



## Munich to Luzern Christmas in the Swiss Alps

### Enjoy Christmas surrounded by breathtaking mountain vistas

#### Board the famous Glacier Express for a scenic train journey through the Swiss Alps

Imagine... celebrating Christmas over 4 nights deep within Switzerland's massive mountains in a wonderful Swiss Spa resort nestled in the heart of the majestic Alps. Spend three days exploring Bavaria's Fairytale Castles and Christmas Markets, see the majestic Matterhorn views and explore Montreux's romantic Chateau Chillon. Relax in panoramic carriages on the Glacier Express, passing frozen waterfalls and lakes. Christmas Eve, take the cable car up Mt Gemmi for 'lunch with the views' and relax on Christmas Day, floating in a steaming, outside thermal pool under the twinkling stars, surrounded by huge, jagged peaks. What an unbelievable Christmas experience!



Travel in a first-class air-conditioned touring coach



A complimentary wine, beer or soft drink with all included dinners  
Welcome drink in Munich  
20 meals including buffet breakfast daily (B) 1 lunch (L) and 8 evening meals (D)



Free WiFi at hotels  
Hotel portage of 1 bag per person (where available)  
Free use of fitness, spa and wellness centre in your Leukerbad hotel  
11 nights authentic, specially selected hotel accommodation as described

