



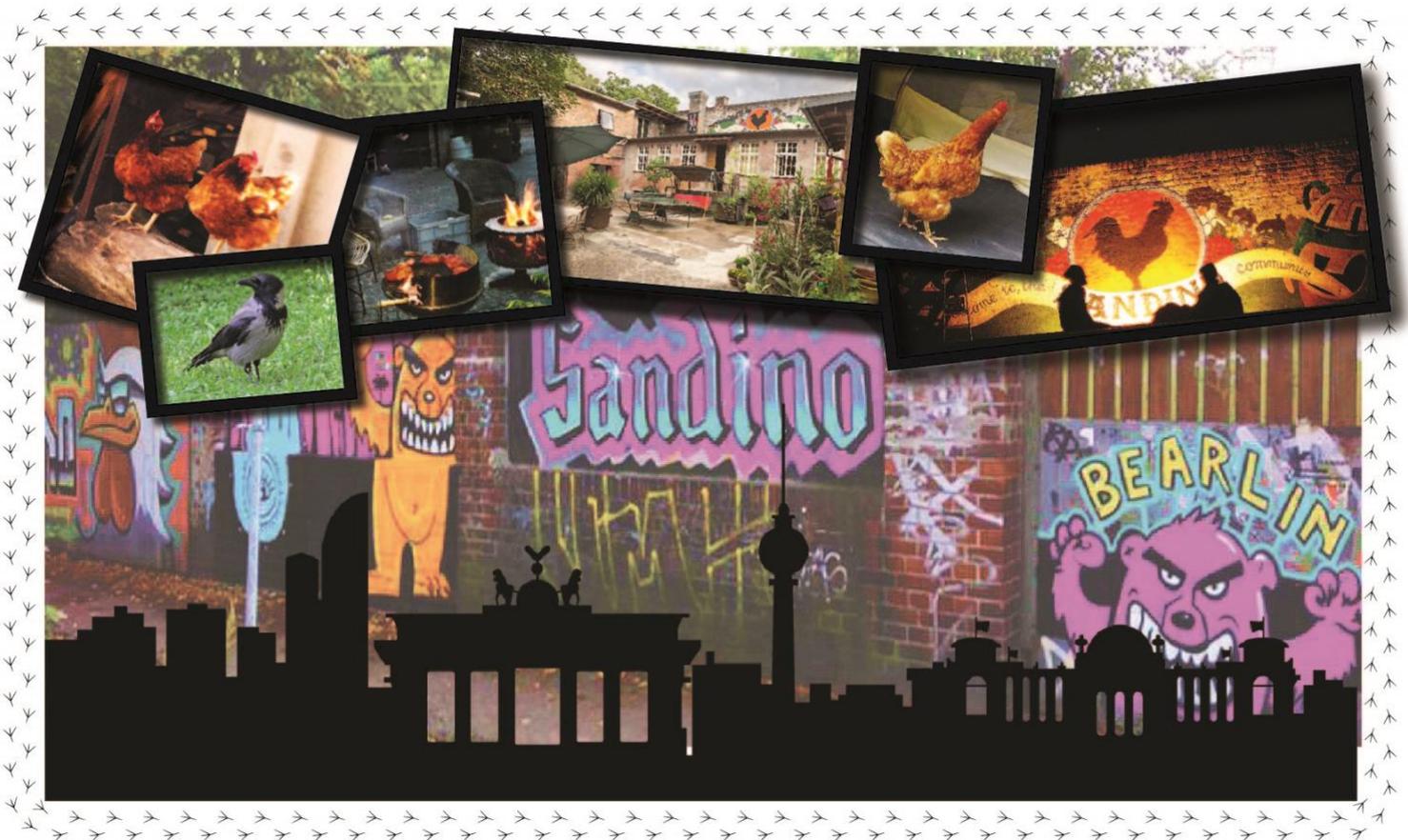
SANDINO HOSTEL



Berlin survival guide 3.3



Information about the hostel, the district and Berlin





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Sandino Hostel Berlin

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13055 Berlin, Germany

Tel: +49 163 1623232



Welcome

The Sandino staff warmly welcomes you to the Sandino Hostel, a community for travelers and open-minded people. This guide offers you information about the hostel, our district and Berlin to make your stay in this metropolis even more interesting. For questions, you can always ask one of the Sandino team, but we hope to give you a good start! Please be aware that in Germany supermarkets and shops are closed every Sunday and on public holidays (so best to prepare yourself in advance). We wish you a pleasant stay at the Sandino Hostel!

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

▪ CHECK-OUT

Please check-out of your room by 11:00 AM on your scheduled date of departure. You are welcome to store your luggage at Reception and continue to use the common areas after check-out if your planned time of departure is later in the day.

▪ INTERNET

Wifi can be used for free. Network: SandinoHub
Please check with Reception for the current password

▪ WASHING MACHINE/DRYER

Both a washing machine and dryer are available. The fee for using the washer or dryer is € 4, 00 per load. Please ask at reception for laundry service.

PRACTICAL RESOURCES

The most important places, such as supermarkets, the bakery and the post office are marked on the map on the next page.

▪ IMPORTANT CONTACTS

Card blocking (bank cards)	116116
Police	110
Fire department, ambulance	112
Roadside assistance	222222
Taxi	+49 30202020

*To find an appointment with a Doctor or Dentist, please consult Doctolib.de



ACTIVITIES AT THE SANDINO HOSTEL

▪ BIKE RENTAL

With relatively little traffic, lots of bike paths and green parks, Berlin is an amazing city to explore by bike! We don't rent bikes. Under the following link you'll find an overview of the most important providers of bike rentals and other sharing systems in Berlin:

<https://www.berlin.de/en/getting-around/>

▪ MUSIC

Do you think you have musical talent? Do not hesitate and ask the reception for a guitar, ukelele or didgeridoo and entertain yourself and the guests with some 'virtuouso' music lines. Instruments are available at the reception.

▪ BARBECUE

You are welcome to borrow a barbecue from reception to enjoy with friends and other guests. (Please purchase your own charcoal from the supermarket for use with the barbecue).

▪ PING-PONG

Do you want to relax and to play a game of ping-pong? That is possible! Paddles and balls are available at the reception.

