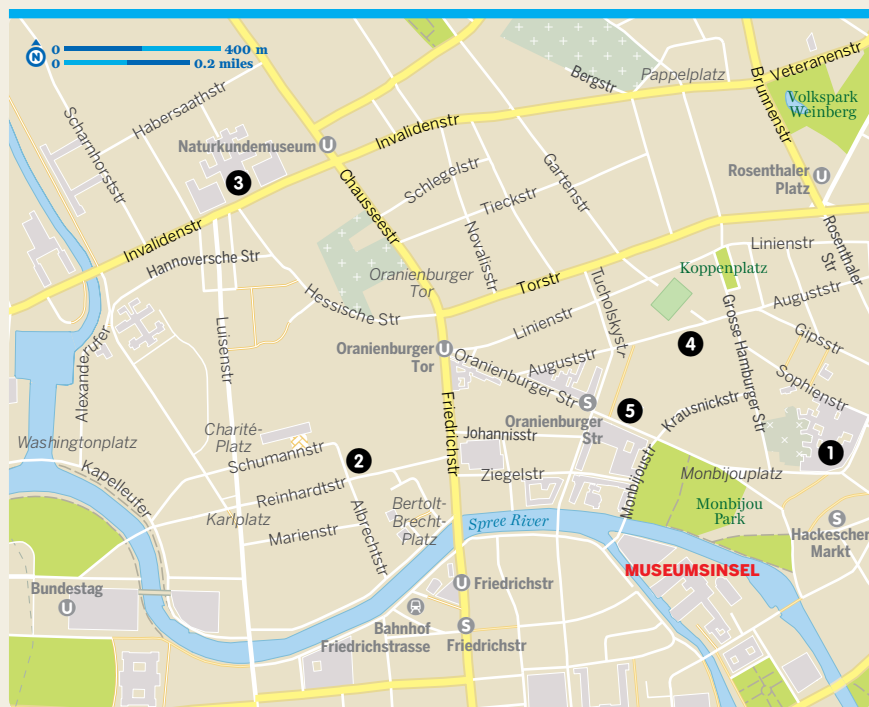


Scheunenviertel

HACKESCHER MARKT AREA | HAUPTBAHNHOF | ORANIENBURGER TOR | TORSTRASSE

Neighbourhood Top Five

- ❶ Exploring idiosyncratic shops, galleries and cafes in the charismatic maze of the **Hackesche Höfe** (p139).
- ❷ Glimpsing high drama, abstract mind-benders and glowing colour among the contemporary artworks at **Sammlung Boros** (p138).
- ❸ Sizing yourself up next to giant dinos at Berlin's mini *Jurassic Park* in the **Museum für Naturkunde** (p140).
- ❹ Strutting your stuff to salsa, tango, ballroom, waltz and swing at the grand retro ballroom **Clärchens Ballhaus** (p145).
- ❺ Studying up on the quarter's Jewish history at the **Neue Synagoge** (p137).



For more detail of this area, see Map p326 and p328 ➔

Explore: Scheunenviertel

Scheunenviertel, or Barn Quarter, packs bunches of charisma into its relatively compact frame. Its greatest charms reveal themselves in the labyrinth of quiet lanes fanning out from its main drags, Oranienburger Strasse and Rosenthaler Strasse. Embark on an aimless wander and you'll constantly stumble upon the unexpected here, an idyllic courtyard or bleeding-edge art gallery, a fashion-forward boutique, a shabby-chic bar or a glam belle époque ballroom. A distinctive feature of the quarter is its *Höfe* – interlinked courtyards filled with cafes, stores and party venues.

Since reunification, the Scheunenviertel has also reprised its historic role as Berlin's main Jewish quarter, with the Neue Synagoge as its shining beacon. Gritty Torstrasse, meanwhile, delivers a roll call of trendy restaurants and bars that lure a cashed-up creative crowd of locals, expats and visitors.

This chapter also covers the area between the Hauptbahnhof and Friedrichstrasse, which harbours two of Berlin's contemporary arts highlights, the Hamburger Bahnhof and the Sammlung Boros. North of the Hauptbahnhof itself, a new city quarter called Europa-City is slowly getting off the drawing board.

Local Life

- ➔ **Shopping** Find out what keeps Berlin designers' sewing machines humming by prowling the backstreets for fashion-forward local-label stores.
- ➔ **Bar-hopping** Play it cool when joining hotties and hopefuls for a classy buzz in Torstrasse's doorstaff-guarded booze burrows.
- ➔ **Monbijoupark** Set out a picnic, sip a beer in Strandbar Mitte (p145; Berlin's first beach bar), or catch an alfresco concert or play at the Monbijouthheater (p148) in this riverfront park.

Getting There & Away

- ➔ **Bus** No 142 runs along Torstrasse.
- ➔ **S-Bahn** Hackescher Markt (S5, S7 and S9) and Oranienburger Strasse (S2) stations are both good jumping-off points.
- ➔ **Tram** M1 runs from Museumsinsel (Museum Island) to Prenzlauer Berg and makes key stops throughout the Scheunenviertel.
- ➔ **U-Bahn** Weinmeisterstrasse (U8) is the most central station. Rosenthaler Platz (U8), Rosa-Luxemburg-Platz (U2) and Oranienburger Tor (U6) are closer to Torstrasse and the northern Scheunenviertel.

Lonely Planet's Top Tip

To get a better understanding of the Scheunenviertel's role in Berlin's Jewish history, rent a multimedia iGuide from the Anne Frank Zentrum (p141) for €5 (concession €2.50). Available in English and German, it takes you to key sites around the Scheunenviertel and uses photographs and interviews to add dimension and depth.

Best Places to Eat

- ➔ Pauly Saal (p144)
- ➔ Chèn Chèn (p143)
- ➔ Katz Orange (p144)
- ➔ Muret La Barba (p143)

For reviews, see p141 ➔

Best Places to Drink

- ➔ G&T Bar (p146)
- ➔ Strandbar Mitte (p145)
- ➔ Butcher's (p146)
- ➔ Clärchens Ballhaus (p145)

For reviews, see p145 ➔

Best Jewish History Sites

- ➔ Neue Synagoge (p137)
- ➔ Gedenkstätte Stille Helden (p141)
- ➔ Alter Jüdischer Friedhof (p142)
- ➔ Museum Blindenwerkstatt Otto Weidt (p141)

For reviews, see p137 ➔