



CAFÉ AM NEUEN SEE

5 places that MAKE YOU GO VEGAN in a second

41 VAUST BRAUGASTSTATTE

**Pestalozzistrasse 8
Charlottenburg ③**
+49 (0)30 5459 9160
vaust.berlin

Vaust is one of the first 100% vegan restaurants in former West-Berlin. The service is friendly and the cuisine could be classified as 'vegan German fine dining'. Portions are rather small so you still have some room for the very tasty chocolate cake. Another plus: they have self-brewed beer.

42 KOPPS

**Linienstrasse 94
Mitte ①**
+49 (0)30 4320 9775
kops-berlin.de

Kopps has been around since 2011 and CNN voted it one of the best vegan restaurants in the world. The restaurant emphasises quality, regional produce sourced from small farmers in Brandenburg. They also serve an excellent brunch in the weekends. Lots of good coffee bars and ice-cream parlours in the neighbourhood.

43 SOY

**Rosa-Luxemburg-
Strasse 30
Mitte ①**
+49 (0)30 2340 5890
soy-berlin.com

Very tasty glutamate-free dishes at very reasonable prices: that's what you can expect at this beautiful restaurant near the Babylon cinema. The restaurant was designed with the help of a feng-shui master and has a nice view on the Volksbühne and an outside terrace.

44 LUCKY LEEK

**Kollwitzstrasse 54
Prenzlauer Berg ③**
+49 (0)30 6640 8710
lucky-leek.com

Here's one of the first vegan restaurants that took vegan food to another level. It's located right between the Kollwitzplatz and the famous Water Tower and offers a superb dining experience. It's a little on the expensive side for Berlin but Josita Hartanto's vegan dishes are worth it – think pear and chilli risotto with *tandoori* cabbage and *nori temphe* rolls. Nice outside terrace.

45 LI.KE

**Grünberger
Strasse 69
Friedrichshain ④**
+49 (0)30 2900 9428
likethavegan.de

We have a bit of a soft spot for this Thai place in Boxhagener Platz ('Boxi'). The kitschy, colourful interior, the plastic tablecloths, the Bruce Lee references in the loo, the sunny terrace, the mouth-watering food, the homemade lemonades! Most of the food is tapas style so you can share with your friends.



The 5 best GAY BARS

136 CAFE NEUES UFER

Hauptstrasse 157
Schöneberg ⑦
+49 (0)30 7895 7900
neuesufer.de

Located in one of the most famous and oldest gay neighbourhoods of Berlin, this was the first gay and lesbian cafe in Europe with large street-facing windows. David Bowie and Iggy Pop lived in the house next door at the end of the 1970s and were regular guests.



137 SILVERFUTURE

Weserstrasse 206
Neukölln ⑥
+49 (0)30 2390 0855
silverfuture.net

A sign hanging over the bar tells patrons to leave their 'heteronormativity' at the door; if not, they can leave themselves. It's funny and it says a lot about the place, which attracts a lesbian crowd. You will love its totally chill and laidback atmosphere.

138 TOM'S BAR

Motzstrasse 19
Schöneberg ⑦
+49 (0)30 2134 570
tomsbar.de

This after hours gay bar is very popular, especially on Monday nights, when you get two drinks for the price of one. The darkroom attracts mostly fetishists and leather-clad men, who come here to cruise, so do expect a lot of action.

139 MÖBEL-OLFE

Reichenberger
Strasse 177
Kreuzberg ②
+49 (0)30 2327 4690
moebel-olfe.de

Thursday is gay night, Tuesday it's women only. And on all the other days of the week it's everything in between or behind. The building is an early 20th-century furniture (*Möbel*) house that has been turned into a lively bar, decorated by contemporary Berlin artists and designers. Go here for eclectic music and DJs and the super friendly atmosphere. The entrance is on Dresdner Strasse.

140 ROSES BAR

Oranienstrasse 187
Kreuzberg ②
+49 (0)30 6156 570

Don't let the inconspicuous outside fool you; this is a place where everything is possible. If you can't get enough of pink, plush and Virgin Mary figures, this might be your thing. It used to be a place for the LGBT crowd but that changed over the last years. Parties here go on for ever.

