

Guided tour Berlin Wall

When the Berlin Wall was no monument but real

Former GDR prisoner shows the former death strip along the Berlin Wall



Route:

We start at Friedrich-Ludwig-Jahn stadium and walk along the Eberswalder and Bernauer Straße to the Berlin Wall documentation center.

Especially at the Bernauer Straße the absurdity of the division of Berlin was obvious. The borderline between east and west was located on the sidewalk. The people on one side of the street lived in East-Berlin, but when they came out of the front door, they stepped into the West. You will hear stories about escape attempts via the roofs of the houses and tunnels, about successful escapes and victims of border shootings.

I will show you, where the wall was situated between the districts of Prenzlauer Berg (East), Mitte (East) and Wedding (West), how the death strip was composed and how the wall was altered and “improved” during time.

The tour ends at the Berlin Wall documentation center, where we will see remains of the Wall and we will have a look on the original situation from the centers' watchtower.



Points of interest:

- Wall-park
- Documentation center and Berlin Wall memorial
- chapel of reconciliation
- original remains of the Berlin Wall

Meeting point:

Tram station: Friedrich-Ludwig-Jahn-Sportpark of the M10; or walk from the subway station Eberswalder Straße (U2) about 300 m along Eberswalder Straße to the tram station.

Duration: 1½ - 2 hours

Your guide: Cliewe Juritza

I was born in 1966 in East-Berlin and grew up and went to school in Prenzlauer Berg (Helmholtzkiez). After some fruitless attempts to escape from the GDR, I was arrested in 1984 and sentenced to twelve months in prison. Ten months later I was brought to freedom from the Federal Republic of Germany and released from the GDR. During my study of political sciences in West-Berlin, the Berlin Wall came down in November 1989. Until the mid 1990s I worked for the Berlin Senate of Urban Development and organized architectural invitations to tender, e.g. the competition for the chancellery and the federal president's office. I worked as a freelance journalist and in the press department of McDonald's Germany. Since January 2007 I am a tour guide in Berlin.