



*The Brandenburg Gate at sunset (Wikimedia photo by Thomas Wolf)*

## **BERLIN IN DEPTH**

11 days, Sunday, October 21, to Wednesday, October 31, 2025

*Berlin, the booming capital of Germany and one of Europe's most dynamic and exciting cities, is definitely "worth the journey," as the locals proudly like to say. Berlin features spectacular architecture, absolutely fabulous museums, fascinating history, superb music, and unexpectedly good food. This surprisingly inexpensive metropolis will be explored on foot, by bus and by subway from our base in an excellent first-class hotel, situated in the pulsating heart of the city, on the legendary Kurfuerstendamm Avenue. This tour is limited to 15 participants, able and willing to walk quite a bit, and will be escorted by historian and Germany-expert Jacques R. Pauwels, PhD, author of 'The Myth of the Good War,' 'The Great Class War 1914-1918,' and 'Big Business and Hitler.' all published by James Lorimer, Toronto.*

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**Tour Cost: \$4,975 CAD\***

*\*from Toronto, based on double occupancy*

**Single Room Supplement: \$885 CAD**

**Land Only: \$3,400 CAD**

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## PROPOSED ITINERARY

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Day 1 - Tuesday, October 21: At 6:45 PM, departure from Toronto to Amsterdam with KLM Royal Dutch Airlines.

Day 2 - Wednesday October 22: Arrival at Amsterdam Schiphol Airport at 6AM, and connecting flight to Berlin, Berlin, departing at 8:55 and arriving at 10:15. (Please note that all times are local times!) Transfer by private coach to the Berlin suburb of Karlshorst for a visit to the building that served as HQ to Marshal Zhukov during the last days of WW II and hosted the final and unconditional German capitulation on May 8, 1945, now the [German-Russian Museum Berlin-Karlshorst](#). We continue towards the historical city centre, known as *Mitte*, via the huge [Soviet War Memorial in Treptow Park](#); the attractive [Oberbaum Bridge](#) across the Spree River; [East Side Gallery](#), a collection of about 100 works of art painted directly on a preserved section of the Berlin Wall; and the long boulevard known as [Karl-Marx Avenue](#) but formerly named after Stalin, to [Alexanderplatz](#), formerly the beating heart of East Berlin. Crossing the historical city centre, known as *Berlin Mitte*, to be explored in detail later, we arrive at our hotel, the four-star/first-class [Hotel Lindner Ku'damm](#), ideally situated in the heart of what used to be “West Berlin,” right on the most elegant stretch of the famous Kurfürstendamm Boulevard. Check in, and free time to settle in and get some rest. Before dinner in a restaurant near our hotel, there should be time for a short introductory walk along the lively “Ku’damm” with its elegant shops, restaurants, and interesting sights such as the Emperor William Memorial Church.



**THE FIRST-CLASS HOTEL LINDNER KU'DAMM**

The Hotel Lindner Ku'damm Berlin is a first-class/four-star establishment and is part of the “Joie de Vivre” (JdV) collection of independent boutique hotels operated by Hyatt Hotels & Resorts. Its location is superb: on the most elegant and interesting stretch of the world-famous Kurfuerstendamm, Berlin’s answer to the Champs Elysées and Fifth Avenue, in other words, in the heart of what used to be “West Berlin,” very close to the Zoo Railway Station and the Emperor William Memorial Church. There are countless bars, restaurants, and shops in the vicinity, and department stores like the amazing KaDeWe. Tripadvisor gives the Lindner Ku'damm a very respectable customer satisfaction [rating](#) of #72 out of no less than 605 hotels in Berlin. The hotel’s website is:

<https://lindnerhotels.com/hotels/lindner-hotel-berlin-kudamm>

Day 3 - Thursday, October 23: *This morning, after breakfast, you will receive a pass for unlimited use on the city’s excellent public transportation system, including the efficient subway, the so-called U-Bahn.*

