

SOHO HOUSE CITY GUIDES

BAR LIFE

 A guide by members, for members to all the best places to eat, drink, shop, party and meet. Discover the Soho House side of the city.

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FOR THOSE WHO TRAVEL OFTEN. SINCE 1914.

An insider's guide to Berlin

WELCOME

Willkommen to Berlin! We're thrilled to have you. There's never been a better time to visit Germany's cultural capital – and, of course, **Soho House Berlin**, our first outpost in mainland Europe.

Since we opened in 2010, we've become a cornerstone of the growing creative community in Berlin-Mitte. Featuring warehouse spaces and 1970s-inspired interiors – alongside food offerings from across the globe, an amply stocked Store X, and an expansive art collection – the House is a welcoming reflection of the city's grit and warmth. And what warmth.

Whether you're visiting for a long weekend, a holiday or business, take a moment to bask in Berlin's glow. From world-beating art galleries to verdant parks and legendary nightlife, there's so much to see, do and experience.

So, make this – our first-ever printed Berlin guide, produced in partnership with Antler and featuring all the best tips from our members in the know – your pocket-sized companion to the city.

Izogie Guobadia, Soho House Director of Membership & Communications, Europe

An insider's guide to Berlin

When choosing the city for the first Soho House in Europe, there was only ever one destination. Berlin remains the world capital of underground culture: a place where artists, musicians, writers and a global creative community can find affordable homes and studio spaces.

In addition to the infamous club and nightlife scene, avant-garde art galleries, an increasingly diverse food scene and tech start-ups, Berlin also offers 178 museums, seven symphony orchestras and three opera houses. Plus, stunning natural

wonders, such as Spreewald forest (an hour's train ride outside of Berlin) – a designated UNESCO Biosphere Reserve – the Spree river and the magical Grunewald forest.

In this guide, produced in partnership with our friends at Antler, some of our most esteemed members from the worlds of fashion, art, food, architecture and nightlife give their take on the best of what Berlin has to offer.

Head to the member benefits section of the Soho House app to enjoy 20% off Antler suitcases

WELCOME





All about Berlin's coolest areas

Berlin-Mitte

Mitte (opposite) is Berlin's beating heart and its central borough. Here, you'll find the Brandenburg Gate, original Reichstag parliament building, Tiergarten park, and Hauptbahnhof train station. There are also many world-class museums and art collections, including the impressively restored Neues Museum on Museum Island. Elegant boulevards and restored squares and buildings, such as Unter den Linden and Gendarmenmarkt could rival any in Paris. Housed in a Grade II-listed former department store, **Soho House Berlin** is proud to call this district home.

Neukölln

This area has undergone a complete transformation in recent years due to an influx of immigrants and artists. The traditionally working-class

neighbourhood now features an array of candlelit bars and restaurants, plus galleries and independent boutiques, in addition to its parks, canals and leafy squares. Neukölln is also the grassroots epicentre of political campaigning in Berlin. Protests and demonstrations for racial justice and fair housing often start in the district.

Friedrichshain

The scene of huge riots between squatters and police just after the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989, Friedrichshain was originally the counter-cultural heart of the city. While the squats have largely been replaced by cafes and boutiques, the area still boasts some famous venues, including the legendary nightclub, Berghain. You'll also find R.A.W. - home to a collection of art spaces, music venues and clubs in what was formerly a converted industrial site.

The art you'll find in Soho House Berlin

As soon as you enter the lobby of **Soho House Berlin**, Damien Hirst's spray-painted 'Shark' (opposite) is the first piece of art that greets you. A star of the global Soho House collection, it was created in situ by the British artist with a spray can when the building was still wrapped in hoarding in 2009.

The art serves as a statement of intent: it is not merely a decorative element, but embedded into the very foundation – and walls – of the House. Art and the spirit of creativity is integral to the ethos of everything that happens here.

There's hardly any space that can't serve as a showcase

for art. In 2023, the Berlin-based Italian artist Francesco Gioacchini finished a new multi-level stairwell mural. The site-specific works, one of which was a set of noughts and crosses (seemingly the result of some particularly creative children with pots of paints) dealt with ideas of universally recognised games.

