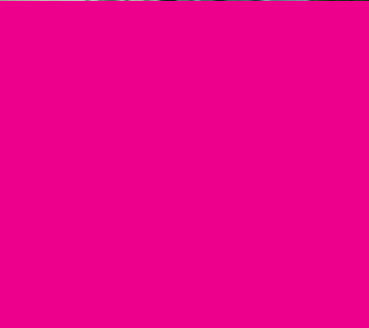
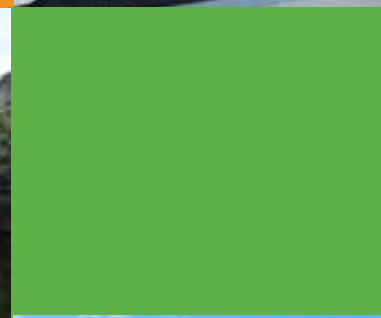
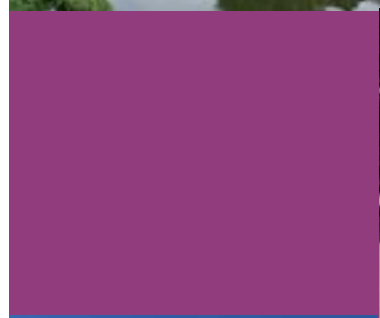
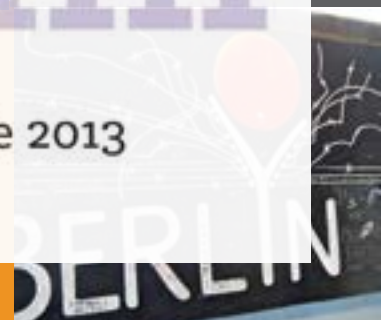
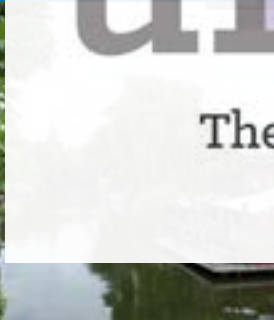
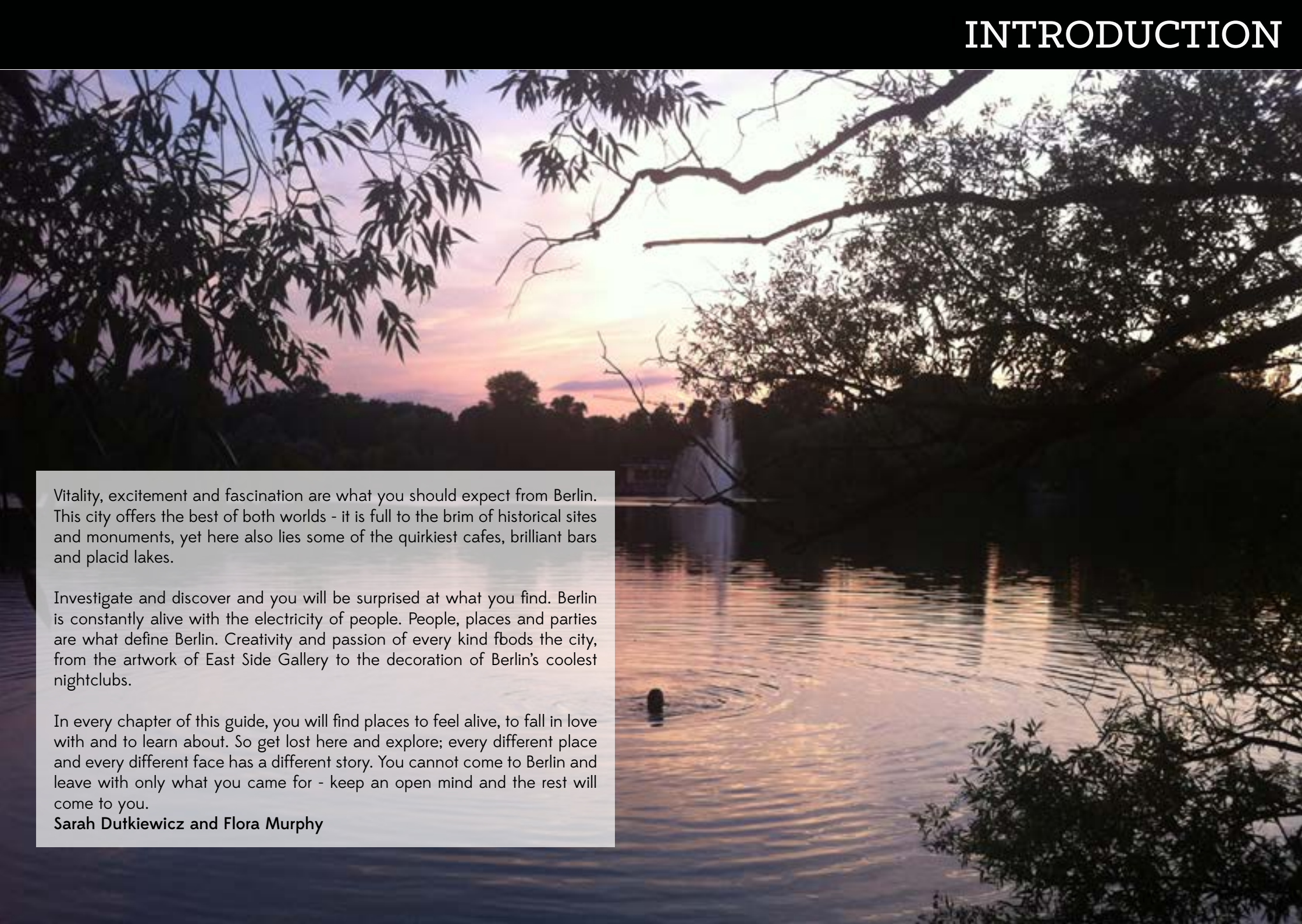


