

Strictly Tango in Berlin

Join Sandra and Santiago Monticelli, stars of BBC's Strictly Come Dancing, as they take you on the ultimate tango tour through Berlin.

Dates and Prices 20 June to 24 June - £449.00

Unique Features Join Sandra and Santiago Monticelli, stars of BBC's Strictly Come Dancing, as they take you on the ultimate tango tour through Berlin.

Berlin's tango scene is one of the biggest this side of Buenos Aires and a long weekend in this vibrant city with our expert teachers and local host makes for an unforgettable tango experience.

We include at least eight hours of tango classes, milongas at some of Berlin's best venues, sight-seeing options, full hosting and four nights' centrally located accommodation with breakfast.

Call Club Dance Holidays to book on 0207 099 4816.

Your Holiday

What's Included

- | At least eight hours' of tango classes with Sandra and Santiago
- | Four milongas
- | Club Dance Holidays tour host
- | 4 nights bed and breakfast accommodation in the comfortable and well-located 3 star Apart Hotel Berlin Mark
- | A well thought out programme including parties, soirees, restaurants, nights out dancing as well sight-seeing suggestions
- | A full Orientation Pack containing information on where to eat, where to party, tourist spots, things to do etc so you can do your own thing
- | A complimentary welcome drink

NB: Price is based on double or twin share accommodation. The single room supplement is £100. Alternatively we can arrange a room share partner for you.

What previous Customers Have Said about this Holiday

"THE best city to experience real tango"

"Wonderful teaching technique, a joy to spend time with"

"I will be returning to Berlin!"

Is this holiday for me?

Yes! Our long weekend of tango in Berlin is the perfect opportunity to learn or perfect your moves with some of the best Argentinian teachers on the scene whilst experiencing early summer in this vibrant city.

Suitable for intermediate through to advanced dancers, Tango in Berlin has universal appeal.

Your Destination, includes sightseeing

29 years after its post-Wall rebirth, Berlin is a scene-stealing combo of glamour and grit, teeming with top museums and galleries, grand opera and guerrilla clubs, gourmet temples and ethnic snack shacks. Whether your tastes run to posh or punk, you can sate them in Berlin.

When it comes to fashion, art, design and music, the German capital is the city to watch. A global influx of creatives has turned it into a cauldron of cultural cool reminiscent of New York in the '80s.

All this trendiness is a triumph for a town that's long been in the cross-hairs of history: Berlin staged a revolution, was headquartered by fascists, bombed to bits, ripped in half and finally reunited – and that was just in the 20th century! Famous landmarks such as the Reichstag, the Brandenburg Gate, Checkpoint Charlie and what's left of the Berlin Wall are like a virtual 3-D textbook in a city where you'll find history staring you in the face every time you turn a corner.

Perhaps it's because of its heavy historical burden that Berlin is throwing itself into tomorrow with such contagious energy. At times the entire city seems to be bubbling over into one huge party. Cafes are jammed at all hours, drinking is a religious rite and clubs host their scenes of frenzy and hedonism until the small hours.

Yet despite its often hectic pace, Berlin functions on an exquisitely human scale. Traffic flows freely, public transportation is brilliant, you can walk without fear at night, clubs have no velvet ropes and your restaurant bill would only buy you a starter back home.

Climate and weather The climate in Berlin is continental with warm summers and sharp, crisp winters. Average temperatures as follows:

January	2°C
February	3°C
March	8°C
April	13°C
May	18°C
June	22°C
July	23°C
August	23°C
September	18°C
October	13°C
November	7°C
December	3°C

Your
Accommodation

Mark Apart Hotel - Hotel*** (Bed & Breakfast) (Included)

A 5-minute walk from the Kurfürstendamm shopping street, this hotel in central Berlin offers spacious rooms with soundproofed windows. A large hot/cold breakfast buffet is available from 06:00 until 11:00 and the bistro with its summer terrace is a great location for a light meal or a fresh Berlin draft beer, a good glass of wine or a fancy cocktail.

The bright rooms at the Mark Apart Hotel include floor-to-ceiling windows, colourful carpets and modern paintings. All guests will have a satellite TV in their room, and some rooms include a safe and a minibar as well as either bath-tub or shower, WC, hair dryer, cosmetic-mirror, cable- and Pay-TV, radio, mini-bar, telephone with voicemail, and a wake-up system.

