

I have had experience of both buying and letting an apartment in Prenzlauer Berg, and without the help of Herbert + Kohlmeyer, neither would have happened. As a foreigner from Britain, with only a very basic level of German, I found the process of buying a property in Berlin in 2006 to be so very different, and bewildering.

The whole procedure had to be undertaken at great speed, because it was then, as now, a very competitive market. I could have made expensive mistakes, but the Herbert + Kohlmeyer staff acted both as Immobilienmaklers and as friendly advisors.

They undertook the necessary arrangements for the meeting with the vendor in the presence of the Notar very quickly, and offered me a great deal of guidance about the process. Even after the purchase, they were able to help me with the confusing contracts with the utility companies - Vattenfall and Deutsche Telecom.

Eight years later, when I wanted to let this apartment, they prepared the lengthy contract, and found a suitable tenant. They advised me on the level of monthly rent, arranged for photographs, and advised me on the sort of furniture, which should remain in the rooms. They explained the complexities of the legal requirements for such an undertaking, and there are many!

Both of these episodes progressed so smoothly because the staff of Herbert + Kohlmeyer is totally professional and extremely friendly. My main contact had a wonderful sense of humour and spoke fluent English, and this has been a great help for me, with my still fractured German! My dealings with Herbert + Kohlmeyer have been so positive that I have absolutely no hesitation in recommending this company to anyone, German or otherwise, who wishes to buy, sell, rent or let property in Berlin.

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Richard Hart-Jones