▪ GAMES

Just chill out and play a card or board game or chess. Various other games are also available at reception.

▪ TRAMLINES TO THE HOSTEL

Sandino hostel is easily reached by public transport. There are two direct lines to the city center (Mitte) tram **M5** and tram **M6**, both via the Alexanderplatz. If you leave the hostel and turn left you will find the nearest stop of tram M5 on the Konrad-Wolf Straße (50 meters to the left). This tram goes all the way to the Hauptbahnhof (Hbf – Central Station). Tram M6 station is a few minutes further. Leave the hostel and go right and right again on the Mittelstraße and follow this street until you reach the tram stop. Purchasing a ticket will allow you to travel on trams, trains and buses – you only need one ticket for all!

The trams to/from the hostel run all night!



SIGHTS in our district

■ STASI PRISON



During the GDR-era, the museum was a prison, used for opponents of the communist GDR regime. During the tour you'll visit the cell complexes, torture chambers and interrogation rooms that have been in use until 1989. They give a good impression of the consequences of "psychological torture". It will be an unforgettable experience.

Address: Genslerstraße 66, Berlin
Exhibition is FREE and open daily 9:00 AM – 6:00 PM
English tours are €8 (Students €4) and offered daily at 10:40 AM, 12:40 PM & 2:40 PM
www.stiftung-hsh.de/en

■ JEWISH CEMETERY

This Jewish cemetery is the second largest Jewish cemetery in Europe. It was dedicated in 1880.

Address: Herbert-Baum-Straße 45, Berlin
Opening times: MON-THU 7:30 AM-5 PM/FRI: 7:30 AM-2:30 PM/SUN: 8 AM- 4 PM (closed on Saturdays.)

■ LAKES

The lakes on the north side of the hostel are the perfect place for a picnic, beer or swimming. Surrounded by old beach paths, it has a romantic ambiance and is a lovely place to relax.

■ PARK PRENZLAUER BERG

The park is located in the eastern part of Berlin. At its highest point the park is 89 meters above sea level. From 1963, when all allotments were cleared, they brought in trucks and Trummer-Straßenbahn (a tram that was intended to transport debris) about 5 million cubic meters of rubble to the landfill. In 1967 they began with the planting of approximately 30 hectares with different kinds of trees from all over Europe. After they had planted the land and constructed a nature trail was completed. The landfill was named Volkspark Prenzlauer Berg in 1969.



■ DIE GÄRTEN DER WELT

With gardens from Japan, Korea and China, it's hard to remember you are in Berlin when walking around the beautiful "Gardens of the World". Enjoy relaxing on a sun chair in the tranquil park or try and navigate your way around the Labyrinth! The gardens are a perfect way to spend a sunny afternoon, and it's only 30 minutes east of the hostel via the M6 tram.

Address: Eisenacher Straße 99, Berlin
Admission: € 7
Open daily from 9 AM until Nightfall
(Take M6 tram to Landsberger Allee/Blumberger Damm stop, and it's a short walk from there)
www.gaertenderwelt.de/en/

LUNCH / DINNER TIPS

■ LANDLADEN KASTAVEN

In need of a few items for dinner? No need to go to the supermarket, as this cozy organic shop just around the corner sells fresh fruits & veggies as well as other biological and organic food, drinks and care products. They also have an adorable pet turtle in the shop and the owner is a dear friend!

■ SUPPE & STULLE

One door down from Landladen, the Suppe & Stulle canteen is ideal for lunch, offering delicious homemade soups and hearty German dishes with vegetarian options as well.

Konrad-Wolf Straße 74, Landladen open Mon-Fri 10 AM-7 PM & Sat 9 AM-2 PM and Suppe & Stulle open Mon-Fri 11 AM-2 PM

■ SANDINO BISTRO

You are on holiday, and you do not feel like cooking? No worries! The solution is this great "Döner" place just around the corner of the hostel, offering pizza, pasta, salads and of course the classic Berlin döner kebab. They even sell Ben & Jerry's ice cream!

Konrad-Wolfstraße 72, Open 24 hours!

