



Sample Itinerary for a Five Day History Study Tour to Berlin By Air.

Dates: To Be Decided.



The itinerary is designed to balance visits of the greatest interest with recreative activities. It aims to make the maximum use of time without exhausting participants. The itinerary we have proposed is flexible and is only finalised after discussion with the Party Leader(s). Flexibility is also built into the holiday itself as changes can be made at very short notice according to weather conditions etc. The visit will be guided throughout. All excursions are well-prepared and are backed by notes and a commentary. The director is able to run the holiday according to Party Leader wishes. In this way Party Leaders will be free to concentrate on the care of their pupils rather than the organisation of the tour. The whole stay is underpinned by excellent accommodation, catering, transport and security.



ACCOMMODATION



The Hotel IbisBerlin Ostbahnhof**

An der Schillingbrücke 2, D-10243 Berlin, Germany.

Tel: +49 30257600. Fax: +49 3025760333.

Our hotel is located in central Berlin & offers convenient access to all of our excursions in the area. All of the 100 rooms have en-suite bathroom facilities, telephones, colour TV's, radio alarm clocks & modem ports. There is a conference room, fully-licensed restaurant & meeting/bar area. The manager heads a particularly friendly team & we have found the Hotel Ibis in Berlin to offer a very comfortable base for our groups visiting the area.

DAY ONE

- 07.30 Coach arrives at School
- 08.00 Depart School. Coach transfer to Local Airport.
- 09.00 E.T.A. Local Airport. Commence check in.
- 11.55 Depart Local Airport on Easyjet Flight 7223.
- 14.50 E.T.A. Berlin Schonefeld Airport.
(Please note: Continental time is 1 hour in advance of British time)
- 15.30 Coach transfer to Hotel Ibis, central Berlin.
- 16.15 **Visit to The Brandenburg Gate.**
- During our transfer from Schonefeld Airport to the Hotel Ibis we will travel through central Berlin, across Potsdam Square with its traces of Berlin Wall, past the enormous Holocaust Memorial to arrive at the Brandenburg Gate - the focal point of the celebrations at the fall of the Berlin Wall. We will pass through the Brandenburg Gate itself, which stood in 'No Mans Land' between East & West Berlin.
- 17.15 Coach transfer to Hotel Ibis.
- 18.00 E.T.A. Hotel Ibis. Check in & allocate room keys.
- 19.00 U-bahn transfer to The Lemke Brewery Restaurant.
- 19.30 **Dinner at the Lemke Brewery Restaurant.**
www.brauerei-lemke.de
- 21.00 Return U-bahn transfer to Hotel Ibis.
- 21.30 E.T.A. Hotel Ibis.

DAY TWO

08.30 Breakfast.

09.30 **Sightseeing Coach Tour of Berlin Part 1**

Our initial sightseeing tour of Berlin will include the glass dome of the Reichstag Building, a tour through the central Potsdam Square & a view of a remaining guard tower from the Berlin Wall. We will visit the Soviet War Memorial, with the first two tanks to enter Berlin during the Russian invasion. After viewing an existing section of Berlin Wall we will view the site of the former entrance to Hitler's bunker before arriving at the Topography of Terror, where there are a series of photographs & captions on boards outside the former Gestapo Headquarters. Our tour will end at the Jewish Museum.

11.30 **Visit to The Berlin Jewish Museum.**
www.jmberlin.de

The Berlin Jewish Museum was designed by Daniel Libeskind & is housed within a remarkable, zinc-covered building which displays parallels, diagonals & large negative internal spaces which represent the emptiness left by the destruction of the German Jewish culture.

The Museum concentrates on the ancient Jewish population within Berlin - centuries of oppression & pogroms before improvements were made under the Weimar Republic. The museum culminates in the Holocaust Tower, where the visitor is met with the emotional impact of countless stories, photographs & films which show the terrible fate that the families met under the Third Reich.

13.00 Lunch at the Jewish Museum.

13.30 Coach transfer to Checkpoint Charlie.

14.15

Visit to Checkpoint Charlie.

www.mauermuseum.de

An essential visit for anybody interested in the Cold War & The Berlin Wall, Checkpoint Charlie is the lookout point where American & Russian tanks faced each other across a narrow section of No Man's Land.

