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Prenzlauer Berg

MAUERPARK | THE NORTH KIEZ | KOLLWITZPLATZ | THE SOUTH KIEZ

Neighbourhood Top Five

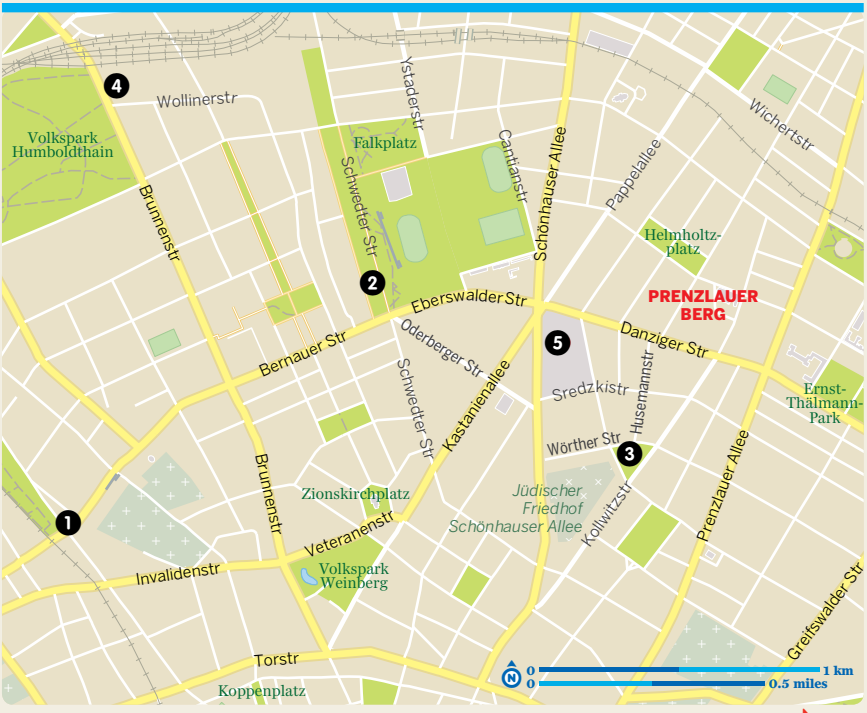
1 Coming to grips with the absurdity of a divided city at the **Gedenkstätte Berliner Mauer** (p186), Germany's central memorial to the victims of the Berlin Wall.

2 Spending a sunny Sunday foraging for flea-market treasures and cheering on karaoke crooners in the **Mauerpark** (p188).

3 Taking a leisurely ramble around the leafy **Kollwitzplatz** (p188) neighbourhood with its beautiful townhouses, convivial cafes and upmarket indie boutiques.

4 Coming face to face with Berlin's subterranean mysteries on a WWII bunker tour with **Berliner Unterwelten** (p293).

5 Catching a concert or other cultural event at the **Kulturbrauerei** (p188).



For more detail of this area, see Map p342

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 must-see 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 not long ago bore the scars of war. Push open a carved doorway 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 Berlin's oldest 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 child-oriented cafes.

Local Life

➡**Outdoor quaffing** Days get long, temperatures climb and spirits soar. Time to celebrate summer beneath the chestnut trees of the Prater (p196) beer garden, on the rooftop terrace of Deck 5 (p195) or at a sunny sidewalk table at Cafe Chagall (p196). Alternatively, score 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 (p198), Berlin designers at Flagshipstore (p198) or retro threads at the Flohmarkt am Mauerpark (p197).

➡**Eating out** Favourites for foodies on the run include Habba Habba (p191) for Middle Eastern wraps, Zia Maria (p192) for pizza, and Konnopke's Imbiss (p194) for *Currywurst*. On Saturdays, join locals for gourmet snacks and a glass of bubbly at the bountiful farmers market (p197) on Kollwitzplatz.

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

Stop by the local **tourist info center** (Map p342; 030-4435 2170; www.tic-berlin.de; Schönhauser Allee 36; 11am-7pm; S Eberswalder Strasse) in the Kulturbrauerei, which has maps, flyers and booklets to help you plug into the Prenzlauer Berg neighbourhood. It also sells tickets to events around town.

Best Places to Eat

- Frau Mittenmang (p193)
- La Soupe Populaire (p194)
- Habba Habba (p191)
- Muse (p194)
- Umami (p194)

For reviews, see p191

Best Places to Drink

- Prater (p196)
- Becketts Kopf (p195)
- Le Croco Bleu (p196)
- Weinerei (p196)
- Deck 5 (p195)

For reviews, see p195

Best Places to Shop

- Flagshipstore (p198)
- Flohmarkt am Mauerpark (p197)
- Luxus International (p198)
- Ta(u)sche (p198)

For reviews, see p197