

Joy of the Journey Travel presents...

European Christmas Markets

December 5 – 13, 2025



Book Now
& Save
\$500
Per Person

Upgrade to Elite Airfare! See inside for details.

For more information contact
Gina Garera
Joy of the Journey Travel
919-307-7907
gina@joyofthejourneytravel.com

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9 Days • 11 Meals: 7 Breakfasts, 4 Dinners

HIGHLIGHTS... Prague's Christmas Markets, Prague Castle, Choice on Tour: Vltava Boat Tour or Jewish Heritage Tour, Dresden's Christmas Markets, Český Krumlov, Vienna's Christmas Markets, Viennese Candy Workshop, Train Ride to Bratislava, Budapest's Christmas Markets, Matthias Church, Fisherman's Bastion

ITINERARY AT A GLANCE

Day 1	Overnight Flight
Days 2 – 4	Grandior Hotel , Prague
Days 5, 6	Intercontinental Hotel Wien, Vienna
Days 7, 8	Courtyard by Marriott Budapest City Center, Budapest

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.

Day 1: Friday, December 5, 2025 Overnight Flight Set out on a grand holiday adventure through the winter wonderland of the Imperial Cities of Central Europe – Prague, Vienna and Budapest. Along the way, immerse yourself in festive Christmas markets, enjoy traditional entertainment, sample local cuisine, and glimpse this region's rich history.

Day 2: Saturday, December 6, 2025 Prague, Czech Republic - Tour Begins Arrive in Prague, the "City of 100 Spires." Behold ancient landmarks and medieval architecture. This evening, join your fellow travelers for a welcome dinner at a local restaurant. (D)

Day 3: Sunday, December 7, 2025 Prague Feel the magic and wonder of Prague amid the holiday season. Your introduction to this fairy-tale city begins with a panoramic tour. Explore the "Castle District," including the gothic St. Vitus Cathedral and the majestic Prague Castle. Then decide how to further explore Prague because **it's your choice!** Learn more about the city's Jewish heritage and visit Europe's oldest active synagogue* on a heritage tour -**OR-** board a boat to see a different side of Prague on a Vltava River cruise. The remainder of your afternoon and evening is at leisure to take in the best Prague has to offer independently. Take in the iconic, statue-lined Charles Bridge, a picturesque structure stretching over the Vltava River, and don't miss the famous Christmas market in Prague's Old Town Square, where brightly decorated wooden huts are filled with the work of local artisans, and traditional food and drink are prepared right in front of you. (B)

Day 4: Monday, December 8, 2025 Prague - Dresden, Germany - Prague, Czech Republic Travel to Dresden, Germany, known as "Florence on the Elbe." Meet a local guide for a tour highlighting its' baroque splendor and architectural treasures such as Frauenkirche (Church of Our Lady) and the Royal Palace. Visit the world's oldest Christmas market – the Striezelmarkt – which has been delighting travelers and locals alike since 1434. Take time to explore the stalls overflowing with ornaments, sample local sweets and get lunch on your own before returning to Prague later in the afternoon. (B)

Day 5: Tuesday, December 9, 2025 Prague - Český Krumlov - Vienna, Austria Depart Prague and travel through the scenic countryside on your way to Vienna, Austria. En route, make a stop in the medieval town of Český-Krumlov. Lined with towering Baroque architecture, explore the quaint-preserved streets independently and have time for lunch on your own. Continue to the one-of-a-kind Marchfelderhof Restaurant, a favorite since the 1800s of locals, visitors, and the famous alike. Indulge in dinner at the iconic Viennese restaurant rich with tradition. Arrive in the grand city of Vienna, capital of Austria, aglow with holiday lights, and perhaps join your Tour Manager for an evening stroll. (B, D)

Day 6: Wednesday, December 10, 2025 Vienna This morning, meet your local guide on a scenic bus ride and walking tour to Vienna's city center and behold the beautiful architecture, scenic parks, and gothic spires that fill the city. Learn more about Vienna's sweet confectionary history when you visit a candy workshop where candies are still being made according to traditional recipes dating back over 150 years. An afternoon at leisure allows time to visit the Christkindlmarkt, perhaps the biggest and most famous in the city, at the neo-gothic Rathaus City Hall. Tonight, you may choose an option to explore the Christmas market and the interiors at the magnificent Schönbrunn Palace, together with a classical music performance at the famous Orangerie where the past comes alive. (B)

