

Album 1986 Berlin Photo Compendium

ALBUM

1986

East and West Berlin
Germany

Photo
Compendium

by Helga von Schweinitz

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by
Helga von Schweinitz

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But remember, a memory is for a life time, but a good reference is forever.

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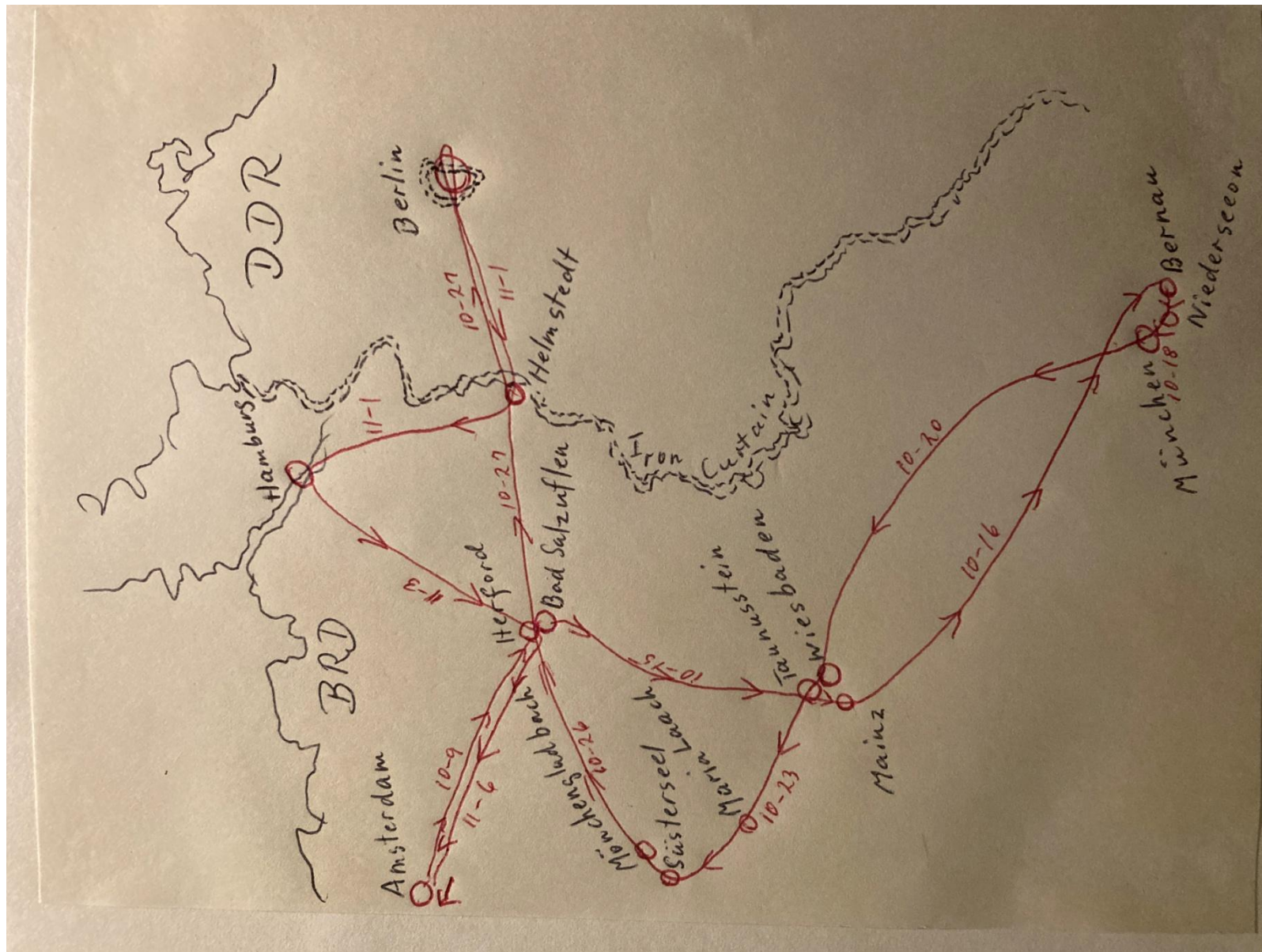
Introduction

This is an album of Hans and Helga von Schweinitz tour through East and West Berlin from 27 October to 1 November 1986.

In 1986, Germany was still split into East and West. The Soviet Union still occupied East Berlin and there was a wall to separate the East from the West Berlin. West Berlin was occupied by the Allies which was United States, France, and United Kingdom. To reach Berlin by automobile, you had to travel through East Germany on designated autobahns. Western Germany was known as BRD which was the Bundesrepublik Deutschland or Federal Republic of Germany in English. Eastern Germany was known as DDR which was the Deutsche Demokratische Republik or German Democratic Republic in English..

This Berlin tour was part of a month long visit throughout Germany. Helga, as she was in a habit of doing, wrote a travel diary. The sections concerning Berlin have been included in the appropriate locations. The photos also have their captions from Helga's album.

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Map of route Hans and Helga took during their one month in Germany 9 October - 6 November 1986

ALL ROUTES LEAD TO BERLIN

Since the conclusion of the Four-Power Agreement in 1971, it has become easier and more convenient to travel to Berlin. There are no longer any delays at the border. Deutschmarks and other Western currencies may be brought in in unlimited amounts; it is forbidden, however, to carry East German currency, or that of any other East Bloc country. Travel documents: passport, car registration.

Coming by Plane

About 80 regularly scheduled flights land daily at Tegel Airport Berlin. Direct flights connect Berlin with Amsterdam, Bremen, Cologne/Bonn, Detroit, Düsseldorf, Frankfurt, Glasgow, Hamburg, Hanover, London, Manchester, Munich, Nuremberg, Paris, Saarbrücken, Stuttgart, Sylt and Zurich.*

*as of September 1982.

Coming by Motorcoach

Should you be travelling with a group, the motorcoach operator will take care of all formalities. You can, however, also decide to travel individually with a regularly scheduled bus to the bus-terminal opposite the Radio Tower, near the city centre. Information on the most convenient and fastest bus connections can be obtained at all travel agencies.

Coming by Rail

You can reach Berlin on through trains via the following border transit points:

- Buchen-Schwanheide
- Helmstedt-Marienborn
- Bebra-Gerstungen
- Ludwigsstadt-Probstzella
- Hof-Gutenfürst

You can reserve seats and make bookings for sleeping cars and couchettes at travel agencies, and at all offices of the German Bundesbahn (Federal Railways).

Coming by Car

- Gudow-Zarrentin (motorway)

- Helmstedt-Marienborn (motorway)
- Herleshausen-Wartha (motorway)
- Rudolphstein-Hirschberg (motorway)

Speed limits for passenger cars in East Germany: motorway - 62.5 miles per hour, two-lane-highway - 50 miles per hour, built-up areas - 31 miles per hour.



Fare Reductions in Berlin Travel

Within the framework of its City-Travel Plan, the German Federal Railways offers reduced-fare tickets. Many tour operators, like airtoirs international, Jet-Reisen, Kurtfurstendamm-Reisebüro, Bayern-Express & P. Kühn, Neckermann + Reisen, Reisebüro Schnieder, DER GmbH, Reisebüro Kuof, Gebr. Sperling, Land- und Seereisen Berlin and other travel agencies offer weekend-trips and other reduced-rate arrangements. Information on reduced-rate travel to Berlin and a preview of all important Berlin events can be obtained from the Berlin Tourist Office.

