



WOMEN OF THE MIDWEST

Travel Solo Together

CO | IA | KS | MN | MO | NE

MERRY CHRISTMAS MARKETS!

Austria & Germany

with Women of the Midwest!

November 26 - December 4, 2022



Dear Women of the Midwest,

There is no better way to usher in the holiday season of Advent and Christmas than to travel with Women of the Midwest to Germany and Austria!

We begin our tour by landing in Vienna, where our fairy tale starts to materialize. Not only do we get to experience the magical Christmas markets, but we will also tour the beauty of Tyrol and Bavaria.

All of our senses are peaked as we begin this Christmas adventure. The scent of burnt umber alerts you that you have arrived at the home of the famous Viennese Coffee. And, no matter how much we stroll and shop, there is always time to linger at an outdoor café over coffee and Vienna's celebrated Sacher Torte, and conversation with your new travel friends.

What else is Vienna famous for? The music of the Strauss family! We will get to see the famous Blue Danube River of waltz fame, (a bit of trivia, "Do you know the Danube was really never blue, but green!") You might just find yourself dancing down the streets of the Waltz capital, as your ears pick up strains of Austria's second national anthem, wherever we are in Vienna.

We are not only greeted by the sounds of the Strauss waltzes, but we add the beautiful notes of Mozart when we arrive in Salzburg, where we visit the childhood home of this musical "boy genius". And, since Salzburg is also the home of the Von Trapp Family Singers, we can hum along to the charming tunes of Rogers and Hammerstein, as we visit the scenes where the Julie Andrew's movie was filmed.

The snow-covered Alps are a backdrop to our Merry Christmas Market journey, where next we head to Munich. Here is where you can find a Christmas gift for everyone on your list. We will shop under the sparkling lights in the city squares. Beautiful ornaments, wooden toys, Christmas cards, mugs, paper-lighted stars and gingerbreads, nativity scenes, and sheepskin slippers, are just a few of the famous offerings at the market.

We also venture on a short train ride to Regensburg, a medieval UNESCO World Heritage Site, and one of Germany's oldest towns.

If you have ever wanted to combine the magic of Christmas with a European flair, join me on the Merry Christmas Market tour, November 26th - December 4th, 2022. This is the perfect adventure with a friend, sister, or mother and daughter. Come along, and enjoy! Frohe Weihnachten!

Sincerely,

Lora Black, Women of the Midwest Ambassador



Call Executive Travel's Group Department today at 402-435-8888. Space is limited.



November 26, 2022

Saturday - Traveling to Vienna, Austria

Our European fairy tale adventure begins as we take an overnight flight to Vienna. Enjoy in-flight entertainment and meal service as you start your dream vacation.

November 27, 2022

Sunday - Vienna

Welcome to the “City of Waltz!” Upon arrival, we will be met by our English-speaking tour guide who will follow us during our entire journey. We transfer to our centrally located hotel to unwind and relax a bit, prior to heading out for an afternoon stroll of the city. Vienna embraces both the contemporary and classic and is one of Europe’s most beautiful capitals with an exciting cultural, music, and theatre heritage. The Museumsquartier and Hofburg are world-class and you will fall in love with the city at first sight. If you are a coffee lover, you have one more reason to delight in Vienna as the city definitely is the “coffee town of all coffee towns”! Do not miss a Viennese Melange and a piece of the famous Sacher Torte in one of the countless cafes. The cake itself is a “bite of history” and our guide will share an interesting story with you along with her own favorite recipe. A welcome lunch is arranged at a local Viennese restaurant. **L**

**Depending on availability, an optional tour of the Spanish Riding School will be offered today.*

November 28, 2022

Monday - Vienna

After a hearty breakfast, we are off for a city sightseeing by foot including visiting the Christmas markets of Vienna. The markets are age-old traditions with forerunners of the present-day events dating back to the Middle Ages when, in 1298, Albrecht I, granted the citizens of Vienna the privilege of holding a December Market or “Krippenmarkt” (Crib’s Market). The Wiener Rathausplatz Market is our first stop. The Christmas market in front of City Hall is an unforgettable highlight for those eager to get into the spirit of the season. The unique backdrop gives this market a charm of its own and delicious aromas are sure to lull all of us into the seasonal joy. We continue by foot to the Christmas market of Stephansplatz, a market with more than 30 stalls focusing on high-quality local products. We will also visit the Sisi Museum located inside the Imperial Palace which today serves as the official residence and workplace of the President of Austria. Empress Elisabeth “Sisi” (1837-1898) enjoyed an informal upbringing before marrying Emperor Franz Joseph I at the age of sixteen. She was obsessed with her beauty and her perfect figure and taking care of her body, resulting in anorexia. Her very liberal ideas, her call for a republic structure, and her effort for the poor and troublesome made her very popular with the Austrian people.