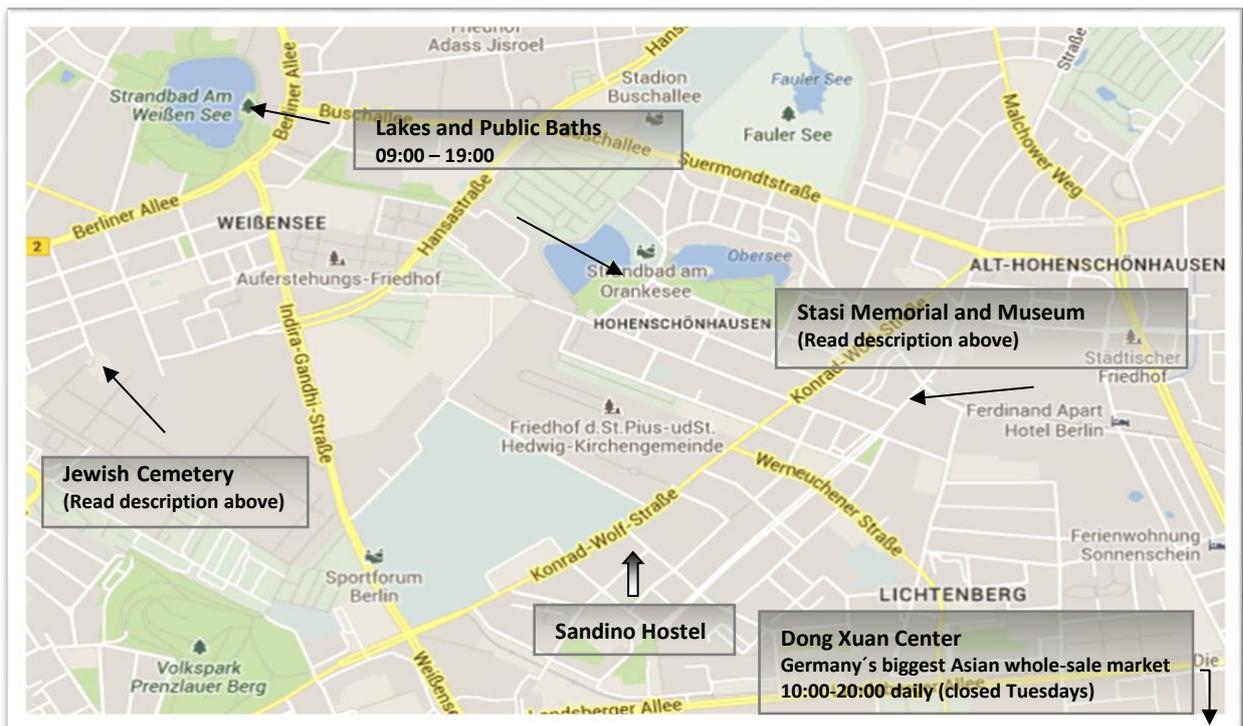
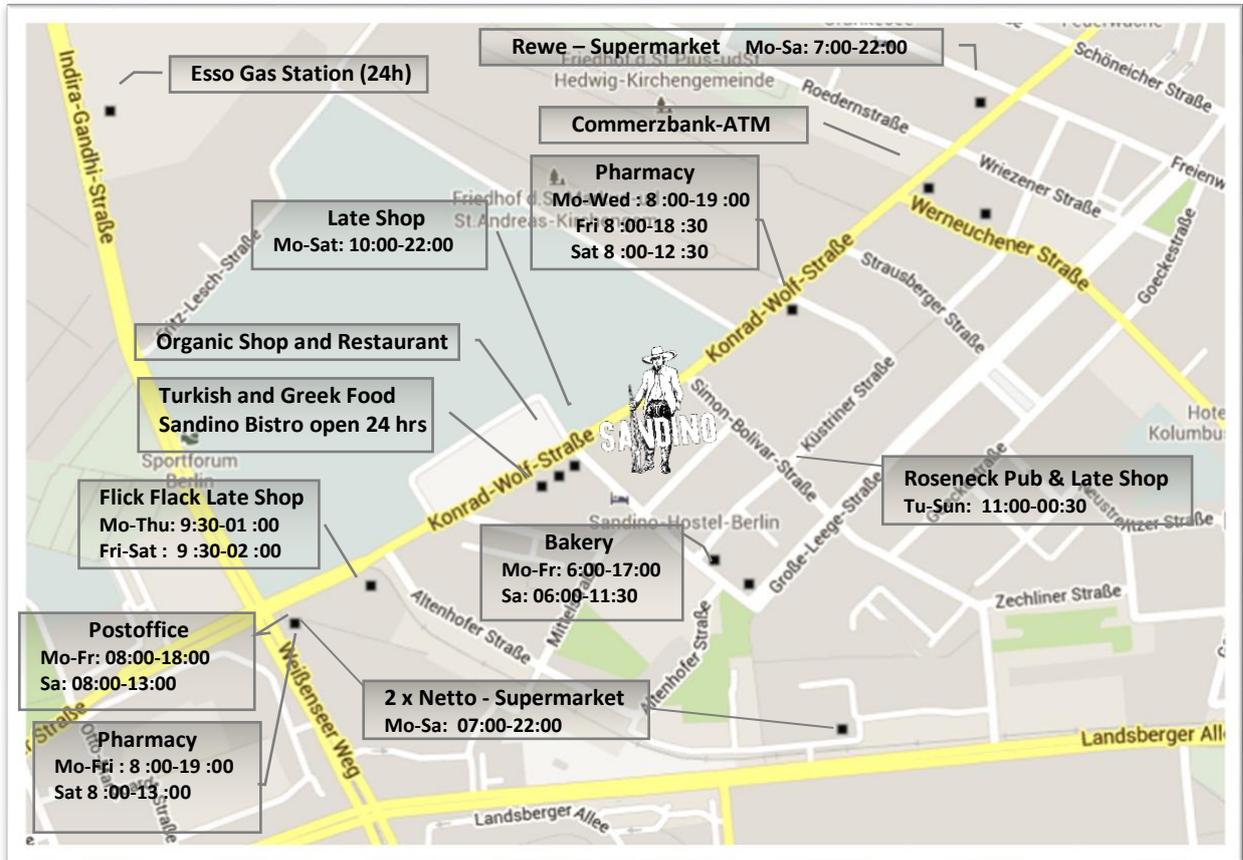
■ ROSENECK RESTAURANT & BAR

Delicious authentic and inexpensive Vietnamese cuisine served in a cute and cozy beer garden! Just a 5-minute walk away. There is also a late shop inside which is even open on Sundays.

Küstriner Str 45, Open 11 AM-12:30 AM Tues-Sun (closed Mon)



PRACTICAL INFORMATION & SIGHTS





HOW TO SURVIVE...as a Berlin Tourist

PUBLIC TRANSIT SYSTEM

■ WHERE TO BUY A TICKET

The easiest way to buy a ticket is to download the BVG app where you can buy and keep your ticket right on your phone!

www.bvg.de/en/subscriptions-and-tickets.

Tickets are also available at all stations, in vending machines and at customer service (Kundenzentrum) at the larger stations. All stations are equipped with vending machines. Often you can find them on the platforms and in the halls of the (subway) stations. It is also possible to buy a ticket on the tram, but you can pay only with coins.

■ BERLIN'S PUBLIC TRANSPORT ZONES

Zones A and B covers the center and the suburbs of Berlin. Zone C covers the cities and villages next to Berlin including Potsdam (the capital of Brandenburg), Schönefeld Airport and Oranienburg (the location of the former concentration camp Sachsenhausen).

The Berlin public transport system hosts some historically grown catches that are difficult to understand for foreigners like some weird differences between S-Bahn and Tram for instance. Best work around is the easy-to-use [BVG Tickets App](#) where you can buy and carry your tickets online.



■ TICKETS AND PRICES

■ The Unlimited 'Deutschland' Ticket

Travel on all types of public transit and local trains throughout Germany for just €49 per month! A new promo to reduce CO2 emissions!

**Ticket works per calendar month, and the subscription can be canceled monthly. although you must cancel it before the 10th day of a month to not be charged for the following month. *Requires an EU or UK address. bahn.de/deutschland-ticket.*

- **Short Trip Ticket:** Costs € 2,40 and is valid for a maximum of three S- or U-Bahn stations, or a maximum of six stations by bus or tram.