Elsewhere, the collection includes many Berlin-based and German artists, such as Claudia Comte, Kimberly Klauss, Nicole Wermers, Wolfgang Tillmans, Gert and Uwe Tobias, Martin Eder, Jorinde Voigt, Katja Strunz, Matthias Bitzer, Thomas Helbig, and Christian Jankowski.



The member picks: art spots to visit

Selected by Robert Schulte, director, Julia Stoschek Foundation

1 Between Bridges

Founded by photographer Wolfgang Tillmans, the Between Bridges foundation is a new non-profit exhibition space in Kreuzberg's Adalbertstraße. It supports the arts, LGBTQIA2S+ rights and anti-racism work.
betweenbridges.net

2 Georg Kolbe Museum

Located in Berlin's Westend district, the former studio of sculptor Georg Kolbe is a real gem. The museum presents an outstanding exhibition programme and the location is beautiful. One of my favourite solo shows was by Thomas Schütte in 2021.
georg-kolbe-museum.de

3 CCA Berlin

The Center for Contemporary Arts (CCA) is a discursive and

agile art space in the city with a dynamic roster of exhibitions and public programmes, which often reflect current topics.
[@ccaberlin](https://www.cca-berlin.de)

4 Paris Bar

Often copied, but still unmatched. I can't think of a better way to eat a bowl of Bouillabaisse than sitting in this place in front of Martin Kippenberger's painting of the bar. Or, next to one of Cosima von Bonin's rocket sculptures.
parisbar.net

5 Liebermann Villa

The former summer house of painter Max Liebermann (opposite) is situated on Lake Wannsee. Visit it in spring to see the garden in full bloom, where 200 paintings were created and are now exhibited.
liebermann-villa.de





Eat and drink your way around Soho House Berlin

FOOD & DRINK

The food and drinks menu at **Soho House Berlin** offers favourites from our House Regulars repertoire, such as burgers and plant-based dishes, all prepared with freshly sourced produce. There are also German-inspired specialities and seasonal dishes created by our chefs.

The kitchen on the rooftop (opposite) offers a rotating roster of takeovers, from partnerships with local restaurants in the city to sampling some of our favourite in-house brands, such as

Cafe Boheme, Maya and our Japanese izakaya-style restaurant, Pen Yen.

On the ground floor by the entrance, you'll find our Northern Italian restaurant, Cecconi's, which welcomes both members and the public. First opened in London's Mayfair, our much-loved institution can be found in cities around the world from West Hollywood to Mumbai. Featuring an outdoor terrace, you can enjoy an aperitivo, alongside Spaghetti Lobster and wood-fired pizzas.



**The member picks:
where to eat and drink**

Selected by Til Voigt,
restaurant manager,
Izogie Guobadia and Rina
Ceitlina, head of membership
and communications

1 Berta

Named after chef Assaf Granit's
grandmother, Berta (opposite)
has a modern Israeli-inspired
menu, and the interior design is
as charming as the service. The
kreplach dumplings are the best.
bertarestaurant.com

2 Barra

This restaurant is in Neukölln,
a district that has new gastro
concepts and wine bars. Serving
sharing dishes, Barra has been
featured in the *Michelin Guide*
and awarded a Bib Gourmand.
barraberlin.com

3 893 Ryotei

Behind a graffitied facade on
Kantstraße is 893 Ryotei, serving
mainly Japanese food. The
open kitchen makes it a dining
experience you won't forget.
893ryotei.de

4 November

November is another great
place to eat for anyone who
likes Japanese. It's a warm
environment with a friendly
team and outstanding food.
november.berlin

5 Café Frieda

A modern restaurant in
Prenzlauer Berg with a
beautiful interior that serves
sharing dishes and a great
selection of wines. It's
somewhere you'll want to
stay for hours and the menu
changes throughout the day.
cafefrieda.de

