

Only in Berlin

THE BUDGET
TRAVELER'S GUIDE

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Berlin is currently serviced by two major airports - Berlin Schoenefeld SXF and Berlin Tegel TXL. Both are due to merge in early 2013

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The GDR Museum

PAGE 13 Inside, the curious world of the German Democratic Republic awaits you...



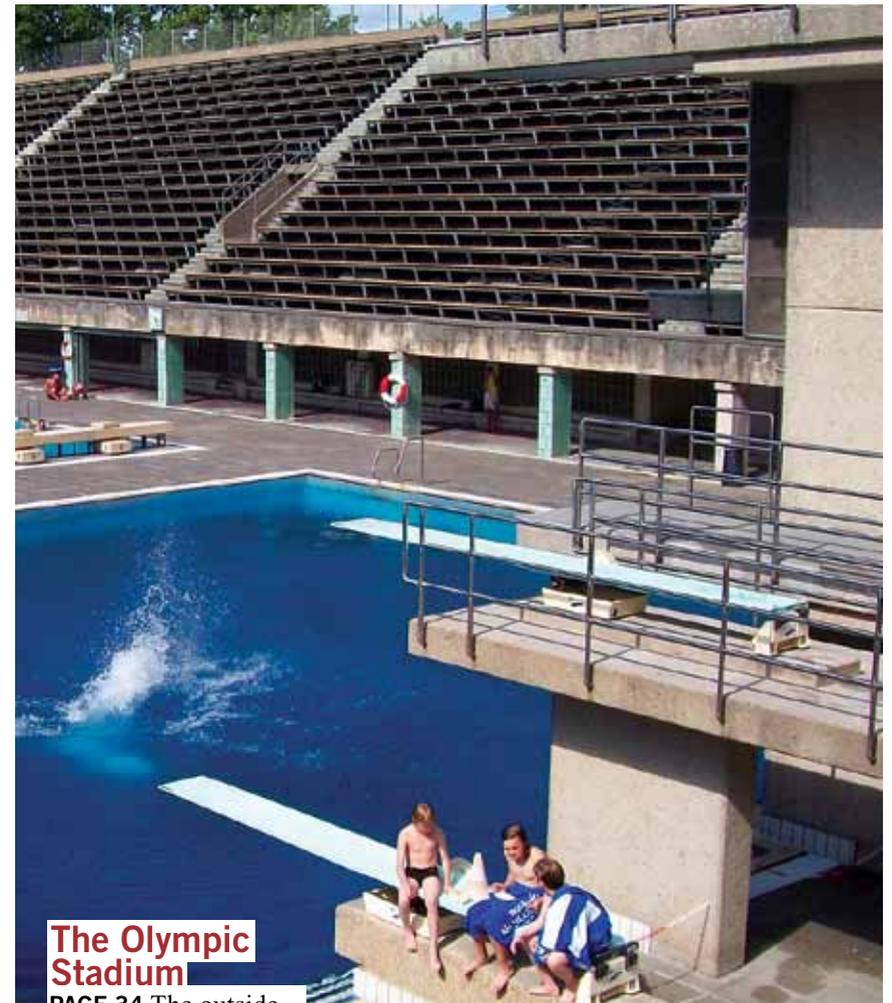
Tiergarten

PAGE 42 The Tiergarten is a must see for Berlin...



Museum of Letters

PAGE 27 Opened in 2008, its collection keeps growing ...



The Olympic Stadium

PAGE 34 The outside reflects the national Socialist past.



Mauer Park Flea Market

PAGE 108 Spend the day shopping and mingling with the crowds of eclectic visitors...

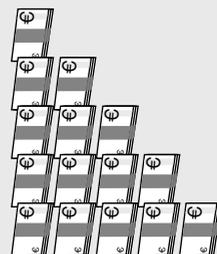


How to read this Guide

These symbols will guide you easily through the pages.

