

EDUCATING • EXPLORING • EXCELLING



# Berlin

Location Guide - Religious Studies

# EXCEPTIONAL TOURS EXPERTLY DELIVERED



Our location guide offers you information on the range of visits available in Berlin. All visits are selected with your subject and the curriculum in mind, along with the most popular choices for sightseeing, culture and leisure in the area.

The information in your location guide has been provided by our partners in Berlin who have expert ground knowledge of the area, combined with advice from education professionals so that the visits and information recommended are the most relevant to meet your learning objectives

## Making Life Easier for You

This location guide is not a catalogue of opening times. Our Tour Experts will design your itinerary with opening times and location in mind so that you can really maximise your time on tour.

Our location guides are designed to give you the extra information that you need, including the highlights of each visit, suitability and educational resources available to you. We will give you top tips like timings to avoid, great accompaniments and local knowledge; so you can truly get the most out of your visit.

## Peace of Mind

We will state in your initial quote letter which visits are included within your tour price. If there is anything that cannot be pre-paid, we will advise you of the entrance fees so that you know how much money to take along.

You have the added reassurance of knowing that NGT is a member of the School Travel Forum. This means that all the visits we offer comply with the requirements of our externally verified Safety Management System.

A NGT Religious Studies tour to Berlin will support the study of elements of the following exam board specifications:

## EDEXCEL

### GCSE Religious Studies A - Faith and Practice in the 21st Century

- Beliefs and teachings
- Practices
- Sources of Wisdom and Authority

### GCSE Religious Studies B - Beliefs in Action

- Beliefs
- Peace and Conflict
- Living the Religious Life
- Philosophy of Religion
- Marriage and the Family

## AQA

### GCSE Religious Studies A

- Beliefs, teachings and practices

## OCR

### GCSE Religious Studies

- Beliefs, teachings and practices

## WJEC

### GCSE Religious Studies

- Religious and non-religious beliefs, teachings and practices

**Top tip:** More precise specification links are provided throughout this location guide, specific to each visit. Keep a look out for these tags!



## NEUE SYNAGOGUE

The Neue Synagoge was once the biggest and most magnificent Jewish place of worship in Germany. Built between 1859 and 1866 it was damaged during Kristallnacht and then almost completely destroyed by bombing in the Second World War. The restored and modernised building opened in 1995, after German reunification. Instead of reconstructing the demolished building, only the façade and the gilded dome were restored. Stones set in the ground indicate the huge size of the original synagogue and give a striking impression of the destruction



### Curriculum links:

**Edexcel GCSE RS A** - Beliefs, teachings, practices/sources of wisdom and authority **Edexcel GCSE RS B** - Beliefs, philosophy of religion **AQA GCSE RS A** - Beliefs, teachings and practices **OCR GCSE RS** - Beliefs, teachings and practices **WJEC GCSE RS** - Religious beliefs teachings and practices

## BERLINER DOM

The Supreme Parish and Collegiate Church, better known as the Berliner Dom, is the largest church in the city. The magnificent Neo-Renaissance building is situated in the heart of the capital adjacent to the Lustgarten park. With its imposing architecture, four towers, almost 100-metre-high dome and golden cross, the building is visible from far away and has established itself as one of Berlin's great landmarks

Guided tours are available to learn more about the history of the building and worship today.

## MARIENKIRCHE

The Marienkirche (St Mary's Church) is the oldest parish church in the city of Berlin that is still in religious use. Situated in the shadow of the TV Tower and among the East German high-rise blocks the church dates back to the 13th Century. One of the main attractions is a fresco entitled Dance of Death created in the 15th Century. More than 22 metres long and 2 metres high, the fresco, depicts the dancing dead representing people from all walks of life. In 1964 Martin Luther King Junior was invited to Berlin by the city's mayor. During his trip he visited East Berlin and delivered a sermon at the Marienkirche

### Curriculum links:

#### Curriculum links:

**Edexcel GCSE RS A** - Beliefs, teachings, practices **Edexcel GCSE RS B** - Beliefs / Living the religious life / Marriage and the family **AQA GCSE RS A** - Beliefs, teachings and practices **OCR GCSE RS** - Beliefs, teachings and practices



## CHAPEL OF RECONCILIATION

A short walk from the site of the Berlin Wall Memorial lies a circular building made of clay stands. As soon as you enter the quiet of this simple room you can feel the special atmosphere of the chapel dedicated to the many victims who lost their lives at the Berlin Wall. It is built on the site of a church of the same name, blown up by the East German Government in 1985 and contains rubble of the former church in its walls.