We start today’s program with a bus ride and leisurely walk through the huge [Tiergarten Park](#), Berlin’s answer to New York’s Central Park or London’s Hyde Park, with sights such as the Victory Column (*Siegestsäule*), Bellevue Palace, residence of the German president, the House of World Cultures, the Chancellor’s Office, and the [Reichstag](#), the German Parliament; that imposing edifice was burned down at the time of the Nazi takeover and

heavily damaged during the war; renovated in its entirety, the Reichstag now features an amazing glass cupola created by the famous architect Sir Norman Foster. On to the [Brandenburg Gate](#), as emblematic of Berlin as the Eiffel Tower is of Paris. We end our walking tour at *Pariser Platz* (Paris Square), featuring famous buildings such as the French and US Embassies, the DZ-Bank (designed by Frank Gehry), and the prestigious historic Adlon Hotel, a favourite of politicians, journalists and spies in the Nazi era. We end today's sightseeing program with a visit to the nearby [Holocaust Memorial](#), virtually sitting on top of the underground bunker in which Hitler committed suicide! Return to the hotel by city bus in late afternoon. Dinner in a typical restaurant.

Day 4 - Friday, October 24: We continue our exploration of this great city with a bus ride back to the Brandenburg Gate and Paris Square. We stroll along the elegant [Unter den Linden Boulevard](#), via the Wilhelmstrasse, where Hitler's Reich Chancellery used to be located, and past the monumental Russian embassy, to the city's historical cradle, bursting with important sights: Humboldt University; the equestrian statue of Frederick the Great; the unusual memorial of the Nazi book burnings; the venerable old State Opera; the New Guardhouse (*Neue Wache*) with the moving war memorial designed by Käthe Kollwitz; the Arsenal (*Zeughaus*), now a museum of German history; the huge Lutheran Cathedral; the Pleasure Garden (*Lustgarten*); and Palace Square, where the former [imperial Schloss](#) (palace) has recently risen from its ashes. On to the statue of Marx and Engels, the charming old [Nicolai District](#), and Berlin's old "Red City Hall." We finish at Alexander Platz, the previously mentioned heart of former East Berlin, and its 365-meter-high TV-Tower. From here we return to our hotel via the *S-Bahn*, the excellent above-ground municipal and suburban railway system. A classical music concert is on our program for this evening.

Day 5 - Saturday, October 25: This morning we resume our exploration of Berlin, starting with a bus ride to [Potsdamer Platz](#). Before the war this was the busiest intersection in Europe, but after 1945 it became a bombed-out wasteland bisected by *die Mauer*, the Wall...The neighbourhood was revived in the 1990s as a dazzling complex of shops, restaurants, and the headquarters of Sony and other global corporations, featuring ultra-modern architecture by the likes of Renzo Piano. From here we stroll to the Wilhelmstrasse, once the nerve centre of Nazi power with buildings such as Göring's Air Ministry, which is still there; so are the ruins of the infamous Gestapo headquarters and prisons. On via a preserved piece of the Berlin Wall to [Checkpoint Charlie](#), where tourists used to cross the Berlin franchise of the Iron Curtain. Nostalgic for the bad old days of the Cold War? Visit the museum *Haus am Checkpoint Charlie*! Continuing along the revived Friedrichstrasse, with its very high-end shops and department stores, we reach the trendy historic [Gendarmenmarkt](#), a magnificent square featuring monuments such as the Berlin Konzerthaus with the statue of the poet Friedrich Schiller. You may want to stay in this attractive district for lunch and further exploration, enjoy a boat tour on the Spree River, or return by subway or bus to "West Berlin" in order to check out the fabulous department store KaDeWe, where the food section is claimed to be the world's finest...



*Panoramic view of Berlin's Gendarmenmarkt (photo c/o Wikimedia Commons)*

Day 6 - Sunday, October 26: Full-day excursion by private coach to the Prussian town of [Potsdam](#), situated in an idyllic setting of forests and lakes on former East-German territory, for visits to the Versailles-style palace of King Frederick the Great, [Schloss Sanssouci](#), as well as the [Cecilienhof](#) villa, site of the 1945 Potsdam



Conference. On the way to Potsdam, we will view the Olympic Stadium, venue of the 1936 Olympics, cross the resort of Wannsee with its memories of the infamous conference of January 1942, where Himmler outlined Hitler's plans for the Holocaust, and stop to photograph the notorious Glienicke Bridge, where captured spies used to be exchanged. Today, group lunch in Potsdam OR dinner in Berlin.

