

20 years since the Fall of the Wall – a journey which unites

# Welcome to the country without borders



Destination Germany –  
experience history where it happened







The Berlin Wall in November 1989



"Berlin" sculpture in Tauentzienstraße, Berlin



Wall Park (Mauerpark), Berlin

20 YEARS SINCE THE FALL OF THE WALL – A JOURNEY WHICH UNITES

## Welcome to the country without borders

Our unique country in the beautiful heart of Europe offers more than proven diversity encompassing maritime atmosphere and alpine panorama. When focussing on Germany, it is impossible to avoid the positive and negative reference points in its history. On the anniversary of the Fall of the Wall and subsequent reunification, we would like to use this brochure to present you a completely different side to Germany. Germany is a destination with a tangible and contemporary history – a journey through time with a backdrop.

After more than 28 years of German division, the Berlin Wall fell overnight from 9 – 10 November 1989, a historical event of global significance. Today, 20 years later, Germany, Europe and the whole world look back, in order to look forward. Thanks to the peaceful revolution and the Fall of the Wall, not only were millions of people united: Germany was, too. And the balance between East and West was re-established.

Experience history where it unfolded. And discover a piece of virgin soil in Germany, which the Fall of the Wall elevated to the symbol for fresh starts, hope and a new future. You too can become a border-crosser and visit historical locations: St. Nicholas' Church in Leipzig, the path of the Berlin Wall, the numerous GDR museums in Thuringia or the legendary Checkpoint Charlie in Berlin. And, of course, the capital which presents itself in a whole new light since reunification. Germany as a destination has become a country without borders, thrown open to visitors from all over the world. A country which is impressive in the way it connects the past, present and future; a country which also cordially invites you to visit the relics of that time and relive history.

**Welcome to destination Germany.**





Foyer of the "Story of Berlin" museum

### MUSEUMS AND EXHIBITIONS

## Authentic German-German history

From east to west and from south to north, the regions of the former GDR have countless museums, galleries and collections, ranging from the serious to the cheerful, the critical to the charming. All reveal the political, economic and social diversity of the former east zone. At original locations on the border, you can learn about the fates of refugees and other events related to the demarcation which took place in Germany. In the towns, collections of artefacts show typical living spaces to give an idea of everyday life and exhibits about culture, holidays, consumption and professional life. The various technical museums provide information on specialist areas of the GDR's research and economic power. On the coast, monuments to shipbuilding and shipyards depict maritime history while in Berlin, in particular, exhibitions about the struggle provide information about human rights and the effects of the political system.

1945

**8 May** The German army surrenders unconditionally.

**5 June** The Soviet Union and the Western Allies take over the government of Germany.

1946

**7 March** The FDJ (Free German Youth) is founded.

**21–22 April** The founding party conference of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany (SED) is held.





Alexanderplatz (Alexander Square), Berlin, in GDR times



Left: Become an eye-witness in the DDR Museum, Berlin  
Above: Have a seat in an authentic Trabi in the DDR Museum, Berlin



## → Museums about the GDR

### 1 DDR Museum, Berlin



Lively, interactive and thrilling, the DDR Museum in Berlin presents everyday life in the DDR (GDR). The visitor is taken on an extraordinary and interesting journey into the socialist past. A simulated Trabant journey through a high-rise residential estate with genuine Trabant driving noises, for example. But there is still much more to see and experience. Open drawers and cupboards, feel them inside, rummage around, discover things. Each visitor is invited to expand his knowledge in various topic areas and to rethink clichés – interactively, playfully, entertainingly and based on facts.

↓

Phone +49 (0)30 847123730  
post@ddr-museum.de  
www.ddr-museum.de (Engl.)

### 2 Filmmuseum Potsdam



Exhibition on the 1950s in the GDR and FRG (in collaboration with the Berlin Filmmuseum): in this joint exhibition, the Potsdam Film Museum presents events from the world of cinema in the GDR. Groups and individuals welcome

↓

Phone +49 (0) 331 271810  
info@filmmuseum-potsdam.de  
www.filmmuseum-potsdam.de (Engl.)

### 3 DDR Museum, Radebeul

Here, the living and working conditions of the people from the former second German state are presented. Apolitical, but somewhat thought-provoking, the DDR Museum tries to refute some clichés.

↓

Phone +49 (0)351 8351780  
mail@ddr-museum-dresden.de  
www.ddr-zeitreise.de

## → Other museums about the GDR

### 4 Museumsbaracke „Olle DDR“ Apolda

Phone +49 (0)3644 560021  
info@olle-ddr.de  
www.olle-ddr.de

### 5 Eisenhüttenstadt (formerly Stalinstadt)

info@alltagskultur-ddr.de  
www.alltagskultur-ddr.de

### 6 Museum für DDR-Produkte (Museum of GDR products), Erfurt

Phone +49 (0)361 3913432  
info@ddr-museum-erfurt.de  
www.ddr-museum-erfurt.de

### 7 DDR-Museum Malchow at „Film-Palast“ Malchow

Phone +49 (0)39932 18000  
DDR-Museum@aol.com  
www.ddr-museum-malchow.city-map.de

### 8 DDR Museum, Pirna

Phone +49 (0)3501 774842  
info@ddr-museum-pirna.de  
www.ddr-museum-pirna.de (Engl., Fr.)

### 9 DDR Museum and Restaurant, Tutow

Phone +49 (0)39999 70557  
sfredspiegel@aol.com  
www.ddr-museum-tutow-mv.de

1947

→

1948

→

20 June Launch of the D-Mark.

23 June 1948 to 12 May 1949 Airbridge to Berlin (Berliner Luftbrücke). Having been blockaded by the Soviet occupiers, Berlin is supplied by aeroplane by the Western allies.

August 1. FC Nuremberg becomes the first post-war German football champion.





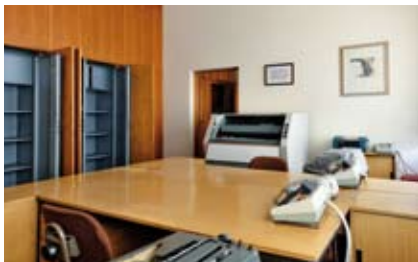
# MUSEUMS AND EXHIBITIONS



Above: A Stasi (State Security Service) member's desk / Right: Stasi files

## → Museums about the State Security Service (Stasi)

### 1 Stasi Museum, Berlin Research and Memorial Place Normannenstraße



Today, a facility for research into the political system of the GDR is located in what used to be the central complex of the Ministry for State Security. This doubles as a memorial.

↓  
Phone +49 (0)30 5536854  
info@stasimuseum.de  
www.stasimuseum.de (Engl.)

### 2 Information and Documentation Centre of the Federal Commissioner for the Files of the State Security Service of the Former GDR (IDZ)

The Information and Documentation Centre of the Federal Commissioner for the Files of the State Security Service holds

the “State Security – Instrument of Power of the Socialist Unity Party (SED) Dictatorship” exhibition on the work carried out by the GDR’s State Security Service.

↓  
Phone +49 (0)30 232450  
post@bstu.bund.de  
www.bstu.bund.de (Engl.)

### 3 Museum in the “Runde Ecke” (“Round Corner”), Leipzig, with special exhibition for the 2009 jubilee

The building where the Leipzig headquarters of the State Security Service were located for 40 years now houses the Memorial Museum in the “Runde Ecke”. In the former offices of the Stasi officers, visitors can now find out about their function, how they worked and the history of the Stasi. The authentic environment allows guests to experience something of the working atmosphere predominant in the “Runde Ecke” until 1989. History comes alive here. A special exhibition provides information about 1989, the “breakout year” in which Leipzig became the “City of Peaceful Revolution”. There will be an extensive supporting programme on this topic featuring conducted tours, readings, talks, music, and art. Running from: 15 January until December 2009

↓  
Phone +49 (0)341 9612443  
mail@runde-ecke-leipzig.de  
www.runde-ecke-leipzig.de

## → Other Stasi museums

### 4 Permanent exhibition: “Die Staatssicherheit in Potsdam” (“State Security in Potsdam”)

Phone +49 (0)331 50560  
astpotsdam@bstu.bund.de  
www.bstu.bund.de (Engl.)

