

Rüdesheim to Vienna:

# Central Europe Christmas Markets

November 30 - December 11, 2021



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Day 1: Tuesday, Nov. 30, 2021 • Departure
Our journey begins as we board our international flight bound
for Frankfurt, Germany to visit the Christmas Markets of Central
Europe.

#### Day 2: Wednesday, Dec. 1, 2021 • Rüdesheim

Upon arriving at the Frankfurt International Airport, we meet our driver and board our touring coach for the short drive to Rüdesheim. (For those arranging their own airfare or arriving early, it is a short train ride from the Frankfurt airport to Rüdesheim.) Upon arrival in the quaint village of Rüdesheim we have time to rest from our long flight and then explore this small village on the Rhein all decorated in Christmas style. The Christmas market is charming and found in the old part city center along the famous Drosselgasse, on the market square, and on the river front (open until 8pm tonight). For those who are adventurous, you may wish to take a ride with the cable car, up to the famous monument, even when it is cold, the ride is so nice and a very magnificent view. Upon arrival at the Niederwald Denkmal, there is a small, tiny house in a Bavarian style where you get mulled wine and nice snacks to eat. This evening we enjoy a wine tasting as part of our welcome dinner! D

#### Day 3: Thursday, Dec. 2, 2021 • Rothenburg ob der Tauber

After breakfast this morning it is about two-and-a-half-hour drive to Rothenburg ob der Tauber. This famous medieval city is one of only a few in Germany that still has its entire medieval defensive wall intact. Long ago the city was declared a national treasure, and laws prohibited changing the appearance of the original city inside the wall in any way. For us, that means a chance to step back centuries in time in one of the most popular tourist destinations in the country. Rothenburg also has a Christmas market, which we will have time to enjoy. While the market is a bit smaller in Rothenburg, they have a special Christmas attraction of their own. We will want to stop to visit Käthe Wohlfahrt's Christkindlmarkt, an enormous Christmas shop which is open year-round, and which has to actually charge admission for entrance during the holiday season due to its popularity. The entrance cost can be applied to any purchase. Dinner will be at our hotel followed by a tour with the night watchman! B, D

#### Day 4: Friday, Dec. 3, 2021 • Rothenburg ob der Tauber

In the past century, Nürnberg had dark ties to the Nazi party, and was the scene of the war trials held by allied forces. We make a brief for a tour of some of the sites of the World War II times. In more modern times, it has a much brighter reputation as the site of the best Christmas market in Germany. Dozens and dozens of stands which are decorated for the season, are set in the city center square, with craftsmen that have hand made a



large variety of goods to sell. Some stands are cooking sausages on outdoor grills and others are warming Glühwein, a mix of red wine and spices. The scenes and smells combine to create a picture of Christmas from days gone by, and bring a warmth inside, even for those that don't try the Glühwein. We return to Rothenburg for overnight. **B**, **D** 

#### Day 5: Saturday, Dec 4, 2021 • Munich

We drive to Munich this morning through the beautiful Bavarian countryside. En route we stop in Ulm to visit the Ulm Minster (Cathedral) currently the tallest church in the world. We will have a brief organ recital and then explore the local Christmas markets. After about 3 hours in Ulm, we continue on to Munich. If the day is clear, we begin to see the outlines of the Alps in the distance. As we approach Munich, the Olympic facilities come into sight. Tonight, we enjoy dinner and a folklore at the Augustiner Keller. **B**, **D** 

#### Day 6: Sunday, Dec. 5, 2021 • Munich

We start the day with a local guide and spend a short time learning about the history and highlights of the city. We have the afternoon to enjoy the market, and perhaps have a lunch at a sausage stand or at the restaurant under the New City Hall. There will be ample time to explore the pedestrian zone. There are several nice Bavarian restaurants close to our hotel which you can explore and enjoy the Gemütlichkeit with the locals. Dinner is on our own tonight. Perhaps you will want to venture into the famous Hofbräuhaus! **B** 

