

A tour of distinction with

Friends
IOWA PBS
FOUNDATION

CHRISTMAS MARKETS IN GERMANY

November 30-December 8, 2022

Highlights:

Be immersed in holiday traditions while exploring Christmas markets from Munich to Nuremberg! The shopping will be complemented by panoramic city tours, a palace visit, and more for the perfect German Christmas!

starting at
\$5,445
per person





Munich



Rothenburg ob der Tauber

DAY 1 WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 30

FLIGHT TO GERMANY

We depart the Iowa PBS parking lot on a Windstar motorcoach for the short drive to the Des Moines International Airport for our overnight flight to **Munich, Germany**. Those flying from Cedar Rapids will meet at the airport to begin the journey.

DAY 2 THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1

MUNICH

(Dinner)

Welcome to Germany! Upon our arrival in **Munich** this morning, we will meet our local driver and guide for a **panoramic tour** of Bavaria's friendly capital city. This impressive Bavarian metropolis boasts a well-preserved city center with buildings such as the Rathaus, the Frauenkirche, palaces, museums, and the delightful English Garden with its Chinese Tower. We'll take a walk through one of the city's market areas where you can sample your first fragrant cup of glühwein or a German sausage before we check into our hotel. After settling in, we will enjoy a delicious dinner together.

DAY 3 FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2

MUNICH

(Breakfast, Lunch)

We'll begin our day with breakfast followed by a tour of one of Bavaria's not-to-be-missed attractions, **Nymphenburg Palace**. Built as a summer residence for the Wittelsbach royal family in 1664, the palace boasts a magnificent design and an impressive grand hall with beautiful ceilings and multiple galleries. Outside, the extensive gardens are magnificent. For lunch, we are in for a real treat as we dine at the famous **Hofbräuhaus**. Locals and tourists from around the world flock to this bustling beer hall where the main area holds up to 1,300 guests. It's a tradition for regulars to have a long-standing table reservation (the oldest regulars' table has been held for the last seventy years!), and they can even rent lockers to hold their personal beer mugs. It's sure to be an authentic Bavarian experience! We'll then head to the Marienplatz in the center of Munich to **stroll through the Christmas market stalls**. Browse the unique handicrafts, sip mulled wine, listen to the Christmas choirs, and savor the delicious culinary specialties before we return to the hotel for the evening.

DAY 4 SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3

ROTHENBURG OB DER TAUBER

(Breakfast, Dinner)

After breakfast this morning, we will say goodbye to Munich and depart on the hour-long drive to the beautiful city of **Augsburg**, one of Germany's oldest cities. The varied architecture in its center includes medieval guild houses, the 11th-century St. Mary's Cathedral, and the onion-domed Sankt Ulrich und Afra Abbey. Free time will be available to wander **Augsburg's bustling Christmas market**, which is one of the oldest and most beautiful in Germany. We will then continue on the Romantic Road to **Rothenburg ob der Tauber** for a two-night stay in this fairytale village. Our hotel is tucked inside the medieval city walls and just a short walk from the city center. Enjoy a delightful dinner with the group before an evening of exploring the **Christmas market**. Be sure to try Rothenburg's famous schneeball pastry made from strips of sweet dough fried and covered with powdered sugar!

DAY 5 SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4

ROTHENBURG OB DER TAUBER

(Breakfast)

Enjoy breakfast before we embark on a **walking tour** of this medieval village famous for its charming lanes surrounded by a restored covered town wall that you can walk along. Along with centuries-old frame houses, the village's architecture and atmosphere make visitors feel like they have stepped back in time. The rest of the day is yours to browse the lovely shops, visit the original Käthe Wohlfahrt Christmas Shop, and explore the sights, sounds, and tastes of the festive market that embodies the lovely world of Father Christmas. Every year, **Rothenburg's Christmas market** is recognized as one of the most charming and beautiful in Germany. With thousands of fairy lights, festive music, sweet aromas, and handmade treasures, it's a unique wonderland!



Würzburg Residence



Nuremberg Old Town

DAY 6 MONDAY, DECEMBER 5

WÜRZBURG

(Breakfast)

Today we'll head out on the short drive to the city of Würzburg following a leisurely morning, stopping at a **family-owned winery** along the way. A champagne reception awaits, plus an introduction to the wine production process and a wine tasting. Our first stop in **Würzburg** will be the picturesque **Würzburg Residence**, where opulence is an understatement and the details are overwhelming. Built in the beginning of the 18th century, this UNESCO World Heritage Site is considered one of the most important and beautiful Baroque palaces in Europe. Then enjoy some free time to stroll through the **Würzburg Christmas market** located in the heart of the Old Town. The historic market square with the gothic chapel is the perfect backdrop for this Christmas market steeped in tradition. Handmade woolen goods, wood decorations, unique jewelry, fruity mulled wine, tasty roasted almonds, and more can all be found here. Our hotel is perfectly located near the market, so you can spend the evening exploring the unique stalls, nearby shops, and restaurants at your leisure.

