

Grüße aus Berlin



RIMOWA's guide to Berlin

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Content

6 - 7	Introduction
8 - 9	do you read me?!
10 - 11	Lobe Block
12 - 13	Sammlung Boros
14 - 15	bplus.xyz (interview)
16 - 17	Strandbad Plötzensee
18 - 19	Aino Laberenz (interview)
20 - 21	C/O Berlin
22 - 23	Chipperfield Kantine
24 - 25	Karen & Christian Boros (interview)
26 - 27	KINDL
28 - 29	Pro qm
30 - 31	Café Luzia
32 - 33	Patrick Mason (interview)
34 - 35	Andreas Murkudis
36 - 37	haubrok foundation
38 - 39	Rosa Canina
40 - 41	Kostas & Andreas Murkudis (interview)
42 - 43	Mies van der Rohe Haus
44 - 45	Bierpinsel
46 - 47	Map
48 - 49	Index

One doesn't go to Berlin for a singular reason. In its vastness, the city offers an intoxicating mix of art, design, history, culture, and music. It has become one of the most dynamic cities in the world, owed to an 'anything goes' attitude that makes it – beyond the official capital – the flagship of Germany.

Much like Berlin, RIMOWA embodies a similar spirit, proudly bearing the responsibility that comes with adopting the mantra of 'From Germany to the world'. In the continuous exploration of RIMOWA's home country, we look to the city which shares one of our most important tenets: a lens that looks forward but always embedded to its roots.

Uplifted by those who have shaped its culture and maintained its liveliness, this guide is an ode to Berlin's locals. Through their most frequented spaces, we offer discerning travellers the chance to discover the true essence of

Germany's largest city beyond its most discernible landmarks.

Ever-evolving and chockful of contrasts, Berlin is where history and modernity meet. It's where parties never end and relaxing glacier lakes and green parks sprawl. From Mitte and Kreuzberg to Wedding and Treptow, it's precisely its contradictions that lend the city its welcoming spirit. If there's one thing Berlin cements, it's that comfort can be found in non-conformity. It's through this lens that we look at the German capital. From sustainability-focused canteens and bunkers-turned-exhibition spaces to the brutalist landmarks that dominate the city skyline but left abandoned for decades, these are Berlin's most cherished spaces.

0 Look out for numbered location labels throughout and find them on the map at the end of the guide.

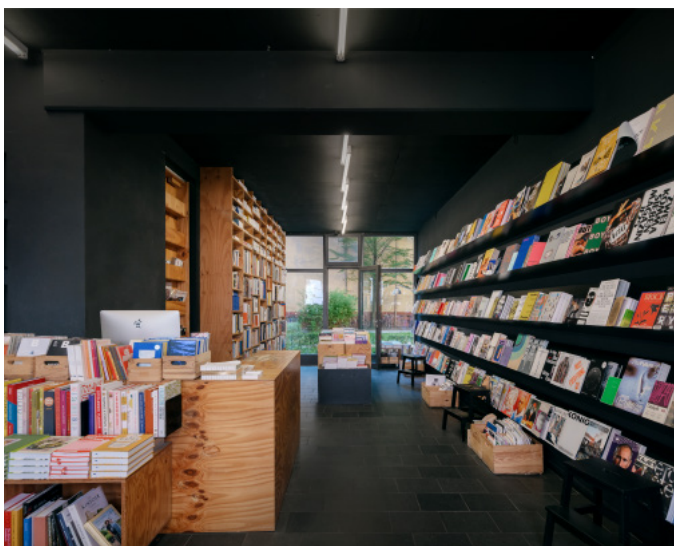
do you read me?!

Situated on a quiet corner of Auguststrasse in Berlin's Mitte district, do you read me?! is a reader's ultimate escape. Since its establishment in 2008, the bookstore has become a go-to destination for typically hard-to-find publications from all over the world.