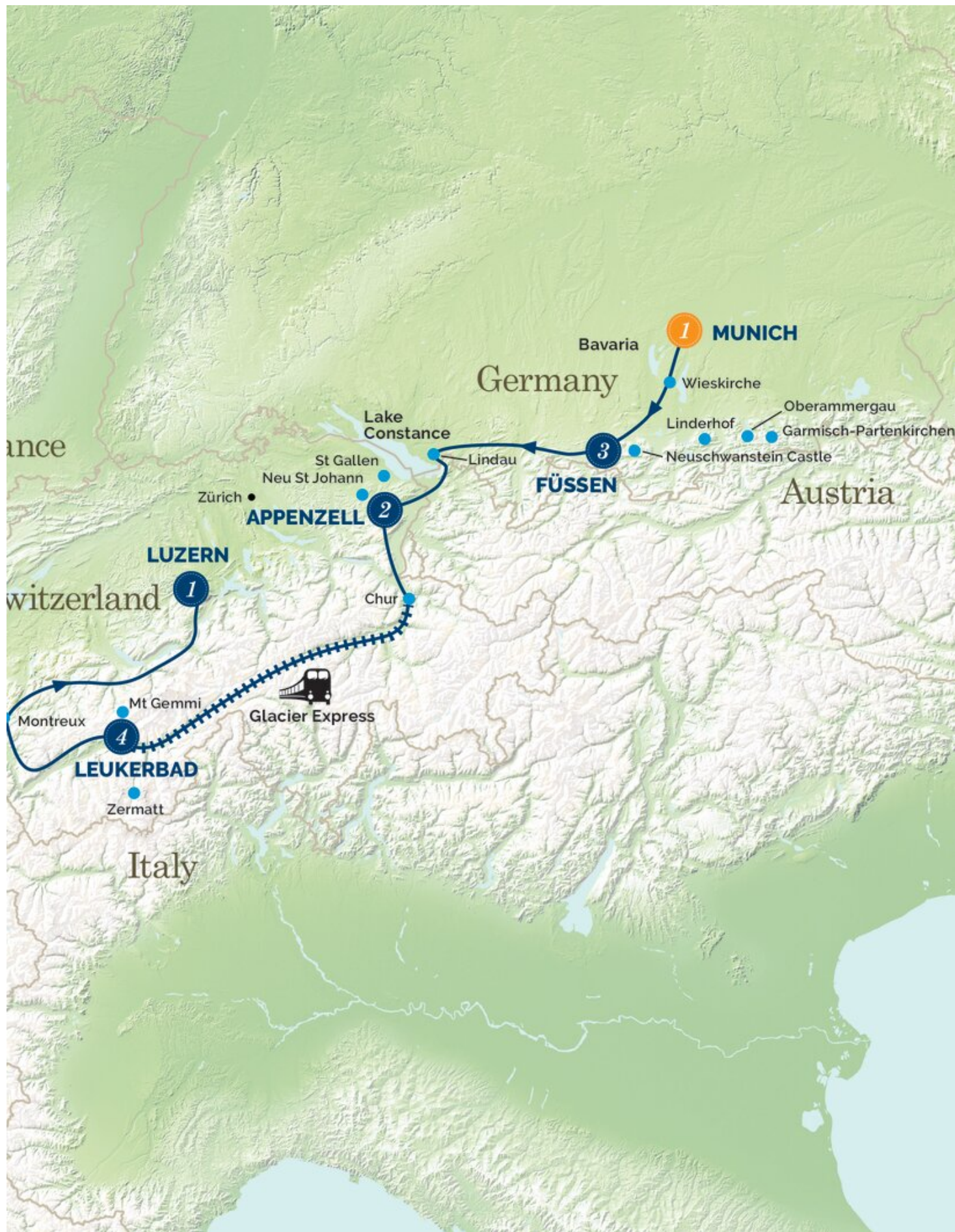


Local guides as described in the itinerary  
ALL tips for your Tour Manager, Driver and Local Guides  
Fully escorted by our experienced Tour Manager



Explore the fabulous Christmas Markets in Munich, Garmisch-Partenkirchen & St Gallen  
ALL excursions, scenic drives, sightseeing and entrances as described





## Munich

Day 1



**Maritim Hotel Munich, Germany**



D

Your tour commences this evening in cosmopolitan Munich. Shopping is always excellent in Munich – particularly around the town hall and the decorated wooden Christmas Market stalls. Before your Bavarian style buffet dinner enjoy a welcome drink in the hotel.

## Steingaden, beautiful Wieskirche and Bavarian Alps

Day 2



**Hotel Hirsch Füssen, Germany**



B,D

A very leisurely start as we drive south towards the Bavarian Alps. Lunchtime will be at leisure in the village of Steingaden, which sits astride the junction of the Romantic and Alpine roads. Highlight of your day will be a visit to the richly decorated Wieskirche (Church in the Meadows) – a fabulous Baroque creation with incredible painted ceilings. Later we reach the nearby, picturesque town of Füssen where we stay the next three nights. Your Tour Manager will take you on a brief orientation walking tour of the old town. Füssen is delightful! Stretches of the original Roman defensive walls are still in place, and the cobblestoned, pedestrianized centre of town is filled with shops, restaurants and historic houses, many elaborately painted. High above, the old castle of the Prince-Bishops of Augsburg dominates the town.

## Neuschwanstein 'fairytale' Castle, 'My Time' in Füssen

Day 3



**Hotel Hirsch Füssen, Germany**



B

This morning we visit the nearby village of Hohenschwangau. After a brisk walk uphill you will enjoy a visit to one of the most inspiring and famous castles in the world – 'Mad' King Ludwig's romantic Neuschwanstein Castle. Our guided tour will take us through the King's apartments, staterooms, halls and throne room all reminiscent of a Wagner operatic saga. Lunchtime is at leisure in Hohenschwangau. The remainder of your day and evening is free in Füssen – 'My Time' to explore this medieval town.

## Linderhof Palace, Oberammergau and 'My Time' in Garmisch' Christmas Markets

Day 4



**Hotel Hirsch Füssen, Germany**



B,D

First stop of the day will be to visit Germany's premiere ski resort of Garmisch-Partenkirchen. Before 'My Time' in town, we will visit the mesmerising, enormous ski-jump and stadium, made famous in the film 'Eddie the Eagle'. At this time of year, Garmisch town is beautifully decorated, and you will be able to enjoy shopping in the pedestrian centre and delightful Christmas markets. We also stop in the pretty 'Passion Play' village of Oberammergau, also famous for its ornately painted houses and shops.

In the afternoon we visit to Linderhof, an extravagant French Rococo Palace – yet another of King Ludwig's amazing creations.

## Lindau on Lake Constance and 'old' Appenzell

Day 5



**Romantik Hotel Säntis, Appenzell**



B,D

Crossing southern Germany, we make a stop in Lindau on Lake Constance. This beautifully preserved island town is complete with medieval lighthouses and cobblestoned streets. Entering Switzerland, we reach Appenzell. Surrounded by undulating fields, hills and mountains, Appenzell is old fashioned, even by Swiss standards, being full of well preserved 16th-century buildings and painted wooden houses. We stay here two nights.



### A horse drawn carriage ride & St Gallen Markets

Day 6



Romantik Hotel Sântis, Appenzell



B

This morning we drive over the mountains to enjoy a delightful horse drawn carriage ride through the countryside. Lunchtime is at leisure in the beautifully preserved town of St Gallen. A highlight will be an included visit to the 1,000 year old, UNESCO World heritage listed Stiftsbibliothek. This historic, wooden panelled library houses over 160,000 books and manuscripts, some of which date back as far as the 8th century. The remainder of your afternoon and evening is at leisure in Appenzell.