The physical checkpoint, a wooden pavilion was hoisted away after the wall crumbled, but the threatening grey watchtower has become part of the Haus am Checkpoint Charlie, a museum tracing the history of the wall and vividly describing the most ingenious and successful methods of escape such as a miniature submarine, a coffin-like assembly of two hollowed out surfboards & a car with improvised propellor. There are also photographs, films and models.

16.00

Coach transfer to The Kaiser Wilhelm Memorial Church.

16.30

Visit to The Kaiser Wilhelm Memorial Church.

www.aviewoncities.com/berlin/gedachtniskirche.htm

This has been kept in its scarred state as a memorial. A permanent exhibition inside the base of the tower uncludes a cross made out of medieval nails recovered from Coventry Cathedral. The imperial character of the church is underscored by a peal of bells from the tower on the hour, playing a tune composed by Kaiser Wilhelm's Grandson. A new church was built in 1961, next to the ruins. Inside there is a moving depiction of the Madonna and Child drawn by a German doctor shortly before Christmas 1942 at the seige of Stalingrad. There is also a memorial to the men and women who lost their lives in the July 1944 plot to overthrow Hitler.

17.00

Free Shopping Time in the Fashionable Kurfurstendamm Shopping Area.

Participants will be able to enjoy some free shopping time in this city centre west location - the main shopping area in Berlin.

19.00

Dinner at Joes-Berlin Restaurant.

www.joes-berlin.de

This popular restaurant has the motto 'Eat Well & Plenty!' We will be able to choose from a set menu & will be able to eat either inside or, for the brave, outside in the 600 seater beer garden.

21.00 Coach transfer to Hotel Ibis.

21.30 E.T.A. Hotel Ibis.

DAY THREE

08.30 Breakfast.

09.30 Onward transfer to Oranienburg.

11.00 **E.T.A. Sachsenhausen Concentration Camp.**

Located approximately one and a half hours from Berlin is the town of Oranienburg, famous for years for its refreshing apple wine. The name of the town has now become linked with the Sachsenhausen Concentration Camp. Many concentration camps have been preserved & opened to the public as memorials & museums. Sachsenhausen is the camp located closest to the country's capital.

Sachsenhausen received its first prisoners in July 1936, when it was designated as a *Schutzhaftlager* ('Protective Custody Camp'). The camp housed anybody guilty of 'antisocial behaviour' as well as many thousands of Jews, 6,000 of which arrived during Kristallnacht alone.

Participants will be able to visit parade-ground, where roll-call & summary executions took place on the gallows, the barrack blocks, the extermination block, the gas chambers & the ovens.

The camp has been left largely untouched since it was liberated on 22 April 1945. Most of the prisoners had already been evacuated by the SS, who marched 33,000 inmates on a 'March of Death' to the Baltic Sea, where they were to be loaded onto boats & sunk out at sea. The Allies discovered 3,000 prisoners in the camp's hospital, most of whom were too emaciated to be saved.

This is a disturbing & emotional visit which students & staff alike often find difficult to comprehend. Before watching a film in one of the barrack blocks, the Tour Director will give an explanation of the camp as well as providing maps & instructions to get the most out of the visit.

13.00 Lunch.

13.30 Onward transfer to Wannsee.

14.30

E.T.A. Wannsee Villa.

www.scrapbookpages.com/EasternGermany/Wannsee/

We will drive along the wooded shore of the Havel River to the small suburban resort of Wannsee, which has the largest inland beach in Europe. On January 20th 1942 Reinhard Heydrich introduced 'the Final Solution'. Present was his assistant Adolf Eichmann, seven ministerial bureaucrats and a female secretary who sipped brandy & joked while they drew up plans for mass genocide. Today the villa has been converted into the Wannsee Conference Memorial House, a place of remembrance with a photograph exhibition outlining the consequences of the meeting that took place in this idyllic location.

15.30

Return transfer to Berlin.

16.30

E.T.A. Hotel Ibis, Berlin. Rest & relaxation time in hotel.