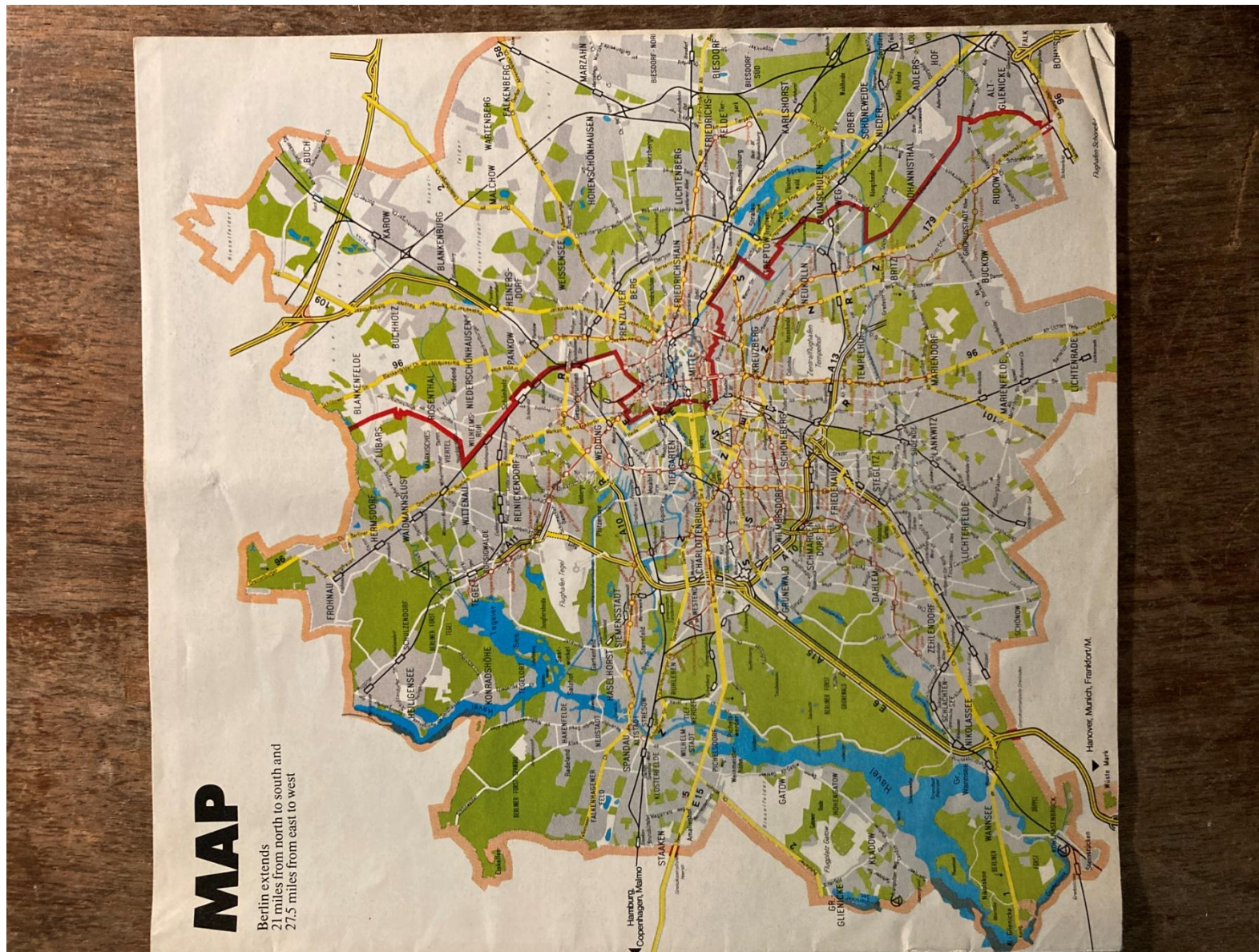
Room Reservations

Room reservations can be made directly through the hotels and boarding houses, through your travel agency, or in writing through the Berlin Tourist Office (Verkehrsamt Berlin), Europa-Center, 1000 Berlin 30, telephone (030) 21234, telex 1-83 356 vber d.

Information on room availability can be obtained on arrival at: Berlin Tourist Information, Europa-Center, entrance Buda-pestter Strasse, telephone 2626031, open from 7.30 a.m. to 10.30 p.m.; or at the Information Office at Tegel Airport, telephone 41013145, open from 8 a.m. to 10.30 p.m., or Dreilinden, telephone 8039057, open from 8 a.m. to 11.00 p.m.

Routes from West Germany to Berlin. They entered East German by Autobahn through #3 entrance Helmstedt Marenborn

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Map of Berlin Oct/Nov 1986 with Berlin wall indicated.

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Monday, 27 October 1986

The big day, the trip to Berlin, Autobahn to Helmstedt. We were surprised by a sign "Allies" over one lane. Did that mean us? We followed it, and it turned out that we were considered military since we had ID cards for retired military. That meant that we had to replace our Dutch license plates with special American ones, just for the transit road to Checkpoint Bravo. Then we were given special documents and a folder full of instructions about do's and don'ts. Main thing: communicate with nobody but Russian uniformed personnel. There were several Russian soldiers who checked our papers and walked around the car. They were so young! One of them looked like he was homesick for his mother and tried to look brave. Hans, like every driver, had to salute, i.e. return their salute every time they approached him after he left the car for another checking of the papers.



Helmstedt Marenborn crossing from West Germany into East Germany



Putting on special license plate for the drive on the transit road through East Germany.

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We were not allowed to stop at the intershops and restaurants along the Transit Road because of our military status. Maximum km/hour was 100, an easy pace not kept by many Mercedes drivers.

The landscape is barely hilly, mostly fields, and the settlements all looked like they've been there for a long, long time, almost nothing new and few repairs were done to the exteriors like the stucco.

Exciting all that !!

We had to turn the plates back-in at Checkpoint Bravo. They had no philips screwdriver there for us to use.

We made it without major problems (oh wonder) to the Gästehaus am Tegler See where Rudi had made reservations (138DM pro Nacht). Room with TV, shower, WC and view to the Tegler See between several houses. The area is re-built or kept up as Alt-Tegel with pedestrian areas and a lot of small shops and pubs and cafes, restaurants.



"Gästehaus am Tegeler See? where we stayed for 5 nights. W Berlin



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Our room in Gästehaus. Helga in doorway

Unsere Preise
bis 30. Juli 1987

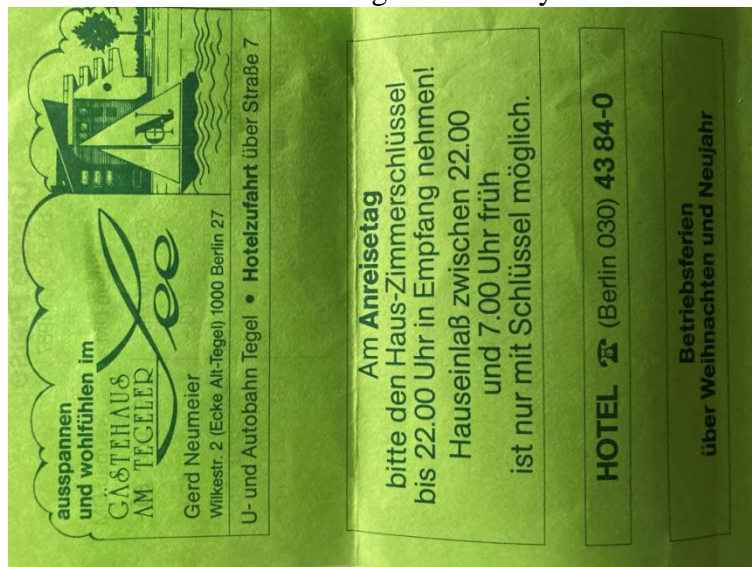
	Altbau DM	Neubau DM
Einzelzimmer	69,- und 74,-	79,- und 89,-
Doppelzimmer	108,-	138,-
Apartment (2 Zim./2 Pers.)		158,- und 178,-
Apartment (2 Zim./3 Pers.)		197,- und 217,-
Extrabett	35,-	35,-

Rabatt: 14 Übernachtungen 5% • 28 = 10%
– einschließlich Bedienung und MwSt. –

Unsere verehrten Hotelgäste bieten wir unentgeltlich:
Reichhaltiges Frühstückbüfett*
Parkplätze • Tiefgarage
und Leihfahrräder

6 Zimmer im Altbau und 33 im Neubau, alle haben DU/WC, Direktwahltelefon vom und ins Zimmer, Farbfernseher, Radioübertragung und Weckanlage. Viele Zimmer haben Aussicht zum Tegeler See.