#### Day 7: Monday, Dec. 6, 2021 • Salzburg

We continue on our journey today, driving south today with a slight detour to Oberndorf to view the Silent Night Chapel which stands in the place of the former St. Nicholas Church (St. Nikola), in which the Christmas carol was performed for the first time on December 24, 1818. It was in this village the song was written and first sung. "Stille Nacht, Heilige Nacht. Alles schläft; einsam wacht." A local expert will join us to tell us the story of this famous Christmas Carol. Afterwards, it is a short time, 30 minutes, before we arrive in Salzburg, the city of Mozart, and The Sound of Music. A local guide takes us on a short walking tour of the city. This will get us oriented to our home for the next two days. We walk through Mirabel Gardens (The Sound of Music setting for the song Do Re Mi), and down the streets of the famous Getreidegasse (the traditional cobblestoned shopping street in the old part of the city). On our tour, we will go into the home where Mozart was born and walk through the city's grand cathedral. This evening we will have dinner at the Peters Keller, the oldest restaurant in Europe, having been documented as early as the year 803. **B**, **D** 



Day 8: Tuesday, Dec. 7, 2021 • Salzburg

Today we don our mining garb and slide deep into the earth to learn about the important medieval industry of salt mining, which made this area prosper. We enjoy lunch as a group either en route or on arrival back in Salzburg. The remainder of the day is free to roam the markets. **B, L** 

#### Day 9: Wednesday, Dec. 8, 2021 • Vienna

Today we drive across Austria to Vienna. Our first stop is Gut-Aiderbichl, just a short distance from our hotel, where we visit an internationally known special Christmas Market. It started with a farm nursing many types of animals back to strength and added a market. We continue on to Vienna, with a lunch stop at a small town en route for lunch on our own. Vienna, Vienna Woods, Vienna waltzes, Vienna concert halls - there are so many joyful sensory associations with this glittering capital of the mighty Hapsburg Empire...of Mozart, Beethoven, Schubert, Haydn, Brahms, and Strauss...the center of European commerce and culture. Today, the legacy lives on. We enter Innere Stadt, the old city, where the attractions include St. Stephen's Cathedral with its skyscraping bell tower, and the Hofburg Palace. The Opera and the Philharmonic embody the unique musical heritage that is both the social fabric and the artistic expression of Vienna, and the city's world-class museums hold a bounty of treasures, from Rembrandts and Rubens to Rococo furniture and rare Stone-Age artifacts. We enjoy a short introductory walking tour before relaxing in our hotel near the city center. Dinner is at our hotel tonight. B, D

#### Day 10: Thursday, Dec. 9, 2021 • Vienna

After a relaxing breakfast, we walk to the St. Stephens Cathedral, for an inside visit. We see more of the city center and then meet other travelers at the Café Sacher, in the hotel with the same name. Here we are treated to a slice of the famous Sacher Torte, a scrumptious chocolate cake, accompanied by a hot beverage of our choice. The afternoon and evening are on your own. **B** 

#### Day 11: Friday, Dec. 10, 2021 • Vienna

Today we begin with a driving tour of outer Vienna. We return to our hotel around lunch time. Some may wish to rest, and others get some last-minute shopping done. We enjoy a late afternoon tour of Schönbrunn Palace, the summer residence of the Hapsburgs. Tonight, we enjoy dinner and a concert listening to Mozart or Beethoven, also at Schönbrunn. **B**, **D** 

#### Day 12: Saturday, Dec. 11, 2021 • Return

This morning we say Auf Wiederseh'n to Germany and Austria, and the new friends we have met along the way, as we drive the short distance to the Vienna airport for our return flights to the USA. **B** 

#### **Tour Price: \$3,399**

Prices are *per person*, *land only*, *double occupancy* with a minimum of 16 participants

