

Tour of the historical centre incl. tour of the Parliament building*

Dates: Apr-Oct, every Mon (*tours of Parliament building subject to Parliament's meeting schedule), Duration: 2 hrs, meeting point: 10am in front of Tourist Information at Humboldtstr. 1-2, Tickets: 9€/person
Tickets are available at Tourist Information Centre, Humboldtstr. 1-2, Allee nach Sanssouci 3, and the Potsdam Central Train Station.
Group or special tours by arrangement, Contact: Potsdam Marketing Service, Humboldtstr. 1-2, 14467 Potsdam, Phone: 0331 - 27 55 88 99
Email: gruppen@potsdamtourismus.de, www.potsdamtourismus.de

Panoramic View from St. Nicolas Church

From the colonnaded roof of St. Nicolas Church, you see the new Landtag and take in one of the most spectacular views in the capital city of Potsdam. The classicist church was built based on the plans of Karl Friedrich Schinkel and is a monument of national importance. Open from Nov-Mar, 10am-5pm, Apr-Oct 10am-7pm. Admission to tower: 5€, Phone: 0331 - 270 86 02, Email: info@nikolaipotsdam.de, www.nikolaipotsdam.de

History of the City Palace in the House of the Brandenburg-Prussian History (HBPG)

The permanent exhibition "Land und Leute. Geschichten aus Brandenburg-Preußen" (Country and People – Stories from Brandenburg-Prussia) includes an area dedicated to the eventful history of the City Palace. Selected exhibits, pictures, and films tell the building's story. Kutschstall, Am Neuen Markt 9, Phone: 0331 - 620 85 50, www.hbpg.de
Admission to permanent exhibition: 4.50€ / 3.50€ (red.), Fridays: 2€

Experiencing the City's History

Are you curious about the history and stories of our city? Then visit the permanent exhibition "Potsdam. Eine Stadt macht Geschichte" ("Potsdam. A City Makes History") and the special exhibitions on the city's art and cultural history as well as various events at the Potsdam Museum. Potsdam Museum - Forum für Kunst und Geschichte, Am Alten Markt 9, Phone 0331 - 289 68 68, Opening hours: Tue/Wed/Fri 10am-5pm, Thu 10am-7pm, Sat/Sun 10am-6pm, www.potsdam.de/potsdam-museum

MuseumsKombikarte (Museum Combination Ticket)

10,000 exhibited objects, 4 museums, 1 ticket: available at the Filmmuseum Potsdam, Museum of Natural Science, House of the Brandenburg-Prussian History (HBPG), Potsdam Museum as well as at the Potsdam Tourist Information Centre, 12€ for one adult and up to two children.



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Design: Andreas Stadler (A-ST)
Print: Druck- und Medienhaus Hans Gieselmann
Editorial deadline: 15 December 2015
Print run: 4,000 (This flyer is also available in German)
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Background photo: Standing wrestler, former colonnade between Royal Stables and City Palace (SPSG), Cover photo: View from Hotel Mercure to Otto-Braun-Platz, November 2015 (A-ST)

Construction at the Havel Riverfront and Museum Barberini

In autumn 2015 the scaffolding was taken down from the first buildings next to the Brandenburg *Landtag* between Humboldtstraße and the Havel River (*Alte Fahrt*). From there, you can now enjoy the view of the new buildings on the banks of the Havel River.

New façades designed true to the preceding historical buildings *Palazzo Pompej* (Humboldtstraße 3) and *Palazzo Chiericati* (Humboldtstraße 4) adorn these modern houses. Behind the baroque façade are 23 modern flats and four retail units. Since opening in autumn 2015, the gastronomic offers in the modern building at Otto-Braun-Platz – with its distinct, big chestnut tree – have attracted many visitors to the urban space between *Alter Markt* and Havel.

Behind another façade rebuilt according to the historical original of the former Palace Barberini is the *Museum Barberini*. After a test run of the museum's sensitive technology, this new visitor magnet will open its doors in Potsdam's city centre. Starting in 2017, artwork from various epochs will be presented on 2,200 m² of exhibition space – from the old masters to classical modernism.

