

2023 European Christmas Market Tour

you
travel

24 Days fully escorted 25 November – 18 December 2023



Join us to discover the Christmas Magic!

Have you ever wondered what bustling Europe would be like in the Christmas season? Join Sandra and Melissa to be mesmerised with the lights, hype and atmosphere only Europe can offer at this spectacular time of year. After a short break in Dubai we head to Brussels for the magical Christmas markets and quaint village of Bruges and Ghent. We explore these beautiful towns before heading to Budapest where we enjoy several days before joining our 15 Day Luxury Viking Christmas Market Cruise to Amsterdam. You will wake up each day to charming villages, town and cities that embrace the holiday spirit and are fully in tune with the festive season. Your tour escorts, Sandra and Melissa are well versed in the areas, experience tour leaders plus are huge Christmas and foodie fans and this tour has been designed with that in mind!





Vienna Christmas Markets

Itinerary

Date

25 Nov	Depart Christchurch, New Zealand for 1 night in Dubai.
26 Nov	Dubai. We have one full day to explore Dubai and take in the tastes and sounds of the east. (B)
27 Nov	Dubai - Brussels Today we say goodbye to the bustling metropolis of Dubai with a flight to Brussels.
27 Nov to 30 Nov	Brussels. 3 Nights. A city rich in history, architecture, gastronomy, culture and of course chocolate and Waffles. During our stay we visit the picturesque town of Bruges, distinguished by its canals, cobbled streets and medieval buildings. Also Ghent, a city and a municipality in the Flemish Region of Belgium. All boasting wonderful Christmas Markets to explore. (B)
30 Nov to 2 Dec	Budapest. 2 Nights to explore this charming city, the star of the Danube is outrightly known for so many famous things. For instance, the rich culture, underground caves, Danube River, the drop-dead beautiful Parliament Building, local delicacies, and being the world's Spa capital. Not to forget the many Christmas Markets scattered through the city and famous Central Market Food Hall. (B)
2 Dec to 16 Dec	Luxury River Cruise. (Embarkation) We embark on our luxury river cruise our home for the next 15 days.
2 Dec	BUDAPEST, HUNGARY (EMBARKATION). Welcome to Budapest, capital of Hungary. Transfer to your ship from the airport.* After boarding, the afternoon is yours to relax or do a bit of exploring. Tonight, return to your ship for a traditional Hungarian dinner. (D)
3 Dec	BUDAPEST, HUNGARY. Today we visit highlights of the hilly Buda and cosmopolitan Pest sides of the city. Enjoy lunch on board your ship; the rest of the day is yours to explore the city. You may choose to join us on an optional excursion to experience the thermal springs, restorative natural spas. Return to your ship for dinner and evening departure. (B,L,D)
4 Dec	VIENNA, AUSTRIA. Enjoy a day of scenic cruising along the beautiful Danube toward Vienna. As we sail, perhaps join this morning's German language lesson, you may also choose to attend an afternoon presentation on Viennese coffee houses. We arrive early this evening. After dinner, relax or enjoy an optional classical concert. (B,L,D)
5 Dec	VIENNA, AUSTRIA. Today we tour the Austrian capital of Vienna. Ride along the Ringstrasse, which replaced the city walls in the mid-19th century. Return to your ship for lunch. The rest of the day is yours to further explore. As always, your Program Director can help you plan your free time. (B,L,D)
6 Dec	MELK AUSTRIA. Today, visit the abbey at Melk, a 900-year-old Benedictine monastery featuring Austria's finest Italian baroque architecture. Rejoin your ship and cruise through dinner. (B,L,D)
7 Dec	PASSAU, GERMANY. Arrive this morning in Passau, at the confluence of the Inn, Ilz and Danube Rivers. Your guided walk along the town's narrow streets takes you through Old Town and past traditional patrician houses. Enjoy lunch on board your ship, and return to the city for further exploration on your own. Alternately, set out with your guide to enjoy a full-day optional tour of picturesque Salzburg. We depart just before dinner and cruise through the night. (B,L,D)

* Pricing & itinerary subject to change due to currency or availability changes. Tour costs are based on 15 people traveling.

