



An Opinionated Guide to Berlin

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- This is part of a growing series of opinionated guides which offer no-nonsense insider's advice on what to do and see in cities around the world

With a radical metamorphosis seemingly every decade, the city of Berlin has lived through Weimar hedonism and fascist dictatorship, been divided by the Iron Curtain and momentarily reunited to become Europe's buzzing creative epicenter. The home of Bauhaus and a frenetic melting pot for Brutalism and punk, Berlin is the original anti-establishment provocateur to which artists and misfits have gravitated. It may no longer be 'poor but sexy', but get past the gruff 'Berliner Schnauze' attitude and you'll discover a progressive art scene, superb international eateries and streets thrumming with history.

Lydia Winter is a Berlin- based journalist and editor, with writing in the likes of *FT Weekend*, *HTSI*, *Condé Nast Traveller*, *Courier* and more. Half- German and raised in the UK by a 'real Berliner', she's spent a lifetime balancing German directness with English politeness, and once ate 12 Knödel (German dumplings) in one sitting.