

# CHRISTMAS MARKETS

December 6-13, 2021

**Highlights:**

Prague tour & Christmas markets; Cesky Krumlov tour & Christmas market;  
Vienna tour & Christmas markets; Schloss Hof tour & Christmas market;  
Bratislava tour & Christmas markets, Budapest tour & Christmas markets

starting at  
**\$4,019**  
per person





---

**DAY 1 MONDAY, DECEMBER 6****FLIGHT TO PRAGUE**

Today we will meet at the Des Moines airport and sit back, relax, and enjoy our flight to **Prague, Czech Republic!**

---

**DAY 2 TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7****PRAGUE, CZECH REPUBLIC**

Welcome to Prague, the capital of the Czech Republic. We will be met by our guide and motorcoach for the short drive to our centrally located hotel. After settling in, we will depart on a **city walking tour from Prague's Old Town to Charles Bridge**. Highlights will include **Wenceslas Square**, a view of **Powder Gate**, and **Old Town Square**. The heart of the city's historic core, Old Town Square is filled with colorful Baroque buildings, Gothic churches, and the medieval **Astronomical Clock** that offers an animated hourly show. The remainder of the day is yours to explore the festive atmosphere of the **Prague Christmas markets**. The main markets are located in Old Town Square and Wenceslas Square, with smaller markets scattered around the city. Wander among the brightly decorated wooden huts filled with handmade crafts ranging from ceramics, jewelry, and wooden toys to embroidered lace, scented candles, and dolls. For dinner on your own, savor local food and drink prepared fresh at the markets. Roasted ham, barbequed sausages, Hungarian flatbread topped with garlic and cheese, spicy gingerbread, Czech beers, and honey wine are all popular market foods and beverages!

---

**DAY 3 WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8****PRAGUE, CZECH REPUBLIC****(Breakfast, Lunch)**

Following breakfast, we'll continue exploring Prague on foot. Today's **walking tour** will take us from the Prague Castle area down to Charles Bridge. After a full morning of sightseeing, lunch will be enjoyed as a group at a downtown restaurant. Since the city's Christmas markets are too spectacular and diverse to experience in just one afternoon, the rest of the day is yours to continue exploring. Be sure to visit the smaller markets at Republic Square, Havel's Market, St. George's Basilica, and on Kampa Island!

---

**DAY 4 THURSDAY, DECEMBER 9****VIENNA, AUSTRIA****(Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)**

We'll begin our day with breakfast and then say goodbye to Prague as we depart for **Cesky Krumlov for a walking tour** and lunch. This UNESCO World Heritage Site is one of the most beautiful towns in Europe with a wonderful mix of Renaissance and Baroque architecture and its historic castle perched above the Vltava River. Free time will be available to **wander the bustling Christmas market**, listen to the Czech Christmas carols, and perhaps sample some delicious Czech mulled wine. We'll then continue on to **Vienna, Austria**, to enjoy dinner as a group and settle into our centrally located accommodations for the next two nights.

---

**DAY 5 FRIDAY, DECEMBER 10****VIENNA, AUSTRIA****(Breakfast, Lunch)**

Today's adventure will begin with breakfast and a **walking tour of the city**. Austria's capital is spread along both sides of the beautiful Danube River and is a smorgasbord of Baroque architecture with a dash of Art Nouveau by turn-of-the-century architects Otto Wagner and Adolf Loos. Our tour will be followed by lunch and an afternoon to explore the sights, sounds, and tastes of **Vienna's Christmas markets**. The romantic street markets of Vienna date back to the Middle Ages and are some of the most popular in Europe. As you meander from each open-air stall to the next with the aroma of gingerbread and mulled wine in the air, stop to sample the toasted almonds, waffles, sweet chestnuts, potato pancakes, and fried sausages and admire the handcrafted goods on display under the millions of Christmas lights. One can find everything from ornaments, nutcrackers, and snow globes to jams, toys, and hand-painted glass decor. The Vienna markets are definitely a must-see and a great source for unique Christmas presents!