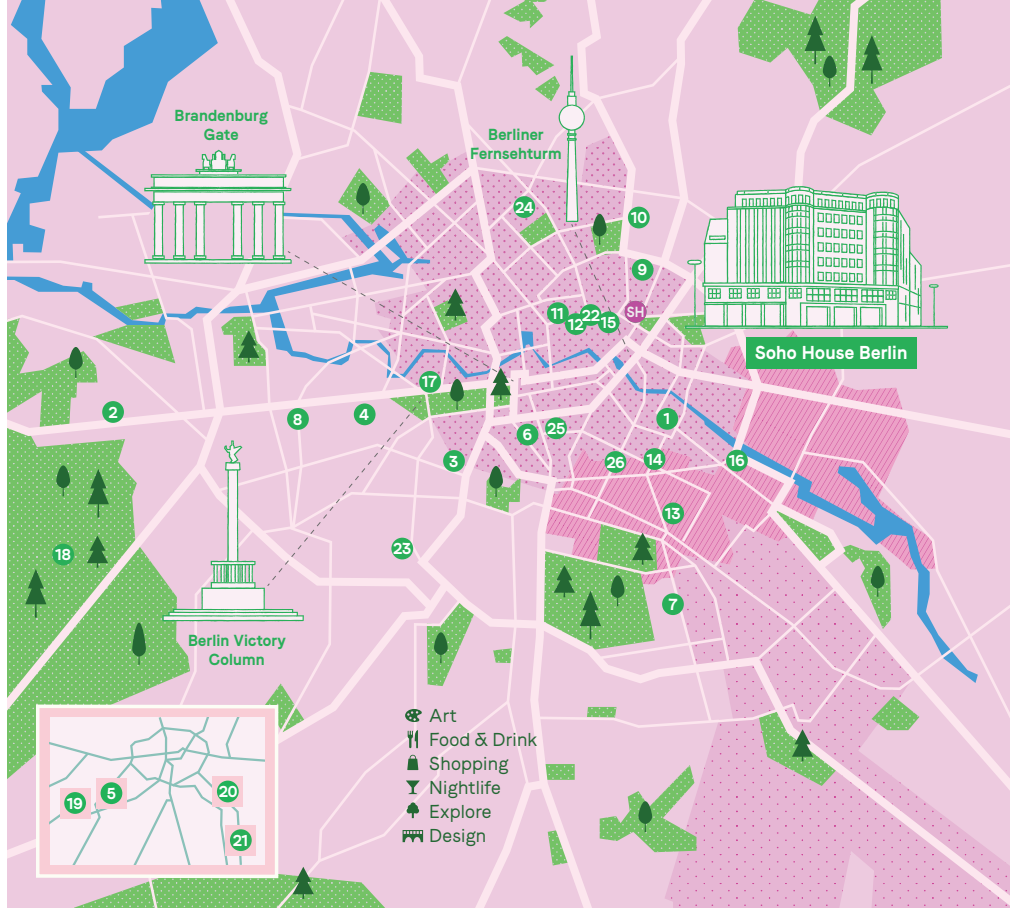
And for a real Berlin experience

Stroll around Kottbusser Tor,
the centre of Berlin's buzzing
Kreuzberg district, and indulge
in a döner kebab (day, night
or very early morning).

Places of interest

- 1 Between Bridges 🎨
- 2 Georg Kolbe Museum 🎨
- 3 CCA Berlin 🎨
- 4 Paris Bar 🍷
- 5 Liebermann Villa 🎨
- 6 Berta 🍷
- 7 Barra 🍷
- 8 893 Ryotei 🍷
- 9 November 🍷
- 10 Café Frieda 🍷
- 11 René Talmon L'Armée 🎨
- 12 Do You Read Me? 🏠
- 13 Ryoko Senses Salon 🏠
- 14 VooStore Berlin 🏠
- 15 Sal Bazaar 🏠
- 16 Watergate 🍷
- 17 Tiergarten park 🌳
- 18 Grunewald forest 🌳
- 19 Pfaueninsel 🌳
- 20 Spree river 🌳
- 21 Spreewald forest 🌳
- 22 Chipperfield Kantine 🍷
- 23 Rathaus Schöneberg U-Bhf 🚉
- 24 Lobe Block 🍷
- 25 Checkpoint Charlie 🍷
- 26 König Galerie 🍷
- SH Soho House

- Mitte
- Friedrichshain-Kreuzberg
- Neukölln



Shop at The Store X in Soho House Berlin

More than just a shop, The Store X by Soho House (opposite) is a platform for ideas and culture. Run along the lines of a gallery, it represents a new kind of experiential space that transcends traditional retail.

The Store X's Berlin outpost first opened its doors in early 2015, spanning two floors of the Soho House building in Mitte. Through a creative edit of clothes, furniture, music, art and books – alongside food from Cecconi's and

The Store Kitchen – plus events in our Studios, it brings local and international creatives together in an ever-evolving conversation.