Estimated return to the hotel at 2 PM. The afternoon and evening are at leisure. **B**

November 29, 2022

Tuesday - Salzburg

After a filling breakfast, we board our motorcoach for a short one-hour drive to visit Melk Abbey. Towering high above the town of Melk on a rocky outcrop overlooking the Danube, the bright yellow Benedictine abbey contains the tomb of Saint Coloman of Stockerau and the remains of several members of the House of Babenberg - Austria’s first ruling dynasty. The library is one of the most impressive features with roughly 100,000 volumes and a ceiling fresco by Paul Troger. There is a beautiful church and several important paintings to be found, but the real treasures are the two Melk Crucifixes, one said to contain a piece of Christ’s cross. Our journey continues to Salzburg but before checking in to our hotel we will let ourselves be carried away following in the footsteps of the Trapp family! Hum along to the tunes of “The Sound of Music” as we enjoy the Hellbrunn Castle, admire the pavilion, the gardens, and the romantic courtyard, a path lined by torches and an oversized Advent calendar. We will step into the magic of Advent; romantic booths, tempting treats, and pre-Christmas gift ideas add to the charming atmosphere. The late afternoon and evening is yours at leisure in Salzburg. **B**



**November 30, 2022
Wednesday - Salzburg**

We enjoy our breakfast and then head out for yet another enchanting walking tour of the old town of Salzburg; the hometown of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. We will visit the "Geburtshaus", the house where Mozart was born in 1756 and lived with his parents until 1773. The house is now transformed into a three-floor exhibit, showcasing Mozart's life: how he grew up, his start in music, who his friends and patrons were, family relationships, his passion for opera, and much more. We will swing by a local violin maker's workshop to learn about the restoration work and maintenance of local masterpieces, tonal adjustments, and how to make new instruments. Later we will visit the Salzburg Christmas market and the remainder of the day is at leisure in this captivating and charming city. **B**

**December 1, 2022
Thursday - Ettal - Bad Tölz - Munich**

After a rich breakfast, we depart Salzburg and head towards Munich. On our way, we will make a stop at Ettal to visit the Linderhof Palace, a beautiful Schloss (castle) set in the district of Garmisch-Partenkirchen on the edge of the Bavarian Alps. A better backdrop is hard to imagine. Of the three palaces "mad" King Ludvig II had built (Hohenschwangau, Neuschwanstein, and Linderhof), this one was the only one he saw completed. Our next stop today is Bad Tölz to experience a Christmas market focusing on baked goods and hot

food. You must try the Feuerzangenbowle, the village's own version of mulled wine. Munich is reached in the early afternoon and we will enjoy a panoramic sightseeing tour of the center of town. In the evening, we will take a walk to the nearby old-town Christmas market at the Marienplatz with the world-famous Glockenspiel. Close by is the Viktualienmarkt where you can find numerous stalls selling local delicacies, fresh fish, exotic fruits, flowers and plants, and much more. **B**

**December 2, 2022
Friday - Regensburg**

After a hearty breakfast, we will enjoy a short train ride to Regensburg, a medieval UNESCO World Heritage Site, and one of Germany's oldest towns. Crusaders used the 12th century stone bridge to cross the Danube en route to the Holy Land. We have arranged an old-town sightseeing by foot and we will visit the Christmas market at the Thurn & Taxis Palace. During Advent, the courtyard serves as a magical stage for one of the most beautiful Christmas markets in Bavaria. Hungry anyone? Enjoyed your lunch at the historic "Wurstkuchl" (Sausage Kitchen) of Regensburg. Located in a 900-year-old building, this is the world's oldest sausage kitchen, still serving more than 6,000 sausages to its guests daily. The menu is simple: Sausages (comes in portions of six, eight, or ten!) along with sauerkraut and mustard - a meal for a queen! Our last stop in Regensburg is at a local hat maker.

