

**Your gateway
to Berlin
and beyond**

DOMUS



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The Berlin Metropolis

Berlin is a cosmopolitan, vibrant world city. Nearly half a million of Berlin's inhabitants are foreign nationals. Its cultural diversity can be tasted in its cuisine; and the events it hosts, such as the Berlinale (the Berlin Film Festival), which each year showcases 400 films from circa 100 countries, embodies its international outlook. Berlin has a rich artistic and cultural life – the world renowned Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra, for example, has its home here. It also has a world-class scientific and research community; and science and industry often collaborate – the Adlershof science, technology and media park is one of the largest in the world. These and other factors, together with Berlin's long tradition of intellectual freedom, have encouraged entrepreneurship and innovation to flourish. Berlin has been heralded as the start-up capital of Europe, especially in IT, and some start-ups are enjoying great success. It is a city of independent, small businesses as well



'East London':
British restaurant in Berlin



'An Englishman in Berlin':
St George's Bookshop



as the location of global companies, such as Siemens, Bayer, Pfizer and Nokia.

Although Berlin is a city of opportunity, German bureaucracy can be overwhelming. In the World Bank's Doing Business 2012 report, Germany was ranked 98th overall for the ease of starting a business, a rating heavily skewed by the highly complex tax system. It is vital to seek the advice of a tax consultant even before you set up your business, as its legal structure will directly impact on the way it is taxed – the 'wrong' structure could mean that you miss out on various allowances.

Introducing Domus

Whether you are a new or an experienced entrepreneur, we at Domus will guide you through the bureaucratic maze and devise the optimal plan for your business to help make it a

success. We will accompany you every step of the way, from the launch, through the initial operating phase and all the way through to exit planning.

We have successfully been advising clients for over 25 years. We have an array of clients ranging from private individuals to owner-managed businesses, from sole proprietors to SMEs. We are also an active member of Russell Bedford International, which is an international network of independent auditing, accountancy, tax consultancy and business advisory firms. Being an active member of the network has not only given us experience in servicing international clients but also a cultural sensibility that enables us to better understand their particular needs.



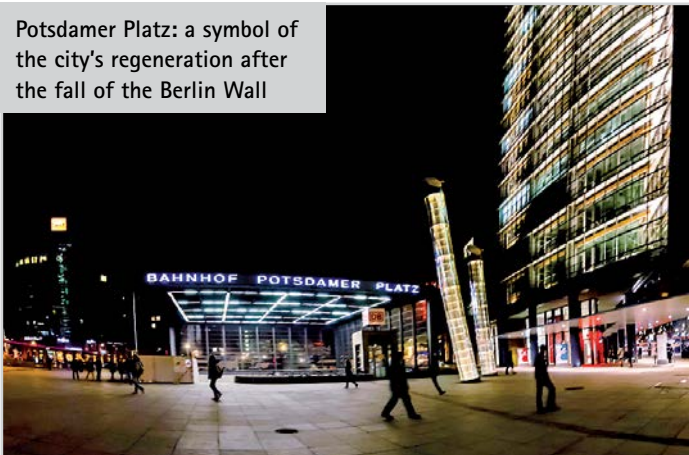
The bear features in the city's heraldic crest

Overview of Services

We offer a comprehensive range of services that includes tax advice, accounting and business consulting to meet your business needs.

Those first steps: we work in close co-operation with an English-speaking notary, who will handle the legalities involved in registering your business.

Potsdamer Platz: a symbol of the city's regeneration after the fall of the Berlin Wall





The Berlinale: a cineaste's paradise — films, world premiers, stars and glamour

Accounting, Bookkeeping and Payroll Services

We can assist you with the day to day management of your business's finances. When a company first sets out, it often cannot afford to have its own accounts department. We can undertake this work for you. We offer basic bookkeeping as well as payroll accounting. We produce various financial reports, such as a trade creditors and debtors statement, so that you have at your fingertips the current financial position of your business to assist you in making those all important business decisions.

We can also advise you on the design and setting up of your entire accounting system, including cost accounting, financial planning and reporting functions.

We handle all reporting and compliance issues. We will prepare your year-end accounts as well as your tax returns





Reichstag



A view from the Reichstag

and file them with the appropriate authorities. We can also act as your representative with the tax authorities.

Tax Consultancy Services and Strategic Planning

As well as preparing all necessary tax returns, we offer tax planning to minimize your tax liability. We also offer solutions-based consultancy. For one client, we developed a special software program that facilitates the easy consolidation of the tax accounts of the German subsidiaries into the foreign parent companies' accounts.

If your business is an export/import business or you plan to do business abroad, we are also experts in international tax law, so we can advise you on all issues relating to cross-border trade, such as advising on cross-border taxation to enable the

A row of independent shops in Wörther Strasse





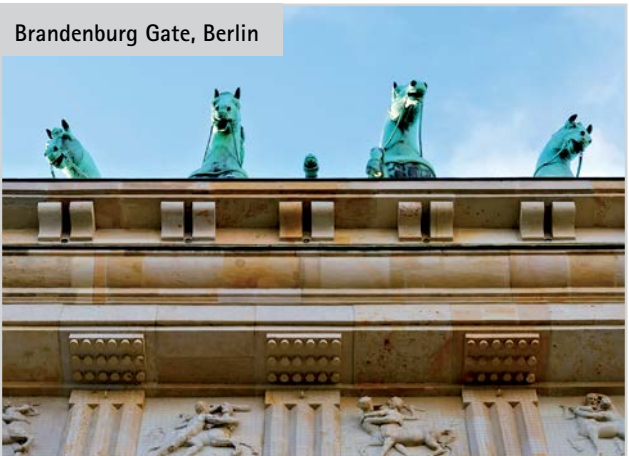
Gendarmenmarkt, the 'French' square

tax efficient repatriation of profits, reviewing double taxation treaties to eliminate the payment of withholding taxes, and issues relating to transfer pricing.

As your business grows, we can advise on strategic planning issues, such as succession planning and restructuring. We also provide inheritance tax planning and advice.



Brandenburg Gate, Berlin



For advice on how we can assist you, please get in touch with us. Our contact details are overleaf.



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Der DOMUS Farbcode: so finden Sie den richtigen Ansprechpartner.



Prüfung und Beratung



Steuern



Recht



Beratung



Spezialthemen