



Checkpoint Charlie

Travel Brochure





Checkpoint Charlie on 27 October 1961

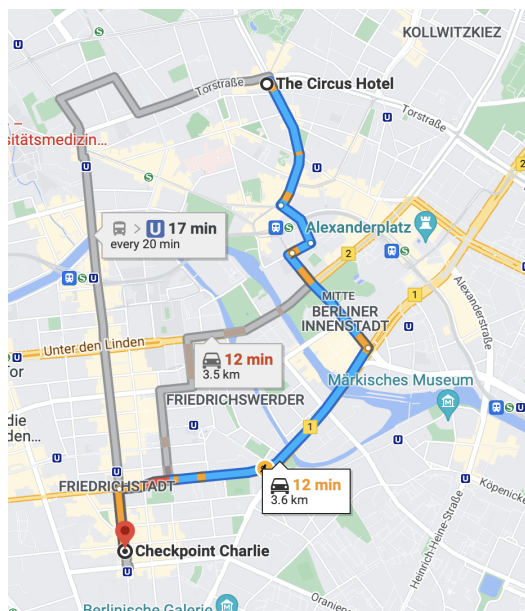
Soviet and Allies Tension

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The announcement of constriction of the wall increase the tension between the Allies and Soviets for the first time since the Soviet's blockade of Berlin in 1948-1949. To compel the allied forces to recognize East Germany, East German border guards were placed on checkpoint duty. The allied forces were determined to not recognize East German guards' authority. To signal Allied's determination to maintain access rights, the US Army moved tanks to Checkpoint Charlie on 26 October 1961. The Soviets responded with tanks moved to opposite side of the checkpoint. For 24 hours the tanks faced each other as Allied diplomatic personnel with military police crossed the border. The Soviet tanks withdrew on the morning of 28th, the US Army pulled back as well.

Checkpoint Charlie

Has been featured in several award winning films. Including James Bond: Octopussy, The Spy who came from the cold and Bridges of Spies.



Museum

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The Checkpoint Charlie Museum has exhibitions of historical events, escape stories and success and fail escape contraptions. A new exhibition title "working for freedom" was opened in 2012. The force of the added exhibition is international and diplomatic context. The Museum is open for visitors from 10am -6pm. Audio and guided tours are available.

Directions from Cirus Hotel



Left photo is the Checkpoint Charlie museum, Right photoes are escape contraptions

Museum map

Ground floor

The ground floor map shows an entrance at the bottom center leading to a 'Tickets' area. To the left is a large blue area containing exhibits 1 through 6. To the right is a yellow area labeled 'Shop' containing exhibit 8. A central area contains exhibits 7 and 8. An 'Exit' is marked at the bottom right. A legend on the right lists the exhibits:

- 1 Map from Potsdam, August 1945, used by Winston Churchill
- 2 Escape car - Volkswagen 1200 model
- 3 The birth of NATO and the Berlin Blockade
- 4 Installation with original stones from the 1944 Budapest Ghetto
- 5 Raoul Wallenberg's story
- 6 Lists with names of 43,000 victims of the Soviet NKWD camps from 1945 to 1950
- 7 Escape object: Hollowed out surfboards
- 8 Escape car: Mini Cooper

First floor

The first floor map shows a 'New Block' on the left and a 'Cinema' on the right. The main area contains exhibits 9 through 29. An 'Exit' is marked at the bottom right. A legend on the right lists the exhibits:

- 9 Exhibition on workers uprising 1953
- 10 Escape object: suitcases
- 11 Escape object: enlarged petrol tank
- 12 Escape object: welding apparatus
- 13 East German educational model of the border
- 14 Press-point Berlin
- 15 Escape car: Opel P4 model
- 16 Automatic firing unit from inner German border
- 17 Escape tunnel: Tunnel 57
- 18 Escape object: Aircraft
- 19 Models showing all generations of the Wall
- 20 Escape object: Mini U-Boat
- 21 Escape object: chairlift
- 22 Escape object: Inflatable boat and surf sail
- 23 Escape object: Flying Fox
- 24 Escape object: Hot air balloon
- 25 Reinhard Furrer - escape helper & astronaut
- 26 Escape object: ladder
- 27 Hans-Dietrich Genscher - Architect of German Reunification
- 28 Escape object: Microlight aircraft
- 29 Mstislav Rostropovich - Berlin Wall 1989

New building

The new building map shows an 'Education Centre' at the top left and an 'Old Building' at the bottom right. The main area contains exhibits 30 through 45. An 'Exit' is marked at the bottom right. A legend on the right lists the exhibits:

- 30 Mahatma Ghandi's original diary, 1916-1917
- 31 Martin Luther King
- 32 The Hungarian Revolution 1956
- 33 Original uniform worn by Pal Maléter during the Hungarian Revolution
- 34 The Prague Spring, 1968: Charter 77 and Václav Havel's typewriter used for the first draft
- 35 Solidarity - Polish Trade Union
- 36 Escape object: Aircraft
- 37 US President Ronald Reagan
- 38 Pablo Picasso - Guernica
- 39 NATO
- 40 Andrei Sakharov
- 41 Moscow Putsch, August 1991
- 42 Mikhail Khodorkovskiy; Sergei Magnitskiy, Anna Politkovskaya
- 43 The history of Checkpoint Charlie
- 44 Escape car: BMW Isetta
- 45 Original sign from Checkpoint Charlie „You are leaving the American Sector.“