adventure women

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France: Christmas Markets

DURATION | 7 Days

TRIP LEVEL | Level 1 - Easy Pace

Trip Overview

Discover the magic of French Christmas Markets along the Alsace Wine Route. This magical 7-day adventure blends French and German influences, offering a unique holiday experience. Based in Strasbourg, explore picturesque villages like Obernai, Colmar, and Eguisheim, each with its own enchanting market. These markets offer a feast for the senses, with twinkling lights, festive decorations, local crafts, and traditional holiday treats. Savor traditional Alsatian meals, enjoy a private cooking class with a local chef, and tour cultural landmarks like the Lalique Museum and Sélestat. Wine enthusiasts will love the Alsace Wine Route's vineyards and excellent white wines. The trip concludes with a day in Germany's Black Forest, visiting Baden-Baden and the serene Mummelsee lake. Join fellow AdventureWomen for a festive, fulfilling journey!

Trip Highlights

• Delight in the festive atmosphere of Obernai, Colmar, Eguisheim, and Strasbourg, where charming Christmas markets offer everything from hand-crafted arts and crafts to traditional Alsatian gourmet treats, mulled wine, and foie gras.

• Wander through picturesque villages, scenic vineyards, and medieval architecture, experiencing the charm and beauty of the Alsace Wine Route.

• Enjoy a private cooking class with a local chef, savor local culinary delights, sample exquisite wines, and tour the renowned Lalique Museum, all while residing in luxurious comfort.

Map View



Arrival: Arrive in Strasbourg, France (SXB) on Day 1 by 1:00 PM.

Departure: Depart from Strasbourg, France (SXB) on Day 7 after 11:00 AM.

Trip Itinerary



Day 1

A Festive Start in Strasbourg

Arrive at Strasbourg Airport (SXB) by 1 PM. A group transfer from the airport to your hotel will be provided when most guests arrive. The exact transfer time will be determined closer to departure. Each person is allowed one checked bag and one carry-on for the group transfer. If you have additional luggage, please contact your AdventureWomen Trip Manager to discuss alternative arrangements. Private transfers at other times are available for purchase. If arriving by train, it's just a 12-minute taxi ride from the station. You can easily get a taxi right at the train station to take you to the hotel. Enjoy a delicious 3-course welcome dinner with drinks, perfect for connecting with fellow travelers and sharing stories.

Meals: dinner | Overnight: Hôtel Régent Contades



Hôtel Régent Contades

Nestled along the tranquil banks of the Ill River in the heart of Strasbourg, the Hôtel Régent Contades is a refined 4-star boutique hotel that perfectly blends Belle Époque elegance with modern comfort. Housed in a beautifully restored 19th-century mansion, the hotel offers a charming and luxurious stay. The thoughtfully appointed guest rooms feature classic French déco and plush bedding.The hotel also features a spa where you can spend some time getting pampered.

Amenities: complimentary toiletries, bathrobes, hair dryer, minibar, safe, flatscreen TV, Wi-Fi, air conditioning

Trip Itinerary



Day 2

A Holiday Fairyland in Sélestat and Obernai

Explore Sélestat, a charming town with medieval architecture and the UNESCO-listed Humanist Library. Wander its bustling markets and enjoy the festive atmosphere. Drive the picturesque Alsace Wine Route, stopping for a delightful lunch on your own. In the afternoon, visit Obernai's Christmas Market, featuring 40 chalets with local treats, wine, jams, and unique mulled wine. Discover artisanal crafts and festive decorations against the backdrop of Obernai's illuminated historic buildings.

Dinner is on your own tonight. Your hotel in Strasbourg's historic center is the perfect base to explore nearby restaurants. Your guide can recommend great dining spots.

Meals: breakfast, lunch | Overnight: Hôtel Régent Contades

Trip Itinerary



Day 3

Enchanting Colmar and Eguisheim

Embark on another captivating day along the Alsace Wine Route, starting in Colmar. Wander through its narrow, colorful streets and the enchanting Little Venice, with picturesque canals and half-timbered houses. Enjoy an exclusive visit to the Christmas Market, filled with wooden chalets selling local foods, handmade ornaments, and crafts, all under twinkling lights. After a traditional lunch, head to Eguisheim, a medieval village just 3 miles from Colmar. Discover its charming streets, half-timbered houses, and authentic Alsatian crafts like pottery and glassblowing. Eguisheim's market has been awarded the "Villes et Villages de Noël" label for its authenticity and traditions. Explore traditional foods and Alsatian wine at the chalets. This evening is at your leisure.