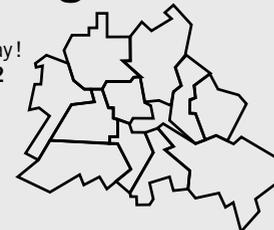
Budget Rate

All reviews are rated with a budget traveler in mind. Use our scale to find what meets your budget. **PAGE 4**



Getting started

Find your way!
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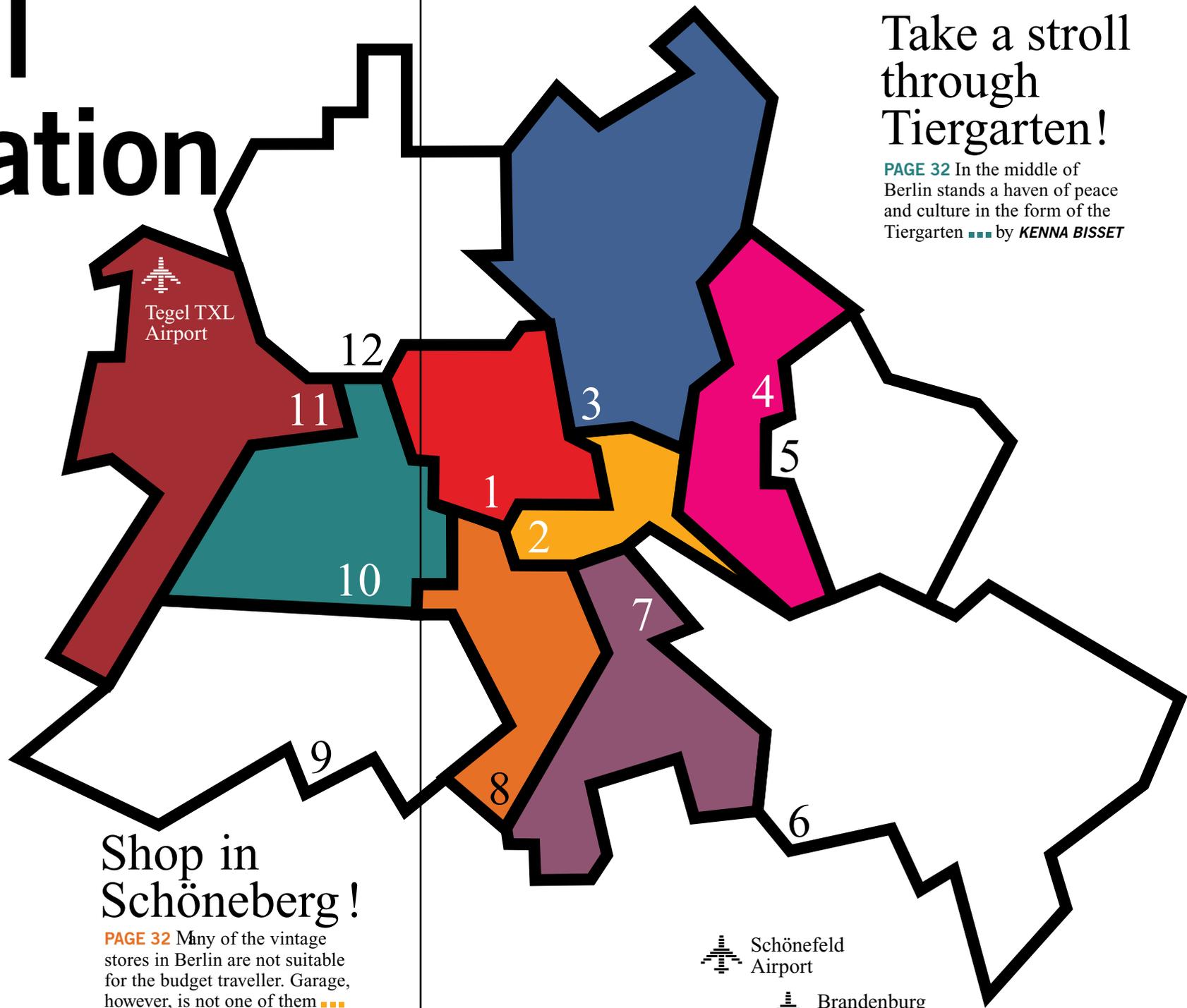
General information

Have lunch in Kreuzberg!

PAGE 32 Dining alfresco on the street allows you to bask in the summer sunshine whilst you feast on hearty, unpretentious Mediterranean food ■■■ by **ANTONIA MICHEL**

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Take a stroll through Tiergarten!