Museum Barberini will collaborate with renowned museums worldwide on special exhibitions. The starting point of the exhibitions is the Hasso Plattner Collection, which focuses on Impressionist works.

During the museum's regular opening hours, the entrance hall will provide public passage directly from *Alter Markt* to the waterfront promenade at the Havel River.



Museum Barberini (photo: A-ST)



Sandstone vases on the fascia of Museum Barberini (photo: STP)

The urban development on the banks of the Havel River will continue in 2016 with construction works at Brauerstraße. On six plots, modern buildings will be erected beside the historical façade of *Museum Barberini*. They will house mainly flats, with some small offices and shops on the ground floor. The new buildings will round off the area at the Havel riverside.

During the building construction at Brauerstraße, various supply and disposal lines will

be installed to connect the new buildings to public utilities in 2016. The final paving of Brauerstraße and the redesigning of the adjacent *Gartenplatz* as a passage to the green space at the river – in the direction of *Heilig Geist Residenz* – is expected for 2018, once the new buildings have been completed. The redevelopment of the waterfront at *Alten Fahrt* will be completed in spring 2016.

As part of the public riverside walk between the city harbour and the *Heilig Geist Residenz*, the waterfront promenade will invite you to stroll and linger at the water opposite *Freundschaftsinsel*.



Construction at the Havel riverside Brauerstraße (photo: A-ST)

Brockesches Palais

The building was erected in 1776 for the glasscutter Johann Christoph Brockes, who would later become purveyor to the court. It is the biggest residential palace still in existence from the Frederician era in Potsdam's city centre. Carl v. Gontard designed the early classicist façade, which has remained virtually unchanged, based on the French chateau style of the 17th century. His work is an impressive example of Potsdam's transformation into a royal residence city under King Frederick II.

As with many other buildings in the city centre, the King attached great importance to the building's exterior. What was done behind the façade was often of secondary importance.

The central avant-corps with its majestic columns was crowned by groups of sculptures depicting attributes of glass manufacturing. Despite its splendid façade, the long house retained the nickname of the building that preceded it: "cartridge pouch", due to its shallow depth.

In 1818, the superior accounting chamber moved into the building – a predecessor of today's Federal Court of Auditors. The chamber was extended in 1832 and again in 1884, with neighbouring corner buildings being added.

In 2014, after standing empty for over 20 years, the reconstruction and refurbishment of this listed complex started, which still showed traces of World War II. After the neighbouring buildings, which were destroyed during the war, are reconstructed and the first construction stage of *Langger Stall* is completed, a total of 103 flats will be available – 18 of them in the 50 rooms of the historical building.



Brockesches Palais (photo: A-ST)

Colonnade Ringerkolonnade at the Square Steubenplatz

The transparent architecture of the *Ringerkolonnade* between the Royal Stables and the City Palace once formed the border between the royal pleasure garden *Lustgarten* and the bourgeois town before being partially destroyed in 1945. Parts of the colonnade were restored in 1970, mainly with original pieces, at the inner harbour. The structural condition of *Ringerkolonnade* has long been problematic, compromising its stability.

The *Ringerkolonnade* at *Lustgarten* was dismantled in autumn 2015 and inspected for damages. Based on a comprehensive mapping of the damage, the colonnade's stone was refurbished with conservational methods. The row of columns was reassembled at Steubenplatz, partly supplemented by new column bases and drums. The ensemble gives distinction to the structure of the urban space.

The renovation will be completed in spring 2016. The sculptures of wrestlers that gave the colonnade its name are also in need of refurbishment. They have already been secured as they await being refurbished and complemented with vases and putti. The public areas for pedestrians and cyclists as well as for busses and trams will be generously maintained after the colonnade's renovation at Steubenplatz.



