

## PRACTICAL INFORMATION FOR YOUR STAY IN BERLIN

### Getting to Berlin

There are different ways to travel to Berlin. Flights are the quickest and sometimes most economic option if you come from a distant place:

- **Berlin Brandenburg Airport (BER):** in the south of Berlin lies approx. 20 km from the city centre. The railway, the urban railway and several bus lines take you to the city within about 30-45 minutes. The taxi ride to the Hauptbahnhof (central station) costs approx. 45 €.

You can directly reach Berlin also by train via its several long distance railway stations. The fast InterCityExpress (ICE) trains which are connecting all major German cities within a couple of hours are stopping at the Hauptbahnhof (central station). The quickest rail connection between Berlin and Moscow is available twice a week from the Kursk train station. The station Berlin Ostbahnhof which lies a few urban railway stations from the central station can be reached within 20 hours and 15 minutes via Smolensk, Minsk, Brest and Warsaw.

Please find more information on the [visitBerlin website](#).

### Berlin Tourist Info

You may contact the Berlin Tourist Info with any matter regarding the planning of your activities in Berlin. Here you will get comprehensive information with respect to events, sightseeing or museums and the appropriate tickets can directly be bought as well. City maps, tourist guides and souvenirs are available in addition. The competent and multilingual service staff members are gladly providing helpful advice.

The four offices of the BerlinTourist Info can be found at the following locations:

- Berlin Brandenburg Airport (BER)
- Central Station
- Brandenburg Gate
- Humboldt Forum (coming soon)

### *Berlin WelcomeCard*

What is the *Berlin WelcomeCard*?

The *Berlin WelcomeCard* is the official tourist ticket of the city and offers various benefits such as the free use of public transport means which enables a most flexible discovery of Berlin. You will additionally get a discount of up to 50% at about 200 sights and attractions.

The *Berlin WelcomeCard* is a great deal for families as well: Up to three children at the age of up to and including 14 may jointly use your included public transport ticket at no extra charge. When buying the card, you will additionally get a helpful tourist guide including a lot of hints, theme tour proposals and a city map.

How much is the *Berlin WelcomeCard*?\*

Prior to purchasing the card, you should check which one of the available variants is the most suitable for you as you can choose between both different validity periods and different utilisation zones as follows:

Validity period	Berlin AB City centre	Berlin + Potsdam ABC City centre + surrounding area
48 hours	23,00 €	28,00 €
72 hours	33,00 €	38,00 €
Museum Island 72 hours**	55,00 €	59,00 €
4 days	40,00 €	45,00 €
5 days	46,00 €	49,00 €
6 days	49,00 €	52,00 €

\*as of 30 April 2021

\*\*including free admission to the museums of the Museum Island (except for special exhibitions)

Where do I get the *Berlin WelcomeCard*?

If you prefer purchasing the *Berlin WelcomeCard* prior to your journey to Berlin already, you may order the ticket [here](#). Payment can be made by credit card.

Choose from the following options if you want to buy the *Berlin WelcomeCard in Berlin*:

- At all Berlin Tourist Infos
- In more than 500 hotels and shops
- At the selling points and ticket machines of the urban railway and the BVG (please see item 5)

Any information regarding the *Berlin WelcomeCard* can be found [here](#).

### **Berlin by taxi**

In order to get from A to B in Berlin, you can, in addition to public transport means, also go by taxi. Taxis are available throughout the entire city region. Major focal points as e.g. stations and airports provide dedicated taxi ranks but you may book a taxi also by phone or by different apps such as “Free Now”. Also your hotel or the hospital will gladly call you a taxi at any time.

How much is a taxi ride?\*

The basic rate for any taxi ride amounts to 3.90 € and 2.00 € are being invoiced for the first seven kilometres resp. 1.50 € for every other kilometre. You may additionally use the short haul offer which costs the lump sum of 6.00 € for a ride of up to two kilometres (only when hailing a passing taxi, not from a taxi rank), but you will have to tell the driver that you want to use the “short haul”. The taximeter will then change to the normal tariff in case of distances exceeding two kilometres.

Paying by credit card has meanwhile become a normal procedure. If you want to pay in cash, make sure to use as small banknotes as possible as many drivers have only limited amounts of available change.

