

BERLIN



**Stefan Athmann** General Manager

Dear Virtuoso Symposium Attendee,

Hosting the Virtuoso Symposium 2014 here in Berlin is a great honor and a very exciting time for all of us. We are delighted to have you all here and to be able to show you what our fabulous city has to offer.

With this we have asked a number of our employees of the Regent Berlin to describe their perfect day in Berlin. They have told us all about their favorite places and spots, bars, restaurants, shops and museums in Berlin. Reading through the following pages will give you a great impression of the diversity of things to do, to see and to discover in Berlin.

### Luxurious Shopping

My recommendation would be that you try out exploring the KaDeWe, Berlin's largest department store. Shopping, an excellent food hall on the 5th floor and a glass of champagne at the champagne bar Paul Bocuse while watching the world go by - priceless!

Thank you for your support over the years and for letting us look after your valued clients. We will continue to make service our very first priority here at the Regent Berlin!

Let us look after **YOU** over the next few days, have a great time in Berlin and Thank You!

Yours sincerely

Stefan Athmann General Manager



Museum Island - Bode Museum



East Side Gallery - Berlin Wall Memorial

#### Overview

Over the past century, Berlin has seen some of the most dramatic changes experienced by any modern city. From the decadence of the 1920's to the shock of World War II, from a divided city into one reunited entity constantly defining itself through art, music and culture: Berlin is a city of change and thereby a place of constant inspiration.

Did you know that the city has three UNESCO world heritage sites like the Museum Island, the Prussian castles and gardens and in 2006 Berlin was awarded the UNESCO City of Design Award.

Did you know that Berlin has more museums than rainy days (approx. 106,3 per year).

More than 180 museums and collections are well-known for their quality and have seen around 16 Million visitors in 2013 alone.

Did you know that Berlin is the city in Germany that combines the highest amount of foreign nationals living here? Nearly half a million inhabitants from 185 nations are permanent residents of this bustling city.

There is so much to discover in and around Berlin, it can keep you occupied for weeks. Please let the following pages be an inspiration to you.



**Roland Pröh** Tea Master Gold

My first stop will take me to the **Corner Store**. This concept store unites a boutique, art gallery and café in a unique style with luxury labels and a wide

selection of shoes from various top designers.

Afterwards I walk across the street and spend some time at **Galeries Lafayette.** Maybe not as big as in Paris, but they offer a fantastic range of luxury goods and delicate food items.

For Lunch I love going to **Bar Comi** in Mitte. It is located in the **Sophie-Gips-Höfen** (Courtyard) in the heart of the art and gallery scene. They serve a fantastic selection of sandwiches, soups, salads and home-made cakes.

# **Monday**The Shopping Tour

If I had a day with no obligations I would most probably spend it like this...

Then I would spend the afternoon walking around Hackesche Höfe. They represent the largest, enclosed courtyard area of Germany and were put under a preservation order in 1972. The courtyards were opened on 23 September 1906. As is the case in many of Berlin's courtyards, the building complex consists of café's, a cinema, galleries, shops, offices and flats. The area is very unique and typical for Berlin.

And for dinner I would end up at **Borchardt** restaurant located in Mitte. The restaurant looks back on a 150 year old tradition and their Schnitzel is famous even beyond the borders of Berlin.



Akin Akarsular Head Doorman

Start the morning with some **Street-Art**. Berlin is one of the most creative cities ever and you will find all sorts of art wherever you go. Our guide will show you places or courtyards in Kreuzberg, Friedrichshain, Prenzlauer Berg or Mitte that you will never forget.

Then challenge yourself with a round of Backlight minigolf. Minigolf in an extraordinary surrounding where you go on a journey from the Brandenburg gate through a spaceship into underwater worlds.

For lunch and some typical Berlin culture visit the Turkish market in Kreuzberg. You get fresh fruits, snacks and handcrafts by local designers which are worth a stop.

### Tuesday The Exciting Tour

Well if you ask me to see something exciting I would recommend you to do this...

The market is located next to Paul-Linke-bank in Kreuzberg.

Berlin does seem to be quite flat but a visit to the Teufelsberg will show you otherwise. Incredible can probably describe the view you will enjoy from the old monitoring station on Teufelsberg which is built on a mountain of World War II wreckage.

And to round off the day go to Clärchens Balllaus for dinner and dancing. Known as shooting location for the movie "Inglorious Bastards", Clärchens Ballhaus is perfect for dinner and to shake your hips afterwards to Salsa, Swing or cha-cha beats.



**Stephan Mehlhorn** Head Concierge & Front of House Manager

## **Wednesday**The Classic Tour

If you do not want to miss out on the classics, this might be the tour for you...

After breakfast at the Regent Berlin, head out to Gendarmenmarkt. Perfectly positioned in Berlin's historic Mitte district the **Gendarmenmarkt Square** with Schinkel's concert hall and the French and German domes is said to be the most magnificent square in Berlin, and some people even say in all of Germany.

Then head a little further East to the **TV-Tower** on Alexanderplatz. Discover the city from the top with a 360° view of Berlin and if you like, enjoy a drink or even lunch in the restaurant which is slowly rotating. And by the way the sunsets are stunning too...

In the afternoon walk over to **Museums Island**. "A unique ensemble of museums" the island in Berlin's heart was called by UNESCO, which made

it a world heritage some years ago. Five museums opening their doors for you with impressive exhibitions and architecture, amongst it you will find the beautiful Nofretete bust.

For dinner go to **Aigner** which is located on Berlin's historic Gendarmenmarkt. Discrete Viennese art, nouveau décor and innovative menu combining local and Austrian classics with seasonal dishes. The Schnitzel is to die for...