The exhibition space within The Store X launched in April 2018 with the European premiere of *Fly Paper* by artist and filmmaker Kahlil Joseph – a polyphonic portrait of Black art and culture in New York City. Today, the space hosts a rolling programme of internationally acclaimed art and cultural events.

SHOPPING



The member picks:**cool places to shop**

Selected by Andreas
Murkudis, retailer

1 René Talmon L'Armée

I'm a big fan of his creations using natural, black rough diamonds. His store in Berlin's Scheunenviertel reminds me of the days when my shop was located in Berlin-Mitte.
renetalmonlarmee.com

2 Do You Read Me?

If you need a stimulating read – especially on the topic of art, fashion and architecture – the bookstore Do You Read Me? (opposite) is always a safe bet.
doyoureadme.de

3 Ryoko Senses Salon

I don't find myself in Neukölln very often, but when I do, I make sure I stop by Ryoko Senses Salon. I appreciate the Japanese philosophy of scent and aromatherapy – subtle, never overpowering

– and Ryoko Hori and Daniel Kula have excellent taste.
ryoko-berlin.com

4 VooStore Berlin

Pegged as a 'culturally empowered, creatively driven concept space', this Kreuzberg stalwart is a fail-safe spot for finding the best sneakers in Berlin. Stocking brands ranging from Prada to Salomon, there's also a great edit of books and magazines.
vooberlin.com

5 Sal Bazaar

Mulackstraße is one of my favourite streets in Mitte – and this fashion store, which sells brands such as Christophe Lemaire and Dumitrascu, is a real gem. Well worth a visit.
salbazaar.com



The must-buys to take home
in your Antler suitcase



1 The cold-weather coat

Crescent Down Works
Puffer Jacket, €950
salbazaar.com

2 The book

Mehr Als Ein Haus! Marcel
Breuer *In Wiesbaden* by Chris
Dähne, Carsten Ruhl, et al, €14
doyoureadme.de

3 The jewellery

Nosop Gold Ring, €1,400
renetalmonlarmee.shop

4 The towel

Soho House Berlin
pool towel, €75
sohohome.com

5 The smudge stick

Eucalyptus x White Sage
Smudge Coated With
Dragon Blood Resin, €12
ryoko-online.com





Own the night at Soho House Berlin

NIGHTLIFE

A rolling programme of nights tailored to our diverse creative community means that the vibes are always positive and the party never stops in Berlin (opposite). Join us to connect, relax, inspire each other, and enjoy sounds curated by the best DJs.

Our rooftop is the place to be every summer, where you can see a series of live performances by artists like Rochelle Jordan, alongside Luca Venezia – aka Curses – a musician, producer and DJ from New York who’s based in Berlin.

To keep things lively and exciting, we regularly fly in DJs from around the world, such as New York’s favourite twins Coco & Breezy, who came to Berlin ahead of their Glitterbox Ibiza show.

And it’s not just dancing you can enjoy at the House. Our astrology columnist also occasionally offers an evening of individual mini natal readings. Each of these cosmic snapshots gives you an insight into who you are, and where romance, work and friends are trending in your life.

**The member picks:****where to dance the night away**

Selected by Bernard Koomson,
founder of DeadHype

1 Tiny's Hut

Based in Æve Garden, Tiny's Hut is a great chill-out spot with a garden and DJs. Come for a pre-drink and an amazing pizza.

@tinys_pizza

2 Einhundert

Run by Berlin-based duo Nico Adomako and Flo Hettenbach, Einhundert started as a DJ and creative collective, and now brings some of the best international line-ups to Berlin. They throw the best parties if you want to dance all night long.

@100einhundert

3 Imaginary Friend

Seoul-born DJ Fart in the Club is a regular at this club night with her deep house, and techno and vintage breaks. If you love

music and discovering new sounds and DJs, go to one of these parties.

@djfartintheclub

4 Kilowatt Berlin

Kilowatt Berlin is a Black-run electronic and techno club series, and one of the most underrated local nights. It's usually hosted at Watergate (opposite), but they also do cool day parties.

