

A cheat sheet for newbies who want to begin their German saga in full swing

Joining our Kingdom in Berlin!



King

For those that go the extra mile

Let's guess! You can't wait to see Germany's capital and our offices? We are as eager as you to get our new adventure started. To make your move to Berlin as smooth as possible we've put together this guide. With this little helper at your side, you'll be cruising through Kreuzberg's alternative pubs and venues, tasting Germany's premier currywurst, whiling away your time on the Spree or raising a smile to Berlin's whimsical Ampelmännchen traffic lights in no time!

Contents

Why Berlin? Here's why...	4
Why Berlin? Here's some more reasons...	7
A place to call home	8
Hi, I'm new here!	10
Wanna know more?	11

Why Berlin? Here's why...

Nerd or hipster, bohemian or bourgeois? Whatever. Berlin is the place for you. Don't believe us? Come and have a look and let us take you on a tour around our new base. Even if you think you know and love Berlin, this brief walkthrough can surely show you one or two sides that you wouldn't have imagined.

The world's meeting place

The Berlin ExpoCenter, a massive expo space of 190,000 square metres, is host to many leading events and trade fairs. One of its high-profile events is the Internationale Funkausstellung (IFA) electronics' and media fair. There's always something going on that draws people in from all over Germany as well as the world – whether it's an expo, the Berlinale or the New Year's Eve party at the Brandenburg Gate, one of the world's biggest.

16 million unique visitors

Berlin comes packed with 170 museums and galleries. The choice is yours, and it's not easy. Highlights include the DDR Museum with its interactive experience of the life and times of the people of former East Germany. And that's just for starters... There's also the Pergamon Museum, the world's first archaeological museum, or the Neue Nationalgalerie with its impressive architecture and even more impressive collection of Picasso, Klee, or Dali.

Let's get the party started!

Berlin's nightlife is legendary. Clubs and venues like the Berghain or the Watergate are fixtures in the calendars of the world's top DJs. Whether you want to have an after work session, a big night out – as a couple or as a single – or just want to belt out 'Don't Stop Believing'

at a karaoke bar – Berlin has something for everybody. Gay or straight, the scene's buzzing. Just keep an open mind and let your feet wander through Mitte, Kreuzberg, or Friedrichshain.

A paradise for shopping queens & kings

If you're not a fashion victim yet, Berlin will make you one as the city is the centre for several leading designers. The Kurfürstendamm remains the main attraction, but the shops in Berlin-Mitte, on Wilmersdorfer Straße or Schlossstraße, at the Hackesche Markt or on Potsdamer Platz also have a perfect mix for big spenders or bargain hunters alike.