High-speed Wi-Fi is available in all areas of the Mark Apart for a daily surcharge.

Uhlandstraße Underground Station is a 6-minute walk from the Mark Apart Hotel. The nearby Kurfürstendamm street provides many bus services, shops and restaurants.

Classes and
Workshops

Course Directors Sandra and Santiago Monticelli will teach eight hours' of tuition over the weekend, designed to benefit intermediate through to advanced tango dancers, including stretching the abilities of the more advanced tango dancer, incorporating the following Tango essentials:

Connection - Key concept in tango which is basically an improvised dance.

Embrace - Body language that makes bodies float magically together on the dance floor. A striking difference between Argentine tango and ballroom tango is in the shape and feel of the embrace. Ballroom technique dictates that partners arch their upper bodies away from each other, while maintaining contact at the hip, in an offset frame. In Argentine tango, it is nearly the opposite: the dancers' chests are closer to each other than are their hips, and often there is contact at about the level of the chest.

Sandra and Santiago will aim to perfect the basic elements of the technique in couples. Working on the individual

posture, position of the feet, balance and pivots, they will focus on the mechanisms of the embrace, flexibility and movements within closed embrace, connection in the change of weight, harmonious walk, musicality and improvisation.

They will also teach traditional tango salon sequences to improvise on the dance floor (from elegant promenades to unusual salidas, giros, sacadas, voleos, etc.)

In an absolutely genuine Buenos Aires style, they will focus on musicality and elegance when dancing, on the change of dynamics and precision of the movements, to improve your quality of dance overall.

The Learning Experience

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Daily Itinerary

This is a provisional itinerary, aiming to give you an idea of what the weekend might look like. Some details may change

(OP) indicates an optional extra for which a charge will be made in advance

Day 1 Arrival and leave bags at hotel (check in is from 1400)

1330 Welcome drink and lunch at a popular restaurant (lunch payable locally)

1600 Level Decider & Tango classes

Afternoon Suggestion: Stroll around Berlin city centre to get a feel for this cosmopolitan city

2100 Free time for dinner

2300 Tango Milonga at one of Berlin's top tango venues

Day 2

Morning Suggestion: Sightseeing around the Brandenburg Gate, the revamped Reichstag and the Jewish Memorial Monument

Afternoon Tango Classes

2100 (OP) Dinner at atmospheric local Berlin restaurant

2300 Tango Milonga at one of Berlin's top tango venues

Day 3

Morning Suggestion: Sightseeing around the Brandenburg Gate, the revamped Reichstag and the Jewish Memorial Monument

Afternoon Tango Classes

2100 (OP) Dinner at atmospheric local Berlin restaurant

2300 Tango Milonga at one of Berlin's top Tango venues

Day 4

Morning Suggestion: Sightseeing around the Brandenburg Gate, the revamped Reichstag and the Jewish Memorial Monument.

Afternoon Tango Classes

2100 (OP) Dinner at atmospheric local Berlin restaurant

2300 Tango Milonga at one of Berlin's top Tango venues

Day 5

Morning suggestion: Visit one of the many Museums and Art Galleries: the Jewish Museum, the Museum Island (Museuminsel), a UNESCO World Heritage Site whose clutch of superb collections includes the Pergamonmuseum, incorporating the Babylonian Gate of Ishtar.

Afternoon Make your own way to the airport

Nightlife

The tango scene in Berlin is sizeable and diverse. There are Milongas every night of the week and the dance level of the local tangueros is high due to frequent visits of teachers from Buenos Aires.

We will visit different tango venues to ensure you enjoy a wide variety of tango experiences. Entrance to the clubs can cost between five and ten euros. There are a lot of tango dancers in Berlin and thus many potential dance partners for you!

Your Teachers

Sandra and Santiago Monticelli - Having recently completed a UK tour with Midnight Tango, judged at the World Tango Championship in Argentina and appeared on BBC's Strictly Come Dancing, Sandra and Santiago have an impressive tango CV.

Originally from Argentina, Santiago has been a part of the Buenos Aires professional tango scene for the past 15 years. With a modern jazz and contemporary dance background, he studied tango with some of the world's finest masters including Pepito Avellaneda, Raul Bravo, Pupi Castello, Jorge Dispari, Norberto Guichandu, Nito and Elba and Carlos Perez.

