

A city reborn

With Berlin's tumultuous history well behind it but never forgotten, Germany's capital offers a thriving hub, brimming with symbols of reunification and progressive cultural hotspots

Berlin will forever be known for the wall which once stood as Europe's partition. But today, it is home to one of the most unified societies, with a truly multicultural population and an undeniable energy. Times are changing in Europe and, with its myriad attractions, Berlin puts its hand up as a major drawcard for innovative business.

STAY

With rooms good enough for Michael Jackson and Her Majesty the Queen, Hotel Adlon Kempinski Berlin overlooks the famous Brandenburg Gate in the central Mitte district, with equally glamorous facilities (a two-floor spa and several restaurants) and flawless service to match.

The Ritz-Carlton on Potsdamer Platz is perfect for both business



and leisure travellers, with a sumptuous French-themed brasserie, an elegant bar and an expansive wellness centre, and the usual Ritz-Carlton swagger.

The historic Hotel am Steinplatz boasts a magnificent Art Nouveau structure, along

with an intimate experience and five-star service. Its discreet, yet central location, has suited luminaries such as Vladimir Nabokov and Brigitte Bardot, who have both enjoyed the excellent bar and rooftop spa.

Below: Berlin's Spree river
Inset: The Reichstag building
Right: Central business district
Bottom right: The infamous Berlin Wall that divided East and West Germany from 1961

Hotel Adlon Kempinski Berlin
kempinski.com
The Ritz-Carlton, Berlin
ritzcarlton.com
Hotel am Steinplatz
hotelsteinplatz.com

DRINKS & DINNER

With copper-coloured interior and large windows, Rutz Restaurant & Weinbar, in the central district of Mitte, provides a warm atmosphere to sample two-Michelin-starred food. Created by chef Marco Müller and his team, the main restaurant menu – a multi-course 'Inspiration' tasting menu – offers well-prepared, fresh, tasty meat and fish; simple food done well.

Now helmed by chef Eberhard Lange, Hugos has a firm place on the map among Berlin's gourmet restaurants too. At Hugos, in the InterContinental Hotel, chef Lange brings German and regional produce together

with international influence to create innovative fusion dishes. With a wine list to please even the most demanding sippers, and breathtaking views of the city from the 14th floor, Hugos has been recognised by the Michelin Guide with an excellent one-star rating.

Meat devotees should head to Grill Royal, where Penelope Cruz, Damien Hirst and Marilyn Manson have tucked in. With Ikora lamps from the sixties, smoked mirror partitions and a speedboat, this is an experiential show. The meat and fish hang in massive glass-

door fridges, allowing you to pick the piece which takes your fancy, while the open kitchen means there are no kitchen secrets. In the summer, the river-facing window opens so diners can enjoy a cool breeze drifting in from the River Spree.

Rutz Restaurant & Weinbar
rutz-restaurant.de
Hugos
hugos-restaurant.de
Grill Royal
grillroyal.com

SEE

Berlin is a fantastic city to tackle on foot, with so much history and emotion to take in. Walk around the Brandenburg Gate and the Reichstag Building, with its famous glass dome built by Sir Norman Foster. Visit the Berlin Wall, Holocaust Memorial and Museum Island. Also worth experiencing is The Olympiastadion, built for the 1936 Olympic Games, the baroque Charlottenburg Palace and Alexanderplatz, the perfect stop to sip great German beer and watch this bustling hub go about its business.

visitberlin.de