üBerlin

The Essential Guide 2013





Vitality, excitement and fascination are what you should expect from Berlin. This city offers the best of both worlds - it is full to the brim of historical sites and monuments, yet here also lies some of the quirkiest cafes, brilliant bars and placid lakes.

Investigate and discover and you will be surprised at what you find. Berlin is constantly alive with the electricity of people. People, places and parties are what define Berlin. Creativity and passion of every kind floods the city, from the artwork of East Side Gallery to the decoration of Berlin's coolest nightclubs.

In every chapter of this guide, you will find places to feel alive, to fall in love with and to learn about. So get lost here and explore; every different place and every different face has a different story. You cannot come to Berlin and leave with only what you came for - keep an open mind and the rest will come to you.

Sarah Dutkiewicz and Flora Murphy

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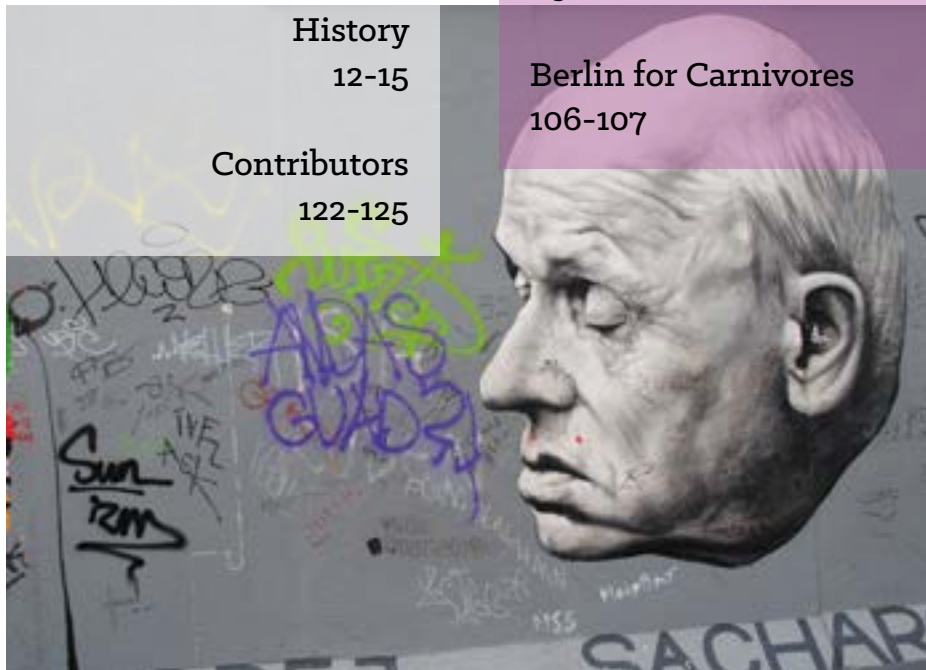
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Baxpax Downtown Hostel