### 5 Archive and Memorial in the former Stasi Remand Centre:

DuG Rostock, IDZ Berlin,  
IDZ Dresden, IDZ Erfurt,  
IDZ Frankfurt/Oder, IDZ Halle  
www.bstu.bund.de (Engl.)

### 6 Forum of Contemporary History Leipzig

Permanent and temporary exhibitions as well as a variety of events commemorating the history of East Germany – division and reunification, totalitarianism and resistance.  
Phone +49 (0)341 22200  
zfl@hdg.de  
www.hdg.de/zfl (Engl., Fr)

**8 May** The Parliamentary Council adopts the constitution in Bonn.

**12 May** End of the Berlin Blockade.

**7 October** The German Democratic Republic (GDR) is founded. The German People’s Council is reformed as the Provisional People’s Chamber of the GDR.

**8 February** The Ministry for State Security (MfS) is founded.

**5 June** The Allied Powers take over the government of Germany and form the Allied Control Council.

1949

1950

→

→





Exhibition at Kap Arkona Bunker, Rügen



"Runde Ecke" (Round Corner) Museum in Leipzig



Technology in the Eichenthal Bunker

## → Bunker museums

### 1 Eichenthal Bunker, Lindholz



In the bunker's strategic information centre, you will experience the daunting scenario of nuclear war through simulated combat. This simulation is designed to be a military-historical memorial to warn against arms races and cold war.

↓  
Phone +49 (0)38320 649866  
eichenthal@bunker-302.de  
www.bunker-302.de

### 2 Kap Arkona Bunker, Putgarten, Rügen

Kap Arkona's excellent position as the northernmost point of the GDR was exploited for military purposes. This is why there are two military bunkers right next to the two lighthouses. The Arkona bunker originates from the era of the

Wehrmacht (German Armed Forces up to 1945) and housed the 6th Border Brigade (Coast) in the DDR era. A second bunker was built between 1979 and 1986. Today, the informative tours around the National People's Army (NVA) bunker include an interesting exhibition on the "History of the 6th Fleet/Bug and the GDR's Navy", former bunker equipment and a collection of photographs of the Navy.

↓  
www.ostsee.de/insel-ruegen/kap-arkona-bunker.html

### 3 Stasi Bunker, Leipzig



The bunker in Machern (30 kilometres east of Leipzig) is the only alternative guidance point used by the Stasi at regional level to have been almost 100% preserved. It is here in a specialist museum that the Citizens' Committee documents the Stasi's military activity and their missions in the "case of pressure and mobilisation". Measuring 5.2 hectares, the entire heritage-protected area with

all the buildings and facilities, as well as the whole interior of the bunkers, can be viewed. The tours include an explanation of how the supply systems worked, how information contacts were established throughout the GDR and what survival strategies were developed for the Stasi in the event of a nuclear strike.

↓  
Phone +49 (0)341 9612443  
mail@runde-ecke-leipzig.de  
www.runde-ecke-leipzig.de (Engl., Fr.)

## → Other bunker museums

### 4 Bunkermuseum, Frauenwald

Phone +49 (0)36 78262200  
waldhotel.rennsteighoehe@t-online.de  
www.waldhotel-rennsteighoehe.de  
www.thueringen.info

### 5 Militärmuseum Kossa (Military Museum, Kossa / Bad Dübén)

Phone +49 (0)34243 22120  
mmk@bunker-kossa.de  
www.bunker-kossa.de

15 June The SPD is founded in Berlin.

26 June The CDU is founded in Berlin.

1950



6 July With the Görlitz Agreement, the GDR recognises the Oder-Neisse line as the German-Polish border.

1951



1952





# MUSEUMS AND EXHIBITIONS



Left: The Crier at the Brandenburg Gate (Der Rufer am Brandenburger Tor)  
Above: Walter Ulbricht's promise just weeks before the construction of the Wall

Memorial crosses for refugee victims at one of the locations along the path where the Wall used to be

## → Border areas and museums about the Wall

### 1 GRENZHUS e.V., Schlagsdorf



Re-experience the former border area between the GDR and the GFR. Discover border areas in the Grenzhus, Schlagsdorf, in the Museum about Life on the inner-German Border. Exhibitions on the history of the division of Germany in the Grenzhus in a farmhouse of the domain which is over 200 years old; a reconstructed border facility from the 1980s with restricted areas, trenches for impeding vehicles and metal mesh fences in the exterior area; hikes in the restored no-man's lands which

have been reclaimed in parts by nature. The facility also includes a watch-tower which can be entered, a concrete observation bunker, checkpoint and toll booth.

↓  
Phone +49 (0)38875 20326  
info@grenzhus.de  
www.grenzhus.de

### 2 Deutsch-deutsches Museum (German-German Museum) Mödlareuth, Töpen

Divided village on the former inner-German border (Little Berlin). Open-air area with separation barriers. Exhibition, special exhibition, multimedia area and museum gift-shop. Former border installations can also be visited here. A film is shown in the museum (Ger., Engl. and Fr.) and there are exhibitions on alternating topics.

↓  
Phone +49 (0)9295 1334  
museum@moedlareuth.de  
www.moedlareuth.de

### 3 Mauermuseum am Checkpoint Charlie (Museum about the Berlin Wall at Checkpoint Charlie), Berlin

Permanent exhibition about the history of the Berlin Wall and the international fight for human rights, e.g. "Painters interpret

THE WALL", "FLEEING makes you creative" and "It happened at CHECKPOINT CHARLIE".

↓  
Phone +49 (0)30 2537250  
info@mauermuseum.de  
www.mauermuseum.de (Engl., Fr)

### 4 Dokumentationszentrum Berliner Mauer (Berlin Wall Documentation Centre)



The Berlin Wall Documentation Centre is one component of the memorial site ensemble at Bernauer Straße. It provides an overview as well as in-depth information about the history of the Berlin Wall. Beginning with the historical events in Bernauer Straße, a focal point of German post-war history, the centre researches and presents the history of divided Berlin and the division of Germany.

↓  
Phone +49 (0)30 4641030  
info@berliner-mauer-gedenkstaette.de  
www.berliner-mauer-dokumentationszentrum.de (Engl., Fr., Ital., Span.)

1953

**5 March** Joseph Stalin dies. The GDR Council of Ministers declares state mourning.

**17 June** Workers' uprising in the GDR. Soviet troops help to crush the revolt.

1954

**25 March** The government of the USSR publishes a declaration recognising the sovereignty of the GDR.

**4 July** "The Miracle of Berne"—Germany wins the football World Cup.

1955

**25 January** The Soviet Union declares the end of the war with Germany.







Above: Barbed wire at the inner-German border  
Right: Exhibition room at the HTI (Historical Technical Information Centre), Peenemünde



## → Other border areas and museums about the Wall

### 5 Chronicle of the Berlin Wall Federal Centre for Political Education

[www.chronik-der-mauer.de](http://www.chronik-der-mauer.de) (Engl.)

### Elbbergmuseum Boizenburg

[www.boizenburg.de](http://www.boizenburg.de)

### Dreilinden Memorial

[www.checkpoint-bravo.de](http://www.checkpoint-bravo.de)

### Documentation Centre for Post-War History in Keudell Castle

[www.wanfried.de](http://www.wanfried.de)

### Border Area Museum, Bad Sachsa

[www.gm-badsachsa.de](http://www.gm-badsachsa.de) (Engl.)

### Border Area Museum, Schnackenburg

[www.museum-schnackenburg.de](http://www.museum-schnackenburg.de)

### Grenzlandmuseum Eichsfeld e.V. (Border Area Museum) and Educational Institution, Teistungen

[www.grenzlandmuseum.de](http://www.grenzlandmuseum.de)

### 6 Archive of Civil Movement, Leipzig

Phone and Fax +49 (0)341 8611626

[Info@archiv-buergerbewegung.de](mailto:Info@archiv-buergerbewegung.de)

[www.archiv-buergerbewegung.de](http://www.archiv-buergerbewegung.de)

## → Technical museums

### 1 Technik-Verein Pütnitz – Automotive and Aviation Technology from the former Eastern Block



A variety of both well-known and unknown automotive and aviation technology from the former Eastern Block is exhibited at the former Russian military airfield in Pütnitz. This airfield was heavily guarded in the GDR era. The exhibition takes the form of three heritage-protected aircraft hangars measuring just under 12,000 sqm. Interested visitors can sit behind the wheel of a heavy Russian lorry and drive it around a specially-designed circuit. Trabis and quads also await visitors interested in doing circuits. And that's not all. During various annual events, we offer everybody

the chance to see vehicles in motion which you never get to see on ordinary streets.