Gästehaus pamphlet with price list. Altbau versus Neubau. Old building versus new build.



Gästehaus pamphlet



Tegeler See, W Berlin. Hans on pier

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Alt-Tegal, W Berlin. Name of region and market place.

We parked the car in the hotel parking lot and took the U-Bahn to the KurfürstenDamm - lights, people, window shopping, horrendous prices, lots of cafes and restaurants. We stopped for coffee and cake in Café Kranzler, one has to , unfriendly, lousy service. Gedächtniskirche by night.

The U-Bahn system is simply great, trains go in all directions at all times, everybody uses them, even dogs, and nobody seems to check tickets. But I bet the day I decide to travel without a ticket, an inspector will hop on the wagon. We called Rudi to tell him we arrived.



Siegessäule (we climbed to the top)

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Charlottenburger Schloß



U-Bahn ticket, very convenient



U- Bahn station

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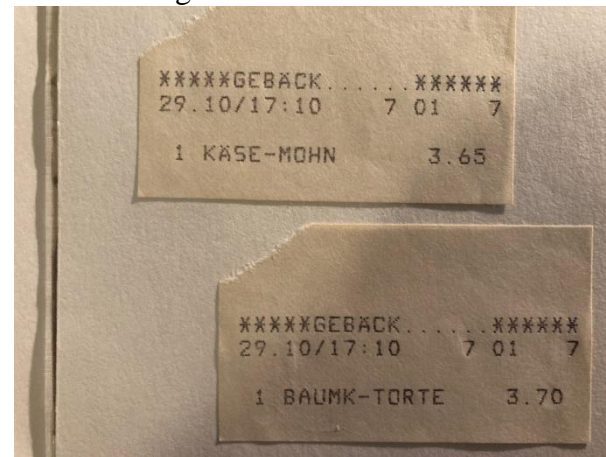
U-Bahn train



Café Möhring in W Berlin



U-Bahn passengers



Gebäck=baked, Käse=cheese, Mohn=poppy, Baum=Tree, Torte=Cake. Tree cakes have layers of almond paste, jam, and chocolate that resemble tree rings.

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Paper coaster from Café Möhring in W Berlin



Also enjoyed coffee from Café Kranzler on Kurfürstendamm street



Fine Sugar package from Café Kranzler W Berlin

Dienstag, 28 Oct 1986

U-Bahn to Kurfürstendamm. We took a guided tour with a BV(?) bus and saw most of West Berlin's sights from the outside, including "The Wall" which is quite a tourist attraction with souvenir stands in some places. The tour was well worth the 20DM.

Afternoon via U-Bahn and bus to Charlottenburger Schloß, summer residence and then some of the Hohenzollern kings, destroyed in WWII and restored. The most remarkable experience was the poor organization of the tours through the Schloß and snotty guides. They try everything possible to keep you from coming back including remarks like: "As everybody knows and I don't have to explain ... ". There is little of personal belongings in Charlottenburg (destroyed? in possession of the descendents?).

We called Rudi and after many tries, reached Elke: Rudi had to be taken to the hospital last night. He had colic, maybe kidney stones.

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They don't know yet. So we did not have supper together as planned, of course.



Kaiser Wilhelm Gedächtnis Kirche, the major ruin in West Berlin



Nephretete in the Egyptian Museum

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A bus tour through West-Berlin

Unsere beliebte West-Berlin-Rundfahrt zeigt Ihnen die bekanntesten Sehenswürdigkeiten unserer Stadt.
 Kaiser-Wilhelm-Gedächtniskirche, Technische Universität, Charlottenburger Schloß, Olympiastadion, Funkturm, Internationales Congress Centrum, Stadtautobahn, Russisch-Orthodoxe Kirche, Moschee, Rathaus Schöneberg, Kontrollratsgebäude, Axel-Springer-Verlag, Checkpoint Charlie, Anhalter Bahnhof, Philharmonie, Staatsbibliothek, Nationalgalerie, Potsdamer Platz, Brandenburger Tor, Reichstag, Kongreßhalle, Schloß Bellevue, Siegessäule.

West-Berlin-Tour		2 hrs.	DM 20,-
daily 11 a.m.	1.30 p.m.	4 p.m.	(sat + sun 9 a.m.)

Our popular West-Berlin tour shows you the well-known sights of the city. Emperor William Memorial Church, Technical University, Palace of Charlottenburg, Olympic Stadium, Radio Tower, International Congress Center, City Highway, Orthodox Russian Cathedral, Mosque, Schöneberg City-Hall, Control Council, Axel Springer Publishing House, Checkpoint Charlie, Brandenburg Gate, Reichstag Building, Congress Hall, Bellevue Palace, Victory Column.



The Brandenburg Tor with "the wall", seen from W Berlin



Brandenburg Gate closed to vehicular traffic

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Brandenburg Gate with East German Flag as seen from West Berlin



The Wall and Brandenburg Gate are tourist attractions



Russian soldiers at Russian War Memorial. Practicing their golf stroke? Actually they are weeding between the stones.

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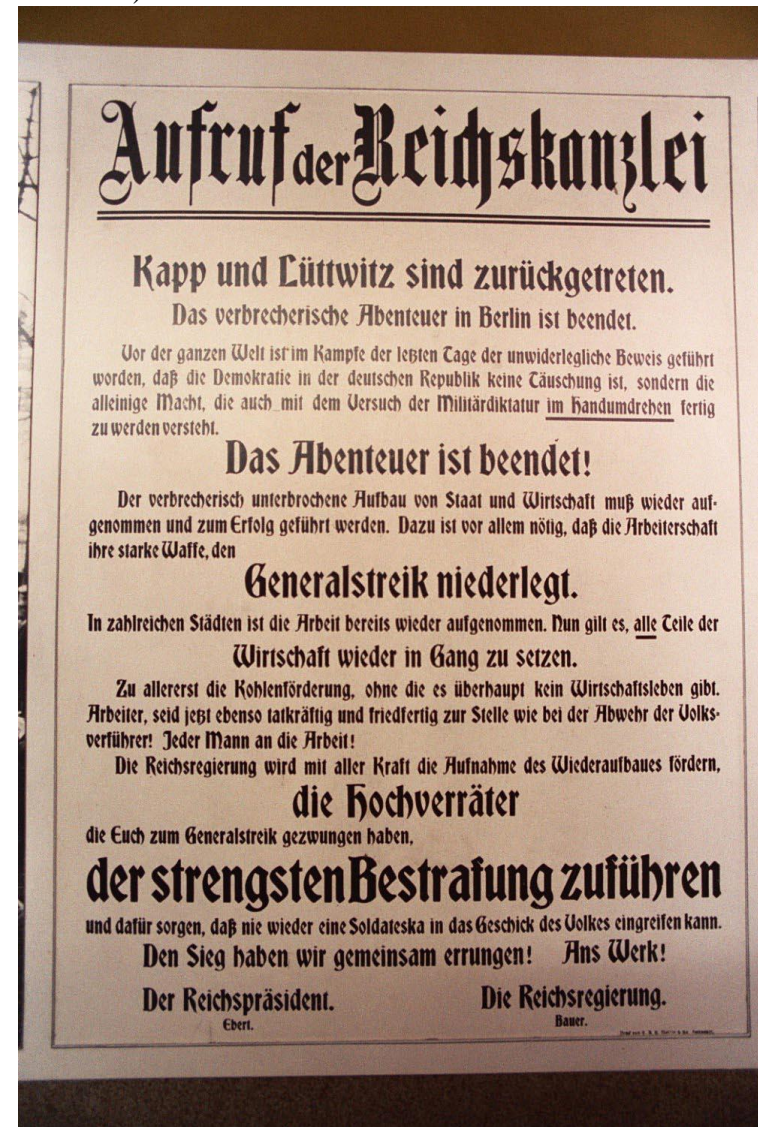


