

8 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS 2024

December 15-23, 2024 ... A magical tour of Europe's Christmas markets



DAILY ITINERARY

Subject to change



A HOLIDAY ADVENTURE TO FIVE CHRISTMAS MARKETS IN GERMANY & FRANCE

Anyone who has ever seen a Hallmark movie during the holiday season probably already knows that the words “magical” and “Christmas” go hand-in-hand. Our first-ever 8 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS adventure will attempt to create lots of magical moments as we shop and graze our way through five Christmas markets in Germany and France! Along the way, we will be sure to see the sites, sample plenty of local food & wine, and soak up the culture.



Christmas markets are a European tradition that dates back many centuries. Today, every holiday season, Christmas markets transform the main squares of cities across Europe into winter wonderlands. Twinkling lights adorn wooden huts and boughs of holly hang from street lamps. Vendors sell hand-carved ornaments and Nativity scene figurines, alongside piping hot mugs of *glühwein* (mulled wine), as Christmas carols fill the air. In Germany alone—where the tradition began—there are usually 2,500 to 3,000 holiday markets a year.

Our adventure takes us on a journey to experience the magic first-hand as we visit five different Christmas markets spread over Germany and France. We begin with one of the largest & oldest markets in Frankfurt, Germany and



then wind our way down the “Romantic Road” to the fairyland-esque village of Rothenburg. After another stop in Heidelberg, we cross the border into the Alsace region of France– home to the “Capital of Christmas,” as Strasbourg has been called. A short distance away is the uber charming town of Colmar and its historic market.



An American who recently visited many of the same markets had this description: *“Though there are more than a dozen Christmas markets in the*



center of Strasbourg alone, each one felt unique, like its own little world. We circled back to two groupings of stalls more than once. First, the Strasbourg Cathedral was the backdrop for five different markets, one of which sold Alsatian delicacies like mannele (milk bread in the shape of a little man). But the magnificent tree could be found at Place Kléber, the city’s central square. We walked up

right as the light show was starting. Though we were surrounded by strangers, in that moment, it felt as though we were united in witnessing something magical

Below you will find a tentative outline of the daily itinerary for our magical adventure:

DAY ONE - MEET AT DULLES AIRPORT FOR OVERNIGHT FLIGHT TO FRANKFURT



- Evening overnight flight to Frankfurt, Germany
 - “Bon Voyage” champagne toast prior to flight
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DAY TWO - MORNING ARRIVAL IN FRANKFURT, TOUR FIRST CHRISTMAS MARKET



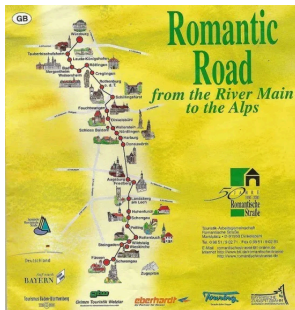
- A traditional German Christmas lunch
 - Afternoon enjoying the Frankfurt Christmas Market, one of the world’s largest and oldest
 - First of two nights at a highly rated Frankfurt’s hotel
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DAY THREE - FRANKFURT FOOD TOUR, EVENING CHRISTMAS CONCERT



- Time to explore the five separate markets within the Frankfurt Christmas Market
 - Early evening Food Tour of Frankfurt's city center
 - Evening Christmas music concert
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DAY FOUR - ENJOY GERMANY'S ROMANTIC ROAD, OVERNIGHT IN ROTHENBURG



- Scenic drive along Germany's Romantic Road, a number of well preserved medieval villages unharmed by war
 - One night stay in Rothenburg, a fairy-tale worthy town with its own Christmas Market
 - Sample the famous Christmas cookies that Rothenburg is known for but save room for dinner at one of the town's authentic restaurants
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DAY FIVE - HEIDELBERG CHRISTMAS MARKET, CROSS BORDER INTO FRANCE



- Two hour bus ride across the French border into Alsace and its capital city of Strasbourg
- One last stop in Germany along the way at the Heidelberg Christmas Market
- First of four nights at our very authentic Alsatian hotel

DAY SIX - DAY SPENT ENJOYING THE ICONIC STRASBOURG CHRISTMAS MARKET



- Any list of European Christmas markets usually places Strasbourg at the top, its been a model copied in many other cities
 - Savor the sights and smells of Christmas at the market, ideal for buying gifts for loved ones back home ... As you work up an appetite, sample the spiced holiday wine and many pastries.
 - Strasbourg is also known for its world-class dining & culinary experiences
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DAY SEVEN - EXPLORING STRASBOURG BEYOND THE CHRISTMAS MARKET



- A walking & food tour of Strasbourg's city center along many of its canals and waterways
 - Tour Strasbourg's famous medieval cathedral
 - Compete to see who wins GoEuro Adventures first ever contest for Best Christmas Spirit, as we all pay visits to one another's hotel rooms and find out who is the top holiday host or hostess.
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DAY EIGHT - VISIT TO CHARMING ALSATIAN TOWN OF COLMAR



- Experience the charms of one of Alsace's most picturesque towns
- Our final stop along our tour of European Christmas markets is the one in Colmar
- Sample some of Alsace's world class wines, known mostly for their Rieslings
- Return to nearby Strasbourg for our last night before the trek home

DAY NINE - RETURN TO THE USA



- Return flight to USA from Frankfurt (Couple hours bus ride from Strasbourg)
- Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays everyone!

YOUR ALL-INCLUSIVE COST: \$4,250.00 per person

Space limited to 16 travelers

What's Included: Pretty much everything ... R/T flight to Frankfurt from Washington, all ground transportation (private bus), admissions & wine tastings, breakfast & dinner (wine provided) each day, selected lunches during the trip plus food tours, and upscale hotel stays (2 nights hotel in Frankfurt, 1 night in Rothenburg, and 4 in Strasbourg).

What's NOT: Lunch on some days will be on your own at the various Christmas markets that we visit and generally any alcohol beyond the wines that we provide with dinner each night. Of course, any gifts you may purchase at the many markets are not included.

TO RESERVE SPACE:

1.) A deposit of \$1,500 is required in order to reserve your spot. Please mail a check to Olney Adventures owner & trip leader Joe McCall at 112 Woodridge Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20901. Checks should be made payable to HOME AWAY TRAVEL (The corporate name that GoEuro

Adventures is registered as with the State). Please be sure to include your full name, phone number, and email address with your check.

OR YOU CAN GIVE YOUR CHECK DIRECTLY TO JEFF TUMARKIN, OUR TRIP COORDINATOR. You may also VENMO the deposit to @GoEuroAdventures on Venmo. We will email you once it is received to confirm the payment.

2.) Complete the brief SPACE RESERVATION FORM (link below) and click submit.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfVRFCZMTYCDccIKD_BGGEnHufDFjuFu8xqq2bNXgFO6G6Bg/viewform?usp=sf_link



QUESTIONS? Please do not hesitate to contact owner & trip leader Joe McCall by email or phone.

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