cruising labyrinth' moves in time to house and techno beats on weekends. Every third Friday of the month is mixed boys and girls night. ▶ Open Fri, Sat 23:00-06:00. Admission €5.

Berlin in Books

The 2011 memoir "The Beauty of Transgression" is by American fashion designer and artist Danielle de Picciotto, who moved to Berlin in 1987 and was part of a core group of designers, DJs, artists and dreamers that quickly discovered the possibilities of post-1989 East Berlin. She worked at many legendary bars and clubs including Tresor and E-Werk, helped organise the first Love Parade, ran an art gallery and was in bands. Her book vividly describes the incredible atmosphere, potential, artistic freedom and the surprising solidarity that characterised the fast-changing Berlin of the 1980s and 1990s. It also introduces several remarkable people from Berlin's art scene, and takes on serious questions such as confronting intolerance in villages outside Berlin, and the fear that artists living on a minimal income have of growing old. There's a fair amount of names that foreign readers won't recognise, but the book gives unique insight in a key period in the latest, most creative and perhaps happiest chapter of Berlin's turbulent history. The book (ISBN 978-3-89955-328-4) is for sale for about €22 at bookshops around Berlin, and online at http://shop.gestalten.com.

Hafen **D-4, Motzstraße 19, Schöneberg, Ⓜ U Nollendorfplatz, tel. +49 30 211 41 18, www.hafen-berlin.de.** Both gays and lesbians are welcome to call at this harbour. There's no darkroom in which to size each other up, so patrons measure each other's thinking organ instead at the Quiz-o-Rama (in English on the first Monday of the month). There's DJs at weekends and German *Schlager* nights every second Friday. Don't be shy to pop in, they say ‚*drop dead gorgeous looking tourists*' are welcome. ▶ Open 20:00 - 04:00.

Prinzknecht **D-4, Fuggerstraße 33, Schöneberg, Ⓜ U Wittenbergplatz, tel. +49 30 23 62 74 44, www.prinzknecht.de.** The exposed brick walls, square bar, and billiard table gives this respectable bar and cruising joint a Cheers-like feel unusual in Berlin. Picnic tables are out on the sidewalk, and leather banquettes line the walls. Women are welcome everywhere except the cellar, and the back of Prinzknecht's business card is helpfully labeled ‚name, address and telephone' for scribbling down the details of your new friends. ▶ Open 15:00 - 02:00, Fri, Sat 15:00 - 03:00.

Jazz Clubs

A-Trane **Bleibtreustraße 1, Charlottenburg, Ⓜ U Ernst-Reuter-Platz, tel. +49 30 313 25 50, info@a-trane.de, www.a-trane.de.** Concerts at 22:00. ▶ Open 21:00 - 02:00, Fri, Sat 21:00 - 04:00.

Quasimodo **C-4, Kantstraße 12a, Charlottenburg, Ⓜ S/U Zoologischer Garten, tel. +49 30 31 80 45 60, info@quasimodo.de, www.quasimodo.de.** Blues, jazz, funk, or soul in a casual cellar. To find the place, go up to the terrace next to Theater des Westens and follow the stairwell to the left of the café. Concerts start at 22:00. ▶ Open 21:00 - 02:00.

Maroush

Maroush **C-4, Knesebeckstraße 48, Ⓜ Uhlandstraße, tel. +49 30 887 11 83 35, www.maroush.de.** Refined Egyptian-oriental opulence with a modern twist and gourmet food. The combined restaurant, shisha lounge and cocktail bar has a luxurious and tasteful décor enhancing the equally exotic menu. Puff on a shisha as you await your meal or come on Friday or Saturday for 'dinner and dance', with belly-dancers, live music and a party atmosphere. The club can be booked for special occasions. ▶ Open 15:00 - 01:00.

Pubs

Irish Harp **B-4, Giesebrechtstraße 15, Charlottenburg, Ⓜ U Adenauerplatz, tel. +49 30 22 32 87 35, mail@harp-pub.de, www.harp-pub.de.** A well-established Irish pub serving all the usual pub grub favourites as well as soups, salads and a range of homemade burgers. On tap there's Guinness, Kilkenny, and a choice of German beers. You can expect major sports events to be beamed on screens, and there's quiz nights and live music too. The pub can be booked for special occasions. ▶ Open 10:00 - 01:00. €€€.

Union Jack **C-4, Schlüterstraße 15, Charlottenburg, Ⓜ S Savignyplatz, tel. +49 30 312 55 57, www.unionjack-berlin.de.** A corner of Scottish highland in the heart of Berlin, this whisky pub is one of Berlin's first true pubs and continues to draw the punters in with a collection of 401 whiskys (from the best Scottish and Irish brands to Canadian and Japanese bourbon) and various English and Irish beers. Solid food is available too - home made snacks and and Walkers crisps. ▶ Open from 19:00. Sun closed.

Union Jack

Sightseeing

Landmarks

Olympic Stadium **Olympischer Platz 3, Charlottenburg, Ⓜ S/U Olympiastadion, tel. +49 30 25 00 23 22, tour@olympiastadion-berlin.de, www.olympiastadion-berlin.de.** The Olympic Stadium was originally built under the direction of architect Werner March to host the 1936 Olympic Games. A good example of bombastic fascist architecture, its size never fails to impress. The most striking changes are the blue track and the seemingly floating new roof whose translucent skin offers shelter for almost all of the 75,000 seats. On non-event days you can visit the stadium using an multi-language audioguide, or on an hour-long guided tour. ▶ Open 09:00 - 19:00. June-mid-Sep open until 20:00, Nov-mid-Mar 10:00-16:00. Admission €7/5.

Irish Harp

Schloss Charlottenburg (Charlottenburg Palace) **A-3, Spandauer Damm 20-24, Charlottenburg, Ⓜ U Richard-Wagner-Platz, tel. +49 30 32 09 14 40, www.spsg.de.** The largest royal residence in Berlin, named for Prussia's first queen. Though it began as a modest summer palace in 1695, today's version, distinguished by its 505-meter facade and central tower, took its final form in 1790. You can take a guided or audiotour of the luxurious and largely Rococo and Baroque apartments where an eye-glazing number of royal Friedrichs and Wilhelms resided. Also here is the largest collection of 18th century French painting outside France, plus a beautiful Baroque garden, mausoleum, and Belvedere teahouse with a porcelain exhibition. Take bus M45 from Wagner-Platz or Zoologischer Bahnhof. ▶ Open 10:00-18:00; Nov-Mar 10:00-17:00; Mon closed. New Wing 10:00-18:00, Tues closed. Admission €12/8, New Wing €6/5. Photo permit €3.

Churches

Gedächtniskirche **D-4, Breitscheidplatz, Charlottenburg, Ⓜ U Kurfürstendamm, tel. +49 30 218 50 23, www.gedaechtniskirche-berlin.de.** The ruined Kaiser Wilhelm Memorial Church, a stark reminder of wartime destruction, is West Berlin's landmark attraction. Kept as an open wound, the severe acknowledgement of Germany's culpability is declared on a plaque: ‚The tower of the old church serves as a remembrance of God's judgment, which befell our people during the war years.' The 1895 church was once a symbol of national pride: even synagogues contributed to its funding. Inside is a gilded mosaic of the Hohenzollern dynasty. The modern chapel and bell tower beside it were completed in 1961, and are worth entering on sunny days for the amazing blue stained glass windows. The main church ruin will be in scaffolding until autumn 2013. Concerts take place every week, many of them free. ▶ Open 09:00-19:00.

Museums

Alliiertenmuseum (Allied Museum) **Clayallee 135, Zehlendorf, Ⓜ U Oskar-Helene-Heim, tel. +49 30 818 19 90, www.alliiertenmuseum.de.** The Allied Museum covers 50 years of West German Allied (US, British, French) relations in the US Army movie house *Outpost*. The prize exhibit is the original sentry box from the Checkpoint Charlie border crossing. ▶ Open 10:00 - 18:00. Closed Wed. Admission free.

Bröhan Museum **B-3, Schloßstraße 1a, Charlottenburg, Ⓜ U Sophie-Charlotte-Platz, tel. +49 30 32 69 06 00, www.broehan-museum.de.** A stellar collection of art deco, art nouveau, and art and craft design awakens post-modern sensibilities, blunted by so much IKEA and minimalism, to craftsmanship, whimsy and indulgent beauty. In addition to the permanent collection (spanning 1889-1939) of porcelain, lamps, vases, and furnishings, are paintings, including those by Peter Behrens and Bruno Paul, as well as special exhibitions. ▶ Open 10:00 - 18:00. Closed Mon. Admission €6/4.

Museum für Asiatische Kunst **Takustraße 40, Zehlendorf, Ⓜ U Dahlem-Dorf, tel. +49 30 266 42 42 42, www.smb.museum.** Alongside special exhibitions dealing with everything from Qing-dynasty painting to architecture, the Asian Art museum has an impressive permanent collection of Indian, Chinese, Japanese and Korean art and archaeology. Each tradition has its own gallery, and in the centre, a room dedicated to Buddhist art. Chinese and Japanese painting and calligraphy are of special interest, as well as Japanese woodcuts. ▶ Open 10:00 - 18:00, Sat, Sun 11:00 - 18:00. Closed Mon. Admission €6/3.

Parks and Gardens

Tiergarten **C/D/E-3/4.** This 255 hectare park full of paths, meadows, and waterways is the most genteel of Berlin's parks, but it's still a fine place for jogging, football, a picnic barbecue, or nude sunbathing (weather permitting). The *Siegessäule* (Victory Column) that stood in front of the Reichstag from 1873 until 1938 now serves as a roundabout and lookout point in the middle of the park. The park's café and beer garden, Café am Neuensee, is at the southwestern end.

