

# Advent in Germany

**Tour Date**  
27.11.20 - 08.12.20  
Cut-off Date: 15.09.2020



## CHARACTERISTICS/IDEA BEHIND THIS TOUR:

This trip appeals to those who don't want to travel far but who appreciate the community.

## PREPARATION:

**Travel documents\*:** Passport or ID-Card, national driving license

**CB-radio:** not required

**Car Insurance:** Germany is part of the green card system.

**Vaccinations:** None are compulsory  
More information at [www.fitfortravel.nhs.uk](http://www.fitfortravel.nhs.uk)

**Pets:** require a pet passport

**Pre-Tour Meeting:** There is no advance meeting for this trip. No prior meeting is planned for this trip. You will receive a participant's package by post approx. 4 weeks before the start of your tour. We also offer an online appointment where you can get to know fellow travellers and clarify questions that arose while studying the participant documents. There is no advance meeting for this trip.

## TOUR LOGISTICS:

**Meeting Point:** Official meeting point for tour start is in Hünfeld.

**Tour Leader:** Your tour leader informs regularly about driving stages and daily programmes.

**Driving Stages:** You may drive all stages by yourselves. The tour leader offers to go with him/her.

**Road Conditions:** The roads in Germany are generally okay.



**Overnight Places:** The overnights are set at regular campsites of local standard.

**Supplies:** Electricity, water and grey water disposal are available daily.

**Safety and Security:** In the Tourist centres please watch out for pickpockets.

## **Mobility Rating: 2**

See catalogue "Your Journey with Mir Tours" (point 7). The required degree of mobility usually only relates to some programmes and segments of the sightseeing. If your walking is not that great, you may still join this trip. To do this, you would skip one or the other programme item or shorten it. We would be happy to discuss the trip with you in this regard. In case you use a tool such as a rollator or travel wheelchair, please note that these may also have to be lifted into the means of transport.

**Food Supply:** Shops and supermarkets with a good selection are available throughout the route. Gluten- and lactose-free products are available in larger supermarkets.

**Climate and Clothing:** This is a winter trip and normally the temperatures level off between +10 °C and 0 °C, but - with a little east wind - it can get really cold. Some of the programme points take place outdoors, pack winter clothing (coat, hat, scarf, gloves & boots). In rooms it is well - often too well - heated, so the onion skin principle is recommended to be able to cope with all temperatures.

## MONEY MATTERS

**Tour Price:** 820,- € per person with the own car + caravan or camper when two persons travel in one vehicle. Additional charge for a single driver 10%.


**Fuel:** Find the German fuel prices at: [www.clever-tanken.de](http://www.clever-tanken.de)


## Additional costs/travel funds:

Plan your own individual cost of living and around € 2 per person / day for tips. Possibly you can still consider a small buffer for souvenirs, breakdowns, visits to the doctor ... But there are EC machines everywhere.

Also plan a little buffer for souvenirs, mishaps, doctor etc.

You will be able to pay with debit or credit card at almost all petrol stations, souvenir shops and supermarkets.

**Money Exchange:** without problems  ATM machines are available for use of your debit or credit card.

 = will be discussed at length during the pre-tour meeting

All this information is subject to change and is meant for this route as part of a group tour. There might be differences if you book an individual tour to these countries.

\* The information about visa and travel documents is considering that your passport is issued in a Schengen state, by Switzerland or a country that belongs to both the EU and the Schengen area. For the other countries we will inform you individually.

## MANDATORY INFORMATION

### **Cut-off Date:** 15.09.2020

On this date we have to decide if sufficient participants to run this tour have been reached. Ideally, you should have booked by this point.

### **Booking Closes:** 15.11.2020

Should you be unable to book earlier, this is the last day that booking is possible under the condition that you bring your documents in time and the required number of participants has been reached at the cut-off date.

**Payments due:** upon booking 10%  
Final payment due by 28.10.2020

**Cancellation fee:** in percentage of tour price; is dependent on the time left to the tour start.

as of booking = 10%

day 54. - 30. before tour start = 20%

day 29. - 10. before tour start = 30%

from day 9. before tour start = 75%

## GENERAL SERVICES:

**Organization & Booking:** We order the included programmes for your and book the overnight places. For us – as a registered tour operator – the compliance with travel law is obligatory.

**Entry fees for included programme:** The tour price includes the normal entry fees for the sights we have put in the programme. Should there be additional parts (special exhibitions) that are not of interest for everyone they might be at your leisure. Example: We visit the Kremlin as part of the Moscow sightseeing and we pay the entry ticket. Should you opt to see the tsars' weapon chamber you pay this out of your own purse.

The German and English-speaking **tour leader** will meet you in the afternoon of the first day in Hünfeld and will accompany you until Day 12. His tasks are:

- to inform you regularly about overnight places, meals, stage, fuelling, shopping and leisure options.
- offer to join him on the driving stages.
- give you support in case of mishaps like illness or vehicle break-downs

The **resignation** (travel cancellation) **insurance** is covering if you cannot go on tour

due to a insured reason. The **break-off** (travel curtailment) **insurance** refunds the part of the tour price that you did not partake in due to an insured reason. More details on insured reasons can be found in the annex.

