

Christmas Markets of Budapest, Vienna & Prague

+ SALZBURG EXTENSION



11

DAYS

14 DAYS WITH EXTENSION

Special Event Tour

Kick off the holiday season a little differently this year.

Head to Eastern Europe's popular and festive Christmas markets to peruse stall-upon-stall of handmade, heartfelt crafts perfect for everyone on your list. When you're not shopping, you'll have plenty of time to explore the streets of ancient Buda and modern Pest, get a taste for the Viennese cafe culture and scan artsy Prague's spire-studded skyline.

Go Ahead

Start planning today **1.800.206.9871** | goaheadtours.com/vim

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Overview

CHRISTMAS MARKETS OF BUDAPEST, VIENNA & PRAGUE



Let us handle the details



Expert
Tour Director



Local
cuisine



Handpicked
hotels



Sightseeing with
local guides



Private
transportation



Personalized
flight options

Your tour includes

- 9 nights in handpicked hotels
- Breakfast daily, 3 three-course dinners with beer or wine
- Multilingual Tour Director
- Private deluxe motor coach
- Guided sightseeing and select entrance fees

Your tour highlights

- Festive Christmas markets offer a unique look into local cultures
- The beauty of Budapest by night
- The opulent Schönbrunn Palace in Vienna
- Artists and artistry on the Charles Bridge
- The whimsy of Art Nouveau architecture
- Austrian wine and Czech beer

Where you'll go

OVERNIGHT STAYS

3 nights • Budapest
3 nights • Vienna
3 nights • Prague



35

MAXIMUM GROUP SIZE FOR THIS TOUR

With our Right Size Advantage, your group will never get in the way of your experience. Learn more at goaheadtours.com/rightsize



ABOUT YOUR HOTELS

Our 3- and 4-diamond accommodations are handpicked to ensure quality and comfort. See sample hotels for this tour at goaheadtours.com/vim

Itinerary

CHRISTMAS MARKETS OF
BUDAPEST, VIENNA & PRAGUE

Overnight flight | 1 night

Day 1: Travel day

Board your overnight flight to Budapest today.

Budapest | 3 nights

Day 2: Arrival in Budapest

Included meals: welcome dinner

Welcome to Hungary! Meet your fellow travelers at tonight's welcome dinner.

Day 3: Sightseeing tour of Budapest

Included meals: breakfast

Discover the major landmarks of both Buda and Pest in the city that straddles east and west on a guided tour. Then, take time to wander through the city's Christmas markets on your own.

- Trace this nation's stormy history at Heroes Square
- Tour the lavishly decorated Hungarian Parliament building
- Cross the Danube and ascend Castle Hill
- Take in the breathtaking views from Fisherman's Bastion
- Visit the medieval Matthias Church, once the site of Hapsburg coronations

Tonight, visit the Zwack Unicum Heritage Visitors' Centre for a tasting of Hungary's national drink, Unicum liqueur. Learn about the recipe, which contains more than 40 herbs and has been guarded as secret for more than 200 years. Then, enjoy a Hungarian dinner accompanied by wine pairings.

Day 4: Free day in Budapest

Included meals: breakfast

Spend a full free day in Budapest or add an excursion.

+ *Budapest: A Walk Behind the Iron Curtain*

Vienna | 3 nights

Day 5: Vienna via Szentendre

Included meals: breakfast, dinner

Travel west through the Danube basin, stopping in Szentendre en route to Vienna, home of chocolates, cafes, parks and pastries.

Day 6: Sightseeing tour of Vienna

Included meals: breakfast

Get transported back to the Age of Empires on a guided tour of Vienna.

- Enter Schönbrunn Palace, the Rococo Hapsburg home with impressive gardens
- Travel down the Ringstrasse, Vienna's tree-lined thoroughfare
- See the Parliament building, the Vienna State Opera and the grand Hofburg Palace, the Hapsburg's winter residence
- Visit the city's festive Christmas market and sample *glühwein*, heated sweet wine
- Peruse stalls of handmade crafts in search of gifts perfect for everyone on your list

Enjoy a free evening in Vienna or add an excursion.

+ *Traditional Viennese Heurigen Evening*

Day 7: Free day in Vienna

Included meals: breakfast

Spend a full free day in Vienna.

Prague | 3 nights

Day 8: Travel to Prague

Included meals: breakfast, dinner

Drive through the pastoral landscapes of Bohemia on your way to Prague, one of Europe's most beautiful cities.

Day 9: Sightseeing tour of Prague

Included meals: breakfast

Discover why Prague is known as the City of One Hundred Spires on a guided tour.

- Visit Prague Castle, from which Charles IV governed the Holy Roman Empire
- Admire the soaring Gothic vaults of St. Vitus Cathedral
- Ride a historic tram from Castle Hill down to the Vltava River
- Cross the elegant Charles Bridge for breathtaking views of the city
- Stroll through Old Town Square to view the 15th-century Astronomical Clock

Then, head to Josefov, Prague's Jewish Quarter, to learn about the neighborhood's history and culture.