- **Single Ticket:** With this option you can use the public transport for 2 hours and it is possible to transfer or take a break. It is not allowed to travel back.

- Zone A and B: € 3,50
- Zone B and C: € 4,00
- Zone A, B and C: € 4,40

- **24-Hour Single Ticket:** (day pass, valid from the moment of purchase)

- Zone A and B: € 9,90
- Zone B and C: € 10,40
- Zone A, B and C: € 11,40

- **Seven-Day Ticket:**

- Zone A and B: € 41,50
- Zone B and C: € 42,50
- Zone A, B and C: € 49,00

- **24-Hour Group:** (1 ticket for max. 5 persons, valid for 1 day, you get it only at S-Bahn stations though it's valid everywhere)

- Zone A and B: € 31,00
- Zone A, B and C: € 33,00

- **Berlin CityTourCard:** (tourist card, with discount for several attractions)

- Zone A and B: € 22,10 (48 hours)
- Zone A and B: € 33,00 (72 hours)

- **Bikes:** you can take for an additional fee in the S-Bahn, the U-Bahn and the Tram and if there is enough space also in the Buses (the driver decides).



CITY TOURS

Berlin, with its rich history and diverse social scene has many guided tours to fit your interests, some even for free. The following links showcase the eclectic options available:

www.berlin.de/en/tourism/guides/

www.guruwalk.com/berlin

■ FREE GUIDED WALKING TOUR

These tours are offered by enthusiastic guides, with a great passion for Berlin. At the end of the tour, you'll know the basics of Berlin with its rich history and monuments. Although the tour is free, the guides work on tips so you will be asked for a voluntary contribution at the end. There are multiple tour providers, Sandeman's being a popular one. The start is at the Brandenburg Gate, near the Starbucks Coffee.

Every day at 11 AM & 2 PM (English)

www.neweuropetours.eu/sandemans-tours/berlin/free-tour-of-berlin/

■ FREE ALTERNATIVE WALKING TOUR

These unique tours will give you an authentic local experience of Berlin's famous underground subcultures, alternative lifestyles, street art and graffiti and music scene. There are multiple tour providers showcasing different alternative elements of the city. Walkative is a popular one. The tour meets in front of the Red Town Hall (Rotes Rathaus) just lookout for the yellow umbrella!

Every day at 10:30 AM and 3 PM (English)

freewalkingtour.com/berlin/alternative-berlin/



■ BUS 100

The bus runs from Zoologischer Garten to Alexanderplatz and back. Bus 100 is a regular service especially for tourists. You will pass a number of famous attractions including the Reichstag, the Siegesäule, Tiergarten and Bellevue. With a ticket of the BVG, you just get on and hop off wherever you want. The bus comes al-most every 5 minutes, perfect! Bus 100 used to be the first bus line which connected the west with the east of Berlin.

■ THE UNDERGROUND WORLD OF BERLIN



Beneath Berlin's streets you will find more than subway lines, subway stations and the sewer, but also bunkers, and tunnels dug by East Berliners, cells and even simple clinics. This interesting underground world is mapped by a group of enthusiastic guides and divided in several interesting tours.

Address: Brunnenstrasse 108a (South Hall of Gesundheitsbrunnen metro station, near the exit direction Humboldthain, Brunnenstrasse).

<https://www.berliner-unterwelten.de>

■ BERLIN BY BOAT



When the sun is shining a Berlin boat tour is one of the most relaxing and enjoyable ways of seeing the city. Because Berlin has so many waterways running through it, in the form of rivers and canals, it allows for many options to see the city by boat. Boat tours are very popular and run from March through to October.

For more information about tours, prices and starting points, take a look at:

berlin.de/en/tourism/rivercruises-boattrips/



TOP TOURIST SIGHTS IN BERLIN

1 BERLIN WALL

You can find Berlin's recent history everywhere in the city; the stones in the road indicate where the Wall once stood. Two parts of the Wall are still standing, as a horrifying memory of the separation of Berlin that lasted many years. The best place to see what the Wall looked like is at the:

- East Side Gallery
(*Mühlenstraße close to Warschauer Straße*)
- Wall memorial and museum (free admission) depicting how East-Germans attempted to escape to the West. Impressive!
(*Bernauer Straße 111*)
- Checkpoint Charlie Museum
(*Friedrichstrasse 43-45*)



Domaine public, Berlin Wall Memorial site Bernauer Straße 04, black and white, CC0 1.0

CITY CENTER ATTRACTIONS

(These are within a half hour radius from each other)

2 REICHSTAG



Germany's parliament building was built in the nineteenth century and has a unique glass dome, open to visitors. When you're on the roof you'll have a beautiful view of Berlin. Admission to the Reichstag is free, but you will have to make a reservation online in advance.

Address: Platz der Republik 1

Public transport: U55, S1, S2, S25 Bus 100

Reichstag/Bundestag

3 BRANDENBURGER TOR & UNTER DEN LINDEN



At the Pariser Platz you can find the often-photographed entrance gate of Berlin, the Brandenburg Tor. The very stately gateway that you now see is the second version built in 1788. The gateway is located at the end of the glorious road Unter den Linden. This lane offers a treasure of beautiful buildings such as the Alte Bibliothek, the prestigious Adlon Hotel and the Berliner Staatsoper.

Address: Pariser Platz

Public transport: S1, S2, S25, U55 Brandenburger Tor

4 HOLOCAUST MONUMENT



©Chabad - Memorial to the murdered Jews of Europe, CC BY-NC-SA 3.0

The 19.000 m² large Holocaust-Denkmal near the Brandenburger Tor exists out of 2711 enormous anthracite colored stone blocks, in memory of the 6 million Jews who were murdered during World War II. The height of the blocks varies between 0.2 and 4.7 meters, growing in height as you make your way into the memorial. Next to the monument there is a documentation center.