Russian War Memorial in West Berlin near the Brandenburg Gate

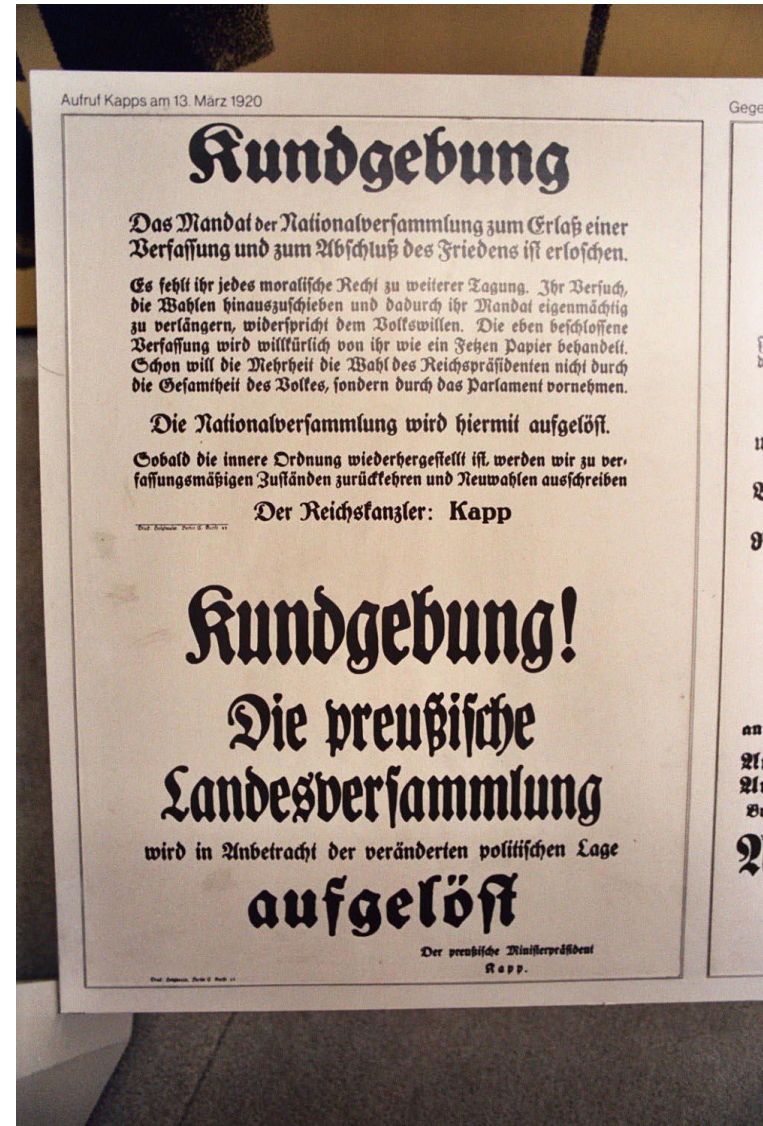


The Reichstag Bldg (in distance) and the wall are in East Berlin

Parts of an exhibition on German history relating to the Kapp Putsch in which Onkel Englechen was involved (in the Reichstag building, W Berlin)



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The wall and the (mined?) field behind it. The dark green hill with the tower is the place where Hitler committed suicide in his bunker when the Russians came.



End of the British Sector. As seen from West Berlin

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On the other side of the wall" an East German watch tower



An afternoon stroll along "The Wall" in West Berlin Helga



"The Wall" and beyond another "Wall".



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Hans strolling along "The Wall"



Opinion?



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EAST BERLIN

Wednesday 29 Oct 86

After a thorough breakfast in our hotel with eggs, yoghurt, sausages, etc (self service) we hurried to the KurfürstenDamm for a bus tour through East Berlin. Of course, we saw mainly the show case roads and sights and had an East German lady guide. It seems that most major historical buildings are in the East sector and most of them have been restored painstakingly to their pre-war grandeur. The many blocks of apartment high rises after high rises look rather depressing. Even our guide bemoaned the fact that many a family with 4 people occupy a two room apartment. However, there are enough cars (Wartburg and Trabant) to cause parking problems.

We had to stop at a Russian War Memorial and walk up to it for an explanation of Russian good deeds during the storming of Berlin.

Impressing in a strange way is also the general lack of flowers, one family homes, and bicycles.

On this bus tour we had no East German money to get rid of. The route chosen for the tour gave ample opportunity to show off the reconstruction and progress.

Afternoon: Nophretete Egyptian Museum. The sight of this ever-beautiful head was an experience. The entire museum is full of items one has to marvel at. So many years ago and with such skill and grace were all the items created.

Then a visit to Charlottenburg Schloß to view the wing or Friedrich der Großen (pompous) and a china exhibition "Guttoskowsky? to KMF".



Hans and Helga in Eastern side of Brandenburg Gate



One cannot go any closer to the Brandenburg Gate

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East Berlin, Apartment houses everywhere



The Spree, East Berlin near Museumsinsel



Trolley system connects apartment houses

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Newly built Apartment complexes for workers. No cars, no parking lots.

Ost-Berlin-Tour	täglich	DM 29,-
10.00 ohne Pergamon-Mus. 3½ Std. + Führ.-Geb. 11,-*		
14.00 mit Pergamon-Mus. 4 Std. + Führ.-Geb. 13,-*		

Die beste Möglichkeit, Ost-Berlin kennenzulernen. Der Stadtbilderkler führt Sie zu den bekanntesten Sehenswürdigkeiten.
(Nachmittags inkl. Pergamon-Museum). Übergang Invalidenstraße, Charité, Deutsches Theater, ehem. Admiralspalast, Unter den Linden, Palast der Republik, ehem. Wilhelmstraße, ehem. Gendarmenmarkt, Französischer Dom, Deutscher Dom, St. Hedwigs-Kathedrale, Humboldt-Universität, Staatsoper, Zeughaus, Treptower Park mit sowjetischem Ehrenmal, Frankfurter Allee, Alexanderplatz, Fernsehturm, Berliner Rathaus, Dom, Museumsinsel mit Pergamon-Museum.