Its well-curated selection of books and magazines aside, the shop has transformed into a bonafide cultural institution of its own, complete with much sought-after merch.



(10 – 11) Berlin Hot Spots

Lobe Block

Whilst a new addition to the neighbourhood, Lobe Block has already made its mark on Berlin. The building is renowned for both its architecture and social impact, offering its residents an unmatched sense of community that puts the environment first. Naturally, the approach is implemented in the building's canteen. Located on the ground





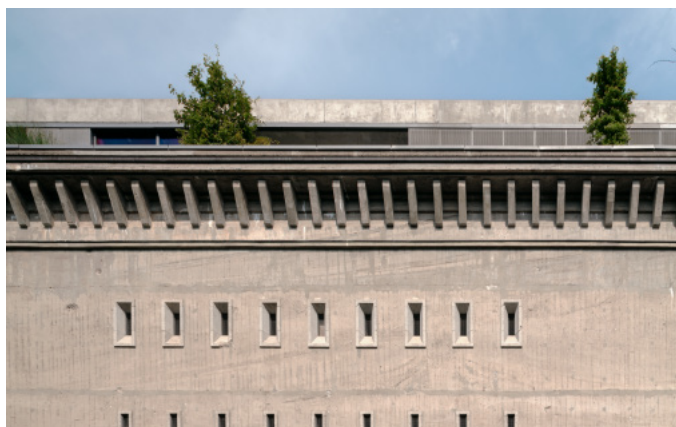
floor, it has quickly become a local favourite for a mid-day meal and weekend brunch, only serving meals using seasonal, locally produced ingredients—all while introducing permaculture to the city through its garden. Stop by for a delicious plant-based meal, or inquire about their venue which hosts various creative experiences and events on evenings and weekends.



(12 – 13) Berlin Hot Spots

Sammlung Boros

Behind metre-thick walls in the heart of Berlin, you'll find Sammlung Boros – a bunker-turned-exhibition space housing an incredible private collection of contemporary art. Converted by Karen and Christian Boros in 2007, the building's exterior remains unchanged since it was built in 1942. Meanwhile, the work of some of the world's most influential contemporary artists hangs on the walls of the 3000 square metre space, spread over 80 rooms.





(14 – 15) *If you had one day in Berlin...*

bplus.xyz

Q *Where would you have lunch?*

A Saturday lunch at **4** Remi. We don't know whether it's the food and drinks, the visual access to the busy Torstraße and the quiet Rosa-Luxemburg Platz, or the fact that you'll run into all the people you've been meaning to catch up with for ages, but you never leave on time.

Q *What area would you spend your time in?*

A Wedding is a really exciting area at the moment. The neighbourhood is home to some of the city's most interesting art and culture spaces, including **5** Silent Green, **6** Savvy Contemporary and **7** Callie's. For a glass of wine and a small bite, we would recommend **8** Julius.





Q *Who would you meet and what would you do?*

A Berlin is the political capital of Germany so we would meet Klara Geywitz, the newly appointed Minister for Housing, Urban Development and Building. We would invite her on a tour to the great vacant monuments of Berlin: the 9 Mäusebunker, the 10 ICC and Tempelhof. Together, we would visit these vacant buildings and talk about their potential reuse and a new legislation to prohibit the demolition of buildings.

Q *If you had to live elsewhere, what would you take with you from Berlin?*

A The most difficult: the Berlin mindset. This city is full of people who want to challenge expectations or maybe don't have expectations in the first place. That may make it uncomfortable, but also very supportive.



bplus.xyz is a collaborative architecture practice that brings together different actors (from theory to practice) with different formats (from buildings to campaigns, exhibitions, texts and films), lead by Arno Brandlhuber, Olaf Grawert, Jonas Janke, Roberta Jurčić and Jolene Lee.

(16 – 17) Berlin Hot Spots

Strandbad Plötzensee

The Plötzensee has been a staple for Berliners looking to cool down during the hot summer months since the 19th century. But it wasn't until the 1920s that it became the leisure destination that it is today, with the grounds designed by horticultural director Rudolf Germer.





