

# Three Countries Christmas Markets

15th to 18th December

*Staying in Metz, home of the second largest Christmas Market in France, we take in the twinkling lights and festive spirit of three different Christmas Markets in three different countries – France, Luxembourg and Germany.*



**£413.00 PER PERSON**

Single Room Supp: £68.00

## What's Included

- ✓ 3 nights Dinner, Bed & Breakfast
- ✓ All bedrooms are en-suite with TV, telephone & WiFi
- ✓ Free time to explore Metz, Luxembourg & Trier

## MERCURE METZ CENTRE

This modern hotel is located in the very heart of Metz.

**Friday 15 December** Departing Oxted we drive to Dover for the short sea crossing to Calais and thereafter make our way across France to our hotel in Metz where we receive a warm welcome and can enjoy a glass of wine while our bags are taken to our rooms. The Place de la Republique is about a 10 minute walk from the hotel, and you may wish to take a wander this evening, to see the beautiful Christmas lighting, giant ferris wheel, ice skating rink, twinkling Christmas tree and pretty chalet village.





**Saturday 16 December** This morning, we drive to the City of Luxembourg, where we shall be free to explore the Christmas Market. At this time of year, the main square is covered with small wooden huts, selling candles, toys, decorations and sweets, as well as typical drinks such as Glühwain (hot wine) and typical foods like the Thüringer, Mettwurst (Luxembourgish sausages ) or Gromperekichelcher (potato pancakes). Early afternoon, we travel back to Metz, where we shall be at leisure to enjoy the city. Visit the Place de la Gare, with its beautifully decorated Christmas tree from the Vosges which dominates the giant Nativity scene; the Place Saint Louis with its 90 chalets set amidst the Medieval houses bordering the square. Talented craftsmen display and exhibit their wares at many of the stalls, and there is no shortage of culinary offerings such as the traditional Alsatian festive cookies, 'bredalas', should hunger pains strike. In Place Saint Jacques there are around 20 wooden stalls

featuring Christmas ornaments and decorations. See the stunning cathedral, which is beautifully lit as darkness draws in, as is the adjacent Place d'Armes. Wander through the old town with a mug of mulled wine warming your hands maybe and visit the romantic square of Place de la Comédie. Located on an island, from here we can see one of the best sights of our trip: the Cathedral, the opera-theatre and the Temple Neuf all lit beautifully to create a magical panorama.

**Sunday 17 December** After breakfast, we cross the border into Germany to Trier. Here we shall be free to explore the Christmas Market held in the medieval market square, one of the loveliest in Germany with its Petrus fountain, and traffic free areas. The majestic cathedral and an assortment of Medieval buildings surround a temporary yet beautiful village of wooden huts in Germany's oldest town, renowned for its old Roman Porta Nigra gate. Christmas decorations, wooden toys, candles, hand-blown and engraved glassware line the stalls but, if we feel that we have all the gifts that we need, there is no shortage of stunning historical monuments in this ancient Roman city to explore!

**Monday 18 December** Departing after breakfast we make our way back across France to Calais and our ferry home. Arriving back in Oxted mid evening.

