SOJOURNERS' TRAVEL™
CURATED HERITAGE ADVENTURES

Markets, Mugs & Magic – An Imperial European Christmas Market & Culinary Adventure
| 10-Day Tour Capturing the Magic and Wonder of Central Europe's Holiday Traditions |

Step back into a world of timeless winter romance with Markets, Mugs & Magic, an exquisitely refined 10-day Christmas market and culinary journey. This individual or group itinerary begins with a private transfer from Berlin to the baroque splendor of Dresden, winds south through festive Munich, and concludes amidst the snow-dusted alpine charm of Salzburg, Austria. Designed with a perfect blend of relaxed luxury and deliberate pacing, the package pairs seamless private transportation and historic boutique accommodations with built-in buffers to ensure a peaceful, effortless, enchanting getaway.

SAMPLE



The journey opens in Saxony, where you will wander through Dresden's glowing Augustusmarkt, the torch-lit medieval courtyards of the Stallhof, and Leipzig's massive six-square holiday festival. This first leg immerses you in the region's rich holiday heritage, showcasing private tastings of boutique regional sparkling wines, atmospheric tavern dining, and exclusive culinary tours that unveil the secrets and strict purity laws behind centuries-old winter baking traditions.



Next, travel south to Bavaria and Austria to experience Munich's iconic Christkindlmarkt, Nuremberg's historic Christkindlesmarkt, and the grand, festive squares of Salzburg. This concluding chapter balances world-famous urban festivals with hidden palace courtyard markets. Discerning travelers will savor curated tastings of premier regional vintages, traditional local brunches, private masterclasses at historic distilleries, and cozy, candle-lit dinners at legendary wine taverns tucked away from the crowds.

Contact us for a focused European Christmas Market discovery session today:
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Sample Itinerary:

Duration	*10 Days / 9 Nights (overnight flight = one night)*
Arrival / Departure	*Berlin Brandenburg Airport (BER) / Munich Airport (MUC)*
Base Hubs	*Dresden, Germany (2 Nights) | Munich, Germany (4 Nights) | Salzburg, Austria (2 Nights)*
Lodging	
Dresden	*Gewandhaus Dresden – 5-star property inside an authentic 1768 Late Baroque clothier's guild house. Located right in the heart of the historic Old Town.*
Munich	*Hotel Torbräu – Munich's oldest historic hotel, operating since 1490. Premium, family-run luxury located a flat 5-minute stroll from Marienplatz.*
Salzburg	*Altstadthotel Wolf – Exceptionally charming boutique hotel in a preserved medieval building (inn since the early 15th century) next to Mozart Square.*
Pacing	*Relaxed luxury with dedicated private transfers, a Day 1 jet-lag buffer, and a Day 9 alpine wellness wrap.*

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- ***Days 1: Overnight flight – Arrival in Berlin – Private Transfer to Dresden***
  - ***Logistics:*** *Arrive at Berlin Brandenburg Airport. Private luxury chauffeur service transfers south to Dresden.*
  - ***Markets:*** *Unstructured evening to independently step into the glowing Striezelmarkt directly outside the hotel doors.*
  - ***Drinks:*** *Welcome toast featuring a private pouring of candy-crisp Saxony Elbland Sekt (local boutique sparkling wine).*
  - ***Overnight:*** *Dresden.*
- ***Day 2: The Dresden Market Crawl & Fire-Lit Feasts***
  - ***Markets:*** *Morning at Augustusmarkt (international flair with white pagodas on a baroque boulevard). Afternoon at Stallhof Market (torch-lit medieval courtyard inside palace walls, free of modern electricity).*
  - ***Drinks:*** *Clay mugs of hot, spiced mead and local orchard fruit wines over open log fires.*
  - ***Food:*** *Exclusive tasting tour at a historic bakery to learn the strict purity laws of authentic Dresdner Christstollen. Festive individual/group dinner at Pulverturm an der Frauenkirche (historical gunpowder tower vault) for Saxon pork knuckle & potato soup).*
  - ***Overnight:*** *Dresden.*
- ***Day 3: Tasting Through Saxony – The Leipzig Epicurean Stopover***
  - ***Logistics:*** *Depart Dresden via private luxury transfer. Luggage remains secure in the vehicle during a 4-hour festival stopover in Leipzig before arriving in Munich.*
  - ***Markets:*** *Explore Leipzig's massive market spanning six squares, featuring a fairytale forest and an authentic Finnish village on Augustusplatz.*
  - ***Drinks:*** *Toast with historic Leipziger Gose (sour wheat beer) or steaming mugs of cloudberry punch.*
  - ***Overnight:*** *Munich.*
- ***Day 4: Bavarian Traditions & Royal Courtyard Plazas***
  - ***Markets:*** *Begin at the iconic Marienplatz Christkindlmarkt (anchored by a 100-foot tree). Transition to the hidden Residenz Courtyard market (an alpine village tucked away from traffic).*
  - ***Drinks:*** *Mid-day tasting of rich, seasonal dark holiday bock beer or hot, apple-spiced winter punch and Glühwein.*
  - ***Food:*** *Traditional Weisswurst (white sausage) and fresh soft pretzel brunch at a local Wirtshaus to learn classic Bavarian etiquette. Afternoon stop at the world-famous Hofbräuhaus München for live brass oompah music and liters of traditional draft beer.*
  - ***Overnight:*** *Munich.*