@kilowattberlin

5 Temry and friends

Always warm and with good energy, Berlin-based producer and DJ Temry effortlessly mixes different genres such as house, neo-soul and afrobeats with a big focus on the core community. Ideal if you want a break from single-genre parties.

@temry

**The member picks:
hike, trek or cycle
your way around Berlin**

Selected by
Diana Quach, artist

1 Tiergarten park

Wander into the depths of the animal park and you will find Café am Neuen See, where you can also hire a rowing boat. Take it out on the lake and enjoy the scenery. It reminds me of a scene from the movie *The Notebook*.

2 Grunewald forest

Take a walk into Grunewald and discover the sand gravel pit and Teufelssee lake. This beautiful forest has a serene energy; I go there to recharge. It feels like you're out of the city, without having to leave Berlin.

3 Pfaueninsel

Catch the ferry from Wannsee to this enchanting place, known as Peacock Island, that's home to a fairytale

castle, rare plants and trees, plus some colourful peacocks. Bring a picnic and take in the surrounding views.

4 Spree river

Rent a paddleboard in Kreuzberg and glide along the river. It's really fun to be on the water next to little boats and ferries in the middle of Berlin. Plus, it's a way of seeing the city from a totally different perspective.

5 Spreewald forest

Take a boat trip through Spreewald (opposite) – just over an hour away by train from central Berlin. The forest is a designated UNESCO Biosphere Reserve, and the area is known for its pickles. Literally, picklemania. Everything here is pickled.





Behind the design of Soho House Berlin

DESIGN

Opened in 2010, the House (opposite) is set over eight floors of a restored Bauhaus building near Alexanderplatz, featuring warehouse spaces and 1970s-inspired interiors.

And, much like Berlin itself, the building has a complicated history. Originally a department store, its Jewish owners were forced out by the Nazis in 1933, and following World War II it was nationalised and turned into the main quarters of the East German SED Party. From then on it was dubbed the 'House of Unity'.

Designed by the architects Georg Bauer and Siegfried Friedlander during the late 1920s, the building followed

a new architectural style and design ethos that put the emphasis on practicality and usefulness. Today, the interior design is a collaboration between our in-house designer, Susie Atkinson and Michaelis Boyd Associates. Old Berlin lifestyle is brought into a new light, where exposed concrete beams are combined with traditional panelling.

Elsewhere, the city's Brutalist edge is tempered using English chintz prints reimagined with contemporary colours. A dining room, called The Politbüro, retains its original wood panelling. The overall style of the House recalls its days as a grand department store.

**The member picks:
all of Berlin's hottest
architecture spots**

Selected by Pierre
Escobar, architect

1 Chipperfield Kantine

Designed by the British architect himself, this studio canteen is located on the David Chipperfield Architects Berlin campus. Members of the public can also have a great lunch in the sleek concrete space and gardens.
chipperfield-kantine.de

2 Rathaus Schöneberg U-Bhf

This former deserted train station was damaged during the war and totally renovated in 2002. The buildings are nestled among the trees, which creates a beautiful interaction between the infrastructure and the park.

3 Lobe Block

Designed by Arno Brandhuber, this multi-purpose, concrete structure is an ironic answer to building regulations. Think the Hanging Gardens of

Babylon – Brutalist-style – in the middle of bustling Berlin.
lobblock.de

4 Checkpoint Charlie

At the corner of Friedrichstraße and Rudi-Dutschke-Straße (opposite), you'll find a building by Dutch architect Rem Koolhaas and another one by US architect Peter Eisenman. The location was originally the checkpoint between East and West Berlin.

5 König Galerie

Originally a church designed by Werner Düttmann, this gallery is one of the most iconic examples of Brutalist architecture in Germany. The building features massive concrete blocks and exposed surfaces that reveal the grains of their original wood casts.
koenigalerie.com



Still on the hunt for more Berlin must-dos?

Visit the 'Travel Tips' section of the Connect feed in the Soho House app to find other members for city-break gold.



Contributors: Rina Ceitlina, Pierre Escobar, Izogie Guobadia, Bernard Koomson, Andreas Murkudis, Diana Quach, Robert Schulte, Christopher Thompson, Til Voigt. Writer: Alfie Tong. Photographers: Marcus Mainz, Julia Nimke, Mark Seelen. Illustrators: Chiara Brazzale, Mike Lemanski.

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Explore our House in Berlin



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