PAGE 32 In the middle of Berlin stands a haven of peace and culture in the form of the Tiergarten ■■■ by **KENNA BISSET**

Shop in Schöneberg!

PAGE 32 Many of the vintage stores in Berlin are not suitable for the budget traveller. Garage, however, is not one of them ■■■ by **SIAN SUGARS**

 Schönefeld Airport

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THE LABYRINTH OF THE HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL

[Mitte]  **Holocaust Memorial**

In a city that holds an array of monuments that probe it to celebrate, investigate and commemorate its checkered past, it is often hard to determine what can be overlooked and what is essential. A closer look at The Memorial to the Murdered Jews of Europe (also commonly known as The Holocaust Memorial) reveals a marriage of art and history that is a must see. The memorial opened to the public in May 2005, marking the 60th anniversary of the end of World War II and commemorating the murder of 6 million Jewish people. Designed by US architect Peter Eisenman, the tribute can only be appreciated when you walk through its core and are swallowed by a sea of some 2700 concrete slabs; however, standing on top of slabs is frowned upon. The memorial is free and frequented by locals and tourists alike. At first the

schools of children weaving in and out of the monument may seem peculiar for a Holocaust memorial, but it becomes clear that this casual integration is intentional. Eisenman has crafted the design with an abstraction that allows you to elicit your own meaning, but he notes that names have been left off the slabs as not to turn the monument into a graveyard. Ultimately, the memorial can be seen as a reflection of how Germany is to face it's past, not to be clouded with melancholy, walked around and avoided but as something that is recognised and accepted.

BEN FISHEL



A PART OF THE EAST SIDE GALLERY

[Friedrichshain]  **East Side Gallery**

Berlin's desire for freedom of expression is well noted, spilling from its punk fashion to its graffiti covered streets, and the East Side Gallery, the largest remaining portion of the Berlin wall, is no exception. Spanning 1.3 kilometers, the wall ■■■

INFORMATION

German name: Holocaust Denkmal

Address: Ebertstraße

Metro station: Französische Straße

Opening times: Always open

Prices: Free

■■■ houses 105 murals that were predominantly commissioned in 1990. Found near the centre of Berlin on Mühlenstraße in Friedrichshain- Kreuzberg, the wall is covered with anti-war themes, reflecting its position as an international symbol of freedom. The artist's styles are intentionally eclectic allowing for this non-conventional gallery to exhibit a portfolio diverse enough to catch almost everyone's attention. Whilst some artists have opted for self-explanatory anti-war slogans, others have portrayed more abstract notions of freedom in regards to self-expression, culture, sexuality and other rights. The wall is in a public space so admission is obviously



ART WORK ON THE EAST SIDE GALLERY

free and various food vendors and beach bars are both along the wall and within close distance. Walk at your own pace, but allow yourself at least an hour. **BEN FISHEL**

[Tiergarten]  **The Victory Column**

Erected in 1837, the Victory Column is a monument to Prussian militarism, commemorating the German Empire and victories over Austria, France and Denmark. Originally standing in front of the Reichstag, the column was relocated under Nazi rule in 1939 to the centre of Tiergarten. Today, it provides an imposing focal point at the heart of Strasse des 17. Juni and at 69 meters tall it boasts impressive views over the city. The observation platform can only be reached

INFORMATION

German name: Siegessäule

Address: Großer Stern 1, Tiergarten

Metro station: Tiergarten

Opening times: Mon 3 pm -6 pm, Tue - Sun 9 am - 18 pm

Prices: 2,50€ - 3€

by tackling 285 winding steps. However, if you've got a head for heights, it's certainly worth the effort for the spectacular 360° views from the top. For those who prefer to keep their feet firmly on the ground, check out the intricate relief work and friezes and don't forget to gaze up at the 8.3m statue of the Roman Goddess of Victory, Victoria.