8 Dec	REGENSBURG, GERMANY. Arrive in Regensburg after breakfast and tour this wonderfully preserved medieval city, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. During free time, visit the Alte Würstküche (Old Sausage Kitchen), Germany's oldest restaurant. Alternately, you may choose to disembark this morning and drive with your guide to Munich for an optional full-day tour of this cultural and historic city, rejoining your ship before our evening departure. Cruise through dinner. (B,L,D)
9 Dec	NUREMBERG, GERMANY. Cruise the Main–Danube Canal this morning. Or, instead, disembark for a short drive to the center of Nuremberg and use your free time to explore until lunchtime. After lunch, venture out on a tour of the city. Alternately, you may choose to join an optional afternoon World War II tour. Dinner is served on board your ship before we depart late this evening. (B,L,D)
10 Dec	BAMBERG, GERMANY. Continue along the Main–Danube Canal this morning, arriving in Bamberg in early afternoon. Enjoy a tour of Bamberg, with its medieval city center, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Take some free time to enjoy Bamberg and sample some of the town's distinctive smoke-flavored beer before returning on board. (B,L,D)
11 Dec	WÜRZBURG, GERMANY. Today, tour Würzburg's Bishops' Residenz, one of Germany's largest and most ornate baroque palaces and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Or, you may choose to disembark this morning to experience an optional full-day journey along Germany's picturesque "Romantic Road" to Rothenburg. Rejoin your ship for dinner and an evening glassblowing demonstration. (B,L,D)
12 Dec	WERTHEIM, GERMANY. Wertheim is located at the confluence of the Main and Tauber Rivers. During your morning walking tour, experience life in a typical small German town. Enjoy free time to explore before returning to your ship for lunch. Alternately, depart this morning on an all-day optional excursion that offers a rare glimpse into noble life, enjoying Privileged Access visits to two very different castles. (B,L,D)
13 Dec	KOBLENZ, GERMANY. Today, we cruise past hilltop castles along the Rhine; this stunning stretch of the river is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. This afternoon, we'll stop to visit Marksburg Castle, the only Rhine fortress never destroyed. Rejoin your ship in Koblenz and dine on board. (B,L,D)
14 Dec	COLOGNE, GERMANY. Begin your day with a morning tour of Cologne, Germany's fourth-largest city. Afterward, return on board for dinner. Alternately, you may set off on an optional excursion to explore Cologne's spirited beer culture, sampling Kölsch and enjoying a brauhaus dinner. After, return to your ship for a late-evening departure. (B,L,D)
15 Dec	KINDERDIJK, THE NETHERLANDS. We sail along the Rhine during the morning hours. This afternoon, your ship arrives in Kinderdijk, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Disembark for an afternoon tour of this ingenious network of windmills. Board your ship for departure and dinner. Arrive in Amsterdam around midnight. (B,L,D)
16 Dec	AMSTERDAM, THE NETHERLANDS (DISEMBARKATION). After breakfast, disembark and proceed to the airport for your return flight.* Or, extend your journey with 2 additional nights in Amsterdam; take time to explore the city's neighborhoods, museums and exciting nightlife. Today we are transferred to Amsterdam Airport to start our journey home.(B)
18 Dec	Arrive in Christchurch New Zealand.

INCLUSIONS:

- » Return Economy Air Travel to/from Christchurch
- » All accommodation 5 star with breakfast daily
- » All transfers
- » Sightseeing in each exciting place
- » 15 Days Viking Cruise including all meals, sightseeing, select beverages with lunch and dinner, prepaid gratuities and port charges
 - Services and expertise of personal experienced tour leaders
 - Unforgettable experiences, and lifetime memories
- » Unique and special surprises along the way
- » All covid related requirements will be taken care of throughout

For enquiries & Bookings please contact
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