



Press release

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The Münchner Christkindlmarkt 2024

The traditional Christmas market takes place on Munich's Marienplatz from 25 November to 24 December. Lord Mayor Dieter Reiter officially opened the market with the lighting of the Christmas tree on 25 November at 5 pm.

A total of 138 stalls are permitted at the Christmas market this year, around half of which offer Christmas goods.

The beginnings of Munich's Christmas market date back to the 14th century. It is considered the original among the city's Christmas markets.

More sparkling lights in the city centre

Last year's successful lighting concept is being continued and expanded. It will illuminate the Christkindlmarkt area until 7 January 2025, as well as the lower part of Sendlinger Straße and, new this year, Schützenstraße.

Another new feature is a glowing selfie point: a larger-than-life dachshund welcomes visitors to the Christkindlmarkt in Sendlinger Straße (between Dultstraße and Rosental) and makes an ideal photo spot. The dachshund has been a symbol of Munich and a popular figure ever since the 1972 Olympics. It is impossible to imagine Munich without the 'Zamperl' (Bavarian for "doggy").

For the first time, three trees on Sendlinger Strasse will be lit up with a total of 70 illuminated stars. The roofing of the building site at the Kaut-Bullinger-



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building will also be incorporated into the Christmas lighting concept with glowing baubles and fairy lights. Various stars, the Frauenkirche (“Cathedral of Our Lady”), hearts and the red ‘C’ of the Christkindlmarkt logo sparkle on the lanterns, some of whose poles are encased in illuminated diamond-shaped netting. A total of around 180 lantern toppers are in use, as well as 75 diamond-shaped coats. The light projection on the Karlstor picks up on the dot structure from the Christkindlmarkt design system. Its interplay of sharp and blurred circles in the Christmas colours of red, gold and green creates a warm, festive atmosphere.

Another visual highlight are the two illuminated Schäffler (“cooper”) dancers near the hunting and fishing museum, which proved to be popular selfie spots last year.

Two star islands, which invite visitors to linger, and four original wooden barrels decorated with Christmas trees complete the lighting concept. The Christmas illumination is switched on at dusk around 4 pm. It lights up until 8.15 am in parallel with the street lighting. Only energy-saving LEDs are used as light sources.

The lighting project is financed under the state of Bavaria’s urban development programme through its special fund for town centre revitalization.



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Christmas tree

The Christmas tree with its 3,400 candles will light up Marienplatz until 7 January 2025. As last year, the lights will only be switched on at 4 pm to save energy. They remain lit until 8.15 in the morning. The LED technology used also ensures energy efficiency.

Tree donor municipality and partner cities in the Prunkhof

The 23 metre tall coastal fir tree was donated by the municipality of Antdorf in the district of Weilheim-Schongau. Like every year, the tree donor municipality and its associations will run a mulled wine stand with snack specialities in the inner courtyard of the Town Hall – the Prunkhof. Typical products from the Munich partner cities of Sapporo and Kyiv can likewise be purchased at two stands in the Prunkhof (courtyard).

Guided tour “Christmas Lights and Magic”

On a walk around Marienplatz, our official guides not only share interesting facts about the past and present of the Christkindlmarkt, they also introduce guests to Christmas customs and present selected stalls. Mulled wine and roasted almonds await you at the end of the tour (always on Sundays at 4 pm). For details and booking, see einfach-muenchen.de/xmas



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XXL selection of Christmas gifts

As in earlier times, the Christmas market is primarily a market for goods, with a large selection of Christmas gifts. The market traders offer hand-painted glass pictures, self-developed brain teasers and puzzles, woollen slippers, honey and beekeeping products from their own production and much more. The range is complemented by original and handmade Christmas tree decorations, pottery and biscuit cutters. Wax modelling, illuminated stars, Zwetschgenmanderl (figures made out of plums), angel hair and straw stars are also classics at the Christmas market.

Krippenmarkt (Nativity scene market)

The special market for nativity scenes has everything a real nativity scene needs: From lanterns and fountains to figures, angels, mosses and hay. The cot professionals also repair, restore and customise cots.

A special highlight are the figures by the artist Angela Tripi from Palermo, which are made entirely by hand from terracotta and fabric according to southern Italian tradition. They can be purchased from Eduard and Elena Diem, who are represented at the Christkindlmarkt for the 20th time.

A dedicated Krippenmarkt was held in Munich for the first time as long ago as 1757.



