

Agriculture and the Land

In Brandenburg, half the state's area is used for agriculture where about 85% of it is farmed, tended and cultivated by farmers and foresters. About 50% of the land suitable for farming is used for cereals, 13% used for fodder, and 14% for oilseeds and other industrial crops, although a large proportion of the crops are grown on light soil meaning too little rain can have a negative affect on the yield.

Rye, wheat, barley, potatoes, shugar beets, rape and fodder are the principal crops grown in Brandenburg. The raising of livestock is also considered important along with the market gardening of fruits and vegetables (apples, cherries, asparagus, peas and cucumbers).

Terrain

The terrain of Brandenburg is the product of glaciation and possesses over 3,000 lakes. Most of the state is made up of sandy plains scattered with quite a few fertile areas and one third of the land covered by forests.

Berlin lies in a wide glacier valley of the Spree River which runs through the middle of the city.



Berlin and Brandenburg, Germany

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Where are Brandenburg and Berlin?

Brandenburg is located in the east of Germany and stretches 110km from the Poland boarder. Berlin is located in the middle of Brandenburg, but is considered it's own city.

Transportation

In Berlin, you can use a bus, a tram, a train, a bicycle, a motor scooter or any underground service to get around. Flagging down a taxi on the street is also a possibility.



Food?

The German cuisine holds a major interest for international visitors. In Berlin, the cuisine is rustic and hearty based on pork, goose, different fishes, peas and beans. Potatoes and cucumbers are a regional favorite. Smoked 'Schweinshaxe' (pork knuckle) and mushy peas is one of the best known Berlin dishes, along side with curry sausage and 'Bouletten' (meatballs).

Climate and Temperature: What to Expect

During the summer in Berlin, temperatures can exceed 86°F (30°C) but it can also be unpredictable. Days can change rapidly from being sunny to being cloudy. Between the months of May and August the climate can be warm with many hours of sunshine.



During winter in Berlin, temperatures hover around or possibly below freezing. The months are damp with plentiful snow and frost.

In Brandenburg, July is known as the warmest month, January is known as the coldest month, June is known as the wettest month and October is known as the driest month. During the summer, temperatures can reach 23°C (-°F) and plunge down to -4°C (-°F) during the winter.

July has the highest average rainfall and April has the lowest average rainfall.