Address: Ebertstraße

Public transport: S1, S2, S25, U55 Brandenburger Tor

5 POTSDAMER PLATZ



©Ansgar Koenig - CC BY-SA 4.0 Potsdamer Platz, Berlin, 00055 Berlin, 13055 Potsdam, 13055

New Berlin has succeeded to give Potsdamer Platz back the liveliness it once had. The buildings surrounding the square have daring architecture and the place is packed with theatres, shops, cinemas and restaurants.

Address: Potsdamer Platz

Public transport: S1, S2, S25, U2

Potsdamer Platz Bhf



MORE CITY CENTER ATTRACTIONS

(These are within a half hour radius from each other)

6 ALEXANDERPLATZ



The Alexanderplatz was the somewhat forced center of East-Berlin and is still a meeting point for younger people. The most important attraction, the 368-meter high Fernsehturm, is located very near this square.

Address: Alexanderplatz

Public transport: M7, M5, U2, U5, U8

7 HACKESCHE HÖFE: JUGENDSTIL AND PATIOS



This little district has its own distinctive atmosphere, thanks to the Jugendstil facades you can find there. In this neighborhood there are eight patios packed with bars and restaurants.

Address: Hackesche Höfe

8 BERLINER DOM AND THE MUSEUM ISLAND



The impressive Berliner Dom was built at the beginning of the previous century. The church is profusely decorated on the inside. The building was heavily damaged during the war, but it has been completely rebuilt between 1975 and 1992. The Dom is located on the Museum Insel. At a short walking distance, you can find most of Berlin's museums such as the Pergamon museum with life size buildings from antiquity.

Address: Am Lustgarten 1

Public transport: M2, M4, M5, M6, [Bhf/Dirksenstr.](#)

9 BERLIN PALACE (HUMBOLDT FORUM)

A former Royal palace considered to be a major work of Prussian Baroque architecture; the rebuilding of this structure was fraught with controversy. The reconstruction was completed recently in 2020 (as it was damaged during WW2 and then further demolished by east German authorities in 1950). It now houses the Humboldt Forum, a museum for world culture. A visit to the Palace's terrace makes for wonderful views of the city!

Address: Schloßplatz 1

WEST SIDE ATTRACTIONS

(Within half hour radius of each other)

CHARLOTTENBURG CASTLE

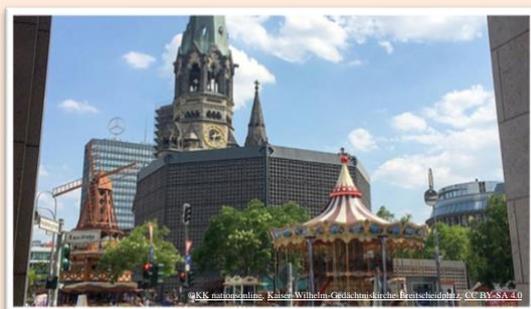


The Charlottenburg mansion is outside the center of Berlin and not directly next to a subway station. The original castle stems from the seventeenth century but it was heavily damaged during World War II. It has been extensively restored, but it's definitely worth paying a visit!

Address: Spandauer Damm 20-24

Public Transport: M45 Luisenplatz/Schloss Charlottenburg

KAISER WILHELM GEDÄCHTNISKIRCHE



The old church was built between 1891 and 1895 according to plans by Franz Schwechten. During World War II, the church was destroyed during a British RAF bombing raid in 1943. The only remainder of the old building is the ruin of the belfry, which is also called in German:

der Hohle Zahn ("the hollow tooth").

Address: Breitscheidplatz

Public transport : U1 Kurfürstendamm or U2, U9, M5, M7, M75 Zoologischer Garten



SPECIAL MUSEUMS IN BERLIN

▪ STASI MUSEUM

The former head office of the Ministry of State Security is now the Stasi Museum, where you can marvel at cunningly low-tech surveillance devices (hidden in watering cans, rocks, even neckties), a prisoner transport van with teensy, lightless cells and the obsessively neat offices of Stasi chief Erich Mielke. Panelling is in German only and exhibits are not always self-explanatory, so you may want to invest a few euros in the English language booklet.

Address: Ruschestraße 103

Public transport: U5, Magdalenenstraße

Admission: € 10

▪ THE BERLIN DUNGEON



Screaming and laughing through Berlin's dark past. The Berlin Dungeon is a uniquely thrilling attraction that will whisk you way back into the city's most perilous past. A journey through over 800 years of Berlin's history – from the medieval times to the 20th century. See, hear, feel and (ahem) smell the chillingly amusing characters of the 'bad old days' as they come to life before you.

Address: Spandauer Straße 2

Public transport: S3, S5, Bus 100 Hackescher Markt

Admission: Adults € 29

▪ TECHNICAL MUSEUM BERLIN

Situated in an old train station you get a unique overview of the technical achievements of mankind, divided into fourteen departments. Explanations are given about countless historical machines and working models. Visitors can actively participate because the objects themselves can be operated. A beautiful museum!

Address: Trebbinger Straße 9

Public transport: U1, U7, Möckernbrücke.

Admission: € 12

▪ DDR MUSEUM

As a visitor you will experience everyday life in the GDR in this museum. The GDR Museum is very interactive. Amongst other things you can drive a GDR-car simulator, you can take a look inside drawers and cupboards and there is even a space in which you can experience what it feels like to spy or be spied on. The film 'The Good German' gives an especially good impression of life in East-Germany.

Address: Karl-Liebknecht-Str. 1

Public transport: S3, S5, Hackescher Markt

Admission: € 13,50

Student discount € 8

▪ BABELSBERG MOVIE PARK

Just outside Berlin in Potsdam, is the Babelsberg. Since 1911 Babelsberg has been the 'Hollywood' of Germany. Now it is one of the most important film centers in Europe. In Babelsberg Film Park you can see breathtaking stunt shows in a volcano, follow the famous movie scenes studio and experience the historic sights in movie history.

Address: Babelsberg Film Park

Public transport: S1, Babelsberg

Admission: adults € 23

Student discount € 21



Deck 5, Schönhauserallee 79. On the 5th parking deck of the shopping center, you will find the highest beach of the city! A colorful crowd, great cocktails, a small food supply and of course the incomparable view and nice atmosphere make it a pleasant stay!