DAY 7 TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6

NUREMBERG

(Breakfast)

Our touring today will take us to the charming city of **Bamberg**, another UNESCO World Heritage Site. Bamberg's town center combines a small historic square and surrounding modern shops. The town hall impressively straddles the river atop two bridges, and a short walk away are a cathedral and small collection of picturesque riverside houses dubbed "Little Venice." From Bamberg we'll make our way to **Nuremberg** to check into our hotel close to the city center where the red-stripped stalls display the best Christmas treasures. The evening is yours to enjoy dinner, shop, or take in the festive Advent concert on the city square.

DAY 8 WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7

NUREMBERG

(Breakfast, Dinner)

Today we truly get to know this beautiful and medieval walled city. Nuremberg's history is both dark and redemptive. It was the center of the Holy Roman Empire, the cradle of the German Renaissance, the Temple City of the Third Reich, and the home to both the Nuremberg Nazi rallies and the Nuremberg trials. We'll enjoy a tour this morning highlighted by a visit to a **gingerbread company** where sampling is a must! Our final afternoon is ours to discover the enchanting Old Town with its fantastic regional cuisine and the greatest **Christmas markets** in Germany. After a full day, we will gather for a delicious farewell dinner.

DAY 9 THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8

HOME

(Breakfast)

We will transfer to the airport after breakfast for our flight home.



Nymphenburg Palace



Bamberg



INCLUSIONS

- Round-Trip Transfers From Johnston to Des Moines Airport
- Round-Trip Air From Des Moines or Cedar Rapids
- Private Motorcoach Transportation
- 7 Nights' Accommodations
- 11 Meals (7 Breakfasts, 1 Lunch, 3 Dinners)
- Admission to Attractions as Stated on Itinerary
- Porter Service of One Bag Per Person at Hotels
- Taxes & Gratuities for Included Services
- Professional Tour Manager

Not included in the price of this tour: meals/beverages other than those listed on the itinerary, beverages other than tea or coffee with included meals, items of a personal nature/souvenirs, phone calls and faxes from hotels, travel protection plan, passport fees, visa fees (if applicable), current baggage fees at the airport as assessed by the airline, fees related to any COVID-19 requirements for this destination, and any service not listed in the above inclusions.

Custom designed
tour by



TOUR PRICING

\$5,445 per person, Double Occupancy
\$5,915 per person, Single Occupancy

OPTIONAL TRAVEL PROTECTION

Iowa PBS recommends all travelers purchase a Travel Protection Plan. For your convenience, we offer a Travel Protection Plan provided by Traveler Insurance Services:

\$552 per person, Double or Single
(Payment may be sent with your deposit or with final payment to Iowa PBS)

Travel Protection Plan may be purchased any time before or with final payment to Iowa PBS.

To view state specific fraud warnings, visit: <https://www.travelersinsurance.com/company/fraud-warning>. Traveler Insurance Services Inc. ("Traveler Insurance") maintains an updated list of alerts and financial defaults on its website available at <https://www.travelersinsurance.com/customer-service/travel-alerts/travel-supplier>.

Visit <https://travelersinsurance.com/docs/ny-phn-covid-19-comp> to view a special notice for NY residents regarding coverage related to COVID-19. Traveler Insurance Services, Inc. CA Agency License #0D10209. Travel Insurance is underwritten by Berkshire Hathaway Specialty Insurance Company; NAIC #22276. 716

A \$500 deposit per person is required with your registration form in order to reserve your spot.
FINAL PAYMENT IS DUE TO IOWA PBS:
AUGUST 5, 2022

For further information or questions, please call:
Darla Hassebrook
(515) 725-9811
or email: darla@iowapbs.org
PO Box 6400, Johnston, IA 50131

Activity Level - Moderate Tour

In order to participate in this tour, **you must:**

- Be able to walk 1-3 miles over the course of the day, up and down stairs, and over unpaved or cobblestone surfaces.
- Be comfortable on your feet for up to two hours walking and standing, both inside museums and outdoors in all weather conditions such as hot sun and rain.
- Be able to navigate towns and cities on your own as desired.

DOCUMENTATION: Each U.S. citizen must have a valid passport through June 8, 2023, to participate. If you don't have a passport, call our office and we'll tell you how to apply for one. Holders of non-U.S. passports have different entry requirements. Please NOTE: Due to airline security measures, your passport name must match your airline ticket name and your tour reservation name or you may be denied aircraft boarding.

