

East-West Global Travel

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An Experiential Learning Tour

20th Century History Comes Alive in Berlin, Germany

Day 1: Depart your US gateway city for an overnight trip to Berlin, Germany. After making one connection, your flight will be non-stop, arriving in Berlin early the following morning.

Day 2: Upon arrival at Berlin's Tegel Airport, and after clearing German Customs and Immigration, your group will be met by a local tour manager. Your tour manager is a local representative who will be on hand throughout your stay in Berlin to insure that all aspects of your trip go smoothly. After loading your luggage on a privately chartered bus, the group will transfer to your accommodations, the [Hotel 103](#), located near the city center in the [Prenzlauer Berg](#) area.

The Hotel 103 is a hotel for students and young people, yet it has all of the amenities of a traditional tourist class hotel, such as en-suite bathroom and showers, wi-fi and satellite TV in each room. There is also a restaurant café and a game room in the lobby. The students will be accommodated in rooms with 3 or 4 beds each, and accompanying adults will be in single or double rooms, as required. While here, the entire group will have two meals daily included, with breakfasts served each morning at the hotel and dinners at a local restaurant.

After checking in and unpacking, there will be time this afternoon for a guided walking tour of the city. [Berlin](#) is one of the world's most famous capitals, full of history and spectacular sights. It is impossible to learn about 20th century history without acknowledging that Berlin was at the center of many world-changing events. Your tour will begin at the iconic [Brandenburg Gate](#), and continue along the [Unter den Linden](#), the most famous boulevard in Berlin. Your local guide will explain the history, culture and architecture to be seen in all directions. The tour will last approximately three hours, and you will have time to stop for lunch along the way.

After getting acquainted with the city you will transfer back to the hotel and have some free time before dinner. This evening we will arrange a welcome meal for your group at the [Hard Rock Café](#) in Berlin.

Day 3: Today the group will have a sobering look into the dark history of World War II. The day begins with an excursion to the town of Oranienburg, about a half hour's drive to the north of Berlin. Here the group will have a tour of the infamous

[Sachsenhausen Concentration Camp](#), originally built by the Nazis in 1936 and later used by the occupying Soviet Union until 1950. Now there is a museum on the grounds of this camp which testifies to the horrors of the day.

In the afternoon the group will return to Berlin, where you will have another guided tour devoted to the WW II era. The street names have changed, many buildings from that era are now gone, but the nerve center of what was once the Third Reich was located in one part of Berlin which is best covered by a walking tour. You will see what is left of the “1000 Year Reich” today, including the old Propaganda Ministry, the Air Ministry, the remains of the SS and Gestapo headquarters. You will see where Albert Speer built the huge New Reichschancellery and where the vast People’s Hall would have stood. Your expert guide addresses how Hitler schemed his way into power, how some Germans resisted the regime’s barbarity, and how the shadows of the enormous crimes influenced post-war Germany. The tour ends on the ground above what was Hitler’s underground bunker.

This evening the group will have dinner at a local restaurant.

Day 4: The morning will be free to use at the discretion of your tour staff. It can be used as time to relax or can be used in a more structured way. Your local representative will be on hand to suggest activities for the group if desired.

In the afternoon the group will have a tour focusing on the architectural beauty of the city. Berlin’s architecture ranges from medieval to neoclassical to modern designs. On the tour you will see buildings in the [Bauhaus](#) style as well as those in the so-called “Stalin-Gothic style. You will also see some remnants of Nazi architecture and of course many examples of modern, contemporary buildings. The styles of architecture in Berlin often seem disjointed and may appear to be confusing at first, but as the city changed over the years, so did the style of many of its buildings. Your tour guide will help to shed some light on how the buildings in the city became what they are today.

This evening the group will have a cruise on the Spree River and the Landwehr Canal with dinner included.

Day 5: Today the group will have an excursion to the nearby city of [Potsdam](#). Although it is located only 15 miles to the southwest of Berlin, and it will be forever linked to the 20th century history made there, Potsdam also has a unique and inviting personality of its own. You will tour the historic Old Town and Dutch Quarter, visit the [Sanssouci Castle](#), the former summer home of Frederick the Great, King of Prussia.

After lunch at the [Bornstedt Estate](#), you will have some time to look around and do some exploring on your own.

The remainder of the evening will be free.

Day 6: Today the group will delve into the post-war and Cold War period of Berlin. The day will begin with a tour of the [Berlin Wall](#), or the area where the Wall once stood. You will have a guided tour along the east side of what was once the Berlin Wall, now an attraction for tourists but not so long ago a forbidden zone where people were shot and killed trying to cross. You will visit the Wall Memorial, and the famous [Checkpoint Charlie](#), the point where Westerners could cross into East Berlin.

From the Wall area, you will get a taste of what the old East German state was like, formerly known as the [German Democratic Republic \(GDR\)](#). You will tour the former GDR government area, including a tour of the interactive GDR Museum.

This evening we will arrange a dinner at a local restaurant with music and dancing.

Day 7: This morning the group will transfer to the [Charlottenburg Palace](#) in Berlin for a tour. This fabulous place dates back to the 1600s and has a unique and interesting history. The buildings and grounds are spectacular, and you will have time to look around and explore on your own following the guided part of the tour.

The remainder of the afternoon is free to use at your discretion.

This evening we will arrange for a farewell dinner at another local restaurant.

Day 8: After an exciting, educational and fun week in Berlin it will be time to return home. Your bus will transfer the group to Berlin's Tegel Airport, where you will board your international flight back to the USA and your gateway city.