During the online **participant meeting** you can get to know other fellow travellers and clarify all open questions about the trip.

**Information Material:** We create a information booklet for this tour. This informs about all relevant topics from equipment to customs. Forms, brochures, booklets about sites and stages are added by us. Also, you receive GPS waypoints and map material so all participants have the same opportunities.

## USEFUL INFORMATION:

When putting this trip together, we are still in the situation that the SARS-Covid19 pandemic is affecting our lives and travels. Please note our general information on this topic in the travel catalogue, as well as our **Corona** promise.

The withdrawal of the United Kingdom from the EU and the only recently concluded contracts for future cooperation may result in changes to the travel documents required. Please also note that there is a special information available for **customers from the UK**.

## ITINERARY:

### **Day 1 27.11.2020**

#### **Hünfeld (Hessen)**

Our journey begins in the home town of Konrad-Zuse (computing pioneer) Hünfeld in Hesse. The most famous resident of the city can be found everywhere. Our tip: arrive early and visit the city museum. After an official greeting, we go to a nearby restaurant to receive a brief briefing from the tour guide, and then we begin the journey with dinner together.

*camping fee, dinner*

### **Day 2 28.11.2020**

#### **Hünfeld - ☞ - Oberhof**

Today's stage is short and there are different routes to drive depending on the weather, road conditions and interest. First of all we meet about 20km east of Hünfeld on the former zone border. This is where the so-called "Point Alpha" is located, a former US observation base. The facility is maintained by a foundation and used as a reminder, memo-

rial and meeting place. After a joint inspection, we continue to our next destination. In the afternoon we meet again at Oberhof Camping at the Lütchetalsperre in Frankenhain. The almost 170km long Rennsteig hiking trail is only 5km from the campsite. From here you could hike about 100km to the southeast to the Saale or 60km to the northwest to the Werra.

*camping fee, parking, entrance fee*

### **Day 3 29.11.2020**

#### **Oberhof**

Our day trip by bus takes us first to the Goethe and Schiller city of Weimar, then to the Thuringian capital Erfurt. We will explore both places with a local guide and learn more about the local Christmas traditions. The first public Christmas tree was set up in Weimar over 200 years ago. The Christmas market in Erfurt lies at the foot of the cathedral and is known for its ambience. Of course we also have to try the famous Thuringian Rostbratwurst today.

*camping fee, bus, local guide, dinner*

### **Day 4 30.11.2020**

#### **Oberhof**

Oberhof is an Olympic base and is known for its winter sports events. You can even ski in a hall in summer. We see the biathlon facility, the bobsleigh and toboggan run and the ski jumping facilities on the competition calendar every winter. Today we go to Oberhof and we visit one or more of the facilities with a local guide. Depending on the group size and fitness, you could even do a biathlon test run yourself. In the early evening we go on a torch-lit hike along the lake and enjoy the mulled wine again.

*camping fee, bus, local guide, entrance fee*

### **Day 5 01.12.2020**

#### **Oberhof**

We still have a day here for individual interests, after all, Oberhof has a lot to offer in winter. Will you go back to the sports facilities? Visit the H2Oberhof Therme with its 6 pools and 8 saunas? Hiking or ice skating? In the evening we come together again to share our experiences.

*camping fee*

**Day 6 02.12.2020****Oberhof - Gössitz**

It goes - depending on your preference - on picturesque country roads or the motorway, today's stage is not that long. How about a short detour to the ruined monastery of Paulinzella. A stop in Saalfeld to see the various buildings and architectural gems is recommended. In the afternoon everyone arrives at the Neumannshof campsite in Gössitz. We will celebrate the evening with a typical meal. Roast goose or leg of goose with Thuringian potato dumplings.

*camping fee, dinner*

**Day 7 03.12.2020****Gössitz**

We go by coach, first to the Heidecksburg in Rudolstadt. The residential palace is one of the most magnificent baroque castles in Thuringia and we get to know it better on a guided tour. After some free time in Rudolstadt, it's back to Saalfeld. Many years ago, miners went in search of gold, silver and other coveted treasures near Saalfeld. But then alum slate was discovered. After the black rock had been extracted, over time nature transformed the cavities into a colourful underground world, today's "fairy grottoes". During a guided tour we learn more about the history of the show mine and the life of the miners. In the late afternoon we are back at the campsite.

*camping fee, bus, local guide, entrance fee*

**Day 8 04.12.2020****Gössitz**

Another coach tour: Our first destination is the town of Lauscha, which is known for its glassblowing art. Here Christmas tree decorations are made from glass, as we will see when we visit the colour glass factory. On the way home there is an interesting stop in Lobenstein. We will be instructed in the art of schnapps distilling and beer brewing, of course with tasting, all at the local adventure distillery and brewery.