Vienna Christmas market stall



Schloss Hof

**DAY 6 SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11**

**BUDAPEST, HUNGARY**

**(Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)**

This morning we will depart Vienna and travel toward Slovakia with a stop at **Schloss Hof** along the way. This magnificent estate was once owned by Prince Eugene of Savoy and is set on more than 120 acres of land with a Baroque palace, beautiful terraced gardens, and sprawling manor farm. Time will be available to explore the traditional arts and crafts and gourmet delicacies offered at the estate's idyllic **Christmas market** before we cross into Slovakia for lunch and a **Bratislava walking tour** that will introduce us to the historical and cultural sights of the city's Old Town. Set on the crossroads of ancient trade routes in the heart of Europe, Bratislava embodies Celtic, Roman, and Slavic cultures and is the only nation's capital to border two other countries. Take some time to immerse yourself in the atmosphere of the city's **Christmas markets** before we depart for **Budapest, Hungary**, for the next two nights. After settling into our centrally located hotel, we will gather together for dinner as a group.

**DAY 7 SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12**

**BUDAPEST, HUNGARY**

**(Breakfast)**

Hungary's capital city is a result of a merger of two unique cities – Buda on the western bank of the Danube River and Pest on the eastern bank. The distinct atmosphere of each side still remains, and today we will be immersed in the culture of the Pest side on a **city tour**. We'll drive along Pest's main avenues, passing by Parliament and the Opera House and stopping at **Heroes' Square**. The **Christmas markets of Budapest** are a must-see, and the remainder of the day is yours to take in the warm colors, festive music, and enticing smells. Walk through the market stalls with a warm mug of mulled wine, admire the traditional handmade gifts, and sample the delicious Hungarian dishes available for lunch and dinner on your own.

**DAY 8 MONDAY, DECEMBER 13**

**HOME**

**(Breakfast)**

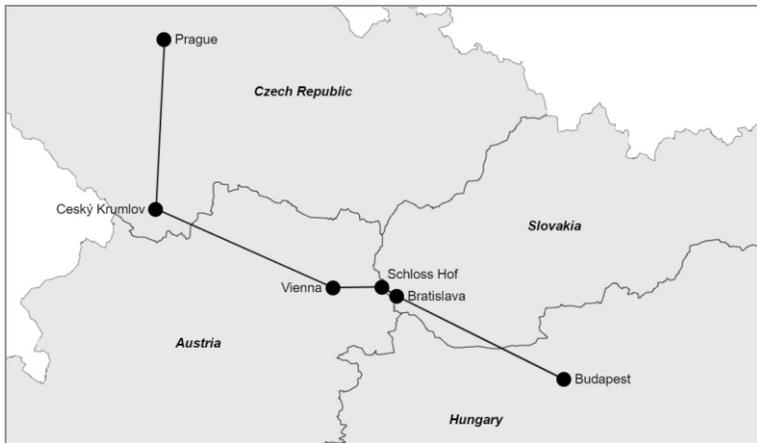
We will transfer to the airport after breakfast this morning and relax on our flight home.



Bratislava



Budapest



## TOUR PRICING\*

**\$4,019 per person, Double Occupancy**  
**\$4,429 per person, Single Occupancy**

\*Tour cost subject to 3% credit card transaction fee.

## OPTIONAL TRAVEL PROTECTION

Star Destinations RECOMMENDS all travelers purchase a Travel Protection Plan. For your convenience, we offer a Travel Protection Plan provided by Travelex Insurance Services:

**\$397 per person, Double or Single**  
 (Payment may be sent with your deposit or with final payment to Star Destinations)

Travel Protection Plan may be purchased any time before or with final payment to Star Destinations.

