

THE NEW BERLIN

*Hosted by Sharon Ullman, Professor of History,
Bryn Mawr College*

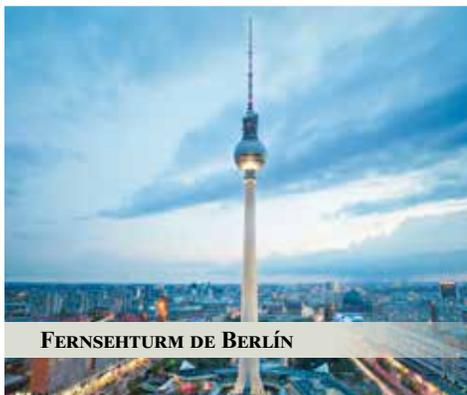
A CITY REUNITED

OCTOBER 9TH - 17TH 2020

It's hard to believe that it has been 30 years since the Wall came down. A whole generation of Berliners has grown up not knowing the great symbolic divide that once separated their city. By now, it is safe to say that the great experiment of reunification that began on November 9, 1989 with the tearing down of the wall, is a complete success. Berlin is the vibrant capital of a united Germany that has become the economic powerhouse of Europe.

At Discover Europe we are very fortunate that two of our best tour guides call this city home - Matthias and Sara Kort (aka Sara Cereda). While Sara is originally from the Piedmonte region of northern Italy, Matthias was born in, what was then, East Berlin. Between them they will bring you a unique perspective on this historic city: native and visitor, east and west - their combined insights on the history and evolution of their city are unparalleled. You can find out more about Sara and Matthias and the city they love at www.europe-berlin-guide.com.

Come and see the intersection where the worlds of communism and capitalism collided. A world of contrasts where one foot stands firmly in the history of the great nation of Germany and one foot steps into a bright and modern future. With world-class museums, filled with the treasures of antiquity, set in a city that has embraced modern art in all its forms, Berlin will win your heart and your mind. Join us this autumn for an insider's view of one of Europe's most exciting destinations.



BASED ON 15 PAYING PARTICIPANTS, THE NET COST OF THIS ITINERARY, PER PERSON, DOUBLE OCCUPANCY IS:

LAND ONLY (NO AIRFARE INCLUDED): **\$3799**
SINGLE SUPPLEMENT: **\$ 740**

THE FOLLOWING SERVICES ARE INCLUDED:

- HOTELS:** 7 nights' accommodation in a first-class hotel including all hotel taxes and service charges
- COACHING:** All ground transportation as detailed in the itinerary
- MEALS:** Breakfast daily, 2 lunches, 3 dinners
- GUIDES:** DISCOVER EUROPE tour guide throughout
- BAGGAGE:** Portorage of one large suitcase per person
- ENTRANCES:** Entrance fees to all sites included in the itinerary, plus a 3-Day Berlin Museum pass
- TICKETS:** Best seats to a major concert (Berlin Philharmonic, Staatskapelle Berlin or similar depending on schedules)
- FREE PLACES:** One free place with airfare (economy class) included in a single room with 15 paying participants
- MARKETING:** Design, printing and mailing of 5000 promotional postcards



FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9TH - Departure from your chosen US gateway. **OVERNIGHT: PLANE**

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10TH - Upon arrival at Berlin's Tegel airport, you'll be met for the transfer to our city-center hotel. With time to unpack and relax from your overnight flight, you'll have an opportunity to settle in before meeting for a welcome reception and dinner. **(D) OVERNIGHT: BERLIN**

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11TH - After breakfast, we begin with a general introduction to the city: a panoramic tour, revealing treasures from the depth of Berlin's capital culture enhanced with the precious insights of your local guide. We'll see the "Museum Island," home to the Pergamon and many other famous institutions, drive down Unter den Linden to the Brandenburg Gate and stop at the Reichstag. We continue through the Tiergarten to the Charlottenburg Palace and return to the city center up the Kurfurstendamm. After a break for lunch, we'll take a boat ride through the heart of the city on the River Spree. The remainder of the afternoon and evening are free for individual exploration and your tour guide will have plenty of ideas and suggestions to make the best use of your time. **(B, L) OVERNIGHT: BERLIN**

MONDAY, OCTOBER 12TH - Today we explore the Berlin of the Cold War era. Your guide will begin by setting the scene and explain how the city came to be split into two. We'll visit the Berlin Wall memorial, where we'll see a section of the Wall preserved in its original state, as well as a birds-eye view of the 'Death Strip,' where East Germany's shoot-to-kill orders were carried out on would-be escapees. Next we'll travel to the north of Berlin to Bornholmer Strasse, where the Wall came down on November 9, 1989. Here, your guide will explain the unlikely tale of how one East German politician's mistake brought down the Berlin Wall. Continuing deeper into East Berlin, we'll see the Karl-Marx-Allee, a boulevard built as a monument to Stalin to demonstrate the new socialist utopia of the German Democratic Republic. After a break for lunch, we'll also visit the headquarters of East Germany's secret police, the Stasi, and learn how the East German state increasingly spied upon its own people, creating a system of complete government control over its citizens. We'll finish our walking tour at Alexanderplatz, the site of the iconic TV tower in the heart of the former East German capital. The rest of the afternoon and evening will be free. **(B, L) OVERNIGHT: BERLIN**



THE FRAUENKIRCHE

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13TH - An excursion today takes us south, through Saxony, to Dresden to spend the day uncovering the phoenix that has arisen from the ashes of World War II. Re-emerging as the "Florence on the Elbe," Dresden continues a painstaking process of renewal and reconstruction from the ravages of war. Our sightseeing in the city will include visits to the restored Frauenkirche and the New Green Vault, a collection of wondrous treasures housed in the Castle. We'll return to Berlin for dinner. **(B, D) OVERNIGHT: BERLIN**

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14TH - A free day to explore Berlin with your 3-day museum pass, giving you entrance to over 40 museums around the city. This evening we will have tickets to a concert performance. **(B) OVERNIGHT: BERLIN**

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15TH - Our excursion today takes us southwest from Berlin. Our first stop will be the Allied Museum on the outskirts of the city. Set in the former "Western Zone" of the city, the museum shows the military and political scenery of the region from the end of World War II to the reunification. From here we continue to the shores of the Wannsee to visit the site, now a memorial, of the infamous Wannsee Conference of 1942, where the Nazis planned their "Final Solution" to the Jewish "problem." Then, in contrast, we head to the Cecilienhof Palace, the site of the Potsdam Conference at the end of the war, where the fate of Berlin was sealed. We will break for lunch in the beautiful Dutch Quarter of Potsdam and then visit the retreat of the Prussian kings at Sanssouci. We'll explore the summer residence built for Frederick the Great between 1745-47, frequently called the "Prussian Versailles." Sanssouci is a stunning legacy to a modest king, famous for saying "a crown is just a hat that lets the rain in." From here we return to the hotel for a free evening. **(B) OVERNIGHT: BERLIN**



TREPTOWER PARK, BERLIN

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16TH - A final free day with your museum pass. This evening we will gather at the hotel and venture out to a local restaurant for a farewell dinner. **(B, D) OVERNIGHT: BERLIN**

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17TH - Morning transfers to Berlin's Tegel Airport for returning flights to the U.S. **(B) OVERNIGHT: HOME**

Key to included meals: B - breakfast, L - lunch, D - dinner

To Make a Reservation, Please Contact Discover Europe at 866-563-7077