*zuzüglich Führungsgebühr Ost-Berlin. Mindestumtausch entfällt.
Gültiger Reisepaß erforderlich.
Keine Touren am: 1. 5./7. 9./7. 10. vormittags.

East-Berlin-Tour daily (nur für Ausländer)	DM 29,-
10 a.m. without Perg.-Mus., germ. spoken + 11,- guid.-fee*	
2 p.m. incl. Perg.-Mus., engl. spoken + 13,- guid.-fee*	

The best way to get know East-Berlin. The guide will show you the well-known sights.
(Afternoon-tour incl. Pergamon-Museum). Checkpoint Charlie, former ministry of aviation, former Wilhelmstraße, Brandenburg Gate, Unter den Linden, Palace of the Republic, French and German Cathedrals, St. Hedwig's Cathedral, Humboldt-University, State Opera, Park of Treptow with Soviet Memorial, Frankfurter Allee, Alexander Square, TV-Tower, Old Berlin City-Hall, Dom, Pergamon-Museum.

*Guidance fees East-Berlin. No money-exchange necessary.
Valid passport is necessary.
No tours on: May 1st/Sept. 7th/Oct. 7th at 10 a.m.

We took this glance at

We took this tour to get a first hand and safe glance at East Berlin



Entrance to Petrower Park

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Guided Tour included a visit to Petrower Park with the Russian war memorial



Petrower Park Russian war memorial East Berlin



Deutscher Dom, reconstructed after WWII, East Berlin



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Still parking problems in East Berlin, although there is a ten year waiting list to get a car.



30 October 1986 Thursday

We went to East Berlin in our rental car via Checkpoint Charlie. Abends "Stachelschwine" comedy show.

30 October 1986 Thursday

It might be silly, but I didn't want to put our experiences of the day into writing until we were back in West Germany. We had just passed the West Berlin boarder guard, crossed the white line and were waiting in our car to have our papers checked, when a loud siren shattered the air. An East German guard whom I was watching locking a gate, startled, looked around frantically, grabbed his gun and ran towards the white line past our car and there, just a few yards away from us and less than 10 yards from the border line, two young men threw themselves on the ground and were immediately surrounded by at least half a dozen East German border guards, some with machine guns. They were roughed, handcuffed and pushed into a nearby building. We were too surprised to take cover or to take a picture. If we had taken a picture we might have gotten rid of our camera or worse. The poor guys. They'll be in prison for a long time. Ten more yards... Crazy world. Four weeks earlier the guards would have shot them, but there is a new policy.

We were checked through without problems after that. Parking was a problem and driving, too. People drove unpredictably.

We had to exchange 25DM into 25 Mark per person at the border. It had to be spent.

First we visited the humongous Pergamon Museum where ancient buildings (parts thereof) including the Temple of Pergamon are set up. Very amazing and, I think, unique.

Lunch in a "Museum Restaurant", good, clean, just like in the West and cheaper, but one knows that the area around "Unter den Linden"

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with all the embassies and Tourist attractions, mainly all those world famous museums, are the showplace of the DDR.

So we drove away from there and stopped in Pankow. Apartment buildings after apartment buildings, some very old, most of Hitler's days, some newer. Not a single one family home. We went shopping in a Kaufhalle. There were basic foods, but nothing imported, no oranges, no banana, hardly any meat, but sausages, a lot of cabbages. We bought basic Christmas cookies, Pfeffernüsse, Lebkuchen, Spekulatius. They taste okay.

Then we saw a small Konditorei and found out that we had enough Marks left over for a piece of cake and a cup of coffee (1/3 of the West Berlin prices). We joined a couple (in their late 30's?) at a table, and a conversation started. We did not mention that we were Americans because we had heard that people might have trouble for mixing with Western Allies. We did not discuss this, we just kept it quiet kind of instinctively. The couple, he a waiter, she an invalid who is allowed to go to the West whenever she wants to, invited us to their apartment to show us how they live. They have a 15 year old son who was not at home. Their three room plus kitchen place was cozy, with central heat, bath, telephone, and 2 TVs. They also have (I think she said own) a small lot with a summer house where they live for six months of the year, but they can't get a phone there. They own a car for which they had to wait ten years. They seem to talk rather freely, but we had no political discussions other than that we all thought Gorbachev is much more likable than the previous guys in his position.

We exchanged address. Who knows!

Hans was glad to leave East Berlin because the driving got to his nerves, and to that we were unsure about what would happen if we were involved in an accident.

We still had a few East German Pfennige left when we crossed into the West Berlin, but the guard let us keep the, a new policy.



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Stand-up lunch and Deutscher Dom, East Berlin



Lunch near the Museum Insel. East Berlin



Lamps, Statues, Buildings, all beautifully restored East Berlin

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Alexander von Humboldt University East Berlin



The place where the 4-power Agreement was signed, East Berlin



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Statue in front of Pergamon Museum, East Berlin

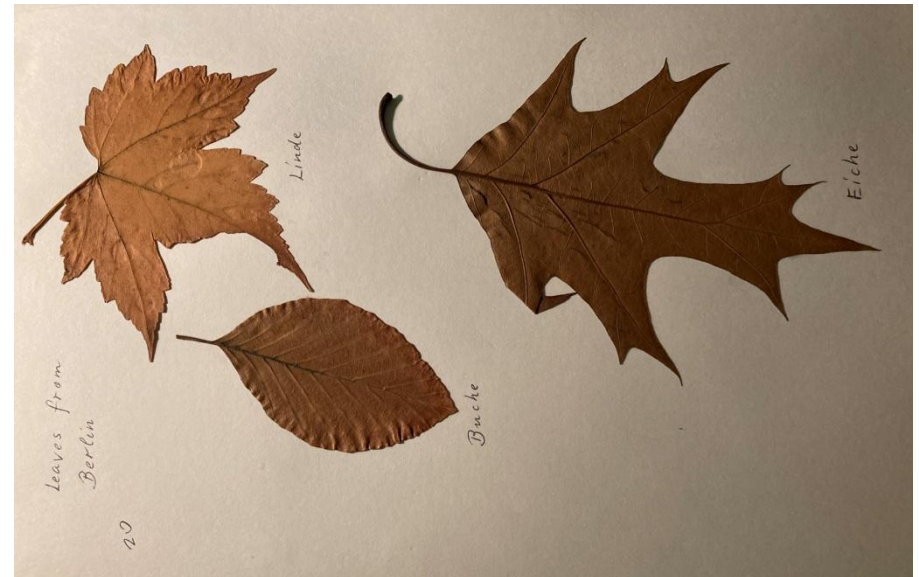


Friedrich der Große, Unter den Linden, East Berlin

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"Unter den Linden" is a divided boulevard in East Berlin



Leaves from Berlin. Linde: Linden, Buche: Beech, Eiche: Oak



City Hall (Das Rote Rathaus) East Berlin

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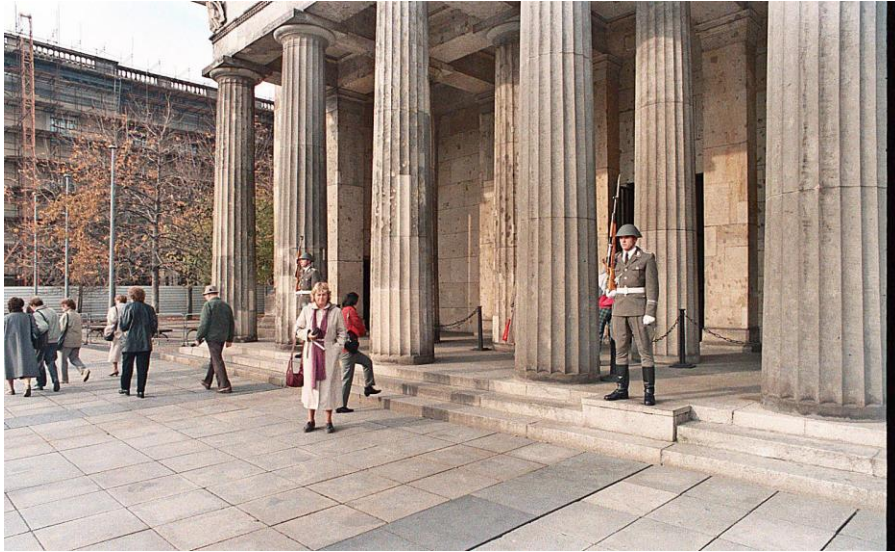


