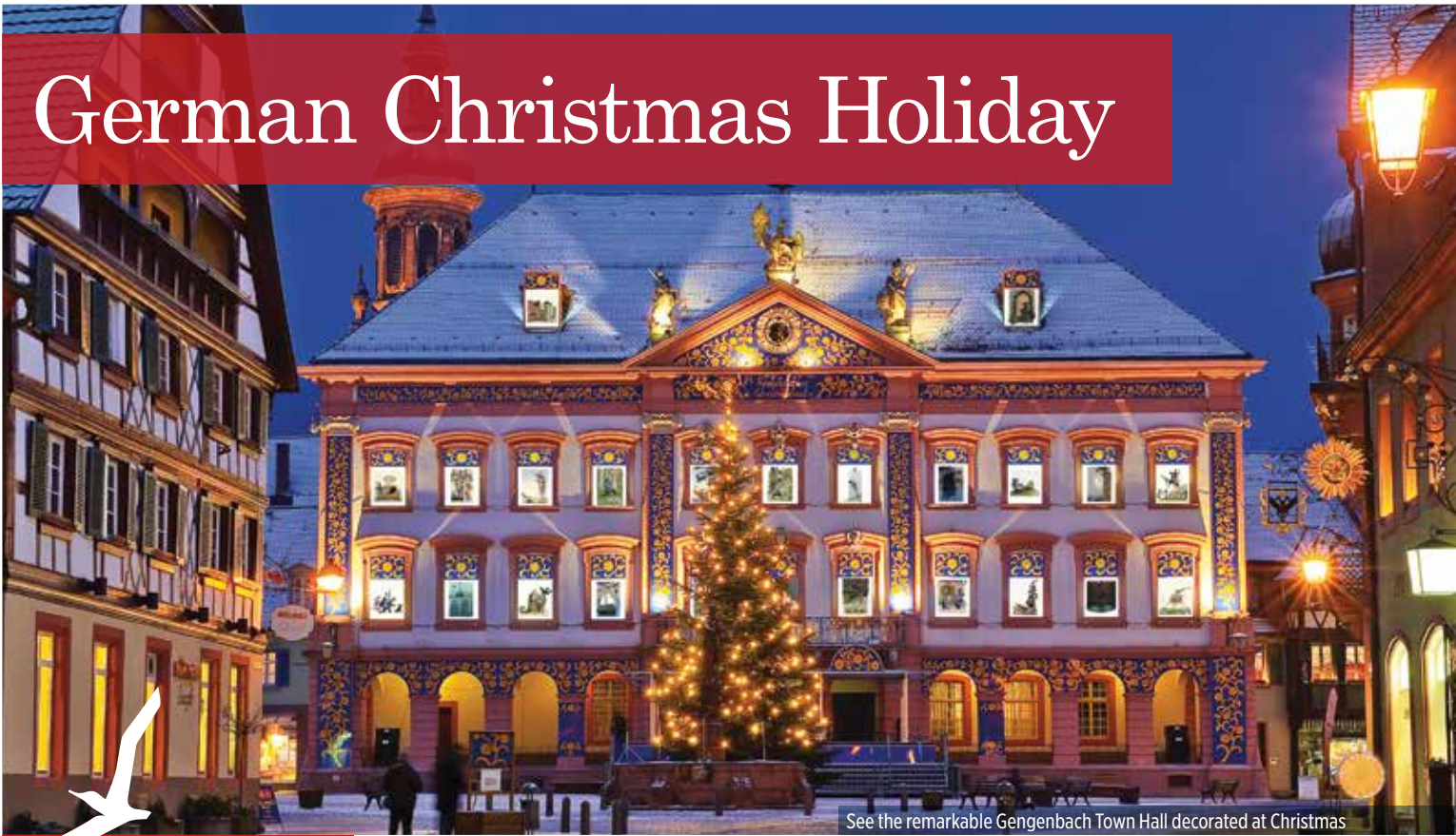


German Christmas Holiday



See the remarkable Gengenbach Town Hall decorated at Christmas

8 Delightful Days Frankfurt to Luzern Escorted Tour

Imagine staying deep in the heart of the German Black Forest over Christmas. Visit medieval towns and explore Christmas Markets on cobblestoned streets. Explore the Alsace wine road, visit the magnificent Hohenzollern Castle and see Gengenbach's town hall illuminate with the world's largest advent calendar.

