

CLIMS - International group tour: Nr.: 1403-24

Meet new friends from all over Europe and get to know the pulsating German metropolis!

07.09. – 14.09.2024

Berlin & Surroundings

Explore Berlin and the surrounding area together – the extensive program includes cultural highlights and leaves space to get to know each other and share activities.

30 persons from CLIMS countries
1 BwSW-group leader (English-speaking)
1 English-speaking tour guide

Accommodation

Haus am Werlsee

Walther-Rathenau-Str. 20, 15537 Grünheide, Germany



<https://www.bundeswehr-sozialwerk.de/reiseangebot/unterkuenfte/haus-am-werlsee/>

Our services

- 7 nights in double room including half board
- BwSW-group leader (English speaking)
- Varied program
- Guides/excursions in English

Price

Accommodation in double room

990,- €/person/stay

Single room supplement

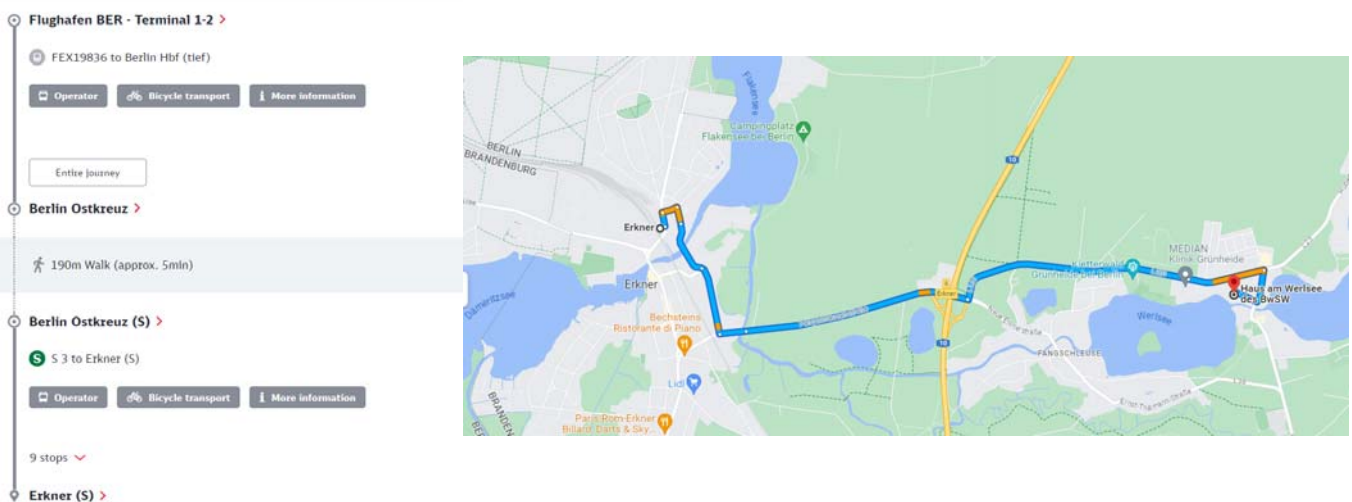
70,- €/person/stay

Deadline for registration - 20.05.2024 -

PROGRAM

1. Day: 07.09.2024 - Individual arrival to the hotel

Next located train station: **Erkner (S)**



Flughafen BER - Terminal 1-2 >

FEX19836 to Berlin Hbf (tief)

Operator Bicycle transport More information

Entire journey

Berlin Ostkreuz >

190m Walk (approx. 5min)

Berlin Ostkreuz (S) >

S 3 to Erkner (S)

Operator Bicycle transport More information

9 stops v

Erkner (S) >

- Transfer from Erkner (S) train station possible
- Train connections between Berlin Airport (BER) and Erkner (S) can be found at:
<https://int.bahn.de/en/>

Welcome drink
Dinner at the hotel

2. Day: 08.09.2024 - Berlin

Breakfast at the hotel
Bus ride from Grünheide to Berlin centre
City tour of Berlin (2h)
Guided tour of the **Berlin Wall Memorial, Bernauer Strasse (1h)**
Spree boat trip from/to Friedrichsstrasse (2,5h)
Visit and guided tour of the Tränenpalast (Palace of Tears) (1h)
Bus ride to Grünheide
Dinner at the hotel

