

VIP-Alpine Tours presents

20TH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS MARKET TOUR

Alpine Traditions of Austria and Germany

November 28 – December 5, 2015



vipalpinetours.com



Join us for a memorable Old World journey exploring the traditional Christmas Markets and historic landmarks in the Alpine regions of Austria and Germany. Tour highlights include:

Berchtesgaden | Salzburg | Chiemsee | Hallstatt | Wolfgangsee | Altötting | and More!

Day 1 – Saturday, November 28

Morning arrival at Munich, Germany's airport. Christina, owner of VIP Alpine Tours, will greet all of you as you board the deluxe coach to begin your travels into the heart of the Alps. We will continue through the quaint alpine villages and rolling meadows and have an Austrian lunch along the way. We will then continue to an overnight destination in Berchtesgaden, Germany. Hotel Alpina Ros Demming. L, D

Day 2 – Sunday, November 29

Late this morning we will travel to Chiemsee (also known as the Bavarian Sea) and take a boat ride to the famous island of Fraueninsel. This is such a romantic Christmas market that is both quaint and intimate, with only fifty houses and a Benedictine Abbey. We will take time to soak in the relaxing atmosphere; for example, we might see peaceful candles glowing in window sills or the boats aligned at water's edge. Chiemsee is any photographer's delight, so be sure to have cameras on hand. We will return late afternoon to Berchtesgaden and stay overnight in the Hotel Alpina Ros Demming. B

Day 3 – Monday, November 30

Today is ours to do as we please! Discover the cheerful alpine atmosphere of the Christmas markets and shop along the historical quaint streets of Berchtesgaden. There is something here for each of you, from the delightful to the unusual. Berchtesgaden is known for its wonderful wooden handmade crafts and culinary delights. Overnight, we will continue our lodging in the Hotel Alpina Ros Demming. B

Day 4 – Tuesday, December 1

Today, we will continue onwards to the delightful village of Hallstatt, which is situated lakeside at the base of the Alps. Here, we will have ample time to stroll through the quaint streets of this picture-perfect Austrian village, and we will take also take time for lunch and more sightseeing. Although this town does not have a Christmas market, there is no doubt that each of you will fall in love with Hallstatt for the views it offers. We will have to depart this beautiful village in order to reach Salzkammergut, our next destination. In this lake region, you will find one of the most magical cities of Austria, St. Wolfgang. This destination stop will continue to get better as we remain in St. Wolfgang and at the famous White Horse Inn for the next three nights. B

Day 5 – Wednesday, December 2

This morning, we will travel to the delightful Palace of Hellbrunn, where we will visit the castle's enchanting market in its fairytale setting. We will continue onward to the Baroque city of Salzburg. This city has some of the most impressive history in Europe. This town's history and tradition spring to life within the many markets in the old town square. Here, you will have plenty of time to wander the cobblestone streets and explore the delights of Salzburg. Take time to take in the sights and sounds of this delightful city or stroll out to Mirabell Gardens or a visit to the famous fortress overlooking the city. We will return back to the lake district, but not without stopping for a traditional romantic alpine dinner. Overnight, White Horse Inn. B,D

Day 6 – Thursday, December 3

Enjoy your free day today exploring the villages surrounding Lake Wolfgang. Advent season here is celebrated with lots of tradition. Meander through enchanted cities and enjoy your time as they are transformed into a holiday dream that is mixed with gemütlichkeit and delight. Tickets will be included for the boat rides to the advent markets in Strobl and St. Gilgen, as well as either a ticket for a cable car ride up a local mountain or the Cog Wheel Steam train to Schafberg. Or simply decide to relax—the spa at the White Horse Inn awaits you. Overnight, White Horse Inn. B

Day 7 – Friday, December 4

Today, we will depart late morning for the pilgrimage village of Altötting, Germany. Take time to visit the Black Madonna's shrine, where visitors have sought her for over 500 years. Take time to explore many of the city's religious highlights, along with its custom-filled Christmas Market. We will then continue to our final overnight stay, near the Munich Airport. Tonight's farewell dinner will be a traditional Bavarian holiday feast at a local restaurant. Overnight, Marriott Munich Airport Hotel. B,D

Day 8 – Saturday, December 5

Transfers will be provided throughout the morning for your return flight home. Sadly, we say, "Auf Wiedersehen" or "Goodbye" to the breathtaking and fascinating Christmas Markets of Bavaria and Austria, and we also bid farewell to the new friends we have made. We wish everyone a Happy Holiday, and we look forward to seeing you on next year's tour. If you would like to extend your stay, contact our office to assist you with further travel arrangements and options. (B)

TOUR DETAILS

\$2,195 per person for double occupancy, **\$399** single supplement, airfare not included

Completed application required for each participant

\$500 nonrefundable deposit required, final payment by September 18, 2015. Limited space available

8 days, 7 nights with accommodations in Berchtesgaden, Freising (Germany) Wolfgangsee (Austria)

Daily breakfast, 1 lunch, 3 dinners

Limited to 32 travelers

Sightseeing and excursions planned as per itinerary, weather and road conditions permitting

Deluxe motor coach transportation, taxes and admission fees as noted are included

Round-trip airfare from the USA (best airfare available and pre-post stays through our full service travel agency) and tips for tour director, driver and guides not included. Recommended tips are 3% for the tour director, 2% for the bus driver and 2% of the tour total, per person

We advise taking travel insurance in case of unforeseen sickness or accidents. Contact us for details

Motor coach is not equipped to cater to physically challenged persons. Participants must be able to walk without assistance

Itinerary subject to change

Pre or Post Arrival Tip: Plan an extended stay in Europe before the tour begins or after it ends. Our travel team can assist you with your stay.