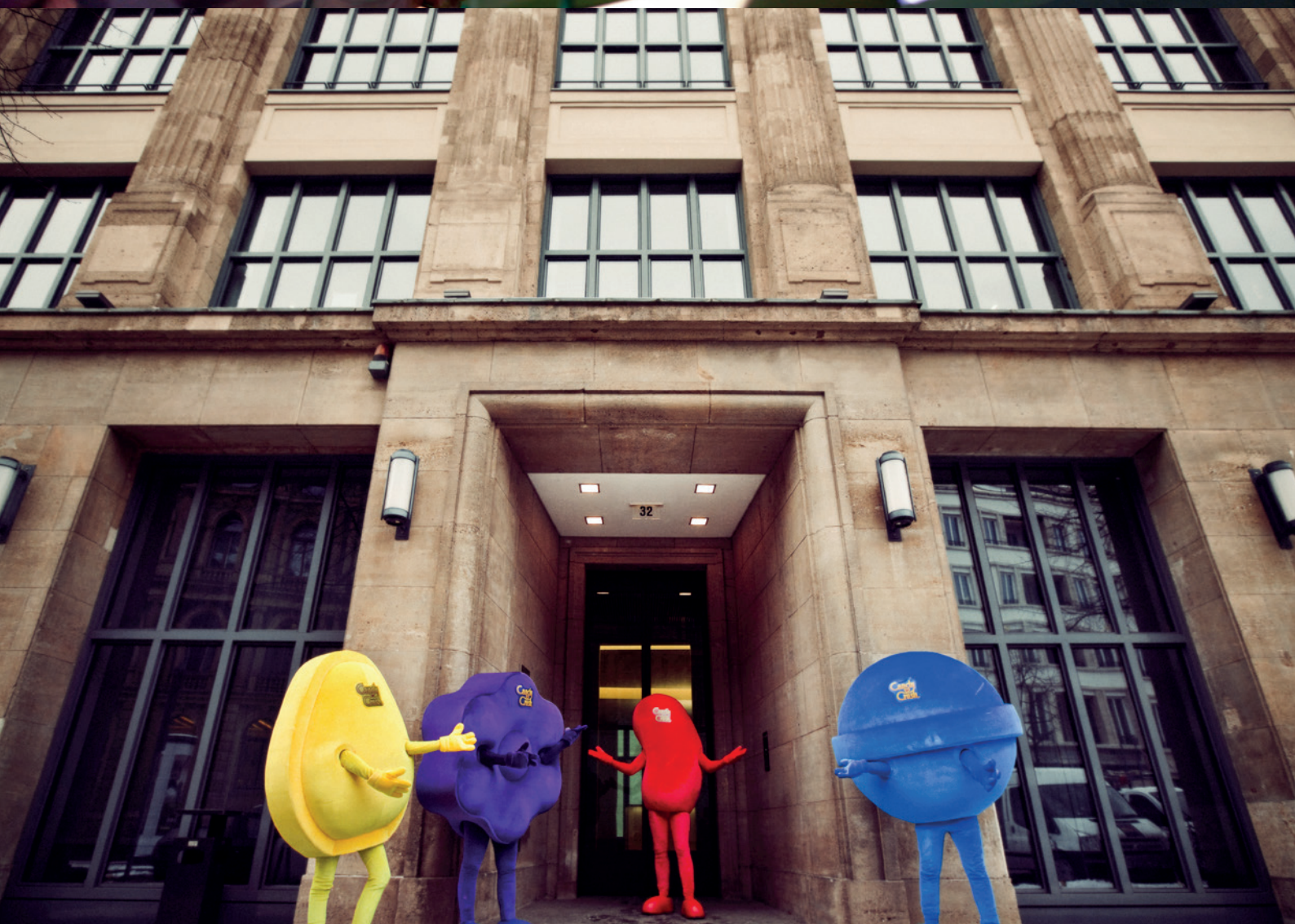
It's a gaming city

A lot of successful games companies have offices in Berlin – around 1,500 companies are involved in the gaming industry. Us too. Some key institutions, associations and networks also reside here, such as GAME, BIU, Stiftung Digitale Spielekultur and USK. And did you know that Berlin is the home of the wonderful Computer Game Museum?

Bring your sports gear

Hertha BSC's football heroes, the Berlin Marathon, or Ironman Berlin – Germany's capital city is known for its sports clubs and amazing events. One absolute highlight is the Vattenfall City-Night. The yearly summer night's run brings Berlin's traffic to a hold when skaters, runners, power walkers or wheelchair athletes reclaim the streets. Berlin live up to its name as a creative hotspot in the sports' world as well, with new disciplines such as blackminton, like badminton but played in the dark and the only rule being: no equipment that doesn't glow.





Why Berlin? Here are some more reasons...

Outdoor enthusiasts will also find that Berlin has a lot to offer in green areas. Up to 30 percent of Berlin is made up of woodland, parks, and other green areas.

The classic spots are the Tiergarten, known as the green lungs of the city. This beautiful park with its meadows and small lakes has many cafes and beer gardens dotted around for you to kick back and relax. There's also the track along the Landwehrkanal as well as lots of paths to explore in over 30,000 hectares of woodland in and around Berlin, such as Grunewald or the Teufelsberg. The botanical garden is one of the largest and impressive of its kind with over 20,000 different plant species competing for your attention.

For a real holiday feeling, you should go to one of the city's many lakes, like the Müggelsee or Wannsee, and the popular urban beaches. The Strandbar Mitte is Germany's first urban beach bar, with delicious exotic cocktails, Papa Pear-swaying palms and beach chairs adding a touch of the Mediterranean to the Spree cityscape – Latin beats and dance nights under the stars included. At the YAAM Beach, you can dream yourself away into the Caribbean with Jamaican beer, original island cuisine, and the finest sand imported straight from the Caribbean.

