

Kreuzberg & Neukölln

BERGMANNKIEZ | KOTTBUSSE TOR & THE LANDWEHRKANAL | NEUKÖLLN | SCHLESISCHES TOR & THE SPREE

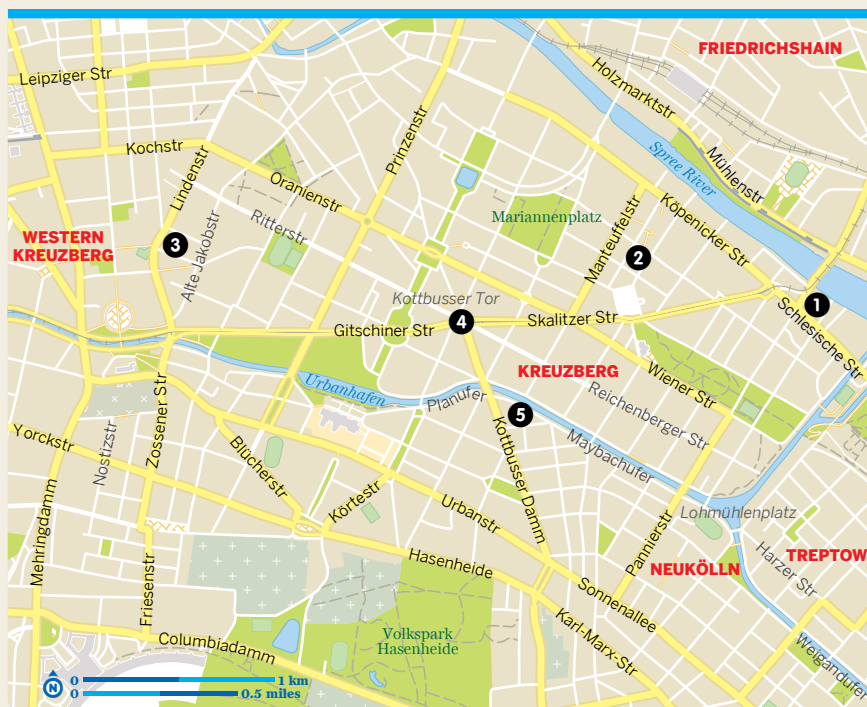
Neighbourhood Top Five

- 1 Club der Visionäre** (p158) Challenging your party stamina by dancing and partying at a day-night location.
- 2 Street Food Thursday** (p155) Eating your way around the world at the historic Markthalle Neun.

- 3 Jüdisches Museum** (p147) Stepping back into the fascinating history of Jews in Germany at this Libeskind-designed architectural masterpiece.
- 4 Kotti Bar-Hop** (p160) Soaking up the punky-funky alt-feel of eastern

Kreuzberg in search of your favourite drinking den around Kottbusser Tor.

- 5 Türkischer Markt** (p162) Immersing yourself in multicultural bounty on a crawl through the bustling market.



For more detail of this area see Map p312 ➔

Lonely Planet's Top Tip

For the ultimate 'Turkish Delight', head for **Sultan Hamam** (☎030-2175 3375; www.sultanhamamberlin.de; Bülowstrasse 57; 3hr sessions €19; ☑) Yorckstrasse, ☐ Yorckstrasse) where a traditional Turkish bathhouse meets modern spa culture. Relax in the richly tiled sauna and steam room, then treat yourself to a soapy scrub and kese (full body peeling with silken gloves). It's mostly for women, although men are welcome on Sundays and Mondays.

Best Places to Eat

- ➔ Cafe Jacques (p154)
- ➔ Burgermeister (p155)
- ➔ Max und Moritz (p153)
- ➔ Restaurant Richard (p156)
- ➔ Chicha (p153)

For reviews, see p152. ➔

Best Places to Drink

- ➔ Schwarze Traube (p158)
- ➔ Club der Visionäre (p158)
- ➔ Thelonius (p157)
- ➔ Möbel Olfe (p160)

For reviews, see p156. ➔

Best Places to Dance

- ➔ Gretchen (p156)
- ➔ Loftus Hall (p158)
- ➔ Ritter Butzke (p157)
- ➔ Tresor (p159)

For reviews, see p156. ➔

Explore: Kreuzberg & Neukölln

Kreuzberg and northern Neukölln are epicentres of free-wheeling, multicultural and alternative Berlin. There are three quite distinct areas. The western half of Kreuzberg, around Bergmannstrasse, has an upmarket, genteel air and is home to the district's main sights: the Jewish Museum and the German Museum of Technology. Eastern Kreuzberg (around Moritzplatz, Kottbusser Tor, Goerlitzer Platz), meanwhile, is a multicultural mosaic of tousled students, *shisha*-smoking Turks and Arabs, and international artists. Come here to track down fabulous street art, browse vintage stores and hang by the canal, then find out why Kreuzberg is also a night-crawler's paradise.

All that hipness has spilled across the Landwehrkanal to the northern part of Neukölln, sometimes called Kreuzkölln. Once making headlines for its crime and poor schools, the district has had an influx of young, creative neo-Berliners (including many from Italy, Spain and Australia). Trash-trendy bars, performance spaces and galleries pop up almost daily.

Local Life

➔ **Bar-hopping** Kreuzberg and northern Neukölln deliver some of the city's most hot-stepping night-time action, especially around Kottbusser Tor, along Schlesische Strasse and on Weserstrasse.

➔ **Shopping** Delightfully devoid of high-street chains, shopping here is all about individual style. Join locals in putting together that inimitable outfit from vintage shops, local designers, pop-up shops and flea markets.

➔ **Chilling** The locals don't live to work. Heck, they may not work at all, which is why they have plenty of time to chill in green oases like Tempelhofer Feld, Viktoriapark or Görlitzer Park or watch boats floating by on the Landwehrkanal or Spree River.

Getting There & Away

➔ **Bus** M29 links Potsdamer Platz with Oranienstrasse via Checkpoint Charlie; the M41 (also coming from Potsdamer Platz) hits the Bergmannkiez before trudging down to Neukölln via Hermannplatz.

➔ **S-Bahn** The Ringbahn (Circle Line) S41/S42 stops at Treptower Park, Sonnenallee, Neukölln and Hermannstrasse.

➔ **U-Bahn** Getting off at Kottbusser Tor (U8) puts you in the thick of eastern Kreuzberg, although Görlitzer Bahnhof and Schlesisches Tor (U1) are also handy. For northern Neukölln, Schönleinstrasse, Hermannplatz and Boddinstrasse (all on the U8) as well as Rathaus Neukölln (U7) are key stops. For the Bergmannkiez area, head to Mehringdamm (U6) or Gneisenaustrasse (U7).