### The Glacier Express train to the mountain spa town of Leukerbad

Day 7



Le Bristol Wellness Hotel, Leukerbad



B,D

At Chur we board the famous Glacier Express train and, settled in our panoramic carriages, we ride along the 'Valais' through Switzerland's finest mountain scenery. Ranked as one of the world's top train trips you will cross bridges, go through tunnels and over the 2,033 metre Oberalp Pass. From Brig we drive up the winding Alpine road as it climbs through ravines and frozen waterfalls to reach our Christmas destination – the spa town of Leukerbad. Set in a hidden valley at an altitude of 1,400 metres your Christmas village is surrounded by towering, jagged peaks. We will stay here for the next four nights over Christmas.

### Christmas Eve – A cable car ride up Mount Gemmi for a Swiss mountain lunch

Day 8



Le Bristol Wellness Hotel, Leukerbad



B,L,D

Late morning, we will enjoy a cable car ride up to the restaurant and panoramic terrace on Mount Gemmi. Here we have included a typical Swiss mountain lunch. Your afternoon and evening is free to explore Leukerbad town, enjoy the hotel's spa, surrounded by massive mountains.

### Christmas Day – 'My Time' in Leukerbad

Day 9



Le Bristol Wellness Hotel, Leukerbad



B,D

Enjoy a totally free day. What a magnificent location to relax and do as much, or as little, as you want! Whether you are a 'super active snow sports' person or a 'take it easy and relax' person there are numerous activities you can enjoy, and your Tour Manager will be at hand to assist and advise you. The mountains surrounding you are staggering and the whole town is famous for its giant spas fed by natural steaming hot spring water drawn from deep in the mountains. Maybe relax and enjoy the hotel's excellent spa and pampering treatment programme, explore the wonderful Alpine village, go on winter walks or catch cable cars up to the restaurants and bars perched high above on the pristine white, snow-covered ski fields.

### Zermatt and the Matterhorn

Day 10



Le Bristol Wellness Hotel, Leukerbad



B

Driving deep into the mountains we reach Taesch, where we catch a cog railway train up to world-famous Zermatt. At an altitude of 1,620 metres (5,315 ft), the village is surrounded by huge peaks and dominating them all is the mighty Matterhorn. Petrol-driven vehicles are banned from the village and as such the peace and quiet enhances the wooden chalets and small winding village streets. As a highlight we have included the Gornergrat funicular train to the highest open air railway station in Europe. On the restaurant terrace we will enjoy a warming hot drink while taking in the astounding views across 28 magnificent peaks all over 4,000 metres high. Sensational!

### Château Chillon, Montreux and Luzern

Day 11



Hotel Wilden Mann, Luzern, Switzerland



B,D

Driving to Montreux on Lake Geneva, we have included entrance and a guided tour through the beautifully preserved Château Chillon. Later we journey on to the lovely lakeside town of Luzern with its covered wooden bridges. The remainder of your afternoon is at leisure. Your farewell dinner tonight is in your hotel.

Luzern

Day 12



Hotel Wilden Mann, Luzern, Switzerland



B

Your Christmas tour comes to a close 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.



**Neuschwanstein Castle**  
Fairytale castle of 'Mad' King Ludwig



**Wieskirche**  
Church in the meadows



**Linderhof Palace**  
Guided tour



**Oberammergau**  
Visit the village of Oberammergau



**Horse and Carriage Ride**  
Horse and carriage ride



**St. Gallen Markets**  
Lunchtime visit



**The Glacier Express**  
Board the famous Glacier Express



**Mount Gemmi**  
Cable car ride



**Gornergrat**  
Funicular train

Dates and Prices

Correct as of 10:57 on 17th May 2024

Start Date	End Date	Twin Price	Solo Price	
17 Dec 2024	28 Dec 2024	AUD\$8,887	AUD\$11,287	● Space Available

\* 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.
- We recommend sturdy waterproof shoes, thick socks, a woollen beanie, thermal underclothes, gloves and sunglasses. You will be comfortable when travelling as your first class coach is fitted with heaters and double glazed windows. Once you arrive at your hotel you will be greeted with a warm and comfortable atmosphere.



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](http://www.albatrosstours.com.au/booking-conditions). Albatross Tours ABN 45 010 585 143. ATAS Accreditation No: A11341. CATO Accreditation No. 69562707