Shopping

Books

Books in Berlin **C-4, Goethestraße 69, Charlottenburg, Ⓜ U Ernst-Reuter-Platz, tel. +49 30 313 12 33, www.booksinberlin.de.** A lovely nook devotedly entirely to English-language books. ▶ Open 12:00 - 20:00, Sat 10:00 - 16:00. Closed Sun.

Department Stores

Kaufhaus des Westens (KaDeWe) **D-4, Tauentzienstraße 21-24, Charlottenburg, Ⓜ U Wittenbergplatz, tel. +49 30 212 10, www.kadewe.de.** Europe's largest department store, Berlin's answer to Harrod's has 64 escalators linking seven huge floors, with two floors devoted completely to gourmet food. Have oysters at the champagne bar to take the sting out of your shopping spree. ▶ Open 10:00 - 20:00, Fri 10:00 - 21:00, Sat 09:30 - 20:00. Closed Sun.

Fashion & Shoes

Adidas Performance **D-4, Tauenzienstraße 15, Chalottenburg, Ⓜ U Kurfürstendamm, tel. +49 30 23 63 19 44.** A huge store selling the well-known Performance athlete's range, including some items not on offer elsewhere, as well as Originals products and other leisure wear. Design your own colourful shoes with the hands-on *mi-adidas* touch screens, or test some trainers while doing computer sports games. ▶ Open 10:00 - 20:00, Fri, Sat 10:00 - 21:00. Closed Sun.

Veronica Pohle **B-4, Kurfürstendamm 64, Ⓜ U Adenauerplatz, tel. +49 30 883 37 31, www.veronicapohle.de.** Fashion by 40 international designers, including Kenzo, Temperley London, Moschino, Milly and Catherine Malandrino, in a cool-chic boutique with competent and multi-lingual staff along the Ku-damm. ▶ Open 10:30 - 19:30, Sat 11:00 - 18:30.

Markets

Berliner Trödelmarkt **C-3, Straße des 17. Juni, Charlottenburg, Ⓜ S Tiergarten, www.berliner-troedelmarkt.de.** A busy upmarket open-air flea market with quality antiques and handicrafts (with prices to match), fashion, pictures, books, LPs, and a wide range of interesting junk. Right next to the S-Bahn station. ▶ Open Sat, Sun 10:00-17:00.

On a low hill northeast of Mitte, *Prenzl' Berg* is an old working-class district in the former East Berlin that came through the war relatively unscathed. After 1989 the cool brigade pounced on the area, and houses that were once home to East German punks were renovated in odes to pastel. The number of wine shops and young parents pushing pricey prams indicates the level of gentrification here. The best places to soak up the atmosphere are Kollwitzplatz, Helmholzplatz and along Kastanienallee. One of Prenzlauer Berg's best attractions is the Kulturbrauerei culture centre, set in a 19th-century brewery complex. This chapter also covers some places in multicultural **Wedding**, just to the west.

Getting there
The U2 from Alexanderplatz feeds crowds Senefelderplatz and Eberswalder Straße, close to most attractions of the district. From Museumsinsel and Friedrichstraße you can use tram M1 to Eberswalder Straße as well. U-Bahn station Bernauer Straße and S-Bahn station Nordbahnhof are most convenient for a stroll along the Wall Memorial to Mauerpark.

Pocket Walk
Start walking uphill along Kollwitzstraße from Senefelder Platz U-Bahn station. From leafy Kollwitzplatz turn into beautiful Husemannstraße, which was already restored in GDR times, and left into Sredzkistraße where you'll spot the Kulturbrauerei complex ahead; enter beside the tall chimney and wander through its courtyards to the northern exit. Cross Danziger Straße and amble down Lychenerstraße to pretty, café-lined Helmholtzplatz. Follow Raumerstraße west, turn left down Pappelallee and cross underneath the U-Bahn station to Eberswalder Straße; you'll soon reach the popular Mauerpark and the top end of Bernauer Straße with its excellent Wall memorial.

Symbol key

Child friendly	Facilities for the disabled
Home delivery	Live music
No credit cards	Nearest S/U-Bahn station
Outside seating	Non-smoking room
Take away	Internet
Wi-Fi	

Dinner price guide

The number of euro symbols in our restaurant, café and nightlife reviews indicates the approximate price level based on a main course with a glass of wine.

€€€€ Expensive; more than €30 per person.

€€€ Not cheap; €20-30 per person.

€€ Middling; from €10-20 per person.

€ Cheap; less than €10 per person.

Hotel

Precise Myer's **H-2, Metzer Straße 26, Prenzlauer Berg, Ⓜ U Senefelder Platz, tel. +49 30 44 01 40, info@myershotel.de, www.myershotel.de.** Entered from a quiet courtyard, Myer's is an upmarket private hotel with smallish, classically furnished rooms overlooking the garden. ▶ 51 rooms (8 singles €75 - 135, 33 doubles €85 - 185, 1 suite €195 - 345, 10 Premium €115 - 265).

Restaurants & Cafés

Dark Dining

Nocti Vagus G-2, Saarbrücker Straße 34-36, Prenzlauer Berg, MU Senefelder Platz, tel. +49 30 74 74 91 23, www.noctivagus.cm. Fabulous - an utterly dark restaurant with themed dinners. After you order, blind and visually impaired waiters will seat you safely at your table, where you can stimulate all senses other than sight with the food and the live performances which include concerts and German-language poetry and mystery nights. On Mondays and Tuesdays a three-course dinner is served at the reduced price of €39. Book ahead, mention if you're an English-speaker, and set aside a few hours for the event. ▸ Open 18:00 - 24:00. €€€€.

Fast Food

Konnopke's Imbiß G-1, Schönhauser Allee 44b, Prenzlauer Berg, MU Eberswalder Straße, tel. +49 30 442 77 65, www.konnopke-imbiss.de. The Ziervogel family started selling their famous *Wursts* on October 4, 1930 (a day that has unluckily come to coincide with International Animal Day). This simple shack is a convenient stop for those spilling out of the Eberswalder Straße U-Bahn; the *Imbiss* is just south, beneath the tracks. To eat your *Currywurst* like a true native, order it *ohne darm* (without the intestine wrapping, please). ▸ Open 10:00 - 20:00, Sat 12:00 - 20:00. Closed Sun. €.

German

Die Schule G-2, Kastanienallee 82, Prenzlauer Berg, MU Eberswalder Straße, tel. +49 30 780 08 95 50, www.gls-restaurant.de. Modern and light German food on Berlin's prime catwalk. Kastanienallee, also known as *casting alley*, is a perfect place to watch Berlin street style. Die Schule has a terrace facing the street and the airy interiors belie that these rooms used to be classrooms (hence the name). You can have all the German food classics, and even better: you can have them all at once: try *German Kleinigkeiten*, small samples of everything the local cuisine is famous for. ▸ Open 11:00 - 24:00.

Restauration 1900 H-2, Husemannstraße 1, Prenzlauer Berg, MU Eberswalder Straße, tel. +49 30 442 24 94, www.restauration1900.de. Our Kollwitzplatz favourite, 1900 exhibits some fascinating photographs of the neighbourhood before (Trabant) and after (Smart) 1989. It serves excellent Berlin and German food, as well as some pasta and vegetarian options. Come on Saturday morning to watch locals shopping at the weekly market, and on Sundays to fill up at the all-you-can-eat breakfast buffet. ▸ Open 10:00 - 23:00. €-€€.

Die Schule

Zander G-2, Kollwitzstraße 50, Prenzlauer Berg, MU Senefelder Platz, tel. +49 30 44 05 76 78, www.zander-restaurant.de. This award-winning restaurant is a fine blend of tradition, innovation, and casual professionalism. Using mainly regional products, Zander serves mouth-watering German and international cuisine and excellent wines in a stylish and intimate setting. Though *zander* (pike-perch) is a house speciality, the perfectly-composed set menus are highly recommended. ▸ Open 18:00 - 01:00. Closed Mon.

International

Fleischlust H-1, Pappelallee 36, Prenzlauer Berg, MS/U Schönhauser Allee, tel. +49 30 44 67 54 14, kontakt@fleischlust-berlin.de, www.fleischlust-berlin.de. A spot for those with healthy lust for flesh can grill ,n chill. Staff in 1930s outfits serve excellent steaks, cooked anything from blue (extremely rare) to well done. For the undecided, there's a mixed grill, while the thirsty can delve into the wine and cocktail menu. ▸ Open 16:00 - 02:00.

Gugelhof H-2, Knaackstraße 37, Prenzlauer Berg, MU Eberswalder Straße, tel. +49 30 442 92 29, www.gugelhof.com. During the early bloom of Kollwitzplatz's gentrification, the success of little Gugelhof was sealed by heads of state: Schröder, Fischer, Albright and even Bill Clinton made surprise visits. German, French, and Swiss dishes share the menu; this is where to try *flammekuchen*, a thin-crust Alsatian pizza. The atmosphere is lively and service is friendly. ▸ Open 16:00 - 24:00, Sat, Sun 10:00 - 24:00. €€.