Visited by tens of thousands each year, the lake site also houses two buildings designed by architects Walter and Johannes Krüger, distinguished by their slated conical roofs. It's the ultimate escape from the hustle and bustle of city life, ideal for a refreshing swim on weekends, or for a few moments of relaxation surrounded by nature.



(18 – 19) *If you had one day in Berlin...*

Aino Laberenz

Q *Where would you have lunch?*

A At the Japanese **12** Ishin in Mittelstraße or Pommes at the Rosenthaler Platz.

Q *What area would you spend your time in?*

A I like **13** Grunewald. And the **14** Humboldthain Sommerbad - the Tropez.





Q *Who would you meet and what would you do?*

A Friends! We would go to the Louise Bourgeois exhibition in the 15 Gropius Bau.

Q *If you had to live elsewhere, what would you take with you from Berlin?*

A Difficult... I don't know. I'm most attached to my friends... I'd have reasons to come back again and again!



Aino Laberenz works as a costume and stage designer for movies and theater plays. She also works as an artist, manages the estate of Christoph Schlingensiefel and is the managing director of the Opera Village Africa.

(20 - 21) Berlin Hot Spots

C/O Berlin

What started out in 2000 as a private initiative by photographer Stephan Erfurt, designer Marc Naroska and architect Ingo Pott, has grown to become a world-renowned non-profit institution and exhibition space championing the medium of photography.



Currently housed in the historic Amerika Haus, C/O Berlin has hosted around 250 shows during this tenure, with the likes of Martin Parr, Peter Lindbergh and Irving Penn taking part, alongside a slew of emerging talents.





(22 – 23) Berlin Hot Spots

Chipper- field Kantine

First opened as the in-house cafeteria for the employees of the esteemed architecture office David Chipperfield Architects Berlin, the canteen is an embodiment of the company's ethos of intentional design. With the space now welcoming all visitors, the same philosophy applies to its popular lunch menu, serving up healthy vegetarian cuisine, made using only fresh organic products.





(24 – 25) *If you had one day in Berlin...*

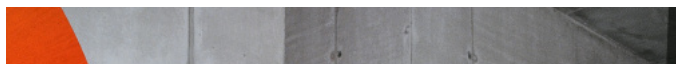
Karen & Christian Boros

Q *Where would you have lunch?*

A Our starting point would be **18** Dóttir in the newly opened Chateau Royal, a long-awaited hotel with references to 1920s Berlin. On a very cold day we would prefer a warm-hearted “bürgerliches” meal then go next door to **19** Café Einstein.

Q *What area would you spend your time in?*

A We would ride a bike to **20** Gemäldegalerie and then go to **21** Nationalgalerie, a highlight by Mies van der Rohe, then relax amidst the architecture of Scharoun’s philharmonic and the **22** state library before riding to **23** Schinkel Pavillion, a unique space for contemporary art hidden between Opera, Humboldt Forum and Kronprinzenpalais.





Q *Who would you meet and what would you do?*

A We would go to ²⁴ gallery NEU and meet up with the founders Thilo Wermke and Alexander Schröder. From there, we would visit Philomene Magers, co-owner of ²⁵ Sprüth Magers. Both galleries are always surprising with exceptional shows.

Q *If you had to live elsewhere, what would you take with you from Berlin?*

A The city's complexity with its underlying extremes.

