

Gertraudenbrücke, Berlin

LED lighting for historical monuments

The stone Gertrauden-Bridge in Berlin-Mitte was built at the end of the 19th century to cope with the growing traffic in the center of the city. It connects the historic districts of Neu-Cölln and Friedrichswerder with Alt-Cölln on the Spree Island. The name refers to the Gertrauden Hospital from the 15th century. The three-meter high statue depicts the patron St. Gertrude, who helps against mouse and rat plagues and protects travelers, the poor, and widows. The bridge is a listed building and is only used as a pedestrian bridge, as traffic is routed over the steel bridge erected parallel to the Gertrauden-Bridge in 1977.

At the end of 2010, the historic luminaires were refurbished in accordance with the requirements of preservation law, fitted with an LED installation kit and, in the roof area, with an integrated LED spotlight that illuminates the St. Gertrude at night. Prior to the retrofitting, the light globes were completely sandblasted, the surfaces treated, provided with new glazing and the electrical cable routing brought up to the latest technical standard. Today the bridge is lit with a warm white, preserved light, and the illuminated St. Gertrude shines in the darkness for Berliners and its tourists.