Shopping in Berlin

You could ruin a good set of heels window-shopping in Berlin. Stroll **Charlottenburg's** Kurfürstendamm, particularly between Uhlandstraße and Adenauerplatz, for top brands. With the exception of Berlin's proudest department store, Kaufhaus des Westens, Tauentzienstraße is lined with mass market retail stores. **Mitte's** credit card trail is Friedrichstraße, between Unter den Linden and Stadtmitte. Tank-size Bentleys and costly ounces of French perfume now define the street where Soviets and Americans faced off in the Cold War. The Friedrichstadtpassagen and Galeries Lafayette are the main emporiums. The maze of streets around Weinmeisterstraße is where to find what's driving the under-thirty crowd into debt. **Kreuzberg** has two main shopping streets; between the bars and eateries on Oranienstraße are bookstores, wool specialists, ethnic grocers and internet cafés; Bergmannstraße is less scruffy but still full of funky gift and household supply stores, as well as a few clothing stores. Full of people under thirty, **Prenzlauer Berg** and **Friedrichshain** are where to watch the trends; you're likely to find an interesting window display wherever you walk.

Italian

Pizzeria i Due Forni G-2, Schönhauser Allee 12, Prenzlauer Berg, MU Senefelder Platz, tel. +49 30 44 01 73 33. Atypical for Berlin, this Italian restaurant is not very chic, the service is rather cheeky, and the whole place has the feel of an overcrowded student canteen. But the cheap pizza is highly praised, and the lively, convivial atmosphere of i Due Forni is the perfect primer for a night out on the town. ▸ Open 12:00 - 24:00.

Japanese

Sushi Imbiss am Wasserturm H-2, Rykestraße 45, Prenzlauer Berg, MU Senefelderplatz, tel. +49 30 44 04 57 06. Discounts at happy hour (weekdays 13:00 - 16:00) crowd this five-table joint, but there's takeout as well. Sake Maki, California Make and vegetarian items all run about €3. All sushi-lovers speak some Japanese, but if you need any explanations, the Japanese owner/chef and staff speak English. ▸ Open 12:00 - 23:00, Sat, Sun 13:00 - 23:00. Closed Mon. €€.

Latin-American

Frida Kahlo H-1, Lychener Straße 37, Prenzlauer Berg, MU Eberswalder Straße, tel. +49 30 445 70 16, www.fridakahlo.de. A gastronomic homage to the legendary Mexican painter, the tastefully decorated Frida Kahlo is one of the most established eateries in Prenzlauer Berg. Try the deliciously authentic Mexican dishes, the special brunch snacks or some hard-hitting cocktails. ▸ Open 09:00 - 02:00, Fri, Sat 09:00 - 03:00.

Cafés

Anna Blume H-2, Kollwitzstraße 83, Prenzlauer Berg, MU Senefelder Platz, tel. +49 30 44 04 87 49, www.cafe-anna-blume.de. Named after a lyrical poem and with a sexy Mucha flower girl on the wall, this is an excellent, relaxed café. Serving up coffee, cakes, crepes, meals and the usual Berlin breakfasts, it's one of the better spots for people-watching or just reading. Intriguingly, it also sells flowers (*blume*) from the connected shop next door - and the smell of coffee and fresh flowers combines very well. ▸ Open 08:00 - 02:00.

Schall und Rauch G-1, Gleimstraße 23, Prenzlauer Berg, MS/U Schönhauser Allee, tel. +49 30 443 39 70, www.schall-und-rauch.de. ‚Noise and Smoke' in trendy Prenzlauer Berg is a great place to enjoy a breakfast buffet on lazy weekend mornings, or to down specials at the bar at night together with a variety of artists, students and young in-crowd. But it's more than just a café - the adjacent eponymous hotel has modern and affordable double rooms. ▸ Open 08:00 - 02:00.

Nightlife

Bars

August Fengler G-1, Lychner Straße 11, Prenzlauer Berg, MU Eberswalder Straße, www.augustfengler.de. A neighbourhood bar if there ever was one, there aren't just football tables downstairs, but a *Kegelbahn* (bowling alley) too. The team behind the big wooden bar is friendly, and the seating area is an undulating mass of coats and groups of friends yakking up a storm. DJs play classics, soul, disco, and funk in the small back dance room. ▸ Open 19:00 - 05:00.

Santiago H-2, Wörtherstraße 36, Prenzlauer Berg, MU Eberswalderstraße, tel. +49 30 441 25 55. This cocktail lounge overlooking Kollwitzplatz has a somewhat dodgy interior - leather sofas and glitzy girl statues that wouldn't look out of place in a nightclub - but manages to get the punters in with a range of attractively priced offers like cocktails during the happy (before 20:00) and blue hours (from 01:00). There's an eat-all-you-can dinner on Wednesday and brunch at weekends. ▸ Open 16:00 - 03:00.

Weinstein H-1, Lychener Straße 33, Prenzlauer Berg, MU Eberswalder Straße, tel. +49 30 441 18 42, www.weinstein.eu. Mature adults savour an evening of conversation and wine at this cosy wine tavern. Pick a meal to help anchor the 40 vintages available by the glass (kitchen closes at 23:30). There are few better places to try the outstanding German whites that usually don't make it out of the country and there's also a selection of sherries. ▸ Open 17:00 - 02:00, Sun 18:00 - 02:00.

Wohnzimmer H-1, Lettestraße 6, Prenzlauer Berg, MU Eberswalder Straße, tel. +49 30 445 54 58, www.wohnzimmer-bar.de. If the TV show Friends had to relocate to Berlin, Phoebe would vote to hang out here. The large ‚living room' is ideally set up for meeting people. Stools, chairs and GDR-era tables are constantly being shuffled to make room for the rumpled but attractive crowds. There's coffee and pastries in the morning. ▸ Open 09:00 - 04:00.

Clubs

Geburtstagsklub H-2, Am Friedrichshain 33, Prenzlauer Berg, MU Schillingstraße, tel. +49 30 42 02 14 05, www.geburtstagsklub.de. Twenty year-olds fill the two low-ceilinged rooms of this otherwise spacious cellar. Don't miss the mad monthly drag party with Nina Queer. Like at many clubs in Berlin, you have to brave the walk down a dark courtyard. ▸ Open Fri, Sat, Sun 23:00 - 06:00.

Soda Club Schönhauser Allee 36, Prenzlauer Berg, MU Eberswalder Straße, tel. +49 30 44 31 51 55, www.soda-berlin.de. In the courtyard of the Kulturbrauerei complex, Soda is a fun club with an enthusiastic regular crowd. Salsa is played on Thursdays and Sundays (€5, starting off with a lesson hour), and on Fridays and Saturdays there's five dancefloors with electro, crossover, black and dance classics - girls get in for free until 01:00. ▸ Open Thu-Sun 19:00 - 04:00.

Sightseeing

Landmarks

Kulturbrauerei G-2, Schönhauser Allee 36-39, Prenzlauer Berg, Ⓜ U Eberswalderstraße, tel. +49 30 44 31 51 52, www.kulturbrauerei.de. Follow the yellow brick wall of this 19th-century brewery and you'll eventually find an entryway into a nightlife Mecca that resembles an Old Town setting. A cobblestone pedestrian way courses through the center of the complex, whose 25,000 square meters is filled with bars, restaurants, clubs, galleries and a cinema. The only thing you won't find is freshly brewed beer; Schultheiss shut down production here in 1967. *Soda Club* is a both a restaurant and popular nightclub, and *Kesselhaus* and *Alte Kantine* host anything from readings to theater to live bands. A hub of nightlife for the hipsters of Prenzlauer Berg.

Museums

Zimmermeister Brunzel's Mietshaus H-1, Dunckerstraße 77, Prenzlauer Berg, Ⓜ S Prenzlauer Allee, tel. +49 30 445 23 21, www.ausstellung-dunckerstrasse.de. Gentrification has transformed most Prenzlauer Berg apartments into IKEA dream houses; this fascinating museum apartment shows master carpenter Brunzel's apartment in its original state, with extensive information about its construction, utilities, furnishing and Berlin's often squalid living conditions around 1900. ▸ Open 11:00 - 16:30. Closed Wed, Sun. Admission €2.

Parks and Gardens

Mauerpark G-1, Eberswalder Straße, Prenzlauer Berg, Ⓜ U Eberswalder Straße, www.mauerpark.info. The immensely popular ‚Wall Park' has no greenery to speak of; this is an intensely used piece of former border strip that's especially busy on Sundays when it hosts a flea market and the immensely popular *Bearpit Karaoke* (every second Sunday from 15:00), where anyone can grab the microphone and sing for a crowd of thousands.

Shopping

Books

Shakespeare & Sons H-1, Raumerstraße 36, Prenzlauer Berg, Ⓜ S Prenzlauer Allee, tel. +49 30 40 00 36 85. An excellent little living-room style bookshop that came to Berlin from Prague, selling used and new English-language books as well as coffee, tea, cakes and snacks. Leaf through a classic novel while munching on banana bread. ▸ Open 10:00 - 20:00. Closed Sun.

Tourist information

Prenzlauer Berg Tourist Information Centre G-1/2, Schönhauser Allee 36, Prenzlauer Berg, Ⓜ U Eberswalder Straße, tel. +49 30 44 35 21 70, www.tic-berlin.de. Prenzlauer Berg's district tourist information centre is inside the Kulturbrauerei complex. Staff advise about events, nightlife, guided tours and sights. ▸ Open 11:00 - 19:00.