If you're looking for a great hostel, stay at Baxpax Hostel Downtown. This spotless hostel is located just a short walk away from Oranienburger Straße. The friendly reception staff are available 24/7 which proves great for answering any queries you may have. To the left of the reception is an open area, in which internet can be accessed and costs €1 for thirty minutes. Books adorn the shelves; to be borrowed or even swapped if replaced with your own. Take your pick from the thrillers, fiction and non-fiction, and park yourself

down on the strategically placed red velvet chaise longue. Baxpax offers various rooms; an 8 bed mixed dorm costs around €20 per night. If you fancy a bit more privacy, opt for an apartment or suite which costs between €50- €70. Almost all of the rooms look onto the outside area, which is furnished with vast bean bags and several deck chairs that face a paddling pool. Admittedly, Baxpax is not the most inexpensive hostel but the final touches are definitely worth the extra euros. Stay here alone or with friends; it doesn't matter, as in Baxpax you are sure not to feel lonely.

Sarah Dutkiewicz

Ziegelstraße 28, 10117
Oranienburger Tor (U6)
www.baxpax.de/downtown



Heart of Gold Hostel

Heart of Gold is unlike any other hostel you will find in Berlin. For starters, it was inspired by Douglas Adams' off the wall novel 'The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy', giving the hostel its unusual, often galactic-style décor, but also its motto: 'Don't Panic' - a fitting mantra for travellers.

The reception is part of the large bar area, packed with a mix of chairs, tables and red leather sofas and even a pool table. Free Wi-Fi is available here, drinks at the hostel bar are cheap (€2.50 for a 5cl beer) and this large room even has a stage for regular live music shows.

Outside you'll find a patio with

artificial grass and parasols where the staff cook hotdogs, sausages and burgers on the barbecue most days in the summer for only €2.50. Heart of Gold definitely has a sociable atmosphere; something that can make or break a hostel.

There is a variety of rooms available in the hostel, from single rooms with a shower to a 50 bed 'megadorm'. In general the rooms are spacious, some with huge windows too. Prices vary depending on days of the week, or events in the city, but a room in an 8-bed dorm will cost somewhere between €12 and €20.

Flora Murphy

Johannisstraße 11, 10117
Friedrichstraße (U6, S1, S2, S5, S7,
S25, S75)
www.heartofgold-hostel.de



berry sauce and chopped hazelnuts. 1950's toy cars, Frankenstein finger puppets and a glorious array of affordable sunglasses are also available for your consumption.

Serving gourmet waffles made fresh to order, the creators of Kauf Dich Glücklich have managed to channel their perfectionist and artistic tendencies not only into the kitschy GDR décor, but into the quality of their tasty treats. A humble waffle with an ice cream of your choice costs €2.50 and leaves you satisfied in the knowledge that you've achieved great value for money. With a selection of beers, cocktails and refreshing fruit juices, it is a fashionable and inclusive cafe for hipsters and families alike.

Rebecca Clark

**Oderberger Straße 44, 10435
Eberswalder Straße (U2)
Mon-Fri: 12:00-1:00
Sat-Sun: 10:00-1:00
www.kaufdichgluecklich.de**

Pane e Vino

Prenzlauer Berg's Pane e Vino forces you to compromise between bad service and cheap prices. Large pizzas or pasta cost a mere €3.90, and the extensive menu offers not only a wide range of Italian staples, but also various meat dishes and salads. From an inside table, you can see pizzas being freshly prepared and cooked in traditional wood-fired ovens. The walls are adorned with hundreds of bottles of wine from which a Pinot Grigio or Sauvignon Blanc can be chosen to accompany your



meal. The gentle buzz of local Berlin radio that plays in the background jars against the relaxed atmosphere. If you want to avoid German pop music and local traffic reports while eating, it is better to sit outside. However, the biggest problem with Pane e Vino is the service. The lackadaisical attitude of the staff makes it difficult to go out and explore the rest of Prenzlauer Berg. It is hard to attract attention, even when trying to pay. Overall, whether or not a cheap and tasty meal outweighs careless service is up to you. It is worth a visit if your budget is strict but your schedule is not.

