

Heather Doyal  
Arkansas School for Mathematics and Sciences  
[doyalh@asms1x.dsc.k12.ar.us](mailto:doyalh@asms1x.dsc.k12.ar.us)

## A VIRTUAL TOUR OF BERLIN

### Target Group:

This project may be conducted at any language level, since many websites offer their information in English as well as German. The higher the level and abilities of students, the more the teacher can require in German.

### Time Requirements:

This project may be used alongside regular class activities, since individual teachers can easily adapt requirements to fit the time available. The tour of Berlin presented here is a seven-day visit, planned over several weeks, but the number of days or activities required may be reduced or extended.

### Objectives:

- Students will experience a simulated tour of Berlin.
- Students will plan a trip to a foreign country, including finding a flight and locating a hotel.
- Students will increase knowledge of the history, monuments, museums, entertainment attractions, and dining experiences available in Berlin.
- Students will speak, listen, read, and write in the target language—for advanced students, plans may be completely researched, discussed, and written up in the target language; for beginning students, most of the project may be conducted in English, but exposure to German will occur through the websites. Role-play can be introduced alongside the activities (for example, when students are planning where to eat, they can practice ordering in a restaurant, etc.).

### Materials:

Classroom access to the Web will be required and access outside of class for homework activities is desirable. **Check all websites prior to use in class since they change frequently and items to select may need modification.**

### Week 1

The teacher provides an overview of Berlin, including brief history ([userpage.chemie.fu-berlin.de/adressen/berlin.html](http://userpage.chemie.fu-berlin.de/adressen/berlin.html)), major sites ([www.btm.de](http://www.btm.de); go to *Unterwegs in Berlin*), and introduction to public transportation ([www.bvg.de](http://www.bvg.de)). (Alternatively, groups of students could be asked to research one of these topics each and present what they find.)

Assign dates for the trip (in the near future so that students may find movie schedules etc. for the selected time period). The teacher will guide students through finding flights to and from Berlin from the nearest major airport, using available websites—for example, [www.expedia.com](http://www.expedia.com) or [www.cheaptickets.com](http://www.cheaptickets.com) or [www.orbitz.com](http://www.orbitz.com). Showing students more than one website is desirable so that students learn to do cost comparison to find the

best deal. By trying different dates (in the near future, in two to three months), students can also be shown how much costs increase if flights are not booked well in advance. Class decides which flights to “book.”

## Week 2

Divide class into groups of 3 or 4 students. Assign a different *Bezirk* of Berlin to each group. The teacher will introduce students to the following website:

[www.berlin-info.de](http://www.berlin-info.de)

Instructions for navigating the site may be given in English or German, depending on the level of the class. The assignment is to research **hotels** available in given area. Students should select *Hotels in Berlin*

*Suche nach Lage*

Students will reach the following page:

### Suche nach Lage



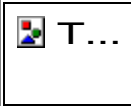
Students should click on their assigned *Bezirk*.

The following is an example of what students will view:

### Alle Häuser im Bezirk Tiergarten

Hotel	Zimmer	Preise (EUR)	Eigenschaften
<a href="#">Hotel Delta Berlin</a> <input type="text"/> click for details T...	50 <input type="text"/> D <input type="text"/> V	<input type="text"/> E 68/108 C 84/133 N 111/160 F incl.	<input type="text"/> Z Z M T R N F V H I H R G P r K I F P w <input type="text"/>
<a href="#">Grand Hotel Esplanade Berlin</a> <input type="text"/> click for details T...	386 <input type="text"/> B <input type="text"/> V	<input type="text"/> E 225/250 C 250/275 S 468/.. S 422/2300 F 20	<input type="text"/> Z Z M T R N K F V k H I K R R D B G r K K I S S H F S F P w <input type="text"/>
<a href="#">Hotel Hansablick</a> <input type="text"/> click for details T...	29 <input type="text"/> D <input type="text"/> V	<input type="text"/> E 82/.. C 101/121 N 132/152 F incl.	<input type="text"/> Z Z M T R N F Z V k H K R P r h K K F P w <input type="text"/>
<a href="#">Sorat Hotel Spree-Bogen Berlin</a> <input type="text"/>	56 <input type="text"/> B <input type="text"/> V 165 <input type="text"/> D <input type="text"/> V	<input type="text"/> E 130/229 C 166/265	<input type="text"/> Z Z M T R N K F V k

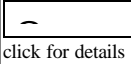
click for details



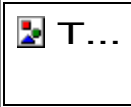
S 150/254  
S 614/..  
F incl.