ABBY POULTON



VICTORY COLUMN IN TIERGARTEN



GRAFFITTIED WALL IN TEUFELSBERG

[Grünewald] 
Devils Mountain

This intriguing site is slightly further out from the centre of Berlin, but it is well worth exploring. Located in Grunewald Forest, Teufelsberg is the name given to the 115 meters high hill which was created by the ‘Trümmerfrauen’ (Rubble Women), who cleared up the ruins of Berlin after World War II. The mound is compiled of 26 million cubic meters worth of debris. The main attraction for tourists is the abandoned U.S. radar monitoring station at its very summit. The station has been derelict since 1992 and is scheduled to be demolished despite attempts from experimental film director David Lynch to try and purchase it. This eerie ruin, which looks like the setting of an apocalyptic sci-fi movie, is a surreal place. Its crumbling walls are covered with graffiti. After you have negotiated the dark, spiral staircase (bring a

torch) you will enter one of the station’s enormous domes. Inside, the acoustics create ghostly echoes that add to the peculiar atmosphere. The top floors also offer great panoramic views of the city. The station is free to visit, so beware of fraudsters who may attempt to charge you at the gate. It is also advisable to not go alone as the derelict station has some unsafe ground and broken glass covers the floor. After your visit, you may also want to explore the beautiful forest that surrounds Teufelsberg, with its tranquil lakes, rock climbing areas and nudist section. Linkstraße 2-4 and Linkstraße. **ADAM NASH**



GRAFFITTIED DOME OF THE ABANDONED MONITORING STATION

INFORMATION

German name:
 Teufelsberg
Address:
 North Grunewald Forest, Grunewald
Metro station:
 Grunewald

[Mitte] 

TV Tower

Dominating the Berlin skyline is one of Europe’s tallest structures, the TV Tower. Along with the Brandenburg Gate, it is a landmark of reunited Germany. In the 1960’s, the GDR government had the TV Tower built to demonstrate the strength and efficiency of the Socialist Party system. The tower was in operation by October 1969, however, after reunification in 1990, the TV Tower soon became a symbol for all Berlin. The structure stands 368 meters high and the sphere sits at 200 meters. Inside the sphere is an observation deck, a cafe, and a restaurant which presents a 360 degree view of Berlin. The view from the observation deck is breathtaking as it provides the opportunity to visualize and appreciate the sheer size of Berlin. Admission up to the sphere’s observation deck is not budget friendly at €2 for adults and the queues can be lengthy. It is best to purchase your tickets in advance on the TV Tower’s website so you can skip the queue to purchase tickets. If you purchase tickets at the ticket counter, you may have to wait up to an hour or more before you can get in another queue to go through security and finally to the lift. Even if you have advanced tickets, allow at least 1-2 hours for your entire TV Tower experience. The lift is the

fastest part of your journey up to the sphere, rising at a rate of 6 meters per second. Once in the observation deck, it’s best to avoid the overpriced cafe and restaurant and just enjoy the spectacular views. If your budget allows, dining in the revolving restaurant above the observation deck would be a one of a kind experience. You can purchase a VIP ticket for 19,50€, in which you skip the queue for the lifts. The ticket also means that no reservation is needed for the restaurant as you are guaranteed the next free table. You can make reservations at the restaurant without a VIP ticket, but you still have to pay the standard admission up to the observation deck. The views are truly incredible, but it is ultimately up to you to decide if the queues and hoards of people are worth your 12€. **KATE NEUSWANGER**



TV TOWER FROM ALEXANDERPLATZ

INFORMATION

German name:
 Fernsehturm
Address:
 Alexanderplatz
Metro station:
 Alexanderplatz
Opening times:
 Open daily
 March - Oct.
 9 am - 12 am
 Open daily
 Nov - Feb
 10 am - 12 am
Website:
 www.tv-turm.de
Prices: 12€
 for adult, 7,50€
 for children up
 to 16 years, free
 for children up
 to 3 years



[Friedrichshain] 

Ostrand Bar

Hidden behind the East Side Gallery is an unexpected find. Oststrand bar is one of Berlin's many 'beach' bars. It offers refreshing drinks with an excellent view of the Spree River and the Berlin cityscape. With the sand beneath your feet and the sun in the sky, it is a great place to relax on a summer's afternoon. If you venture past the beach bar, however, and

