

Free Tour to the New Synagogue



Meeting Point: Reception

Tuesday 09.45 am August 24th

Tour Ends 11.00

In the middle of the Oranienburger Strasse is what was when built the largest and most spectacular synagogue in Germany and could hold 3000 people with an ornate gold rimmed dome. The synagogue survived the Kristallnacht as Police Lieutenant Krützfeld stopped the raging Nazi mob by claiming that the building was of historical significance and therefore must be protected and drawing his pistol. He then pulled rank on men at the fire station (who had been told not to protect Jewish property that night), asking them if they were prepared to disobey a direct order from their superior, which they weren't and so they came and put out the small fires that the Nazis had managed to start. Although the synagogue survived Kristallnacht it did not survive the British RAF which destroyed it in bombing raid in 1943. The remains still function as a Synagogue which we will visit.

Your intrepid Circus receptionist "Jimbo" will come and help you to negotiate the Berlin public transport system.