↓

Phone +49 (0)170 2235850

[museum@technikverein-puetnitz.de](mailto:museum@technikverein-puetnitz.de)

[www.technikverein-puetnitz.de](http://www.technikverein-puetnitz.de)

### 2 The Peenemünde Historical Technical Information Centre, Usedom

With the aid of documents, original features, interviews with contemporary witnesses of the period, documentary films and models, the path from the dreams of the pioneering missile engineers to the systematic development of the first military rocket in Peenemünde via civil space travel is narrated in its historical context. The rocket's serial production and implementation in combat are also presented. A second section of the exhibition is dedicated to the development of rocketry after World War II and therefore focuses not only on the Arms Race in the Cold War, but also on the initial successes in civil space travel.

↓

Phone +49 (0)38371 5050

[HTI@peenemuende.de](mailto:HTI@peenemuende.de)

[www.peenemuende.de](http://www.peenemuende.de) (Engl., Fr., Pol.)

**5 May** The Federal Republic of Germany attains state sovereignty and joins NATO.

**11–14 May** Conclusion of the Warsaw Pact, of which the GDR becomes a member.

1956

1957

**27 July** The government of the GDR proposes a confederation between the GDR and the Federal Republic.

**4 October** The Soviet Union launches the first space satellite "Sputnik 1".



# MUSEUMS AND EXHIBITIONS



Museum entrance to the bunker control room at the HTI (Historical Technical Information Centre) Peenemünde



Checkpoint Charlie, 1961



Above: The Prora Documentation Centre – Reminders on the beach  
Right: "Women of the rubble" – a professional group in the former GDR

## → Other technical museums

- 3 **Marinehistorisches- und Heimatmuseum (Museum of Marine History and the Homeland) Dranske/Bug, Rügen**  
Phone +49 (0)38391 89007  
[www.gemeinde-dranske.de](http://www.gemeinde-dranske.de) (Engl.)  
[www.bug-wittow.de](http://www.bug-wittow.de)

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- 4 **Technikmuseum und Zweiradmuseum (Technical Museum and Bicycle Museum) Dargen, Usedom**  
Phone +49 (0)38376 20290

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- 5 **Eisenbahn & Technik Museum (Rail and Technical Museum) Rügen, Prora**  
Phone +49 (0)38393 2366  
[info@etm-ruegen.de](mailto:info@etm-ruegen.de)  
[www.etm-ruegen.de](http://www.etm-ruegen.de)

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- 6 **Schiffbau- und Schifffahrtsmuseum (Shipbuilding and Navy Museum) on the traditional ship type, "Frieden" ("Peace")**  
Phone +49 (0)381 12831364  
[schiffahrtsmuseum@iga2003.de](mailto:schiffahrtsmuseum@iga2003.de)  
[www.schiffahrtsmuseum-rostock-m-vp.de](http://www.schiffahrtsmuseum-rostock-m-vp.de)

## → Museums of German History

### 1 The Story of Berlin



The interactive exhibition enables you to experience the development of the city from its beginnings to today. The Story of Berlin is an exciting journey through 800 years of Berlin's history. The focus is on Berliners and their lifestyles at certain times in history.

↓  
Phone +49 (0)30 88720100  
[info@story-of-berlin.de](mailto:info@story-of-berlin.de)  
[www.story-of-berlin.de](http://www.story-of-berlin.de) (Engl., Fr., Ital., Span.)

### 2 German-Russian Museum Berlin-Karlshorst

On 8 May 1945, the Second World War in Europe was ended in Berlin-Karlshorst. In accordance with the German-Soviet treaties governing the withdrawal of Soviet troops, both sides agreed to remember at this location the historic event whereby

the Second World War and the National Socialist regime were ended. The exhibits of the former Surrender Museum form the basis for the new exhibition. Museums from both countries and individual people have provided a great deal of material.

↓  
Phone +49 (0)30 50150810  
[kontakt@museum-karlshorst.de](mailto:kontakt@museum-karlshorst.de)  
[www.museum-karlshorst.de](http://www.museum-karlshorst.de) (Engl.)

### 3 Alliierten-Museum, Berlin

The museum, which was built in the US Army's former "Outpost" Theatre, documents the



role of the Western troops in the post-war period and the life of allied troops in Berlin. Almost like in a fairytale, the forces of good win in the end. In addition to the permanent exhibition, the Allied Museum also features special exhibitions and organises events.

↓  
Phone +49 (0)30 8181990  
[info@AlliiertenMuseum.de](mailto:info@AlliiertenMuseum.de)  
[www.alliiertenmuseum.de](http://www.alliiertenmuseum.de) (Engl., Fr.)

**November** The Trabant P 50 (500 ccm/18 hp) goes into series production.

**16 December** The GDR's first atomic reactor is commissioned in Rossendorf/Dresden.

**8 September** Citizens of the Federal Republic require permission to enter East Berlin.

1957

1958

1959

1960







Identity card of a member of the Young Pioneers

## → Life as it was in the GDR

### 1 GDR products, Thuringia

In many supermarkets, there is now a wide range of products which were available in the GDR era and which re-appeared after the Fall of the Berlin Wall. They are often marked out especially on the shelf. Many have not changed a great deal in terms of their design, thus increasing their nostalgic value. Right near the town hall in Weimar is a "GDR shop", where there are also a lot of "copied" goods which are now available again after a long hiatus. These include typical stuffed animals and cookery and baking books with traditional recipes. At the fish market in Erfurt, there is the "Rotstern" (Red Star) sweet shop and a shop which stocks VIBA confectionary, which was popular in the GDR era. Unfortunately, exclusively "DDR supermarkets" are only on the internet. However, you can also organise a picnic in Thuringia with DDR products. You can combine it with a ride in a Trabi, for example.

↓  
Tourist Information Thüringen  
Phone +49 (0)361 37420  
service@thueringen-tourismus.de  
www.thueringen-tourismus.de (Engl.)

### 2 OSTEL – The GDR-Design-Hostel

The building in the heart of Berlin (Berlin-Mitte) offers an unforgettable all-round experience. Theme suites, including Scout Camp, prefab-style room and GDR holiday hideaway – all with original GDR furniture – are available.

↓  
OSTEL GbR  
Wriezener Karree 5, 10243 Berlin  
Phone +49 (0)30 25768660  
contact@ostel.eu, www.ostel.eu (Engl.)

### 3 Allerlei – der „DDR-Laden“ (a "GDR shop") in Leipzig

East German products old and new – household goods, items which can be bought from a chemist's, stationery.

↓  
Allerlei – Nikolaistraße 39–45, 04109 Leipzig  
Phone and fax +49 (0)341 9604150  
kontakt@allerlei-ostprodukte.de  
www.allerlei-ostprodukte.de

### 4 „Meinosten“, Leipzig

Souvenirs, sweets and activities.

↓  
MEINOSTEN  
Nikolaistraße 42, 04109 Leipzig  
Phone +49 (0)341 33734568  
info@meinosten.de, www.meinosten.de

## → Other Museums of German History

### 4 Topography of Terror, Berlin

Phone +49 (0)30 2545090  
info@topographie.de  
www.topographie.de (Engl.)

### 5 The Prora Documentation Centre

Phone +49 (0)30 27594166  
info@proradok.de  
www.dokumentationszentrum-prora.de (Engl.)

### 6 German Historical Museum

Phone +49 (0)30 203040  
fuehrung@dhm.de www.dhm.de

### 7 Märkisches (Mark Brandenburg) Museum, Berlin

Phone +49 (0)30 24002162  
info@stadtmuseum.de  
www.stadtmuseum.de

**12 April** The Soviet fighter pilot and cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin is the first person to travel into space in his space capsule "Vostok".

**13 August** Start of construction of the Berlin Wall.

**24 January** The People's Chamber passes the "Act on Universal Conscription" in the GDR.

**17 December** The first pass agreement between the GDR and West Berlin. Citizens from West Berlin are allowed to visit relatives in East Berlin at Christmas and New Year.

