MEDIA INFORMATION

Hamburg

THE BEATLES IN HAMBURG: TIMELINE 1960–1966

1960

Aug

17 August: First gig at the Indra music club.

Oct

2 October: Last gig at the Indra, following 41 performances.

4 October: First gig at the Kaiserkeller music club, taking turns with Rory Storm & The Hurricanes – with Ringo Starr playing the drums.

15 October: First private recording session with John, Paul, George and Ringo as well as Lu Walters of the Hurricanes ("Summertime"), taking place in the Hamburg Akustik Studio opposite the central train station.

Nov

Early November: First photo shooting with Astrid Kirchherr.

30 November: Last gig at the Kaiserkeller, following 50 performances.

1961

Apr

1 April: First gig at the Top Ten Club.

April: Photo shooting with Jürgen Vollmer in the Jägerpassage courtyard ("Rock'n'Roll").

Jun

22/23 June: At Friedrich-Ebert-Halle in the district of Harburg, Bert Kämpfert produces the very first Beatles single. Under the Polydor label, The Beatles are initially marketed as a Tony Sheridan support band. By October 1961, the single by "Tony Sheridan & The Beat Brothers" has reached number 32 in the German music charts.

Jul

1 July: Last gig at the Top Ten Club, following 92 consecutive nights on stage.

10 April: Aged 21, Stuart Sutcliffe, founding member of The Beatles, passes away in Hamburg due to a brain haemorrhage.

13 April: The Beatles perform at the opening night of the Star Club, marking what would become a 7-week engagement.

5 October: The Beatles' first single, "Love Me Do", is released in the UK.

1 November: Start of a second series of 14 live gigs at the Star Club – now with Ringo Starr as an official band member.

18–31 December: Third and last Star Club engagement.

31 December: Last performance at the Star Club.

1 January: The Beatles return to England.

11 January: The Beatles' second single, "Please Please Me", is released, turning into their first number one hit.

26 June: The Beatles' final live performance in Hamburg, taking place at the Ernst-Merck-Halle indoor arena.