

BERLIN

Berlin is the capital city of Germany. It's the country's largest city in area and population.

Berlin is one of the most influential centers in European politics, culture and science. The city serves as an important junction of continental transportation and is home to some of the world's most prominent universities, research facilities, and museums.

TRANSPORTATION

Berlin's integrated public transport system is the best way to get round. An interconnected three-zone system, which only requires one ticket, allows you to hop from bus to underground to surface rail and tram. Trams are fast and convenient and small ferries will get you across Berlin's lakes.

BANKS AND CURRENCY

Operating hours for banks are consumer-friendly, and many are open until the evening on several days. The currency of Berlin is the Euro. Coins are in denominations of 1, 2, 5, 10, 20, 50 cents and 1 & 2 Euros. Bank notes of 5, 10, 20, 50, 100, 200, and 500 Euros are legal tender.



SHOPPING

Large shopping centers and stores located in malls are open until 8 pm on weekdays and on Saturdays. Smaller stores close at 6.30 pm,



CLIMATE

Berlin lies between oceanic and continental stamped climate. The mean annual temperature for Berlin is 49F and its mean annual precipitation is 22.8 inches. The warmest months are June, July, and August, with mean temperatures of 62 to 64. The coldest are December, January, and February, with mean temperatures of 31F to 34F. Berlin's built-up area creates a microclimate with heat stored by the city's buildings. Temperatures can be nearly 40F degrees higher in the city than in surrounding areas.



EATING

From a quick snack to a gourmet meal at a fine restaurant – the choices for eating out in Berlin are endlessly varied. Traditional Berlin cuisine tends to be rustic and hearty -

Berlin meatballs and *currywurst* (sausage with a curry sauce) are typical examples. In Berlin, you can enjoy breakfast at any time of day. Many people gather at cafes and stay well into the afternoon, drinking coffee, enjoying international breakfast specialties and relaxing.



MUSEUMS

Berlin has more than 170 museums and collections. They offer everything from the ancient to the ultra-modern - the Egyptian Nefertiti, the Greek Pergamon Altar, the painters of the "Brücke" and the "Bauhaus" and works by Baselitz and Beuys. The works found in the city's museums and collections and private galleries are as exciting as they are diverse.



GENERAL INFO

Ambulance dial 112
Police dial 110
US Embassy (030) 2385 174
Post Office M-F 8am-6pm Sat. 8am-noon