INFORMATION

- German name:** Ostrand Bar
- Address:** Mühlenstraße 24, Friedrichshain
- Metro station:** Warschauerstraße
- Opening times:** Mon-Sun from 10 pm till late
- Prices:** Relatively cheap
- Website:** www.oststrand.de

down through the trees you will discover a floating barge jutting out onto the river. Lay back on a deck chair and open a good book as you will soon find yourself too comfy to move. Feel free to wave at the passing tourists crammed onto their small and uninviting river cruise, but don't feel obliged. Relax and be happy in the knowledge that your floating barge is far more appealing. A visit in the evening is highly recommended, where the crowd is young and the night even younger. Drinks are relatively cheap however you may need to tip an attendant if you wish to use the toilet. **KENNA BISSET**



SIT ON THE DECK AT OSTRAND BAR

[Kreuzberg] 

Molotow Cocktail Bar and Lounge

This jazzy little bar stands among the strip of restaurants, cafes and bars that line Oranienstrasse. The bright interior is plush and luxuriant with walls adorned with three large flat screen televisions showcasing the latest local artists and fashion designers. The lively crowd pose artfully...

INFORMATION

- German name:** Molotow Cocktail Bar and Lounge
- Address:** Oranienstraße, 189, Kreuzberg
- Metro station:** Kottbusser Tor
- Opening times:** Mon-Sun from 12 am till late
- Website:** <http://molotowcocktail.com>
- Prices:** cocktails 5€, shots 2€

... in the front bar or, for more intimacy, lounge gracefully in the quieter back room. At night, live DJs provide a soundtrack of jazz, funk jazz, funk and soul, making this cool hangout the perfect place for urban hipsters to while away the night. The staff is friendly and the bar is well stocked with all the ingredients needed to make a killer cocktail. The wine selection is also excellent. Happy Hour is between 6-9 pm, during which all cocktails are 5 € and all shots are 2 €. **CATE HOPKINS**



MOLOTOW BAR

[Mitte] 

Deponie N° 3

This quaint little bar is the ideal pit stop for tired sightseers on Unter den Linden. Hidden behind Humboldt University, close to Museum Island, the small pub is a popular place for students because of its location, reasonable prices and unusual character. The bar is built inside the archway of a U-Bahn bridge and the hum of passing trains softly rumbles throughout the room. Its rickety tables stand upon wooden floorboards and the bare walls are cluttered with everything from old road signs to antique plates. At the back of the pub there is a secluded beer garden, enclosed by ivy covered walls, which offers a peaceful retreat. Deponie is also a great place to sample some traditional German

food. The main meals could set you back over 10; however you can pick up a cheap snack for 3,50 €, such as the surprisingly tasty Berliner Schnstajungen (toasted bread topped with pork lard and aromatic cheese). The staff are very welcoming, although their knowledge of English can be limited, so you may need to memorise the German for 'one large beer, please' before going. **ADAM NASH**

INFORMATION

- German name:** Deponie N° 3
- Address:** Georgenstraße 5, Mitte
- Metro station:** Friedrichstraße
- Opening times:** Mon-Fri 9 am - 12 pm, Sat-Sun 10 am - 1 am
- Website:** www.deponie3.de



DEPONIE BAR NEAR HUMBOLDT UNIVERSITY



Restaurants and Cafes

wifi while your meal is audibly cooked to the left of the bar in the open kitchen. To the right of the bar you'll be greeted by a large street-art-style mural of a woman gazing over the diners. The meals come in generous portions, averaging about 8 € for a burrito or quesadilla, are simple yet delicious and leave your lips satisfyingly tingly from the home made salsa, served in condiment jars. This modern, arty diner, with a fully stocked bar promises an enjoyable night out. Be sure to get their early for dinner, especially on Taco Tuesdays as tables fill up fast. **SIAN SUGARS**



MURAL IN SANTA MARIA

temple. The impressive Buddha statues and the trickling fountain at the centre of the dining area create a serene atmosphere. However, don't be fooled into thinking that these luxurious surroundings will come at a price. The lunch menu, served from 12 till 5, offers a wide variety of meals all costing under 6 €. You can choose from a selection of vegetable, meat or seafood curries and all are served with basmati rice and a fresh salad. Each meal also comes with a starter of creamy tomato soup and sweet Indian bread served on a silver, leaf shaped dish. For the real Asian experience try the surprisingly refreshing yoghurt based drink, lassi. Attentive staff are on hand to make recommendations, however the restaurant fills up fast so you may have to be patient when waiting for your meal. **ADAM NASH**