Day 7 – Monday, October 27: After breakfast, visit to the [German Historical Museum](#), located in two architecturally remarkable buildings, the historic Arsenal (*Zeughaus*), and , which is being renovated for the next few years, and the modern exhibition hall by world-famous Chinese-American architect I.M. Pei. The rest of the day is free to explore the German capital on your own. How about a boat tour on the Spree River or a visit to the Reichstag, where you can enjoy a fabulous panoramic view of the city from the glass dome designed by another great architect, Sir Norman Foster, and perhaps stay for lunch in its rooftop restaurant?

Day 8 – Tuesday, October 28: This morning you will receive a [Museum Pass](#), to be used during the next three days for visits to over 30 museums and monuments! (Many of these offer audio-systems, with explanation also in English; with the pass, you also avoid any lineups at the entrances.) After a general introduction to the Berlin museum scene, we travel by bus or subway to the so-called Museum Island in the historical city centre. The greatest stars of the Berlin museums are concentrated here, including the [Old Museum](#), bursting with Greco-Roman antiquities; the New Museum, whose [Egyptian Collection](#) includes the world-famous Bust of Nefertiti, queen of the enigmatic Pharaoh Akhenaton; the [Old National Gallery](#), focusing on 19<sup>th</sup>-century art, including French impressionists; the [Bode Museum](#), highlighting Byzantine and Renaissance art. The [Pergamon Museum](#), fabulous not only on account of the great Hellenistic [Pergamon Altar](#) but also other amazing monuments such as Babylon's Ishtar Gate, is also located here but is unfortunately closed for major renovations until 2027.

PLEASE NOTE: On these three days you may of course also simply “do your own thing” and visit any of the 30-plus museums, covered by your museum pass, at your leisure, such as such as the German Museum of Technology, the Jewish Museum (with Daniel Liebeskind's fabulous architecture), or the Käthe Kollwitz Museum near our hotel.



< *Bust of Nefertiti (Wikimedia Commons photo by Philip Pikart)*

Day 9 – Wednesday, October 29: After breakfast, your guide will escort you to the *Kulturforum*, the cultural hub of the western part of the city, with prestigious institutions such as the new Berlin Philharmonic Hall and - our objective this morning – the [Gemäldegalerie](#), Berlin's world-famous Picture Gallery, which features paintings from just about every style and period. Our visit may also include an opportunity to take an exclusive look at some famous lithographs and sketches by the likes of Dürer, Brueghel, and Rembrandt! For lunch we recommend the Picture Gallery's excellent cafeteria. In the afternoon you may want to explore one or both of the two fabulous institutions just next door, the [Museum of Decorative Arts](#) (*Kunstgewerbemuseum*), and the [New National Gallery](#), an architectural creation of Mies van der Rohe, bursting with 20<sup>th</sup>-century works of art by German and international artists such as Max Beckmann, Otto Dix, Paul Klee, George Grosz, Oskar Kokoschka, Edvard Munch, Pablo Picasso, George Braque, Juan Gris Emil Nolde. Henry Moore, Alexander Calder... Other options include returning to the museums of the Museum Island and heading for one of the many other museums covered by your museum pass!

Day 10 - Thursday, October 30: Your last day in Berlin is entirely at leisure, except for this evening's *Auf Wiedersehen*-dinner in a typical restaurant.

Day 11 - Friday, October 31: After an early breakfast, transfer to the airport and return flight to Toronto, via Amsterdam. Departure from Berlin at 10:10AM and arrival in Amsterdam at 11:35AM; departure from Amsterdam at 1:25PM and arrival at 4:40PM.

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## Tour Price: \$4,975 CAD\*

\*per person from Toronto, based on double occupancy.