1961

1962





Memorial at "Schiffersgrund", Bad Soden – Allendorf

SIGHTS AND MEMORIALS

## Discover witnesses of the most recent history

From today's federal states of Thuringia to Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania, from Saxony to Brandenburg via the capital city of Berlin, the former German Democratic Republic and its neighbouring West German states such as Lower Saxony and Bavaria are now one big open-air museum. Numerous memorials and sights bring the history of the former East German state to life. Historical elements such as border installations, memorials serving as warnings to future generations, divided villages and graffiti galleries as well as bunker experiences from the Cold War convey an insight, combined with an up-to-date revision of history, into the GDR era and the histories of its people's lives. This insight will stay with you. Feel the East German atmosphere up close by attending a lecture from contemporary witnesses at original locations.

<p><b>1963</b></p> <p><b>26 June</b> John F. Kennedy makes his "Ich bin ein Berliner" speech in Berlin.</p>	<p><b>1964</b></p>	<p><b>25 November</b> Introduction of compulsory exchange for visitors from the Federal Republic, West Berlin and all other non-socialist states.</p>	<p><b>1965</b></p> <p><b>20 February</b> People's Chamber passes the law on "GDR Citizenship".</p>	<p><b>9 May</b> The first GDR nuclear power station is commissioned in Rheinsberg.</p>
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Boundary stone



Above: Border-crossing point, Marienborn  
Right: The River Elbe, Rüterberg



## → Sights in Lower Saxony/Saxony-Anhalt

### 1 Airlift Memorial, Fassberg, Berlin



After Berlin underwent a total blockade by the former USSR, it only took 48 hours for the British and Americans to organise an airlift which was gigantic and perfect in its scope. From 26 June 1948, Berlin was provided primarily with food, medication and coal to generate power. This action from the air was unprecedented. This is presented here with the aid of original documents and exhibits. Since 1999, there has been a plane on display on the campus which was genuinely used in the airlift. It is the following type: Douglas C 47 A Dakota – a “Fassberg Flyer”.

↓  
Phone +49 (0)5055 171015  
kontakt@luftbrueckenmuseum.de  
www.luftbrueckenmuseum.de (Engl., Fr.)

### 2 Memorial to the Division of Germany, Marienborn

The Marienborn border-crossing point, which was built between 1972 and 1974, was the most important on the inner-German border. Checks carried out on travellers here were extremely thorough. An extensive surveillance system impeded any attempt at escape made by GDR citizens. The visitors can access the premises unaccompanied and visit former functional units as part of a tour. Visitors are provided with detailed information about the history of Marienborn in the documentation centre.

↓  
Phone +49 (0)39406 92090  
gedenkstaette@marienborn.de  
www.grenzdenkmaeler.de

## → Further places of interest in Lower Saxony/Saxony-Anhalt

### 3 Die Brücke e. V. (European Institute for the Promotion of Russian and International Handicraft) www.institut-diebruecke.de

### 4 Hötensleben Border Monument Phone +49 (0)5351 171170 www.grenzdenkmal.de www.rock-am-denkmal.de

## → Places of interest in Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania

### 1 Rüterberg Village Republic 1967 – 1989



The border town of Rüterberg near Dömitz/Elbe, which was like a “village republic” from 1967 to 1989, had to live not only with a fixed western border but with an eastern border, too. Today, the retained iron border gate features a memorial stone and an information plaque. It always flies the international flag to remind people of the time when both German states were divided.

↓  
Phone and fax +49 (0)3875 22213

**1–18 August** Unilateral border marking along the entire “State border with the west”. The first metal fences are erected.

**25 September** Radio Bremen launches the “Beat Club” – English-language music is heard in German living rooms.

1966

1967

**25 August** Colour TV appears in the West.



# SIGHTS AND MEMORIALS



Left: Victoria Statue in Schwerin's Schlosspark  
Above: Observation tower (Grenzturn) at the green belt



Above: Well-known refugees at the refugee transit camp, Berlin  
Right: Reichstag cupola, Berlin / Far right: "Parliament of Trees" memorial site where the Wall once stood

## → Places of interest in Thuringia

### 1 Memorial Place Point Alpha – "One of the hottest spots in the Cold War", Geisa/Rhön

Point Alpha is the most famous former border facility from the Cold War in Thuringia and today one of the most important memorials. On a tour, events and the historical-political background of Germany's past are explained in a visitor-friendly manner using selected exhibits.

**Draggled courtyards:** The fate of people and courtyards is brought to life at original locations around Point Alpha. Eyewitnesses report on events and historical backgrounds.  
**Under surveillance:** A command point preserved in its original condition provides detailed insights into the security measures used by GDR border troops.

**Time takes a journey:** A visual journey through German-German history. Film documents, eyewitness reports, and political events provide the framework for a time journey through the most recent German history.

↓  
Phone +49 (0)6651 919030  
stefanie.hergert@pointalpha.com  
www.pointalpha.com (Engl.)

## → Places of interest in Berlin

### 1 East Side Gallery



The Berlin Wall was once a favourite target for graffiti artists on the west side during the time of division. Now, famous spraycan artists have also immortalised themselves on the East side of the longest remaining section of the wall. The largest open-air gallery in the world was opened on 28 September 1990 between the Ostbahnhof (East Station) and the Oberbaum bridge.

↓  
info@eastsidegallery-berlin.de  
www.eastsidegallery-berlin.de

### 2 Marienfelde Refugee Camp Memorial

At the former refugee camp in the historical site, the movement of refugees from one Germany to the other is documented. Around four million people left the GDR between

## → Further places of interest in Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania

### 2 Panzerdenkmal zum Gedenken für die Opfer des Faschismus (OdF), Lalendorf (Army tank memorial to the victims of Fascism)

www.amtlalendorf.de

### 3 Regional Documentation Centre for the Victims of German Dictators, Schwerin

**Politische Memoriale e.V. Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania, Schwerin**

Phone +49 (0)385 7587311  
info@polmem-mv.de  
www.polmem-mv.de

**11 June** The GDR makes it compulsory for travellers between the Federal Republic and West Berlin to present passports and visas.

**1 March** Colour TV appears in the GDR.

**1 January** The first SM 70 spring guns (splitter guns) are set up along the inner-German border.

**3 September** The Four Power Agreement on Berlin is signed.

**7 December** Willy Brandt kneels in Warsaw on the day the Warsaw treaty is signed between Poland and the GFR.

1968

1969

1970







1949 and 1990 for the Federal Republic; 1.35 million of them passed through the refugee camp in Marienfelde, Berlin, founded in 1953. Here they were accommodated and provided with food as they went through the necessary procedures to receive a residence permit for the Federal Republic. Now an exhibition reminds visitors of the causes, process and consequences of the refugee exodus. Why did individuals decide to leave the GDR? How did they get over the border and how did the "Golden West" receive them?

↓  
**Phone +49 (0)30 75008400**  
**info@notaufnahmelager-berlin.de**  
**www.notaufnahmelager-berlin.de** (Engl.)

### 3 Bernauer Straße Memorial



Bernauer Straße is a place full of events from the time of the wall's construction and the division of Berlin. On the east side

of the street, houses were initially walled up, then a whole row of houses were torn down and ditches dug out in order to make room for subsequent death strips. Pictures originating from Bernauer Strasse were then shown around the world. During the division, numerous escape tunnels were dug here. This is all shown in text and historical pictures at the memorial. In addition, visitors can watch films on the construction of the Wall and division up to the Fall of the Wall in 1989. Multimedia stations give an in-depth view into the history of the Wall. Another part of the memorial is the chapel of reconciliation, a unique clay construction made from the ruins of the old reconciliation church, which stood inaccessible in the death strip after the construction of the Wall and was demolished by border troops in 1985. A central memorial on the premises is the Berlin Wall Memorial. Here, the physical division can be experienced by visiting the death strip. Visiting the observation tower next to the archive also brings the experience to life. With the expansion of the Berlin Wall Memorial, the Bernauer Straße becomes a 1.2 km long open-air exhibition.

↓  
**Phone +49 (0)30 4641030**  
**info@berliner-mauer-gedenkstaette.de**  
**www.berliner-mauer-gedenkstaette.de**  
 (Engl., Fr., Ital., Span.)

### → Further places of interest in Berlin

- 4 **Mauerpark (Wall Park)**  
 Phone +49 (0)30 4488091  
 info@mauerpark.info  
 www.mauerpark.info

---

- 5 **"White Cross" Memorial Site / Wall Monument in Marie Elisabeth Lüder's House**  
 www.visitBerlin.de/mauer (Intl.)