Detail drawing of Ringerkolonnade: capital, fascia and sculptures (fig.: STP, Bolze/Stich)



Ringerkolonnade and ruins of the City Palace, in the background Ernst-Thälmann Stadium, before 1950 (photo: unknown)

Potsdam City Centre



2016



Dear citizens of Potsdam, dear guests and visitors of Potsdam,

A cordial welcome to Potsdam's city centre! The new Brandenburg parliament building (*Landtag*), St. Nicolas Church and the Old Town Hall form an impressive architectural ensemble in the heart of our city that increasingly inspires the citizens of Potsdam and their many guests. The new buildings at the Havel waterfront *Alten Fahrt* complete the picture. Every restaurant and every new shop attract people who invigorate Potsdam's resurgent centre. In a few years, we will hardly remember how dreary the area around *Alter Markt* looked just a few years ago.

Since the end of 2015, the *Bittschriftenlinde* (linden tree for petition letters) has returned to Otto-Braun-Platz, resuming a tradition at this historical location. The colonnade *Ringerkolonnade* at Steubenplatz will be completed in 2016. *Museum Barberini* is preparing for its opening in spring 2017. Dynamic development is also visible elsewhere in Potsdam's city centre. The *Brocksche Palais* building ensemble shines in new splendour after being renovated. The neighbouring upscale townhouses on the canal are nearly complete. An entirely different attraction, the creativity centre in the former data-centre building, will house artists and other creatives who will be working there over the next three years, uniquely enlivening this urban space.

Since Potsdam's architectural development in this delicate area requires extensive social discussion, we will be continuing the dialogue and participation in redesigning the Plantation, the data-centre building and the Garrison Church that were started in 2015. Despite the challenges ahead, Potsdam's city centre has already become an appealing venue, which I kindly invite you to visit. Culture, the arts, history, business, gastronomy, politics, science, and film promise an interesting and colourful mix.

Bittschriftenlinde - An Old Acquaintance

When the *Bittschriftenlinde*, a linden tree on which people could hang petition letters, was planted at Otto-Braun-Platz, it was as though an old acquaintance had returned to its historical place. The linden tree was a well-known institution during the reign of King Frederick II. The petition letters that the subjects had hung on the linden tree during the week were submitted to the King and he often decided in favour of the citizens – and thus against the civil service!

The historical linden tree outlived kings and wars and was not chopped down until 1929. On the occasion of Potsdam's 1000-year anniversary in 1993, a new linden tree was planted at this historical location, resuming the old tradition. To protect the tree, it had to be temporarily moved to a nursery in 2008 during the building of a new bridge for public transport across the Havel River and the reconstruction of the traffic area Breite Straße/Friedrich-Ebert-Straße. Construction of the Brandenburg Parliament building and the development of the Havel waterfront followed soon thereafter.



Historical Bittschriftenlinde 1900 (unknown)

On 30 November 2015, after 93 months in "exile", the *Bittschriftenlinde* returned to its traditional location at Humboldtstraße. And who knows, perhaps a new tradition will develop, in which the citizens of Potsdam express wishes for their capital and perhaps the members of Parliament may at some point emulate King Frederick II ...



Planting of the Bittschriftenlinde 11/2015 (photo: A-ST)