Ruins in East Berlin, 1986; the one above includes statues



Guard with Opernhaus (Opera House) in background

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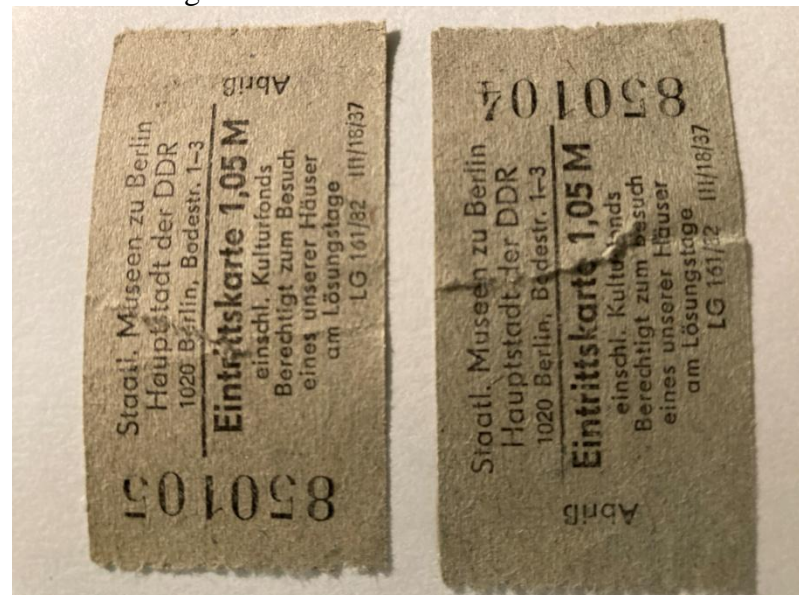
East German guards in front of a memorial.



Inside the Pergamon Museum



Pergamon Museum. East Berlin



Entry tickets for Pergamon Museum in DDR East Berlin

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Inside the Pergamon Museum: Market gate of Miletus 2nd century AD

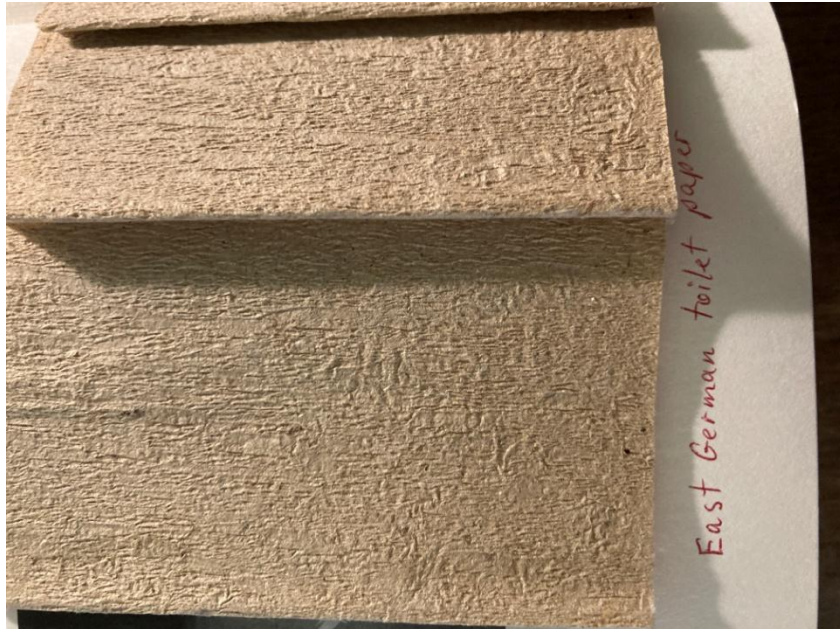


The Ishtar Gate of Babylon ~580BC inside the Pergamon Museum



Gedächtniskirche mit Europa-Center
Kaiser Wilhelm Memorial Church, West Berlin

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East German Toilet Paper, like sand paper

As we wanted to drive past Tempelhof Flughafen, police closed off the entire area and caused quite a stir: a car with explosives had exploded on the road we had taken had we been there just a little earlier.

We made it to the performance of the "Stachelschweine" too late but in one piece (two pieces, actually, his and hers). Political cabaret, satire, very well done with excellent timing.



even the most liberated do something stupid: on 30 Oct 1986



Wolfgang Gruner (the best comedian), Horst Braun und Rolf Ulrich

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Two young men attempt to run through Checkpoint Charlie to the West. They were caught a few yards east of the white line.



And we were just a few feet away sitting in our car to have our passports checked by the East German border guards. Due to a recent order to the guards, shots were not fired as used to be done in earlier days. The poor guys.



Happened in Berlin on 31 October The hours of hell in Tempelhof after the grenade explosion in front of the apartment building

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Freitag, 31 Oct 1986

We are coming down with a cold.

U-Bahn to Hansaplatz, walked to the Siegessäule on the Via Triumphalis, at one end the Brandenburger Tor, then the Siegessäule and then straight west for a few more kilometers.

Bus to Reichstagsgebäude which has been restored and offers at this time a superb exhibition titled something like "Fragen zur Geschichte", German history from around 1800 to now. We would have like to stay all day.

Walked along "The Wall" through a park-like setting. The Mauer is painted with graffiti, some political, some obscenities, some declarations of love. An eerie feeling to climb the outlooks set up for a peek across the Mauer and the vacant strip of land into the word "behind the iron curtain".