Berlin Helmholtzplatz
Raumerstr. 8, 40301770
Berlin Boxhagener Platz
Krossener Str. 19, 34711150
www.tausche.de
tausche

Fashion & Shoes

Cijada G-1, Danziger Straße 15, Prenzlauer Berg, Ⓜ U Eberswalder Straße, tel. +49 30 48 49 77 16, www.cijada.de. An independent shoe boutique with a range of hand-picked, high-quality footwear. Brands include Birkenstock, Paco Gil, Minnetonka, Fred de la Bretoniere and Bronx. ▸ Open 11:00 - 19:00, Sat 11:00 - 14:00. Closed Sun.

tausche Taschen H-1, Raumerstraße 8, Prenzlauer Berg, Ⓜ U Eberswalder Straße, tel. +49 30 40 30 17 70, www.tausche.de. Bags with exchangeable flaps in over 100 different designs. Two flaps are included and various insets equip the bag to suit any occasion. ▸ Open 10:00 - 20:00, Sat 10:00 - 18:00. Closed Sun.

Markets

Flohmarkt am Mauerpark G-1, Eberswalder Straße, Prenzlauer Berg, Ⓜ U Bernauer Straße, www.mauerparkmarkt.de. Vegan snacks, bicycles, crafts, clothing, alternative souvenirs and antiques - it's all available (though not particularly cheap) at the weekly Mauerpark flea market. Arrive early to avoid the crowds. ▸ Open Sun 09:00-15:00.

Berlin In Your Pocket: in print, online and for iPhone

Thanks to a large Turkish community and more hippies, anarchists and alternative folks than you can shake a didgeridoo at, Kreuzberg feels neither east nor west. It was the black sheep of West Berlin, literally parked in a dead-end corner by the Wall and left alone to play loud music and draw on the walls. By now, the protesting students of 1968 have grown grey alongside Turkish immigrants. Every year since 1987, Kreuzberg relives its 15 minutes of fame during the May Day traditional political demonstrations, which invariably turn into a long night of stone-throwing and burning cars. Otherwise, Kreuzberg is all about backgammon at the men's clubs, café-sitting on the Landwehrkanal, and ambling down the popular Oranienstraße and Bergmannstraße drags. This chapter also covers areas southwest of Kreuzberg: **Treptow** west along the river Spree, the **Tempelhof** airport-turned-park which attracts thousands of visitors in summer, and the upcoming **Neukölln** district. Here, the *Kreuzkölln* area around Reuterstraße is increasingly attracting hipsters, artists, artsy boutiques and weird nightlife spots.

Getting there
The Bergmannstraße area is best reached from Friedrichstraße on the U6; get off at Mehringdamm, or at Platz der Luftbrücke for the Viktoriapark. For the gritty end of Kreuzberg hop on the U8 from Alexanderplatz and pop up at Kottbusser Tor; the *Kreuzkölln* bars are within pub-crawling distance of Schönleinstraße and Hermannplatz stations, on the same line.

Pocket Walk
Kreuzberg is best explored in two parts. From Platz der Luftbrücke station walk west to Viktoriapark and climb the Kreuzberg for views north over the city. Descend eastwards and walk along genteel Bergmannstraße, perhaps visiting a café or the market hall, before walking south to Columbiadamm for access to the the former Tempelhof airport, now a wonderful park.

Symbol key

Child friendly	Facilities for the disabled
Home delivery	Live music
No credit cards	Nearest S/U-Bahn station
Outside seating	Non-smoking room
Take away	Internet
Wi-Fi	

Dinner price guide

The number of euro symbols in our restaurant, café and nightlife reviews indicates the approximate price level based on a main course with a glass of wine.

€€€€ Expensive; more than €30 per person.
€€€ Not cheap; €20-30 per person.
€€ Middling; from €10-20 per person.
€ Cheap; less than €10 per person.

Start a tour of the fascinating eastern end of Kreuzberg at Kottbusser Tor U-Bahn station; wander north through 'little Istanbul' to Oranienplatz and follow the park to the Engelbecken pond where you can follow the former Wall along Bethaniendamm to Mariannenplatz, a centre of Berlin subculture. Stroll down Waldemarstraße to café-lined Lausitzerplatz and cross under the U-Bahn line to lively Görlitzer Park. From here, go north into Falckensteinstraße to discover more of Kreuzberg's street art, or head south along Ohlauer Straße and across Landwehrkanal into the trendy 'Kreuzkölln' district for cupcakes and cocktails.

Restaurants & Cafés

Asian

Kimchi Princess **H-4, Skalitzer Straße 36, Kreuzberg, Ⓜ U Görlitzer Bahnhof, tel. +49 163 458 02 03, www.kimchiprincess.com.** Though this is not Berlin's first Korean restaurant, Kimchi Princess is being hailed by the capital's gourmets as the first one to serve authentic dishes - that is, not drowned in cream and sauce like most Asian food here. It's indeed excellent and spicy, and as a result it can be difficult to find a free table in the evening. ▸ Open 18:00 - 01:00. €€.

Pagode **F-5, Bergmannstraße 88, Kreuzberg, Ⓜ U Mehringdamm, tel. +49 30 691 26 40, www.pagode-thaifood.de.** Simply one of the best Thai restaurants in town, and awarded by the Thai embassy in Berlin as one of the best in Germany. It feels crowded, steamy and noisy, but that's just part of the authentic self-service atmosphere; wait till you sink your teeth in the fantastic food. All the Thai classics are present, as are some other Asian dishes. If you like it hot, just ask and they'll make it hot. ▸ Open 12:00 - 24:00. €.

Sarod's **Friesenstraße 22, Kreuzberg, Ⓜ U Gneisenaustraße, tel. +49 30 69 50 73 33, www.sarods.de.** Kreuzberg's friendliest Thai restaurant. The food is excellent, healthy, fresh and gluten-free, with some unusual options on the extensive menu such as the *Lab* (minced meat with roast rice, coriander and spices). There's a good selection of wines too. ▸ Open 12:00 - 24:00, Sun 14:00 - 24:00. €€.

Austrian

Jolesch **H-4, Muskauer Straße 1, Kreuzberg, Ⓜ U Görlitzer Bahnhof, tel. +49 30 612 35 81, www.jolesch.de.** Excellent Austrian cuisine and wines in a quirky corner of Kreuzberg. Jolesh, a classy yet good-value restaurant, is named after 'Tante Jolesch', a Viennese auntie who loved to cook. It serves a great *Wiener Schnitzel* as well as dishes like goulash and *Kaiserschmarrn*, chopped-up pancakes with sugar and fruit jam. Breakfast is served until 17:00, so take your time for brunch. ▸ Open 11:00 - 24:00, Sat, Sun 09:30 - 24:00. €€.

Riehmers **F-5, Hagelbergerstraße 9, Kreuzberg, Ⓜ U Mehringdamm, tel. +49 30 78 89 19 80, www.riehmers-restaurant.de.** The elegant and understated Riehmers restaurant serves a fantastic *Wiener Schnitzel* (breaded veal escalope), amongst seasonal dishes like roast pike perch and crepes with roast apricots. The dining room is kept bare and simple, while the calm summer terrace in the garden overlooks a historic apartment complex for Prussian officers. ▸ Open 18:00 - 01:00. Closed Mon. €€-€€€.

Bergmann Curry

Bergmann Curry **Bergmannstraße 88, tel. +49 50 56 51 54, www.bergmann-curry.com.** A friendly fast food joint with quality organic curry wurst, fries, meat balls and more. The menus include the upmarket ‚Rockefella' dish (served on porcelain, with a glass of champagne), and there's vegan wurst and burgers, and sweet potato chips too. If you dare, ask for a drop of searing hot chilli sauce from the bottles on the ‚board of pain'. ▸ Open 12:00 - 24:00, Sun 12:00 - 21:00.

Fast food

Curry 36 **F-5, Mehringdamm 36, Kreuzberg, Ⓜ U Mehringdamm, tel. +49 30 251 73 68, www.curry36.de.** If you want to eat Currywurst the proper Berlin way, you'll order yours here boiled and naked. It looks a little pale in comparison to the ones with their pink skins on, but you might earn an iota of respect from the hard-boiled *Fraus* who work the stand. Other proletarian Berlin specialities you can take to the stand-up outdoor tables are the fried burgers, *Boulette*. ▸ Open 09:00 - 05:00. €.

Glück To Go **F-5, Friesenstraße 26, Kreuzberg, Ⓜ U Gneisenaustraße, tel. +49 30 623 10 04, www.glueck-to-go.de.** This unusual fast-food restaurant was inspired by a trip to India's Gujarat province and serves happiness to go: delicious protein-rich vegetarian/vegan burgers, fries with ayurvedic spices, and healthy juice concoctions; all home-made with organic and regionally sourced ingredients. You won't miss the meat patty at all in the delicious Orient Express burger, with beetroot, spices and special date chutney; and there's three other burgers to choose from. Finish off with a sweet, low-fat Shrikhand joghurt. Set menus from €6-8,50. ▸ Open 10:00 - 20:00, Sat, Sun 12:00 - 20:00. €.

Sarod's

Jolesch

Vicolo Bergmann

Italian

Gorgonzola Club **H-4, Dresdener Straße 121, Kreuzberg, Ⓜ U Kottbusser Tor, tel. +49 30 615 64 73, www.gorgonzolaclub.de.** An *In Your Pocket* favourite, serving the best and biggest carpaccio we've had, and with lovely seating in the green outdoor courtyard. The prices for the fresh pastas, pizzas and other dishes are by all means reasonable, and there are additional changing dinner options too. For after-dinner cocktails simply go next door to the Würgeengel bar. ▸ Open 18:00 - 24:00, Fri, Sat 18:00 - 02:00. €.