A taxi may be booked in English around-the-clock under the following number:

- +49-30-20 20 21 22 0

Other taxi phone numbers (not always in English)

- Taxi Berlin: 030 – 20 20 20
- Würfelfunk: 030 – 21 01 01
- TaxiFunk Berlin: 030 – 44 33 22
- Quality Taxi: 030 – 26 300 0
- City-Funk Berlin: 030 – 21 02 02
- Funk Taxi Berlin: 030 – 26 10 26
- Talixo: 030 – 346 497 360
- EcoTaxi: 030 – 210 10 20

*\*as of 30 April 2021*

### **Public means of transport**

Berlin provides a quite well developed infrastructure of public transport services with numerous urban railway-, underground- and tram-lines which will quickly take you from A to B. Almost every place can then be reached by foot within a couple of minutes.

The website of the Berliner Verkehrsbetriebe / BVG (Berlin Transport Company) provides you with an extensive journey planner in English: [Website of the BVG](#)

At this, you just have to enter your starting point and your destination in order to get proposals regarding optimal connections and the relevant transport means. The app of the BVG may also be downloaded to your smartphone.

Where do I get a ticket?

You can directly buy your ticket at one of the many selling points of the BVG and of the S-Bahn (urban railway) Berlin GmbH or by means of the ticket machines in the stations. Don` t forget to validate the ticket on the platform directly after you have bought it. The tickets sold in the bus or the tram are already being validated upon purchase.

How much is the use of public transport?\*

Ticket**	Fare (Passengers from the age of 14)	Reduced Fare (children between 6 and 14)
Short-trip ticket	2,00 €	1,50 €
Single ticket Berlin AB	3,00 €	1,90 €
Single ticket Berlin BC	3,50 €	2,40 €
Single ticket Berlin ABC	3,80 €	2,70 €
Day ticket Berlin AB	8,80 €	5,60 €
Day ticket Berlin BC	9,20 €	5,90 €
Day ticket Berlin ABC	10,00 €	6,10 €
Small group day ticket AB	25,50 €	-
Small group day ticket BC	26,00 €	-
Small group day ticket ABC	26,50 €	-

- A Short-trip ticket is valid for a single trip of up to 3 stations on the underground (U-Bahn) or urban railway (S-Bahn) – transfers permitted - or up to 6 stops on the bus or tram – transfers not permitted.
- Single Tickets entitle you to travel with any number of changes towards your destination. They are valid for a maximum of two hours.
- With a Day ticket you can travel as often as you want on the day printed on the ticket or from validation of the ticket on starting your journey until 3.00 a.m. on the following day. Up to five persons can travel together with a Small group day ticket.
- *Berlin WelcomeCard\*\**: The Berlin WelcomeCard includes the free use of all public means of transport and provides numerous benefits for Berlin visitors.

*\*as of 30 April 2021*

*\*\*The fare is subject to the chosen tariff area.*

*\*\*\*Please see item 3)*

What is the meaning of the different tariff zones?

The entire public transport network of Berlin represents a tariff area which is being subdivided into three zones with different transport fares.

- Zone A: Validity for the city centre of Berlin inside the urban railway circle.
- Zone B: Validity outside the urban railway circle up to the city boundary.
- Zone C: Validity for Berlin`s surrounding area including the city of Potsdam (Berlin Brandenburg Airport (BER) lies inside this zone).

The tickets are being offered for the combined zones AB, BC and ABC. The ticket AB is recommendable for journeys inside Berlin. Journeys from and to Berlin Brandenburg Airport (BER) require a ticket for the zone ABC.

### **Currency exchange in Berlin**

Whether to pay a bill in cash or by credit card is normally within your own discretion. In Germany, higher sums from 500 € are normally being paid by credit card whereas sums below ten Euro are usually being paid in cash. The non-compliance with this circumstance may – in single cases – lead to a refusal of your intended payment method. You should thus guarantee a sufficient amount of available money in cash.

Cash dispensers where you may withdraw money can be found throughout the entire city. There are bureaux de change and Reisebank outlets at the city's major rail stations and airports where up to 100 currencies can be exchanged at competitive daily rates. Please find a list of Berlin`s bureaux de change [here](#).

### **Free Wi-Fi hotspots in Berlin**

You can go online everywhere in Berlin. The city has established free Wi-Fi hotspots at numerous public locations as service for the visitors. Such hotspots can be found i.a. on popular sites as for instance the Brandenburg Gate or the Gendarmenmarkt but also at Berlin Brandenburg Airport (BER) and stations.

All you have to do in order to access the free Wi-Fi is to accept the terms of use.

Please find further information under [www.berlin-health-excellence.com](http://www.berlin-health-excellence.com)