

ALPINE CHRISTMAS MARKETS



In beautiful Strasbourg, spend time exploring the Christmas Market



Shop for colourful Christmas decorations



Enjoy an exciting range of regional dishes

The lead up to Christmas in traditional German towns and the snow-frosted Alps, is the stuff of storybooks – twinkling markets full of Yuletide delights and towering Christmas trees. Enter the realm of gingerbread, Glühwein and carol singers.

DAY 1

ARRIVE IN MUNICH.

Welcome to Munich. Transfers leave Munich Airport for your hotel at 10:00 and 13:00. Later, an orientation tour will show you all the city's major sights, culminating in the Marienplatz, with its soaring Town Hall and Glockenspiel. Here, the Christkindlmarkt will be in full swing - an entrancing festival of light and music. Your Tour Director will introduce you to one of the market stallholders for a taste of traditional Bavarian Lebkuchen and a fragrant cup of Glühwein. In the evening, join your Tour Director for a Welcome Reception with dinner and wine. (WD)
Hotel: Leonardo Royal Hotel, Munich.

DAY 2 RS

FREE TIME IN THE BAVARIAN CAPITAL.

Munich embraces the holiday season with a particular zeal, so the day is all yours to enjoy the vibrant festive markets that abound in this city. On crisp winter days, organ music and carols ring out from the ancient churches. If snow has fallen, the vast English Garden provides lovely

winter vistas. Another option is to experience the romantic royal palaces of the Bavarian Alps. (BB)

DAY 3

LAKE CHIEMSEE, SALZBURG AND INNSBRUCK.

Drive beside the tranquil waters of Lake Chiemsee on your way to Salzburg in Austria, where the spires and domes of the old town are often draped in snow in December. A walk with a Local Expert will show you Mozart's family home and the rosy hues of the 500-year-old Christmas Market in front of the cathedral. Head through the mountains to your Innsbruck hotel. In the evening, drive to the charming town of Hall in Tirol - boasting one of Austria's best-preserved historic centres. Soak up the unique atmosphere in a 700-year-old building and delight your palate with a medieval banquet and wine. (BB,SE)
Hotel: Hilton, Innsbruck.

DAY 4 RS

INNSBRUCK AT LEISURE & CARRIAGE RIDE.

Spend the morning at leisure. Immerse yourself in the festive atmosphere of the Old Town and Christmas Markets, set in front of the Golden Roof,

graced by beautifully preserved medieval façades. In the afternoon, enjoy delightful scenery and crisp, fresh air on a horse-drawn carriage ride. (BB)

DAY 5

THE BLACK FOREST VIA LINDAU.

Take Austria's longest road tunnel back into Germany and pause in the tiny island-town of Lindau. Walk through the maze of ancient streets down to the harbour. Across the lake, often shrouded in mist, look for the rising silhouette of snow-capped peaks. After time to explore, continue along the shores of the Bodensee to your hotel in the Black Forest for three fabulous nights. (BB,DW)
Hotel: Maritim Titisee Hotel.

DAY 6

FREIBURG SIGHTSEEING.

Visit Freiburg in the morning - a lively university city with a charming Christmas atmosphere. Walk from the medieval Münster through the heart of the historic old quarter, past colourful stalls offering a range of festive goodies from the Black Forest. (BB)

9 Days Regional Journey from just US\$214 per day



DAY 7 RS

STRASBOURG & ALSACE EXPERIENCE.

Cross the Rhine to the region of Alsace, wedged between the Black Forest and the Vosges Mountains. This area has changed nationality four times since 1870! Arrive in Strasbourg, the 'city at the crossroads', where the Christmas Market is the oldest and one of the largest in France. Spend time in a cosy neighbourhood of timbered fairy-tale buildings, with Christmas shops and a gingerbread bakery, warm with fragrant promise. Return to Germany and your Black Forest hotel in time for dinner. (BB,DW)

DAY 8 RS

THE SWISS CITY OF ZÜRICH.

Cross the Swiss border and head for Zürich where sightseeing includes the imposing Grossmünster, elegant Fraumünster, and winding alleys of the old town alongside the River Limmat. A highlight is Europe's biggest indoor Christmas extravaganza held in the main railway station, with over 160 wooden chalets and a three-storey Christmas tree, draped with Swarovski crystals. In the evening, toast to the culmination of your Yuletide tour with a festive Celebration Dinner and wine. (BB,CD)

Hotel: Mövenpick Hotel Zürich-Airport.