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Culinary offers

It's not just mulled wine, punch and the like with the spicy scent of cinnamon and cloves that attract visitors to the Christmas market. Whether you are looking for edible Christmas gifts or a warming snack, foodies of all kinds will find what they are looking for around Marienplatz. Even those who have opted for vegan food and drink, have diabetes, or cannot tolerate gluten or lactose will be served the right food and drink.

Advent music live from the Town Hall balcony

Traditional Bavarian Stubenmusik ("traditional folk music") from the Town Hall balcony featuring wind ensembles, singing groups and choirs will set the mood for the Advent season, with live performances starting at 5.30 pm from Sunday to Thursday. Every Thursday you can listen to music from all over the world, from Ecuador to Finland and Japan. Soul and jazz also enrich the live musical programme.

The brass group Grünwalder Turmbläser traditionally play at the close of the Christkindlmarkt at midday on December 24.

Micro Art Gallery

From 25 November to 15 December, the art and cultural institution PLATFORM München is presenting a pop-up gallery for small-format art from Munich. More than 90 artists will be showing and selling their works during



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the Christkindlmarkt. The artworks can be viewed in the town hall as well as purchased and taken home directly. The temporary gallery is located in the room next to the driveway to the town hall tower, accessed via the passageway to the ceremonial courtyard.

Further information: www.plattform-muenchen.de

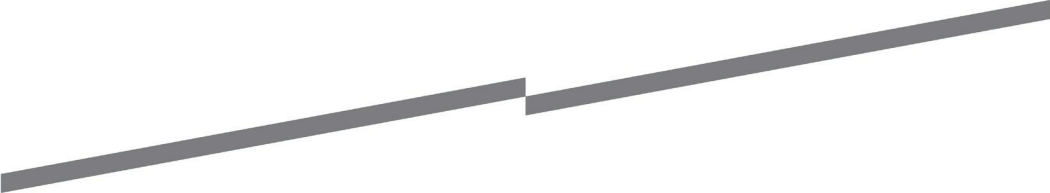
Carols under the Christmas tree

Anyone who prefers to sing themselves can meet with like-minded music lovers for “Carols under the Christmas tree” in front of the Peterskirche church. From November 27 onwards, people gather here every Wednesday at 4.30 pm to spend half an hour singing Bavarian Advent and Christmas carols under professional direction – whatever the weather.

Those with disabilities have barrier-free access. The lyrics of the carols are also handed out in Braille and large print, as well as being translated into sign language live for the deaf. Mobile induction loops are available for the hearing impaired. Guide dogs are allowed.

Krampus run with a new route

On Sunday, 8 December, from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m., the wild fellows will be out and about again: the big Krampus run is a highlight of the Christkindlmarkt. The run attracts up to 50,000 onlookers.

A decorative grey bar consisting of two segments, one slightly higher than the other, sloping upwards from left to right.

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This year there is a new route: from Sendlinger Straße, the groups make their way along Rosental and Viktualienmarkt streets to the Altes Rathaus (Old Town Hall), where the run ends.

The Krampus tradition has existed in the Alpine region for about 500 years. It is a custom that goes back to the mythological Christian figures of Bishop Nicholas and his companion Krampus. Krampus is typically depicted as a half-goat, half-demon creature, often hairy with horns and a long tongue.

Himmelswerkstatt (“Heavenly Workshop”)

For the 30th time, children aged six to twelve can transform themselves into little angels with golden wings and shimmering robes before they get creative in the Christmas-decorated Ratstrinkstube in the Town Hall. The meeting point is the Town Hall gate at the Fischbrunnen fountain. The Himmelswerkstatt is open from 28 November to 15 December. It starts daily at 2.30 pm and 4.30 pm and lasts around 1.5 hours.

General information

The market stretches from Marienplatz to Alter Peter, into the pedestrian zone (Kaufingerstraße and Neuhauser Straße) and into Sendlinger Straße and Rindermarkt. The stalls are open from Monday to Saturday from 10 am to 9 pm and on Sundays from 10 am to 8 pm. On the opening day, 25 November, the sale also starts at 10 am. On Christmas Eve, 24 December,



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the market runs from 10 am to 2 pm. Everything about the Christkindlmarkt: map, music programme and specialities at www.christkindlmarkt-muenchen.de

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Image material

Photos and videos about Munich and the Christkindlmarkt can be after a one-time registration in the Munich Tourism

media portal: <http://www.einfach-muenchen.de/fotoservice>