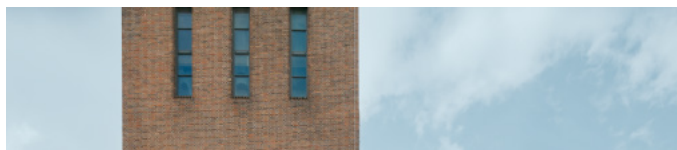
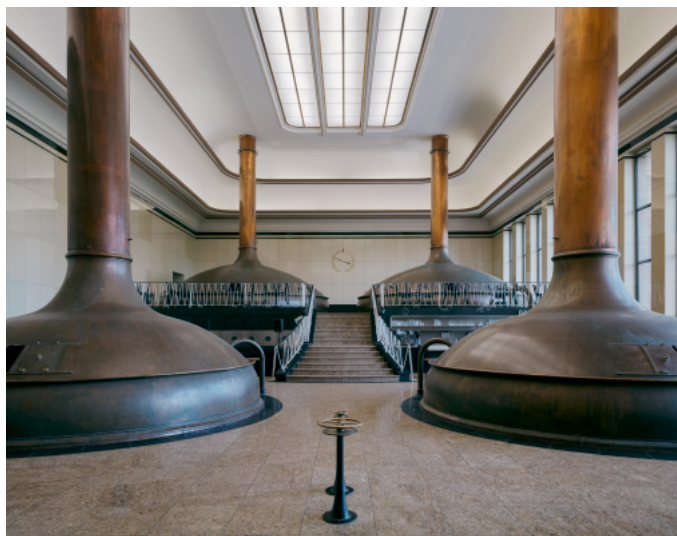
Karen and Christian Boros run the Boros Collection of contemporary art housed in a WWII bunker and open to the public on guided tours.

Christian Boros is the founder of Boros Communication Agency and Distanz, an international art book publisher.

(26 - 27) Berlin Hot Spots

KINDL

It was only in 2016 that the KINDL - Centre for Contemporary Art came to life. But the history of the building begins as early as 1926, long before high profile installations, paintings, sculptures, performances and films were shown. First designed in the New Objectivity style and known as the Palace of Berlin Beer Culture, the building faced partial destruction during World War II before being rebuilt in the early 1950s.





Of course, the site is now a protected historical monument – and when in Berlin, a visit to KINDL's temporary exhibitions is a must.



(28 - 29) Berlin Hot Spots

Pro qm

Housed in a modernist 1920s building designed by the office of revered architect Hans Poelzig, Pro qm is a labyrinth of knowledge in Berlin.



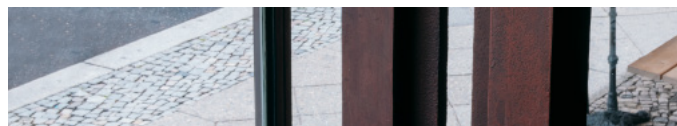
From the city's links to politics and its economic impact to its affinity for architecture and design, the thematic bookstore is a literary treasure trove. Pop in for a deep dive into the German capital, or keep an eye out for events frequently held on location.



(30 – 31) Berlin Hot Spots

Café Luzia

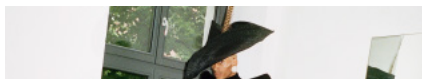
"Café by day, bar at night" is a sentence that encapsulates Café Luzia. Factor in its vintage 1950s décor, prime location in the heart of Kreuzberg, and its buzzing crowd, and it's the perfect place for a few cocktails to kick off a night out in town.





(32 – 33) *If you had one day in Berlin...*

Patrick Mason





Q *Where would you have lunch?*

A I'd make sure it's a Sunday during the summer! That's when Berlin shows its full glory. I'd go to **28** Annelies in Kreuzberg for brunch where they serve the best pancakes.

Q *What area would you spend your time in?*

A I'd spend the day in Kreuzberg around Maybachufer by the canal. During summer, this is undeniably the hotspot where the coolest people hang out.

Q *Who would you meet and what would you do?*

A I would probably go see my friends at **29** La Maison, one of the 'it' spots near the canal. Right after we would probably watch a marvellous sunset at **30** Admiralsbrücke with a Basil Smash from Frau Luna.

Q *If you had to live elsewhere, what would you take with you from Berlin?*

A In the unlikely event I ever move away from Berlin, I would definitely pack the city's stimulating and ever-changing creative energy with me. This is what makes Berlin so unique.

