

## **“GERMAN CHRISTMAS MARKETS” TOUR – EAST GERMANY**

Travel date: **December 07 – 16, 2012 (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 4-6 or 10-18 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 van or bus transportation and experienced driver, English speaking native German tour guide throughout & Experienced local city guides, Admission fees & expenses for tour related visits & excursions, Welcome dinner & Farewell dinner including beverages, 3 additional meals (dinner/lunch) including beverages, 1 Coffee House visit & 2 Tastings (Wine / Beer / Chocolate), Tickets for 2 concerts (choir / organ / orchestra performances).

**Minimum participants: 4 persons for group size 4-6 and 10 persons for group size 10-18**

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

**The German American Connection**

**or      Sullivans Custom Tours**

**Web:    [www.tgac-us.com](http://www.tgac-us.com)**

**or      [www.sullivanscustomtours.com](http://www.sullivanscustomtours.com)**

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**or      (1) 713.291.3492 (Donna Sullivan)**

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



## “GERMAN CHRISTMAS MARKETS” TOUR – EAST GERMANY

Tour program overview:

**Day 01 – Fri, Dec 07: Individual departure from US or elsewhere**

**Day 02 – Sat, Dec 08: 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 – Sun, Dec 09: Berlin – Capital of Germany**

Historic city center of Berlin with Museum Island – Potsdamer Platz – Berlin Cathedral – Museum visit of your choice (optional) – Christmas Markets. Overnight: Berlin

**Day 04 – Mon, Dec 10: 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 – Tue, Dec 11: 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 – Wed, Dec 12: Moritzburg – Dresden & the Kingdom of Saxony**

Fairy-tale palace Moritzburg – Historic city of Dresden – Church of Our Lady – Zwinger Palace – Semper Opera House – Asisi Panorama “Dresden 1756” – Germany’s oldest Christmas Market – Group dinner with wine tasting. Overnight: Dresden

**Day 07 – Thu, Dec 13: Erzgebirge woodcraft – Seiffen – Erfurt**

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

**Day 08 – Fri, Dec 14: 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 – Chocolate tasting. Overnight: Erfurt

**Day 09 – Sat, Dec 15: 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 – Sun, Dec 16: 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.**