3. Day: 09.09.2024 - Spreewald (Spree Forest)

Breakfast at the hotel
Bus ride from Grünheide to **Spreewald/Lübbenau**
Visit of the Gherkin Museum incl. gherkin tasting
Boat trip through the Wiesenspreewald to the restaurant
Lunch (2-course menu incl. 1 drink 0.3l)
Boat trip with coffee and cake
Free time in Lübbenau
Bus ride from Spreewald/Lübbenau to Grünheide
Dinner at the hotel

4. Day: 10.09.2024 - Potsdam

Breakfast at the Hotel
Bus ride from Grünheide to Potsdam
Guided tour **Sanssouci Castle** - via audio guide only (1h)
Guided tour **Sanssouci Park** (1,5h)
Free time in Potsdam
Potsdam **city tour and guided tour** through the **Dutch Quarter** (2h)
Bus ride to Grünheide
Dinner at the hotel

5. Day: 11.09.2024 - Berlin

Breakfast at the hotel
Bus ride to Berlin center
Visit **The wall – asisi Panorama Berlin**
Walk to the Topography Documentation Center of terror
Visit to the **exhibition/documentation center Topography of Terror**
Walk to Potsdamer Platz
Driveway and free time **Panorama point Berlin** – open air exhibition “Berliner Blicke”
Short free time for a lunch snack
Guided tour continues over the Memorial of the Murdered Jews and the Brandenburg Gate to the Reichstag building
Visit and guided tour of the **Reichstag Dome**
Bus ride to Grünheide
Dinner at the hotel

6. Day: 12.09.2024 – Individual day in Berlin

Breakfast at the hotel
Bus ride to Berlin
Free time
Bus ride to Grünheide
Dinner at the hotel

7. Day: 13.09.2024 – Berlin

Breakfast at the hotel
Bus ride to Berlin Hohenschönhausen
Visit **Hohenschönhausen Memorial** (Stasi prison)
Bus ride
Currywurst snack at “Kiez-Bude Konnopke” in Prenzlauer Berg
(incl. curry sausage, fries and 1 drink)
Visit to the **museum in the Kulturbrauerei “Everyday life in the GDR”**
Free time
Bus ride to Grünheide
Dinner at the hotel

8. Day: 14.09.2024 – Individual departure

Breakfast at the hotel
Departure of the participants
- Transfer to Erkner (S) train station possible
- Train connections between Erkner (S) and Berlin Airport (BER) can be found at:
<https://int.bahn.de/en/>

Program changes subject to change

The minimum number of participants: 30 persons

Please send us the CLIMS application forms by 20.05.2024.

Bundeswehr-Sozialwerk e. V.

Travel International

Tel.: +49 228 37737 234, Fax: +49 228 37737 444

E-mail: bwswjfi@bundeswehr.org

The application forms will be collected until the registration deadline. In the event of a majority, the participants will be chosen so that an international group is created. The confirmations or cancellations will be sent to the responsible CLIMS partner organization by the end of May.

Cancellation policy:

Free cancellation of the entire reservation is possible **up to 56 days** before arrival.

Subsequently, the following cancellation rates are due:

- Cancellation from 55 to 28 days before the start of the event: 25% of the total price per person
- Cancellation from 27 to 14 days before the start of the event: 50% of the total price per person
- Cancellation from 13 to 8 days before the start of the event: 75% of the total price per person
- Cancellation from 7th day before the start of the event: 90% of the total price per person.

On the day of arrival 100% of the total price per person.

Payment conditions:

Advance payment of 25% of the total amount is due by **14.06.2024**.

The final payment of the total amount is due by **02.08.2024**.

Each applicant receives an invoice from Bundeswehr-Sozialwerk e. V.

DESCRIPTION OF THE EXCURSIONS

✓ 2-h guided city tour by bus

Germany's capital Berlin is large, multifaceted and full of interesting sights. A city tour offers a panoramic view of Berlin. Berlin's long history is reflected throughout the cityscape - capital of Prussia, glittering metropolis of the golden twenties, divided city during the Cold War, boom after reunification - in no other place can Germany's history be experienced as concentrated as in Berlin. The architecture, the nightlife and the general diversity are known worldwide and attract countless tourists. Sightseeing in Berlin is therefore one highlight after the other.



✓ **Berlin Wall Memorial, Bernauer Strasse**

The Berlin Wall Memorial is the central place of remembrance of German division, located in the center of the capital. At the historic site on Bernauer Strasse, it stretches 1.4 km along the former border strip. The memorial site contains the last remaining section of the Berlin Wall, which has been preserved in its depth and gives an impression of the construction of the border fortifications at the end of the 1980s. The other remains and traces of the border barriers as well as the dramatic events at this site provide an example of the history of division.