Public transport : U2, Schönhauser Allee



MORE ACTIVITIES BY DAY

■ BERLINER ZOO

The oldest zoo in Germany is located in West Berlin, near the Tiergarten. The wide variety of animals, specific architecture and the impressive zoo aquarium makes this zoo an awesome experience.

Address: Hardenberg Platz 8

Public transport: S+U Zoologischer Garten bhf.

Admission: adult € 19

■ TIERPARK BERLIN



Near the castle Friedrichsfelde you will find Europe's largest landscape zoo with wild animals from all around the world!

Address: Am Tierpark

Public transport: M17, Tierpark Berlin

Admission : adult € 17

■ COMPUTERSPIELEMUSEUM

The world's first computer games museum! A journey back in time and into the virtual-reality world of the future. Over 300 exhibits, rare originals, playable classics, interactive game objects, art productions, and an 1980s arcade hall!

Address: Karl-Marx-Allee 93A

Public transport: M5, Klinikum in Friedrichshain

Admission: € 11

■ CAFÉ BOTANICO

Garden-to-table Italian cuisine in a cozy, lively cafe & bistro with a lush garden terrace, this unique restaurant's primary focus is on permaculture and sustainability. Guests are welcome to look around the organic garden. Open for dinner Tue-Sun, and Lunch Wed-Fri.

Address: Richardstraße 100

Public transport: M5, S41, S + U-bhf Neuköln

■ STRANDBAD WANNSEE (Outside the City)

This beach resort just on the west border of Berlin was opened in 1907. On a hot summer day this is the ideal place to cool off and take a swim in the nice water, which even has a fun waterslide. The entrance building is rather impressive too.

*Address: Wannseebadweg 25, Public transport: S bahn line 1 or 7 to **Nikolassee**, and from there on a 10 min walk.*

■ RITTER SPORT SHOP

At 1000 square meters and 3 floors you can enjoy all kinds of delicious chocolate from the family company Ritter Sport. Do you know of crazy flavor combination? It is possible to combine your own chocolate. Attention is also paid for education: one can see the way a bean travels before it becomes a chocolate bar.

Address: Französische Straße 24

Public transport: U6, Französische Straße



■ MADAME TUSSEAUDS

In Berlin you can photograph yourself with international celebrities like Elvis, Bono, George Clooney and the pope. If you buy your tickets online, you do not have to wait in the (usually long) queue.

Address: Unter den Linden 74

Public transport: S + U-bhf Unter den Linden

Admission: adults: € 24



BERLIN'S NIGHTLIFE

The Sandino hostel is not far from some of the best and busiest nightlife spots in Berlin: Kreuzberg, Friedrichshain, Neukölln, Mitte and Prenzlauerberg. Before you plan your night out, check out Resident Advisor Berlin www.ra.co/events/de/berlin where you will find out exactly what is happening tonight and where, whose playing, age limits and other important details! Here are some of our recommendations by district:

Kreuzberg



Bars:

You will find drinking establishments on almost every corner in Kreuzberg. We definitely recommend heading to *Oranienstraße*, and you can also find some great bars near *Görlitzer Bahnhof* or on the river Spree just off *Schlesisches Straße*. You can enjoy a beer in the fun-fair themed **Birgit and Bier**, and then dance the night away at **Club der Visionäre** (a bar right on the Canal front).

Clubs:

Kreuzberg hosts some of Berlin's best clubs. **Watergate**, with its strict door policy, successfully draws a hip and trendy crowd. This stylish techno place always has a cozy party atmosphere. The busy nights are mostly Fridays and Saturdays, when techno, electro, minimal and house beats are being played. (*Falckensteinstr. 49*). Two neighbouring clubs near Moritzplatz are **Prince Charles** and **Ritterbutzke**. Prince Charles offers a more sophisticated clubbing experience, whereas Ritterbutzke encourages you to explore the quirky colourful club layout. Next to the river Spree you will also discover clubs like **Hoppetosse**.

Unusual:

A good place to start your night could be the **Madame Claude** bar, or more famously known as the 'Upside Down Bar', as furnishings are hanging from the ceiling! (*Lübbener Str. 19*)

Neukölln

Bars:

On *Weser Straße* you will find many cosy, candle lit bars selling cheap wine and beer with complimentary pretzels!

Klunkerkranieh:

This community garden, bar, grill, and live music venue built at the rooftop of a shopping center is, in a word, glorious! The views are unparalleled. You have a nearly unobstructed view in all directions. (*Karl-Marx Straße 66. Take the U7 to Rathaus Neukölln.*)

Unusual:

If you're a fan of Twin Peaks, why not check out the **Black Lodge Bar** (*Sanderstraße 6*) decorated with the famous red curtains and even showing episodes in the bar room.

Friedrichshain



Bars:

One of the liveliest areas in Berlin on any night of the week is **Raw Tempel** (*Revaler Str. 99*). This collection of bars, clubs, art exhibitions and markets is popular with both tourists and locals. **Urban Spree** offers a large Biergarten overlooked by some amazing graffiti and art exhibitions. You can also enjoy a beer and the base of an old bomb shelter which could not be destroyed, so is now used as a climbing wall! **Crack Bellmer** is a spacious warehouse bar hosting casual DJs if you fancy a dance. Across from Raw you will find many bars and restaurants on *Simon-Dach Strasse*.

Clubs:

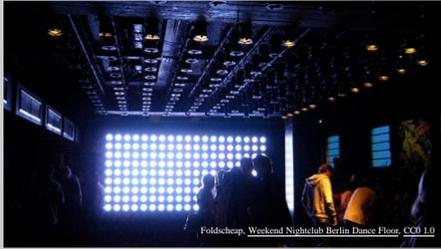
From midnight at Raw Temple there are a number of clubs you can choose from. **Suicide Circus** plays great Tech-House most nights of the week and **Casseopia** offers live music and hip hop. **Matrix** is located under the arches of *Warschauer Straße Station* and is open every night of the week attracting lots of tourists. The more famous clubs include **Kater Blau** on the river Spree and the infamous **Berghain**. An enormous industrial hall built of steel, concrete and glass, people who visit Berghain for the first time have to get used to the combination of monotone and very loud techno beats and lights that consists only of flashing stroboscopes. A very unique atmosphere: Silhouettes dance in the dark and details are hardly possible to see (*Rüdersdorfer Str. 7*). **://About Blank** is a formerly illegal, lightly renovated repurposed building with seemingly endless nooks and crannies. In the summer DJs play out in the garden. The atmosphere is gritty, and the parties often go well into the following afternoon or evening (*Marktgrafendamm 24c*).

