

“GERMAN CHRISTMAS MARKETS” TOUR – EAST GERMANY

Travel date: **December 07 – 16, 2012 (Friday – Sunday, 10 days)**
December 06 – 15, 2013 (Friday – Sunday, 10 days)

Our escorted Advent tour takes you on a fascinating journey to Germany during the pre-Christmas season. Discover the magic spirit of the Advent time, explore traditional German handcraft and listen to the magnificent sounds of church music, choirs and organs. Germany's capital Berlin offers various Christmas Markets, both nostalgic and artistic. It's the perfect destination to explore German history, culture, classical music and arts - not to forget about all the fantastic shopping opportunities! Enjoy the still vivid charme of the old kingdom Prussia in Potsdam with its world famous palaces. Glass and porcelain manufacturers in the rural Thuringian Forest and woodcraft in the Saxon Ore Mountain region (Erzgebirge) are only two examples of lively traditional handcraft. In Thuringia's capital Erfurt the over 150-years old Christmas Market is located at the foot of the magnificent Cathedral. Leipzig's city center turns into one big Christmas Market and offers a unique selection of art and design. In Dresden you will feel like traveling in a time machine – modern car production right next to Germany's oldest Christmas market. The tour takes you on romantic bus rides through the beauty of fairy-tale forests in Thuringia and Saxony as well as through the "land of lakes" Brandenburg. The Advent season in December is also the perfect time to savor authentic local culinary delights at family-run restaurants. We always travel in small exclusive groups of 4-5 or 8-12 guests in order to provide a flexible individual travel experience. Groups are escorted 24/7 by an English speaking native German guide. We will be traveling in a private van / small bus.

Tour route: **Berlin – Potsdam – Leipzig – Moritzburg – Dresden – Erzgebirge – Seiffen – Annaberg Buchholz – Erfurt – Lauscha – Berlin**

Tour price*: **\$2,623 per person** Single supplement: \$460 Euro per person

* Ground package, double occupancy, air fare & travel insurance & credit card fee not included - USD \$ price is subject to currency fluctuations. The preliminary tour price is based on an exchange rate of 1 EUR = 1.35 USD.

In ground package included: 8 overnight stays at selected hotels/pensions/Inns with buffet breakfast, Private minivan or bus transportation with experienced driver, English speaking native German tour guide throughout, Admission fees & expenses for tour related visits & excursions, Welcome dinner & Farewell dinner including beverages, 4 additional meals (dinner/lunch) including beverages, 1 Coffee House visit, Tickets for 1-2 concerts (choir / organ / orchestra performances).

Minimum participants: 4 persons for group size 4-5 and 8 persons for group size 8-12

For further information, detailed trip itinerary and reservations please contact:

The German American Connection

or Sullivans Custom Tours

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or www.sullivanscustomtours.com

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[We very much look forward to traveling with you to beautiful Germany in Advent season!](#)



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Tour program overview:

Day 01 – Friday: Individual departure from US or elsewhere

Day 02 – Saturday: Individual arrival in Berlin, Germany – Berlin

Individual arrival in Berlin, Germany – Greeting at the Hotel – Individual activities (tips and maps will be provided) – Welcome group dinner. Overnight: Berlin

Day 03 – Sunday: Berlin – Capital of Germany

Historic city center of Berlin with Museum Island – Berlin Cathedral – Group lunch – Museum visit (optional) – Christmas Markets. Overnight: Berlin

Day 04 – Monday: Potsdam & the Kingdom of Prussia – Leipzig

Historic Potsdam with Sanssouci – Group lunch at Krongut Bornstedt with Christmas Market – Leipzig – Christmas Market or individual activities – Overnight: Leipzig

Day 05 – Tuesday: Leipzig – City of music, books and art

Historic city center of Leipzig – Museum visit of your choice (optional) – Coffee & Cake at a nostalgic coffee house – Christmas Market. Overnight: Leipzig

Day 06 – Wednesday: Moritzburg – Dresden & the Kingdom of Saxony

Moritzburg Palace – Historic city of Dresden – Church of Our Lady – Zwinger Palace – Semper Opera House – Germany’s oldest Christmas Market. Overnight: Dresden

Day 07 – Thursday: Erzgebirge woodcraft – Seiffen – Erfurt

Excursion through the Ore Mountains “Erzgebirge” – Authentic traditional woodcraft in Seiffen – Group Lunch – Annaberg Christmas Market – Erfurt. Overnight: Erfurt

Day 08 – Friday: Erfurt - Capital of Thuringia, the “green heart of Germany”

Historic city of Erfurt – Merchants’ Bridge – St. Mary Cathedral – Citadel Petersberg – Group lunch – Christmas Market – “Floral Art” exhibition in the cellars beneath the Cathedral Square. Overnight: Erfurt

Day 09 – Saturday: Glass-blowing town Lauscha – Berlin

Excursion to Lauscha in the Thuringian Forest – Glass manufactory with Christmas decoration – Transfer back to Berlin – Christmas Market – Individual activities – Farewell group dinner. Overnight: Berlin

Day 10 – Sunday: Individual departure – Arrival in the US or elsewhere

Detailed trip program is available on request.

You can extend your trip by adding individual days.

Please contact us for your inquiries.