✓ **2,5h Spree boat trip from/to Friedrichsstraße**

2,5 h City tour through historic and modern Berlin via the Spree, canals and harbours with the Berlin Highlights! With airy sunbathing areas and comfortable indoor seating, the premium ships offer the best conditions for a boat trip in any weather. On board, the modern German-Mediterranean restaurant cuisine takes care of your physical well-being (food and drinks are not included). German-English cruise explanation from the tape.



✓ **Exhibition Tränenpalast**

Experience history - in the Tränenpalast. The Wall divided Berlin into two halves, East and West, from 1961 to 1989. The Tränenpalast is one of the few border crossings between the two parts of the city. Hopeful departures, painful farewells - up close at the historic site.

In a permanent exhibition, more than 550 objects and documents recall separation and farewells, escapes and protests, surveillance and controls. Numerous contemporary witnesses describe their personal experiences at the Friedrichstraße border crossing. Educational programmes for every target group open up the exhibition and encourage visitors to ask questions about their own lives.

✓ **Spreewald**



The Spreewald as a green Venice - 100 kilometres south of Berlin, is a special nature experience in the travel destination Brandenburg. Since 1991, the Spreewald has enjoyed UNESCO recognition as a biosphere reserve and has thus become part of

a worldwide network of large-scale protected areas. Rare animal and plant species find their habitat here. The Spreewald is surrounded by waterways (rivers) like a dense network. Around 300 kilometres of waterways can be explored by canoe, kayak or on a leisurely boat trip through the Upper and Lower Spreewald.

A boat trip through the Spreewald Biosphere Reserve is an excursion on winding rivers. The ferryman or ferrywoman will take you along the quiet channels (rivers) of the unique lagoon landscape. Enjoy nature and the peace and quiet of the Spreewald. Switch off from everyday life and city noise during the barge tour. You will be amazed, because it's so easy.

A very special attraction for lovers of Spreewald cuisine is the small Gherkin Museum with original oak and beech wood barrels from around 1900 that can hold up to 3.5 tonnes. Here you can learn a lot of interesting facts about the tradition of pickling and preserving gherkins. As a highlight of your visit to the museum, you can taste and exclusively purchase our patented royal cucumbers, which are pickled according to the recipes of our queen gherkin.

✓ Castle and park Sanssouci

The name Sanssouci - carefree - is to be understood as the king's wish and leitmotif, for this was where he preferred to retreat. Georg Wenzeslaus von Knobelsdorff completed Sanssouci Palace and its terraces in 1747 according to Frederick the Great's ideas. The location of the palace on the famous vineyard terraces and the original 18th-century interior design allow today's visitors to immerse themselves in the world of the philosopher of Sanssouci.

Sanssouci - that is not only the palace, Sanssouci is above all the park with the unique terraces and the magnificent fountain in the centre, world-famous and included in the UNESCO World Heritage List in 1990.

Here, for over 250 years, the highest art of garden design has been united with the works of the most skilled architects and sculptors of their time.

Frederick the Great himself planned his palace with terraces dedicated to viticulture in 1743 and had his burial place laid out here. Later, King Frederick William IV had the garden between the private Sanssouci Palace and the mighty New Palace considerably extended once again. In this way, Frederick's French pleasure garden was interwoven with the picturesque landscape park of the 19th century and supplemented with fascinating natural scenery and magnificent buildings of the Classicist and Romantic periods.

Today, visitors can stroll through the approximately 300 hectares with changing styles of exquisite garden art. The aesthetics and philosophy of the former inhabitants of these palace grounds can be discovered in perfectly shaped garden sections, architecture, water features or in the more than 1,000 sculptures.



✓ **Guided city tour Potsdam**

The city of Potsdam has even more to offer than the famous Sanssouci Palace, the former summer residence of Frederick the Great. The historic quarters of the Russian Colony Alexandrowka, the Dutch Quarter with its red brick houses, the former Bohemian weavers' quarter, the Swiss houses in Klein Glienicke and the many Italianate town villas give Potsdam the flair of a European city.

On your way through the historic city center with its beautifully restored buildings, you will pass the Dutch Quarter with its delightful gabled houses. Explore the elegant alleys around Brandenburger Straße and the famous quarter on foot.