Construction Schedule 2016

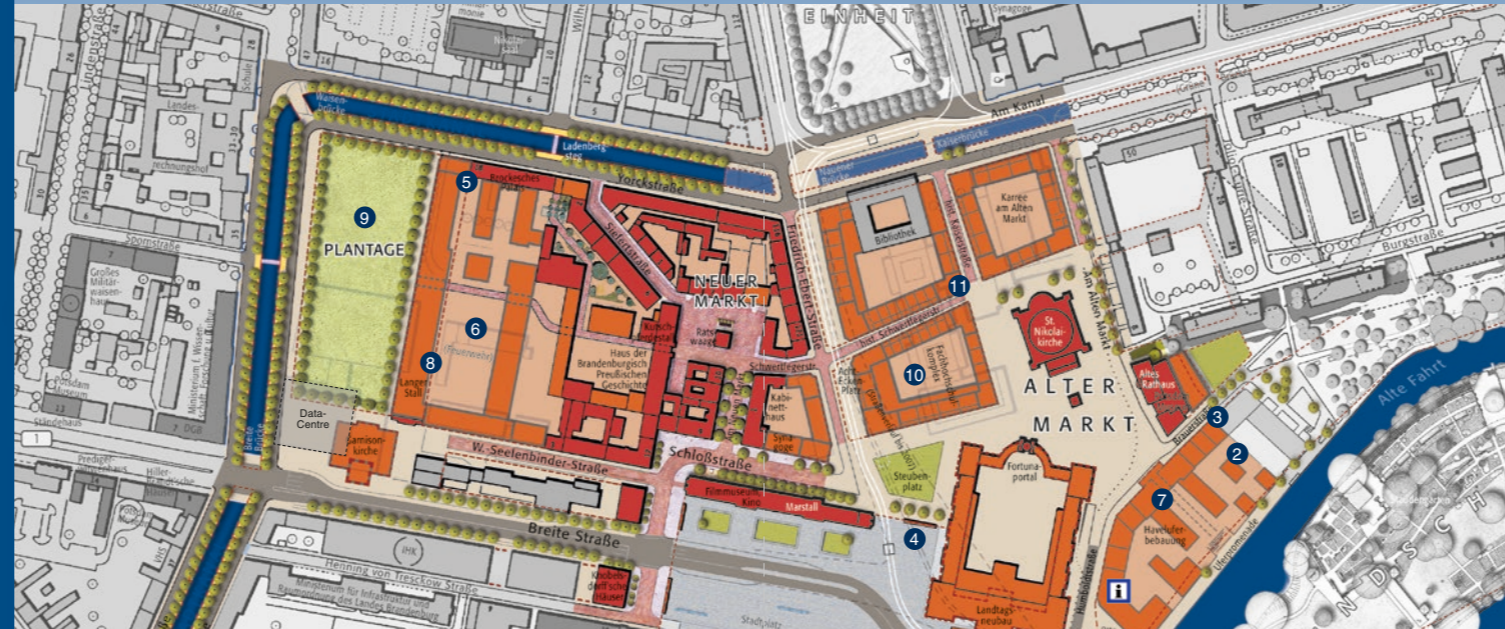
- Completion of waterfront promenade *Alte Fahrt* ①
- Start of building construction on Brauerstraße ②
- Utility line and road construction on Brauerstraße ③
- Renovation of the colonnade *Ringerkolonnade* and its re-erection at Steubenplatz ④
- Completion of renovation of the building *Brocksches Palais* and construction at the northern part of the area *Langer Stall* ⑤
- Demolition of the old fire station ⑥

Starting 2017

- Opening of *Museum Barberini* ⑦
- Rearrangement of the area around the data-centre building and the old fire station ⑧
- Redevelopment of the northern part of the Plantation (1st stage of construction) ⑨

Starting 2018

- Rearrangement of the University of Applied Sciences complex ⑩
- Construction of Schwertfegerstraße and the former Kaiserstraße ⑪
- Redevelopment of the southern part of the Plantation (2nd stage of construction) ⑨



Redevelopment concept for Potsdam's city centre

- in planning / new construction
- existing buildings

100 m

Source maps: Potsdam-Stadtplan M 1:500/
individual project plans of the architects/ historical
lines according to Dt. Städteatlas – Potsdam, sheet 3
Map/montage/drawing: A-ST Grafik
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Redevelopment of the Plantation

Peter Joseph Lenné redesigned the former military drill and parade grounds into a prestigious park, which was once framed by the city canal and the building *Langer Stall*. In the 1970s, the data-centre building was erected on this square, which had not been developed due to unsuitable soil. As a consequence, about half of the once wide-open space was unusable to the public.

In 2016, a landscape planning competition to redevelop the Plantation will be launched, with the results being presented in summer 2016. The first stage of construction in the northern part of the square will begin in spring 2017.

The gradual implementation up to Breite Straße will depend, however, on the area's architectural development.

Data-Centre Building

We may expect unusual things in the prominent building of the data centre because workshops as well as artistic and creative studios now stand in place of the former offices. As a house of art and creativity under the direction of the SPI Foundation, the data-centre building will enrich Potsdam's city centre through 2018, offering a new platform for young creative companies, artists and those interested in art. Visitors are invited to explore the various rooms in the corridors and the exhibition area near the main entrance at Dortustraße 46.