Santiago toured the world with some of Argentina's most famous shows including Tango Emoción (2004) directed by Mora Godoy, Tango X2 (2005) directed by Miguel Angel Zotto, Francisco Canaro Orchestra (2003) and Los Reyes del Tango Orchestra (2008). He also performed at the VIII International Festival Cultura Paiz in Guatemala (2004) and toured the UK with the ArtLATino company's tango show Romance d'Carnaval (2006). Between 1997 and 2010, he worked in the most significant dinner-show theatres in Buenos Aires, including Señor Tango, La Ventana, Michelangelo, Taconeando, Café Torton, Piazzolla, Esquina Homero Manzi and Madero Tango.

Santiago has featured in TV programmes including Canal 26 Los grandes valores del tango (2005), BBC's Strictly Come Dancing (2006) and Por el Tango directed by Nolo Correa (2010).

Sandra is an Italian professional tango dancer with extensive teaching experience in Argentina and in Europe. With an artistic gymnastic and ballet training background, she devoted herself to the practice of conditioning for dance and the study of pedagogy.

Sandra began her professional tango career in Buenos Aires at the beginning of the last decade, after having studied with some of the world's finest dancers such as Lorena Ermocida, Gachi Fernandez, Alejandra Mantiñan, Milena Plebs, as well as Raul Bravo, Jorge Dispari, Nito and Elba, Carlos & Rosa Perez.

She complemented her tango dance training with courses in contemporary dance and modern jazz at the renowned Dance institute Gurquel-Lederer in Buenos Aires and between 2006 and 2009 ran the SantangoEstudio (Tango school, rehearsal space and B&B) in the heart of the tango neighbourhood Almagro, Buenos Aires.

As assistant Director (2008) in the prestigious dinner-show theatre Esquina Homero Manzi, directed by the famous tango dancer and choreographer Gachi Fernandez, Sandra continued to perform in private events around Argentina.

Sandra and Santiago regularly tour Europe (England, France, Italy) to teach and perform the most traditional style of tango salon, milonga traspie and vals, as well as the more acrobatic and spectacular stage tango. Home for Sandra and Santiago is London and they teach regularly in Central London, Windsor and Beckenham as well as at private events

and Milongas all over the UK.

Food and Meals International cuisine: Berlin offers a wide choice of restaurants offering many different types of cuisine from all over the world - modern Catalan, traditional Spanish, Italian, Chinese, Lebanese, Moroccan, Argentinian, Colombian and much more.

Traditional cuisine: Berlin's typical dishes are often served in cosy atmospheres. Well known Berlin dishes are the "Boulette" (fried meatballs) and the "Currywurst" (a spicy sausage with curry flavoured tomato sauce) which can be happily accompanied by a good German beer.

Optional Extras What are optional extras? In addition to your holiday we also offer you a variety of optional extras to make your holiday even richer and add some local colour. You can buy your optional extras at the welcome meeting at the beginning of your holiday. We will ask you to pay in cash and fill out a form. These are the optional extras that we anticipate running – actual details and prices will be confirmed on arrival. Some may require minimum numbers.

Social Dinner: Dinner at a carefully chosen restaurant (approx. 35 euros)

**Single Room
Supplements,
Upgrades and
Budget Options**

Option 1 - Included

Mark Apart Hotel - Hotel*** Bed & Breakfast - (20/06/2013 to 24/06/2013 - 4 nights)

Twin Room (Per Room)	Included
Twin Room (Single Occupancy) (Per Room)	100.00 GBP

Extra Nights

Triple Room (Per Room)	101 GBP per night
Twin Room (Per Room)	76 GBP per night
Twin Room (Single Occupancy) (Per Room)	69 GBP per night

Flights and Transfers Flights : This holiday is quoted flight exclusive. This allows you to fly from the airport of your choice, at the time which best suits you, it also allows you to take advantage of any offers for early bookers made to you by the airline.

NB Please make sure we've confirmed your holiday before you book your flight.

Transfers: Please make your own way to the hotel. If you wish to share a taxi please let us know and we will put you in contact with other clients.