*camping fee, bus, local guide, entrance fee, lunch*

**Day 9 05.12.2020****Gössitz**

You may use the day for your own interests. Perhaps you will go to the adventure pool in Saalfeld to visit the Christmas market or just spend some time in nature.

*camping fee*

**Day 10 06.12.2020****Gössitz - Nürnberg**

On the autobahn, this stage could be completed in only approx. 2 to 3 hours, but a break in the festival city of Bayreuth is recommended. The detour via Coburg, a pretty town with lots of things to see and do, is also worthwhile. In the early afternoon we all arrive at the campsite in Nuremberg, our last location on our journey together.

*camping fee*

**Day 11 07.12.2020****Nürnberg**

During today's city tour, we first explore the various highlights of Nuremberg by bus and a local guide. The city vividly reflects all architectural epochs - from the Middle Ages to the present day. The well-thought-out reconstruction after the war has restored the cityscape. There has been a Christmas market for around 400 years and today the Nuremberg Christmas Market is one of the largest in Germany and probably the most famous in the world. Of course, we will want to get to know regional specialties, such as the "Zwetschgenmännla" and gingerbread. We end the trip with a farewell dinner in a hearty Franconian restaurant.

*camping fee, bus, local guide, entrance fee, dinner*

**Day 12 08.12.2020****Nürnberg**

The trip ends here in Nuremberg and everyone has the opportunity to extend their stay on site.

As per 12/2020  
Subject to change

## Information sheet for Travel cancellation insurance (including travel curtailment insurance) with excess of ERGO Reiseversicherung AG

We have taken out travel cancellation insurance (including travel curtailment insurance) in your favour with ERGO Reiseversicherung AG (ERV) as part of a group insurance contract. You automatically join this as an insured person when you book your trip. The insurance premium is included in the travel price.

Insurance cover exists in the event of cancellation before the start of the trip and after the start of the trip in the event of a trip interruption for an insured reason. With the booking confirmation you will receive an insurance certificate (insurance certificate) from which you can find the insurance conditions and further details. The following description of services only provides extracts from the scope of insurance. If you have any questions about insurance benefits, please contact the ERV Service Centre on +49 89 4166 - 1766 or [contact@ergo-reiseversicherung.de](mailto:contact@ergo-reiseversicherung.de)

### What risks are insured?

Here you get an overview of the most frequently used insurance services:

- **Cancellation cost insurance:** Should you cancel your trip, e.g. because of an unexpected serious initial illness or an accident, ERV will cover the cancellation costs that you contractually owe to the service provider (e.g. tour operator).

We only pay for previous illnesses if they were not treated in the last six months before the insurance was taken out. A mental illness is insured if it is treated as an in-patient, a specialist doctor's certificate is available or a health insurance provider approves out-patient psychotherapy.

For each insured event, your deductible is 20% of the reimbursable damage, at least € 25 per person.

- **Travel curtailment insurance:** If you interrupt your trip prematurely, we will cover the additional costs of the return journey. In addition, we pay for the unused travel services, up to a maximum of the amount insured. We assume the aforementioned costs if you interrupt your trip prematurely, e.g. because You or a relative become seriously ill at home.

For each insured event, your deductible is 20% of the reimbursable damage, at least € 25 per person.

### When do we not provide insurance services?

Some cases are excluded from insurance cover. The following are – among other things - not insured:

With the cancellation cost and travel curtailment insurance, you have no insurance cover if you do not commence or if you interrupt your trip for fear of a terrorist attack.

You also have no insurance cover, e.g. for the fees for issuing a visa. Further exclusions can be found here: VB-ERV 2019 / Kollektiv General Provisions Section 5; Special part: Part A number 13, Part B number 12.

### What obligations do you have if a damage has occurred and what consequences can violations of these obligations have?

In the **cancellation cost insurance**, you have to cancel the trip as soon as possible so that the cancellation costs remain low. However, you must cancel at the latest at the point in time at which the cancellation costs would increase. **Our exclusive service plus in cancellation insurance:**

Is your trip due to illness, accident or at risk for other reasons? Are you unsure whether you can start your trip or whether you have to cancel? Our telephone cancellation advice will give you the right recommendation! Our competent employees are at your side with help and advice on +49 89 4166-1839. Our service hours are: Mon - Fri 7 a.m. - 9 p.m., Sat 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. More at

[www.ergo-reiseversicherung.de/stornoberatung](http://www.ergo-reiseversicherung.de/stornoberatung)  
More in VB-ERV 2019 / Kollektiv General Provisions Sections 6 and 7; Special part: Part A numbers 14 and 15.

In the **travel curtailment insurance**, you submit a medical certificate in the event of serious illness or accident injury. This certificate must contain the diagnosis and the treatment data and must be obtained before the trip is interrupted. More in VB-ERV 2019 / Kollektiv General Provisions Sections 6 and 7; Special part: Part B numbers 14 and 15.

**Please note:** If you breach your obligations, you put your insurance cover at risk. Depending on the severity of your breach of duty this may mean that we reduce the benefit or do not pay it at all, depending on the severity of your breach.