# **EUROPEAN CHRISTMAS**

Germany - Austria - Slovakia

Hosted by Friends of GoodSports Slovakia

NOVEMBER 27 - DECEMBER 7, 2025









Dear Friends.

We invite you to join us on a once-in-a-lifetime journey through Europe, hosted by Pastor Thomas Johnson and his wife, Debbie, as they return for the tenth time to a region that holds a special place in their hearts. Imagine a city or village throwing a big party, and everyone is invited. That is what goes on all over Europe during the Advent season and beyond.

Our fairy tale adventure begins in Munich and will take you to Salzburg, Vienna, and Bratislava. Munich will greet us with a cheerful "Hallo" accompanied by the sounds of the world-famous Glockenspiel (clock tower). Salzburg will captivate you with its enchanting "Sound of Music" atmosphere, while the scent of burnt umber signals that you have arrived at the home of the renowned Viennese coffee, Vienna. No matter where you wander and pause, there's always time to relax at an outdoor café over coffee, savoring Vienna's celebrated Sacher Torte, while enjoying a conversation with your new travel friends.

Bratislava stands alone as a unique chapter, featuring its stunning castle and Old Town. This tour offers all that and an opportunity to experience GoodSports Youth Centers in action. Together we will conclude the journey by celebrating the official beginning of Christmas in Europe on December 5 and 6, St. Nickolas Day. It's a perfect way to wrap up a wonderful 10 days together.

This journey offers Christmas markets and so much more. We hope you will consider joining us!

Sincerely, Tom and Debbie Johnson GoodSports, Slovakia





### November 27, 2025 - Thursday

Traveling to Munich

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

### November 28, 2025 - Friday

Munich

Welcome to Munich! Upon arrival, we will meet our English-speaking tour guide who, will follow us throughout our journey. With our private motorcoach, we will transfer to the center of Munich to take a walking tour of Marienplatz with the world-famous Glockenspiel (clock tower) and explore Marienplatz Christmas Market. Dinner is enjoyed at a traditional Bavarian bistro before we check into our centrally located hotel for a good night's rest. D

### November 29, 2025 - Saturday

Munich - Salzburg

After a hearty breakfast, we are ready to take off to Salzburg. On our way, we will stop to visit the salt mines at Berchtesgaden, the oldest active salt mine in Germany. Salt has been mined here in the depths of the Alps for more than 500 years. An impressive journey into the world of salt awaits us in the depths of the mountain, including a ride on a narrow-gauge mining train, sliding down the two long wooden slides, and a tour of the underground mirror lake. We will enjoy lunch at a local restaurant prior to our walking sightseeing tour of Salzburg. We will check into our centrally located



hotel, and the remainder of the afternoon and evening is at leisure. Stroll the beautiful streets of Salzburg, visit Mozart's birthplace, or simply people-watch, relax, and enjoy one of the most enchanting cities in Europe. B | L

### November 30, 2025 - Sunday

Sound of Music

After a delicious breakfast, we board our motorcoach and let ourselves be carried away, following in the footsteps of the Trapp family and humming along to the tunes of "The Sound of Music!" Our first stop is at the Oberndorf Chapel - the birthplace of the famous Christmas carol "Silent Night, Holy Night." Next, enjoy the breathtaking scenery around Lake Wolfgangsee and Mondsee. We will also stop at Hellbrunn Castle, where Liesl and Franz whispered their love to each other and where Maria and Georg's romantic scene took place, as well as the duet "Sixteen Going on Seventeen." Lunch is enjoyed in Salzburg before we continue our Sound of Music tour by foot. The evening is at leisure. Our tour director is happy to assist with tickets to a classical concert. Oh, what a day! B | L

### December 1, 2025 - Monday

Hallstatt - Dürnstein - Vienna

Breakfast is served at a leisurely pace. Then, we are off toward Vienna. On the way, we will take in the stunning views of Hallstatt and Dürnstein. Hallstatt has UNESCO World Heritage Site status and is a picturesque lakeside village in Austria's Salzkammergut region. Dürnstein is a charming town in the Wachau Valley known for the castle ruins where King Richard

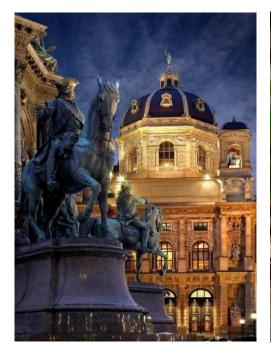


the Lionheart was imprisoned in 1192. The village is also knowns for its delicious apricot schnapps, jams, and pastries. Lunch is enjoyed en-route, and then: Welcome to the "City of Waltz!" Vienna embraces both the contemporary and the classic and is one of Europe's most beautiful capitals with an exciting cultural, musical, and historical heritage. Vienna is love at first sight! If you are a coffee lover, you have one more reason to delight in Vienna as the city is the "coffee town of all coffee towns!" Check into our lovely hotel in the center of Vienna and spend an evening relaxing and unwinding. B | L