Out and about in Berlin

When it comes to traffic and finding parking spots, Berlin is a disaster. That's why many Berliners opt for car sharing, which is a great option for people who don't

need a car every day, but might want a set of wheels to get around from time to time. Simply become a member and book your car by phone or online, and the car will be waiting for you at one of many pick-up spots. Berlin also has an extensive bus and tram network but these days more and more people opt for two wheels, especially in the suburbs of Friedrichshain, Kreuzberg, or Pankow. If you haven't got a bike, there's the option of rental bikes, provided by the Deutsche Bahn's "Call a Bike" service. And when everything else fails, Berliners like to rely on their own two feet.

Currywurst über alles

Who came up with it? A Berliner, of course! To be more precise, it was Hertha Heuwer who, in 1949, added curry to a sausage and created a new divine dish. The Curry36 on Mehringdamm in Kreuzberg has become a fixture for many pub crawls.

Smile, please!




































































































They are long past their prime. You need to wait ages for your turn. And then you need to squeeze into a tiny cubicle. No, we're not speaking of public toilets – but of the nostalgic photo booths dotted around the city. These retro and quaint booths are very popular to line up for to capture the night time funs with friends, and you will find people queuing even late at night.

Easy access to Europe

With its central position in Europe, it's really easy to access any part of the continent.

A place to call home

If you google “Berlin where to live”, you’ll get countless results. It might be hard to decide where to move, so our comparison chart will give you a first overview of the five suburbs (‘Kieze’) in most demand:

	Mitte	Charlottenburg	Friedrichshain	Kreuzberg	Prenzlauer Berg
Rents	 	 	   	   	  
Green Space	  	     	  	   	 
Creativity	     	 	    	     	   
Entertainment	     	 	    	     	   
Family Life	   	   	   	   	   

Stop looking. Start living.

Housing in Berlin comes in all shapes and sizes. House prices and rents depend a lot on the location, the size, and the standards you expect. If you’re looking for a flat in Berlin, take a look at the Facebook group “Wohnung, WG, Wohnungstausch und Wohnen in Berlin”: With close to 20,000 likes, you might score a nifty little place to call your own. Or simply put up a search advert. Other options to help you find your dream palace, include the online or paper edition of the city magazines Zitty and Tip. Of course, we will help you get settled in as well. You’ll be installing those Billy bookshelves in no time!

Thinking about the children

Berlin is a great place for children of all ages. By contrast to other German states, children have had a legal right to a spot at a crèche from their first birthday and onwards ever since August 2013. In Berlin, you will find multilingual kindergartens and international schools, childrens puppet theatres, farms and museums as well as parent-child cafés.

Childcare is free of charge in the last three years before primary school. In the period before that, parents enjoy childcare credit, depending on their income. Berlin’s school children can attend full-time primary schools for the first six years, but there are many options from half-day schooling to open or closed full-day schools.

Gobbledigook?

You can always tell a true Berliner from his blunt language, tough love humour and unique dialect: Traits that make up the famous “Berliner Schnauze” (Berlin Snout). To make sure you can get along with the natives, here’s the first page in your new glossary:

- Words starting with a ‘g’ sound like they begin with a ‘y’: e.g. geben (to give) becomes yeben; ganz (whole) – yanz.
- The German ‘ow’ sound (written ‘au’) becomes a long ‘o’, e.g. kaufen (to buy) – kofen
- Hallo, wie geht’s? (Hi, how are you?) – Ey na waten hier los? (Oi, what’s going on here?)
- Geht es Ihnen gut? (You feeling good?) – Allet kla? (All OK?)
- Brötchen (bread rolls) – Schrippe
- Berliner (donut) – Pfannkuchen
- Pfannkuchen (pancake) – Eierkuchen