Single Room Supplement: \$885 CAD

## Land Only: \$3,400 CAD

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### INCLUDED IN THE TOUR PRICE

- Return flight from Toronto to Berlin, with KLM, via Amsterdam.
- Accommodation in a centrally located four-star hotel, based on double occupancy.
- Airport transfers in Germany.
- Meals: buffet breakfast daily and a total of *four* full-course dinners (or full lunches).
- Sightseeing and visits as shown above, including admissions.
- A one-week public transportation pass, a three-day museum pass, and a ticket for a classical music concert.
- Hotel taxes and gratuities.

### NOT INCLUDED

- All expenses of a personal nature.
  - Meals other than those mentioned above.
  - Beverages with dinners.
  - Travel Insurance, available on an individual basis, please call the office for rates.
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### YOUR TOUR HOST



Historian Jacques Pauwels will be your tour host. Jacques is a specialist in German history, having obtained his doctorate with a thesis on the Third Reich, and has published numerous books and articles on German history, including *The Myth of the Good War*, *Big Business and Hitler*, *The Great Class War 1914-1918*, and *Myths of Modern History* (all published by James Lorimer, Toronto, and translated into eight other languages).

#### SOME COMMENTS ON PREVIOUS “BERLIN IN DEPTH” TOURS:

- "I enjoyed your tour to Berlin ... A well-planned tour, with an exceptional guide, Jacques Pauwels. One of the most interesting trips I have ever made. Berlin is a cosmopolitan city of beautiful parks and waterways, with fascinating architecture, lively town squares, fashionable boutiques, a wealth of art galleries and museums; a city which is easy to visit on foot and by public transport, a people who are welcoming and who have an interesting history and culture. In conclusion, a city I would return to visit anytime with great pleasure." (A. S., Ottawa, Ont.)
  - "Thank you for making the trip so lively and informative. The depth of information and the effective presentations added immeasurably to my enjoyment of this visit to Berlin." (D. D., Arlington, Virginia)
  - "We have appreciated the balance between guided tour and free time to explore and experience the city in our own way... [It was] such an enriching experience, including opera, theatre, and concert." (D. and O. L., Toronto, Ont.)
  - "We certainly would include this tour among the best holiday trips that we have ever taken. The tour arrangements were great, including the hotel and meals and the well-organized day-trips.... We found Berlin to be a virtual walk-in encyclopedia of arts and architecture. We also found your daily 'briefings' on the history of Germany to be very helpful in filling in the gaps from our readings preparatory to the trip." (J. and E. S., Don Mills, Ont.)
  - "Thanks so much for the fantastic Berlin trip. We fell in love with Berlin... Your accounts were exciting and so informative. You made history sing! What a great storyteller you are. Homer had nothing on you." (M. J. and C. C., Cobourg, Ont.)
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## REGISTRATION

Please book \_\_\_\_\_ seat(s) on the “Berlin in Depth” Tour from October 21<sup>st</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025.

I wish to book on group flights \_\_\_\_\_ OR land only \_\_\_\_\_.

(If booking land only please send the office a copy of your flight details).

Please be prepared to pay a deposit of **\$1000 per person and any applicable insurance premium** at time of registration. Balance is invoiced no later than 60 days prior to departure.

WE REQUIRE A COPY OF YOUR PASSPORT (INFORMATION PAGES ONLY) VALID 6 MONTHS AFTER TOUR TO BE SENT IN WITH YOUR REGISTRATION FORM.

PASSPORT NAME(S):

Surname \_\_\_\_\_ First \_\_\_\_\_ Middle(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth (ddmmmyyy): \_\_\_\_\_

Surname \_\_\_\_\_ First \_\_\_\_\_ Middle(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth (ddmmmyyy): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

If traveling alone, is a **single room** required? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

If sharing, what is your bed preference: twin (2 beds) \_\_\_\_\_ double (1 bed) \_\_\_\_\_?

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS: Please list any dietary requests, allergies, special physical needs, or frequent flyer numbers etc., below. We cannot ensure requests made 30 days or less prior to departure will be possible.

