

Prenzlauer Berg

Neighbourhood Top Five

1 Spending a sunny Sunday afternoon foraging for flea-market treasures and cheering on karaoke crooners in the **Mauerpark** (p180).

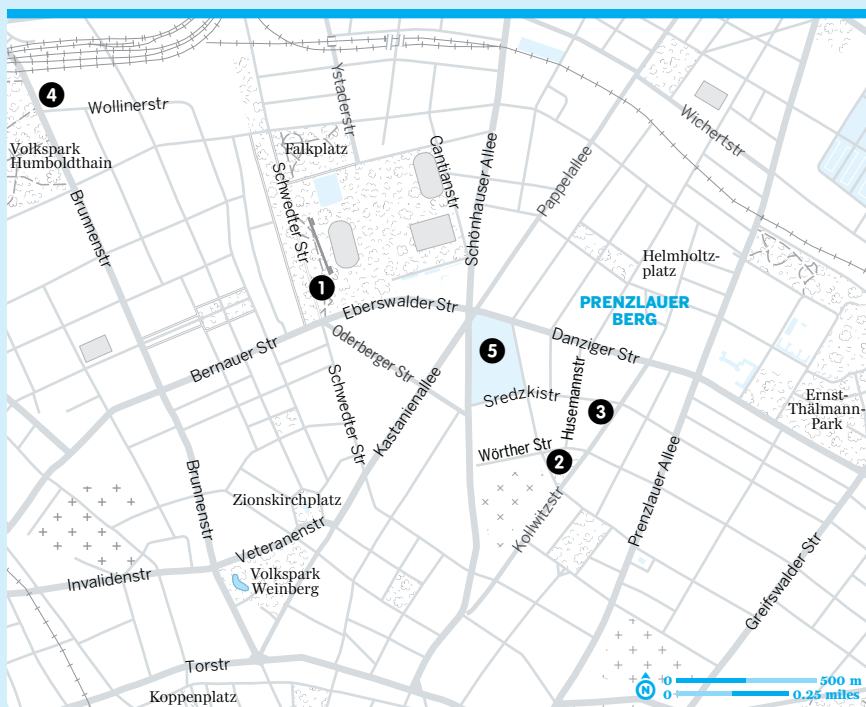
2 Taking a leisurely ramble around the leafy **Kollwitz-**

platz (p181) neighbourhood with its beautiful town-houses, convivial cafes and upmarket indie boutiques.

3 Treating yourself and a friend to the tiered breakfast tray for two at the charming **Anna Blume** (p186) cafe.

4 Coming face to face with Berlin's subterranean mysteries on a WWII bunker tour with **Berliner Unterwelten** (p182).

5 Catching a concert or other cultural event at the **Kulturbrauerei** (p181).



For more detail of this area, see Map p330 ➔

Explore: Prenzlauer Berg

Once a neglected backwater, Prenzlauer Berg went from rags to riches after reunification to emerge as one of Berlin's most desirable and expensive neighbourhoods. There are no major sights, but the ample charms reveal themselves in subtler, often unexpected ways and are best experienced on a leisurely meander. Look up at restored townhouses that recently bore the scars of war. Push open an ornamented wooden door to stumble upon quiet courtyards. Source Berlin-made fashions on boho-trendy Kastanienallee or comb quiet side streets for indie boutiques selling handmade jewellery or organic baby clothes.

Prenzlauer Berg also has one of the city's best cafe scenes. Carve out a spot in a cafe on Kollwitzplatz or Helmholtzplatz, or bask in the sun with views of a handsome historic water tower. On Sundays, the Mauerpark draws tens of thousands to the city's best flea market, outdoor karaoke, pick-up basketball and other fun and games.

This is one of the most family-friendly districts in town: safe, quiet and with plenty of playgrounds, toy stores and children's cafes.

Local Life

➔ **Outdoor Quaffing** Days get long, temperatures climb and spirits soar. Time to celebrate summer beneath the chestnut trees of the Prater (p185) beer garden, on the rooftop terrace of Deck 5 (p187) or at a sunny sidewalk table at Bar Gagarin (p187). Alternatively, pick up a bottle of beer at a local market and stake out some turf in the Mauerpark.

➔ **Shopping** Prenzlauer Berg's side streets are nirvana for indie shoppers. Browse for chic bags at Ta(u)sche (p188), Berlin designers at Flagshipstore (p188) or retro threads at the Flohmarkt am Mauerpark (p180).

➔ **Eating Out** Foodies have plenty to like about this neighbourhood, where perennial favourites include Frau Mittenmang (p182) for modern German, A Magica (p185) for pizza and Konnopke's Imbiss (p185) for Currywurst. The organic farmers market on Kollwitzplatz is a fabulous place to stock up on quality fruit, veg and meat along with locally made pestos, honey and pasta.

Getting There & Away

➔ **U-Bahn** The U2 stops at Senefelderplatz, Eberswalder Strasse and Schönhauser Allee.

➔ **Tram** The M1 links Museumsinsel and Prenzlauer Berg via the Scheunenviertel, Kastanienallee and Schönhauser Allee.

➔ *** S-Bahn** Ringbahn (Circle Line) trains S41 and S42 stop at Schönhauser Allee.

Lonely Planet's Top Tip

This family-dominated district is no longer known for its late-night partying, but if you find yourself in need of a drink at 3am, your best bets are the bars along Lychener Strasse like August Fengler (p186) or Zu mir oder zu dir. If you're in dancing mood, try Alte Kantine on Wednesdays (free admission if you're over 27) or Frantz Club on weekends; both are located in the Kulturbrauerei (p181). Gays should head to Chantals at Bassy on Thursdays.

Best Places to Eat

- ➔ Frau Mittenmang (p182)
- ➔ Der Fischladen (p184)
- ➔ Lucky Leek (p184)
- ➔ Der Hahn ist tot! (p182)
- ➔ Oderquelle (p182)

For reviews, see p182 ➔

Best Places to Drink

- ➔ Prater (p185)
- ➔ Becketts Kopf (p186)
- ➔ August Fengler (p186)
- ➔ Mauersegler (p187)
- ➔ Deck 5 (p187)

For reviews, see p185 ➔

Best Places to Shop

- ➔ Flagshipstore (p188)
- ➔ Flohmarkt am Mauerpark (p180)
- ➔ Luxus International (p188)
- ➔ Ta(u)sche (p188)

For reviews, see p188 ➔