H I K R R  
D R r h K  
K I S S F  
F P w o

### Hotel Alt Berlin



click for details



6 B V  
44 D V

E 99/115  
C 125/140  
S 140/170  
F incl.

Z M T N F  
V k H R R  
P r h K K  
F o

### Hotel-Pension 'Am Schloß Bellevue'

click for details



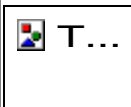
6 D V  
2 D

E 55/65  
C 75/85  
F incl.

Z T Z R P  
F P o

### Dorint Hotel Schweizerhof

click for details



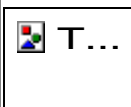
384 B V

E 177/232  
C 202/257  
S 257/1450  
F 19

Z Z M T R  
N K F Z V  
h H I K R  
R R G K I  
S S H F S  
F o

### Excellent Apartments

click for details



8 D V

E 32/46  
C 62/72

T R H o

The teacher may give students parameters for price, amenities needed, etc . . . By clicking on the individual hotels, students will find further information, such as transportation available.

Students will be asked to print out information or save to disk—the information should include hotel name; address; telephone number; cost per night for double room, single room, and/or multi-rooms; nearest S-Bahn stop.

### **Week 3**

Each group compares hotel notes and picks hotel to “book.”

This week’s assignment is to select 7 **museums** to visit including a minimum of 2 art museums and 2 history museums. Students will go to the following website:

[www.berlin.de](http://www.berlin.de)

Click on *Tourismus und Kultur*  
*Kultur und Unterhaltung*  
*Museen*

Beginning students will want to select English at this point.

Students will be asked to print out or save to disk the following information:

Name, address and telephone; opening hours; admission cost; cost of tour and whether available in English (for non-advanced students); brief description of contents and interest of museum; photograph, if available. Students should also locate museum on map and determine nearest subway station.

### **Week 4**

Students will research 7 **monuments or other attractions** to visit (may include zoo, significant buildings, parks, etc . . .). [www.berlin-info.de](http://www.berlin-info.de) is useful for this task. Students should click on *Sightseeing*.

Students will print out or save to disk the following information:

Name, address and telephone; operating hours; cost; brief description of monument and why it is of interest; photograph, if available. Students will also locate monument on map and determine nearest subway station.

### **Week 5**

Students will decide daily schedule, selecting 1 museum and 1 monument to visit each day of stay, according to proximity to each other.

Students will research **evening activities**, including movies, theater, ballet, opera, and dance clubs. Students will select 4 evening activities to complete alternate days of schedule. The evening activity will be either near the daytime activities or in the vicinity of the hotel. For **movies** direct students to [www.kino-berlin.de](http://www.kino-berlin.de). They will see the following screen:

**Das Berliner Kinoprogramm**  
**- 23. Mai 2002 bis 29. Mai 2002 -**

---

**Alle Filme in dieser Woche**

*Sie möchten einen bestimmten Film sehen und wollen wissen, wann und wo er läuft.*

**Das nach Kinos geordnete Programm**

*Sie möchten einen Überblick über die einzelnen Kinos gewinnen.*

**Die Tage im einzelnen**

*Sie möchten an einem bestimmten Tag ins Kino gehen und wollen sich einen Überblick über das gesamte Tagesangebot verschaffen.*

**Alle Originalversionen in dieser Woche**

*Sie interessieren sich nur für das Angebot an Originalversionen mit und ohne Untertitel.*

**Die Bezirke Berlins und die umliegenden Orte im einzelnen**

*Sie suchen ein ganz bestimmtes Kino in Ihrem Bezirk oder Ort.*

**Die Kinderfilme**

*Sie möchten mit ihren Kindern ins Kino gehen und suchen einen Kinderfilm? Unsere Kinderfilmliste für diese Woche hilft Ihnen weiter!*

Select a category to search under. I searched under *Die Tage im einzelnen*. The category listed movie titles in alphabetical order. I selected a title, then entered a screen where, by clicking on the title, a brief description of the movie was provided and, by clicking on the name of the cinema, details such as address, telephone number, and starting times. Explain that OV stands for original version.