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- 6 **Schlesischer Busch Observation Tower Command Point**  
 www.visitBerlin.de/mauer (Intl.)

---

- 7 **Hohenschönhausen Memorial**  
 Phone +49 (0)30 98608230  
 www.stiftung-hsh.de (Engl.)

---

- 8 **Schönhausen Castle**  
 besucherzentrum@spsg.de  
 www.spsg.de (Intl.)

### Berlin Tourismus Marketing GmbH

Am Karlsbad 11, 10785 Berlin  
 Phone +49 (0)30 264748-0  
 Fax +49 (0)30 25002424  
 information@btm.de  
 www.visitBerlin.de (Intl.)

1971

1972

1973

1974

**January** The transit agreement between the Federal Republic of Germany and the GDR comes into force.

**18 September** The GDR and the Federal Republic of Germany become members of the United Nations.

**3 May** The National Defence Council confirms the "use of weapons against border violators".



# SIGHTS AND MEMORIALS



Far left: Glienicke Bridge in Potsdam  
Left: Statue at Schlosspark Sanssouci, Potsdam  
Above: Nave of St. Nicholas' Church in Leipzig

## → Places of interest in Brandenburg

### 1 Potsdam

Former KGB town, former KGB prison to be used by Amnesty International in the future. Permanent exhibition of "Von Potsdam nach Workuta" (From Potsdam to Wortuka).

**Potsdam, Glienicke Bridge** – because of its isolation (and because there was no fear of hindering traffic), the border crossing point on the bridge was used for spectacular exchanges of international spies from East and West on three days in 1962, 1985 and 1986.

**54 Lindenstraße Memorial** – former remand centre for the Potsdam branch of the Stasi. Old prison buildings, the cell block and an exhibition of its dark history.

↓  
Phone +49 (0)331 2004747  
tmb@reiseland-brandenburg.de  
www.gruppenreisen-in-brandenburg.de  
Phone +49 (0)331 275580  
tourismus-service@potsdam.de  
www.potsdamtourismus.de (Engl.)

### Potsdam-Babelsberg

deutsche Film Ag, shortened to deFA, public film studio in the GDR with headquarters in Potsdam-Babelsberg. Tours available for groups and individuals.

↓  
Phone +49 (0)331 7212750  
www.filmpark-babelsberg.de (Engl., Fr., Pol.)

## → Further places of interest in Brandenburg

### 2 Brandenburger Bunkerwelten (Brandenburg Bunker Worlds)

Phone +49 (0)331 2004747  
tmb@reiseland-brandenburg.de  
www.reiseland-brandenburg.de

### TMB Tourismus-Marketing Brandenburg GmbH

Am Neuen Markt, 114467 Potsdam  
Phone +49 (0)331 298730  
Fax +49 (0)331 2987373  
tmb@reiseland-brandenburg.de  
www.reiseland-brandenburg.de  
(Engl., Dut., Pol.)

## → Places of interest in Saxony

### 1 St. Nicholas' Church in Leipzig

The St. Nicholas' Church – one of the oldest churches in Leipzig – has been closely linked with the history of the town and the fate of its citizens since it came into being. With the intention of being open for all, the St. Nicholas Church has remained a spiritual open space, from which the 1989 revolution's non-violent changes originated. With its peace prayers, also commonly known as "Monday prayers", the St. Nicholas' Church became famous around the world in 1989. They have been taking place since 1982 without interruption.

↓  
Phone +49 (0)341 9605270  
Fax +49 (0)341 9605661  
kg.leipzig\_stnicolai\_stjohannis@evlks.de  
www.nikolaikirche-leipzig.de (Engl.)

### 2 The "Nischl" in Chemnitz – the Karl-Marx-Monument

The 7.10 m tall bronze bust of philosopher Karl Marx is a real head-turner in Chemnitz's cityscape.

↓  
Phone +49 (0)371 488-0  
www.chemnitz.de (Engl.)  
www.marxmonument.de

**4 September** Start of diplomatic relations between the USA and the GDR.

**30 March** The Post and Telecommunications Agreement between the two German states is signed.

**29 October** Erich Honecker is elected as Chairman of the State Council at the constituent meeting of the People's Chamber.

1974

1975

1976

1977





EVENTS

# Enjoy celebrations to honour Unification

In Lübeck, Berlin and Leipzig, the events calendar is completely devoted to the Fall of the Wall and reunification – numerous festivals organised by clubs/associations, cultural offices and trusts commemorate the events of 1998/90 twenty years on. Readings and presentations, film programmes, art shows, concerts and plays take it in turns to provide an educational and amusing cultural programme.

## → Berlin

**7 May – 9 November 2009**  
**Focuses of New Berlin –**  
**20 years of a changing city**

Every 14 days, a different area is focussed on, including Potsdam Square, Main Station, Alexander Square. The developments in “New Berlin” in the period 1989 – 2009 can be experienced from the city’s development as a changing centre of tourism. The locations are identified with giant helium balloons in the shape of a red arrow with installations, while slides and plaques project the changes onto the surfaces of the buildings. At the core of this temporary event, there is an “Info Box” with a café, the meeting point for city-related tours.

**28 – 31 May 2009**  
**History forum and festival 2009**

**29 August 2009**  
**All-night opening of museums**

**3 October 2009 – 10 January 2010**  
**“German Art in the Cold War**  
**1945 – 1989: Confrontation**  
**and Dialogue”**

**9 November 2009**  
**Day of the Fall of the Wall**

Dramatisation/symbolic Fall of the Wall.  
Concerts and street party at the Brandenburg Gate in the evening

↓  
**Information about the events**  
**in Berlin: [www.visitBerlin.de](http://www.visitBerlin.de)** (Intl.)

anniversary of the peaceful revolution, the city of Leipzig is planning a light festival. Preparations for the event, which uses the famous “Fête des Lumières” in Lyon as a successful model, have been underway for several months. It is a public event.

↓  
**Phone +49 (0)341 7104-260**  
**[info@ltm-leipzig.de](mailto:info@ltm-leipzig.de)**  
**[www.ltm-leipzig.de](http://www.ltm-leipzig.de)** (Engl., Jap.)

## → Lübeck and Surrounding Area

**9 November 2009 – 3 October 2010**

Reports from contemporary witnesses, films, readings and presentations, guided tours, plays and many other highlights are dedicated to the 20-year anniversary of the Fall of the Wall and reunification.

↓  
**Phone +49 (0)451 1227550**  
**[info@luebeck.de](mailto:info@luebeck.de), [www.luebeck.de](http://www.luebeck.de)** (Intl.)

## → Leipzig

**9 October 2009**  
**Leipzig Light Festival**

Light was the symbol of the peaceful revolution and stars as the main message of the city of Leipzig and its citizens on 9 October 2009 on the global stage. For the 20-year

Alexanderplatz in the 1980s



Memorials to the Fall of the Berlin Wall in Leipzig



Ceremonies at the Holsten Gate in Lübeck



1978



**26 August – 3 September**  
The National People’s Army fighter pilot and cosmonaut Siegmund Jähn becomes the first German in space.

1979



1980



**13 October** The GDR drastically increases the minimum amount for compulsory exchange for private visitors from the West. Visitor numbers decrease drastically.

1981



1982



**18 June** The GDR guarantees immunity from prosecution to former citizens who fled the GDR before 1980.



# ON THE TRAIL OF UNIFICATION



Above: Summer youth camp in the GDR  
Below: Weimar at the end of the GDR

Above: Welcome to West Germany after the Fall of the Wall  
Below: An elderly lady from the West Sector waves to her friends in the East Sector

## GERMANY 20 YEARS AFTER THE FALL OF THE WALL – ON THE TRAIL OF UNIFICATION

German-German history is the story of a nation which was reunited as suddenly as it was divided. For forty years, Germany was a divided country, split in two by the insurmountable Berlin Wall and a border between the two German states, behind which two different worlds evolved. On one side, the West with full political and social freedom and a prosperous social market economy. On the other side, a centrally-controlled planned economy, socialism and party dictatorship together with travel restrictions. Amid this, families were torn apart and two different German mentalities developed, one the product of liberalism, the other the product of suppression.