Day 7: Thursday, December 11, 2025 Vienna - Bratislava, Slovakia - Budapest, Hungary Hop aboard a train to Bratislava, the former Imperial capital of the Habsburg Empire. Enjoy free time to have lunch and explore some of the city's 4,000-year-old history independently – don't miss the charming Christmas markets! Continue through the Hungarian countryside to spend an afternoon at a beautiful rustic local restaurant preserving 200-years of typical Hungarian cultural and architectural traditions. Learn how to make traditional strudel before enjoying a typical Hungarian dinner. Later this evening, arrive in Budapest, the



Book Now & Save \$500 Per Person:

Double \$4,099	Double \$3,599*
Single \$4,799	Single \$4,299
Triple \$4,069	Triple \$3,569

For bookings made after Jun 06, 2025 call for rates.

Included in Price: Round Trip Air from New Hanover City Airport, Air Taxes and Fees/Surcharges, Hotel Transfers

Not included in price: Cancellation Waiver and Insurance of \$549 per person

* All Rates are Per Person and are subject to change, based on air inclusive package from ILM

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Additional rate of: Premium Economy \$1,690; Business Class \$4,490

- * Elite Air pricing (Premium Economy, Business Class or First class) is valid until 8 months prior to departure, after which rates are subject to change and will be quoted based upon availability.

† Refer to the reservation form to choose your upgrade option

IMPORTANT CONDITIONS: Your price is guaranteed once deposit is received and booking confirmed by Collette. Your price is not subject to increase after the deposit is received and booking confirmed, except for charges resulting from increases in government-imposed taxes or fees. **(See registration form for consent.)**

"Queen of the Danube" and your home for the next 2 nights. Enjoy the evening on your own or join your Tour Manager for an evening walk. (B, D)

Day 8: Friday, December 12, 2025 Budapest Join a local expert for a panoramic tour of the city, where you'll discover the incredible neo-gothic marvel of Matthias Church atop Buda Castle Hill, the Fisherman's Bastion, the historic Old Buda and Gellert Hill, and the Parliament House. This afternoon, enjoy some free time to explore Budapest on your own. Perhaps you will visit

the cozy Christmas market at St. Stephen's Basilica with its ice rink and gorgeous tree, or head to the city's largest market at Vörösmarty Square brimming with food and crafts stalls where local musicians often perform. This evening join your fellow travelers to toast the end of a festive trip at a farewell dinner. (B, D)

Day 9: Saturday, December 13, 2025 Budapest - Tour Ends Say goodbye to these regal cities as your tour comes to a close today. (B)

Experience It! Christmas Markets

Few things invoke the feel of old-world holiday traditions more than the spectacular European Christmas Markets. From November until Christmas these outdoor markets dot the Imperial Cities like a string of ornaments on a tree. Be transported back in time to a winter wonderland of open-air market stalls brimming with ornaments, handmade crafts, specialty food and warming beverages. Watch people spin on the ice of the outdoor rink in Vienna, see its lovely carousel and twinkling light installations. Prague is particularly lovely in the Advent season when its squares are festively transformed, and you can shop and sip to your heart's content as classical musicians perform, and choirs sing timeless songs of the season. Good cheer abounds in Budapest's largest market which glistens against the backdrop of the city's gorgeous St. Stephen's Basilica. Indulge in a timeless European holiday on this very special Christmas Markets tour.

For more information visit <https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/1294991>

PLEASE NOTE:

Book Now rates valid until Jun 06, 2025, valid on air inclusive packages only.

The overall activity level of this tour is a level 3. This means you're an on-the-go traveler. You don't want to miss a thing, so walking and standing for longer periods of time (2-3 hours) isn't a big deal. A moderately paced two-and-a-half-hour walking tour, covering several miles, hills, and uneven surfaces, is no problem for you. Walking four miles over the course of a day is very doable, as is climbing into and out of various modes of transportation (tuk-tuk, cable car, zodiac, etc.). You can climb three flights of stairs easily and handle altitudes between 6,000 and 9,000 feet. Expect some longer days with early mornings or late nights balanced with free time to recharge or set out on your own adventure. This level is not a fit for travelers who require mobility assistance devices.

If you've chosen the Jewish Heritage Tour option as your selected Choice on Tour, combined with the Prague Castle tour, it will include up to 4 hours of walking with stops. The Budapest walking tour will last up to 3 hours with stops.

If you require any special assistance while on tour, please make us aware at time of reservation so the necessary request form can be sent to your attention.