And for a typical Berlin entertainment night, visit **Friedrichstadtpalast.** With its electrifying shows Friedrichstadtpalast assures you an entertaining evening with the world's biggest crew of 160 participants and artists altogether. And did you ever see a 20 meter waterfall on stage? There you will...



**Carmen Hackmann Director of Sales & Marketing** 

Walk from the hotel to **Checkpoint Charlie** in about 10 minutes. Before becoming a tourist attraction, Checkpoint Charlie was the best known crossing point between the separated East and Western Berlin. "Necessity is the mother of invention" could be the motto of the small museum, where they exhibit different attempts of people who tried to escape the former GDR.

Then walk over to the **Holocaust Memorial** by the Brandenburg Gate. Designed by architect Peter Eisenman and engineer Büro Happold the holocaust memorial will get under your skin while sneaking between the blocks. An attached underground museum holds the names of all the known Jewish holocaust victims.

### Thursday The Reflective Tour

To dive into Berlin's and Germany's history in more detail, try out some of my following recommendations...

For your well deserved lunch try out **Sagrantino**— Italian food served in a cozy atmosphere makes it one of my favourite places to go to.

In the afternoon pay a visit to the **Eastside Gallery**. Walk along the most famous remains of the Berlin wall and experience the pulsating art scene of the districts Friedrichshain and Kreuzberg.

After this day of walking, dinner is well deserved at the restaurant Mutter Hoppe. The cozy atmosphere in the interlacing rooms is only one aspect which has to be mentioned about this old fashioned Berlin restaurant. Serving traditional German food, it is located in Berlins birthplace the historic Nikolai district and it also features live music on the weekends.



**Esther Neumann** Food & Beverage Manager

Start the day at the Literaturhaus Cafe in Fasanenstraße which is a secret escape from the city hustle and bustle. You find it close to the well known Kurfürstendamm. The Literaturhaus Cafe is located in a small villa and surrounded by a

beautiful garden. Affected by the calming historical interior you can easily take a break and get lost in a good book.

After a relaxing start to the day go and explore the **Gardens of the World**. As one of the greenest districts of Berlin, Marzahn — Hellersdorf invites you for a long walk through gardening design and installations in various themes. You can participate in traditional Chinese tea ceremonies or just take a deep breath and enjoy the fresh air.

### **Friday**The Bohemian Tour

To see Berlin's different bohemian offerings, I have some ideas for you...

Berlin - You can do it by foot, by car, by boat... but how about your personal **Ricksha guide** showing you around? They will be more than happy to introduce you to the city sights and hidden treasures. And you just sit back, relax and enjoy while they cycle you around the city in the afternoon.

And for dinner and the perfect glass of wine head back to Mitte and visit Weinbar Rutz. This restaurant and wine gallery is well known for the chefs' creations and a selection of over 1000 bottles of wine. No matter what your preference with matured grapes is, here they will be more than happy to give you some good recommendation. No wonder they have recently been elected to have Berlin's best wine menu.



**Christian Meinke** Assistant Manager

# **Saturday**The Relaxing Tour

For the perfect start to the weekend I would say, sit back, relax and enjoy...

Start after breakfast with a **Brückenfahrt** (tour by boat around the city, on the Landwehrkanal, Havel and Spree. With more bridges than Venice and Paris together you will discover Berlin from a different side. Boat tours range from 1,5 hours for the inner city up to 4 hours and also include the outer areas of Berlin as well as its numerous lakes.

For your well-deserved lunch go to **Café Freischwimmer**. Stick to the water and make yourself comfortable in this former drawn out boathouse. Even if it is build on the bank of the canal, it makes you feel sitting on a wooden houseboat.

Afterwards I like walking over to the district of **Kreuzberg**, one of the newest, most creative and most exciting out of the 12 districts of the

metropolis Berlin. The borough has an international cultural scene, impressive museums, theatres and galleries as well as historical, modern and architectural attractions.

One of the places to be for dinner is **Katz Orange** in Berlin Mitte. They serve either classic or experimental dishes, and I can really recommend the delicious short ribs which are being cooked slightly for 12 hours in the oven. Delicious!

For the Saturday night cap I would round of the day at **Bar Tausend**. A great selection of drinks is on offer as well as live or DJ music.



**Samira Seghmouti** Hotel Management Trainee

Start the day with a **Berlin Underground** tour. A city like Berlin never pops out of nowhere. It is formed and influenced by many parts you do not always see. Experience the hidden network of Berlin's abandoned bunkers, tunnels and under-

ground railways. Start at the Underground Station

"Gesundbrunnen" for a guided tour.

Then stop at famous **Curry 36**. It is an institution, no doubt. VIPs, locals or travelers, it does not matter, because everyone has to queue to get one of Berlin's most famous Currywurst. It is available in many different places all over the city, but apparently this is the best...

Use the afternoon to travel back in time. Go on a **Trabbi Safari** which is a sight seeing tour in a Trabbi,

### **Sunday**The Off Beat Tour

For some off the beaten track things to do, check out these fantastic spots and attractions...

the GDR's former cult car. Choose your car, even convertibles are available if the weather permits, and discover Berlin driving together with a guided tour of up to six cars.

In the late afternoon head to Prenzlauer Berg and the Mauerpark. It's a must see and do in Berlin on a Sunday afternoon. Whether it is the hundreds of people meeting in the amphitheatre for open air karaoke or the various designers presenting their work on the various market stalls.

To round off an eventful day, end up at the White Trash. Worlds finest fresh food — Berlin's best steaks plus German-Asian-Mexican-French-Swiss-Army Fusion, with guitar. With international cuisine, the irony is complete.











Cem Wield

Philipp Stopp

Lars Schaar

#### Concierge Team

Our Concierge Team would be delighted to assist you with all tours, sightseeing and restaurant bookings.

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