For theater, ballet, and opera, introduce students to [www.berlin-info.de](http://www.berlin-info.de).

Select *Berlin im WWW*

*Wohin am Abend. . .*

*Theater und Oper.*

I recommend looking at this site as a class. A listing of different theaters is provided. Click on each theater to see what is being performed. The teacher can suggest different plays etc . . . for their educational value and make selections according to language abilities.

**Week 6**

This week students will select a **restaurant** for dinner each evening (hotel provides breakfast, and lunch will be eaten at any place suitable passed by on the way from morning to afternoon activity). Students should consider location (convenient to other planned activities), type of food available, and price when selecting restaurant.

Direct students to [www.zitty.de](http://www.zitty.de)  
Click on *Essen und Trinken*  
*Findmaschine—Restaurants & Bars*

The following search services is available:

**Suchen nach ..**

Name:

Straße:

Ort bzw. Berliner Bezirk:

Alle Bezirke  
-----  
Charlottenburg  
Friedrichshain  
Hellersdorf  
Hohenschönhausen  
Köpenick

Kategorie:

Alle Cuisine  
-----  
Aegyptisch  
Aethiopisch  
Afrikanisch  
Anatolisch  
Arabisch  
Armenisch  
Australisch  
Bars

Preise:

Alle Preise  
-----  
preiswert  
mittel

Mit vegetarischen Gerichten

Nur mit User-Kritiken

When the search has finished, students will see a list of restaurants fitting the criteria selected. Click on the restaurant name for further information—name, address, telephone number. Some have links to websites with posted menus.

### **Week 7**

Now that students have a list of the names and addresses of each place they wish to visit, they can make certain that they know how to get from one place to another using public

transportation. Have the students save the routes they intend to take. The following websites are useful:

For a street map, go to [www.stadtplandienst.de](http://www.stadtplandienst.de).

Enter *Berlin*

then the address one wishes to locate.

For transportation, go to [www.bvg.de](http://www.bvg.de).

Select *Fahrplan*

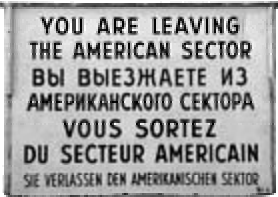

*Linienetz*,

*BVG+S-Bahn Schnellnetz.*

## Week 8

**Final project.** There are many formats that the final project may take. Students could be asked to prepare a power point presentation of their trip (in English or German, depending on level). This task would involve both written and oral practice (reading and listening for participants, plus oral questions).

Another option is preparation of a web page. If desired teacher may prepare an outline for students to follow:

<b>Dienstag, den 4. Juni</b>		
<b>Museum</b>	<p><b>Haus am Checkpoint Charlie</b>  <b>Friedrichstr. 43 (Mitte)</b>  <b>Telefon: 253 72 50</b></p> <p>Geschichte der Mauer und der Teilung Berlins.</p> <p>U2 Stadtmitte            U6 Kochstr.            Bus 129</p> <p>Taglich 9-22 Uhr            6 Euro</p>	
Merkwurdigskeit	<p><b>Berliner Dom</b>  <b>Am Lustgarten 1 (Mitte)</b></p> <p>U Friedrichstr.            S Hackescher Markt            Bus 100, 157, 348</p>	

	Mon.-Fr. 9-20:00	
Abendessen	<b>Mutter Hoppe</b> <b>Rathausstr. 21 (Mitte)</b> <b>Tel: 741 56 25</b>  Täglich: 11:30-23 Uhr	
Abendsaktivität	Film— <u>Münchhausen</u> <b>Filmkunsthaus</b> <b>Babylon Studiokino</b> <b>Rosa-Luxemburg Str. 30 (Mitte)</b>  S Alexanderplatz  20 Uhr	

Alternatively, students could be asked to write a narrative about their visit (past, present, or future—depending on which tense is currently being studied).

**Other Units:**

This plan can easily be developed into other units since many towns have websites.

Materials that students save as they go can be used for class activities—for example, authentic menus may be used when students are practicing ordering food and drink and maps may be used for giving directions.