

LOCALS INSIDER

Berlin

by Britt Kanja

GRANDE DAME OF BERLIN NIGHTLIFE

THIRTIES GLAMOUR

Bellboy Bar, theatrical cocktails

ART IN A BRUTALIST CHURCH

König Galerie, St Agnes

A VILLAGE OF DANCE FLOORS

Sisyphos, no phones



Britt *Kanja*

Born in West Berlin in 1950, Miss Berlin 1969, a cabaret dancer across Europe, and in 1989 co-founder of the club 90 Grad, where artists, bankers, royalty and outsiders shared one dance floor.

Berlin gave her the title Grande Dame of the city's nightlife. She is still one of its most photographed people: a style icon with a wardrobe of vintage she redesigns herself, a collection of hats she has lost count of, and 100,000 followers watching what she wears next.

Instagram @britt.kanja



Bars & cocktails



Bellboy Bar

DAILY FROM 6 PM

Thirties cruise-liner glamour and theatrical cocktails, in a room worth the trip alone.

📍 Anton-Wilhelm-Amo-Str. 30, Berlin



SOLAR Sky Bar

TUE-SAT FROM 6 PM

A glass lift to the 17th floor and a wide view over the city. Restaurant below, bar above.

📍 Stresemannstr. 76, Berlin



GRACE Restaurant & Bar

TUE-SAT, DINNER

Inside Hotel Zoo on the Ku'damm: dark, glamorous and dressed up.

📍 Kurfürstendamm 25, Berlin

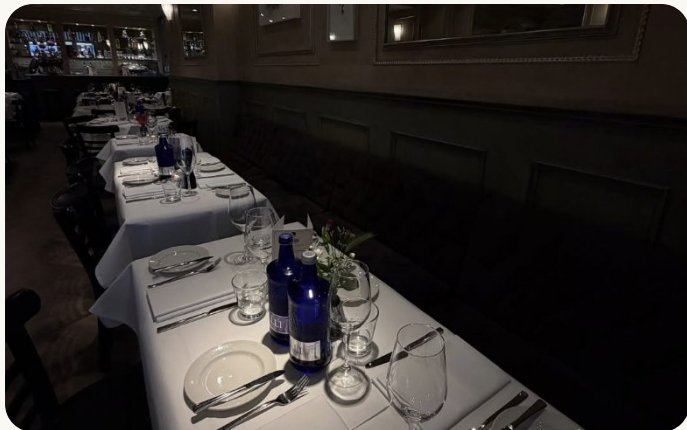
Victoria Bar

DAILY FROM 6 PM

A Schöneberg institution for serious cocktails and late conversation. Smoking allowed inside.

📍 Potsdamer Str. 102, Berlin

Restaurants



Lubitsch

DAILY NOON–MIDNIGHT

Named for the director Ernst Lubitsch, another of Britt's favourites. Small, elegant, by Savignyplatz.

📍 Bleibtreustr. 47, Berlin

Paris Bar

DAILY NOON–1AM

The Charlottenburg classic, hung with art, where Berlin's film and fashion crowd has eaten for decades.

📍 Kantstr. 152, Berlin

Borchardt

DAILY 11.30AM–MIDNIGHT

The city's most famous schnitzel, steps from Gendarmenmarkt.

📍 Französische Str. 47, Berlin

Brasserie Colette Tim Raue

DAILY, LUNCH AND DINNER

Tim Raue's French brasserie: beef tartare, Beef Wellington, a warm room.

📍 Passauer Str. 5–7, Berlin

Katerschmaus

DAILY, LUNCH AND DINNER

On the Spree at Holzmarkt. River views, sharing plates and the most Berlin setting of the list.

📍 Holzmarktstr. 25, Berlin

The Crazy Little Greek

TUE–SAT FROM 5PM

Vegan Greek cooking in Mitte. Small, warm and often full.

📍 Koppenplatz 1, Berlin

Hotel de Rome

BAR AND ROOFTOP TERRACE

The grand hotel on Bebelplatz, worth it for the rooftop terrace and the bar.

📍 Behrenstr. 37, Berlin

Cafés

Pavlova Café

DAILY FROM 10AM

A whole café built around pavlova, in ballerina white, halfway along the Ku'damm.

 Kurfürstendamm 210, Berlin

Café im Literaturhaus – Wintergarten

DAILY 9AM–11PM

The conservatory café behind the Literaturhaus villa, for long breakfasts and cake.

 Fasanenstr. 23, Berlin

Maître Münch

TUE–SAT 11AM–5PM

A Charlottenburg café of the old school, with cakes and a family welcome.