On either side of the chapel, where the border of the Cold War ran, you will find a field of rye - a sign of life on what had been a field of death

## KAISER WILHELM MEMORIAL CHURCH

Built to honour of Wilhelm I, the first German Kaiser, air raids in 1943 damaged the church so badly that the top of the main spire broke off and the roof collapsed. The present church was completed by 1961 and the stained glass used produces a rich blue light and an atmosphere of meditative calm. The memorial hall in the old spire is now a memorial against war and destruction and a symbol of reconciliation. It contains a crucifix made of nails from the burnt roof timbers of Coventry Cathedral and similar crosses from Dresden, Hiroshima and Volgograd, which are symbols of reconciliation. Self-guided and guided tours are available.

## JEWISH MUSEUM

The largest Jewish museum in Europe which consists of three buildings, two of which are new additions specifically built for the museum by architect Daniel Libeskind. Highlights include the Shalekhet Fallen Leaves exhibition where 10 000 faces are punched out of steel and distributed on the ground of the Memory Void. Visitors are invited to walk on the faces and listen to the sounds created by the metal sheets, as they clang and rattle against one another. Israeli artist Menashe Kadishman dedicated his artwork not only to Jews killed during the Shoah, but to all victims of violence and war

### Curriculum links:

**Edexcel GCSE RS B** - Peace and conflict **WJEC GCSE RS** - Religious beliefs teachings and practices

## MEMORIAL TO THE MURDERED JEWS OF EUROPE

Opened in 2005 the Memorial to the Murdered Jews of Europe is the German Holocaust Memorial honouring and remembering the up to six million Jewish victims of the Holocaust. The Memorial consists of the Field of Stelae designed by Peter Eisenman and the subterranean Information Centre

### Curriculum links:

**Edexcel GCSE RS A** - Beliefs, teachings, practices **Edexcel GCSE RS B** - Beliefs  
**AQA GCSE RS A** - Beliefs, teachings and practices **OCR GCSE RS** - Beliefs, teachings and practices  
**WJEC GCSE RS** - Religious beliefs teachings and practices



## STOLPERSTEINE

Stolpersteine (stumbling stones) is a project of the artist Gunter Demnig which commemorates people who were persecuted by the Nazis between 1933 and 1945. Each stolpersteine is laid into the pavement in front of the last voluntarily chosen places of residence of the victims of the Nazis. They commemorate Jews, Sinti and Roma, people from the political or religious resistance, victims of the "euthanasia" murders, homosexuals, Jehovah's Witnesses and for people who were persecuted for being declared to be asocial. There are currently over 8,000 stolpersteine in Berlin

### Curriculum links:

**Edexcel GCSE RS A** - Beliefs, teachings, practices **Edexcel GCSE RS B** - Beliefs  
**AQA GCSE RS A** - Beliefs, teachings and practices **OCR GCSE RS** - Beliefs, teachings and practices  
**WJEC GCSE RS** - Religious beliefs teachings and practices



## T4 MEMORIAL FOR THE VICTIMS OF THE NAZI EUTHANASIA PROGRAMME

Action T4 was one of the most horrific crimes committed by the Nazis. During the early years of the Second World War at least 70,000 mentally and physically handicapped people were murdered. Located at Tiergartenstrasse 4, the former site of the T4 Headquarters, a blue glass wall serves as a symbol of entrapment whilst information boards convey the horrible details of the euthanasia programme. The information desk also shows videos and sound recordings from that time, which authentically convey the brutality of the crime. Key Themes: Religion, human rights and social justice; prejudice & persecution; the value of Human life - euthanasia

## BUDDHIST TEMPLE

In Frohnau you will find the oldest Buddhist temple in Europe. Built between 1922 and 1924. It was regarded as the most important Buddhist site in western Europe and is still a centre of the Buddhist religion.