Unusual:

On the Spree you should take the time to spend a sunny afternoon in **YAAM** (Young African Arts Market). Caribbean food stalls, passion fruit beer, basketball courts and awesome graffiti make YAAM a hard place to leave (*Shillingbrücke 3*). Another very cool place to check out is the cooperative run **Holzmarkt 25**, an eclectic creative venue with a beer garden, bakery, café, restaurant, markets and more. A great spot to stroll around with a beer and checkout the views of the river Spree! (*Holzmarkt 25*). For those who enjoy rock music, **Paules Metal Eck** is a fully decorated metal/rock bar (*Krossener Str.15/Si-mon-Dach Straße*).



Mitte



Bars:

In the day a lovely place to enjoy a beer is directly in front of the Spree close to Hackescher Market. Bars spill onto the grassy bank with deckchairs, a variety of restaurants and often live music. For a more Bavarian experience be sure to visit the Hofbräu beer hall situated directly across from Alexanderplatz, selling German beer in the big tankard glasses. If you're a bit low on cash but still fancy wining and dining, the Weinerei is the perfect place for you. On the basis that you 'pay what you wish' at the end, you can enjoy a wide selection of wines (with buffet included from 8 PM) for great value for money.

Clubs:

Tresor is known everywhere in the worldwide techno scene. If you like steady beats, you have to come to this place. The club is located in an old factory, making for a very underground atmosphere and experience (*Köpenicker Str. 70*). **Weekend** is a great bar to just lounge around during the day. The terrace on the roof has an amazing view over Berlin and Alexanderplatz. At night, this is one of the best places in Berlin-Mitte for techno music. It's not big, so come early (*Alexanderplatz 5*). The famous hedonistic **Kit Kat Club** is known for its sexually uninhibited parties, although nowadays its emphasis is more on the music. Make sure you check the dress code! (*Köpenicker Str. 76*).

Unusual:

A former squat with a gritty ambience, **Eschschloraque** is a great place to grab a coffee or cocktail, chat with some artistic locals, and enjoy the impressive graffiti (*Rosenthalerstraße 39*). **C-Base** is a hacker community with an interesting lore: that the remnants of an ancient space station were found underneath the Berlin city centre, with the television tower as its antennae. You can find these epic legends within its space station interior. Ask a friendly member to show you the basement, where you will find some interesting hacker stuff (*Rungestraße 20*).

Prenzlauer Berg

Bars:

Most of the bars in Prenzlauer Berg (an area famous for its former squatter and artist scene in the east) are concentrated around *Eberswalde Straße*. To get to Prenzlauer Berg, take tram M5 or M6 to Landsberger Allee/Petersburger Str. and switch to M10 (direction of Nordbahnhof). One of the oldest and largest Bier Gardens in Berlin is the **Prater** and across the road from here is the **Kulturbrauerei** complex featuring several clubs and a cinema.

Interesting:

On the incline in front of the Schönhauser city gate you will find the oldest brewery in Prenzlauer Berg. The Pfefferberg is now a well-known place with versatile offers for various events in Berlin. The Pfefferberg became a modern center for cultural, commercial services, and social institutions with a theater, galleries, event halls, restaurants, a small brewery and a hostel.

Berlin Pub Crawls

Alternative Pub Crawl:

Come crawl through the streets of Berlin and hit some favorite local spots. Check out typical Berlin music, drinks, people, and places. This Berlin pub crawl changes locations frequently and goes to a wide array of bars, lounges and clubs.

Costs: € 18, No reservations needed.

originalberlintours.com/tours/original-east-side-berlin-pub-crawl/

Sandemans Pub Crawl:

Is your trip about exploring different cultures? Then this will be your ideal city tour! During this tour you will learn from Berlin insiders the extensive nightlife culture of Berlin. Funky cocktail lounges, rock concerts and the most thumping clubs will all be included!

Time: 8PM Tuesday to Saturday at *Oranienburger Straße S Bahn, in front of the old post office*.

Costs: € 12, Online reservations at:

neweuropetours.eu/sandemans-tours/berlin/berlin-pub-crawl/



RSO Berlin (CLUB)

The closure of Griessmühle was a bitter loss for Berlin's party scene — but now the legendary club has found a new home and new name. The club's new location is on the site of the former Bärenquell brewery in Niederschöneweide, and the new venue is also a center for arts and culture, hosting a beer garden, markets, art, cinema evenings, concerts and other events.

<https://www.reviewsuedost.de/>

Sisyphos (CLUB)

This club is situated in Rummelsburg, east of Friedrichshain following the Spree (*Hauptstraße 15*). It is a former dog cookie factory and has a large open-air area surrounding the building. The club is a bit mysterious since they don't provide many details about who is playing. A lot of Berliners really like it, since it's a little further away and not yet overrun by tourists. The bouncers can be tough, but if you get in you're up for a long party since they stay open from Friday night until Monday morning!



BERLINS BEST

■ EAST-GERMAN CURRYWURST

This store has a rich history, and since the founding in 1930, this meat-store is still unbeaten! The sausages out of the 1930s transformed during the time in the popular Currywurst, and their special recipe is only known by the family!

Address: Schönhauser Allee 44 B

Public transport: U2, Eberswalder Strasse



■ WEST-GERMAN CURRYWURST

In 1949 Curry 36 started making well-known currywurst and can legitimately be called the best shop of West-Berlin. Who do you think wins the title of best Currywurst producer: East or West?

Address: Mehringdamm 36

Public transport: U6, U7, Mehringdamm



■ BIERGARTEN

The place to enjoy a nice cold beer and the last sunrays of the summer with your friends. To do this, you have enough choice in Berlin, but for the real atmosphere and a home-brewed beer you have to pay a visit to Brauhaus Südstern. Fun is guaranteed!

Address: Hasenheide 69.

Public transport: U7, Südstern

Opening hours: daily from 5 PM, weekends from 2 PM.



