

## Circus Hostel: Hotel watch

Adrian Bridge checks into the youthful, 230-bed Circus Hostel in Berlin.

Adrian Bridge

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### THE LOCATION

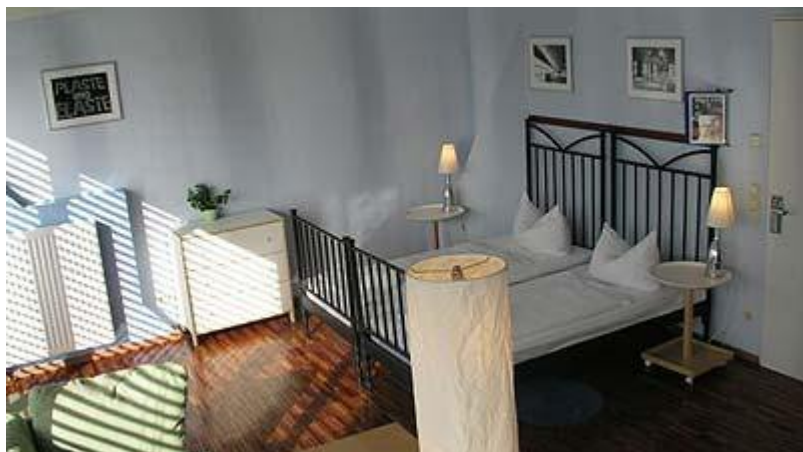
At the corner of Rosenthaler Platz on the border between the fizzing Mitte and Prenzlauer Berg districts.

### WE LIKE

The youthful energy of the hostel and the area, the helpfulness of the staff, the conviviality of the bar.

### NOT SO KEEN

The Rosenthaler Platz isn't exactly the quietest spot in Berlin and the traffic and trams begin early.



### THE ROOMS

There are 230 beds and 85 rooms. The dormitories, which accommodate up to seven and are furnished with colourful Ikea-style furniture, are smart, clean and provide each guest with their own bedside light and hanging space. From there you can progress to private rooms with shared bathroom facilities and rooms and apartments with en-suite showers. The best of these, on the fifth floor, offer stunning views of the centre of Berlin.

### FOOD AND DRINK

While there is no restaurant as such, substantial breakfasts, comprising cereals, fruit, bread, cheeses and hams, are served until 1pm in the cafe, which also offers a variety of snacks. Goldman's Bar in the basement is a great place to mix and mingle and enjoy DJ, karaoke and other themed nights.

### THE OTHER GUESTS

OK, I have to admit that no longer being 22 I did initially feel out of place. But while popular with backpackers and 25- to 35-year-old travellers from all over the world, Circus does attract an older clientele too, drawn by the buzz, the generally cheery air and the reasonable prices. If the hostel scene really isn't your thing, Circus will be opening a modestly priced hotel in the same neighbourhood this summer.

### THE BOTTOM LINE

A bed in a dormitory for seven costs €17 (£13) a night; a penthouse apartment for two costs €77 (£58). Breakfast from €2 to €5.

## DETAILS

The Circus, Weinbergsweg 1a,

D-10119 Berlin (0049 30 2839 1433, [www.circus-berlin.de](http://www.circus-berlin.de)).

## TELEGRAPH RATING (OUT OF FIVE)

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