

BERLIN WHISPERER

Select from a wide variety of fascinating tours and discover Berlin's most historical and exciting facets under the expert guidance of the Berlin Whisperer!

Berlin's facets – the city from various different perspectives

This is a very special tour with the first stop being the picturesque and peaceful cemetery 'Waldfriedhof Dahlem', where you will visit the graves of Harald Juhnke, O.E. Hasse, Bernd Rosemeyer and other German celebrities. Afterwards, the tour continues through Berlin's so called 'green lung' – the Grunewald.

At the next stop you will cross over to one of the many Havel islands. Here you will be able to recharge your batteries with a cup of coffee* and a delicious slice of cake* whilst taking in the breath-taking view over the river Havel and the Wannsee lake. The tour is finished off by visiting the bell tower of the Olympic Stadium* where you will be able to peruse the city from above.

(approx. 4 hours)

*The costs for coffee, cake and entrance fees are not included in the package price.

Berlin Wall XXXL – a divided Berlin presented by a born and bred 'Berliner'

For 28 long years the world's ugliest construction divided Berlin. Today, you have to be in the know to find where the last remaining original parts of the wall are as well as discover important areas along the former Berlin Wall.

Starting at the Potsdamer Platz, the tour will pass the location of Hitler's bunker and the Holocaust Memorial. At the Pariser Platz, you will hop on the 'S-Bahn' – the train station once known as one of the few ghost train stations – and via Oranienburger Straße station (a possible sightseeing stop) continue until Nordbahnhof. Here you will visit the official Berlin Wall Memorial site 'Bernauer Straße' and be able to see the 'death strip'. The site also recounts the destinies of the first and last victim of the Berlin Wall, the successful escape of Conrad Schumann as well as the fate of several others.

(approx. 2 hours, 30 minutes)

Who lived where...? – celebrity residences

Throughout the city's long history, celebrities have been living in Berlin. Marlene Dietrich, Heinz Rühmann, Max Schmeling, Heinrich George and many more. This tour covers several city districts, passing the former residences of Isadora Duncan, Heinrich Mann, Robert Koch, to name a few. In Westend, the good, the bad and the beautiful lived side by side. While strolling through this former sought-after residential area, you will learn many interesting details about certain addresses and the biographies of their residents.

(approx. 2 hours, 30 minutes)

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The Third Reich and its crimes – the DictaTour

You cannot visit Berlin without hearing about the Third Reich. There are so many crime scenes dotted all around the city. Sometimes they are rather difficult to find, but this tour will take you to the known, the lesser known and some of the completely unknown sites, which have a link to the dictatorship, which lasted from 1933 until 1945. From old synagogues to deportation train stations to former administration buildings – they are all still waiting there to be discovered by you, but you'll need to know where to look!

(approx. 4 hours – can be extended to accommodate special wishes and interests)

The RAF (Rote Armee Fraktion) and the 68's – original sights in Berlin

A German terrorist organisation was born on 2nd June 1967 in Berlin. This organisation continued to overshadow Germany for about 20 years. Some aspects of that period still resonates today. The unlawful killing of Benno Ohnesorg radicalised many students, which had not been openly politically active before. They formed several terrorist cells, named 'Rote Armee Fraktion', that would fight against the government and political system with attacks, kidnappings and spectacular rescue missions of imprisoned comrades. The newspapers were filled with reports of street fights, bank robberies and the retribution attempts from the "other side". Many of the original sites are found in Berlin and some of the activists of that period have found their final resting place in Berlin.

During this tour, you will visit many of the original sites and learn the chronology of events that occurred. The motives, activities and retribution attacks will also be explained. This is a recent part of German history which was traumatic and which will not be forgotten.

(approx. 4 hours)

5 graves : 5 cemeteries – a guided cemetery tour of Berlin

There are dozens of cemeteries in and around Berlin. Some of them are true celebrity cemeteries but more often than not there is only one grave of an historically important person to be found. This tour concentrates on five individual graves in five different cemeteries. Due to the fact that these cemeteries only have one grave each that is of public interest, there are no other organised tours to see them. Beside the biographies of these personalities, the particularities of the cemeteries will be highlighted and explained. Other interesting graves which the tour might pass will also be briefly explored. Examples of graves which might be visited include the graves of Otto Lilienthal (aviator), Marlene Dietrich (actress), Bertold Brecht (author), Gustav Hartmann 'The Iron Gustav' (famous Berlin personality) and Heinrich George (actor).

(approx. 5 hours, 30 minutes)

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Older is not possible – a walk through the Nikolai district



This tour through the Nikolai district of Berlin is rich in history, anecdotes, legends and a real treasure. Today's Nikolai district is the place where Berlin was founded in the 12th century. It is now a socialiser's and tourist's paradise with small restaurants, cafés and bars dotted all around the quarter and along the small ancient lanes.

