

# Friedrichshain

BOXHAGENER PLATZ | NORTH KIEZ | REVALER STRASSE | OSTKREUZ | WESTERN FRIEDRICHSHAIN

## Neighbourhood Top Five

**1** Confronting the ghosts of the Cold War at the world's longest outdoor artwork, the **East Side Gallery** (p173).

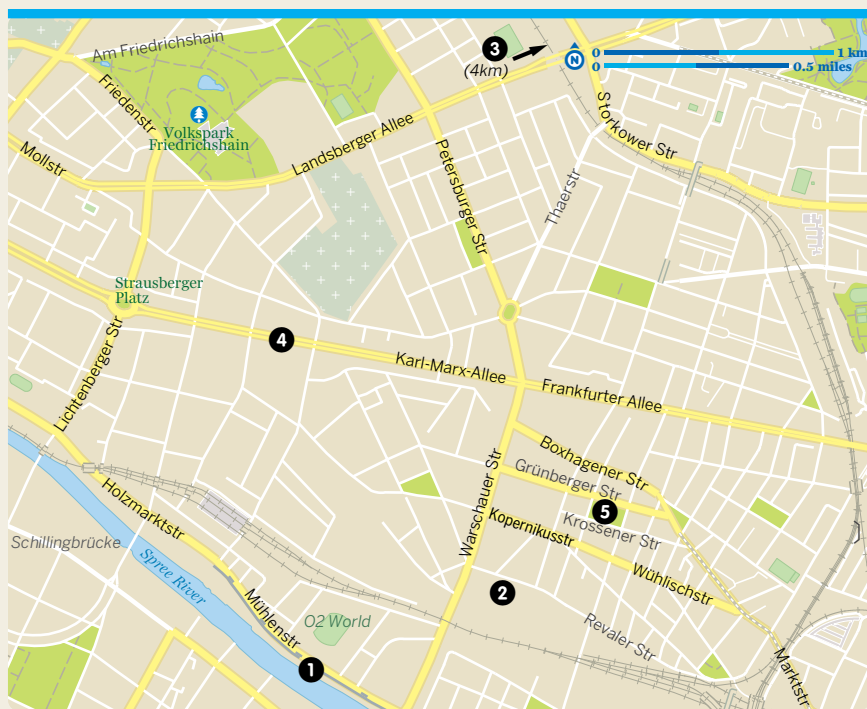
**2** Partying till sunrise at Suicide Circus or one of the many other rough-around-the-edges bars and clubs of the **RAW Gelände** (p174).

**3** Shuddering at the brutality and arbitrariness of East Germany's judicial system on a tour of the **Stasi Prison** (p176).

**4** Marvelling at the bombastic socialist architecture of **Karl-Marx-Allee** (p174), then learning the

story behind it at **Café Sybille** (p175).

**5** Shopping at the Sunday **flea market** (p182) on Boxhagener Platz, followed by brunch in a nearby cafe.



For more detail of this area, see Map p330 ➔

## Lonely Planet's Top Tip

Enjoy bird's-eye views of Karl-Marx-Allee from the rooftop above Café Sibylle (p175), then ask staff about renting the audio tour by **Stadt im Ohr** ([www.stadt-im-ohr.de](http://www.stadt-im-ohr.de); €9) to peel away the layers of Friedrichshain on a self-guided 2.5km walk culminating at Kaufbar (p179).

### Best Places to Eat

- ➔ Schneeweiss (p178)
- ➔ Spätzle & Knödel (p177)
- ➔ Lisboa Bar (p178)
- ➔ Mio Matto (p179)

For reviews, see p177 ➔

### Best Places to Drink

- ➔ Antlered Bunny (p179)
- ➔ Hops & Barley (p179)
- ➔ Chapel Bar (p181)
- ➔ Place Clichy (p181)

For reviews, see p179 ➔

### Best Places to Dance

- ➔ Suicide Circus (p180)
- ➔ Berghain/Panorama Bar (p181)
- ➔ Salon zur Wilden Renate (p181)
- ➔ Sisypheos (p180)
- ➔ ://about blank (p181)

For reviews, see p179 ➔

## Explore: Friedrichshain

Rents may be rising, gentrification unstoppable and families multiplying but, for now, Friedrichshain, once in the former East Berlin, is still largely the domain of the young and free-spirited, students, artists and eccentrics. There are few standout sights, but the web of boutique- and cafe-lined streets will repay those happy to simply wander and soak up the district's multilayered character. Daytime diversions include taking in the socialist vibe on Karl-Marx-Allee, revelling in postreunification euphoria at the East Side Gallery or blowing your budget in sassy urban boutiques. Relax in sprawling Volkspark Friedrichshain or enjoy a lazy lunch at a comfy cafe.

At night Friedrichshain truly comes into its own. The district still celebrates its underground-punk-squatter roots in the industrial bars and clubs along Revaler Strasse and around the Ostkreuz S-Bahn station. Steps away, Simon-Dach-Strasse is a bar-stumbling zone where the young and the restless drink and dance with all the mad exuberance of a stag party. In the small hours, many will move on and hit a dance floor or, by the grace of the door staff, drift off into the utopia of Berghain/Panorama Bar.

## Local Life

➔ **Marketeering** Forage for vintage finds at flea markets on Boxhagener Platz (p182), at the RAW Flohmarkt (p182) and at Ostbahnhof (p182) – urban archaeology at its finest.

➔ **Picnic in the park** Berlin's long summer evenings are perfect for chilling in rambling Volkspark Friedrichshain (p174), whether it involves a barbecue or sunset with a six-pack.

➔ **Partytown** Become the master of the lost weekend, partying at Berghain/Panorama Bar (p181) or less hyped – though no less fun – clubs like Suicide Circus (p180), Cassiopeia (p181) or ://about blank (p181).

## Getting There & Away

➔ **Bus** Take bus 200 for Volkspark Friedrichshain from Mitte (eg Alexanderplatz); bus 240 from Ostbahnhof to Boxhagener Platz.

➔ **S-Bahn** Ostbahnhof is handy for the East Side Gallery; Warschauer Strasse and Ostkreuz for Boxhagener Platz and Revaler Strasse. Ringbahn (circle line) trains S41 and S42 stop at Frankfurter Allee and Ostkreuz.

➔ **Tram** M10 links Prenzlauer Berg and Warschauer Strasse; M13 runs from Warschauer Strasse to Boxhagener Platz.

➔ **U-Bahn** The U1 links Warschauer Strasse with Kreuzberg, Schöneberg and Charlottenburg; the U5 runs from Alexanderplatz down Karl-Marx-Allee and beyond.