✓ **The wall – asisi Panorama Berlin - Introduction incl. time for own viewing**

Experience everyday life in the shadow of the Berlin Wall in a unique panorama by artist Yadegar Asisi at Checkpoint Charlie. In the specially erected circular building in Berlin-Mitte, in the immediate vicinity of the former death strip and the border crossing, the monumental panorama shows everyday life in the Kreuzberg district of West Berlin in the 1980s on 900 square metres. From a 4-metre-high visitor platform, you dive into the house-high panorama installation - the perfect illusion of this city. Discover everyday life with the Berlin Wall on the guided tour and get exciting and informative answers about the artist and the panorama artwork: What was the attitude to life like back then in divided Berlin? What was daily life like for people in West Berlin? After the guided tour, you can view the panorama individually. The tour can be arranged as an open dialogue, all questions are welcome.



✓ **Panoramapoint Berlin**

Whether the TV Tower, the Brandenburg Gate, the government district or many other sights - from almost no other vantage point in Berlin can you see these historical highlights so well.

PANORAMAPUNKT is the viewing platform with the fastest lift in Europe for all those who want to be right in the middle of it all and still be at eye level with the biggest buildings in the capital. At your feet, the hustle and bustle of a world metropolis, while you enjoy a sensational view without glazing on one of the highest open-air terraces and take the perfect souvenir photo.



✓ **Dome tour of the German Bundestag in the Reichstag building (if available*)**

Immerse yourself in history and politics and experience a fascinating dome tour of the German Reichstag in Berlin. The Reichstag, as a symbol of German democracy, offers you the opportunity to get a unique view of the capital and at the same time learn more about the political significance of this impressive building.

As you climb up the spiral ramp of the dome, more of the fascinating cityscape around you is revealed with each step. Once at the top, a breathtaking panoramic view of Berlin awaits you. From here you can admire the famous sights such as the Brandenburg Gate, the TV Tower, the Tiergarten and many other landmarks. Berlin's modern architecture blends harmoniously with the historic buildings you can view from this elevated position.

** Visiting appointments can only be requested for the current month and the following two months. Admission is subject to current availability and cannot be guaranteed. The following information is required when applying: surname, first name and date of birth. Applications cannot be processed without correctly and completely filled in forms. Please note: A visit to the dome of the Reichstag building is dependent on the current work situation of the Parliament as well as weather and security conditions. A visit to the dome can therefore not be guaranteed. Even in the case of already confirmed dome visits, cancellations on site at short notice must be expected.*



✓ **Memorial Hohenschönhausen (Stasi prison)**

The Hohenschönhausen Memorial in Berlin is a place of historical significance that recalls the dark days of the GDR. As the former central remand prison of the Ministry of State Security, also known as the Stasi, the Hohenschönhausen Stasi Prison has a tragic past that continues to reverberate today. A special way to experience this history is through eyewitness tours.

90-minute group tour of the Hohenschönhausen memorial site

The Hohenschönhausen Memorial is located in a former Stasi prison in Berlin and is a significant testimony to the dark history of political persecution and repression in the former GDR. This place is closely associated with the horrors of the Cold War and the SED dictatorship.

The prison was built in the 1950s by the GDR's state security and served as a central detention center for political prisoners. Thousands of people were imprisoned, interrogated and often cruelly mistreated here because of their oppositional views, their resistance to the regime or simply because of their dissenting opinions



✓ **Typical Lunch-Snack Konnopkes Imbiss (curry sausage)**

"Max Konnopke is 29 years old when he comes to Berlin from Cottbus and decides to become a sausage maker ..."

This is how the story of "Konnopke's Imbiss", Berlin's most famous curry sausage stand under the magistrate's umbrella on Schönhauser Allee, begins in 1930. What Max started with a sausage kettle hung around his neck - at his side his wife Charlotte - has since become a Berlin attraction.



✓ **Museum in the Kulturbrauerei - Everyday life in the GDR**

The Museum in the Kulturbrauerei in Prenzlauer Berg in Berlin shows the permanent exhibition "Everyday Life in the GDR". The exhibition uses objects, documents, film and audio examples to illustrate the gap between aspirations and the reality of life in the GDR.

The permanent exhibition "Everyday Life in the GDR" shows the life of people in the GDR in the 1970s and 1980s in the workplace, in public and in private. It shows how the SED regime shaped

everyday life, how people dealt with lack and limits, and where they found freedom.

In the individual themed rooms of our exhibition, we show original objects that fit into everyday scenes. You can take a seat in a restaurant, in a living room or at a workbench and learn more about leisure and improvisation, housing construction or working life in the GDR. Everyday objects are supplemented in our exhibition by historical documents, eyewitness accounts and contemporary film footage to look at everyday life in the GDR from several perspectives.