

It's time to think about Christmas parties!

Enjoy the atmosphere of Christmas markets in Germany & Austria

Christmas always has a tendency to come earlier than one expects. In **Germany** and **Austria**, the opening of the numerous **Christmas markets** marks the beginning of the magical Advent season. Nothing helps more to get into the right **seasonal mood** than taking a stroll over the beautifully **illuminated** and **decorated** markets with their many booths, sipping a mug of **mulled wine**.

This experience can be easily combined with your **Christmas party** as there are many great locations at the destinations in Germany and Austria

Today we would like to introduce markets in **Berlin** and **Munich** as well as **Vienna** and **Salzburg**:

- [Christmas markets in Berlin](#)
- [Christmas markets in München](#)
- [Christmas markets in Vienna](#)
- [Christmas markets in Salzburg](#)



Christmas markets in Berlin from 22.11.2010

Among the many Christmas markets in and around **Berlin**, two are taking place at **locations** which themselves help create a **special atmosphere**: The **Christmas market at the Gendarmenmarkt** and the **Nostalgic Christmas market at the Opernpalais**.

The one at the **Gendarmenmarkt** is called "**Weihnachtszauber**" (Christmas magic) and will be open from **22.11.2010 until 31.12.2010**.

It presents traditional arts and crafts, exquisite food experiences as well as various show programs. The **decorations** and **illuminations** of the Gendarmenmarkt, one of the **most beautiful places** in Berlin, are adding immensely to the **seasonal feeling**. This market is one of the few which have a small entrance fee.

The festively illuminated **Palais** and the **State Opera House** set the scene for the **Nostalgic Christmas Fair Berlin at the Opernpalais** which will be held from **22.11.2010 until 26.12.2010**. Here, anything from traditional Christmas tree decorations, Nativity figures, handcrafted toys,



and wood carvings, to puppets, beeswax candles and lambskin slippers can be found as well as all kinds of culinary delights like hot roasted chestnuts, ginger bread, candied almonds or Tyrolean delicacies.

Christmas markets in Munich from 26.11.2010

The Christmas markets in Southern Germany are called “**Christkindlmarkt**” (Christ Child markets) as here, it is not Santa Clause but the Christ Child who brings the presents.

The largest “**Christkindlmarkt**” in **Munich** takes place at the Marienplatz, the city centre, from **26.11.2010 until 24.12.2010**. The market includes a separate part with **nativity sets** and a handicraft workshop for children as well as many stands and booths offering handcrafted **Christmas decorations** of all kinds, **candles**, **toys** and **culinary delights** from the region like “Reiberdatschi” (potato fritters), gingerbread or roast apples.



Christmas markets in Vienna from 13.11.2010

Vienna during Advent is a city of **nostalgia** and **romance**, concerts and nativity displays, and **traditional Christmas markets**, here also called “Christkindlmärkte”. Classics include the Christmas market in front of City Hall, the traditional Viennese Christmas markets at Spittelberg, Am Hof and in Schönbrunn Palace.

The “Christkindlmarkt” (**from 13.11.2010 until 24.12.2010**) in front of the City Hall is the **biggest one** in **Austria** with **more than 100 stands** offering seasonal food and drinks like mulled wine, gingerbread, hot roasted chestnuts, sugar roasted almonds, and arts and crafts of all kinds. The adjoining **Rathauspark** is a place of seasonal inspiration with **festively adorned trees** and **fairytale scenes** portrayed in artistically-arranged displays.

Another **very popular** Christmas Market is the one which takes place in front of **Schloss Schönbrunn** every year (**this year from 20.11.2010 until 26.12.2010**). Approximately 60 exhibitors present **handicrafts** and **original gifts** such as hand-made Christmas decorations, mangers or objects made of natural materials are available for visitors to admire and purchase.



Christmas markets in Salzburg from 18.11.2010

The tradition and ambiance of **Salzburg's Christmas market** (from 18.11.2010 until 26.12.2010) make an ideal setting for the Christmas season, also with the help of its location, the **Cathedral Square**.

In the traditional booths, everything from traditional **handicrafts**, fine **baked goods**, aromatic tree **ornaments** and various objet d'art for the **Christmas season** is offered. Salzburg's Christmas market is a feast for all the senses: the delicious scent of **mulled wine** wafts around booths adorned with precious, decorative, old and new items.



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