

Berlin Street Life (1910)

Abstract

This short film shot in 1910 by an unknown camera operator shows street scenes in Berlin's city center. The footage documents many of the city's famous buildings and streets, including the Wertheim department store on Leipziger Straße, Friedrichstraße, the Schlossbrücke, Unter den Linden, Leipziger Platz, the Brandenburger Tor, and the Stadtschloss (the Hohenzollern palace). The bustling street scenes also document the different modes of transportation in use at the time, including internal-combustion automobiles, electric buses and streetcars, horse-drawn carriages and carts, and copious foot traffic, all regulated by Prussian police officers. Meanwhile, the more well-off pedestrians display the fashions of the day, including the new bowler hat for men and some truly enormous hats for women. A sight-seeing electric bus has signs in German, French, and English, testifying to the new tourist industry. A *Litfaßsäule*—a column for posters and handbills—covered with advertisements; a peddler carrying his wares; a horse-drawn cart of a fruit-seller; and the many cafés all testify to the commercial vibrancy of the city.

Source

Source: Berlin um 1910, Bundesarchiv Filmarchiv
<https://digitaler-lesesaal.bundesarchiv.de/video/18670/665926>

BArch

Recommended Citation: Berlin Street Life (1910), published in: German History in Documents and Images,
<<https://germanhistorydocs.org/en/wilhelmine-germany-and-the-first-world-war-1890-1918/ghdi:video-5156>> [September 26, 2025].