Kate Every

**Kastanienallee 2, 10435
Eberswalder Straße (U2)
Mon-Sun: 12:00 onwards**

FroYo Cake

Amongst the expensive restaurants near Hackescher Markt is Froyo-Cake, a small cupcake and crepe shop. Colourful sheltered outdoor

seating makes it ideal for treating yourself to a short break after touring the city. The cupcakes come in a number of flavours including lemon, vanilla, strawberry carrot and red velvet. Not one to go light on the icing, the chocolate Oreo cupcake is particularly overpowering. €3.50 for a normal cupcake and €1.50 for a mini cupcake, the moist sponge and sugar sweet icing makes it well worth the price; six cupcakes for €6.50 also makes them great as a gift idea. Savoury and sweet crepes can be eaten for a light lunch with basic sweet ones for a mere €3.50.



Coffee, cappuccino and macchiato and tea's are priced between €1.90 and €2.60 and cold drinks at €2.20. For a more authentic experience, you can pick from the selection of German sliced cakes. The staff are a delight and if you are a student, you can even get a 10% discount.

Gurmeet Kaur

**Karl-Liebknecht Straße 5, 10178
Hackescher Markt (S5, S75)
Mon-Fri: 11:30 onwards
Sat-Sun: 11:30 onwards (summer)**

Tiki Heart

In Tiki Heart, Hawaiian beach bar meets 50s rockabillyhangout, leather sofas and faded armchairs are set against wicker bar stools and carved wooden Tiki statues. On the walls, crocodiles and fbwer garlands are hung among 50s pin ups, guitars and arty mirrors. Even outside, surrounded by leafy plants under parasols and strings of small plastic palm trees you'll still find a red-check cushioned rickshaw.

In the menu, you'll also find this stylistic juxtaposition. On one page, burger specials such as the Johnny Rotten, cooked in whiskey and served with blue cheese (€6.50), and on the next tropical cocktails - there is a daily special costing only €5 all day. Drinks in general are also reasonably priced with bottled beers from €2.20. A large breakfast menu is available until 5pm: try the Hillbilly Pancake for €4, a thick pancake

served with a surprisingly tasty combination of bacon, maple syrup and sour cream.

Head downstairs for a small shop filled with alternative clothing such as neon patterned skinny jeans, platform boots and kitsch accessories. In the evening, head next door to 'Wild at Heart' for live music, where you'll find anything from punk rock to burlesque to death metal.

Flora Murphy

**Wiener Straße 20, 10999
Görlitzer Bahnhof (U1)
Mon-Sun: 10:00 onwards
www.tikiheart.de**

Burgermeister

An old, dark green converted toilet under a railway bridge, with traffic on either side, does not sound like an appealing place to eat. However, this burger joint is filled to the max with people tucking happily into their burgers and fries they have patiently waited for. Burgermeister's system is simple: order your food at the kiosk and grab a ticket. Once your number flashes on a small screen, you can eagerly pick up your meal.

The burgers are juicy - probably the tastiest you will have - and come with the perfect ratio of meat and vegetables in their standard single cheeseburger for €3.90, which bacon and jalapenos can be added to for an extra €1.50. If you have more room



in your stomach, extra salty fries for €1.80 can be added, with optional gooey cheese and spicy chilli peppers. For seating, bottle carriers and bars are used to sit on which curiously add a more social vibe to the eatery, ensuring that you get to chat with fellow Burger lovers. Despite the lengthy time you may have to wait and the very sparse menu options, the alfresco diner is certainly worth your while for its mouth-watering burgers alone.

