

2001 BERLIN CONFERENCE ON THE HUMAN DIMENSIONS OF GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGE



“Global Environmental Change and the Nation State”

Berlin, 7-8 December 2001

Tourist Information

Berlin is a unique city. You can't just visit Berlin—you have to experience it. Despite its long and often turbulent history, it always managed to reinvent itself—which is exactly what it is doing right now: the reunified Berlin has just experienced ten years of tremendous change and is today reorganising itself as the buzzing political and cultural centre of the new “Berlin Republic”. Nowhere in Germany will you find so many artists, musicians, writers and actors living in one place as here. Berlin has more than 100 public and private theatres, countless cinemas, and plays host to film festivals. There are also three opera houses, the Berliner Philharmonie, famous museums, more than 200 galleries, three universities, and academies for acting, photography, design and fashion.

The enormous size of the city and its high diversity make it difficult to define any “must-see's” or a standard set of places to visit and things to do while you are in the city—especially when time is limited. This document shall give you some orientation and stimulation for your time in Berlin. If you are interested in the fascinating and unique history of this city, we recommend to take part in the English-language guided walking tour on Sunday, Dec. 9 (no prepayment required).

For any further questions on this document or in case you need any assistance in booking tickets, please contact Rainer Brohm at rainer.brohm@berlin.de. If you want to participate in the guided tour on Sunday, you also need to contact Rainer at least a week in advance.

Public Transport

Berlin has an extremely well-developed public transport system. Berlin's S-Bahn (metropolitan train) and U-Bahn (subway), as well as tram and bus services are extensive, frequent, fast and reliable. They are all operated by the same transport authority, the BVG, and are all connected on the same three-zone tariff system.

A DM 4.20 ticket allows travel for two hours on all forms of transport in two adjacent zones, which covers most of the eastern and western centres of Berlin. For DM 12.00 you can purchase a day ticket (Tageskarte) for the inner city zones (A and B) which is valid until 3:00 am. There are ticket machines at every station but you can also purchase tickets at the central offices of the BVG at Bahnhof Zoologischer Garten (central "Zoo" station) or Bahnhof Friedrichstraße. Usually, you have to make a ticket valid by stamping it at the station or bus stop you want to begin your trip. In general, the direction of travel is indicated by the last stop on the line.

One secret tip for experts is the bus no. 100, locally known as the "sightseeing line". It is a regular bus line, which traverses almost the whole centre of Berlin while passing most of the important sights, including the Brandenburg Gate, the famous boulevard Unter den Linden and Alexanderplatz.

Museums

Berlin's museums exhibit some of the world's most beautiful art treasures. The so-called Museum Island plays home to the famous Pergamon Alter, the Ishtar Gate from Babylon, and, in the Egyptian Museum in the western part of Berlin, the bust of the beautiful queen Nefertiti. In many cases, the Cold War division led to a duplication of museums and galleries, to the effect that in the 1960s and 1970s, all museums in East-Berlin were not accessible to West-Berliners who then set about building their own museums, such as the Culture Forum at Potsdamer Platz. The following is a list of a few of the most well known museums:

Pergamon Museum (archaeological museum), Museum Island, Tu-Sun 10-6, U/S-Bahn Friedrichstraße.

Altes Museum (antiquities), Museum Island/Lustgarten, Tu-Sun 10-6, Bus 100.

Alte Nationalgalerie (19th century art), Museum Island/Lustgarten, Tu-Sun 10-6, Bus 100, famous selection of 19th century artists.

Gemäldegalerie (old masters), Matthäikirchplatz, Tu-Fri 10-6, Sat-Sun 11-6, U/S-Bahn Potsdamer Platz or Bus 129.

Neue Nationalgalerie (20th Century art incl. former East German artists), Potsdamer Straße 50, Tu-Fri 10-6, Sat-Sun 11-6, U/S-Bahn Potsdamer Platz or Bus 129.

Hamburger Bahnhof (contemporary art), Invalidenstraße 50-51, Tu-Fri 10-6, Sat-Sun 11-6, S-Bahn Lehrter Bahnhof

Berggruen Collection (Picasso and his time), Schloßstraße 1—opposite the Charlottenburg Palace, Tu-Fri 10-6, Sat-Sun 11-6, Bus 145.

