

Field Trip to Potsdam, Saturday, June 1



*If you do not want to buy your own lunch in Potsdam, please bring one with you.

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Time	Program
9.15	Meet IES Berlin student assistant Lissy and Christian von Zameck (Potsdam city guide) at the reception desk of Meininger
9.27	Take the S2 from <i>Oranienburger Strasse</i> to <i>Friedrichstrasse</i> (9.28)
9.37	Take the RE1 (direction Brandenburg, platform 3) from <i>Friedrichstrasse</i> to <i>Potsdam Hauptbahnhof</i>
10.06	Arrival at Potsdam-Hauptbahnhof
10:10	Take bus Nr. 695 (direction „Potsdam Pirschheide“) from Bahnhofbusplatz, platform 3 to Besucherzentrum an der Historischen Mühle, An der Orangerie 1, arrival time: 10:27
11 – 13	Tour of Palace Neue Kammern and Park Sanssouci with interior visit of the Chinese Tea House of Sanssouci
13	End of the tour at the Brandenburg Gate
13– 14.30	Lunch break (individual)
14.30– 16.30	Walking tour of Potsdam, ends at the Hauptbahnhof Potsdam
16.30	Take S-Bahn back to Berlin together with Lissy

See next page for more information about:

Potsdam and Sanssouci Park

Potsdam

Potsdam is the capital city of the German federal state of Brandenburg. It is situated on the river Havel, 24 km (15 miles) southwest of Berlin city centre. Around the city there are a series of interconnected lakes and unique cultural landmarks, in particular the parks and palaces of Sanssouci, the largest World Heritage Site in Germany. The Potsdam Conference, the major post-World War II conference between the victorious Allies, was held at another palace in the area, the Cecilienhof.



Potsdam has several claims to national and international notability. In Germany, it had a similar status that Windsor has in the United Kingdom: it was the residence of the Prussian kings and German Kaisers, until 1918.

The Alexandrowka, the Holländisches Viertel (the Dutch quarter) and the Weaver's quarter - the historic sections of the city - provide the flair of a city steeped in European tradition.

The Babelsberg Filmpark, the Biosphäre nature experience exhibition, the National Horticulture Show park, known as the BUGA park, built for the National Horticulture Show in 2001, the tourist cruise ships and the crown estate, the Krongut Bornstedt, are all special attractions of Potsdam.

Potsdam's cultural landscape is one of the most beautiful of Germany's world heritage sites and considered in combination with Berlin it is also the largest. The ensemble effect of the parks is really a unique one, a system which was created over the centuries by order of Prussian electors, kings and emperors. Great architects, famous artists and landscape architects left their mark on the complete artistic creation of gardens and buildings interwoven in diverse fashion with pathways and vantage points.

Since 1990 large areas of Potsdam were granted World Heritage status by UNESCO. That includes the Sanssouci park, Neuer Garten, Babelsberg and Glienicke with their palaces, the Pfaueninsel (Peacock Island) and also the palace and park Sacrow along with its Church of the Redeemer. Fourteen further listed areas were added to Potsdam's world cultural heritage list in 1999. Among them were Lindstedt palace and park, the Russian colony Alexandrowka, the Pfingstberg with the Belvedere and the Sternwarte astronomical observatory in the Babelsberg park.

Sanssouci Park and castles

Sanssouci Park was originally nothing more than a terraced garden which Frederick the Great had planted in 1744 to cultivate plums, figs and vines on a hill just outside the gates of Potsdam. Because the view was so beautiful, the King had a summer residence built above the terraces just one year later. In the following years, more palace buildings were blended into the gentle hill landscape, while the slopes were used for ornamental and vegetable gardens. On a hill to the north of the palace, artificial ruins were grouped to form a mock-antique staffage which simultaneously camouflaged the water tank designed to feed the fountains in the park. The King was only able to enjoy his fountains once, however; they did not become fully operational until the steam engine-house was built in the 19th century.

The baroque garden was no longer in fashion during the reigns of Frederick the Great's successors; it was redesigned in the style of a landscaped park and extended by Frederick William IV, who added elements that reflected his longing for Italy.

The **Neue Kammern** (New Chambers) is a former orangery and guesthouse, whose fancy interior includes the festive *Ovidsaal*, a grand ballroom with a patterned marble floor surrounded by gilded reliefs.