The 5 most unique CONCEPT STORES

216 THE SQUARE BERLIN

Französische Str. 40
Mitte ①
+49 (0)30 2067 0940
thesquareberlin.de

Tired of Berlin's shabby chic and in the mood to really dress up like a film star? Then this is the place you should go to. In this huge (750 m²) concept store on the very touristy but oh so beautiful Gendarmenmarkt, you'll find international luxury fashion brands like Louboutin or Hermès but also design furniture, perfumes and jewellery.

217 SOUL OBJECTS

Prenzlauer Allee 24
Prenzlauer Berg ③
+49 (0)30 6800 6076
soulobjects.de

Every time I pass by this store, I can't help but stare at the ever-changing and often mesmerising objects in the window. Not everything is vintage, but you can expect to find carefully curated objects like traditional grooming and shaving tools, porcelain plates with tattoo motifs or exclusive perfumes just to name a few.

218 ANDREAS MURKUDIS

AT: MERCATOR HÖFE
Potsdamer Str. 81-E
Tiergarten ⑧
+49 (0)30 6807 98306
andreamurkudis.com

Andreas Murkudis used to be the director of the design museum in Berlin. His knack for beauty and aesthetics is palpable in all of his stores. He only sells products he would love to own himself because of their exceptional design.

219 VOO STORE

Oranienstrasse 24
Kreuzberg ②
+49 (0)30 9120 6690
vooberlin.com

Here are 300 m² filled with the collections of hip and upscale brands (Raf Simons, Trussardi, Acne Studios, Maison Margiela, ...) on the premises of a former locksmith shop in a backyard on the Oranienstrasse. The in-store coffee shop serves absolutely delicious coffee and cakes.

220 HOTEL ULTRA

Torstrasse 155
Mitte ①
+49 (0)30 2758 1100
hotellultra.de

This hip concept store brings back some of the hugely popular trash parties that happened just after the wall fell in 1989. It is named after the Depeche Mode album *ULTRA*, for which the band recorded a video about a great trash party in the (non-existent) hotel Ultra. The carefully curated products are the shop's 'guests'.



5 wonderful INDEPENDENT BOOKSTORES

236 OCELOT

Brunnenstrasse 181
Mitte ①
+49 (0)30 9789 4592
ocelot.de

This beautiful, oak panelled bookstore is connected with the library of Berlin's Mitte-district. There's a carefully curated selection of fiction and non-fiction, children's books, and arty magazines. The English selection is small but you won't mind when you know there's an in-store coffee bar where it's totally okay to sip coffee and eat cake (made by Wunderkuchen) while reading.



237 ZABRISKIE

Reichenberger-
strasse 150
Kreuzberg ②
+49 (0)30 6956 6714
zabriskie.de

This super cute and charming bookstore specialises in international books on nature and culture and everything below the mainstream radar, like books on counterculture or drugs, but also very high-quality children's books. They serve damn good coffee as well. A real gem in a lovely, lively neighbourhood.



5 MOVIES

*from after 1989 that were shot
entirely in Berlin*

306 **RUN LOLA RUN
(LOLA RENNT)**

TOM TYKWER, 1998

**With Franka Potente
and Moritz Bleibtreu.**

An action thriller in which the red-haired Lola (Franka Potente) runs against time through the city of Berlin to come up with 100.000 marks to save her boyfriend Manni (Moritz Bleibtreu) after he botched a money delivery. Three different alternatives may happen depending on some minor event along Lola's run. Includes a fabulous shot on the Oberbaum Bridge.

307 **GOOD BYE, LENIN!**

WOLFGANG BECKER, 2003

**With Daniel Brühl
and Katrin Sass**

This feel-good film shows the beginning of the end of communism in Berlin and the destruction of the Wall through the eyes of young Alex. To protect his fragile mother from a fatal shock after a long coma, he must keep her from learning that her beloved nation, East Germany as she knew it, has disappeared.