UMBRELLAS OUTSIDE MIRCHI

[Kreuzberg]

Mirchi

Lovers of Asian cuisine, or those just wishing to stretch their palette, should seek out this authentic, Singapore style restaurant. It is hard to miss; the vibrant exterior walls and ornate umbrellas are clearly visible upon Oranien Strasse. The opulent decor of the outside patio, where most of the seating is situated, resembles an Asian

INFORMATION

German name:
Santa Maria
Mexican Diner
Address:
Oranienstraße
170, Kreuzberg
Metro station:
Kottbusser Tor
Opening times:
Mon-Sun
12 pm till late
Website: www.santaberlin.com
Prices: 9 € for a main

INFORMATION

German name:
Mirchi
Address:
Oranienstraße 50,
Kreuzberg
Metro station:
Kottbusser Tor
Opening times:
Mon-Sun
12 pm - 1 am
Website: www.santaberlin.com
Prices: 6 €



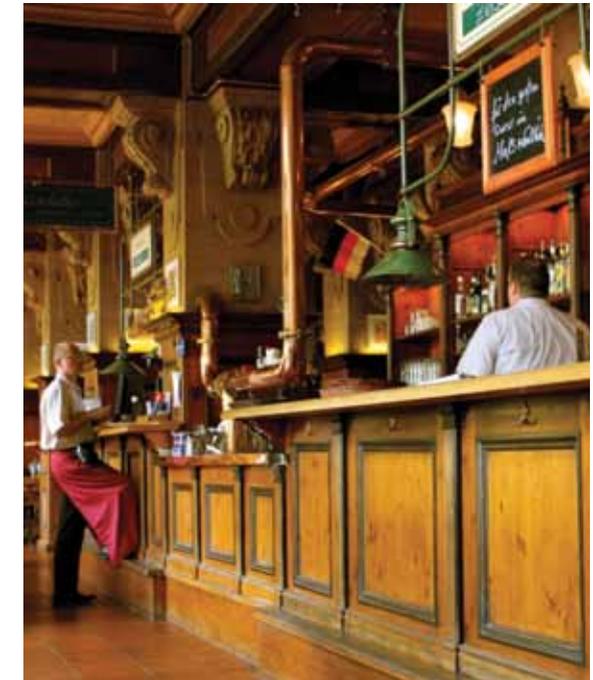
SPÄTVLE AT BRAUHAUS

[Charlottenburg]

Brauhaus

Located across the street from Charlottenburg Palace, Brauhaus Lemke offers patrons plenty to feast on from traditional German dishes to their beer, brewed in-house. The brewpub's rustic wooden decor, ornately carved pillars, and bright copper brewing kettles never get tiring on the eye. There are Bavarian details in some of the decorations such as hop garlands and arrangements of barley, but you won't find tacky tourists posing with steins of lager or waitresses in dirndls. What separates the Brauhaus Lemke from other restaurants is their own homemade brews. It would almost be insulting not to select one of the four options, the Lemke Original, Pilsner, Hefeweizen, or their seasonal option. Choose the 3,95 € tasting sampler and try them all. The expansive menu, which can be provided in English, offers main courses in categories of pork,

beef, turkey, some seafood and vegetarian options. The quality food can only be described as comfort on a plate. The dishes taste as if your Oma (german for "grandmother") was in the kitchen herself. Even though some of the main courses are pricey, the portions are massive and can be easily shared between two people. With Berlin's ever changing and dynamic culinary trends, the Brahaus Lemke stands firm on providing their guests with hearty, traditional German meals and the most refreshing beers. You can also find a sister brauhaus conveniently situated under the Hackescher Markt U Bahn station. **KATE NEUSWANGER**



BRAUHAUS BAR

INFORMATION

German name:
Sehrya
Address:
Luisenplatz 1,
Charlottenburg
Bus station:
No. 45
Luisenplatz
Opening times:
11 am - Last
Customer
Website: www.brauhaus-lemke.de
Prices:
5,50 € - 17 €



... of the ground floor the first floor and above offers not only expensive pieces of clothing and