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- ***Day 5: The King of Markets & Franconian Vintages***
  - ***Logistics:*** *Morning private luxury transfer north to Nuremberg; return to Munich in the evening.*
  - ***Markets:*** *Immerse in Nuremberg's world-famous Christkindlesmarkt, featuring hundreds of candy-striped spruce-wood chalets.*
  - ***Drinks:*** *Curated tasting of premium Franconian white wines from iconic round Bocksbeutel bottles, alongside artisan Glühwein.*
  - ***Food:*** *Sensory market crawl featuring warm, flourless Nürnberger Elisenlebkuchen gingerbread and sizzling, beechwood-grilled Nürnberger Bratwurst.*
  - ***Overnight:*** *Munich.*

- ***Day 6: Handcrafted Heritage & Avant-Garde Gastronomy***
  - ***Markets:*** *Morning at the Wittelsbacherplatz Market (historical vendors in period attire using medieval cooking techniques). Afternoon at the vast Tollwood Winter Festival (international culinary arts and dynamic winter warmers).*
  - ***Drinks:*** *Dramatic Feuerzangenbowle – a rum-soaked sugar cone set on fire, melting directly into mulled wine.*
  - ***Food:*** *Festive individual/group dinner at Der Pschorr at Munich's Viktualienmarkt, featuring fresh beer poured directly from wooden barrels alongside regional meats and cheeses.*
  - ***Overnight:*** *Munich.*

- ***Day 7: Alpine Gateways & Austrian Pastry Culture***
  - ***Logistics:*** *Morning private luxury transfer skirting the snow-capped Alps into Salzburg, Austria.*
  - ***Markets:*** *Experience the grand Salzburg Christmas Market framework as dusk falls across the historic dome squares.*
  - ***Drinks:*** *Listen to live brass ensembles playing from church balconies while sipping potent Austrian Jagatee (black tea spiked with overproof rum and alpine spices).*
  - ***Overnight:*** *Salzburg.*

- ***Day 8: Fairytale Forests & Ice Wine Tastings***
  - ***Markets:*** *Afternoon excursion outside the city center to Hellbrunn Palace, where a fairytale forest of 400 illuminated trees frames a romantic, hidden courtyard.*
  - ***Drinks:*** *Exclusive tasting introduction to rare, sweet Austrian Eiswein (ice wine) and late-harvest dessert wines.*

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- ***Food:*** *Cozy, authentic dinner in the Maxglan neighborhood at Weinstöckl Stadtheuriger – Salzburg's oldest traditional wine tavern, featuring rustic wood-paneled walls and local regional specialties.*
- ***Overnight:*** *Salzburg.*

Day 9: Unhurried Alpine Sanctuary & Schnapps

- ***Markets:*** *Completely unstructured day for unhurried exploration. Guests can stroll old-town lanes, browse for fine Austrian crystals, or enjoy late-night ice skating under the cathedral lights.*
- ***Drinks:*** *Private afternoon masterclass and tasting at a historic alpine distillery, sampling small-batch fruit schnapps and herbal liqueurs.*
- ***Food:*** *Quiet afternoon at a historic grand cafe, pairing a rich slice of Sachertorte with specialty Viennese coffee.*
- ***Overnight:*** *Salzburg.*

Day 10: Private Transfer from Salzburg to Munich & Departure

- ***Logistics:*** *Gather for a final champagne farewell brunch at the Salzburg hotel. Private luxury transport arrives directly at the property for a seamless, stress-free transfer back to Munich Airport MUC for evening flights home (arrive back home same day).*

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