308 **THE LIVES OF OTHERS
(DAS LEBEN
DER ANDEREN)**

FLORIAN HENCKEL VON
DONNERSMARCK, 2006

**With Ulrich Mühe
and Martina Gedeck**

The story told in this political thriller begins in East Berlin in 1984, five years before the end of communism in Europe, and ends in 1991. The film traces the gradual disillusionment of Gerd Wiesle, a member of the Stasi, East Germany's all-powerful secret police, whose mission is to spy on a celebrated writer and actress couple.

309 **A COFFEE IN BERLIN
(OH BOY)**

JAN-OLE GERSTER, 2012

**With Tom Schilling
and Friederike
Kempfer**

A tragicomedy and self-ironic portrait of a young man who drops out of university and ends up wandering the streets of Berlin. He tries to participate in life but struggles to find his place. The tension between the black comedy and the underlying backdrop of Berlin's inescapable history is knife-edged. Filmed in black and white, the film has a certain Nouvelle Vague feel.

310 **VICTORIA**

SEBASTIAN SCHIPPER, 2015

**With Laia Costa
and Frederick Lau**

This film follows exchange student Victoria (Laia Costa) on a dark night out with a band of criminal Berliners. It was shot in Berlin in one continuous, uninterrupted take with a small cast and crew, in the wee small hours (from around 4.30 am to 7 am) on April 27, 2014. Fantastic score by Nils Frahm.



337 BERLIN WALL MEMORIAL

338 TOPOGRAPHY OF TERROR

Niederkirchnerstr. 8
 Kreuzberg ②
 +49 (0)30 2545 0950
topographie.de

The Topography, which used to be the SS police station, is now a documentation centre about all the horrible acts that were committed in the Third Reich. The remaining 200 metres of the Wall at the Niederkirchnerstraße – which marked the border between East and West – have been preserved and now are part of the Topography of Terror Documentation Center. An absolute must!

339 THE WALL

ASISI PANORAMA BERLIN
 Checkpoint Charlie
 Friedrichstrasse 205
 Kreuzberg ②
 +49 (0)34 1355 5340
asisi.de

Checkpoint Charlie, the Berlin Wall crossing place that symbolises the Cold War, has degenerated into a seedy tourist trap. The 360° Asisi Panorama is a better option: you'll relive everyday life in the vicinity of the Berlin Wall on a fictitious autumn day in the 1980s. Don't miss the fine pictures of the fall of the Wall in the foyer.

340 LIESENSTRASSE

Mitte ①

Don't expect to find any tourists here. To be honest there's not much to see: no hipster shops, no museums, no bars, no memorials. But there is a piece of the Wall here, and it's intact and genuine – what they call a 'wild Wall'.

The 5 most BEAUTIFUL LAKES around Berlin

451 GROSS GLIENICKER SEE

Potsdam

This lake is a little bit further away from the city but it's absolutely worth the trip, not only because of the extremely clear water, but also because of the two little green islands. There are two sandy beaches and there's a bus stop near the lake.



452 SCHLACHTENSEE Steglitz-Zehlendorf

This is one of the most beautiful lakes that public transportation will ever take you to. The Schlachtensee, on the border of the Grünewald, is rated Berlin's cleanest lake. It's a pristine spot for swimming as well as an ideal hiking area. Go to the Fischer Hütte for a cold post-swim beer.

453 MÜGGELSEE Treptow-Köpenick ⑤ spreearche.de

Berlin's largest lake, east of Köpenick, is fed by the Spree. The lower section of the lake – the Kleiner Müggelsee – is perfect for swimming and a chill-out afternoon. The big Müggelsee is perfect for a boat trip – there are boats for rent. A perfect place for dinner is the Spreearche, a log-house that you can only reach by mini-ferry.

454 SACROWER SEE Potsdam

This less frequented but clean and beautiful lake is a bit more difficult to reach. There's only one real beach at the lake, next to the restaurant Landleben Potsdam.

455 LIETZENEE Charlottenburg ⑨

The large Lietzensee can get pretty crowded because of its proximity to the city, but still it's absolutely worth a visit. The Parkhaus Lietzensee is stunning and sells ice cream on sunny afternoons.