Single supplement: \$575

#### **Your Tour Includes:**

- Land Transportation via private deluxe air-conditioned motor coach
- Accommodations (double occupancy) in superior tourist and moderate first-class hotels
- Meals per the itinerary
- Services of Kimberly & Neil Jonker as tour manager
- Local step-on guides for city tours and major attractions
- Admission to all activities indicated in the itinerary except those listed as optional
- Luggage handling of one piece per person at hotels
- Luggage strap, luggage tags and trip journal
- Video documentary of tour for each individual/couple.
- **COVID-19 testing** for the return back to the USA.
- All taxes and tips for provided services on land tour, except as indicated below

#### **Your Tour Does Not Include:**

- Roundtrip air transportation (including all related taxes and fees) estimated at (\$1,200)
- Meals not indicated on itinerary
- **Beverages**, except with breakfast
- End of tour gratuity for coach driver and tour manager
- Items of a personal nature such as passport fees. (*Passport must be valid for 6 months beyond return date.*)
- **Optional insurance** for health, baggage and cancellation. (*This insurance is available and recommended.*)

## Please note proof of Covid Vaccinations are required on this tour to join.

#### **Payment Schedule:**

Deposit with registration: \$500 per person Final payment due Sept. 15, 2021: Balance per person

Invoices will be sent out prior to final payment. Passengers may add after this date subject to air and land availability. Generally airlines do not increase the price of a ticket after it has been contracted. However, prior to the issuance of a ticket, airlines may (and regularly do) impose fuel, tax, or security surcharges. In the event a surcharge is imposed after Ed-Ventures has received a final payment, Ed-Ventures will send an additional invoice for the surcharge amount. Early registration is encouraged.

#### **Currency:**

Currency exchange rates fluctuate constantly. In the event of a significant drop in the value of the dollar, we reserve the right to add a currency surcharge to the price of the tour.

#### **Refund/Cancellation Policy:**

All cancellations must be in writing. The date of postmark will determine the amount of refund due. Airline tickets once written are usually nonrefundable.

- ⇒ Up to Aug. 31, 2021: \$100 per person administrative fee will be assessed
- ⇒ Sept. 1, 2021 to Nov. 9, 2021: \$300 per person plus any lost land and air deposits will be assessed
- ⇒ Nov. 10, 2021 & after: No Refund

Purchase of health, baggage, and trip cancellation/interruption insurance is strongly recommended.

Abbreviations for Meals B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner

## **Terms and Conditions**

We reserve the right to cancel this trip due to lack of participation. In the event of cancellation of the trip in its entirety, a full refund of all deposits will be made to passengers enrolled at the time of cancellation. Tour price is based on the value of the dollar and the cost of airfare and is subject to change without notice. Extensions are usually available, but must be requested when booking the tour. Any changes in airfare booking may result in a processing fee. It may be possible, that due to unforeseen events, conditions, or changes in airline schedules, the land portion of the trip may be extended or shortened. Any savings realized by such occurrences will be refunded, however any extra expenses incurred must be borne by the client. Trip cancellation insurance is available. This low-cost protection can save you money if you are forced to cancel or alter your trip for a medical reason only. You will be mailed trip cancellation insurance information with the brochure or upon receipt of your deposit.

Responsibility: Ed-Ventures, Inc., their officers and employees, tour hosts, or any other persons or vendors connected with the tour shall not under any circumstances accept liability, provide refunds or pay compensation where the performance of our contractual obligations is prevented or affected, or you otherwise suffer any loss, injury, death, inconvenience or damage as a result of circumstances amounting to "force majeure". This means any event or circumstances which we or our suppliers of the services in question could not foresee or avoid. Such events and circumstances may include, acts of God, actual or threatened, war, insurrection, riots, strikes, civil action, decisions by governments or governing authority, technical or maintenance problems with transport, changes of schedules or operational decisions of air/transport carriers, terrorist activity or the threat thereof, industrial action, natural or nuclear activity, epidemic, pandemic, illness, physical injury, quarantine, medical or customs or immigration regulation, delay, or cancellation, adverse weather conditions, fire and all similar events outside our control.