This is a winter program, and you can expect surfaces covered with frost, snow, or ice.

This tour features multiple long transfers exceeding 2 hours, in particular the transfer to and from Dresden, Germany. The transfer from Prague to Vienna, Austria with stops in between, can take up to 10 hours.

The longest day will require a departure from the Vienna hotel at 8:00 a.m. for your train to Bratislava. In Bratislava, you will continue traveling by coach, arriving at the Budapest hotel after 7:00 p.m.

*Prague Synagogue is closed on Saturdays (due to Shabbat) and on Jewish holidays.

Most of the cities on this program are very busy during Advent.

Included breakfasts are buffet breakfasts.

Single accommodations are limited and are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Single rate subject to change based on availability.

Not all major sites can be reached by coach. Public transportation might be used during the Budapest city tour.

To complete your tour, we include roundtrip airport-to-hotel transfers when purchasing our airfare with your tour. If you have arranged for your own air, we are pleased to provide you the option of purchasing these transfers. Please note that all transfers will leave at pre-scheduled times.

For air-inclusive reservations, the name provided at time of booking must match your government-issued ID that will be used during travel. Name changes are subject to penalties.

IDENTIFICATION

Passports are required for this tour at your expense. Certain countries require that your passport be valid at least 6 months beyond the dates of your travel. You are strongly urged to contact the appropriate consulate for details. Visit www.travel.state.gov for the U.S. State Department for the latest details about passports and visa requirements.

IMPORTANT: We recommend that travelers take a photocopy of their passport and applicable visas. It should be packed separately from your actual passport and visa. We also recommend leaving a copy at home with your emergency contact.

Effective for travel in May 2025, all visitors who do not need a visa to enter Europe will be expected to apply for an ETIAS visa waiver, for a fee, when visiting a Schengen Area Country. To identify Schengen Area Countries



and to complete the ETIAS application, please visit <https://www.etiasvisa.com/>

While visas are not required for U.S., Australian, New Zealand, UK or Canadian citizens for a stay of up to 90 days, we recommend you inquire with your consulate for further information.

Visitors are required to show proof of travel medical insurance to travel to the Czech Republic. The health insurance must cover medical services abroad with specific coverages. Please visit <https://travel.state.gov> (the U.S. State Department) for the latest details with regards to entry requirements. If you have **purchased our Travel Protection Plan**, your coverage meets this requirement.

Economy air rate and schedule are applicable for groups of 10 or more traveling on the same flights and dates.

A deposit of \$698 per person is due upon reservation. Reservations are made on a first come, first served basis. Reservations made after the seat reduction date of May 30, 2025 are based upon availability. Final payment due by September 06, 2025. Deposits are refundable up until June 06, 2025.

CST#2006766-20 UBN#601220855 Nevada Sellers of Travel Registration No. 2003-0279

For important reservation information visit
<https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/1294991>
You can also find this information on your tour documents.

BOOKING NUMBER: 1294991

TOUR: European Christmas Markets *featuring Prague,
Vienna & Budapest*

DEPARTURE DATE: December 5, 2025

GROUP NAME: Joy of the Journey Travel

Available Options

Personalize your tour by adding an optional activity below. Our recommended options have been carefully chosen to help enhance your individual experience. Complete the provided Prepaid Options Form to reserve your options.

Availability is limited and reservations are on a first come, first serve basis. Payment must be received no later than 15 days prior to departure. Prices are subject to change.

Children under the age of 18 **MUST** be accompanied by an adult.

Vienna

Christmas at Schönbrunn with Concert

\$120 USD

Experience an unforgettable evening at Schönbrunn Palace as you stroll through the Christmas market, explore the palace after-hours, and enjoy a concert in the Orangery. With its Christmas market, the Parade court in front of the Schönbrunn Palace becomes a winter wonderland, and bustling Christmas extravaganza. Inside the magnificent Schönbrunn Palace, take a special after-hours, audio-guided tour of the largest palace in Austria, once the summer residence of the Habsburg emperors. Away from the crowds, discover rooms filled with paintings, sculptures, and tapestries. Your palace tour concludes in the breathtaking Great Gallery, a Rococo masterpiece of gilt décor, ceiling frescos, and chandeliers. Then, the Schönbrunn Palace Orchestra awaits you in the Orangery with a concert featuring music from Mozart and Johann Strauss, as well as vocal performances. *Duration: Approximately 6 hours.* Please note a minimum of 12 passengers is required. Transportation is included.