



Living Tradition

When the nearly 100-ft. high Christmas tree sparkles in the glitter of its 2,500 candles, the aroma of Gluehwein (hot spiced wine) fills the air and angel hair is glowing everywhere, then the heart of the Bavarian capital is under the magic spell of Christmas.

The origins of the Christmas Market are reported to date back to the so-called "Nicholaus Markets" of the 14th century. Town records first mention a "Nikolaidult" that took place near the Beautiful Tower in Kaufinger Strasse in 1642.

In 1806, during the period of Enlightenment, the "Nikolaimarkt" was renamed into Christmas Market. In 1972 – subsequent to numerous changes in location – the "Munich Christmas Market" found its permanent home in the heart of the city.

The Munich Christmas Market is the oldest Christmas market in the city and can therefore rightfully claim to be the "original".

The Manger Market

At Rindermarkt, only a few steps from Marienplatz square, you will find what probably is Germany's largest manger market. From the lantern for the manger and fodder for ox and donkey to the gifts of the three Magi – the market supplies all you need to create an authentic nativity scene.

Christmas mangers have had a long tradition in Munich. As early as 1597, the Jesuits set up a nativity scene in Saint Michael's church. In 1757, the first independent manger market took place from the 1st day of Advent to Epiphany.

Manger Visits

- Historical manger in the Town Hall's Court of Ceremonies, created by the Munich artist Reinhold Zellner in 1954.
- Oberammergau large-size nativity scene at the manger market
- Münchner Krippenweg
Nov. 27, 2009 – Feb. 2, 2010, round trip of the mangers in the churches downtown
www.muenchner-krippenfreunde.de

The Munich Christmas Market – a Unique Experience

Festive live music from the balcony of the town hall: Bavarian small string groups, wind players and choirs will get you in a Christmas mood.
Daily 5:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m., December 24: noon

The Heavenly Workshop: The "Heavenly Workshop" in the town hall welcomes children between the ages of 6 and 12 to enjoy themselves with crafts and games or with baking cookies. Gossamer wings and shimmering gowns transform young visitors into angels whose activities are guided by professional artists and instructors from the Municipal Museum for Children and Young People.

Dates: Nov. 30 – Dec. 20, 2009, in the "Ratstrinkstube" (pub) of the town hall. Daily at 2:30 pm and 4:30 pm, duration about 1.5 hours (please be on time!) Meeting place: Town hall gate adjacent to the "Fish Fountain" of the city.

The "Krampus Run": The alpine tradition of the "Krampus Run" dates back to the Christian mythological character of Bishop Saint Nicholas and his



companion, "Krampus". Five hundred years later numerous young people enjoy bringing this ancient custom back to life. The members of "Sparifankerl Pass", Munich's first "Krampus group", dress up in archaic costumes, take a thrilling run across the Christmas Market and show up in the most unlikely places.

Dates: Sun, December 6 & 20, 4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.,
www.sparifankerl-pass.de

Santa visits the Munich Christmas Market: Every afternoon from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Santa wanders around the Christmas Market, chats with grown-ups and children alike and loves to have his picture taken in remembrance of an unforgettable visit to the Christmas market.

Learn all about "Kletznbrot" and "Fatschnkindl": Free cultural and historical tour of the Christmas Market on the first Sunday of Advent, Nov. 29, from 4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m., by certified tour guides of the City of Munich.
Meeting place: Christmas tree at Marienplatz square

ChristkindlTram: Advent tram ride offered by the Munich Transport and Tariff Association (MVG) through the city center with hot spiced wine, gingerbread and lots of surprises from Nov. 28 – Dec. 23, 2009. www.mvg-mobil.de



Christmas Market at Marienplatz square in the heart of the city



Manger Market at Rindermarkt



Krampus run with the group "Sparifankerl Pass"



Festive "Star Trail"

What's Good to Know

Organizer:
 City of Munich
 Department of Labor and Economic Development
 Munich Tourist Office, 80313 Munich
 Tel: +49 (0) 89 233 30 111
 Facsimile: +49 (0) 89 233 30 222
 E-mail: veranstaltungen.tam@muenchen.de

Opening: The Christmas Market will be opened on Friday, November 27, 2009 at 10:00 a.m.

The official opening by the Munich Lord Mayor will take place at Marienplatz square at 5 p.m.

Services for Visitors to the Christmas Market

Arrival by means of public transport:
 S1-S8, U3, U6, bus lines 52 and 131 to Marienplatz,
 Tram 19 to Theatinerstrasse. There are no parking facilities
 in the area of Marienplatz square.

Arrival and stop for tour buses:
 Thomas-Wimmer-Ring
 Park&Ride locations for buses: www.parkundride.de

Additional hints for arrival:
www.muenchen-tourist.de
www.mvv-muenchen.de

- **Christmas Post Office** in the town hall passage leading to the Prunkhof (Court of Ceremonies):
 Nov. 28 – Dec. 6, 2009, Mon-Fri 12:00 – 6:00 p.m.,
 Sat & Sun 10:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
- **Packeribus:** Baggage storage provided by the Munich Transport and Tariff Association (MVG) adjacent to the Deutsches Jagd- und Fischereimuseum, at the corner of Augustinerstrasse and Kaufingerstrasse, open on all-day shopping Saturdays from 11:00 a.m.– 8:00 p.m.
- **Opening hours of the tourist information counters during the advent season:**
 Tourist information counter in the Town Hall at Marienplatz square
 Mon-Fri 10:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m., Sat 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.,
 Sun 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., Dec. 24: 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
 Tourist information counter in the main train station
 Mon-Sat 9:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m., Sun 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
 Dec. 24: 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
- **Christkindlmarkt-Paket:** Attractive package tour for a visit to Munich during the advent season,
 Tel. +49 (0) 89 233 96 555
www.muenchen.de/pauschalangebote

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Munich Christmas Market and Manger Market

Business Hours:

Mon-Fri	10:00 a.m. – 8:30 p.m.
Sat	9:00 a.m. – 8:30 p.m.
Sun	10:00 a.m. – 7:30 p.m.
Dec. 24	9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

The Years to Come: Nov. 26 – Dec. 24, 2010
 Nov. 25 – Dec. 24, 2011
 Nov. 30 – Dec. 24, 2012

www.christkindlmarkt-muenchen.de



11/27/09 – 12/24/09



Nostalgic Christmas tree decoration made of pewter and glass



Festive seasonal music with the "Isartaler Blasmusik"