### December 2, 2025 - Tuesday

Vienna

After a filling breakfast, we are ready for a city sightseeing tour on foot, including visiting the Christmas markets in 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 "Krippenmarkt" (Crib's market). Our first stop is at the Christmas market in front of the City Hall. The unique backdrop gives this market a charm of its own! We continue by foot to the Christmas market of Stephansplatz, a market with more than 30 stalls focusing on highquality local products. Free time for lunch and the afternoon is yours to enjoy the city. We will gather for a beautiful dinner accompanied by a classical music concert at Kursalon. An unforgettable evening awaits; this is Vienna at its best!



### December 3, 2025 - Wednesday

Vienna

After a delicious breakfast, we will take a short walk to the Spanish Riding School with the Lipizzaners, also known as "the dancing white horses of Vienna." The Spanish Riding School is the only school in the world to practice classical riding for over 450 years. Next, a visit to Treasury Vienna located in the Hofburg Palace. You are about to experience one of the most impressive collections of royal regalia and treasures in the world. The Treasurv is divided into two sections: the Secular Treasury (focused on imperial power) and the Ecclesiastical Treasury (focused on religious relics). It is a journey through European imperial history, perfect for history lovers, art enthusiasts, and anyone fascinated by royal treasures. It's time for lunch, and it is served at a traditional Viennese bistro. Our last visit today is at Schlumberger Kellerwelten - a fantastic experience, especially for sparkling wine lovers and those interested in Austria's wine culture. Schlumberger is Austria's oldest sparkling wine producer, founded in 1842, and is known for using the Méthode Traditionnelle (the same process as Champagne). Our tour takes us through 300-year-old underground cellars, stretching over several kilometers beneath Vienna. Beautifully lit tunnels lined with thousands of aging sparkling wine bottles will tickle your tastebuds, and ...cheers to us! A glass of bubbly is included at the end of our tour. The remainder of the evening is yours in Vienna. Relax, unwind, shop ...there's never a dull moment in Vienna! B | L | T



### December 4, 2025 - Thursday

Winery - Bratislava

After breakfast, we pack our bags, board our motor coach, and head out for a panoramic city tour. At the outskirts of Vienna, we will find ourselves among vineyards and local wineries. Lunch is served at our favorite authentic Austrian wine tavern before we continue and cross the border to Slovakia. We arrive in the only capital city in the world that borders two foreign countries. It is still identified by three names: Pressburg (German), Pozsony (Hungarian), and Bratislava (Slavic). This "Little Big" city is called a "Twin City" with Vienna. Part of the reason is St. Martin's Cathedral in Bratislava which served as the coronation site for Austro-Hungarian kings and queens for nearly 300 years. Maria Theresa was crowned there in 1741. Our visit will begin with a stop at the Castle for a beautiful overlook of the city where we will meet our city guide for a walking tour of the old city. Our tour will conclude at the hotel where we will check-in. The evening is free to enjoy local Christmas Markets. B | L

### December 5, 2025 - Friday

Bratislava - Bojnice

After a filling breakfast, we will board the bus for the quaint castle-town of Bojnice. We will be escorted on a tour of the castle and visit the second GoodSports Youth Center before returning to Bratislava. Join us for a laid-back dinner (optional). Later in the evening, we have arranged a wonderful concert. We will walk to and from the concert hall. B



### December 6, 2025 - Saturday

Bratislava - GoodSports Day - Vienna After breakfast, we check out of the hotel and head to the GoodSports Youth Center in Devinska Nova Ves (an outlying district of the capital city). We will join the celebration of St. Mikulaš Day (St. Nickolas) which marks the beginning of Christmas in many parts of Europe. Be prepared to get messy as we bake cookies, decorate gingerbread houses and participate with the kids in welcoming St. Mikulaš. Visit an elementary school classroom or join a game of floorball, foosball or table tennis as the GoodSports program will be on full display. Following an afternoon of fun, we will travel to the Vienna Airport Hotel, where we will spend a relaxing evening. B

### December 7, 2025 - Sunday

Return home

All too soon, your vacation has ended. A few minutes walk will take us to the departure hall at Vienna Airport. We will have plenty of time to check in for our flight and clear security. You may do some last-minute shopping at the duty-free stores before flying west across the Atlantic Ocean back to the United States. B (boxed) | In-flight meals

Itinerary subject to change.