Stuart Blythe

**Oberbaumstraße 8, 10997
Schlesisches Tor (U1)
Mon-Thurs: 11:00-3:00
Fri-Sat: 11:00-4:00
Sun: 12:00-3:00
www.burger-meister.de**

Cafe im Literaturhaus

Cafe in the Literature House

Just two minutes from the over-commercialised Ku'damm, Cafe im Literaturhaus is surprisingly peaceful and ambient. The cobbled seating area is dotted with wooden tables and chairs, and surrounded by lush greenery. The pleasant atmosphere is enhanced by the gentle buzz of conversation and the light trickle of a water feature into the garden's small, central pond. If the weather is not good, a short flight of stairs will take you through a carved marble facade to a small dining area, fitted out with circular tables, complete with white table cloths and cutlery.

Servers will take your order at the ta-





Cara-Caird Hunter

Cara is an English literature student and animal tattoo enthusiast. This patriotic princess from Fife (the kingdom) is without a doubt the best person to be lost with on the U-Bahn - her infectious laugh will soon put a smile on your face.

Flora Murphy

Always sporting an all-black outfit, this sophisticated bohemian can only be spotted in Berlin's hippest spots. When she is not traversing the city streets on her bike, she will be sipping Russian tea in the Krumme Lanke or having a bop in Soulcat.



Danying Jiang

English teacher Danying has travelled all the way from China to experience Berlin life, bringing her adorable, dimpled smile with her. A kind soul, and a massive dog lover, she's fond of Berlin's parks and outdoor living in the sunshine.



Freddie Marshall

Freddie is a man of far too many words, with a love for long, solo bus journeys, matching his shirt to his socks and a passion for pushing journalistic boundaries by playing ping pong into the small hours.



Lindsey Hacker

Lindsey exudes happiness and energy. She has a passion for seeing the world, and has come a long way from her home in Portland, Oregon travelling Europe and learning along the way.

Megan Pease

This friendly English student from Cambridge has a real way with words; her chatty style makes even the most dull topic sound awesome. Interestingly, her hobbies include both chocolate and getting locked into bathrooms...



Olivia Pinnock

Olivia is a smiley lilac-haired fashion journalist from London, with a fantastic wardrobe. She is creative, ambitious and talented with time for everyone and never misses an opportunity for a good dance.



Rebecca Clark

With her chirpy attitude and enigmatic smile, this 'Yorkshire lass' exudes endless energy. Always a positive force to be around, you can find her cycling in Mauer Park or snapping the perfect Berlin photograph.



Sarah Dutkiewicz

A charming filly from Caerphilly, Sarah is a flawless Welsh gal with a love for Chai lattes and a boogie to any R&B tune. Expect to spend countless hours chuckling away with her thanks to her loveable sense of humour.

Stuart Blythe

Stuart has an eye for all things Berlin. You can find him strolling along streets on Sci-fi and alternative art tours. His kind personality and open-ness to new things makes Stuart someone to remember even after the adventures are done.



Gurmeet Kaur

Gurmeet – emphasis on the ‘G’ part – is a little International Relations and History student set to do big things. Her articulacy and fiesty flair is guaranteed to help her succeed in politics, and she can often be found in Yaam Bar when on a break from planning world domination.



Kate Every

Kate is the lovely piña colada drinking lass from Coventry. She can often be heard exercising her vocal chords by either singing along to chart toppers or talking to herself. An influential character, she is the glue that holds us all together.



Alex Gardner

Alex is a savvy business student from De Montfort University with a penchant for finding the right word. You can usually find him in St Oberholz listening to Radio 1 or discussing the best new methods of dental hygiene...

CONTRIBUTORS

Section Editors: Stuart Blythe, Cara-Caird Hunter, Olivia Pinnock, Megan Pease, Freddie Marshall, Gurmeet Kaur. **Writers:** Cara-Caird Hunter, Sarah Dutkiewicz, Megan Pease, Olivia Pinnock, Gurmeet Kaur, Rebecca Clark, Kate Every, Freddie Marshall, Stuart Blythe, Flora Murphy, Lindsey Hacker, Danying Jiang, Alex Gardner. **Layout Design Team:** Kate Every, Rebecca Clark, Alex Gardner.

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