



Escorted Tour

Espionage in Berlin with Ben Macintyre

- ✓ Explore iconic Cold War sites of Berlin
- ✓ Guided tours by passionate locals
- ✓ Private lunch with Times columnist Ben Macintyre

Berlin Cold War tour 4 Days From £1,149 In association with Holiday Direction

Discover why Berlin became a defining symbol of the Cold War on this thrilling short break including espionage insights from historian, author and Times columnist and associate editor Ben Macintyre during a private lunch

Ask any fan of the beguiling cities of Europe which is their favourite, and you can be sure that vibrant, fascinating Berlin will be high on the list. At *The Times* and *The Sunday Times*, we feel the same. We've therefore devised the ultimate long weekend in Berlin - three days of hand-picked highlights which bring the city and its remarkable history to life.

Focusing on the Second World War to the present day, you will take in key sights such as the remains of the Berlin Wall, the Stasi Museum, the Bridge of Spies and the Reichstag, while learning about life behind the iron curtain, the extraordinary story of the Berlin Airlift and more. The final day brings you up to date with a tour around Berlin's hippest quarter and drinks in a riverside bar. All your tours are with local guides who can't wait to share their passion with you.

[Live Chat](#)



And to make it even more special, the popular *Times* columnist and much admired historian and broadcaster, Ben Macintyre, will be flying out to host a special lunch and share his insights into the dark secrets of espionage during the Second World War, and how Berlin became the centre of German counter-intelligence.

With an excellent, luxury hotel, delicious dining, and a flight of less than two hours, this is an unmissable short break for curious minds and those who want a guided holiday with a difference.

Reasons to book



Lunch with Historian Ben Macintyre

Ben Macintyre will take you deep into the world of double-agents, spymasters and bold and intricate double crosses during a private lunch



Iconic historic sites

Visit the key sights in Berlin from the Second World War, such as the Berlin Wall, the Stasi Museum, the Bridge of Spies and the Reichstag



Local guides

Learn about Berlin from our passionate local tour guides sharing their unique perspectives

Your expert guide



Ben Macintyre

Historian and writer

The hugely popular historian, writer and broadcaster Ben Macintyre is a columnist and associate editor on *The Times* and has worked as the newspaper's correspondent in New York, Paris and Washington. Taking us deep into the world of double-agents, spymasters and bold and intricate double crosses, Ben is Britain's foremost chronicler of the extraordinary world of espionage during and after WW2. Meticulously researched and thrilling to read, his best-selling titles include *The Spy* and *The Traitor*, *Operation Mincemeat* and *Agent Zigzag*.

Price includes

- BA return flights from London to Berlin Tegel (regional flight available at a supplement)
- Baggage plus hand luggage
- Private airport transfers
- Three nights' five-star B&B stay at the Sofitel Berlin Kurfuerstendamm
- Three-course lunch with Ben Macintyre
- All tickets to venues and museums

Availability

Call now to book **0330 160 8843**

Quote ref: KN158

Got any questions about this trip? [Send us an enquiry](#)

Itinerary

Day

1

An introduction to Cold War Berlin

Berlin, Germany



Morning: Fly from the UK to Berlin. Private transfer from Berlin Tegel International Airport to the 5-star Sofitel Berlin Kurfuerstendamm.

Afternoon: Discover why Berlin became a defining symbol of the Cold War on this half-day highlight tour of iconic Cold War sites. Visit Brandenburg Gate, the former Soviet embassy, The Reichstag, East German House of Ministries-the site of 17 June 1953 uprising, Checkpoint Charlie-renown for its showdown between the US and USSR, the Palace of Tears where families were separated between East and West, the 'Ghost Stations' exhibition at Nordbahnhof the Berlin Wall Memorial, Tunnel 57 where the largest tunnel escape from East to West took place, and the Bornholmer Straße, which was the first checkpoint to fall.

Evening: Dinner at guests' leisure.

Meals - Dinner

Day

2

Cold War politics and the espionage behind it

Berlin, Germany



Morning: On this morning, travellers will learn about life for Berliners and the Allied forces' efforts to keep West Berlin out of Soviet control. Start your day with a visit to the Bridge of Spies. Next-you will hear tales of how Berlin was divided at the end of the Second World War, the delicate and covert nature of political communication after Potsdam, and the effects of the city's division on the lives of Germans. Next, visit Tempelhof Airlift Memorial, where tribute is paid to the bombers who flew food and supplies to West Berlin for the 322 days. Finish your morning at the Allied Museum, which tells the story of Denazification, the Berlin Airlift, life in a divided, militarized city, and ends with the Allies' withdrawal in 1994.

Lunch: After the Cold War and Politics tours, you will be taken for a private lunch at the Gerichtslaube, a 13th century courthouse. You will hear tales of intrigue and espionage from *Times* columnist and author, Ben Macintyre. After lunch, the rest of the day is spent at your leisure.

Meals - Breakfast, Dinner

Day
3

Rebellion behind the Wall and today's counterculture

Berlin, Germany



Morning: Visit Hohenschonhausen - the main prison used by the Stasi, where East Germany's secret police carried out operations and held and tortured political Dissenters.

Lunch: You will be taken to the main square, where there are several restaurants, and have 90 minutes to dine at your leisure.

Afternoon: Spend the afternoon learning how the Berlin Wall and its fall affected the city's bohemian, squatter and street art culture. Your afternoon begins with a trip to RAW - a former train yard turned into street art galleries, bars and a skate park. Next cross Oberbaumbrücke - one of city's most well-known landmarks. Wander around the East Side Gallery - the longest remaining segment of the Berlin wall. Stop for a drink at a riverside bar whilst learning about the gentrification taking place on the east side of the city - from luxury flats to the Mercedes-Benz Arena. Visit Osman Kalin's treehouse - a relic of hope and rebellion throughout the Cold War. Pass an hour at Bethanien - a hospital converted into a lively culture centre. Finish your afternoon at Oranienstraße - an area known for its legendary punk club SO36 and street art.

You will be taken back to your hotel and have the remainder of the day/evening at your leisure. You will depart for your flight to the UK the following day.

Meals - Breakfast

Day
4

Return to London

Berlin-Tegel Apt, Germany





Take your BA return flight to London Heathrow from Berlin Tegel.

Meals - Breakfast

Brought to you by

Holiday Direction

This tour is operated solely by Holiday Direction

With over 50 years' experience in the travel industry our experienced team of travel consultants are passionate about holidays, and offer unrivalled person service.

Availability

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