DAY 9 RS

DEPART ZÜRICH.

Enjoy a relaxed breakfast before checking out. Complimentary transfers to the airport, by hotel shuttle, depart every 15 minutes. (BB)

DINING SUMMARY

8 Buffet Breakfasts (BB); plus 1 Welcome Dinner (WD), 1 Signature Evening (SE), 2 Three-course table d'hôte Dinners (DW) and 1 Celebration Dinner (CD) all with wine, plus tea or coffee.

Relaxed Starts RS

This tour combines perfectly with Christmas Markets of Germany, allowing you to experience more of what Germany has to offer during the winter months.

EARLY PAYMENT DISCOUNT – SAVE UP TO \$144 pp (See page 60)

Tour Code: W550

Starts	Ends	Twin									
Sat 25 Nov	- Sun 03 Dec	\$1925	Wed 29 Nov	- Thu 07 Dec	\$1925	Wed 06 Dec	- Thu 14 Dec	\$1925	Wed 13 Dec	- Thu 21 Dec	\$1925
Sun 26 Nov	- Mon 04 Dec	\$1925	Sun 03 Dec	- Mon 11 Dec	\$1925	Sun 10 Dec	- Mon 18 Dec	\$1925	Thu 14 Dec	- Fri 22 Dec	\$1925
Mon 27 Nov	- Tue 05 Dec	\$1925	Mon 04 Dec	- Tue 12 Dec	\$1925	Tue 12 Dec	- Wed 20 Dec	\$1925			

Notes: Prices are in US\$. Twin prices are per person. Christmas Markets: All departures explore Munich, Salzburg, Innsbruck, Freiburg, Strasbourg and Zürich.

FURTHER SAVINGS UP TO: Young Traveller \$190 pp | Triple Reduction \$30 pp | 2nd Tour \$48 pp | Past Guest \$96 pp

Rooming Options: Single Supplement \$300 pp

Pre-Paid Tips Option: For Tour Director & Driver \$76 pp

Extra Night Hotels Per Person - seasonal adjustments apply:

Munich: Leonardo Royal Hotel Twin \$103 Single \$153 Triple \$97

Zürich: Mövenpick Zürich-Airport Twin \$117 Single \$184 Triple \$110

One way transfer outside scheduled times:

Munich: \$90 p.p., Zürich Free Hotel/Airport shuttle

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES

SALZBURG: With a Local Expert, see Mozart's family home and the 500-year-old Christmas Market in front of the cathedral.

TOP RATED HIGHLIGHTS

INNSBRUCK: Meet your coachman and enjoy a delightful journey through Tyrol's picturesque countryside on your horse-drawn 'Fiaker'.

FREIBURG: Enjoy a romantic walk through the medieval cobbled streets of Freiburg and soak in the magic of its Christmas Markets.

STRASBOURG: Exploring the Christmas Markets is like stepping directly into a fairy tale, where glittering lights and the scent of cinnamon enchant your senses.

ZÜRICH: Attend Europe's biggest indoor Christmas Market with its magnificent Swarovski crystal-decorated Christmas tree.

AUTHENTIC REGIONAL FLAVOURS

MUNICH: At the Christmas Market, meet a stallholder and taste the fragrant and utterly delicious Lebkuchen with a glass of Glühwein.

INNSBRUCK: Situated perfectly in a 700-year-old building in the charming town of Hall in Tirol, enjoy a medieval banquet of Austrian specialties with wine.

ZÜRICH: The Swiss just love good food and wine, a decorative, well-laden table, and a touch of Gemütlichkeit - all of which you will find at your warm Celebration Dinner.

STAY AT THE BEST ADDRESSES

MUNICH: The Leonardo Royal Hotel, located next to Munich's famous Olympic Park, features modern architecture and refined interiors.

INNSBRUCK: Enjoy breathtaking views of the Tyrolean Alps from the Hilton Innsbruck, situated within the city centre of Innsbruck.

BLACK FOREST: With its large lakeside meadow and prime location overlooking the lake's crystal clear waters, the Maritim Titisee truly deserves its name. The successful combination of typical Black Forest ambience and a genuinely friendly atmosphere has made the hotel a favourite holiday gateway.

ZÜRICH: The Mövenpick Hotel Zürich-Airport is designed in a contemporary style, offering spacious bedrooms.