

## Service



## Festive splendor and a winter wonderland



Munich is worth visiting any time of the year but many people are particularly enamored with the winter months – and with good reason.

As the Munich humorist Karl Valentin once said, "Once the tranquil time of year is over, it will once again be more peaceful". And indeed, Marienplatz is never busier, more festive or more enticing than during the weeks the Christmas market is held there. For many, it is the most wonderful time of the year. And they wouldn't dream of missing the Tollwood Winter Festival. With its top-notch program of live concerts and huge selection of organic street food, it's one of a kind in Germany. Others experience the magic of these weeks in a different way. For example, when walking through the silent, snow-covered gardens of Nymphenburg Palace while the rest of the city is snuggling up on the couch. One way or the other, Munich's unique combination of big city and close proximity to nature, tradition and worldliness has a special quality in the winter months. Experience it for yourself!

### Guided tour of the Christmas market



#### Twinkling lights and Christmas magic

During this tour, our guides tell you interesting facts and anecdotes about the past and present-day Christkindmarkt (Christmas market). The festive, wintry walk takes you around Marienplatz, which, to the delight of its visitors, is decked out for the holiday season. The enormous Christmas tree in front of the Neues Rathaus (New Town Hall), with its countless sparkling lights, creates a mood that is both festive and reflective, while the numerous stalls on the square offer hot drinks, all kinds of culinary delights, and inspiration for Christmas gifts.

- approx. 90 to 120-minute guided tour of the Christmas market
- always on Thursday at 4 pm
- includes Christmas treats (candied almonds and one mulled wine per person)
- free cancellation up to 24 hours before the start of the tour



#### Information and booking the Christmas market tour:

[www.simply-munich.com/xmas](http://www.simply-munich.com/xmas)  
or at the tourist information office

München Tourismus provides you with information and inspiration for your visit to Munich.

#### How to contact us:

Phone: +49 (0)89 233-96500, Mon-Fri 9 am – 5 pm  
E-mail: [tourismus.gs@muenchen.de](mailto:tourismus.gs@muenchen.de)

#### Tourist information office:

Rathaus (Marienplatz 8)

#### Services:

- Information about Munich and the tourist activities it offers
- Hotel booking service
- Point of sale for München Card and München City Pass, city tours, guided walks, special guided tours, activity vouchers, outings to the surrounding countryside and to the Bavarian castles and lakes
- Souvenirs and tourist brochures

May be subject to seasonal changes.

For current opening hours and all services, visit us online at:

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**MUNICH**



# Munich in the Winter





# Christmas markets in Munich



Munich loves its Christkindlmarkt. So much so that numerous other markets have long since been added to the original Christkindlmarkt on Marienplatz. An enchanting selection.

**1 Munich's Christkindlmarkt at Marienplatz**  
The Christmas market with the most magnificent backdrop in the city. The stalls are set up every year in front of the neo-Gothic Neues Rathaus on Marienplatz. Its popularity is also due to the fact that it is considered to be Munich's original Christmas market. Its roots can be traced all the way back to the 14th century!

**2 Christmas village in the Kaiserhof (Emperor's Courtyard)**  
This Christmas market is tucked away in the inner courtyard of the magnificent Residenz (former royal palace) and well protected from the wind and snow. The stalls, which are run by traditional workshops and display their beautiful wares, are well worth a visit.

**3 Munich's Christmas extravaganza and medieval market**  
Beautifully decorated wooden cottages, performers in medieval costumes and merchants in historical garments bring the Middle Ages to life. City history you can experience live!

**4 Tollwood – a winter festival**  
In the winter, Tollwood, a popular "alternative" Christmas market, is held at the same venue where Oktoberfest is celebrated in the fall: Theresienwiese. It entices visitors with a combination of organic food and original handicrafts. There is also an exceptionally varied program of music concerts and other events.

**5 Pink Christmas, the queer Christmas market**  
The LGBTQ\* community's Christmas market attracts a diverse crowd thanks to the buoyant mood that predominates here. And of course everything sparkles in the most beautiful of pinks.

**6 Haidhauser Christmas market at Weißenburger Platz**  
The warm and welcoming atmosphere at this Christmas market makes it very popular – some believe that it is the most beautiful Christmas market in Munich. There is live music almost every day and a program of events for children that makes little eyes shine.

**7 Märchenbazar (fairytale bazaar) in the Olympic Park**  
Nostalgic circus tents create a sense warmth and coziness, an old film set in the middle of Munich's Olympic Park serves as a cozy bar, delicacies from all over the world can be found here – and a moon goddess invites you to story time.

**8 Christmas market at Münchner Freiheit**  
This Christmas market was established by a group of artists and restaurateurs over 40 years ago. To this day, it enchants visitors with an art tent, a sculpture trail and a variety of installations.