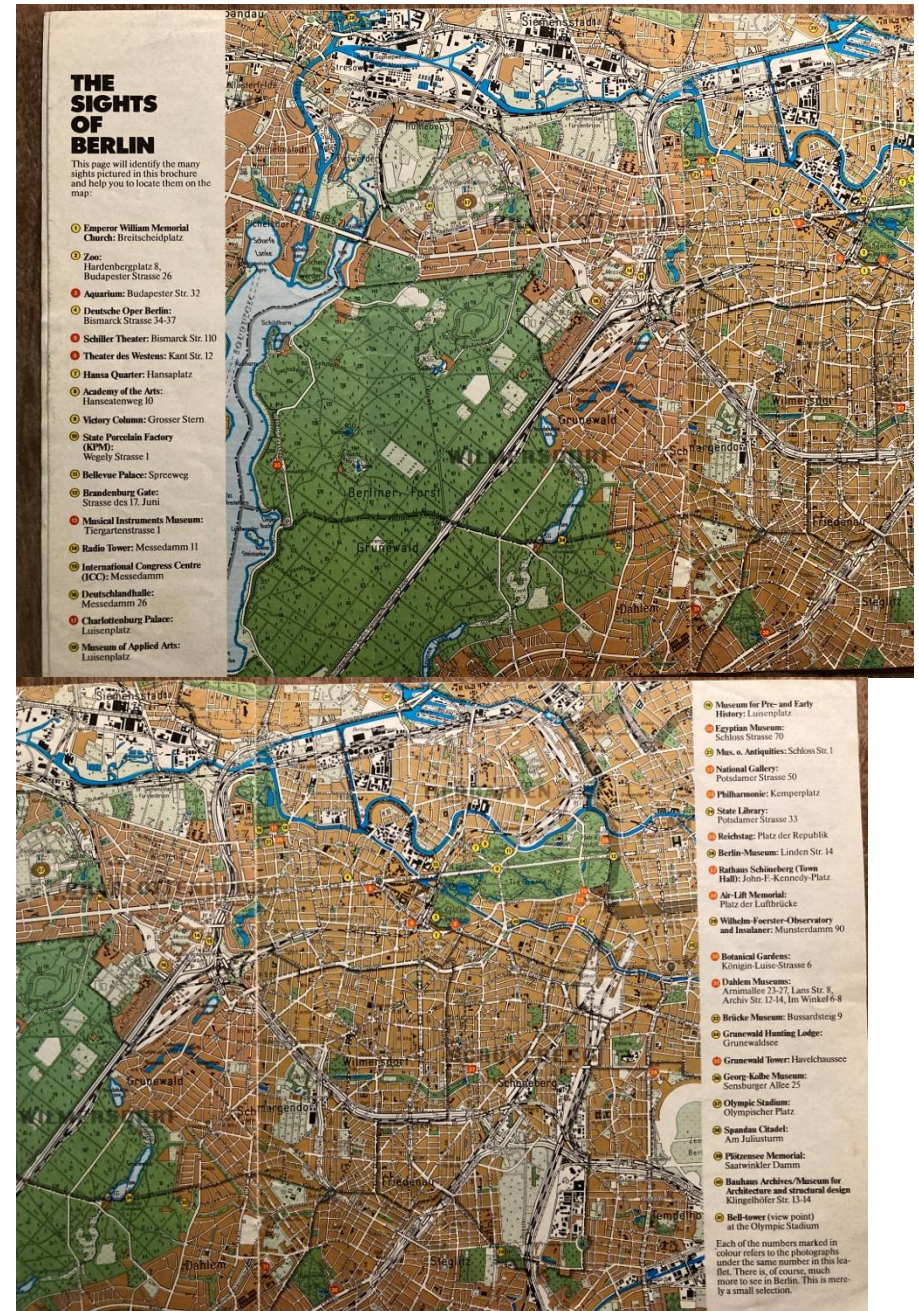
We had invited Rudi, Elke and his stepmother for dinner in the See-Baude, the restaurant in our hotel. But only Elke and his mother came, Rudi was at home but too sick from his kidney stone. After dinner we drove to their house on Straße 30 for a look. Rudi looked pale and exhausted. He is waiting for an appointment in the hospital to have the stone removed, trying to survive on suppositories until Monday or Tuesday. While we had a glass of wine in the basement bar, Rudi had to go back to bed in pain. Why could they not operate last week? "Man muß erst auf einen Termin warten". (You have to wait for an appointment first). A nice house with terrace and small yard: basement = bar, ground floor = living & kitchen, 2nd floor = sleeping areas, attic = 2 offices, his and hers.

Our cold is getting worse, we keep each other awake with snuffing and puffing.

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Saturday, 1 Nov 1986

Up at 5am, because the family reunion in Hamburg starts at 3pm. Leaving Berlin at Checkpoint Bravo. We had to use the same route out of Berlin that we had taken in which is probably a Russian request so they can keep their records straight about who's in and who's out. Rain all along the transit route, and half hour stops to get the papers checked, license plates exchanged etc. We made it to Hamburg a little late and checked into the Baseler Hospiz around 2:45pm.



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EXPERIENCE HISTORY

The history of the city of Berlin goes back to the year 1237. Even today one can trace these historical developments. It all started with the small community of Colln on the island in the River Spree, and a small settlement on the right bank of the Spree called Berlin. Both communities merged - and Berlin's development was launched. A hectic period of trade began - favoured by waterways and intersecting trade routes, which led to Berlin's busy economic activity. The city became a meeting place for merchants, artisans and artists. In the year 1470 the Election of Brandenburg made Berlin their seat of government, and from 1701

the kings of Prussia resided here. They built palaces, parks and wide roads, and they made sure that Berlin's fame spread beyond the borders of the time. It was on 18th January 1871 that the residence of the kings of Prussia also became the capital of the newly founded German Empire. The developments that followed turned the city into a metropolis and gave it the status of international importance. On 9th November 1918 the Berlin Reichstag was the scene of Germany's quick change from an empire to a republic. Greater Berlin was established in the year 1920, the result of a merger involving eight cities, 59 rural

communities, and 27 farming townships and villages.

After the end of the Second World War (1945) Berlin became an occupied city with four sectors. It remained so to this very day. In 1948 - during the Soviet blockade of the three Western sectors - Berlin was divided not only administratively, but also politically. Whereas East Berlin belongs to the Soviet sphere of influence, the free part of the city - under the protection of the Western Allies (U.S.A., France and the United Kingdom) - once again became one of Europe's leading metropolitan cities.

Decisive improvements for the situation in and around Berlin were brought about by the Four-Power Agreement of 1st September 1971, and the inter-German agreements that complemented it. The links between the city and the Federal Republic of Germany were thus secured; Berlin (West), although recognised as the capital of the three Western Powers, remains an integral part of the legal, economic and monetary systems of the Federal Republic of Germany.

Since the division of the former German capital the town hall at Rathaus Schöneberg has been the focal point of political activity in free Berlin. It is the seat of the House of Representatives - the parliament - and of the Senate - the government, at the head of which is the Governing Mayor; his function corresponds to that of a minister-president, or prime minister.



A VISIT IN EAST BERLIN

Old Buildings A Walk on Unter den Linden

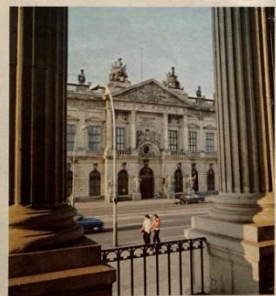
"Unter den Linden" - who has not heard of this renowned tree-lined boulevard, whose charm has often been described and praised? After the war, the construction of the Berlin Wall - which runs right past the Brandenburg Gate - cost the street its significance as a thoroughfare. A number of new buildings at the western end of Unter den Linden have been built since the war, while the eastern end of the street has once again been given its old historical appearance, the result of careful reconstruction and restoration, using historic plans.

Take a day's time to explore German history in the other part of Berlin. East of the Friedrich

Strasse you will find the reconstructed Old Palace by Langhans. Emperor William I lived here until his death in 1888. It is used today by Humboldt University as a teachers' college.

Alexanderplatz has a completely new appearance. New a pedestrian zone, it is bordered by Hotel Stadt Berlin, the Centrum department store, the "House of the Teacher" and a congress hall.

Towering above the city at a height of 1209 feet is the East Berlin television tower. The glass enclosed sphere containing the so-called Fernsehturm makes a complete turn on its own axis every hour.



A must for everyone is a visit to the impressive Pergamon Museum on the Museum Island. It is one of the world's most renowned museums of ancient art.

Among the famous remains of past cultures on display here are the Pergamon Altar and the sculpture collection from Greek and Roman antiquity.