INSURANCE: Review plans and rates by clicking [here](#) or calling the office. Record your quoted premium below:

All-Inclusive: \_\_\_\_\_ Emergency Medical: \_\_\_\_\_ Non-Medical/Trip Cancellation: \_\_\_\_\_

Decline Insurance: \_\_\_\_\_

PAYMENT: Cheque payable to Pauwels Travel Bureau LTD, e-transfer to [tours@pauwelstravel.com](mailto:tours@pauwelstravel.com) or call the office to provide credit card (Visa, Mastercard, American Express) to Sandra or Jessica.

Amount To Pay: \_\_\_\_\_

CONSENT: “I/we have read and agree to the terms and conditions attached to the tour program, have selected or declined insurance, indicated any special requests, and authorize payment of the above amount.”

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

PAUWELS TRAVEL BUREAU LTD.

Mailing Address: 43 Condor St, Kitchener, ON N2K 0B2

Tel: 519-753-2695/1-800-380-3974 – Fax: 519753-6376 - Email: [tours@pauwelstravel.com](mailto:tours@pauwelstravel.com)

## **TERMS & CONDITIONS**

### **RESERVATIONS AND DEPOSITS:**

Reservations should be made as early as possible to ensure the departure of your choice. No reservations will be accepted without a deposit and signed registration form. Deposit amounts vary by tour and are listed in the registration form.

### **REFUND OF UNUSED ARRANGEMENTS:**

Because the rates of Pauwels Travel Bureau Ltd. are based on group participation, no refund can be made for any tour accommodation or tour service, or tour feature not taken. If cancellation occurs while the tour is in progress, no refund can be made for the tour portion not taken. We strongly suggest that to allow for any unexpected contingencies, you purchase the all-inclusive insurance.

### **CANCELLATION POLICY:**

Refund of deposit is made if cancellation is received in writing by Pauwels Travel Bureau Ltd. at least 91 days prior of the departure date of the tour less a \$250.00 non-refundable administrative fee per person. For cancellation received in writing 90 days prior or less the following cancellation penalties apply for tour costs:

- 90 days to 61 days before departure: 35% of tour cost
- 60 to 31 days before departure: 65% of tour cost
- 30 – 0 days prior to departure: 100% of tour cost

Penalties for cancelling insurance or individual airfare may differ than the policy above. Clients are advised to review the cancellation terms for any additional services they may have purchased for the tour.

### **RESPONSIBILITY:**

The acceptance of the initial service to be provided under the tour shall be considered an acceptance by the tour member of those conditions. We also reserve the right to decline, to accept or retain any person as a member of the tour. We reserve the right without notice, to withdraw any part or all of the tour. Factors such as airline schedule changes, hotel overbookings, inclement weather, travel warnings by the Canadian Government etc. may necessitate changes in the itinerary. There may also be other circumstances in which changes become necessary or advisable. By commencing the tour, I agree to the release and agreement as included below.

### **RELEASE & AGREEMENT:**

By placing my deposit, submitting my registration, and commencing the tour I understand and agree to the following:

1. That all tours are delivered in conjunction with other service providers, including but not limited to travel agent and booking services, airlines, hotel and accommodation providers, transportation providers including but not limited to coach, train and ferry services, restaurant providers, and local guides. We shall not be held responsible for the failure by any person or company to render any transportation, lodging or other travel service to be provided on the tour. All hotels, transportation and other travel services are provided subject to all the terms and conditions under which they are offered to the public generally.

2. I know that tour programs include walking and may including hiking and fitness programs that have potentially hazardous activities associated with them. I should not participate prior to approval by my physician. I assume any and all other risks associated with these events included but not limited to falls, contact with other participants, the effects of the weather including high heat and/or humidity.