Bavarian born, creative Powerhouse and Fashion Icon, Patrick Mason flips the electronic music world upside down.

(34 – 35) Berlin Hot Spots

Andreas Murkudis

Beyond its considerable presence in Berlin, Andreas Murkudis' standing within the fashion industry extends across Germany. With three locations—each distinctive in their design—the concept store has cemented its reign within the world of fashion and design for well over a decade.

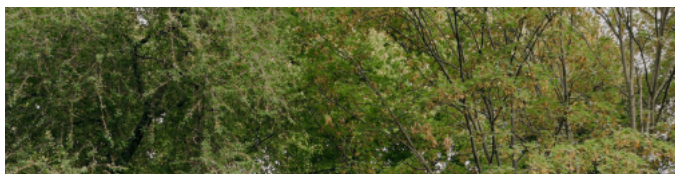


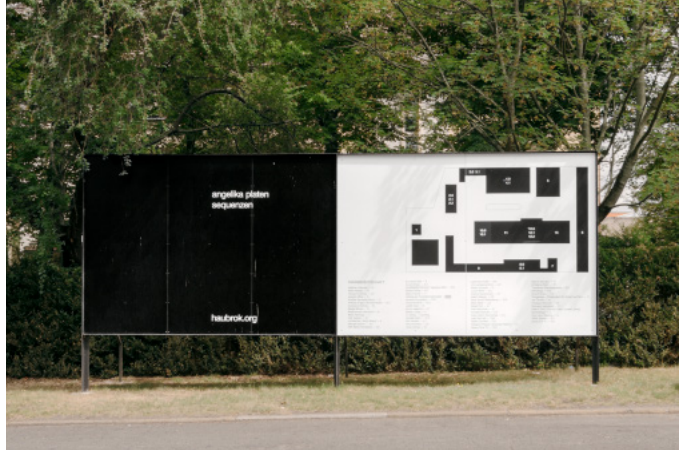


(36 – 37) Berlin Hot Spots

haubrok foundation

Located at the historic FAHRBEREITSCHAFT, a well-preserved industrial yard originating in the 1960s, the haubrok foundation has made it its mission to promote contemporary art since its founding in 2008.





As it stands, the space is home to one of Germany's most important collections, with over 1000 works by significant artists including Tino Sehgal, Stanley Brouwn, Jonathan Monk, Martin Creed and Martin Boyce. To get your art fix at the Haubrok Foundation, be sure to book an appointment ahead of your visit.



Rosa Canina

It's not often that an ice cream parlour gains cult status, but that's the case for Rosa Canina. Whether it's a simple vanilla or a more intricate black sesame or orange-sage flavour combination, the shop's culinary standing rests on its use of the finest organic ingredients – sans artificial flavours and only using fresh fruits and exquisite chocolate. It's a Berlin-must, and not just for ice cream aficionados.





(40 – 41) *If you had one day in Berlin...*

Kostas & Andreas Murkudis

Q *Where would you have lunch?*

AM ¹⁹ Café Einstein Stammhaus on Kurfürstenstraße is great at any time of day, but especially charming in the summertime, when the terrace is open.

KM Order anything at ³⁴ Sale e Tabacchi in the Rudi-Dutschke-Straße – you won't be disappointed.





Q *What area would you spend your time in?*

AM Charlottenburg – I'd drop by galleries such as ³⁵ Max Hetzler, ³⁶ CFA Berlin and ³⁷ Wentrup GmbH. Some of the best stores are also located there, including ³⁸ Wald Königsberger Marzipan and ³⁹ Hamann for the best quality chocolate. ⁴⁰ Bücherbogen for literature, and ⁴¹ Harry Lehman for perfume sold by weight.

KM Gallery-hopping in Schöneberg and Moabit.