A number of significant buildings surrounding the former Opernplatz - Bebelplatz today - give one an impression of "old Berlin's" beauty. Between the old Royal Library, St. Hedwig's Cathedral and the German State Opera you can see Berlin's old quarter. From here you can quickly get to the Platz der Akademie - formerly Gendarmenmarkt - by way of the Behrenstrasse and Wilhelm-Külz-Strasse (formerly Markgrafen-Strasse). It is at the Platz der Akademie that both the German and the French cathedrals stand. The "Neue Wache", now a war memorial, was built in 1817/1818.

Right behind it you will find the best of the Sing-Akademie - now the Maxim-Gorki-Theater. Here it is where Alexander von Humboldt gave his famous lectures, and Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy performed the re-discovered St. Matthew's Passion by Johann Sebastian Bach in the year 1829. Such famous artists as Paganini, Liszt and Clara Schumann performed at the Sing-Akademie.

The street ends at the Museum for German History (formerly the Zeughaus), whose 285-foot-long Baroque facade sets a marked accent. On the other side of the Mary-Elgert Bridge, the old Schloss Bridge, is the Protestant cathedral, built in the years 1893 to 1905. It is currently being re-built and restored. Its crypt contains the tombs of the Great Elector, Frederick I, and his wife, Sophie Charlotte.



The Theatres

East Berlin has a number of excellent theatres. The Berlin Ensemble specialises in modern drama and works by Brecht. Address: Am Berolina-Brech-Platz, 104 Berlin.

The German State Opera is devoted to more classical programmes (opera, ballet, concert). Address: Unter den Linden 7, 108 Berlin.

The "Dietel" is known as a literary cabaret. Friedrich-Strasse 101, 108 Berlin.

The Museums

A visitor to East Berlin should not miss a tour of the famous Museum Island. In addition to the Pergamon Museum (entrance, Kupfergraben), one must see the ruins of the Old Museum, the National Gallery and the Hol Museum (formerly Kaiser Friedrich Museum).

BORDER CROSSING POINTS, SIGHTSEEING TOURS

Foreigners and citizens of the Federal Republic of Germany must pay a fee for a visa permitting entry into East Berlin until midnight. All they need to present at the checkpoint is a valid passport. All visitors to East Berlin are subject to a minimum exchange of currency of official rates per day. Non-German motorists also need their car registration and the green international insurance card.

For visitors from the Federal Republic: The checkpoints Bornholmer Strasse and Heinrich-Heine-Strasse (Moritzplatz) can be used by pedestrians and motorists. The Friedrich-Strasse checkpoint can only be reached by underground railway, or by S-Bahn (elevated railway). The checkpoints to East Berlin may be entered from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m., and they may be used to return to Berlin (West) until midnight.

For foreign visitors: Foreign nationals may use the international checkpoint at the corner of Friedrich-Strasse and Zimmer-Strasse (Checkpoint Charlie), which is open day and night. Non-Germans may also travel by underground or S-Bahn to the Friedrich-Strasse Station, where they may go through the formalities prior to entering East Berlin; it is open from 7 a.m. to midnight.

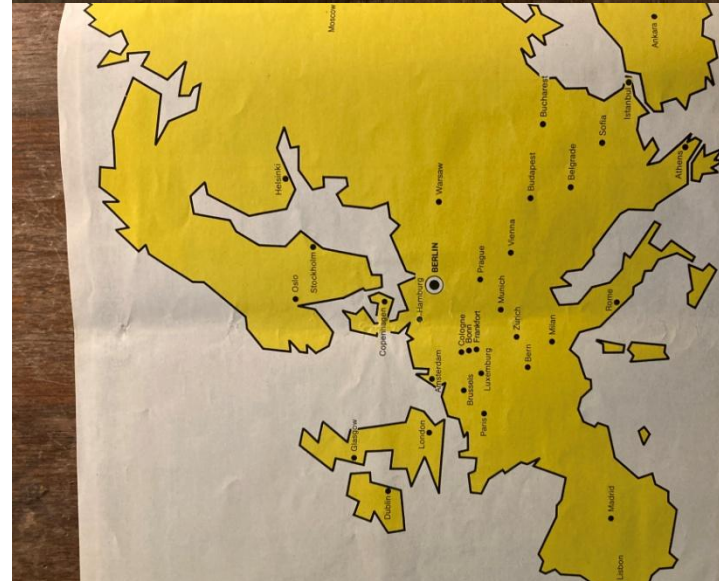
For visitors from the Federal Republic and abroad: Subsidised tours from Berlin (West) to East Berlin are offered by three Berlin tour operators: Berliner Bären City Tours, Berolina and Severin + Kühn. All private and individually organised motor-coach tours of East Berlin must be cleared in advance in East Berlin at the Travel Agency of East Germany (Reisebüro der DDR, Berlin Information, Berolina-Strasse 7, DDR-102 Berlin).

Deutschmarks and other Western currencies may be brought in in unlimited amounts. It is forbidden to carry East German currency, or that of any other East Bloc country.

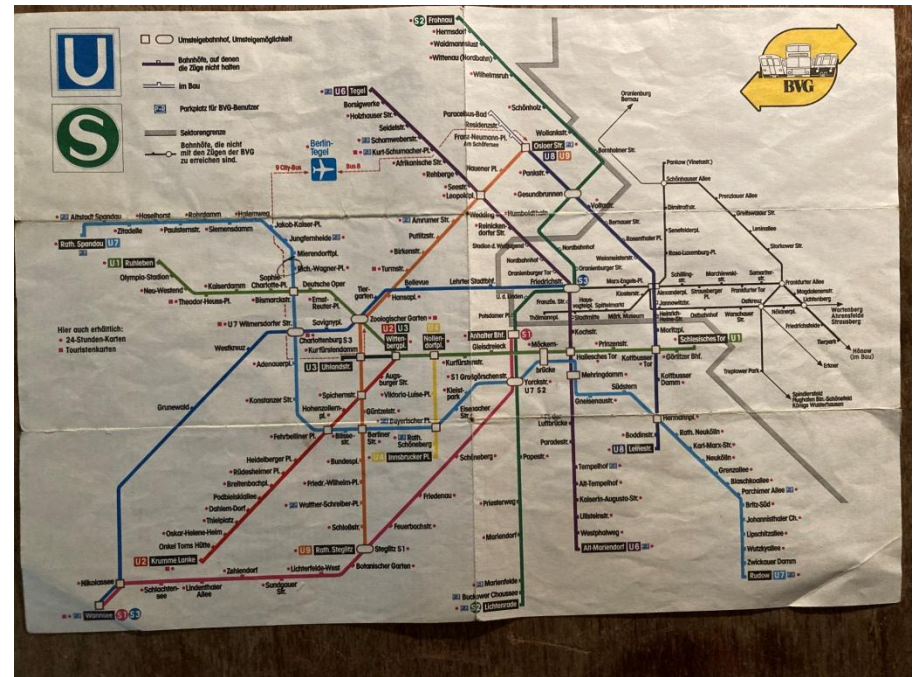
The three Berlin tour operators not only offer sightseeing tours of East Berlin. They also have a wide-ranging selection of tours through Berlin (West), including a special tour of the city's pulsating night life.

Berlin Bären City-Tours (BBS - Berliner Bärenstadtrundfahrt) - telephone 853 60 02; daily departures from Kurfürstendamm, and at the Memorial Church, corner of Ranke-Strasse. Berolina Stadtrundfahrt (telephone 81 68 57) daily departures from Kurfürstendamm, corner of Ranke-Strasse.

Severin + Kühn (telephone 883 10 15); daily departures from Kurfürstendamm 215/216. A passport must accompany all those taking part in sightseeing tours of East Berlin.



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