You will discover the oldest medieval centre of Berlin and still see numerous traces of a long bygone era. The remaining witnesses of those times include the oldest buildings of the city, as well as the old court house, which permitted courthouse goers to spit at and kick the accused. And to top it all off, there is a real treasure to be seen which is many centuries old. Discover the most beautiful 'quarter' of the city, step into Berlin's oldest pub and meet Erich Honecker...

(approx. 1 hour, 30 minutes)

From 'Hacke' to 'Schinkel' – from 'Hackescher Markt' to the 'Dorotheenstädtischer Cemetery'



This tour starts at the 'Hackeschen Markt' and is followed by a visit to the 'Hackesche Höfe'. Afterwards, the tour will take a stroll down the main boulevard with its shops, bars and entertainment areas, continue past the park 'Monbijou', the 'New Synagogue' and the 'Tacheles' until the 'Dorotheenstädtischer Friedhof', a cemetery where several famous personalities are buried, is reached – the main focus will be on Karl Friedrich Schinkel.

(approx. 2 hours)

Guided tour through the 'Regierungsviertel' – from the Chancellor's Office to the Reichstag



Through the turbulent history of Germany and its transformations regarding size, shape and form of government, Berlin was named its capital five times. These various forms of Germany have left their more or less obvious mark on the district where the German government is based today. The tour will start at the Chancellor's Office, pass the Swiss Embassy, cross over the Spree to finish in front of the Reichstag. The building and its turbulent history will be explained in detail. Furthermore, several pieces of art will be highlighted including 'Berlin' and 'The Man on the Ladder'.

(approx. 1 hour, 30 minutes)

The real Quadriga – a guided tour of the 'Märkische Museum'



Attention – the Quadriga on top of the Brandenburg Gate is a fake!

The 'Märkische Museum' is one of the few museums not actually located on the famous Museum Island and therefore, undeservingly, far less well-known. The museum showcases the history of the first settlements in the 'Mark Brandenburg' region and showcases many interesting objects. Furthermore, the museum reflects the lives of the ordinary people of Berlin and not only of royals and nobles (who of us are royal after all!). What did Berlin look like in 1688? How much did a bench 'Unter den Linden' cost? How did Adolf Hitler

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decorate his study? Which were the most popular past-times during the regime of William II? Did jewellery need to consist of gold and jewels?

But the main attraction is the last piece of the original Quadriga of the Brandenburg Gate!

(approx. 1 hour, 30 minutes)

“Crime City Tour” – most famous and gruesome crimes of Berlin and their crime scenes 

Unrelated to the Third Reich, the DDR-dictatorship and the German Autumn, there have been many spectacular crimes perpetrated in the city. Some of them have been forgotten, but during this special tour, we will visit places where brutal crimes were committed and where suspects have been arrested, sentenced and executed. A serial killer from the period of the Weimar Republic, bank robberies, blackmail, theft or family drama – the tour will dig deep into the dark depths of the human soul and come across extreme outbursts of criminal energy. This tour is not for the faint hearted!

(Approx. 6 hours, 30 minutes)

Grunewald Tour – spies, suicide and scandals 

A guided tour through Berlin's famous Grunewald including the most exciting and interesting places in the biggest forest of the capital.

Spread out over 3,000 ha, the Grunewald used to be located far beyond the city's walls, but for the last 100 years, the forest now actually lies within the city's boundaries. Besides a growing number of wild animals (racoons, foxes and boars) there are countless interesting "corners" of the forest, which are worthwhile seeing. There is the highest mountain of Berlin, the oldest castle of the city and a special cemetery for those who committed suicide. The tour passes the 'Schildhorn', follows the picturesque Havelchaussee up to the Emperor William Tower which offers a fantastic view over the southwest of the city. We will discover the ruins of an American listening system and we will find out more about the biggest sex scandal of the Empire! It's a tour for Berlin enthusiasts, who think they have seen it all.

(approx. 4 hours)

Recreation area Tiergarten  

A short but exquisite walk away from the normal tours of the city centre. Starting from the 'Carillion', the tour will pass through the 'green lung' in the heart of the city – the Tiergarten. Strolling along the river Spree we will come across many buildings from different periods and discover who built them and who lives there now. The walk will end at the 'Großen Stern' where you will hear all about the many little details regarding the 'Siegessäule' (Victory Column) and the 'Goldelse' – many facts that are even unknown to many Berliners!

(approx. 1 hour, 30 minutes)

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Guided tour of the Olympic Stadium Berlin

The area where the Olympic Stadium stands today has been used for sporting events for more than 100 years. The site is situated in the middle class district of Westend within Charlottenburg, which at one time was actually a city in its own rights. The stadium started off as a horse racing track but soon plans were drawn up to expand it and to make it the venue for the 1916 Olympic Games. The building of the world's biggest stadium started but history and the First World War intervened, so the bubble of sporting glory and recognition burst. But a second chance presented itself at the beginning of the 1930's. Again, Berlin was nominated as the venue for the Olympic Games. When the Nazis came to power on 30th January 1933, they immediately realised the potential of the Olympic Games for propaganda purposes and organised the Games on a gigantic and unbelievable scale. The newly built stadium, which could hold 100,000 visitors, was too small for Hitler's liking. However, he still moved ahead with opening the Games on 1st August 1933. During this tour, listen to the many exciting and moving stories and anecdotes from that period: the refused handshake, the shot Olympic Bell, the morbid death cult of the 'Langemarckhalle' – all this and much more is waiting for you to discover.