Q *Who would you meet and what would you do?*

AM My son and daughter for a football match in ⁴² Tiergarten (where the grass is actually green and lush, unlike many other parks in Berlin).

KM My brother, Andreas – I'd hug him, exchange ideas with him, tease him and share a big melon.

Q *If you had to live elsewhere, what would you take with you from Berlin?*

AM My optimism. But honestly there are so many things I love about Berlin; I couldn't possibly pick just one.

KM The keys to my flat in Charlottenburg.



Brothers and collaborators, Andreas and Kostas Murkudis have both made names for themselves in the fashion scene – in Berlin and beyond. Kostas as senior designer of this namesake clothing brand and Andreas through his expertly curated multi-brand store in the heart of the German capital.

(42 – 43) Berlin Hot Spots

Mies van der Rohe Haus

The famed Mies van der Rohe Haus holds particular intrigue for architecture enthusiasts, but the Bauhaus building should be a go-to destination for anyone visiting Berlin.





Initially named Villa Lemke after the couple who commissioned the renowned architect to design the home in the 1930s, the L-shaped building has gone through a series of renovations throughout the years, but the red-coloured façade, charcoal-fired bricks, and flat roof that make it iconic remain. Keep an eye out for its programme, as the home often serves as an exhibition space for modern art.



Bierpinsel

Standing at 47-metres high, the Bierpinsel is hard to miss. Thanks to its extraordinary architecture, the building dominates Berlin's cityscape. The brutalist landmark was designed as an emblem of the 1970s pop art movement—and despite having been abandoned for well over a decade, it has retained its status as such.





Berlin map



9 is slightly off the map

* Approximate walking distance from map centre



1	do you read me?!
Address	Auguststraße 28, 10117 Berlin
Phone	+49 30 695 49 695
Website	doyoureadme.de
2	Lobe Block
Address	Böttgerstraße 16, 13357 Berlin
Phone	+49 (0)30 235976614
Website	lobe.berlin
3	Sammlung Boros
Address	Reinhardtstraße 20, 10117 Berlin
Phone	+49 30 27594065
Website	sammlung-boros.de
4	Remi
Address	Torstraße 48, 10119 Berlin
Phone	+49 30 275 93 090
Website	remi-berlin.de
5	Silent Green
Address	Gerichtstraße 35, 13347 Berlin
Phone	+49 30 120 82 210
Website	silent-green.net
6	Savvy Contemporary
Address	Reinickendorfer Str. 17, 13347 Berlin
Phone	+49 15 141 21 9222
Website	savvy-contemporary.com
7	Callie's
Address	Lindower Str. 20, 13347 Berlin
Phone	+49 30 120 82 210
Website	callies.berlin
8	Julius
Address	Gerichtstraße 31, 13347 Berlin
Website	exploretock.com/juliusberlin
9	Mäusebunker
Address	Hindenburgdamm 26, 12203 Berlin
Phone	+49 30 902 59 3653
Website	modellverfahren-maeusebunker.de/modellverfahren
10	ICC
Address	Messedamm 22, 14055 Berlin
Phone	+493030380
Website	messe-berlin.de
11	Strandbad Plötzensee
Address	Nordufer 26, 13351 Berlin
Phone	+49 30 859 76 425
Website	strandbad.ploetzensee.de
12	Ishin
Address	Charlottenstraße 16, 10117 Berlin
Phone	+49 306 0500172
Website	ishin.de

