

Christmas Markets of AUSTRIA & BAVARIA



SALZBURG

DECEMBER 5TH - 14TH, 2024

Join Discover Europe for a very special journey to Vienna, Salzburg, and Munich during the most festive time of year. Both Vienna and Salzburg's city centers are UNESCO World Heritage Sites with well-preserved architecture, magnificent museums and gardens, culinary delights, and music everywhere. Our travels between these three cities will provide memorable experiences amid the stunning landscapes of the Vienna Woods, the Danube Valley, and the Bavarian Alps.

Our tour begins in Vienna, where we will stay in the historic center, steps from St. Stephen's Cathedral and surrounded by architectural and cultural magnificence befitting the former capital of the Austro-Hungarian Empire and seat of the Habsburg Dynasty. World-class musicians and performances will grace our time together and we'll also attend a service with music by the Vienna Boys Choir and a show of the Lipizzaner Stallions of the famous Spanish Riding School.

Following in the footsteps of Mozart in Salzburg, we'll visit his birthplace and enjoy a Mozart dinner concert in the Baroque Hall of the ancient St. Peter monastery, where musicians in historic costumes perform Mozart's music during an elegant candlelit dinner prepared according to traditional recipes from Mozart's time. We will round out the tour in Munich, stopping at the picturesque, Neuschwanstein Castle, on the way.

And, of course, along the way, there will be ample time to browse the wonderful Christmas Markets for which the region is famous. This is sure to be a remarkable trip, filled with glorious architecture, art, dining, music, and memories.

THE COST OF THIS ITINERARY, PER PERSON, DOUBLE OCCUPANCY IS:

LAND ONLY:	\$ 5190
SINGLE SUPPLEMENT	\$ 1190

THE FOLLOWING SERVICES ARE INCLUDED:

HOTELS:	8 nights' accommodation in first class hotels including all hotel taxes and service charges
COACHING:	All ground transportation as detailed in the itinerary
MEALS:	Breakfast daily, 1 lunch and 5 dinners
GUIDES:	Discover Europe tour guide throughout. Local guides as detailed in the itinerary
ENTRANCES:	Entrance fees to all sites as detailed in the itinerary
TICKETS:	Best available seats for the Vienna Boys Choir, a performance at the Spanish Riding School by the Lipizzaner, and 2 concert performances (all subject to availability when schedules are announced)
BAGGAGE:	Porterage of one large suitcase per person

*Please note that travel insurance is not included on this tour.
Insurance information will be mailed to each registrant on receipt of deposit.*

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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5TH - Evening departure from your chosen US gateway city.

OVERNIGHT: PLANE

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6TH - Your arrival at Vienna airport, will be met for the transfer to our city-center hotel. Here you can unpack, relax, and begin to explore the elegant, old-world Austrian capital and its beautiful architecture. We'll meet up in the evening for dinner. **(D) OVERNIGHT: VIENNA**

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7TH - After a leisurely breakfast at the hotel, we will embark on a morning walking tour of some of the wonderful museums in the neighborhood. Our first stop will be at the palace of Beethoven's patron, Prince Lobkowitz. A short walk then brings us to the Secession Building to see Gustav Klimt's famed "Beethoven Frieze." Finally we

will end our walking tour with a visit to the Kunsthistorisches Museum, one of the most important fine art museums in the world, and its special installation, *Beethoven. The Exhibition*. The rest of the day is free to explore the city's fabulous Christmas Market. **(B) OVERNIGHT: VIENNA**

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8TH - It is a short walk this morning from our hotel to the Chapel in the Hofburg Palace where we attend the Vienna Boys Choir Mass at 9:15. Then you go immediately to the Spanish Riding School (also in the Hofburg palace) to see the show at 11:00. After a break for lunch, afternoon sightseeing with a local guide introduces this sparkling jewel of the Habsburg Empire and gives you an overview of all that the city has to offer. An early dinner is included at a local restaurant, before we attend a performance at the Vienna State Opera. **(B, D) OVERNIGHT: VIENNA**

MONDAY, DECEMBER 9TH - This morning we visit the Schönbrunn Palace, the exquisite summer residence of the Hapsburgs. We'll enjoy a guided tour of the interior and have time to stroll the gardens before heading back into the city for a chance to explore the Altwiener Christkindlmarkt in the heart of the city. **(B) OVERNIGHT: VIENNA**

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10TH - Leaving Vienna today, our route takes us southwest of the city and into the Vienna Woods. We'll stop first at Mayerling the site of the hunting lodge where Crown Prince Rudolf of Austria and his lover Baroness Mary Vetsera died in a murder-suicide pact in 1889, scandalizing the society of the time. From here we'll visit the oldest continuously occupied Cistercian Monastery in the world, the nearby Abbey of Heiligenkreuz, founded in 1133. After a stop for lunch (included), we'll drive to Salzburg. On arrival we'll check in to our hotel, and have time to rest and freshen up before attending a Mozart dinner concert where musicians in historic costumes perform Mozart's music during an elegant candlelight dinner prepared according to traditional recipes from Mozart's time. **(B, L, D) OVERNIGHT: SALZBURG**



VIENNA CHRISTMAS MARKET



NEUSCHWANSTEIN CASTLE

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11TH - With its magnificent alpine setting, ornate Baroque churches, and Mozart legacy, Salzburg epitomizes all that is Austrian. A morning walking tour with a local guide introduces this "Rome of the North" and its medieval and baroque architectural treasures. We'll visit the house where Mozart lived for the first 17 years of his life and explore the surrounding neighborhoods. The afternoon is free, you might do a little shopping at the Salzburger Christkindlmarkt on the Residenzplatz or visit the Fortress Hohensalzburg. The evening is free. **(B) OVERNIGHT: SALZBURG**

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12TH - Leaving Salzburg, we travel to the foot of the Bavarian Alps where the fairytale castle of Neuschwanstein rises like a vision. The personal fantasy of 19th-century King Ludwig "the Mad," the castle is one of numerous palaces that collectively helped drive his kingdom into bankruptcy. We continue on to Munich, the capital of Bavaria, where a hearty dinner awaits. **(B, D) OVERNIGHT: MUNICH**

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13TH - This morning after breakfast, we will enjoy sightseeing through Munich with a local guide, ending with a visit to the world famous Christmas Market dating back to the 14th century at Marienplatz. You will have ample time to explore and shop on your own before we gather tonight for a farewell dinner. **(B, D) OVERNIGHT: MUNICH**

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14TH - Morning transfers to Munich Airport for returning flights to the U.S. **(B)**

Key to included meals: **B** - breakfast, **L** - lunch, **D** - dinner

SCAN THE BELOW QR TO REGISTER FOR THIS TOUR!