Travelex Insurance Services, Inc. CA Agency License #OD10209. Travel Insurance is underwritten by Berkshire Hathaway Specialty Insurance Company; NAIC #22276. To view state specific fraud warnings, visit: <https://www.travelinsurance.com/company/fraud-warning>. YIE

## INCLUSIONS

- Round-Trip Air to Prague & Return From Budapest (Price based on air estimate of \$1,300)
- Private Motorcoach Transportation
- 6 Nights' Accommodations
- 12 Meals (6 Breakfasts, 4 Lunches, 2 Dinners)
- Admission to Attractions as Stated on Itinerary
- Porter Service of One Bag Per Person at Hotels
- Taxes & Gratuities for Included Services
- Professional Tour Manager

Not included in the price of this tour: meals/beverages other than those listed on the itinerary, beverages other than tea or coffee with included meals, items of a personal nature/souvenirs, phone calls and faxes from hotels, travel protection plan, passport fees, visa fees (if applicable), current baggage fees at the airport as assessed by the airline, and any service not listed in the above inclusions.

**A \$500 deposit per person is required with your registration form.**  
**FINAL PAYMENT IS DUE TO STAR DESTINATIONS:**  
**AUGUST 5, 2021**

For further information or questions, please contact:

**Kasey Soyer**  
**(712) 792-9793**

**kasey@stardestinations.com**

Custom designed  
 tour by **STAR**  
 DESTINATIONS

### Activity Levels

1. **Easy to Minimal:** Mostly panoramic sightseeing; 1-2 hours of easy-paced walking at a time; minimal stairs and uneven surfaces; must be able to physically get on/off the motorcoach.
2. **Minimal to Moderate:** 2-3 hours of easy-paced walking at a time; some stairs and uneven surfaces due to nature of attractions.
3. **Moderate:** 3-4 hours of walking/standing at a time; some stairs, inclines, and uneven surfaces due to nature of attractions.
4. **Moderate to Energetic:** 4-6 hours of walking/standing/physical activity; stairs, inclines, and uneven surfaces due to nature of attractions.
5. **Energetic:** Excellent health is required for this on-the-go tour; involves strenuous activities and more than 6 hours of activity at a more vigorous pace.

**DOCUMENTATION:** Each U.S. citizen must have a valid passport through June 13, 2022, to participate. If you don't have a passport, call our office and we'll tell you how to apply for one. Holders of non-U.S. passports have different entry requirements. Please NOTE: Due to airline security measures, your passport name must match your airline ticket name and your tour reservation name or you may be denied aircraft boarding.

**OPTIONAL TRAVEL PROTECTION PLAN:** The Des Moines European Heritage Association recommends that you purchase a Travel Protection Plan to help protect you and your travel investment against the unexpected so you can relax and enjoy your trip. Participants may purchase this coverage from the provider of your choice. For your convenience, we offer a Travel Protection Plan, 360° Group Premier provided by Travelex Insurance Services, that helps provide coverage for trip cancellation/interruption, trip delay, baggage loss, theft or damage, medical expense and emergency evacuation coverage, and more. For more information, please see the product flyer included with this brochure. If you would like to purchase the offered plan, please check the applicable box on the registration form. Please Note: The plan cannot be purchased after final payment. To view/download the Policy, which provides the full coverage terms and details, including limitations and exclusions, go to: <http://policy.travelinsurance.com/APGB-1217>. To view state specific fraud warnings, visit: <https://www.travelinsurance.com/company/fraud-warning>. The purchase of this product is not required in order to purchase any other travel product or service. Your travel retailer might not be licensed to sell travel insurance and will only be able to provide general information about the product. An unlicensed travel retailer may not answer questions about the terms and conditions of the insurance offered and may not evaluate the adequacy of your existing insurance coverage. The products being offered provide insurance coverage that only applies during your covered trip. You may have insurance coverage from other sources that provide similar benefits but may be subject to different restrictions depending upon the coverage. You may wish to compare the terms of the travel policy offered through Travelex with any existing life, health, home, and automobile insurance policies you may have. If you have questions about your coverage under your existing insurance policies, contact your insurer or insurance agent or broker. Travel Insurance is offered on behalf of and under the direction of Travel Insurance Services, Inc. CA Agency License #OD10209. Travel Insurance is underwritten by Berkshire Hathaway Specialty Insurance Company; NAIC #22276. TD4

**CANCELLATION:** Full refund of all monies is made if cancellation is received in writing to Star Destinations prior to the deposit payment date, less the 3% credit card transaction fee (if a credit card is used). A 100% fee is charged if the cancellation occurs between final payment and departure. If the reason for cancellation is due to a covered reason, you may be eligible for reimbursement for such fees from your Travel Protection Plan provider.

