

**WO KANN MAN ESSEN UND TRINKEN?
(Where can you get something to eat and drink?)**

fast food: das Fastfood

fast food restaurant: das Fastfood-Restaurant, die Fastfood-Restaurants

How the humble Döner kebab evolved into Berlin's go-to fast food snack

Disputed origins

Some argue that the *Döner* was, in fact, not a "German" invention at all. The concept of a rotating vertical kebab originates, much like the kebab meat itself, from Istanbul in the 1940s, whilst the Greek take on the dish (known as the *gyro*) had already proved itself to be a hit in the cities of Athens, New York and Chicago by 1971.

What is more, Nurman is not the only German to have laid claim to the *Döner's* invention. In 2012, a Turkish man named Nevzat Salim came forward as a contender for the title, alleging to have sold the first *Döner* from a stand in the town of Reutlingen in the southwestern state of Baden-Württemberg in 1969.

A similar claim was made by another Turkish Berliner, Mehmet Aygün, who insists he invented the *Döner* in 1971.

With so many conflicting theories, it seems that the question of who brought the *Döner* to the streets of Germany may never be truly answered.

It could, naturally, be possible that several people happened to come across the idea around the same time.

But if there is one thing for certain, it's that the dish has proved itself to be an important part of the Turkish community's integration into German life.

So, next time you feel guilty for snacking on a late-night *Döner*, take comfort in the fact that you'll be supporting an industry that has provided employment for thousands and left a lasting mark on the country's culinary landscape.