B = Breakfast L = Lunch T = Tasting D = Dinner



### To register contact:

## Executive Travel

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Phone: 888.549.1186
GroupDepartment@executivetravel.com
www.executivetravel.com

### **ONLINE REGISTRATION LINK:**

https://executivetravel.com/eti-home/vacation/escorted-tours/

Further information about GoodSports, Slovakia: https://www.goodsports.sk/en/







### Package Price:

Per person in a shared double room: \$3,295 Per person in a single room: \$4,295

Limited number of single rooms available. Triple rooms are not available on this trip.

We offer a "Pair & Share" service. Ask us to assist in finding your roommate if you would like to share a room!

A non-refundable deposit of \$500 per person is required upon registration. The deposit can be paid by cash, check, or credit card. The balance is due on July 30, 2025, is non-refundable, and can be paid by cash or check. Credit card payments (any payments after the deposit) will access a 3.5% processing fee.

This tour will be materialized with a minimum of 25 and a maximum of 35 travelers. Should the number fall below 25, all funds paid to Executive Travel will be refunded.

Group airfare: See separate insert.

### Tour Activity Level: LEVEL 1 2 3+ 4

Level 3+. This tour involves an extensive amount of walking, stairs, longer periods of standing, outdoor activities, and steep areas within the places visited. Expect to walk 4-5 miles a day. This trip is <u>not</u> recommended for guests with walking difficulties. Comfortable, sturdy shoes are recommended.

### **Hotel Accommodation:**

Munich: Holiday Inn Munich City Hotel or similar

Salzburg: Hotel Imlauer Pitter
Vienna: Hotel Wandl or similar
Bratislava: Hotel Arcadia or similar
Vienna Airport: Moxy Hotel or similar

### 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. Insurance coverages underwritten by individual member companies of Zurich in North America, including Zurich American Insurance Company (NAIC #16535, state of domicile: New York), 1299 Zurich Way, Schaumburg, IL 60196.

### Included:

- 9 nights during the tour at local 4-star hotels
- 9 x breakfast
- 5 x lunch
- 2 x dinner (welcome dinner and concert dinner)
- 1 x tastings (Schlumberger)
- All transportation as per the tour program
- · Admissions to all sites mentioned in the tour program
- English-speaking professional tour guide during all days in Europe
- Baggage handling at hotels (one piece per person)
- · Headphones/audio headsets where required
- Tour host, Tom Johnson w/GoodSports, Slovakia, November 27 - December 7, 2025
- Detailed travel documents, handed out three weeks prior to departure (hard-copy and electronic)
- All local taxes and fees as of June 17, 2025

### Not Included:

- Airfare, see separate insert.
- Additional airline baggage fees (your first checked piece up to 50 lbs is free)
- Travel insurance
- Personal expenses
- Meals and beverages other than those mentioned in the tour program
- Entrances to monuments and/or museums other than those mentioned
- Gratuities to local guides and drivers (estimate a total of \$15 per day)
- Professional fee, \$75 per person, due at the time of registration
- Anything not mentioned in the inclusions



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

### **JOIN OUR GROUP AIRFARE!**

We offer airfare with United Airlines:

November 27, 2025	Omaha* - Denver	5:20 PM - 6:16 PM
November 27, 2025	Denver - Munich	8:20 PM - 2:05 PM (November 28, 2025)
		,
December 7, 2025	Vienna - Zurich	7:00 AM - 8:25 AM
December 7, 2025	Zurich - Chicago	9:40 AM - 12:45 PM
December 7, 2025	Chicago - Omaha*	3:50 PM - 5:25 PM

\$1,200-\$1,400 per person including taxes and fees, economy class (estimated airfare).

The airfare is confirmed and secured when you sign up for the trip!

\*We are happy to assist with airfare from a different airport than Omaha. Please reach out to us to assist you - a small supplement may occur. If you travel from a different airport, we aim to have you meet your fellow travelers in Munich on November 28 and return from Vienna on December 7 around the same time as the rest of the group.

### Important notes about upgrades, TSA Pre-Check- & Frequent Flyer Numbers:

Premium seating upgrades - depending on availabilities:

**Economy Plus** (main cabin, closer to the front of the aircraft, extra leg space) can be purchased and confirmed once the tickets are issued. Estimate a supplement of \$600-\$900.

**Premium Economy** (wider seat with an extended recline, more legroom, improved menu, and a larger entertainment screen) can be reserved at the time of booking your trip with us. Estimate a supplement of \$3,000-\$4,000.

**Business Class** can be reserved at the time of booking your trip with us. Estimate a supplement of \$6,000-\$8,000.

- Mileage credit for individuals on group air contracts is not guaranteed and is subject to the rules of the airline under contract.
- TSA Pre-Check numbers and Frequent Flyer numbers must be reported at the time of reservation. Otherwise, each traveler must provide these numbers upon check-in on the day of departure.
- Taxes, fuel charges and security fees are subject to change.
- Air schedules are subject to change at the discretion of the airline.

### **SECURE YOUR AIRFARE WHEN SIGNING UP!**