Ohh, how you will love this place which has been in operation since 1875! We return to Munich in the late afternoon for an evening at leisure. **B**

**December 3, 2022
Saturday - Munich**

Breakfast is served and the morning is free to relax before we head out to enjoy two prominent Christmas markets. The organizers of the Residenz Christmas Market have recreated a farming village in the Emperor's Court of the Munich Residenz, the former Bavarian Seat of Government. They say the prettiest gingerbread in Germany are made and sold here; we will taste and judge! We continue to the Bayerisches National Museum with the world-famous collection of nativity scenes. Tonight we have arranged a farewell dinner at a very special restaurant. This will be a fun way to say a fond farewell to our fellow travelers - Merry Christmas, Women of the Midwest! **B | D**

**December 4, 2022
Sunday - Return home**

All too soon, your vacation has ended. Transfer to Munich airport in plenty of time to check in for our flight and to clear security. You may do some last-minute shopping at the duty-free stores before boarding and flying west across the Atlantic Ocean back to the United States. **B**

Itinerary subject to change.

B = Breakfast S = Snack L = Lunch D = Dinner



To register contact:



1212 O Street • Lincoln, NE 68508

Phone: 402-435-8888 (ask for Group Department)

Fax: 402-435-2735

GroupDepartment@executivetravel.com

www.executivetravel.com

ONLINE REGISTRATION LINK:

<https://fs28.formsite.com/vLu8mE/WMWXMAS22/>

Package Price:

Per person in a shared double room: \$2,895
 Per person in a single room: \$3,895

We offer "Pair & Share" service. Ask us to assist with finding your roommate!

A non-refundable deposit of \$500 per person is required upon signing up. Deposit can be paid by cash, check or credit card. Balance is due on July 26, 2022, and is non-refundable. Balance can be paid by cash or check. Credit card payment(s) (any payment applied to the tour after the deposit) will access a 3.5% fee.

Travel Insurance:

We recommend travel insurance to help protect you and your trip investment against the unexpected. For your convenience, we offer a plan provided by Travelex Insurance Services. For rates and plan highlights, please ask us.

Travelex Insurance Services, Inc CA Agency License #0D10209. Travel Insurance is underwritten by Berkshire Hathaway Specialty Insurance Company, NAIC #22276.

The tour will be materialized with a minimum of 17 travelers. We refer to our general terms and conditions which can be found at executivetravel.com/eti-home/vacation/escorted-tours.

Tour Activity Level: LEVEL 1 2 3 4

This tour involves a considerable amount of walking, some stairs, longer periods of standing, outdoor activities, and steep areas within the places visited. This trip is not recommended for guests with walking difficulties. Comfortable, sturdy shoes/boots are recommended.

Airfare:

We are happy to assist with airfare. Estimate \$1,400 per person roundtrip, economy class, incl. taxes and fees.

Visa/Passport requirements (per 9/29/2020):

U.S. citizens must have a valid passport to enter Austria and Germany for tourism stays of up to 90 days. It is the traveler's responsibility to make sure all documentation needed is as per current regulations. We recommend you check www.travel.state.gov at least 90 days prior to your departure.

Hotel Accommodations: Vienna - Hotel Wandl, Salzburg - Imlauer Hotel Pitter, Munich - King's Hotel Center. *Final accommodations with your travel documents, 30 days prior to departure.*

Included:

- 7 nights during the tour in Austria and Germany at hotels mentioned above or similar
- 7 x breakfast
- 1 x lunch (day 2)
- 1 x dinner (day 8)
- Professional English-speaking tour guide, November 27 - December 4, 2022
- All transportation as per tour program
- Train ticket (roundtrip, economy class) Munich-Regensburg-Munich
- Admissions to all sites mentioned in the tour program
- Headphones where required
- Women of the Midwest Ambassador, November 26 - December 4, 2022
- All local taxes and fees as per October 21, 2020

Not Included:

- Airfare, estimate \$1,400 per person, incl. taxes and fees
- Airline baggage fees (first checked piece up to 50 lbs is FREE)
- Gratuities (estimate \$10 per person per day in total)
- Travel insurance
- Personal expenses
- Meals and beverages other than mentioned in the tour program
- Entrances to monuments and/or museums other than mentioned
- Professional fee, \$75 per person, due at time of registration
- Anything not mentioned in the inclusions



WOMEN OF THE MIDWEST

Travel Solo Together

CO | IA | KS | MN | MO | NE

A wholly-owned division of Executive Travel Inc.

Forwarding registration and deposit signifies that you agree to the terms and conditions found at executivetravel.com/eti-home/vacation/escorted-tours

Call Executive Travel's Group Department today at 402-435-8888. Space is limited.

9/28/2022