



## 12 Magical Days Zurich to Zurich Swiss Magical Christmas Markets

### Switzerland's best Christmas Markets

#### Experience superb scenery and big Alpine thrills

Explore some of Switzerland's most delightful Christmas markets from Zurich with its singing Christmas tree and Montreux's lakeside markets to Einsiedeln's picturesque market in front of the iconic, massive cathedral and Basel's internationally renowned markets on Barfüsserplatz and Münsterplatz. Ride in panoramic carriages across the high Alps on the Golden Pass panoramic train, visit Geneva and sip wine on the UNESCO listed Lavaux Wine road. Explore Charlie Chaplin's House, Château de Chillon, ride up to 3,000 metres on a rotating aerial cable car, experience a cliff top suspension bridge, try snowshoe walking and stay 3 nights in a stunning mountain hotel. **Fabulous!**



Travel by coach & scenic trains as described  
Travel in a first-class air-conditioned touring coach



A complimentary wine, beer or soft drink with all included dinners, including a welcome drink in Zurich  
19 meals including buffet breakfast daily (B), 1 lunch (L) and 7 evening meals (D)



Hotel portage of 1 bag per person (where available)  
11 nights authentic, specially selected hotel accommodation  
Free WiFi at most hotels (where available)



Personal audio system whilst on tour (where available)  
Local guides as described in the itinerary  
ALL tips for your Tour Manager, Driver and Local Guides  
Fully escorted by our experienced Tour Manager



Visit 6 Christmas Markets including Zurich, Einsiedeln, Basel, Berne, Luzern, Montreux  
ALL excursions, scenic drives, sightseeing and entrances as described





## Zurich Welcome

Day 1



Central Plaza Hotel Zürich, Switzerland



D

Your tour commences this evening in cosmopolitan Zurich. For those arriving early make sure you walk across to the nearby railway station and visit the fabulous Christmas markets. One of the largest indoor Christmas Markets in Europe, they are famous for their massive, illuminated Christmas Tree. Tonight, we enjoy a welcome drink followed by dinner in the vaulted King's Cave restaurant, located below our hotel. This is an ideal opportunity to meet your fellow travellers.

## Zurich sightseeing, Einseideln Abbey and Christmas Markets

Day 2



Central Plaza Hotel Zürich, Switzerland



B

This morning we are joined by a local guide for a walking tour of this pretty, historical lakeside city. Later we journey along the lake to the pretty little town of Einseideln with its enormous historic Abbey. The Cathedral is huge and so richly decorated inside, it is almost an assault on the senses. The Christmas Markets are beautifully set directly on the terraces of the cathedral, and they wind down through the old town. As far as Christmas Markets go these are arguably in the most striking setting. Returning to Zurich your evening is free to explore and visit Zürich's numerous Christkindlimarkt - Christmas markets. Look out for the unique Singing Christmas Tree in Werdmühleplatz. On most evenings local choirs and school children perform Christmas Carols standing in tiers on a giant pyramid shaped Christmas Tree. Delightful.

## 'My Time' Zurich

Day 3



Central Plaza Hotel Zürich, Switzerland



B

Your day is totally free - 'My Time' - to explore this historical city with its numerous Christmas Markets, fabulous shopping and walkways beside the lake and along the River Limmat which cuts right through the old town. This is very much a walking city, and one that really comes alive in the run up to Christmas.

## Schaffhausen Rhine Falls, Basel and the Lowenzorn restaurant

Day 4



Movenpick Hotel, Basel



B,D

This morning we board our coach and journey north to near the German border. At Schaffhausen we stop to visit the mighty Rhine Falls. Using walkways that link a series of viewing platforms we get up close to Europe's most powerful waterfall. They are not tall, but massive, and their roar, vibration and power is spectacular. Later we continue to Basel where we stay the next 2 nights. Why Basel? Because this city boasts that they have 'the best Christmas Markets in all Switzerland'. Voted 'Best Christmas market in Europe' in 2021, they are beautifully set in Barfüsserplatz and Münsterplatz, right in the centre of the city and at the heart of the festively decorated Old Town. A magnificent Christmas tree stands on Münsterplatz. To make your stay perfect, our hotel is wonderfully located in the middle of the old town with its amazing Christmas markets. A really easy walk. Dinner tonight is included in an historical local restaurant, a short walk from hotel. Called the Löwenzorn Restaurant the name translates as Angry Lion. Dating back hundreds of years, there is rich tradition here as for centuries this has been the gathering point for many of the city guilds. The upstairs dining rooms have magnificent parquetry.