■ ICE CREAM

There is no doubt about this: for a delicious scoop of ice cream and the feeling of summer you go to Aldemir. The home-made waffles are heavenly and you can also get pizza, coffee or a milkshake.

Address: Falckensteinstrasse 7, Kreuzberg

Public transport: U1, Schlesischer Tor



■ SCHNITZEL

If you like schnitzel, Louis is the right place to go! This restaurant offers a big variety of schnitzels, and it is almost a challenge to finish the large one! When it comes to price, size and good atmosphere, this is definitely one of the best schnitzel paradises of Berlin.

Address: Richardplatz 5

Public transport: U7, Neukölln



HOW TO SURVIVE...the Berlin Jungle

BEST GARDENS, PARKS, & BEACHES

■ BADESCHIFF



Although this swimming pool in the Spree can be very busy during summer days, it is nevertheless a great way to cool down. Come early and enjoy Berlin in a really special kind of way; don't forget your swimming gear!

(Eichenstrasse 4 – S-Bahn Station Treptower Park. From there it's 5 minutes walking following the Spree north).

Tip: Once you are there we recommend to check out the Treptower Park located nearby. In the area of 84 hectares of greenery you can stroll along the riverside path, visit the Soviet War Memorial, an old-school observatory or the abandoned amusement park Spreepark that's currently being restored.

■ MAUERPARK



The Mauerpark is a park in Prenzlauer Berg occupying an area formerly enclosed by the Berlin Wall. The Mauerpark is very much a "people's park" and is used actively by all sections of society. On hot summer evenings it can be especially busy with spontaneous parties and music (not always to the taste of residents in the surrounding buildings). On Sunday a flea market is held next to the park, popular by both tourists and locals. Furthermore, every Sunday there is awesome Karaoke held at the amphitheater in the park. Don't be shy and enjoy this party!

Address: Gleimstraße 55, M10, Wolliner Straße

■ FRIEDRICHSHAIN

Beautiful walking paths, lovely old trees and several roaring fountains make this a delightful place to spend an afternoon. The park has several playgrounds, many large Liegewiese (open areas for sunbathing), a pond, tennis courts, a wading pool, and a restaurant. It is also criss-crossed with paths appropriate for jogging at several difficulty levels.

Public Transport: M4 (Am Friedrichshain), M5, M6, M8 (Platz der Vereinten Nationen), M5, M6, M8, M10 (Landsberger Allee/ Petersburger Str.)

■ GÖRLITZER PARK



In this area there's always something going on: in one corner a wild drumming, from another the sounds of heavy hip hop beats. It's a motley multi-coloured Kreuzberg crowd that gathers here: students and permanent hippies, the extended families of Turkish immigrants and new residents of Berlin from all corners of the world. This is international understanding and multiculturalism in a completely practical way – everybody here wants a barbecue!

Address: Görlitzer Straße, U1, Görlitzer Bahnhof



■ BOTANISCHER GARTEN

With 22.000 types of plants, Berlin's Botanical Gardens rank among the three most important botanical gardens in the entire world. The Botanical Gardens' 43 hectares are a wonderful place to take a stroll.

Address: *Königin-Luise-Straße 6-8*
<https://www.bo.berlin/en>

■ TEMPELHOF (Former Airport)



Berlin Tempelhof Airport was one of the airports in Berlin. Situated in the south-central Berlin borough of Tempelhof-Schöneberg, the airport ceased operating in 2008 and is now a park. On a beautiful day it's one of the busiest parks in the city, but because the terrain is so big (due to the two runways) it never feels too busy. Bring some food and drinks and enjoy the spectacular feeling of being on an actual runway and watch the Berliners perform many different sports like land sailing and kiting.

Address: *take the S-Bahn S41 until station Tempelhof*

■ VIKTORIA PARK



In the lovely Bergermann Kiez (neighbourhood) in Kreuzberg, Viktoria park gives an amazing view of Berlin from its hill top. You can get lost in the park's windy pathways, and the waterfall running from the top of the hill down to the street makes it feel enchanting. Lots of people take a drink to the monument at the top of the hill and enjoy a beautiful sunset.

Address: *Kreuzbergstraße 15*

■ GLEISDREIECK PARK

With the towering skyscrapers of Potsdamer Platz in the background and the overground railway track running over the park, Gleisdreieck feels very similar to New York! People of all ages come to this park to engage in all sports imaginable – skateboarding, gymnastics, parkour. There is also a trendy beer garden next to Gleisdreieck train station which hosts live music and cask ales.

Address: *Möckernstraße 26*

■ GRUNEWALD



If you would like a break from the busy city life, you should visit Grunewald. Even though it's close to Berlin, the untamed nature makes you forget the hectic city vibes. Amongst the vast forest you will find hidden lakes and ponds which you can swim in. A very popular destination for Freikörperkultur (nudists).

Public Transport: *M5, S7 to Potsdam Hauptbahnhof. A 30-minute walk through Grunewald Forest will bring you to Teufelsee, the swimming area.*

■ TEUFELSBERG (DEVIL'S MOUNTAIN)



Atop a hill made of WW2 rubble (and covering a Nazi military college) lies the skeletal remains of a former US spy station which now serves as a gallery for a vast collection of stunning graffiti art. Well worth the 2.5 km hike from *Grunwald station*, but a bit tricky to find. Take some photos!

Admission: *€ 10*

Public transport: *S7 Grunewald*

■ PRINZESSINNEN GÄRTEN (Alternative Urban Horticulture)

'Nomadisch Grün' (Nomadic Green) launched *Prinzessinnengärten* (Princess gardens) as a pilot project in the summer of 2009 at Moritzplatz in Berlin Kreuzberg, a site which had been a wasteland for over half a century. Along with friends, activists and neighbours, the group cleared away rubbish, built transportable organic vegetable plots and reaped the first fruits of their labour.

Prinzenstraße 35-38 / Prinzesinnenstraße 15 (U8 Moritzplatz)



YOUR TIPS & RECOMMENDATIONS

We would like you to write down here, to help us improve our service, our house, and this survival guide (small letters). Please don't use this space to thank us, a better place would be either our guest book or online.