INFORMATION

German name:
KaDeWe

Address:
Kaufhaus des Westens,
Tauentzienstraße
21-24,
Schöneberg

Metro station:
Wittenbergplatz

Opening times:
Mon - Thu 10am
- 8pm, Fri
10am - 9pm, Sat
9:30am - 8pm

Prices:
Expensive

accessories but a wide variety of high street and one off designers. Travel on up to the top floors however to what is perhaps the jewel in the crown of Kadewe. At the top of the escalator you find yourself in a food lover's paradise. From chocolate and cognac to sushi and spices, every taste bud

is catered for. Naturally one would expect the prices to be

[Prenzlauer Berg]

Paul's Boutique

Not to be confused with the bright and sometimes odd looking accessories from the British brand, Berlin's Paul's Boutique is one of the best places to go to find vintage clothing. No imagination is necessary but always recommended. Whilst it may appear daunting at first, as racks and racks of clothes disappear into the distance, just take a deep breath and get stuck in. Everything is helpfully organised by not only type of clothing but also colour.

high and the food overrated but take a seat at any of the small bars and restaurants and expect to be proved wrong. On the 7th floor the Wintergarten restaurant offers some of the best views across Berlin whilst tickling your taste buds with a wide range of delicacies. Kadewe has something for everyone and should not be dismissed because of the apparent high prices.

KENNA BISSET



SECOND HAND PAUL'S BOUTIQUE

The women's section is to the right and contains everything from Levi jeans and I love NY t-shirts, to Adidas trainers and Monki dresses. Belts line the back wall with handbags hanging underneath. To the left is the men's collection and whilst the brands are harder to find the amount of clothes is far larger than the women's section. If, however, it is branded items you are particularly interested in then take a trip 3 or 4 shops down the road to Goo which is also owned by Paul's Boutique. Here the prices are slightly higher but you can find the more upmarket likes of Ralph Lauren, Alexander McQueen and Burberry. **KENNA BISSET**



PATTERNED TILES OF LES GALERIES LAFAYETTE

INFORMATION

German name:
Humana
Address:
Oderberger Straße
47, Prenzlauer Berg

Metro station:
Frankfurter Tor

Opening times:
Mon - Sun
12am - 8pm

Prices: 0,50€ to 80€ in Goo

[Mitte]

Les Galeries Lafayette

Whilst not a traditional haunt for the budget traveller, the German branch of the Parisian department store, Galeries Lafayette, offers a stunning architectural display that is definitely worth a visit. The Berlin branch of the famous Parisian department store first opened in 1996. Its centrepiece – Jean Nouvel's glass funnel design – is an interactive work of art that must be viewed from all angles to be fully appreciated. It stretches up from the international food section spanning the height of the building, reflecting myriad coloured lights as it does so. Whilst you are there, this is a particularly good section to visit if you want to pick up a treat that won't break the bank. It offers a large selection of continental biscuits, chocolates and condiments, and has a particularly impressive wine selection. When you have had your fill, take the lift to the first floor to look at Nouvel's creation from a different perspective. Stroll along the corridor to visit Café Quartier 206 in the adjoining Friedrichstadtpassagen to bask in the opulence of its exquisite Art Deco hall. Whilst pricier than many places in Berlin the atmosphere is charming, especially if you are



ART DECO STAIRCASE IN LES GALERIES LAFAYETTE

INFORMATION

German name:
Les Galeries Lafayette

Address:
Friedrichstraße
76-78, Mitte

Metro station:
Friedrichstraße

Opening times:
Mon - Sat 10am
- 8pm

Website: www.galerieslafayette.de/faq-english/

Prices: Expensive

This is a wonderful building to simply meander through and you don't have to be an architectural buff to appreciate the glamour. **CATE HOPKINS**



LEARN HANDY WORDS AND PHRASES

- skirt**
der Rock
(dare rock)
- dress**
das Kleid
(das cly-de)
- shirt**
das Hemd
(das hemt)
- trousers**
die Hose
(dee hose-er)
- jeans**
die Jeans
(dee jeans)
- jumper**
der Pullover
(dare pull-over)
- shoes**
die Schuhe
(dee shoe-er)
- boots**
die Stiefel
(dee sh-tee-ful)
- trainers**
die Sportshuhe
(dee sport-shoe-er)
- make-up**
die Schminke
(dee sh-mink-er)