- Enjoy lunch at a kosher restaurant
- Follow a local guide on a walking tour of the Quarter's remains, which survived devastation during World War II and oppression during the Communist era
- Visit the Jewish Museum of Prague, housed in a collection of former synagogues, one of which displays the names of all the Czechs sent to concentration camps
- See sites once frequented by Franz Kafka, the enigmatic author of *The Trial* and *The Metamorphosis*

Day 10: Free day in Prague

Included meals: breakfast

Spend a full free day in Prague or add an excursion.

+ *Château Sychrov*

Day 11: Departure

Included meals: breakfast (excluding early morning departures)

Transfer to the airport for your flight home, or continue on to Salzburg.

Post-tour extension

Salzburg | 3 nights

Day 11: Salzburg via Český Krumlov

Included meals: breakfast

On the way to Salzburg, stop in the village of Český Krumlov for a tour of its UNESCO World Heritage-protected medieval quarter.

Day 12: Sightseeing tour of Salzburg

Included meals: breakfast

Head to Salzburg, a city famed for its churches and musical history, where a local guide leads you on a walking tour of the Old Town.

- View the University of Salzburg and the churchyard of St. Peter
- See the Kapitelplatz, Residenzplatz and Alter Markt, in the city's Old Town
- Enter Salzburg Cathedral and the home where Mozart was born
- Pass through scenery from *The Sound of Music*
- Take a funicular ride up to the Hohensalzburg Fortress

Enjoy a free evening in Salzburg or add an excursion.

+ *Mozart Concert & Dinner*

Day 13: Free day in Salzburg

Included meals: breakfast

Spend a full free day exploring Salzburg on your own.

Day 14: Departure

Included meals: breakfast (excluding early morning departures)

Transfer to the airport for your flight home.

Extension is available on select departure dates. Space is limited. Minimum of 10 travelers is required.

Customize your experience

CHRISTMAS MARKETS OF
BUDAPEST, VIENNA & PRAGUE

Create a more personal journey by adding optional excursions that speak to your interests. Excursions offered on the same day will occur at different times, so there's no need to choose—you're free to do as much or as little as you'd like. Save \$10* when you book your excursion up to 3 days before your tour departs. Please note: Excursions that require advance reservation will only have this discounted price listed. Call or go online to start customizing your tour: **1.800.206.9871** | goaheadtours.com/vim

Day 4: Budapest: A Walk Behind the Iron Curtain

| \$69/\$79* (4 hours, departs in the morning, snacks included)

Discover the turbulent, tragic and heroic history of the communist period in Budapest on today's excursion. Your guided sightseeing tour passes the Parliament building, which was the starting place of the 1956 Hungarian Revolution and still shows signs of damage from the Soviet invasion. Visit the nearby statue of Imre Nagy, Hungary's Prime Minister during the revolution, who is an enduring symbol of freedom. Liberty Square is just a stroll away, home to the U.S. Embassy, a statue of Ronald Reagan and the only remaining monument to Communist troops. From St. Stephen's Basilica, take the historical Metro Line 1 up the iconic Andrássy Ave. Stop for an included coffee and piece of cake amidst the Neo-Renaissance splendor of Book Café, the regular meeting place of the intelligentsia during the Soviet occupation. End the day at the House of Terror, where you will take a guided tour through this chilling museum and moving monument to the victims of communism and fascism in Hungary.

Day 6: Traditional Viennese Heurigen Evening

| \$99/\$109* (4 hours, evening with dinner)

After a brief drive, your first stop is Vienna's Prater Ferris Wheel. Take a breezy ride to the top, which offers a one-of-a-kind view of the city. Next, continue to the picturesque village of Grinzing. At a local restaurant, you'll indulge in a festive night of music, food and entertainment. Dinner will feature dishes typical of traditional Austrian Heurigen, or wine taverns. During your meal, you'll have the chance to try some of the tavern's own locally made wine—the perfect addition to your cozy Old World setting.

Day 10: Château Sychrov

| \$139/\$149** (6 hours, evening with dinner)

Visit Château Sychrov, a 17th-century Baroque estate north of Prague. Take a guided tour through the estate, paying special attention to the elaborate carvings along the stairway, in the chapel and in the dining room. Then, tour the gallery of French kings and the château's manicured grounds. Later, attend a private recital of classic Czech music and an included dinner.

Extension optional excursion

Day 12: Mozart Concert & Dinner

| \$109/\$119* (4.5 hours, evening with dinner)

Step inside the 1,200-year-old St. Peter Stiftskeller, the oldest restaurant in Europe located within St. Peter's Abbey. Here, you'll enjoy an evening of fine dining and music. Mozart composed over 600 works in his short life and tonight, you'll hear his masterpieces accompanied by opera singing as you sample local delicacies.

*Optional excursions may be purchased up to 3 days prior to departure or while on tour. Pre-purchased optional excursions cannot be canceled within 3 days prior to departure or while on tour. Select optional excursions require advance booking and cannot be purchased or canceled after the advanced reservation deadline. GAT accepts payment by cash, Visa or MasterCard for optional excursions purchased on tour. Additional fees may apply for optional excursions purchased on tour. Excursions require a minimum number of participants to operate. Details and prices are subject to change. Due to seasonal hours of operation and availability, some excursions may not operate. If this occurs, you will be refunded any payments made for that excursion post-tour.