Meals: breakfast, lunch | Overnight: Hôtel Régent Contades

Trip Itinerary



Day 4

Strasbourg: A Feast for the Senses

Embark on an exclusive guided tour of Strasbourg, savoring the region's culinary delights. Indulge in kugelhopf, aromatic gingerbread, tangy sauerkraut with Riesling, creamy local cheeses, and exquisite French pastries. Lunch is included in this gourmet adventure. Between tastings, explore Strasbourg's historical heart. Wander through the picturesque quarter "La Petite France" and marvel at the Gothic grandeur of the Notre-Dame Cathedral. Cap off the day with a boat tour offering unique canal views of the European capital. Dinner is on your own tonight.

Meals: breakfast, lunch | Overnight: Hôtel Régent Contades

Trip Itinerary



Day 5

Lalique Treasures and Culinary Delights

Start your day with a visit to the nearby Lalique Museum. Marvel at over 650 pieces of exquisite jewelry, perfume bottles, vases, and chandeliers, showcasing Lalique's evolution from goldsmith to glassmaker. After exploring the museum, enjoy a delicious lunch at Château Hochberg, where Chef Barberis crafts a refined menu inspired by seasonal local products and his global travels. Return to Strasbourg for a memorable culinary experience under the expert guidance of a talented Alsatian chef, who welcomes you into her home in "La Petite France", Strasbourg's historic neighborhood. Explore "emotional cuisine," a unique concept blending three artistic dimensions: a passion for cooking, poetry, and painting. Conclude this immersive experience with a delightful tasting session, savoring your creations transformed into a high-quality dinner and associated beverages (wines, crémant, saké, and soft drinks).

Meals: breakfast, lunch, dinner | Overnight: Hôtel Régent Contades

Trip Itinerary



Day 6

Nature and Culture in Baden-Baden, Germany

After breakfast, explore the Mediterranean-like nature of Baden-Baden, Germany, a cultural, thermal, and green town located just 50 minutes from Strasbourg. Discover its rich cultural heritage and indulge in lunch at a typical restaurant. Wander the scenic Black Forest route, taking in spectacular landscapes and vistas.

Reach the shores of Mummelsee glacial lake, a true gem, and enjoy a gourmet break savoring local cuisine. Return to Strasbourg for a farewell dinner with your AdventureWomen friends, reflecting on cherished memories and celebrating the conclusion of an amazing journey.

Meals: breakfast, lunch, dinner | Overnight: Hôtel Régent Contades

Trip Itinerary



Day 7

Depart from Strasbourg

Depart Strasbourg Airport (SXB) today after 11 AM. A group transfer to the airport will be provided timed for when the majority of guests are departing. The exact transfer time will be determined closer to departure. Private transfers at other times are available for purchase.

(If you leave by train, the hotel is about a 12-minute car ride from the Strasbourg train station. You can easily get a taxi to the train station from the hotel.)

What's Included

What's Included

• Accommodations as per itinerary based on double occupancy
• All meals as listed in the itinerary
• Two glasses of wine, water and one warm beverage for lunch on days 2, 3, 4 and 6
• All ground transportation, including one group transfer on arrival and departure
• English-speaking tour leader throughout the trip
• Activities as indicated in the itinerary
• Drinking water to refill personal bottles

Not Included

• International airfare
• Meals not specified in the itinerary
• Optional activities and items of a personal nature
• Alcoholic beverages (unless otherwise specified)
• Fees for passport, visas, immunizations, or travel insurance
• Cost of hospitalization or evacuation
• Gratuities

Please note: AdventureWomen will attempt to adhere to the itinerary as much as possible. However, certain conditions (political, climatic, environmental, and cultural) may necessitate changes in the itinerary. AdventureWomen reserves the right to alter any itinerary at any time if necessary. We will attempt to notify participants of changes as far in advance as possible. Costs incurred by such changes will be the responsibility of the participants.