



# TEARING DOWN THE WALL







# TEARING DOWN THE WALL:

Techno, the Cold War, doner kebabs, Hitler, street art, museums, galleries, clubs, bears, architecture, The Wall and David Hasselhoff. Berlin is a city synonymous with so many miscellaneous and diverse ingredients. The co-existence of so many different cultural elements makes this city truly a one off.

You have in your hands the most important item you will need during your stay in Berlin. We have aimed this guide at travellers on a budget but have not sacrificed on quality. All the hard work has been done for you. The main hotspots are covered but we have also searched the city to find the most quirky and memorable places to make your stay unique. Armed with just €20, you can eat like a king and still have enough leftover change to create a night out and hangover to remember.

Berlin is a diverse city with many different areas that each have their own individual character and appeal. The practical information at the end of each article is colour-coded so you can easily trace it back to the area the place is to be found. Although not the richest of Germany's cities, Berlin is abundant with history and culture. Money is certainly not everything. In the words of Berlin mayor Klaus Wowereit, 'Berlin is poor – but sexy'.

Charlie BOYDELL-SMITH

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# HISTORY



## **Introduction**

Officially tracing its foundation back to 1237, Berlin has since been at the heart of much of German history. The city has had a rich history over its 776 years, becoming the capital of Prussia in 1701 and the capital of a unified Germany in 1871. Nevertheless, it is the 20th century that has defined modern Germany and the city of Berlin.

## **The Failure of the Weimar Republic and the Rise of the Third Reich**

By 11 November 1918 when the Armistice was signed,

Germany was not only a defeated but also a changed nation. Kaiser Wilhelm II fled to the Netherlands and a republic was declared. However, this brief experiment with democracy was doomed to failure. Poor decision making and the difficult post war circumstances combined to undermine the republic. The 1919 Treaty of Versailles almost exclusively blamed Germany for the war through the infamous 'War Guilt Clause', a somewhat narrowminded view of the truth which angered many Germans. The resulting reparations put the last nail in the coffin of Germany's already crippled economical situation. Struggling to kick-start the economy, the



# MEET THE

Only 18 years old, **ALEX** is one independent, sassy Russian Princess that will randomly make you laugh with her one liners. The ghost of CTR, she has a habit of disappearing, but you can always find her at any place with chocolate, cocktails, or anything similar to a Swedish fertility festival.



**BETH** is a happy-go-lucky bookworm, who is addicted to shopping and loves holiday cruises. In her spare time, she likes to sip cocktails and live it up at one of Berlin's best beach bars.

You can find her hiding in some corner of the Earth, making jewellery in an Indian village or partying at a den god-knows-where. Marlene said "I wanna be like her when I grow up" and if Kurt Cobain had met her, there would have been no Courtney. If you're keen on a fezzy night, **JAC**'s your guy.



# THE TEAM



**Andrew** : This good-humoured kiwi is so laid back he's lying down. You can find him talking dribble at a doner shop, waiting for a meal he never ordered or passed out with beer by his side at Kater Holzig.

A good northern boy, **CHARLIE** has drunk his way around Berlin just for you. One of his favourite movies is Get Him to the Greek. You can find him in many exotic places around the world.



**MARLENE**: This loud and proud Floridian who bursts with energy and gets down and dirty on the d-floor, also has a severe case of narcolepsy. With her positive 'go-get-em' attitude towards life, she brings a smile to everyone's dials.

**MAYANNE** is a determined Frenchie with a passion for art and photography, but don't be alarmed if she curses in her native language, it's just her nature. She has a definite sweet tooth and above all else, is the Mother of Dinosaurs.



**RACHEL** : “Pregnant”, gluten intolerant, and enjoys a few cold beers, this artistic Scot can transform from a diligent tough-nut into a keen clubber, techno lover. The boob flashing along with her love for cooking and white wine makes her the perfect person to share a room with.

**SARAH** is an adventurous individual who loves the outdoors and likes to try her hand at extreme sports. She's travelled to many places; ask her where she hasn't been, it's much easier. She's extremely bubbly but beware because at any moment, she might randomly hug you.





From the deepest, darkest Welsh valleys, **PATRICK** has brought his hatred of techno to Berlin. His Welsh pride took him on a Berlin wide search for bars which play the rugby while also finding time to indulge his passion for history.

With her rambunctious voice, knowledge of every band past and present, and supply of a variety of colourful, patterned tights, at 5'4" **RANIA** is definitely not a wallflower. Her impersonation skills make her the most American Greek you will ever meet. Holla!



**TONI** is our cinema fan. There's not a movie she hasn't seen, and if you can't find her in front of the black screen, she might as well be enjoying her second favorite thing in life in one of the many themed coffee shops in town: cakes!

