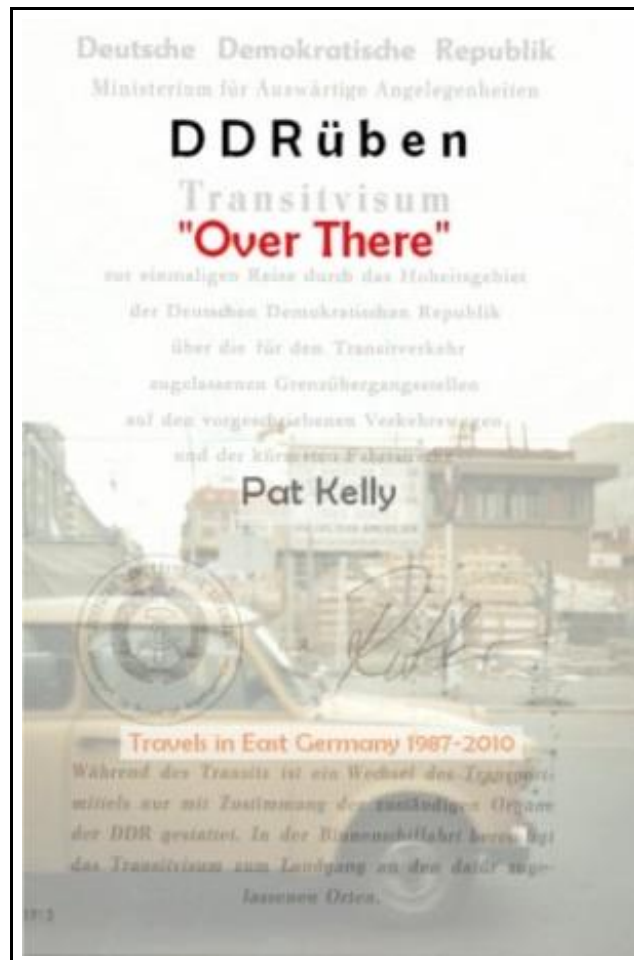


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## DDRUBEN - OVER THERE: TRAVELS IN EAST GERMANY 1987-2010



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Createspace. Paperback. Book Condition: New. This item is printed on demand. Paperback. 180 pages. Dimensions: 8.0in. x 5.3in. x 0.6in. Pat Kelly, an Irishman, travels the length and breadth of post-Communist East Germany over 20 years and meets its people while learning German on the fly with often hilarious results. This is a rare piece of Ostalgie travel writing in English, and essential reading for the English speaking visitor to the former East Germany and Berlin. A book filled with humour, quirky travel experiences, Ostalgie, Stasi and the ghost of an extinct state. DDRben Over There (a play on the German word drben meaning over there, used by both West and East Germans to refer to the other German state.) is the former East Germany (DDR) seen from an Irish independent travellers perspective and experience over almost a quarter of a century. Dont Happy Be Worry! read the ominous graffiti as my train headed for the Iron Curtain in the summer of 1987. When I went over there into East Germany, or drben as the Germans say, I felt that I had exchanged a 1950s time warp (West Berlin) for a different planet. That different planet, the DDR, crashed to earth on November 9th 1989, and died at midnight on October 2nd 1990, a rare case of a modern European country simply ceasing to exist overnight. Travellers in the eastern part of Germany are haunted by the ghost of this extinct state. Independent travel in the first decade post-DDR was absolute madness, in which you could find your B and B to be a spare futon in the living room of a granny, a high-rise flat in a dodgy suburb, or even a room over a drapery shop. Ostalgie, nostalgia for the old days of the DDR, actually abounds. As...



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