Egyptian Museum, Schloßstraße 70—opposite the Charlottenburg Palace, Tu-Fri 10-6, Sat-Sun 11-6, Bus 145.

Allied Museum, Clayallee 135, Thu-Tu 10-6, U-Bahn Oskar-Helene-Heim (U1), free entry. Documents the presence of the Western Allies, 1945-94, incl. the Berlin Airlift.

Bauhaus Archiv, Klingelhöferstraße 14, Wed-Mon 10-5, Bus 100 or 129

Charlottenburg Palace, Luisenplatz. Originally built as Queen Sophie Charlotte's summer palace in the 1690s. Bus 145. Featuring the Knobelsdorff wing built in the 18th century, the Gallery of the Romantics, Tu-Fri 10-6, Sat-Sun 11-6, and the wonderful gardens—free, and open till dark.

Checkpoint Charlie Museum (Haus am Checkpoint Charlie), Friedrichstraße 44, daily 9am-10pm, DM8, U-Bahn Kochstraße

Jewish Museum (Jüdisches Museum), Lindenstraße15, U-Bahn Kochstraße Daniel Libeskind's extraordinary new building. Tours of the building in English at 1.30 and 3pm daily (call 259 933).

Topography of Terror (museum and monument area at the sites of the headquarters of the former Gestapo, the Nazi secret police), Niederkirchnerstraße, no charge, 10-till dark, daily.

Reichstag (Deutscher Bundestag), Platz der Republik 1, free entry to the roof, daily 8am-midnight (last admission 10pm), S-Bahn Unter den Linden, Bus 100.

Theaters and Operas

Berlin has three opera houses and a number of concert houses. There is also a small number of English-language theatre companies and variety theatres in the city. You will find some web links at the end of this document.

For programme information and ticket booking, please have a look at the web site www.berlin.de. This site offers a large amount of information on Berlin in English, and you get also access to an online ticket booking service. In case you need any assistance in booking tickets, do not hesitate to contact Rainer Brohm at rainer.brohm@berlin.de. The same applies to any other questions that might arise from this document.

The Discover Berlin Walk

The Team of "Original Berlin Walks" offers a unique sightseeing tour in English. The Discover Berlin Walk will introduce you to Berlin's complex, sometimes tragic past and its exciting present! Find out how a swamp by the Spree river was transformed into the capital of the Kaisers, or where Albert Einstein

taught, before the Nazis forced him to leave Berlin, learn why there is nothing left to see of Hitler's bunker, see how and where this city was divided after the war and experience how Berlin is being rebuilt as Germany's capital in the new Millennium.

This exciting tour will start on Sunday morning at 10 am at the meeting point of the Berlin City Walks at the taxi stand in front of Zoo station. The tour will take about 3 hours and the price is DM 18,- per person (DM 15,- for under 26 years old). Depending on the number of participants, we might have to book a certain amount of additional guides. In this case, we would ask you to book the tour together with your check-in at the conference. We will let you know about this well before the conference.

If you are interested in participating in the Discover Berlin Walking Tour, please contact Rainer Brohm at rainer.brohm@berlin.de.

The following links could be useful for your travel preparations and will help you to find out more about this city that is looking forward to welcome you this December: (all mentioned sites offer information in English)

www.berlin.de: Official info-pages of the city of Berlin covering a wide array of topics. Visitors can contact *Berlin Tourismus Marketing*, Berlin's official tourist agency. You can also book tickets via the online booking system.

www.timeout.com: Good info on places to go. Probably meant as a showcase for the printed edition of this well-known city guide (which is available in Berlin book shops). Most valuable is the very accurate online-calendar featuring upcoming events.

www.berlin-info.de: Large database bringing up info about more than 400 hotels in Berlin. E-mail requests are forwarded to the hotels via fax. Also, a guided tour of the city, with pictures.

www.stadtplandienst.de: A map finder. Typing in the name of a street and a house number brings up a red circle that localises exactly where you want to go. The site can display information in English.

www.dhm.de: The German Historic Museum.

www.staatliche-museen-berlin.de: The State Museums in Berlin.

www.berlin-philharmonic.com: The famous Berliner Philharmoniker.

www.eastsidegallery.com: Learn about the remaining strips of the Berlin Wall.

www.art-on.de: A network of galleries and artists.