



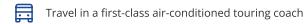


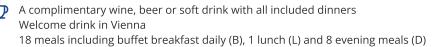


# A Christmas adventure in the Austrian Alps filled with unforgettable moments

### Celebrate Christmas in a beautiful spa hotel located by the picturesque Lake Wolfgangsee

Imagine waking up this Christmas in a chalet deep in the valley of the enchanting snow-covered Austrian Alps. Shop at festive Christmas Markets, explore the stunning Melk Monastery by the Danube and enjoy a horse-drawn carriage ride on Christmas Day.





- Free WiFi at most hotels (where available)
  9 nights authentic, specially selected hotel accommodation
  Hotel porterage of 1 bag per person (where available)
- Personal audio system whilst on tour (where available)
  ALL tips for your Tour Manager, Driver and Local Guides
  Local guides as described in the itinerary
  Fully escorted by our experienced Tour Manager
- Explore the fabulous Christmas Markets in Vienna, Schönbrunn Palace, Salzburg and Berchtesgaden. ALL excursions, scenic drives, sightseeing and entrances as described



#### Vienna

Day 1

Imlauer Hotel Vienna, Austria



Your tour commences this evening in the Imperial city of Vienna. If you have arrived today on your international flight, experience tells us it is best to keep active through this afternoon and Vienna is such a wonderful city at this time of year with so much to see and do. Dinner tonight is included, but first enjoy a welcome drink. This is an ideal opportunity to meet your fellow Christmas travellers.

# Vienna sightseeing, Schönbrunn Palace and Christmas Markets

Day 2

Imlauer Hotel Vienna, Austria



This morning we are joined by a local guide for a panoramic city drive past all the sights, gardens and monuments of this Imperial City, from the State Opera House to the Hofburg Palace. We have included entrance and a guided tour through the State Apartments of the magnificent Royal summer residence – the Schönbrunn Palace. Later you have time to explore the Christmas Markets in the Palace courtyard.

Your afternoon is completely free. Relax and enjoy this enchanting city of museums and style. You simply must indulge in the world of the traditional Viennese coffee houses. How about a tall aromatic coffee and a calorie-busting apfel strudel? Maybe a rich chocolate torten cake? Mmmm! The Christmas shopping is excellent under the beautiful illuminations of the broad, pedestrian mall. Try the excellent Christmas Markets outside the Town Hall where you will find mulled wine, ginger biscuits, music, stunningly decorated trees and folklore displays.

## **Baroque Melk Monastery and Mondsee**

Day 3

Weisses Rössl (The White Horse), St Wolfgang



Joining the Danube at Melk, we have included entrance and a privately guided tour through the enormous Melk Monastery - an astonishing baroque creation. Later we continue to the Salzkammergut – a land of clear alpine air and blue mountain lakes which formed the stunning back drop to the famous film 'The Sound of Music'. Before we reach our hotel we will stop in the village of Mondsee, on Lake Mondsee, to visit the film's 'wedding church'. Location, location, location! Imagine spending your next Christmas, over 6 delightful days and nights, in this very special, first-class, chalet style hotel gorgeously located directly on Lake Wolfgangsee, in the heart of magical St Wolfgang. Family Run, the 'Romantik White Horse Hotel' has been offering outstanding hospitality for over 500 years, and in their branding, they present themselves as a "Fine piece of Austria". Made internationally famous in a classical opera, its reputation for quality and style is renowned throughout the whole Lakes District region. Built within a series of connected historic townhouses, The 'White Horse' sits next to the church and little town square, right on the pretty lake shore. The view from the hotel across the lake to the mountains is stunning. This is a spa hotel, and it even has a heated pool and steaming spa located on a pontoon, floating out on the lake. The atmosphere is charming with traditional Austrian wooden decor, and the dining is excellent! Staying here over Christmas will create memories to last you a lifetime. Before dinner, enjoy mulled wine or hot chocolate and cookies. Throughout your stay we have included daily hot and cold buffet breakfast and 4 course dinners with a choice of menu. Highlight of your stay will be a traditional Christmas Eve Celebration dinner and a Christmas Day Turkey lunch.

### The Silent Night Chapel, Salzburg sightseeing, 'My Time' and Christmas Markets

Day 4

Weisses Rössl (The White Horse), St Wolfgang

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We have included a full day excursion today. Enroute to Salzburg our first stop is at the nearby village of Oberndorf where we visit the famous Silent Night Chapel on the site where the Christmas carol was first performed. We then continue on to Salzburg – the baroque city of Mozart sitting beneath its enormous Festung (Fortress). A walking tour with an expert local guide will introduce you to this enchanting city, including several locations used in the film 'The Sound of Music'. As a finale you will gather amongst the fir trees in the small stone courtyard of the St Peter's Keller, dating back to the 1500's and Salzburg's oldest restaurant, for a hot drink and biscuits. The rest of the day is free to enjoy the city. The huge castle makes a fascinating visit and don't forget to soak up the atmosphere of the famous Salzburg Christmas Markets.