Due to COVID-19, we have a right to adjust the tour in order to follow the guidelines and policies set by the CDC and the local governments.

The airline(s) concerned are not held responsible for any act, omission, or event during the time passengers are not on their planes or conveyances. The passenger's contract in use by the airlines concerned, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the airlines and the purchaser of this tour and/or passenger. Any and/or all transportation companies herein mentioned shall not have nor incur any responsibility to any traveler aside from their liability as common carriers. Air and land costs are subject to change without notice. Air transportation is via special, non refundable airfare. Any additional airfare assessments made by the airlines for any changes whatsoever shall be the responsibility of the client. Other rules may also apply. Services of any A.R.C. or I.A.T.A. carrier may be used in conjunction with this tour. If there is a change in air prices and/or currency exchange rates, we reserve the right to adjust prices prior to ticketing.

I grant Ed-Ventures, Inc and its agents the right to take photographs and videos of me during the tour and any meetings related to the tour before or after the tour. I authorize Ed-Ventures Inc, its assigns and transferees to copyright, use, and publish in print and/or electronically.

I agree that Ed-Ventures may use such photographs or videos of me with or without my name for any lawful purpose, including publicity, illustration, advertising, and Web content.



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## Rüdesheim to Vienna:

## Central Europe **Christmas Markets**

### Please register me for:

□ **KJCM21 •** Nov. 30 - Dec. 11, 2021 • \$3,399

□ Single Supplement • \$575

Please note proof of Covid Vaccinations are required on this tour to join.

#### Passenger Information (2<sup>nd</sup> Traveler) Passenger Information (1st Traveler) Please record information exactly as it appears on your pass-Please record information exactly as it appears on your passport. Passport information may be sent later if you have yet port. Passport information may be sent later if you have yet to obtain a passport. Best practice is to include a photocopy to obtain a passport. Best practice is to include a photocopy of your passport with the application. of your passport with the application. Legal Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Legal Name: \_\_\_\_\_ (Name for name badge): (Name for name badge): Passport #: \_\_\_\_\_\_ Passport #: \_\_\_\_\_ Passport Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Passport Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Passport Authority: \_\_\_\_\_ Passport Authority: Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Place of Birth: Place of Birth: **Gender:** □ Male □ Female (required by airline) **Gender:** □ Male □ Female (required by airline) Special Dietary Needs: \_\_\_\_\_ Special Dietary Needs:\_\_\_\_\_ Address: City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work phone/cell: \_\_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Emergency Contact Name: Phone: **Sleeping Preference** (circle one): Double bed (1 bed) Twin Beds (2 beds) Roommate name: \_\_\_\_\_ OR Single supplement: \_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No Price is 7.2% of tour cost Travel Insurance (please check one) □ I wish to purchase Travel Guard insurance and have included the premium with my deposit. □ I wish to decline the travel insurance offered through Travel Guard. **Deposit Payment Information** (please check one) □ Enclosed is my \$\_\_\_\_\_\_deposit and insurance premium (if applicable). *Make check payable to Ed-Ventures, Inc.* □ Please charge \$ deposit and insurance premium (if applicable) to my Discover/MasterCard/Visa Credit Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_ Card ID Code:\* \_\_\_\_\_\_ \*last 3 digits in signature box on the back of the card Initial to acknowledge you understand that Federal law prohibits the carriage of certain hazardous materials in your luggage or on your person aboard aircraft and could result in a fine or imprisonment. Visit www.tsa.gov for more information. Prices in this brochure were effective on 7.12.21. By signing below, I understand that price changes are possible at the time of final invoicing, due to exchange rates, an increase in carrier charges, fuel costs, taxes and tariffs, and the number of passengers traveling in the group. I agree to the terms and conditions of this tour.



Signature of 1<sup>st</sup> traveler: \_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature of 2<sup>nd</sup> traveler: Date: \_\_\_\_\_