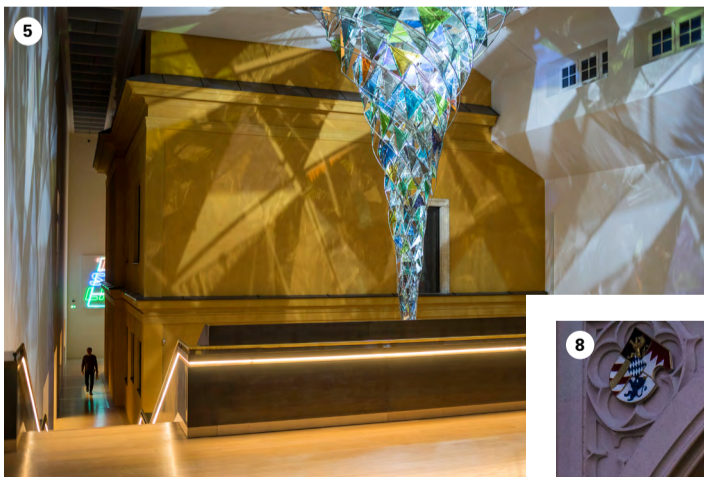
**9 Bahnwärter Thiel and Alte Utting**  
During the Christmas season, the grounds of Bahnwärter Thiel, an alternative cultural center, are transformed into a Christmas carnival – with open studios and workshops, heated tents, fire pits and an enchanted marketplace. There is also a Christmas market on the nearby "Alte Utting", once a pleasure boat. Concerts are held in the belly of the ship.

**10 Christmas market at the Chinese Tower**  
Here you can enjoy the holiday season in what looks like a scene from a picture book: stalls encircle the snow-dusted tower in the middle of the English Garden, a children's carousel goes round and round, and mulled wine steams in mugs.

All markets, guided tours and other offerings during the Christmas season:



You can also find stories, interviews, events, tips and further information at [www.simply-munich.com/christmas](http://www.simply-munich.com/christmas)



## Ringling in the new year in style



Almost everyone wants to experience something special on New Year's Eve. Luckily, that is very easy to do in Munich.

Be it an exquisite meal in a restaurant, a wild party in a club or a joyful crescendo at a New Year's concert, there is something going on everywhere in Munich on New Year's Eve. At midnight, the whole city pours into the streets to welcome in the New Year with colorful fireworks. Please note that fireworks are prohibited in large parts of Munich's historic city center. This is one of the reasons why we recommend heading for a vantage point such as the Olympiabergr, Monopteros or Friedensengel. And after New Year's Eve? Many museums offer unique exhibitions during the period "between the years" (which ends with the public holiday on 6 January 2025). How about a visit to the Bavarian National Museum, for example, which has the most extensive and artistically valuable collection of nativity scenes in the world?



- ① The lions have been standing guard in front of the Feldherrnhalle (Field Marshals' Hall) since 1905. The fact that it sometimes snows doesn't bother them at all.
- ② Feeling cold? Warm up in a cozy restaurant – with a delicious pumpkin soup, for example.
- ③ Christkindlmarkt at Marienplatz. It looks back on a centuries-old tradition.
- ④ You can buy beautiful handicrafts at the various Christmas markets.
- ⑤ The "Wirbelwerk" sculpture in the Lenbachhaus. You will find the opening hours of all the museums on our website at [www.simply-munich.com/turn-of-year](http://www.simply-munich.com/turn-of-year)
- ⑥ Munich's streams and rivers are irresistible – even in winter.
- ⑦ When it snows, Munich's slopes and hills turn into toboggan runs.
- ⑧ During the winter months, Munich's historic city center shows its cozy side.

## Winter paradise in the surrounding area



Powder paradise in the morning, rooftop bar in the evening. Munich is the perfect base camp for winter activities in many respects.

Tobogganing, winter hikes, cross-country skiing – when there's snow on the ground in Munich, you can spend wonderful winter days here. And even if there isn't, there are plenty of other attractive winter options – everything from a visit to the sauna to curling to ice skating. But anyone taking the same approach to the winter months as the people in Munich will be heading for the Alps. Not only will you find some of the world's most famous ski resorts awaiting there, they are also within easy reach. It only takes 80 minutes by train from the main station to the foot of the Zugspitze, Germany's highest mountain, for example.



More tips for winter and New Year's Eve in Munich:

From ice skating to shopping: You will also find an overview of the most attractive winter activities at [www.simply-munich.com/winter](http://www.simply-munich.com/winter)

## Events and concerts



Out-of-the-ordinary events are held during Advent and the winter months. A visit to one or the other is definitely worth your while.

### Münchner Bücherschau (Munich Book Fair)

**14 November to 1 December 2024, Haus der Kunst**  
The Münchner Bücherschau has been providing a universe of books to explore for 65 years. Over 200 publishers present countless books and organize readings, workshops and discussions. A true delight for bookworms big and small.

### Christmas rally at the Deutsches Museum

**1 December 2024 to 6 January 2025**  
Which airplane is Santa sitting in? Which flour is best for Christmas cookies? Thirteen questions are used to take you on a criss-cross tour of many different exhibitions. And you can even win a prize!

### Advent music live from the Town Hall balcony

**30 November to 24 December 2024, Sun-Thu at 5:30 pm**  
The Town Hall on Marienplatz is a Munich landmark. Bavarian and international music groups play Christmas music on its balcony during the Advent season.

### New Year's Eve gala at Munich's Residenz

**Saturday, 31 December 2024, from 10:45 am**  
You can't get more festive than the Prague Royal Philharmonic performing works by Johann Strauss in the magnificent Herkulessaal in the Residenz.

### Holiday on Ice

**From 2 to 5 January 2025, Olympic Hall**  
The world's best skaters outdo themselves performing impressive routines and stunts on the ice in a show that is in a class of its own.

### Elisabeth – Musical at the Deutsches Theater

**From 7 January to 2 February 2025**  
The acclaimed musical tells the life of Empress Elisabeth, better known as Sisi – captivating music and opulent costumes included.



Other events in Munich:

You can find these and other events in our event calendar. It provides a month-by-month list of Munich's top events. [www.simply-munich.com/events](http://www.simply-munich.com/events)