OPTIONAL TRAVEL PROTECTION PLAN: Iowa PBS recommends that you purchase a Travel Protection Plan to help protect you and your travel investment against the unexpected so you can relax and enjoy your trip. Participants may purchase this coverage from the provider of your choice. For your convenience, we offer a Travel Protection Plan, 360° Group Premier provided by Traveler Insurance Services, that helps provide coverage for trip cancellation/interruption, trip delay, baggage loss, theft or damage, medical expense and emergency evacuation coverage, and more. For more information, please see the product flyer included with this brochure. If you would like to purchase the offered plan, please check the applicable box on the registration form. Please Note: The plan cannot be purchased after final payment. To view/download the Policy, which provides the full coverage terms and details, including limitations and exclusions, go to: <https://policy.travelersinsurance.com/GPB-0521>. To view state specific fraud warnings, visit: <https://www.travelersinsurance.com/company/fraud-warning>. The purchase of this product is not required in order to purchase any other travel product or service. Your travel retailer might not be licensed to sell travel insurance and will only be able to provide general information about the product. An unlicensed travel retailer may not answer questions about the terms and conditions of the insurance offered and may not evaluate the adequacy of your existing insurance coverage. The products being offered provide insurance coverage that only applies during your covered trip. You may have insurance coverage from other sources that provide similar benefits but may be subject to different restrictions depending upon the coverage. You may wish to compare the terms of the travel policy offered through Traveler with any existing life, health, home, and automobile insurance policies you may have. If you have questions about your coverage under your existing insurance policies, contact your insurer or insurance agent or broker. Traveler Insurance Services, Inc. CA Agency License #0D10209. Travel Insurance is offered on behalf of and under the direction of Traveler Insurance Services. Travel Insurance is underwritten by Berkshire Hathaway Specialty Insurance Company; NAIC #22276. 7D4

CANCELLATION: Full refund of all monies is made if cancellation is received in writing to Iowa PBS prior to final payment. A 100% fee is charged if the cancellation occurs between final payment and departure. If the reason for cancellation is due to a medical or other reason that is covered by Travel Protection, you may be eligible for reimbursement for such fees from your Travel Protection Plan provider.

TRAVELERS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS: You must advise Star Destinations, Inc. (SDI) at the time of registration of any disability requiring special attention. SDI will make reasonable efforts to accommodate the special needs of travelers. The Americans with Disabilities Act is applicable only in the U.S., and accommodations outside the U.S. may be more limited. Travelers requiring assistance are required to be accompanied by a companion who is capable of, and totally responsible for, providing the assistance. Neither SDI personnel nor its suppliers may lift or physically assist with travelers' special needs including, but not limited to, walking, dining, or other routine activities. Travelers thinking they may need assistance should call SDI to determine what accommodations may reasonably be provided. Arrangements at an additional cost are the financial responsibility of the traveler.

TERMS & CONDITIONS: Star Destinations, Inc. (SDI) acts as an agent for suppliers such as airlines, hotels or activities to provide you with the travel services and accommodations. Although great care is taken in choosing suppliers, we are unable to control them and therefore cannot be held responsible or liable for their acts or omissions. Should a contracted supplier be unable to perform required services, SDI reserves the right to substitute advertised services with similar services. SDI is not responsible for any claims, losses, damages, costs or expenses arising out of injury, accident or death, damage, loss, trip delay or delay of baggage, or other inconvenience resulting from mechanical breakdowns, fire, theft, civil disturbances, government actions, weather, and other factors beyond our control. In the case of a pandemic or worldwide disturbance that interrupts or cancels your planned tour, SDI will do everything possible to retrieve any refundable components of your tour but cannot be held responsible for any non-refundable portions of the tour. In addition, SDI reserves the right to vary the tour price advertised or printed to cover any increase in air fare, volatile fuel prices, government taxes and charges, exchange rate fluctuations, or other tour-related tariffs or newly announced travel costs. **The price of this tour is based on the EUR/USD exchange rate of \$1.08 as of 2/19/2020.** In the current travel environment, pricing may be increased due to unexpected requirements for health and safety of tour members. Due to infectious diseases, including COVID-19, destination areas may implement restrictions and requirements that may add additional costs beyond our control. Be aware that any public interaction carries a risk of exposure to infectious diseases. Travelers assume personal risk upon tour registration, and SDI cannot be held responsible in the event of infectious disease exposure. If you request a variation or change to your booking, SDI may choose to accept or reject that request. If accepted, you are responsible for any fees associated with it. If the minimum number of passengers required to operate the tour is not met, SDI reserves the right to cancel the tour.

It is the sole discretion of SDI to refuse transport to any passenger, or require any passenger to leave the tour, if it is reasonably believed that the passenger (1) is dangerous to others or to himself or herself; (2) is engaged in, or is threatening to engage in behavior that may adversely affect the safety, security, enjoyment, or well-being of other passengers, including behavior that is disruptive, verbally or physically abusive, obnoxious, harassing, or obscene; or (3) has failed or refused to follow SDI's rules and procedures or the instructions of its representatives. In the event a passenger is removed, such passenger may be left at any location without any liability to SDI or its representatives. SDI shall not be required to refund any portion of the price paid by any passenger who is removed, nor shall SDI be responsible for any further expenses incurred by the passenger. SDI shall be entitled to recover from the passenger any costs or expenses incurred by SDI or its representatives in the removal of the passenger or the exercise or enforcement of this clause.