Osteria N°1 **F-5, Kreuzbergstraße 71, Kreuzberg, Ⓜ U Mehringdamm, tel. +49 30 786 91 62, www.osteria-uno.de.** Next to Viktoriapark, this neighbourhood fixture has a fantastic *Biergarten* bordered by lemon, cherry and olive trees. Classic regional cuisine is prepared by cooks from different parts of Italy, and everything is made fresh to order. Order a pasta with Toscan hare ragout or salmon in orange sauce. Perhaps the most child-friendly place in town, too. Choose from six different lunch menus from €7. ▸ Open 12:00 - 01:00. €€.

Vicolo Bergmann **F-5, Bergmannstraße 88, Kreuzberg, Ⓜ U Mehringdamm, tel. +49 30 69 00 44 88, info@vicolo-bergmann.de, www.vicolo-bergmann.de.** Tasty Sicilian food is served at Vicolo: quality meat and seafood with fresh vegetables and herbs. The small uncluttered space, with randomly exposed bricks, is decorated with newspaper cuttings and even has basil growing on the counter. Don't miss the sinfully sweet Sicilian desserts. ▸ Open 12:00 - 24:00. €€.

Cafés

Café am Engelbecken **H-4, Michaelkirchplatz, Mitte, Ⓜ U Heinrich-Heine-Straße, tel. +49 157 88 94 70 91, www.cafe-am-engelbecken.de.** Opposite the impressive, partially-restored St. Michael's church is a pond, sunk into a depressed parkway that was once a canal. Hidden away at the reedy edge of the pond is a sunny terrace café. View of the water and the rustling tall green reeds makes this a peaceful respite from all things city while still being near the

heart of Kreuzberg (and can you believe this area was once filled with rubble, and part of the Wall's death strip?). Pizza and snacks are served and they offer a choice of cocktails. ▸ Open 10:00 - 24:00. €.

Café Rix **Karl-Marx-Straße 141, Neukölln, Ⓜ U Karl-Marx-Straße, tel. +49 30 686 90 20, www.caferix.de.** A fabulous café that's completely worth the trek out to Berlin's shabbiest and most multicultural neighbourhood. Many entertainment halls were built in this part of town, attracting thousands of Berliners at weekends. Rix is one of the last remaining entertainment halls in the area, dating from 1880 and all gold twirls, high ceilings and big mirrors. It's just perfect for sipping coffee and munching on cake, or for a well-prepared meal. Combine it with a concert at the adjacent Heimathafen or a visit to Rixdorf's old village square and the lush Körnerpark. ▸ Open 09:00 - 24:00, Fri, Sat 09:00 - 01:00, Sun 10:00 - 24:00. €€.

Kuchenkaiser **G/H-4, Oranienplatz 11-13, Kreuzberg, Ⓜ U Moritzplatz, tel. +49 30 61 40 26 97, www.kuchenkaiser.de.** A melting pot for Berliners, their friends and visitors since 1866, the "cake emperor" is famous for its cakes and tarts, which were sent exclusively by the Hindenburg to New York in the 1920s. The restaurant also has a wide variety of German specialities and international dishes. There's a great choice of breakfasts, a low-cost lunch, and a huge brunch on Sundays. A must-see in Berlin. ▸ Open 09:00 - 24:00, Fri, Sat 09:00 - 01:00. €€.

Osteria N°1

Weltrestaurant Markthalle

Weltrestaurant Markthalle **H-4, Pücklerstraße 34, Kreuzberg, Ⓜ U Görlitzer Bahnhof, tel. +49 30 617 55 02, www.weltrestaurant-markthalle.de.** Within a historic market hall building, the rustic Markthalle restaurant is long and tall, with wainscoting, simple wooden furniture and a bar that locals belly up to. It's a restaurant that doesn't let its looks carry it: the kitchen takes pride in its nouvelle takes on German and Austrian standards. The menu changes weekly, but count on *Spätzle*, *Schweinebraten* (braised pork), and apple strudel. Breakfasts run from Russian to American-style, and as late as 16:00. After dinner, check if anything is going down in the club in the cellar. ▸ Open 10:00 - 24:00. €€.

Salon Schmück **I-4, Skalitzer Straße 80, Kreuzberg, Ⓜ U Schlesisches Tor, tel. +49 30 69 00 47 75, www.salon-schmueck.de.** A crash-pad style neighbourhood café that looks like a time-warp from the 1970s with its funky furniture. The food is fresh however, and you can dig into breakfast, lunch and fantastic home-made juice - just make your own selection of fruit. Come evening and there are cocktails and DJs, and even the occasional living room concert. ▸ Open 09:00 - 02:00, Fri, Sat 09:00 - 05:00. €.

Pagode

A much-loved self-service restaurant with inexpensive, mouthwateringly delicious and award-winning Thai cuisine.

Nightlife

Bars

Freischwimmer **I-5, Vor dem Schlesischen Tor 2a, Kreuzberg, Ⓜ U Schlesisches Tor, tel. +49 30 61 07 43 09, www.freischwimmer-berlin.de.** After a five-minute walk south of Schlesisches Tor, follow the bush-lined pathway left after the petrol station to this peaceful bar that hovers over a side canal. In summer use the comfy deck lounges; in cooler weather heat lamps help keep away the chill. ▸ Open Mo-Fri from 12:00, Sat, Sun from 10:00.

Galander **F-4, Grossbeerenstraße 54, Kreuzberg, Ⓜ U Mehringdamm, tel. +49 30 28 50 90 30, www.galander-berlin.de.** A wonderfully classic bar, furnished with 1920s-style fauteuils and woodwork. Apart from beer, Galander has an excellent selection of wine and can mix some quite unusual cocktails for you. Occasionally the piano is played too. Recommended for a quality night out. ▸ Open 18:00 - 02:00. Closed Mon.

Milchbar **H-4, Manteuffelstraße 41, Kreuzberg, Ⓜ U Görlitzer Bahnhof, tel. +49 30 611 70 06, www.milchbar-berlin.de.** It is the foam of beer that lines the upper lip of patrons of Milchbar, home to punks, students, and aging alternative types still loyal to the sounds of punk, ska, thrash, and hard rock. The crowd is not so anarchic as to not want to cheer on their teams when football games are screened. The murals and dark décor can heighten your wooziness if you've had one round too many. ▸ Open 17:00 - 04:00.

Roses **H-4, Oranienstraße 187, Kreuzberg, Ⓜ U Kottbusser Tor, tel. +49 30 615 65 70.** It's all so tactile here - both the fuzzy red walls and people packed end to end in this tiny kitsch-o-mat. The music is clubby and the upbeat energy makes it a good choice for a solo night out. The ladies behind the bar are favourites of *Siegessäule*, the local gay listings magazine. ▸ Open 22:00 - 04:00.

Würgeengel **H-4, Dresdener Straße 122, Kreuzberg, Ⓜ U Kottbusser Tor, tel. +49 30 615 55 60, www.wuergeengel.de.** Pronounced *woor-ge-en-gel* and named after Bunuel's film *El Ángel Exterminador*, this dark brown bar is a great place for a drink and a snack. The tapas list has a dozen tasty options, while the cocktail menu has over 50 reasons to delay your departure. To round it all off, there are Cuban and other cigars to enjoy. ▸ Open from 19:00. €€.

Clubs

Junction Bar **F-5, Gneisenaustraße 18, Kreuzberg, Ⓜ U Gneisenaustraße, tel. +49 30 694 66 02, www.junction-bar.de.** Squeezing onto the bat-cave of a stage is fine for a four-man blues band, but *dios mio* for the ten-piece Afro-Cuban ensembles. Live music draws an ethnically and generationally mixed audience every night of the week. After the band, a DJ keeps everyone tight on the dance floor. ▸ Open 20:00 - 04:00.

SO36 **H-4, Oranienstraße 190, Kreuzberg, Ⓜ U Görlitzer Bahnhof, tel. +49 30 61 40 13 06, www.so36.de.** Live bands perform nearly every night at this institution that's home to any alternative lifestyle, from gay Turks and metal heads to hardcore punks and goth vegans. On popular club nights, like the Ugly X Bad Taste Party or Gayhane, show up before 01:00 or face a long wait with the friendly door staff. ▸ Check their website for opening times.

Watergate **I-4, Falckensteinstraße 49, Kreuzberg, Ⓜ U Schlesisches Tor, tel. +49 30 61 28 03 94, www.watergate.de.** This club right on the edge of the Spree River is great for spying on Universal Music headquarters across the water, even if the crowd here would never dance to their pop artists. Also in view (and right next door) is the turreted Oberbaumbrücke, which makes an odd backdrop to techno, house, or any guest DJ on the upper or lower dance floors. ▸ Open Wed, Fri, Sat from 24:00 Admission €8-12.

Wild at Heart **H-5, Wiener Straße 20, Kreuzberg, Ⓜ U Görlitzer Bahnhof, tel. +49 30 610 74 701, www.wildatheartberlin.de.** Rock on. One of Berlin's rare live-music venues brings in hardcore and punk bands touring the planet. There's an occasional DJ night as well. Booths and seating in the front rooms make conversation manageable. Bring earplugs for the stage area. ▸ Open 20:00 - 04:00.

Würgeengel

Sightseeing

Landmarks

Spreepark **Neue Krugallee, Treptow, Ⓜ S Plänterwald, www.berliner-spreepark.de.** From 1969 to 1991, the Kulturpark was the GDR's only permanent amusement park. After a restart in 1992 as the Spreepark it ran for another decade, but has been abandoned since closing in 2001, with the remaining attractions decaying as nature reclaims the park. The café by the entrance is open daily, and the GDR-era choochoo train (€2) chugs around the park twice per hour. The rest of the park can only be seen on a lively German-language guided tour; reservations recommended. Many illegal sightseers, who risk hefty fines, are chased out of the park every day by security guards and their delighted dogs. ▸ Open 11:00 - 18:00. Tours on Sat 13:00, Sun 13:00. 16:00. Tours €15/10.