3. To release, indemnify and hold harmless Pauwels Travel Bureau and their affiliates (which term shall include parents, subsidiaries, officers, directors, shareholders, agents and employees of Pauwels Travel Bureau as well as Pauwels Travel themselves) (the "Released Parties") from, and agree not to sue the Released Parties for, any claims that I may have arising from, or in connection with, any personal injury, bodily injury, mental anguish, emotional distress, physical, property or other damage that I may suffer from any cause whatsoever related in any way to my participation in this tour. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, I release, indemnify, and hold harmless the Released Parties from, and agree not to sue them for any personal injury, bodily injury, mental anguish, emotional distress, physical, property or other damage that I may suffer from the Released Parties' negligence other than from intentional or reckless acts by such parties. I further agree to release, indemnify and hold harmless the Released Parties from any and all acts of God, war (whether declared or undeclared), terrorist activities, incidents of politically motivated violence, illness or quarantine, strikes or government restrictions or the acts or omissions of any other agents over which the Released Parties have no direct or indirect control, including, without limitation, airlines, railways, bus companies, hotels, shipping companies,

guides and sub- contracted agents or tour operators. This release also includes activities not offered that may be considered risky. I further release any Tour Directors, bus drivers or other individuals involved in my tour.

4. That the air carrier's liability for loss of or damage to baggage or property, or for death or injury to person, is limited by their tariffs, or the Warsaw Convention, or both.

5. That Pauwels Travel Bureau shall have no liability or responsibility for me when I am absent from activities, such as visits to friends or relatives or during pre-tour/post-tour option periods if the pre-tour/post-tour period does not include the services of a Tour Director.

6. To abide by directions of my Tour Director or other leadership personnel during my tour. Failure to do so may result in my termination from tour immediately. I understand that to disobey such rules or directions are to waive the right to any refund, and that I may be sent home at my own expense. The participant and family undertake full financial responsibility for any damage caused by the participant and agree to pay his/her return home on the first available flight, should his/her behavior be deemed detrimental to the welfare of the group.

7. To abide by all local laws when in Canada and abroad, including those concerning drugs and alcohol. (Minors must have parents' permission to use alcohol even if the local law would otherwise permit them to). I understand that if I abuse or disobey such laws, even unintentionally, I waive my right to a refund, and Pauwels Travel may send me home at my own expense. I also understand that should local authorities be involved; I will be subject to the laws of the country I am visiting.

8. That if I become ill or incapacitated, Pauwels Travel and its employees, or a designated chaperone may take any action they deem necessary for my safety and well-being, including securing medical treatment (at my own expense) and transporting me home. In the event of a medical emergency, Pauwels Travel will attempt to cause appropriate treatment to be administered, and the traveller authorizes Pauwels Travel to do so. Pauwels Travel, however, makes no warranty that it will be able to cause effective (or any) emergency treatment to be administered.

9. That Pauwels Travel may use any film likenesses taken of me and any of my comments while on a tour for future publication and use my contact information for future Pauwels Travel communications.

#### A WORD ABOUT GROUP AIRFARES:

Please note that when booking one of our air inclusive tours, Pauwels Travel has negotiated reduced rates with the airline that we are able to confirm and lock in up to 359 days before travel. While it is wonderful to share the savings and flexibility this provides with you, our valued guests, the privilege does come with some restrictions. In some cases, it may not be possible to collect frequent flyer miles, you may not be able to check in online 24 hours before travel, or you may need to try checking in with your ticket number rather than your booking reference. Additionally, most airlines do not allow advanced seat-selection on group airfares. It is the airline's policy, not ours, that prevents us from assigning specific seats. If a request is made, it is passed on to the airline by our staff when they submit the names to the airline 60 days prior to departure but no requests are guaranteed. Our staff will not be able to aid in advanced seat selection if the airline does not allow it on the group airfare. If a certain type of seat is indispensable to you, we suggest that you book our tour on a "land only" basis and make individual flight arrangements, in which case you may be able to get the seat of your choice; Pauwels Travel would be happy to assist you with that reservation. We will offer you the best fare available, but please note that this can only be done once a tour is a guaranteed departure because individual airfare conditions are stricter than the conditions of the group airfare rate. We thank you in advance for your kind understanding of the above!