**TRAVELERS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS:** You must advise Star Destinations, Inc. (SDI) at the time of registration of any disability requiring special attention. SDI will make reasonable efforts to accommodate the special needs of travelers. The Americans with Disabilities Act is applicable only in the U.S., and accommodations outside the U.S. may be more limited. Travelers requiring assistance are required to be accompanied by a companion who is capable of, and totally responsible for, providing the assistance. Neither SDI personnel nor its suppliers may lift or physically assist with travelers' special needs including, but not limited to, walking, dining, or other routine activities. Travelers thinking they may need assistance should call SDI to determine what accommodations may reasonably be provided. Arrangements at an additional cost are the financial responsibility of the traveler.

**TERMS & CONDITIONS:** Star Destinations, Inc. (SDI) acts as an agent for, and makes arrangements with, airlines, hotels, railroads, bus lines, cruise lines, adventure companies, and other independent parties to provide you with the travel services and accommodations. Although great care is taken in choosing suppliers, we are unable to directly control them and therefore cannot be held responsible or liable for their acts or omissions. The travel services are subject to the conditions imposed by these suppliers, and their liability may be limited by their tariffs, conditions of carriage, and international conventions and agreements. Should for any reason beyond our control the hotel or establishment described in the attached itinerary not be available, SDI and its agents reserve the right to substitute with similar or superior category. SDI cannot assume responsibility for any claims, losses, damages, costs or expenses arising out of injury, accident or death, damage, loss, or delay of baggage or other property, or delay, inconvenience, loss of enjoyment, upset, disappointment, distress, or frustration, whether physical or mental, resulting from a) mechanical breakdowns, dangers inherent to the sea, fire, theft, civil disturbances, strikes, government actions, weather, and other factors and causes beyond our control. In addition, in the case of a pandemic, worldwide disturbance, or disturbance in your tour destination that interrupts or cancels your planned tour, SDI will do everything possible to retrieve any refundable components of your tour but cannot be held responsible for any non-refundable portions of the tour; b) passenger's failure to follow instructions of SDI or its representatives; c) any other cause beyond the control of SDI. In addition, SDI reserves the right to vary the tour price advertised or printed to cover any increase in air fare, fuel price, government taxes and charges, exchange rate fluctuations, or other tour-related tariffs and costs subject to price guarantee. **The price of this tour is based on the EUR/USD exchange rate of \$1.16 as of 10/28/20.** Pricing may be increased due to requirements for social distancing, health safety, or scheduling that have not yet been determined by transportation companies, hotels, attractions, etc. If you request a variation or change to your booking, SDI may choose to accept or reject that request at its sole discretion. If SDI accepts your request, you must pay the variation fee and any costs associated with it.

It is the sole discretion of SDI to refuse transport to any passenger, or require any passenger to leave the tour, if it is reasonably believed that the passenger (1) is dangerous to others or to himself or herself; (2) has engaged in, or is threatening to engage in, behavior that may adversely affect the safety, security, comfort, enjoyment, or well-being of other passengers or SDI representatives, including, but not limited to, behavior that is disruptive, verbally abusive, physically abusive, obnoxious, harassing, discriminatory, or obscene; or (3) has failed or refused, or is failing or refusing, to follow SDI's rules and procedures or the instructions of SDI or its representatives. In the event a passenger is removed, such passenger may be left at any city without any liability to SDI or its representatives. SDI shall not be required to refund any portion of the price paid by any passenger who is removed under the terms of this paragraph, nor shall SDI be responsible for expenses for lodging, medical care, meals, transportation, or any other expenses incurred by the passenger. SDI shall be entitled to recover from the passenger any costs or expenses incurred by SDI or its representatives in the removal of the passenger or the exercise or enforcement of this clause.