Tempelhof Airport Terminal (Zentralflughafen) **Platz der Luftbrücke, Ⓜ U Platz der Luftbrücke, tel. +49 30 200 03 74 41, www.tempelhoferfreiheit.de.** The Tempelhof Airport terminal, now used for events, was constructed in the 1930s, but the interior of the massive 1300-metre-long complex was never finished. The history is impressive: the Prussian army paraded here, in 1909 Orville Wright broke records by flying higher and longer than ever before, and in 1948 the first round of the Cold War was won when the Allied airlift beat the Soviet blockade. Two-hour English-language tours take you from the apron and the main hall, down into the air raid bunkers and onto the roof. ▸ Guided tours in English on Sat at 15:00, Sun at 10:30. Tickets €12/9, children €6.

Museums

Berlinische Galerie **G-4, Alte Jakobstraße 124-128, Kreuzberg, Ⓜ U Hallesches Tor, tel. +49 30 78 90 26 00, www.berlinischegalerie.de.** This museum for modern art, photography, architecture, and artist archives concentrates 120 years worth of creativity forged in Berlin. Artists represent the Secession, Expressionist, Dada, New Objectivity movements, and those representing the divided Berlin. Giants of German art include Heinrich Zille, Otto Dix, George Grosz, Hannah Höch and Wolf Vostell. ▸ Open 10:00 - 18:00. Closed Tue. Admission €8/5, first Mon €4. Free for visitors under 18.

Deutsches Technikmuseum (Technology Museum) **F-4, Trebbiner Straße 9, Kreuzberg, Ⓜ U Gleisdreieck, tel. +49 30 90 25 40, www.sdtb.de.** Unmistakably recognisable by the Douglas C-47 plane suspended above the aeronautics building, this huge complex set in and around an old freight station rail depot has technical exhibitions and a park with a Dutch windmill and a brewery. Their Spectrum science centre is closed for renovations until mid-2013. ▸ Open 09:00 - 17:30, Sat, Sun 10:00 - 18:00. Closed Mon. Admission €6/3,5.

Jüdisches Museum Berlin (Jewish Museum) **F-4, Lindenstraße 9-14, Kreuzberg, Ⓜ U Hallesches Tor, tel. +49 30 25 99 33 00, www.jmberlin.de.** The famous zinc-plated fortress designed by Daniel Libeskind contains a moving perspective on the many ways in which German life and Jewish history are intricately interwoven. The interior contains dark 'voids' for contemplation, but the exhibits cover much more than the Holocaust chapter of Jewish history in Germany. ▸ Open 10:00 - 20:00, Mon 10:00 - 22:00. Admission €5/2,50, special exhibitions €4/2, combined ticket €7/3,50.

Martin-Gropius-Bau **F-4, Niederkirchnerstraße 7, Kreuzberg, Ⓜ S/U Potsdamer Platz, tel. +49 30 25 48 60, www.gropiusbau.de.** Dusty pink brick, gilded mosaics, stucco work run riot - this is the work of Great Uncle Gropius, not Walter 'Bauhaus' Gropius. Completed in 1881, the beauty once held an arts and crafts museum. Today the Martin-Gropius-Bau hosts excellent touring exhibitions. ▸ Open 10:00 - 19:00. Closed Tue.

Topographie des Terrors (Topography of Terror) **F-4, Niederkirchnerstraße 8, Kreuzberg, Ⓜ U Kochstraße, tel. +49 30 25 45 09 50, www.topographie.de.** Beside a souvenir-ravaged stretch of Wall, the cellars are all that remain of the palace housing the Reich Security (SS) Office. The fascinating exhibition in the trench and the adjacent pavilion and park uses models, texts and photos to highlight the topography of the Third Reich police, military and security groups that were headquartered in this area, and discusses their organisation and the terror they cast across Europe. The most important lesson to take home is perhaps that these organisation only managed to thrive thanks to the continuous cooperation of many institutes and citizens. Set aside 2-3 hours to do it justice. ▸ Open 10:00 - 20:00. Admission free.

Parks & Gardens

Görlitzer Park **H/I-5, Ⓜ U Görlitzer Bahnhof.** A lively 14-hectare park on the site of a railway station that was demolished after it was cut off from its destination by the Wall. The 'Görli' has fields, lakes, a petting zoo, the Edelweiss beer garden and a thriving trade in smokable flora. On a balmy afternoon, there's no better place to be in Kreuzberg.

Tempelhofer Freiheit **F/G-6, Columbiadamm, Ⓜ S/U Tempelhof, www.tempelhoferfreiheit.de.** Where else can you run for five minutes with your eyes closed? Berlin's most amazing space is this historic and wide open airport just south of Kreuzberg, which closed in 2008 and was opened as a park in 2010. Now the runways and taxi lanes are used by bikers, inline skaters and kiteboarders; the fields around them are used by rare breeding skylarks (from April-July), picnickers, barbecuers, artists, kite-flyers, gardeners and dog-walkers. There's even a *Biergarten* at the northern end. Note that turnstiles allow exit from the park after closing time as well. Also easily accessed from U-Bahn stations Tempelhof and Boddinstrasse. ▸ Open March 06:00-19:00, April & Sept 06:00-20:30, May & Aug 06:00-21:30, June & July 06:00-22:30, Oct 07:00-19:00, Dec, Jan 07:30-17:00, Feb & Nov 07:00-18:00. Admission free.

Viktoriapark **F-5, Kreuzbergstraße, Kreuzberg, Ⓜ U Mehringdamm.** Before heading up the hill, crowned with Karl Friedrich Schinkel's memorial to the Napoleonic Wars, go to the corner of Kreuzbergstraße and Großbeerenstraße for an eyeful of the park's waterfall, constructed in the late 19th century. Kids stripped to their knickers wade in between the shallow, tiered levels. 65 metres above, people lean back against the graffiti-laden monument to take in the panoramic view. Towards the back of the park, past a playground and off the Bacci field, is the Golgotha beer garden. Running parallel to Kreuzbergstraße is a small petting zoo where children and goats get to meet and bleat.

Berlin In Your Pocket: in print, online and for iPhone

Foto: Nina Straßgütl

Berlinische Galerie

The Berlinische Galerie, Berlin's museum of modern art, photography and architecture, is one of the newest museums in the German capital and collects art from Berlin dating from 1870 to the present day – with both a local and international focus. Its outstanding collections include Dada Berlin, the Neue Sachlichkeit (New Objectivity) and the Eastern European avant-garde. The art of the divided and reunified city of Berlin provides another focus.

Tobias Zielony „Jenny Jenny"
21 June until 30 September
Artist Tobias Zielony (*1973 Wuppertal), who lives in Berlin, is one of the most talked-about German photographers of his generation. In a major one-man show, the Berlinische Galerie will be the first venue to exhibit his latest project "Jenny Jenny" (2011-2013), which includes two photo-animations. Also on show will be the series "Trona" (2008), which Berlin's museum of modern art was fortunate to acquire for its photography collection.

Tobias Zielony, Schulter, from the series: Jenny Jenny, 2013, © Tobias Zielony, Courtesy of the artist and KOW, Berlin

Katja Strunz. Drehmoment (Viel Zeit, wenig Raum). Vattenfall Contemporary 2013
Until 2 September
Berlin artist Katja Strunz (*1970 Ottweiler) is this year's winner of Vattenfall Contemporary 2013. For the exhibition at Berlinische Galerie she has created a spatial composition, dominated by two monumental metal objects. With this work, she continues her exploration of folding and collapsing time and space and transfers it to the museum's entrance hall.

Ari Benjamin Meyers. Chamber Music (Vestibule)
Until 28 April 2014
The foyer of the Berlinische Galerie will resonate for a year with the sound of an aria. "Chamber Music (Vestibule)" – a music installation by Ari Benjamin Meyers has been composed by the artist especially for this space. How far the work unfolds and whether it can be heard at all depends on the behaviour of each visitor and the overall activity in the space.

12x12 The IBB-Videolounge at the Berlinische Galerie
Until 5 May 2014
Over the course of one year, the IBB video lounge will present 12 artists who have drawn attention to themselves with innovative use of the media film and video in recent years. The selected artists are both established representatives of contemporary video art as well as emerging artists who have scarcely made their mark on Berlin's active art scene. A new, changing programme of different works will be compiled each month.

Shopping

Books

Buchhandlung Moritzplatz G-4, Prinzenstraße 85 (Aufbau Haus), Kreuzberg, tel. +49 30 61 67 52 70, www.buchhandlung-moritzplatz.de. A good selection of quality books on Berlin, literature, art and architecture. The wonderful Aufbau Haus also has artist's equipment and a café. ▸ Open 10:00 - 20:00, Sat 10:00 - 18:00. Closed Sun.

Fashion & Shoes

Konzept86 H-4, Skalitzer Straße 86 (The Wye), Kreuzberg, Ⓜ U Görlitzer Bahnhof, contact@konzept86.com. A concept store inside the hip The Wye art house, with unique and high-quality clothes for women and men, accessories and shoes by Berlin-based designers. ▸ Open 12:00 - 20:00. Closed Mon, Sun.