## Basel, 'My Time' and Switzerland's Best Christmas Markets.

Day 5



Movenpick Hotel, Basel



B

This morning we are joined by a local guide for a walking tour through the lovely old city. Basel sits on the Rhine River close to the country's borders with France and Germany. Its medieval old town centers around Marktplatz, dominated by the 16th-century, red-sandstone Town Hall. Its Gothic cathedral dates back even further to the 12<sup>th</sup> century. Whilst you are here you should visit the "Läckerli Huus" to try the traditional Basel honey cake! Your afternoon and evening is at leisure. 'My Time' in arguably some of the very best series of Christmas Markets in Europe.

## Medieval Bern and Chateau Chillon

Day 6



Mona Montreux, Switzerland



B,D

On our way to Montreux today we explore the medieval cobblestoned streets of Bern. A UNESCO World Heritage landmark, this capital city is set on a spectacular bend above the River Aare. In addition to kilometres of sheltered arcaded shopping ways, an intriguing clock tower and the famous 'Bärengaben' bear pits, there are several sets of excellent Christmas markets scattered around the old town.

In the afternoon we continue to Montreux, on the exclusive Swiss Riviera, where we stay for the next 3 nights. Before we settle into our hotel we drive just outside of town and we have included entrance and a guided tour through the beautifully preserved Château de Chillon. Made famous in Byron's poem 'The Prisoner of Chillon', this 13th century fortress juts out imposingly into Lake Geneva. We'll visit the staterooms, the ramparts and, of course, the dungeons!

## 'My Time', Montreux's Christmas Markets and Freddie Mercury

Day 7



Mona Montreux, Switzerland



B

Your hotel is on the shores of Lake Geneva, near the heart of town, excellent for the relaxing day we have left free for you to enjoy and explore this gorgeous lakeside city of Montreux. 'My Time' to do as little or as much as you want to do. Situated along the eastern shores of Lake Geneva, known locally as Lac Lemman, the enormous Christmas markets that stretch along the grand lakeside promenade and foreshore are fantastic. Along the foreshore, make sure you find the iconic statue of Freddie Mercury (who made his farewell home here) punching the sky.

## Charlie Chaplin, Geneva and the Lavaux Wine Road

Day 8



Mona Montreux, Switzerland



B,D

First stop this morning will be in Charlie Chaplin's hometown of Vevey. Make sure you walk along the lake foreshore to see the statue of the 'little man with baggy pants'. We also visit Chaplin World in Ban Manor. Once Charlie's home, it is now a museum dedicated to Charlie Chaplin, the legendary artist and man, that retraces the extraordinary life of this cinematographic genius. We will spend lunchtime in Geneva where you have time at leisure to explore Switzerland's second largest city. On the beautiful foreshore of Lake Lemman (Lake Geneva) you will see the city's symbolic 140 metre high Jet d'Eau fountain. On our way home we follow the spectacular, vineyard covered, Lavaux wine road. The tiers of stone-terraces are UNESCO Heritage listed, and we stop at the Vinorama to enjoy a wine tasting of the local varieties.

## The Golden Pass Train, Interlaken and Trübsee Alpine Lodge

Day 9



Berghotel Trübsee Alpine Lodge



B,D

An adventure today as we board the Golden Pass panoramic train which will take us across the Alps, past the chic ski resort of Gstaad and Château-d'Oex, and on to Interlaken. Our seats are pre-booked in the special panoramic carriages and the views throughout the journey are spectacular. (Your luggage will travel separately, making this an easy and relaxing day). Nestled between two lakes, and surrounded by beautiful countryside, Interlaken makes a great place to enjoy lunchtime. In the afternoon we board our coach and drive along the length of Lake Brienz, past crystal-clear lakes and waterfalls and cross over the magnificent Brünig mountain pass on our way to Engelberg. Now it is time to go to our mountain hotel and the only way to get there is by catching the Titlis Xpress gondola. The amazing thing about the Trübsee Alpine Lodge is it is perched halfway up Mount Titlis at an altitude of 1,800 metres. There is no village there, just the lovely hotel set on a snowy ridge, surrounded by massive peaks in an extraordinary, peaceful environment. In the afternoons, as the day visitors leave the valley, an unparalleled stillness sets in, and the mountain becomes 'ours'. Time to visit the bar or go for a stroll through the snowy landscape beside the frozen perched lake, before settling in for dinner in the cozy, alpine restaurant. We stay here 3 nights.