Behind the building's façade with Fritz Eisler's famous 1971 mosaic "Der Mensch bezwingt den Kosmos" ("Humankind conquers the cosmos"), an equally colourful mosaic of ideas, art and creative activities is emerging.

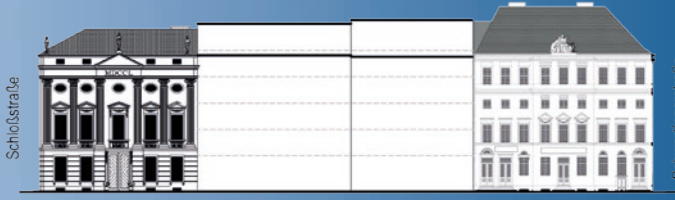


Data-Centre on Breite Straße (photo: Ronny Budweth)

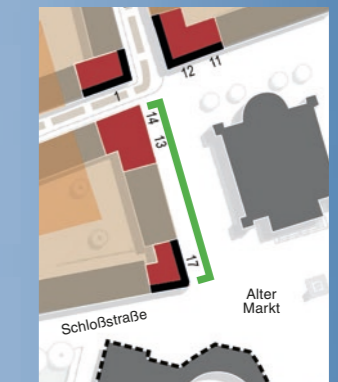
Fleshing out the Landmark Buildings Concept

In September 2010 the city council decided on an integrated concept to rebuild the landmark buildings of Potsdam's city centre true to the originals. Five years later, the first residents and users are now living and working in the new buildings at the waterfront promenade *Alte Fahrt*. The next phase will be the quarter west of Friedrich-Ebert-Straße; the planning and approval phase for the Musicians House at Schwertfegerstraße 9 is expected to be completed in 2016 so that construction can begin. Another modern building will be erected there whose façade will replicate the appearance of its historical predecessor. A decision on the allocation of the neighbouring property, the location of the former *Zum Einsiedler* (hermit's house), will be taken in 2016.

The landmark buildings concept will be updated for the area between the parliament building *Landtag* and the Education Forum. A new block will be constructed primarily for residential use and complemented by retail, gastronomy and business facilities. The plot size is based on the historical parcelling. Three buildings will be erected true to the historical originals using existing construction files and photos of façades – among them the building *Plögerscher Gasthof*. While researching the architectural history, we will be preparing the allocation of plots as well as the development planning procedure. The implementation will begin at the end of 2017, once the old University of Applied Sciences building has been demolished.

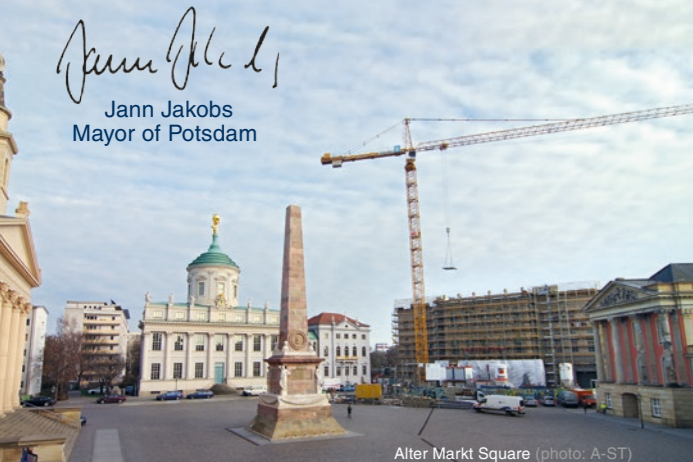


17 Landmark Façades 16 Am Alten Markt 15 General Guidelines 13/14 Design Guidelines



Specifications of the landmark buildings concept, development of façades in the street „Am Alten Markt“ and site plan (details) below (design: Planergemeinschaft Dubach Kohlbrenner; ProStadt GmbH; architect Bernd Redlich)

- Legend
- existing buildings
 - planned buildings: general guidelines
 - planned buildings: landmark façades
 - planned buildings: design guidelines
 - Recommendations mixed / residential use
- 50 m



Alter Markt Square (photo: A-ST)

Jann Jakobs
Mayor of Potsdam