Markets

Marheinekehalle F-5, Marheinekeplatz, Kreuzberg, Ⓜ U Gneisenaustraße, www.meine-markthalle.de. The old *Markthalle XI* from 1892 is now an upmarket and slightly sterile venue for the organic market with about 50 stalls selling everything from bread to cheese and fruit, much of it from the region. ▸ Open 08:00 - 20:00, Sat 08:00 - 18:00. Closed Sun.

Markthalle IX H-4, Eisenbahnstraße 42, Kreuzberg, Ⓜ U Görlitzer Bahnhof, tel. +49 30 577 09 46 61, www.markthalle9.de. Everything you need for a picnic in Görlitzer Park. A historical market hall from 1891 has been revived with a weekly market, selling organic fruit and vegetables, cheese, bread, meat and smoked fish. There are snack stands with picnic tables, a children's corner and a restaurant that serves a delicious organic lunch menu every day. Every second Sunday of the month, visit the wonderful *Handmade Supermarket* crafts market (www.handmade-supermarket.de), with 60 local designers and artists, food and drinks. ▸ Open Fri, Sat 10:00-18:00. Admission free.

Souvenirs & Gifts

Herrlich F-5, Bergmannstraße 2, Kreuzberg, Ⓜ U Mehringdamm, tel. +49 30 784 53 95, www.herrlich-online.de. Set the ladies loose in the mall; men will find what they really need at Herrlich, a quirky men's gift shop stocking body care products, clothing accessories, barbecue gear and essential gadgets. ▸ Open 10:00 - 20:00. Closed Sun.

Leisure

Wellness

Arena Badeschiff I-5, Eichenstraße 4, Treptow, Ⓜ S Treptower Park, tel. +49 30 533 20 30, www.arena-berlin.de. Berlin's funkiest bathing destination is the hull of a container ship in the Spree River with an open-air bar and beach area next to it. It pays homage to the time when Berlin had 15 such bathing facilities along the river at the turn of the 20th century. Covered in winter, **after April** it's wide open to 360° views of the river and city. Bring your inflatables if you're not a good swimmer - the 325-square-meter heated pool is over two meters deep. Massages, towels and flipflops are available. ▸ Open 08:00 - 24:00. Admission from €12 for 3 hours.

Liquidrom: Urban Bathing

Liquidrom F-4, Möckernstrasse 10, Kreuzberg, Ⓜ S Anhalter Bahnhof, tel. +49 30 258 00 78 20, www.liquidrom-berlin.de. Try out 'urban bathing' at this combination of a deluxe spa with quirky extras. Apart from the impressive domed warm salt water pool there are saunas and Roman baths, a sunny Japanese terrace with an onsen bath, massages and a hamam ceremony. Float around to a relaxing light and music show with live music performed on Thursdays to Saturdays. Music includes DJ sets, Jazz, electronic music, harp and didgeridoo. ▸ Open 10:00 - 24:00, Fri, Sat 10:00 - 01:00. Admission from €19,50 for 2 hours.

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APP

CITY TOUR 1 & 2 — 3 h

3 h Spree Tour underneath the bridges past prominent landmarks

Departure Schlossbrücke – Charlottenburg

10:10 h | 11:00 h | 14:15 h | 15:00 h

CITY TOUR 3 — 1 h

1 h sightseeing tour in the heart of Berlin Government District – Nikolaiviertel

Departure Bhf. Friedrichstrasse, Reichstagufer

10:15 h | 10:50 h | 11:40 h | 12:30 h | 13:15 h

14:00 h | 14:45 h | 15:30 h | 16:15 h | 17:00 h

© visitBerlin/Scholvien

After flowing a bucolic 400km from the Czech border region to Berlin, the river Spree goes out with a bang before disappearing into the Havel near Spandau. Cutting a curvy passage through Berlin, it provides tremendous views of the Dom cathedral, the Reichstag and the government district and the Berlin Wall near Ostbahnhof. Some of the Spree is diverted along park-lined canals, and Berlin has more bridges than Venice or Amsterdam.

Short city centre cruise tours depart regularly from the boat landings near the Museumsinsel, Friedrichstraße, Hauptbahnhof station and the Haus der Kulturen der Welt in the park. The 3.5-hour Brücke (bridges) tours cruise past all the city centre sights, down Landwehrkanal and past the beautiful Oberbaumbrücke. Here we list your options with English narration. Sail away.

Reederei Riedel **E-3, Willy-Brandt-Straße (Ludwig-Erhard-Ufer jetty), Mitte, Ⓜ S/U Hauptbahnhof, tel. +49 30 693 46 46, www.reederei-riedel.de.** Riedel's panorama ships offer 1-2 hour *Stadtkernfahrt* city centre tours up to 20 times per day, departing from near Hauptbahnhof, the Haus der Kulturen der Welt and Märkisches Ufer. The 1-3 hour *Spreefahrt* tour goes around all the main sights. The 2-3.5 hour *Brückenfahrt* tour sails several times daily from Märkisches Ufer. There's an additional evening cruise. ▸ Tickets €10-20/5-10.

Wasserkutsche **I-4, Schlesische Straße 28, Kreuzberg, Ⓜ U Schlesisches Tor, tel. +49 30 12 09 47 19, www.wasserkutsche.com.** Rent a cute electric-powered houseboat for a day, a weekend or a week and explore the rivers and lakes around Berlin (no sailing into the city centre unfortunately). The cabin has a kitchen, sound system and beds for four people. From €190 per day, no licence required.

MS Schiffskontor

MS Schiffskontor, tel. +49 30 246 47 99 60, www.schiffskontor.de. Rent an antique boat and sail just about anywhere on Berlin's waterways. There's the rustic open-top Oskar from 1930, or rent the elegant Italian Afrodite, a pink beauty from 1950 in which you'll look dashing with dark sunglasses and a flowing scarf.

Reederei Winkler

Reederei Winkler **F-3, Reichstagufer jetty, Mitte, Ⓜ S/U Friedrichstraße, tel. +49 30 349 95 95, www.reedereiwinkler.de.** Winkler's one-hour *Stadtrundfahrt* tours depart up to 10 times daily from beside Friedrichstraße station. The 3-3.5 hour *Spreefahrt* river tours from Schlossbrücke in Charlottenburg take in the river beyond the city centre sights. There are evening departures too, and check the website for the special culinary and party cruises. ▸ Tickets: Stadtrundfahrt €10,50/8, Spreefahrt €19-20/17-18.

There's a story on every corner in Berlin, though you'll need a guide to hear it. It's a huge, fascinating city, but lacks a real Old Town-type area. Attractions are fairly far-flung, so plan your itinerary and get acquainted with the excellent public transportation. If you're here for a limited amount of time, we highly recommend you join one of the **walking or cycling tours** to get your bearings and see the main sights.

Bus, Car & Plane Tours

It's unnarrated, but Berlin's cheapest bus tour is on the double-decker N°100 and 200 buses. These run between Alexanderplatz and Zoologischer Bahnhof, with N°100 passing through Tiergarten and past the Reichstag, and N°200 taking a more southern route via the embassy district and Potsdamer Platz, before both lines converge on Unter den Linden.

Berlin City Tour, tel. +49 30 68 30 26 41, www.berlin-city-tour.de. Open-top doubledecker buses circle the main sights in about two hours; the green ones have live English commentary; red ones have audioguides. Board at Kurfürstendamm 14, the Town Hall or Brandenburger Tor and hop-on or hop-off as you like. There's also a narrated 'Wall & Lifestyle' tour taking in the main Wall sights and some trendy districts. ▸ Tickets €15/12/5.

City Circle Buses, tel. +49 30 88 56 80 30, www.berolina-berlin.com. Several tour bus companies operate hop-on hop-off double-decker bus City Circle tours lasting 2.5 hours. Buses run every 10 minutes, with narration in a dozen languages. Kurfürstendamm 220 and Alexanderplatz are the two main starting points, but you can get on and off at some 20 stops. Besides Berolina, the operators are Berliner Bären Stadtrundfahrt (www.bbsberlin.de), BEX Sightseeing (www.berlinerstadtrundfahrten.de) and Bus Verkehr Berlin (www.bvb.net). ▸ Open 10:00 - 18:00. Tickets €22/11. Afternoon ticket (from 13:30) €16,50/11.

Lino City Tours, tel. +49 30 80 57 84 70, info@lino-city-tours.com, www.lino-city-tours.com. Cruise around Berlin's main sights in style, seated in an open-top Piaggio Ape Calessino vehicle. Knowledgeable guides drive these cute Italian three-wheeled cars around the city, offering general one-hour highlights tours to longer tailor-made trips around Berlin's most interesting suburbs. Call to book, or look for them on Pariser Platz near Brandenburger Tor. ▸ Tours from €25 per person.

Walking & Cycling Tours

Several companies offer free or affordable city centre highlight tours, lasting about 4 hours and lead by enthusiastic English-speaking expats, hoping you'll tip generously and sign up for more of their specialised tours. Booking is usually not required, just show up at the meeting points (usually at Hackescher Markt, and 30 minutes beforehand at Zoo Bahnhof). We've also included several fun specialised tours.

Alternative Berlin Tours, Ⓜ S/U Alexanderplatz, tel. +49 162 819 82 64, www.alternativeberlin.com. After the 4-hour Real Berlin tour (daily at 12:00, €12) you'll know all about Berlin's subcultures, the graffiti and stencil art, street artists like Thierry Noir and Mr.6, the gay scene, and the squatter and anti-fascist movements. Knowledgeable resident artists poke at Berlin's dark, fuzzy underbelly on a variety of walks; there's also a free short walks (daily at 11:00 and 13:00), twilight tours, a street art workshop and an 'anti-pubcrawl'. ▸ Tickets €10-20.