(approx. 90 minutes)

Two hours in Kreuzberg – a district with history

The 'Bergmannstraße' in the Kreuzberg district has become fashionable over the last few years. Numerous restaurants line both sides of the street but the 'Bergmannstraße' is also steeped in history. You will hear about its early beginnings and you will learn about some sinister incidents, which are hidden under a blanket of myth and mystery. At the point where the 'Bergmannstraße' finishes and the 'Mehringdamm' starts, the face of the district changes dramatically. At this junction begins the birthplace of IT companies and the southern flair.

To round off the tour, you will be given the opportunity to climb up the 66m high 'Götzeschen vineyard' and enjoy the view over one of the masterpieces of the Prussian star architect of the first half of the 19th century - Karl Friedrich Schinkel.

A slightly different tour of a slightly different part of the city.

(approx. 2 hours)

An in-depth tour of the grounds of Castle Charlottenburg

Castle Charlottenburg and its grounds are the biggest remaining castle complex in Berlin. During a guided stroll, you will hear about the castle but more importantly about the grounds, which stretch over 55 ha. Friedrich III presented his wife Sophie Charlotte with this piece of land outside the city and as well as commissioning the building of a small castle, he also requested a landscaped garden. It was designed in a then popular baroque style and it was the first of its kind in any German speaking country. A small part of the tour focusses on the origin and the many changes of the castle which it underwent from the end of the 17th century. The main part of the tour will be spent in the grounds, discovering plants and trees from the time of the 'Old Fritz', walking around the emperor's mausoleum at the end of the 'Tannenallee', viewing

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coronation vases and other memorabilia, as well as exploring venues of occult séances and later relaxing at the carp pond which has been described in great detail by Theodor Fontane.

(approx. 2 hours)

Or plan your very own individual Berlin tour with the Berlin Whisperer

You are welcome to combine your favourite elements from the listed tours to create your own individual city tour. You may also combine complete tours based on your preference and schedule. The Berlin Whisperer and the team at the Regent will assist you to plan your dream day of discovery.

(approx. 3 to 6 hours) 

Or visit Brandenburg's capital of Potsdam with its magnificent castles and landscaped gardens!

Potsdam city tour deluxe

This four-hour city tour of Potsdam includes many sights and stops to explore and discover. With a vehicle of your choice, you will drive through the Dutch quarter and past the emperor's train station. Sights include the 'Glienicke Bridge', 'Castle Cecilienhof', the 'holländische Viertel', the 'French Church', 'St. Pete and Paul', 'Brandenburg Gate', 'Nauener Gate', mosque of Potsdam, 'Castle Sanssouci', the 'New Palais', the 'Kaiserbahnhof' and several others. Should you wish, you have the option of being returned to the Regent at the end of your tour.

(approx. 4 hours)

Guided tour of the grounds of Castle Sanssouci (UNESCO World Heritage Site)

Castle Sanssouci used to be the summer residence of Friedrich II of Prussia. During this guided tour through the grounds, the origins of the castle, as well as the changes that have been made throughout its history will be explained. The flair of these magnificent landscaped gardens will be brought to life through historical facts and amusing anecdotes involving different members of the Hohenzollern family.

Immerse yourself in the world of baroque and romance and visit the final resting place of 'Uncle Dick', the 'old Fritz' and the 'wise Emperor'.

(approx. 4 hours including transfers to and from Potsdam, approx. 2 hours in Potsdam)

Guided tour of Castle Cecilienhof

This is an intensive tour of the last castle of the Hohenzollern dynasty. Instead of the official tour which lasts for 45 minutes, this tour takes 90 minutes. This gives ample time to focus on the history of the last Crown Prince and his wife, to visit the designated rooms for the delegations from the US, Great Britain and the former USSR. Furthermore, you will see the offices of Stalin, Churchill and Truman. You will learn about the

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details of how Germany became divided , the beginnings of the Cold War and the circumstances that lead to the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Original furnishings as well as the original conference table from 1945 are still on display. Also featured are some of the furniture items of Crown Prince William and his wife Cecile of Mecklenburg-Schwerin.

(approx. 3 hours including transfers to and from Potsdam)



Walking tours



Tours by car (at an additional charge)



Tours by foot and car

BVG

Tours that require transfers

Kindly note, that for some of the tours transfers are required. For these tours, you can use public transport together with your guide. It is also possible to conduct all tours individually by car at an extra cost. You will be picked up at the hotel by the Berlin Whisperer and he will also escort you back to the hotel at the end of the tour.

To book a car, EUR 160 will be charged additionally per tour price.

Entrance fees to the Olympic Stadium, museums, castles as well as permissions to take pictures and information material are not included in the price and need to be paid at the sights directly.