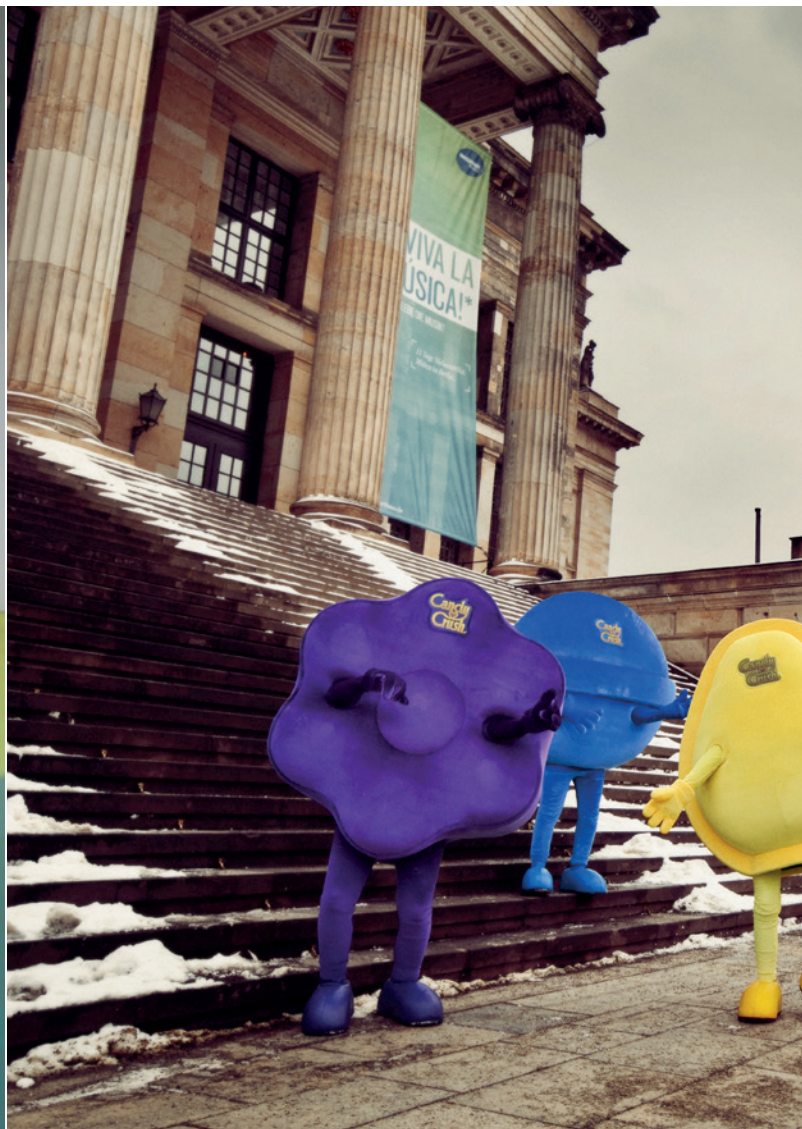
Berlin is a very international city and many people speak English but it’s a good idea to take part in the studio offered German classes to help orientate in the beginning, especially bureaucracy can be tough if you don’t understand any German.



“Hi, I’m new here!”

So, Berlin is a great place. But what’s a great place without friends? This is how you make friends in an instant in Berlin:

- Church choir, five-by-five soccer or dance classes? It’s easier to find likeminded people than you think. Just pick a club, register and get going!
- And don’t forget the social events at King. There are lots of great personalities waiting for you!
- meetup.com
This is both an online community and an app where you can find likeminded people, enjoying to do the things you like to do.
- internations.org
Is an expat community where you can make new friends.
- <http://berlingamescene.com/talkandplay>
Is a site where you can find interesting events for the Berlin game scene.



Wanna know more?

berlin.de

An online clubbing guide with details and addresses for the most interesting and popular party locations in Berlin – arranged by city neighbourhoods for your convenience.

berlin-and-i.de

The magazine lets 'real' Berliners have a say on which part of the city that is the best. Have a look to learn more about your 'kiez'.

Apps for Berlin

Arrival Guide App, BikeCityGuide Berlin App, Parcview App, ... A great page for all who want to explore Berlin with a mobile guide.

Exberliner.com

A website with its finger on the pulse. The resource for anybody looking for a flea market, a concert, or even comedy.

toytowngermany.com

This is an English-language community website for Germany. If you click the Berlin link, you get an information resource, a meeting point, and a communication platform for English-speakers in the city.

berlinforallthefamily.com

If you have a family with you, this is the guide you can't do without.



Where the magic happens

The Berlin studio opened in 2014 in the entertaining and central borough of Berlin Mitte. The area provides a great historical backdrop with famous sites like Brandenburger Tor and Unter den Linden as well as the beautiful Tiergarten park and only a short walk to infamous suburb Kreuzberg with it's vintage markets, bars and nightclubs.

Experience the entrepreneurial spirit and enjoy the security and stability of the global market leader for casual gaming!



Seriously Playful