Trabant Tours

© ilovebutter, Wikipedia

East Germany's cuddly two-stroke, 26-horsepower, plastic "people's car", recognisable by the 1950s design, the characteristic *bem bem bem* sound and the cloud of blue smoke, has by now nearly been wiped off the streets of Berlin. Let off some fumes while seeing the sights.

Trabi Safari **F-3, Zimmerstraße 97, Mitte, Ⓜ U Stadtmitte, tel. +49 30 27 59 22 73, www.trabi-safari.de.** Drive your own Trabant; you are quickly shown how to operate the revolver-like gearshift and then off you go on a slow, one-hour trip through the eastern part of town in a column of up to six farting *Trabis*. Choose from a fleet of 100 colourful cars. ▸ Open 10:00 - 18:00. Tickets €79-89 per person.

Trabi XXL Trabant Tours, tel. +49 174 150 50 20, www.trabi-xxl.de. Take in Berlin's sights, and be gaped at like royalty, in a wacky 5-seat stretch-limo Trabant. Tours last from 1-2 hours to a full day. ▸ Tours: 1 hour €160, 2 hours €260.

BERLINER UNTERWELTEN E.V.

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Berlin from below

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Berlin Locals, **tel. +49 177 238 00 02, info@berlinlocals.com, www.berlinlocals.com.** Tailor-made private city tours on foot, by minibus or by limo, lead by local German historians who can often relate historical events to their family's personal experience. Tour themes range from The 1920s, Cold War and Third Reich to street art, railways and architecture. The guides are also licenced for Sachsenhausen concentration camp. Tours are in English or German. ▸ Tours €40 per hour, €250 per day.

Berlin on Bike **G-2, Knaackstraße 97, Prenzlauer Berg, Ⓜ U Eberswalderstraße, tel. +49 30 43 73 99 99, anmeldung@berlinonbike.de, www.berlinonbike.de.** Choose from two regular guided bike tours: the *Berlin Wall Tour* (Tue, Thu, Sat at 11:00) covers 11km of the Wall and includes a visit to one of the last border watchtowers; the *Berlin´s Best* tour (Mon, Wed, Fri, Sun at 11:00) rolls past the city's main sights. Themed tours of the east, Kreuzberg and nightlife are on demand. Tours start in court 4 of the Kulturbrauerei, or join at the Berliner Bank on the corner of Eberswalder Straße and Schönhauser Allee. There's also regular bike rental. Reservations required. ▸ Tickets €19, including bike.

Bowie Walk, **berlin@feelinggloomy.com, www.feelinggloomy.com.** World-famous musician David Bowie had nearly succumbed to fame, drugs and paranoia when he moved to Berlin in 1976. He recovered well, partied hard with Iggy Pop and made three albums before his departure in 1980, including the epic *Heroes*. Every month the 'Feeling Gloomy' collective conducts a fun two-hour walking tour past Bowies house in Schöneberg and the studios where he recorded, highlighting the Berlin adventures of the White Duke. ▸ Tickets €5.

Berlin on Bike

Brewer's Berlin **F-3, Ⓜ S/U Friedrichstraße, tel. +49 177 388 15 37, www.brewersberlintours.com.** The 6-hour *Best of Berlin* (10:30) and the 3-hour Express (13:00, tip only) tours are great introductions to the city. *Potsdam* tours take place on Wed and Sat (09:20). The meeting point for all tours is the Bandy Brooks ice cream shop near Friedrichstraße station; no bookings are required. ▸ Tickets €15/12.

City Segway Tours **G-3, Panoramastraße 1a, Mitte, Ⓜ S/U Alexanderplatz, tel. +49 30 24 04 79 91, berlin@citysegwaytours.com, www.citysegwaytours.com.** Hop on a self-balancing Segway scooter and - after a short driving lesson - zip around Berlin on the four-hour general tours (10:00 and 15:00, €67), or the shorter afternoon tour (15:00, €43). Drivers license required.

Fat Tire Bike Tours **G-3, Panoramastraße 1a (Fernsehturm), Mitte, Ⓜ S/U Alexanderplatz, tel. +49 30 24 04 79 91, www.fattirebiketoursberlin.com.** Grab a bike at the base of the TV Tower and spin through town on the relaxed 4,5 hour daily city tour (11:00, from May also 16:00), the *Wall* tour (Mon, Thu, Sat at 10:30), the *Third Reich* tour (Wed, Fri, Sun at 10:30) and the *Raw* tour (counter culture; Tue, Fri, Sun at 10:30); these tours cost €24/22 and no booking is required. Call or email ahead for the *Potsdam* tour.

Finding Berlin Tours **I-4, Schlesische Straße 29/30 (2nd courtyard), Kreuzberg, Ⓜ U Schlesisches Tor, tel. +49 176 99 33 39 13, info@findingberlin-tours.com, www.findingberlin-tours.com.** Remarkable 3-4 hour tours on foot or using stylish classic racing bikes. Themes include avant-garde and street art scenes, and unique tours of Turkish and Vietnamese Berlin whereby locals tell you about their lives and neighbourhoods. ▸ Tickets €18-25.

InBerlin Tours, **tel. +49 174 157 48 36, info@inberlin.de, www.inberlin.de.** Specialised walking tours for small groups: along the Wall in Mitte or Treptow, or through the Kreuzberg, Prenzlauer Berg, or Friedrichshain districts. Tours take place at fixed times and days, or made to suit your needs; reservations required. ▸ Tickets €10-16.

Insider Tours **G-3, Ⓜ S Hackescher Markt, tel. +49 30 692 31 49, www.insidertour.com.** Insider's enthusiastic guides go a long way to make you feel like an insider on the daily 4-hour tours; starting from AMT Coffee at Hackescher Markt (10:30 and 15:00, €12/10). Other tours are the *Wall*, *Third Reich*, *Sachsenhausen*, *Potsdam*, *Jewish Berlin* and a pub crawl.

Isherwood's Neighbourhood Tour **D-4/5, Ⓜ U Nollendorfplatz, tel. +49 151 25 22 03 42, brendan@10777tours.com, www.cabaret-berlin.com.** In the 1920s Berlin was a veritable 'Sodom on the Spree' with 85,000 lesbians, open prostitution and an outrageous club and revue theatre scene. The young gay British writer Christopher Isherwood wove his experiences in *Goodbye To Berlin* (of *Cabaret* fame). This excellent one-hour tour through Isherwood's Berlin around Nollendorfplatz is spiced up with quotes and references to notorious 1920s party-goers like Anita Berber and Marlene Dietrich. ▸ Tours Sat at 11:00, and on demand. Book ahead. Tickets €12.

New Berlin Tours **F-3, Pariser Platz, Mitte, Ⓜ S/U Brandenburger Tor, tel. +49 30 51 05 00 30, www.newberlintours.com.** Free 3,5-hour city centre tours, popular with young visitors who are just as interested in each other as in the sights along the route (daily 11:00 and 13:00 from the Brandenburger Tor Starbucks). They additionally offer various themed tours and pub crawls. ▸ Tickets free/€12.

Original Berlin Walks, **tel. +49 30 301 91 94, www.berlinwalks.de.** The daily 3,5-hour *Discover Berlin* tour starts at the Weihenstephaner restaurant on Hackescher Markt at 10.30 and 14:00. Check online for themed tours like *Third Reich*, *Cold War*, *Queer Berlin*, *Jewish Berlin* and *Potsdam*. ▸ Tickets €12/10.

Slow Travel Berlin Tours, **www.slowtravelberlin.com/tours.** The Berlin blog dedicated to 'slow travel' offers quirky cultural-historical tours. In small groups you explore Berlin's most fascinating districts. The Neukölln tour, for example, takes in 19th century amusement parks, immigration history, hidden gardens, gentrified streets and the urban village of Rixdorf. ▸ Tickets €15.

Berlin Underworlds

© Berliner Unterwelten e.V/Frieder Salm

The Berlin Underworlds Association allows you to experience Berlin´s history from an unusual perspective, through its underground installations dating back to the Cold War, World War II, or earlier. Though predominantly in the spaces below Berlin´s Gesundbrunnen station, tours are also offered in several other complexes that are usually not accessible to the public. With prior notification, tours can be arranged for groups of minimum 20 people at other times.

The following tours are held in English; they also take place in German and Spanish at other times, and various tours are held in Dutch, French, Italian and Danish.

Tour 1: Dark Worlds – A bunker from the Nazi era. Mar-Nov Mon 11:00 and 13:00, Wed-Sun 11:00; Dec-Feb Mon 11:00 and 13:00, Thu-Sun 11:00.

Tour 2: From Flak Towers to Mountains of Debris. Enter a devastated albeit fascinating underground world. Apr 1 - Oct 31, Thu-Sun 16:00.

Tour 3: Subways, Bunkers, Cold War – a political history of Berlin from an unusual perspective.
Mar-Nov Tues 11:00 and 13:00, Wed-Sun 13:00; Dec-Feb Thu-Sun 13:00.

Tour M – Breaching the Berlin Wall: Subterranean escapes from East to West Berlin. Mar-Nov, Sun 10:30.

For further information see www.berliner-unterwelten.de. Tickets €10/8, Tour M €13/10 (no reservation required); the meeting point is at the southern entrance of the Gesundbrunnen U-Bahn station at Brunnenstraße 105, tel. +49 30 49 91 05 17.

© Berliner Unterwelten e.V/Stefan Gier

Ackerstraße F/G-2
Adalbertstraße H-4
Admiralstraße G/H-5
Albrechtstraße F-3
Alexanderplatz G-3
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