# Beautiful Lake Königssee, Berchtesgaden & Salt Mines

Day 5

Weisses Rössl (The White Horse), St Wolfgang

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Heading deep into the Bavarian mountains we visit what is perhaps the most beautiful Alpine lake of all, Königssee –famous the world over for its steep cliffs and fjord like lake. Lunchtime will be enjoyed in Berchtesgaden, then later we enjoy a fun filled ride which takes us deep into the old Salt Mines near Berchtesgaden. After dressing up in a salt miner's uniform, we ride on a small train deep underground, take wooden slides (or steps) and then float on a barge across a crystal clear underground lake, beautifully illuminated by a light show.

# Christmas Eve – stunning Hallstatt, St Gilgen and Katrin Mountain cable car

Day 6

Weisses Rössl (The White Horse), St Wolfgang

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There is nothing quite like a day in the mountains! This morning in Bad Ischl we take a cable car to the top of Katrin Mountain to enjoy the sweeping views of the mountains and valleys of the Salzkammergut. Driving deeper into the lakes district we enjoy lunchtime in Hallstatt. Set on a rocky terrace jutting into the quiet dark water of the lake surrounded by towering peaks, this is perhaps the most beautiful town in Austria. We will also enjoy an afternoon stop in the village of St Gilgen on the northern end of Lake Wolfgangsee. A wonderful day, and tonight, enjoy a festive traditional Christmas Eve celebration dinner.

### Christmas Day - 'My Time' in St. Wolfgang, and a horse drawn carriage ride

Day 7

Weisses Rössl (The White Horse), St Wolfgang

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Christmas Day as it should be....in a wonderful location – at leisure, relaxing and enjoying the delights of your hotel. Maybe pamper yourself in the hotel spa, or swim in the heated pool or relax in the steaming spa set in a pontoon on the lake? The views are incredible. A turkey lunch has been included, and the highlight of today will be your ride in a horse drawn carriage through the stunning local countryside.

## 'My Time' in St Wolfgang and lake cruise to Strobl

Day 8

Weisses Rössl (The White Horse), St Wolfgang

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Boxing Day! Your morning is at leisure to enjoy your hotel's excellent wellness facilities, explore the village or go on a winter walk along the picturesque lakeside. In the afternoon we will take a cruise across the lake to the village of Strobl. Tonight, in our White Horse Inn, we enjoy a 'Farewell to St Wolfgang' dinner, to bring this amazing week to a close.

# **Extravagant Herrenchiemsee Palace and Munich**

Day 9

Maritim Hotel Munich, Germany

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Entering Germany, we stop in the town of Prien on Lake Chiemsee. Here we board a boat to cross over to the island of Herreninsel where we enjoy a guided tour through 'Mad' King Ludwig's Royal Palace of Herrenchiemsee. Utterly extravagant, the State Rooms were modelled on the Palace of Versailles. Later, we continue to Munich for our final evening together. Before checking into our hotel, we will enjoy a panoramic drive around the city. Tonight, we celebrate with a Farewell dinner.

#### Munich

Day 10

Maritim Hotel Munich, Germany

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Your Christmas tour is now complete, and it is time to say farewell.

### **Hand Selected Experiences**

These are just a few of the very special hand selected experiences that will really make your touring experience exceptional and unique, and don't forget, with Albatross they are always included.



**Vienna** Vienna in all its glory



**Schönbrunn Palace** Schönbrunn Palace guided tour



**Melk Monastery**Private guided tour



**Silent Night Chapel** Silent Night Chapel



**Salzburg** Christmas Markets



**Berchtesgaden**Berchtesgaden & the Salt Mines



**Bad Ischi Cable Car** Cable car ride up Mount Katrin



Hallstatt Hallstatt in the Salzkammergut



Horse and Carriage Ride

## **Dates and Prices**

Correct as of 04:09 on 18th May 2024

Start Date	End Date	Twin Price	Solo Price	
19 Dec 2024	28 Dec 2024	AUD\$6,887	AUD\$8,887	Space Available

<sup>\*</sup> All 2024/25 dates, prices, itineraries and hotels are tentative and may be subject to change. Please contact our European Tour Specialists for further details.

### **Tour Suitability**

- Our Christmas, New Year and Northern Lights tours travel throughout the European winter months. The weather can get cold, and roads and pathways can be slippery.
- When outdoors, please take extra care when navigating slippery surfaces.
- Thinking about what to wear? Please read our blog on Wardrobe essentials: https://www.albatrosstours.com.au/news-nest-travel-blog/wardrobe-essentials-for-a-winter-wonderland-tour-in-europe/

Please refer to our Tour Suitability section for more information.

#### **Terms & Conditions**

• Information provided is true and correct at time of issue. Airfares not included. For further details please contact your consultant or full terms and conditions may be found at www.albatrosstours.com.au/booking-conditions. Albatross Tours ABN 45 010 585 143. ATAS Accreditation No: A11341. CATO Accreditation No. 69562707