The GDR was founded on 7 October 1949 as a socialist worker and peasant state under the dictatorship of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany (SED).

The internal division of Germany was the world's most potent symbol of the Cold War – it was here that the two superpowers, the USA and the Soviet Union, collided. Over the years, the ideological border or Iron Curtain between West and East reached a deadlock, culminating in the dramatic construction of the Berlin Wall in 1961. From this time onwards, the GDR was sealed-off state territory. In order to consolidate its own power, the GDR regime controlled and monitored its citizens with its secret service, the Ministry for State Security, better known as the Stasi.

Stasi workers infiltrated the population, unsettling the citizens. Neighbours, even family members, could be Stasi employees. As the borders were guarded by soldiers under orders to shoot as well as spring guns, anyone attempting to flee the republic risked life and limb. To this end, GDR citizens became very creative, fleeing in hot-air balloons, submarines and via basement tunnels. Daily life in the GDR was characterised by improvisation and a limited choice of consumer goods. By contrast, the regime attached particular importance to culture, promoting the theatre, art exhibitions, museums, youth clubs and cinema.

When the GDR fell on its fortieth anniversary thanks to peaceful yet immense protest, two German nations came together in rapture at open borders. Despite having experienced completely different forms of socialisation, they still had so much in common. German unity gave Europe and the world a sense of euphoria and of starting afresh, the likes of which had never been seen before. Now, anyone travelling to Germany on the trail of recent German history will find a confident, modern and exciting country developing at breakneck speed and with richer diversity than any other European country.





Above: Wartburg (The Castle on the Hill) in Eisenach / Top right: The chalk cliffs of Rügen  
Below: The Dresden Semper Opera House (Dresdner Semperoper)

## THE COUNTRYSIDE AND THE CITY IN THE EAST – INSIDER TIP: NATURE AND CULTURE

Today, the former GDR enchants visitors with its unspoilt and immensely varied nature. Great stretches of lakes alternate with low mountain ranges, gentle hills, dense forests and expansive rivers with their untouched riverbanks. Along the coast, the former state territory also includes Baltic islands with dunes, mudflats and beaches of fine sand. In the hermetically sealed exclusion zone at the inner-German border, a particular phenomenon was witnessed: the flora and fauna of no-man's land was allowed to develop unencumbered by external influences such as those from agriculture and tourism. The result was a huge 1,400-km long biotope, the Green Belt, consisting of forest, rivers, moor and marshland which, in its unspoilt state, continues to fascinate thanks to its wealth of plant and animal species.

The GDR was always rich in cultural attractions and following reunification, the old treasures, hidden away for four decades, were restored and reactivated. From the Dresden Semper Opera House or the baroque Zwinger, a complex of pavilions and galleries, also in Dresden, to the historic old town of Weimar, the Museumsinsel (Island of Museums) in East Berlin, the Checkpoint Charlie border-crossing point or the Lutheran Wartburg castle in Eisenach, there are countless impressive buildings, UNESCO world cultural heritage sites and monuments to the recent and more distant past to admire.



A trip around the new Federal States shows the clash between the concrete slab constructions favoured by socialist and communist states and the modern, more western-style new architecture. Thanks to large-scale investment from the government and the economy, these new states are home to some of the country's most modern buildings. The region now also has an excellent infrastructure of urban and rural lifestyles, motorways, roads and rail networks.



A glimpse of an observation tower through the Berlin Wall at the green belt

TOURS AND EXCURSIONS

## People crossing the border and spies

The former GDR is a land of adventures – on guided tours, hikes and day trips, you can discover the last secrets of the former regime. In Lower Saxony, it is all about border experiences – hike along observation facilities, across mountains and valleys, through biotopes which have developed into glorious nature reserves in the no-man’s land of the borderline. For anyone who likes things exciting, Brandenburg offers, in addition to hikes along the wall trail and excursions into cultural landscapes, tours on the trail of prominent figures in the GDR, agents and spies. Discover castles from the political leadership, secret residential areas for the elite and forbidden KGB towns. A Trabi (Trabant car) rally in Saxony-Anhalt or in Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania with its alleys, farmhouses and lake landscapes finishes off your GDR round trip appropriately.

**1 October** Change of government in the Federal Republic. Dr. Helmut Kohl becomes Chancellor.

**10 November**  
Brezhnev dies.

**30 November** The GDR dismantles the last spring guns along the inner-German border.

**13 February** celebration of the re-opening of the “Semperoper” in Dresden, which was destroyed during the war.

1982

1983

1984

1985







Schloss Sanssouci (Sanssouci Palace) in Potsdam



Above: Graffiti art on the "Mauerradweg", a bicycle path recreating the route of the Wall, Berlin  
Right: "Peaceful Revolution" in Leipzig



## → City walks

### 1 20 Years since the Fall of the Wall – Border trails in cultural heritage sites

The Berlin-Potsdam cultural landscape displays impressive harmony and unity around the Glienicke Bridge. It is hard to imagine that just 20 years ago, barbed wire, expanded metal fences and a 3.6 metre high wall cut through this landscape and divided the lives of Germans in the East and the West. Explorations can be made on two guided tours. The history of the historical gardens, the buildings and in particular the lives of the people who lived near the border are presented. **Information:** 2-hour tour, followed by refreshment.

↓

**Stiftung Preussische Schlösser und Gärten Berlin-Brandenburg**  
Phone +49 (0)331 9694-200/-201  
Besucherzentrum@spsg.de  
www.spsg.de (Intl.)

### 2 "The Autumn of '89 in Leipzig"

When the first worshippers gathered in 1982 for the peace prayers in the St. Nicholas Church, nobody suspected that these meetings would one day be the start of a revolution, the likes of which had never been seen before. This walk presents the key points of the events of Autumn 1989 and covers the St. Nicholas Church, Augus-

tusplatz (Augustus square) and the "Runde Ecke" (Round Corner) the former local Stasi administration centre.

**Information:** 2 hour round trip. 25 people per group. €8.00 per person plus entry fees.

↓

**Leipzig Erleben GmbH**  
Phone +49 (0)341 7104230  
info@leipzig-erleben.com  
www.leipzig-erleben.com

### 3 "On the trail of the Peaceful Revolution"

The city tour reminds visitors of the events of the year 1989. Contemporary history is retold at the location of the events and thus comes alive and becomes tangible for visitors to the town of Leipzig. The tour includes the St. Nicholas' Church where the cry for freedom already became loud in the Spring of '89, then to Augustusplatz, where mass demonstrations took place in August and along the Leipziger Ring (Leipzig ring road), the demonstrators' marching route.

↓

**Bürgerkomitee Leipzig e. V.**  
Phone +49 (0)341 9612443  
mail@runde-ecke-leipzig.de  
www.runde-ecke-leipzig.de (Engl., Fr.)

## → Nature Walks

### 1 Zasenbeck – Traces of the Past, Gifhorn



On the guided tour you walk down the "Peace trail" looking for traces of the previous border between East and West Germany. During the approximately 10 km long tour (those on the tour can decide for themselves how much of it to do) and in the exhibition in the village community centre, you experience the history of the village, its economic development and life today.

**Information:** Takes place the whole year round. For groups of 6 people or more. €15.00 per person including packed lunch at DEMETER Hof.

↓

**Südheide Gifhorn GmbH**  
Phone +49 (0)5371 88175  
info@suedheide-gifhorn.de  
www.suedheide-gifhorn.de

**10 March** Mikhail Gorbachev is appointed Head of State and Party in the Soviet Union.

1986

**9 February** The GDR extends the possibilities of travel for urgent family matters.

1987

**17 June** The death penalty is abolished in the GDR.

1988

**6 February** 20-year-old Chris Gueffroy becomes the last victim of the Berlin Wall when he is shot by GDR border guards while attempting to flee from East to West.

1989



# TOURS AND EXCURSIONS



Hiking along the border trail



Above: Cycling tour through Berlin along the line where the Wall once stood / Right: Traffic in East Berlin



## 2 Harz Border Trail Bad Harzburg



The Brocken, the highest mountain in the Harz mountain range at 1,142 metres, was virtually inaccessible in the middle of the restricted zone for people from both sides. In over 40 years, a natural treasure has developed along the former borderline. Guests can discover this virtually undisturbed landscape along the Harz border trail during a varied 75 km hike along the "Grüne Band" (green belt), as the valuable biotope chain along the former border between East and West Germany is known. From Ilsenburg, the trail follows along the former border through Sorge, Hohegeiß and Benneckenstein to Walkenried or in the other direction. An extra stage of the border trail can be undertaken.