The temple and the library are open every day from 10 am to 6 pm. Admission is free and guided tours and presentations are also available



## MONUMENT TO THE HOMOSEXUALS PERSECUTED UNDER NATIONAL SOCIALISM

This monument to homosexuals persecuted by the Nazi regime stands as a symbol against intolerance, discrimination and persecution. In 1935 changes to section 175 of the German criminal code meant that kissing in public could be punished with time in prison or a concentration camp. In total, 50,000 sentences were passed. In concentration camps, homosexual men were made to wear a pink triangle and lesbians a black triangle. Key Themes: Religion, human rights and social justice; persecution & prejudice; the value of Human life; Human sexuality

### Curriculum links:

**Edexcel GCSE RS A** - Beliefs, teachings, practices **Edexcel GCSE RS B** - Beliefs

**AQA GCSE RS A** - Beliefs, teachings and practices **OCR GCSE RS** - Beliefs, teachings and practices

**WJEC GCSE RS** - Religious beliefs teachings and practices

## ŞEHITLIK MOSQUE

Without doubt, this is the most beautiful in Berlin. Built on the grounds of an old Turkish cemetery, its style is based on Classical Ottoman architecture of the 16th and 17th centuries. Not only Muslims are welcome, but anyone who is interested in Muslim culture and religion. One of the specific aims of the Mosque is to present Muslim life in Berlin, to encourage communities to get to know each other, and to break down prejudices. Top Tip: Guided tours of the Şehitlik mosque are available every day. Pupils will not only get to know about Islamic architecture and Muslim life in Berlin, but can also ask questions about Islam. Tours of the mosque are free, but donations are welcome

## ST HEDWIG'S CATHEDRAL

Visitors to Berlin have the opportunity to take a guided tour of this Roman Catholic cathedral. Located centrally in Bebelplatz it was the first Catholic church to be built in Prussia after the Protestant Reformation. Please note: St. Hedwig's Cathedral was closed in 2018 and is currently being rebuilt. It

Berlin offers a great choice of museums and attractions, many of which are an ideal accompaniment to learning and can be free for students.



## GUIDED TOURS

Many of Berlin's major sites can be covered on foot, so a walking tour is an ideal way to get to know the city, especially for students seeing it for the first time. Tours can be adjusted to include any particular sights you wish to include.

## EAST SIDE GALLERY

At 1316 metres long, the East Side Gallery is the longest continuous section of the Berlin Wall still in existence. Immediately after the fall of the Berlin Wall, artists from 21 countries began painting murals - many of which commented on the political changes in 1989/90. Officially opened in September 1990 it was given protected memorial status just over a year later.



## THE TV TOWER

The city's most iconic landmarks, offering breathtaking panoramic views from its impressive observation deck. Standing high above the skyline, the tower combines modern architecture with a fascinating history, making it a must-visit attraction for both tourists and locals alike. Visitors can enjoy spectacular daytime scenery or experience the city illuminated at night, while learning about the tower's significance and engineering achievements.



## MUSEUM-HAUS AM CHECKPOINT CHARLIE

The museum tells the stories of daring escape attempts from East Berlin to the West through original artefacts, photographs, and interactive exhibits. Visitors can explore personal accounts of courage and resilience while learning about the impact of the Berlin Wall on everyday life. Rich in history and emotion, the museum provides a memorable and thought-provoking experience for anyone interested in Berlin's past.



## RESTAURANTS

Make your evening meal a night out with a restaurant visit. We can book tables at an exciting range of restaurants offering dinner packages to suit all budgets.

### Choose from:

- Al Dente Ristorante
- Der Alte Fritz
- Hard Rock Cafe
- Vapiano
- Pirates Berlin
- Amrit
- Brauhaus-Mitte
- Hofbräu Wirtshaus
- Bbq Kitchen

**Top tip:** These restaurants usually offer a 2 or 3 course menu based on a set meal, please let us know of any dietary requirements in advance.

We can also arrange packed lunches with your chosen accommodation.



## IKONO

This immersive space in the heart of Alexanderplatz provides 14 rooms of creativity, blending art and play to allow for an unforgettable experience. You will dive into eclectic, unseen worlds where art comes alive, technology merges with your creativity, and each step reveals a new surprise.



## GAMESTATE

Indoor entertainment arcade located at Potsdamer Platz. It features over 70-100+ stations, including retro arcade games, Mario Kart, air hockey, virtual reality, and basketball, designed for all ages, with prizes awarded based on game performance.



## THE UPSIDE DOWN

Social media museum near Potsdamer Platz featuring 40+ themed rooms, optical illusions, and upside-down sets designed for photo opportunities. It combines entertainment with Berlin themed colourful art.



## BOWLING CENTER

A popular centrally located bowling alley in Berlin, Germany, situated at Rathausstraße 5, 10178. It features multiple lanes, including options with bumpers.

## 3D SCHWARZLICHT MINIGOLF + LAZER TAG

Students navigate minigolf courses painted with neon, UV-active graffiti that glows under black light. Players wear 3D glasses to make the 2D wall art appear as vivid, spatial 3D images.



Lazer tag fast-paced team game involving vests and lasers in a specialized arena.