 Giesebrechtstr. 16, Berlin

Galleries & museums



KÖNIG GALERIE

TUE–SUN 11AM–6PM, FREE

Brutalist church architecture at St Agnes, rotating shows, free entry.

📍 Alexandrinenstr. 118–121, Berlin

Helmut Newton Foundation

TUE–SUN 11AM–7PM

Newton's own collection in the Museum für Fotografie, with his reconstructed study.

📍 Jebensstr. 2, Berlin

Fotografiska Berlin

DAILY 10AM–11PM

Contemporary photography in a restored Mitte landmark, with a rooftop bar and late opening.

📍 Oranienburger Str. 54, Berlin

Schinkel Pavillon

THU–SUN AFTERNOONS

A GDR-era octagonal pavilion turned exhibition space. Small, strange, consistently well curated.

📍 Oberwallstr. 32, Berlin

Hamburger Bahnhof

TUE–SUN, CLOSED MON

The national gallery of contemporary art, in a converted railway station.

📍 Invalidenstr. 50, Berlin

Galerie Friedmann–Hahn

TUE–SAT

Charlottenburg gallery known for figurative painting and urban art.

📍 Wielandstr. 14, Berlin

Galerie Tammen & Partner

TUE–SAT NOON–6PM

Kreuzberg gallery with a long record of showing outsider and political art.

📍 Hedemannstr. 14, Berlin

KORNFELD Galerie

TUE–SAT 11AM–6PM

Two spaces facing each other on Fasanenstraße, with a strong international programme.

📍 Fasanenstr. 26, Berlin

Galerie Thomas Schulte

TUE–SAT NOON–6PM

A corner gallery in Mitte whose great window room is worth the visit in itself.

📍 Charlottenstr. 24, Berlin

Galerie Mond

TUE–SAT

Named after the old Hotel Mond, in a neo-Gothic building near Savignyplatz.

📍 Bleibtreustr. 17, Berlin

JAEGER ART

WED–SAT NOON–6PM

A newer Mitte gallery, and one of Britt's current picks.

📍 Brunnenstr. 161, Berlin

Vintage, hats & antiques

Mimi Textile Antiquitäten

WED – SAT AFTERNOONS

First on Britt's list: immaculate vintage in Schöneberg, with window displays that change weekly.

📍 Goltzstr. 5, Berlin



Fräulein Anders

THU – SAT

Real vintage, Forties to Seventies, carefully curated, in Schöneberg.

📍 Nollendorfstr. 28, Berlin

SUMO Curated

WED – SAT

Designer vintage in Charlottenburg, avant-garde and carefully chosen.

📍 Leibnizstr. 48, Berlin

Garments Vintage

TUE – SAT 1–6 PM

Seventies and Eighties pieces plus vintage jewellery, in Mitte.

📍 Liniestr. 204, Berlin

Berliner Modeinstitut

TUE – SAT

Friedrichshain vintage across eras, with suits, coats and jewellery.

📍 Gabriel-Max-Str. 13, Berlin



Hüsken Antiques

MON – SAT

Antiques with a theatrical streak: handpainted china, Twenties paintings, taxidermy.

📍 Mommsenstr. 5, Berlin

Fiona Bennett

TUE – SAT

The Berlin milliner whose hats Britt wears, made in the studio behind the shop window.

📍 Potsdamer Str. 81–83, Berlin

BeretkAh

MON – SAT

Headpieces and hair accessories, made to order, including custom pieces for weddings.

📍 Barbarossastr. 61, Berlin

Hut Salon Berlin – Susanne Gäbel

MON – SAT

Handmade hats, made to measure, a short walk from the Ku'damm.

📍 Mommsenstr. 69, Berlin

Clubs



Renate

THU–SAT FROM 11PM

The rambling riverside house club with a garden, on the Stralau peninsula.

📍 Alt-Stralau 70, Berlin

Sisyphos

WEEKENDS, FROM LATE

A former dog-biscuit factory turned village of dance floors, beach and sauna. No phones.

📍 Hauptstr. 15, Berlin

Ritter Butzke

FRI–SAT FROM 10PM

Kreuzberg, three floors, house downstairs and techno above.

📍 Ritterstr. 24–27, Berlin

Studio 1111

THU–SAT FROM 8PM

Bar and club in one, on the Potsdamer Straße gallery strip. Berlin clubs open late and choose their crowd at the door.

📍 Potsdamer Str. 96, Berlin

Read her full story

Britt on 90 Grad, white lilies on the tables, her UFO hat, and the hidden lake where she lost three hours.

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