↓  
**Wandern im Harz**  
**Phone +49 (0)5322 559603**  
**info@wandern-im-harz.de**  
**www.wandern-im-harz.de**

## → Round Trips

### 1 Through and around Berlin

This part of German history can be experienced most comprehensively on the "Berlin Wall Trail" during a guided tour. On the 18 km cycle and hiking paths, traces of the wall can be discovered. There are memorials, remains of wall border observation towers as well as plaques containing historical information along the trail of the Wall which goes through the city.

↓  
**Phone +49 (0)331 2004747**  
**tmb@reiseland-brandenburg.de**  
**www.reiseland-brandenburg.de** (Engl., Dut., Pol.)

### 2 Round Trip Without Borders, Helmstedt

The tour starts at the "Border Zone Museum" in Helmstedt and continues by bus or car in the direction of Hötensleben. After viewing the border facilities, it leads to the Marienborn Memorial of German Division. The next stop is the "arch of hands" monument. The final stop, after 3.5 hours, is the Border Zone Museum in Helmstedt.  
**Information:** €10.00 per person, group prices for special excursions. Also in foreign languages.

↓  
**Phone +49 (0)5351 17777**  
**grenzenlos@stadt-helmstedt.de**  
**www.stadt-helmstedt.de**

## → Trabi (Trabant Car) Tours

### 1 Trabi Safari

Start your Trabi safari driving through a region with one of the most diverse cultural histories. Each driver receives a technical briefing for the Trabi he is to drive. Fuel tap, transmission – and remember, the indicators do not switch themselves off. Then it's off to the practice drive, because before you are allowed out into the wild, the skills of the driver and passenger are put to the test. The route is dotted with various evaluation tests. Be it over cobblestones or cross-country, we have chosen an attractive course to test your driving abilities. Once at the end, the award ceremony takes place.

**Information:** Trabi Safari organisation and provision of cars including filling the tank and insurance, briefing as well as maps and information material, technical supervision, award ceremony and souvenir.

↓  
**Event & Touring AG,**  
**Phone +49 (0)34922 66507**  
**info@event-touring.com**  
**www.event-touring.com** (Engl.)

1989

**10 – 11 September** Without consulting East Berlin, Hungary allows all GDR citizens wishing to leave the republic to travel to the West. More than 25,000 people leave the GDR for the Federal Republic.

**30 September** 5,500 GDR citizens in the overcrowded Prague embassy receive permission to leave for the West. Beginning on 4 October, special GDR railways trains are used to take them to the Federal Republic.

**9 October** "The start of the Peaceful Revolution". More than 70,000 citizens protest against the SED regime with the slogans "No Violence" and "We are the people". The police does not intervene. Up to 400,000 people took part in subsequent demonstrations.







Mecklenburg Lake District



Commemorative plaque on Glienicke Bridge in Potsdam



Schönhausen Castle (Schloss Schönhausen) in Berlin-Pankow

## 2 On the trail of the GDR in Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania

Take the Trabi through Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania – as it was over 20 years ago on a summer holiday to the Baltic Sea or one of the 1,000 swimming lakes. For the real GDR feeling, interim stops at museums and documentation centres are available. But border facilities and barbed wire can also be seen. Traces of the GDR can be found in the whole area. Experience Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania with the Trabi – in avenues, from farmhouse to farmhouse, through the Mecklenburg lake district or along the Baltic coast.



**TrabiTrip**  
Phone +49 (0)39933 73869  
Info@TrabiTrip.de, www.trabitrip.de

## → Other providers of Trabi Tours

**Adebar-Reisen**  
Phone +49 (0)38233 625-17  
info@adebar-reisen.de  
www.adebar-reisen.de (Engl.)

**Teamfabrik events.**  
Hotline +49 (0)800 8882333  
b.rupp@teamfabrik.de; www.teamfabrik.de

**Welcome Tourist, Dresden**  
Phone +49 (0)351 4100100  
topservice@welcome-tourist.de  
www.welcome-tourist.de

## → Half-day/day tours

### 1 Traces of the Cold War in Potsdam



What happened from 1945 onwards in post-war Germany? Here you experience the development of East-West relations in the Cold War from the Potsdam Conference in Cecilienhof Castle up to the construction of the Wall on 13 August 1961. You will find out where the restricted areas were on the inner-German Border, what it meant to live in a restricted area and where the Stasi was. The trail leads through the Babelsberg area and along the former national border to the Glienicke Bridge, famous for spy exchanges. Via the former forbidden city, the KGB town, the trail returns us to the old baroque centre of Potsdam.

**Information:** Guided tour. Price per group (10–30 people): €168.00 in German, €193.00 in English. Duration: 4 hours.



**Potsdam Tourismus Service**  
Phone +49 (0)331 27558-50  
www.potsdamtourismus.de (Engl.)

### 2 “On the trail of prominent GDR Figures”

The political leadership of the GDR lived in the Pankow district of Berlin and Wandlitz during their 40-year history up to the fall of the Wall. Both areas are visited as part of this day excursion. The visit to the living quarters of the SED (former socialist party) leadership 20 years after the Fall of the Wall is a journey into a past, hidden world. Participants experience a journey into Germany's most recent history, the division of Germany. The day excursion begins with a tour along the town houses in Pankow. The guided tour offers an insight into the lifestyles of prominent figures in the GDR in the forties and fifties. The next thing to visit is Schönhausen Castle in Berlin, dating from the 18th century. After the Workers' Uprising on 17 June 1953 and the Hungarian Uprising in 1956, the SED party leadership retreated to a separate, specially secured complex in the forest area of Hintere Heide near Wandlitz – the “secret forest settlement of Wandlitz”. Approximately 650 employees looked after the privileged SED leadership there and a further 140 people were responsible for the surveillance and cordoning off the “special zone”. A guided tour around the residential areas offers an impressive overview of the history of the living quarters of prominent figures in the GDR.



**TMB Kongresse**  
Phone +49 (0)331 29873-21/-18  
gruppen@reiseland-brandenburg.de  
www.gruppenreisen-in-brandenburg.de

### 9 November: The fall of the Berlin Wall

Günter Schabowski announces on the television that citizens can apply to make private trips abroad without having to meet any conditions. The border to the Federal Republic is opened.

**22 December** The Brandenburg Gate is opened to pedestrians.

**19 February** Work begins on dismantling the Wall at the Brandenburg Gate.

**3 October** Reunification. The day becomes a national holiday, the “Day of German Unity”.

1990



## ALL-INCLUSIVE OFFERS



Hike along the green belt



"Runde Ecke" (Round Corner) Museum, Leipzig



Mädler Passage in the heart of Leipzig

## ALL-INCLUSIVE OFFERS

# An East German holiday – a historic journey

Attractive all-inclusive offers for groups and individuals focus on the 20-year anniversary of the Fall of the Wall in the new states of the Federal Republic of Germany. A holiday adventure characterised by historic and personal border experiences awaits you. An expedition into the "German green belt" nature reserve along old trading routes and the inner-German Border, tours of traditional arts and crafts as well as wine-tasting, castle visits, wellness, music and gondola trips on the river are on the programme.

## → Leipzig

### 1 City of the Peaceful Revolution



#### Individual arrangements:

- 2 nights including breakfast in one of our partner hotels
- Participation in "On the Trail of the Peaceful Revolution" public city tour
- Tour of "Runde Ecke" (Round Corner) museum
- Evening meal in the "Ständige Vertretung" – Kölsch (Cologne-style) pub. Rhenish, Saxon, political (prominence menu)

**Information:** All year round, always Friday – Sunday. Last date for registration is four weeks before travel. Individual solutions for bookings at short notice are possible. From €99.00 per person in a double room, single supplement from €35.00

### 2 Leipzig – Experience History

#### Group arrangements:

- 2 nights including breakfast in a mid-range hotel in the city area of Leipzig
- Participation on a two-hour public city tour on one day of your stay (exclusive group tour with 15 people or more)
- Individual city tour "Autumn '89" for your group including a visit to the exhibition in the "Runde Ecke" (Round Corner) museum
- Admission and tour of the Völkerschlachtdenkmal (Battle of the Nations Memorial)
- Evening meal in "Ständige Vertretung" restaurant (3 course meal without drinks)
- Folding tourist map

#### Information:

All year round, for 8 people or more.