18.00

Walk to East Side Bowling Centre.

18.30

Bowling & Dinner at The East Side Bowling Centre.

www.east-side-bowling.de

We always combine visits of the greatest interest with recreational activities. After what can often be an oppressive day, participants are usually glad to enjoy some recreational time at the Berlin bowling alley, which has fully computerised lanes. The group will divide into teams of six & the Tour Director will provide prizes for the highest scoring individuals.

Please note: there is a supplement for the optional bowling.

21.30

Return walk to Hotel Ibis.

22.00

E.T.A. Hotel Ibis.

DAY FOUR

- 08.30 Breakfast.
- 09.30 Coach transfer to River Spree.

10.30 **Morning Cruise on The River Spree.**

During the afternoon of the final day we will enjoy a boat cruise to view some of Berlin's sites such as the historic buildings of Mitte, The Berliner Dom, Museum Island, the new government district & The Reichstag. The cruise passes alongside the Zoological Garden to arrive at the new city buildings & remaining part of The Berlin Wall at Potsdamer Platz where we will alight.

- 12.30 Lunch Break at Potsdamer Platz.

- 14.00 Coach transfer to The Nikolaiviertel.

14.30 **Visit to The Nikolaiviertel - 'St. Nicholas Quarter'.**

This small area on the bank of the River Spree is a favourite place for strolling for both Berliners & tourists. Some of the city's oldest houses stood on this spot until they were destroyed in World War II. The whole area was redeveloped by the GDR - the East German Government - between 1979 & 1987 in a controversial attempt to recreate a medieval village. The whole area consists of replicas of historic buildings with narrow streets, small shops, cafes & bars lining the roadways. Pupils will enjoy visiting the area with its historic feel & local shops.

- 17.30 Transfer to Transfer to Suedstern Brewery.

18.00 **Dinner at The Suedstern Brewery.**
www.brauhaus-suedstern.de

- 20.00 U-Bahn transfer to Hotel Ibis.

- 20.30 E.T.A. Hotel Ibis.

DAY FIVE

08.30 Breakfast.

09.30 **Sightseeing Coach Tour of Berlin Part 2**

The second part of our driving sightseeing tour will include some important sights concerning the Cold War & the events between 1945 & the present day. Our tour will include The Berlin Wall Documentation Centre.

10.30 **The Allied Museum**

In the years from 1945 to 1990, the city of Berlin was divided into four zones of occupation, administered by the USA, Soviet Union, Great Britain, and France: the victorious powers of World War II. The Allied Museum is located in the centre of the former U.S. sector. Both the U.S. military government and the Supreme Command of the Berlin Brigade were headquartered on the opposite side of the road. The museum buildings bear witness to the U.S. & Allied presence in Berlin. The Outpost Theatre was built by the U.S. army in 1952/53 and is now protected as a historic monument. The Major Arthur D. Nicholson Memorial Library was built in 1979. Neither building was officially accessible to the population of Berlin.

The Allied presence in Berlin began in 1945 and lasted until 1994. It left behind a wealth of material relics from the past that the museum is committed to preserving and researching. The collection has been organised into the categories of: Large Objects, Military Memorabilia, Weapons, Technical Appliances, Signs/Models, Everyday Items, Maps/Posters, Documents, Photos, Cassette Recordings & Video Recordings. The military memorabilia collection and the document collection are especially extensive, and are mainly compiled of items of American origin.

11.30 **The East Side Gallery.**

This 1300 metre remaining section of Berlin Wall runs along the road Muhlenstrasse & has become known as The East Side Gallery because of the huge variety of graffiti on display on the wall. The work has been compiled by 118 different artists from 21 countries.

12.30 **Lunch & Final Shopping Time**

14.00 Coach transfer to Berlin Schonefeld Airport.

15.00 E.T.A. Berlin Schonefeld Airport. Commence check in.

17.10 Depart Berlin Schonefeld Airport on Easyjet flight 7224.

18.15 E.T.A. Local Airport.
(Please note: Continental time is 1 hour in advance of British time)

19.00 Coach transfer to School

21.00 E.T.A. School.