DAY 1 ~ 21 DECEMBER

Frankfurt

Your tour commences this evening in wonderful Frankfurt: a city of contrasts – from modern skyscrapers to beautifully maintained old buildings. There is so much to see and do in the city centre. Dinner tonight is included in your hotel but first, enjoy a welcome drink. This is an ideal opportunity to meet your fellow travellers. **Meals: D**

Your Frankfurt Hotel – Maritim Hotel

This first class hotel is in a superb location near the city centre.



DAY 2 ~ 22 DECEMBER

Heidelberg, Baden Baden Christmas Markets and Hornberg

The ancient university town of Heidelberg is only an hour's drive away. Set in the wooded Neckar Valley, with its twin-towered bridge and red sandstone castle, we spend the morning here. Moving on to delightful Baden Baden you will have time to explore the Christmas Market, which is set against the picturesque backdrop of the Kurhaus and the colonnades lit up by thousands of lights, in the heart of the festively decorated old town. Late afternoon we drive deep into the Black Forest to the village of Hornberg where we stay for the next six nights over Christmas. During your stay all breakfasts and dinners are included and there is also Turkey lunch on Christmas Day. **Meals: B,D**

Your Black Forest Hotel – Hotel Schloss Hornberg

This historic stately home is now a family run 3 star hotel, situated in a beautiful park above the valley in the heart of the Black Forest. This location makes an excellent base for all of our included excursions to the surrounding areas. *Please note the Hornberg Hotel has no lift.*



DAY 3 ~ 23 DECEMBER

Medieval Strasbourg and picture perfect Gengenbach

After a leisurely departure this morning we cross the River Rhine and enter France to visit Strasbourg. A local guide will join us to bring to life this historic medieval town. The rest of the day is free to explore the old town. Retaining its old world charm, there are 3 bridges spanning the River Ill, massive fortified towers and pedestrianised streets.

The Christmas Markets around the Place de la Cathédrale and Place Broglie are beautifully decorated and a delight. This traditional Christmas Market, which dates back to 1570, is one of the oldest and finest, and boasts one of the highest Christmas trees in Europe. Time to do that last minute shopping, indulge in the mulled wine, ginger biscuits and 'Bredele' (small Alsatian biscuits), take in the music, fabulously decorated trees and folklore displays.

Late afternoon we cross back into Germany and make a very special stop in the picture postcard village of Gengenbach. The ornate Christmas markets are set in the old town centre which dates back hundreds of years. Behind the giant Christmas tree, the beautiful 18th century town hall becomes the largest advent calendar in the world. Our visit is timed so we are in the markets after dusk as the advent calendar window is opened in celebration. **Meals: B,D**

DAY 4 ~ 24 DECEMBER

Cuckoo Clocks and Lake Titisee

Christmas Eve! An exciting day as we drive through the conifers and snow covered meadows to reach Hofgut Sternen - 'the Black Forest Village' to discover how cuckoo clocks are made, and to enjoy Black Forest gâteau and coffee.

Afterwards we enjoy lunchtime on nearby beautiful Lake Titisee. This afternoon, back at your hotel, we have included afternoon tea with Christmas biscuits and later this evening relax and enjoy our traditional festive Christmas Eve dinner. **Meals: B,D**



Dates & Prices

8 days only \$3,199

per person twin share

Solo traveller \$3,489

Land only prices in AU dollars

For New Zealand pricing, please refer to our website

Starts Frankfurt **Ends Luzern**

21 Dec 2019

28 Dec 2019

Space strictly limited. Book now!