## Mt Titlis cliff walk, glacier caves and snowshoe walk

Day 10



Berghotel Trübsee Alpine Lodge



B,L,D

The first highlight of your day will be catching the Titlis Rotair – the first rotating aerial cable car in the world - up to the summit of Mt Titlis at 3,020 metres. As you ride higher and higher the cable car gently rotates, giving you uninterrupted, 360-degree views of the dozens and dozens of the alpine peaks that surround you. At the top you will find restaurants and cafes, a man-made glacier grotto you can walk through, and Europe's highest cliff top suspension bridge walk. Set 500 metres above an abyss the 150 steps across to the viewing platform will be memorable! Not so sure? Then just take photos of it! We have included a Swiss Rosti specialty lunch in the Panoramic Restaurant. In the afternoon we descend to our hotel which is set right beside the Trübsee snow park. Here you can go for snow walks, maybe go for a fun ride snow tubing down the hill or sit in the café and relax and watch the fun. Later this afternoon we have included a snowshoe walk along the frozen lake. What an amazing day!

## Luzern, the wooden bridges and Farewell Dinner

Day 11



Berghotel Trübsee Alpine Lodge



B,D

After taking the cable car down to Engelberg, we catch the train to spend the day in Luzern. On arrival we will enjoy an orientation walking tour of the old city with its covered wooden bridges before enjoying much of the day exploring at leisure. 'My Time' in an iconic Swiss lakeside town. Mid afternoon we return by train to Engelberg. Tonight, back in our mountain retreat, we enjoy drinks on the bar terrace followed by a farewell dinner.

## Transfer to Zurich

Day 12



Berghotel Trübsee Alpine Lodge



B

Catching the cable car back down to Engelberg we will transfer you by coach to Zurich with drop offs, sometime around midday in Zurich city and the airport.

We recommend you book flights and trains that depart Zurich after 3pm.

## Hand Selected Experiences

These are just a few of the very special hand selected experiences that will really make your touring experience exceptional and unique, and don't forget, with Albatross they are always included.



**Einsiedeln Abbey  
And Christmas  
Markets**



**Charlie Chaplin's  
House  
Chaplin World**



**Chateau Chillon  
Guided Tour**



**Snow Shoe Walk  
Through the Local  
Countryside**



**Titlis Rotair Cable  
Car  
Rotating Cable Car  
and Mount Titlis  
Lunch**



**Golden Pass  
Railway**  
Panoramic Train  
Journey



**Lavaux Wine Road**  
Vinorama



**Rhine Falls**  
Rhine Falls at  
Schaffhausen



**Luzern**  
Walking Tour

## Dates and Prices

Correct as of 08:46 on 17th April 2025

Start Date	End Date	Twin Price	Solo Price	
05 Dec 2025	16 Dec 2025	AUD\$8,347	AUD\$10,347	Space Available

\* Dates, prices, itineraries and hotels shown may be subject to change on specific departures. Please contact our European Tour Specialists for further details.

## Tour Suitability

- ✈ Our Christmas, New Year and Northern Lights tours travel throughout the European winter months. The weather can get cold, and roads and pathways can be slippery. When outdoors, please take extra care when navigating slippery surfaces.
- ✈ We recommend sturdy waterproof shoes, thick socks, a woollen beanie, thermal underclothes, gloves and sunglasses. You will be comfortable when travelling as your first class coach is fitted with heaters and double glazed windows. Once you arrive at your hotel you will be greeted with a warm and comfortable atmosphere.
- ✈ Thinking about what to wear? Please read our blog on Wardrobe essentials: <https://www.albatrosstours.com.au/news-nest-travel-blog/wardrobe-essentials-for-a-winter-wonderland-tour-in-europe/>

Please refer to our Tour Suitability section for more information.

## Terms & Conditions

- Information provided is true and correct at time of issue. Airfares not included. For further details please contact your consultant or full terms and conditions may be found at [www.albatrosstours.com.au/booking-conditions](http://www.albatrosstours.com.au/booking-conditions). Albatross Tours ABN 45 010 585 143. ATAS Accreditation No: A11341. CATO Accreditation No. 69562707