13	Grunewald
Address	Grunewald, Berlin
14	Humboldthain Sommerbad
Address	Wiesenstraße 1, 13357 Berlin
Phone	+49 307 87322070
15	Gropius Bau
Address	Niederkirchnerstraße 7, 10963 Berlin
Phone	+49 302 54860
Website	gropiusbau.de
16	C/O Berlin
Address	Hardenbergstraße 22-24, 10623 Berlin
Phone	+49 302 84441662
Website	co-berlin.org
17	Chipperfield Kantine
Address	Joachimstraße 11, 10119 Berlin, Allemagne
Phone	+49 30 280170781
Website	chipperfield-kantine.de
18	Dóttir
Address	Mittelstraße 41, 10117 Berlin
Phone	+49 302 043632
Website	www.chateauroyalberlin.com
19	Café Einstein
Address	Heumarkt 6, 50667 Köln
Phone	+49 221 92160613
20	Gemäldegalerie
Address	Matthäikirchplatz, 10785 Berlin
Phone	+49 302 66424242
Website	smb.museum/museen-einrichtungen/gemaeldegalerie/home/
21	Nationalgalerie
Address	Von-der-Heydt-Straße 16-18, 10785 Berlin
Phone	+49 302 66411440
Website	nationalgalerie20.de
22	Staatsbibliothek Berlin
Address	Potsdamer Str. 33, 10785 Berlin
Phone	+49 302 66433888
Website	staatsbibliothek-berlin.de
23	Schinkel Pavillion
Address	Oberwallstraße 32, 10117 Berlin
Phone	+49 302 0886444
Website	chinkelpavillon.de
24	gallery NEU
Address	Linienstraße 119, 10115 Berlin
Phone	+49 302 857550
Website	galerieneu.net
25	Sprüth Magers
Address	Oranienburger Str. 18, 10178 Berlin
Phone	+49 302 8884030
Website	spruethmagers.com

26	KINDL
Address	Am Sudhaus 3, 12053 Berlin
Phone	+49 (0)30 832 159 12 0
Website	kindl-berlin.com
27	Pro qm
Address	Almstadtstraße 48, 10119 Berlin
Phone	+49 30 24728520
Website	pro-qm.de
28	Café Luzia
Address	Oranienstraße 34, 10999 Berlin
e-mail	info@luzia.tc
Website	luzia.tc
29	Annelies
Address	Görlitzer Str. 68, 10997 Berlin
Website	anneliesberlin.com
30	Admiralsbrücke
Address	Admiralstraße, 10967 Berlin
31	Andreas Murkudis
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Website	andreamurkudis.com
32	haubrok foundation
Address	Herzbergstraße 40-43, 10365 Berlin
Phone	+49 172 210 95 25
Website	haubrok.org
33	Rosa Canina
Address	Pasteurstraße 32, 10407 Berlin
Phone	+49 30 23930681
Website	rosacanina.eu
34	Sale e Tabacchi
Address	Rudi-Dutschke-Straße 25, 10969 Berlin
Phone	+49302521155
Website	sale-e-tabacchi.de
35	Galerie Max Hetzler
Address	Bleibtreustraße 45, 10623 Berlin
Phone	+49 30 346497850
Website	maxhetzler.com
36	CFA Berlin
Address	Grolmanstraße 32-33, 10623 Berlin
Phone	+49 30 88777167
Website	cfa-berlin.com
37	Wentrup GmbH
Address	Knesebeckstraße 95, 10623 Berlin
Phone	+493048493600
Website	wentrupgallery.com
38	Wald Königsberger Marzipan
Address	Pestalozzistraße 54A, 10627 Berlin

Phone +49 30 3238254
Website wald-koenigsberger-marzipan.com

39 ▶ Erich Hamann KG
Address Brandenburgische Str. 17, 10707 Berlin
Phone +49 30 8732085
Website hamann-schokolade.de

40 ▶ Bücherbogen
Address Stadtbahnbogen 593, 10623 Berlin
Phone +49 30 31869511
Website buecherbogen.com

41 ▶ Parfum Lehmann
Address Kantstraße 106, 10627 Berlin
Phone +49 30 3243582
Website parfum-individual.de

42 ▶ Mies van der Rohe Haus
Address Oberseestraße 60, 13053 Berlin
Phone +49 30 97000618
Website miesvanderrohehaus.de

43 ▶ Bierpinsel
Address Schloßstraße 17, 12163 Berlin

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