**Making your own
way to the hotel for
ground only
package**

Making Your Own Way to Your Hotel in Berlin:

1) From Berlin Tegel (TXL) Airport by taxi: A taxi ride to Central Berlin (East or West) will cost approx 23 euros

3) From Berlin Schönefeld (SXF) Airport by taxi: A taxi ride to Central Berlin (East or West) will cost approx 37 euros

**What to Expect in
terms of
Organisation**

On Arrival: You will receive a detailed itinerary, annotated map and details of any optional extras. We also include information on the local sights, recommended restaurants and other helpful tips. Independence: We believe our guests do not like to be over-organised. So we give you details of organised social and dancing activities. You can then decide if and when you want to turn up. You are fully independent on these holidays.

Club Dance Holidays Host: Your holiday tour host is there to make your holiday as enjoyable as possible. Club Dance Holidays Tour Hosts are a cut above your typical Holiday Rep with a lightness of touch that enables you to get the best out of your holiday without being in the least bit interfering. We make sure you get the best out of the destination even though you are there for a relatively short time and we do this through our local knowledge and our knowledge of dance. Club Dance Holidays Tour Hosts normally offer much more of themselves than you would expect including making sure your nights are sociable and fun often well into the small hours if that is your whim. During the

daytime the level of participation and presence of Club Dance Holidays tour hosts varies according to the nature of each holiday and its destination.

Getting around: You are responsible for making your own way to the dance classes and meeting points on the itinerary. On arrival you will be provided with the addresses of all the venues. Taxis are plentiful and allow you to visit the best of the city with the minimum of fuss. Berlin's integrated transport system is also excellent (buses, trams and trains).

Before Your Go

Books on Berlin: It may be worth your while reading up on your destination before you go.
Time Out Guide to Berlin– the best local guide.
Berlin Then & Now by Nick Gay.

Films on Berlin: 'Goodbye Lenin' (director Wolfgang Beck, released 2002)

Budgeting for your holiday: Here are some guidelines on prices, to help you do your own calculations. Please refer to the optional extra section of the fact sheet for the prices of the optional extras.

Three course meal including drinks in the centre of town: 25-30 euros

Taxi ride across town: 12 euros

Rum and coke in a nightclub: 6 euros

Beer in a bar/cafe: 3 euros

Coffee in a bar/cafe: 1.50 euros

Entrance to a monument or museum: 5 euros.

Health and Fitness: There are no particular health requirements for a dance holiday. However you should be able to dance for at least two hours a day in order to be able to enjoy the dance classes.

Insurance, Visa and Passport Requirements: In brief, Insurance is a condition of booking. You must check with your local embassy regarding Visa and passport requirements.

Travel Documents: You receive these via email approximately 10 days prior to departure and only when you have paid in full. We also confirm the address and phone number of the hotel and the emergency contact numbers.

Essential equipment and clothing to bring

What to wear for Tango dancing: We recommend that you bring shoes with a leather sole for the dance classes and the evenings. Your shoes should be comfortable and supportive. Wear lightweight cotton socks to avoid sweaty and blistered feet! Wear comfortable loose clothing for the classes. The Berlin Tango clubs are quite formal - so bring some smart outfits with you.

Useful Things to Bring:

Camera

Shoes suitable for spending a long time walking around the streets

Warm jacket for the evenings

At Your Destination

Banks and Money: The easiest way to buy obtain euros is by using a credit card at one of the numerous cash points. You can buy small amounts, as often as you like, at any time, without queuing. You will need to know your P.I.N. Cash points are very easy to use. Bank opening hours are normally 9.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. Banks will change cash, travellers cheques and will sell you currency on your credit card providing the lines are open. You will always need to show your passport at a bank.

Tipping is common in Berlin. It is usual to leave a 10% tip at a restaurant. We feel our tour hosts work hard to give you an exceptional holiday and sometimes you may find that they add some special touches which are beyond the call of duty. If you agree with us, you might wish to show your appreciation by way of a tip. You can do this by putting money in an envelope on your own or by getting together with other guests. This evidently is entirely at your discretion.

People Joining in that are not on the Holiday: Unfortunately we cannot allow people not booked on our Club Dance Holiday from joining in any of the organised activities and we ask for your discretion in this respect. However we can offer a flight exclusive package for people already in Spain, thus enabling them to stay with the group and join in all activities and lessons. Please see www.clubdanceholidays.co.uk or contact our UK Reservations Team (+44 207 099 4816) for details.