Groups of 8 – 14 people:

from €155.00 per person in double rooms/

from €200.00 per person in single rooms.

Groups of 15 – 25 people:

from €149.00 per person in double rooms/

from €194.00 per person in single rooms.

Groups of 26 people or more

from €140.00 per person in double rooms/

from €185.00 per person in single rooms.

### 3 Historical Leipzig – Leipzig school trip programme

- 2 nights in bungalows with shower/WC for 2 or 3 people each
- 2 half board meals in "Waldaue" restaurant
- Bed linen and site cleaning
- Free use of leisure facilities as available (camp fire site including firewood, sports area including loan of balls, table tennis tables, 2 lounges with TV)
- Two hour city tour entitled "City History and the Autumn of '89" including entry to the Stadtgeschichtliche Museum (City History Museum)
- Tour guide for a three-hour round trip of the city highlights in a bus including entry to the Völkerschlachtdenkmal (Battle of the Nations Memorial)
- Admission to and tour of "Forum 1813" – The Battle of the Nations in focus
- Tour of contemporary history forum
- Admission to and tour of "Runde Ecke" (Round Corner) Stasi museum
- 2 free places for accompanying people

**Information:** All year round, for 24 paying people or more. Price per person with triple occupancy in a bungalow: €113.00, with





Above: Moritzplatz memorial in Magdeburg  
Right: Resting against a boundary stone  
Far right: Hiking in Thuringia



double occupancy in a bungalow: €116.00.  
We are also happy to book a hotel for you in the category of your choice.

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**For offers 1, 2, 3:**  
Leipzig Tourismus und Marketing GmbH  
Phone +49 (0)341 7104-260  
info@ltm-leipzig.de  
www.ltm-leipzig.de (Engl., Jap.)

## → Saxony-Anhalt

### 4 Ramada Magdeburg “20 years since the Fall of the Wall”



#### Individual arrangements:

- 2 nights in 4\* comfort rooms
- 2 generous breakfast buffets
- Welcome cocktail
- 2 evening meals
- Tour of Moritzplatz memorial (including return tram tickets)
- Free use of the “Top Fit Club” with dry sauna, laguna bath and fitness area

**Information:** €127.00 per person in single rooms. €155.00 per person in double rooms. (Available all year round, tours Monday to Friday, at the weekend by arrangement)

#### Group arrangements: (20 people or more)

- 2 nights in 4\* category comfort rooms
- 2 substantial breakfast buffets
- Welcome cocktail
- 2 evening meals

- Tour of Moritzplatz Memorial
- Free use of the “Top Fit Club” with dry sauna, laguna bath and fitness area

**Information:** €85.00 per person in single rooms. €113.00 per person in double rooms. (Available all year round).

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**RAMADA Hotel Magdeburg**  
Phone +49 (0)391 63630  
magdeburg@ramada.de  
www.ramada.de

### 5 Hotel Stadt Wernigerode An excursion to the year 1989 – A holiday almost like 20 years ago

- 1st Day:** Reception drink. Evening programme: “Witch and devil”.  
**2nd Day:** Guided tour around the eastern Harz mountains. Barbecue in the evening with our own Trabi-cum-barbecue. Tour around town with night-watchman.  
**3rd Day:** Trip to the Brocken on the Harz light railway. Rustic “Harz speciality buffet”. Evening programme: “Satire, Sex and Practical jokes” and music to dance to.  
**4th Day:** Departure.

**Information:** €156.50 per person in double rooms, modestly equipped with shower/toilet. Single supplement: €30.00 plus contribution to spa. Can be booked all year round for groups of 25 people and more (with their own arrangements for arriving by bus).

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**Hotel Stadt Wernigerode**  
Phone +49 (0)3943 63070  
hotel-stadt-wernigerode@t-online.de  
www.hotel-stadt-wernigerode.de

## → Thuringia

### 6 Relax away from the crowds, experience nature and history



**1st Day:** Reception drink. Film. **2nd Day:** Hike along the “green belt”. Trip to observation tower, including entry. Film shown. **3rd Day:** Trip to the Thüringer Wart. Hike along the “green belt” **4th Day:** Choice of routes: “Royal Porcelain”, “Tropical Greenhouse”, “Handmade pralines”, “Beer and delicatessen specialities”. Guided tour through the “Haus des Volkes” (the people’s house). **5th Day:** Guided “Colditz hike”. Stop for refreshments at country restaurant with home cooking. **6th Day:** Choice of routes: “Altvaterturm” (tower), “Schiefermuseum” (slate museum), “Morassina”. Three-course farewell meal. **7th Day:** Farewell with a small present.

**Information:** 6 overnight stays in the largest Bauhaus memorial in Thuringia. 6 breakfast buffets and dinners. 3 packed lunches. 3 coffee and cakes. 2 guided hikes. 2 trips to museum. 1 tour of factory. Transfers. € 599.00 per person in double room.

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**Bauhaushotel**  
Phone +49 (0)36735 46057  
willkommen@probstzella.de  
www.probstzella.de

# THE PATH OF DEMOCRACY



House of History (Haus der Geschichte) in Bonn



Government declaration by Federal Chancellor Konrad Adenauer in the Plenary Chamber on 20 October 1953



The Villa Hammerschmidt

## FOLLOWING THE PATH OF DEMOCRACY IN BONN

# The road to finding a political identity

The “Path of Democracy” consists of detailed display boards with text and photos at places of historical interest in the former government district in Bonn. The tour begins at the Haus der Geschichte (House of the History of the Federal Republic of Germany) and leads past eighteen stops along the route, giving visitors an insight into the political history of Germany.

### From the Bundesrat to the Bundestag



The starting point is the Haus der Geschichte, which showcases the history between the end of World War II and the present day on more than 4,000 square metres of space. With some 7,000 exhibits, the museum’s permanent exhibition highlights the political, economic and social history, key artistic and cultural trends as well as everyday living conditions. Temporary exhibitions and a comprehensive schedule of events add depth to the permanent exhibition.

The first stop is the Bundesrat, a constitutional body which is the embodiment of federalism including representatives of all the federal state governments – plenary sessions were held here from 1949 until the Bundesrat moved to Berlin in 2000. After this, it’s straight to the Bundeshaus (Parliament Building). The former Pedagogic Academy was the meeting place for

the Parliamentary Council, the German Bundestag as the key legislative body and the Bundesrat. The third stop is the Plenary Chamber of the German Bundestag. The German Bundestag met from October 1992 to July 1999 in the newly built parliamentary building. The building’s plenary chamber is now the World Conference Center Bonn. The route then takes in the Plenary Chamber in the “Wasserwerk” (waterworks), in which the German Bundestag met from 1986 to 1992, and the UN campus “Langer Eugen” (Tall Eugen). The skyscraper built for Bundestag Deputies became Bonn’s landmark and is now home to the United Nations.

### Politics and media

At the sixth stop, visitors can view the Tulpenfeld (tulip field) office complex, which housed the federal press conference until 1999, before being reminded of the proximity between press and politics in Dahlmannstraße, former home to numerous media companies.

### How the Chancellor and President lived

Leaving the former Federal Chancellery, from which three German Chancellors, Helmut Schmidt, Helmut Kohl and Gerhard Schröder, governed between 1976 and 1999, the route

takes us to the previous Federal Chancellery of Palais Schaumburg. The next stop on the tour is the Villa Hammerschmidt, home of the Federal President from 1950 to 1994. Then, it’s on to the Museum Koenig, in which the Parliamentary Council was opened.

### Global politics on the Petersberg

The route then takes us up to the Petersberg. The government guest house used to accommodate important guests of state and congresses. The thirteenth stop is the Foreign Ministry, at one time the largest administrative complex in the Federal Republic and now a second seat of government.

### The party headquarters – the control rooms of power

The Erich Ollenhauer House, which was the headquarters of the SPD until 1999, takes visitors right to the heart of a great party power. From here, the route leads to the former CDU headquarters in the Konrad Adenauer House. The “Path of Democracy” comes to an end at the former Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs.

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**www.wegderdemokratie.de** (Engl.)





East Side Gallery

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