Over \$800 value of extras already included

- All excursions, scenic drives, sightseeing and entrances as described
- Fully escorted by our experienced Tour Manager
- Travel in a first class air conditioned touring coach
- 7 nights authentic, specially selected hotel accommodation
- Hotel portorage (1 suitcase pp)
- Welcome drink in Frankfurt
- 15 Meals – Buffet breakfast daily (B), 1 lunch (L) and 7 evening dinners (D)
- A complimentary wine, beer or soft drink with all included dinners
- Tea and coffee with all included dinners
- Local guides as described
- Personal audio system whilst on tour
- Free WiFi on most coaches and at hotels
- End of tour tips to Tour Manager and Driver, tips for local guides
- Albatross Tours Travel App

NO additional costs!

DAY 5 ~ 25 DECEMBER

Christmas Day – ‘My Time’ in Hornberg, a winter walk and the ‘Hornberg Shooting’

Christmas Day as it should be...in a wonderful location – relaxing, eating, drinking and definitely no Indiana Jones repeats or visits from long, lost relatives! This is a day to relax and savour the delights of the valley you are staying in. Nearby you will find numerous hiking paths and walkways to enjoy. A Christmas Day Turkey lunch is included at your hotel. Mid afternoon we have included a guided village walk, followed by cookies and glühwein (mulled wine). Later we gather for ‘the Hornberger shooting’. This historical re-enactment provides insight into the local event which took place in 1576. **Meals: B,L,D**

DAY 6 ~ 26 DECEMBER

Hohenzollern Castle, the Black Forest Museum and spectacular ‘Christmas Magic’ in Triberg

Boxing Day! We have included a glorious visit to Hohenzollern Castle with its many towers and turrets which are surrounded by ramps and fortifications. The castle rises majestically from atop an 855 metre high mountain overlooking the Swabian Alb (Highlands). We will use a local shuttle bus to travel up the wooded road from the coach park to the castle. This afternoon we continue to the Triberg area to visit the Schwarzwald Museum (Black Forest Museum) with 18 rooms displaying the unique lifestyles, furniture and traditions of the Black Forest and ‘Christmas Magic’ – a spectacular illumination that transforms the area around the Triberg waterfalls. **Meals: B,D**

“This tour features family orientated accommodation which was friendly with excellent meals served offering style and taste. The final ‘medieval dinner’ was the best special occasion function I have attended on a tour.”

Claudia

DAY 7 ~ 27 DECEMBER

Gothic Freiburg and a medieval Banquet dinner

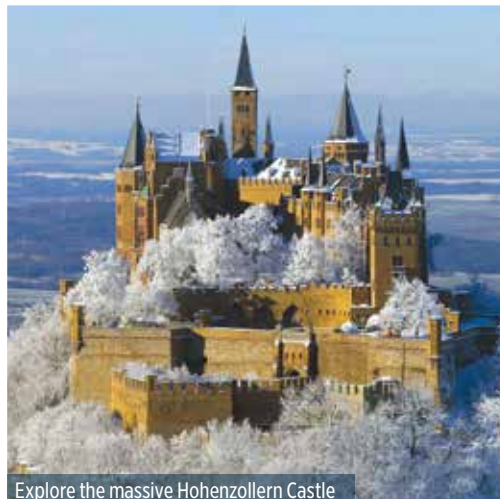
This morning we are joined by our local guide when we visit the capital of the Black Forest – the Gothic city of Freiburg. Sensitive restored, Freiburg is one of the most charming German cities located where the Black Forest meets the Rhine Plain. Arcaded shopping streets and little streams lead through the old town to its great Gothic Münster with a splendid tower and richly decorated interior. Tonight we indulge in our farewell Medieval Banquet in the cellars of the Schloss. **Meals: B,D**

DAY 8 ~ 28 DECEMBER

To Luzern

This morning it is time to say farewell as your tour ends with a transfer via Zürich (drop off at Airport and train station in the city centre) to arrive late morning in Luzern. **Meals: B**

Why not join us for New Year in Switzerland, Germany, Italy, Austria or Spain? Our exciting New Year tours have been specially designed to start as this Christmas Holiday ends. See details from page 94.



Explore the massive Hohenzollern Castle