

## Food and drink

No Advent and Christmas time without delighting in the seasonal foods and traditional fare, that is only sold during this special time of the year. The smell of roasted almonds, chestnuts and mulled wine swirls through town, Lebkuchen are sold in special shops, and grilled sausages are a classic too. Here's a short introduction to the most important seasonal specialities you can savour in Bamberg and throughout the region.

### Bratwurst:

Maybe the most famous snack in Franconia. Deliciously grilled small sausages put in a crispy roll. Enjoy them with the special Franconian mustard.

### Roasted almonds:

Sugar coated almonds (and other nuts) often with a whiff of cinnamon. A sweet and crunchy delight, unthinkable not to have some to nibble during Christmas time.

### Lebkuchen:

A special kind of traditional gingerbread. The best thing that can happen to nuts, honey and spices put together. Just let it happen to you!

### Mulled wine:

Heated red or white wine, enriched with different spices like cinnamon, cloves, star anise or even licorice, just to name some of them. Warms hands and tummies on a cold day. But please drink carefully, as mulled wine with its sweet taste can cloud your mind rather quickly.



For concerts, plays, markets, and further cultural events during Advent and Christmas in Bamberg and its region please check the (German language) website [www.kultur.bamberg.de](http://www.kultur.bamberg.de)

We are happy to assist in planning your visit and are certain to have a few more special hints and tips, that will make your stay enjoyable and well worth your time.



### BAMBERG Tourism & Congress Service

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tel. +49 951 2976 200, [info@bamberg.info](mailto:info@bamberg.info)  
[www.bamberg.info](http://www.bamberg.info)

### Opening hours of Tourist Information in December and January:

Mo – Fr 9.30 am – 5 pm, Sa 9.30 am – 3.00 pm  
Su 9.30 am – 2.00 pm  
Closed Dec 24th – 26th and Jan 1st



## → Bamberg at Christmas time



## Bamberg at Christmas

When winter draws near and Christmas approaches, the historic old town of Bamberg turns into a city full of romance. Christmas markets with stalls full of treats and dainty odds and ends, the traditional music of advent, lovingly decorated shop fronts, and the many stations of the Nativity City are just a few of the elements that turn the World Heritage City of Bamberg into a winter city full of magic every year. The villages in Bamberg County also offer traditional markets, mostly on the weekends, and many have a life-size public Nativity Scene to show, in addition to the cribs in the churches.

## Strolling through the Nativity Town

Nativity scenes and Christmas cribs rank among the loveliest - and the most tangible - aspects of the Christmas season. This is especially true of Bamberg, a Nativity town with a four hundred year old tradition of placing and showing cribs in the public. On a reflective stroll along the Nativity trail, walkers will discover an abundance of Nativity scenes spread across nearly forty stations, including most churches and chapels, museums and public buildings. While the churches show one scene at a time, changing the scenery frequently, the museums usually show many different scenes and cribs all at once.





# Find your Nativity Scenes and Christmas Markets

## Nativity Scenes

### Nativity Scenes in Museums and Exhibitions (1-6)

- 1 Museum of Nativity Scenes
- 2 Large Baroque Nativity scene in the Ludwig Collection
- 3 Exhibition of Bamberg's Friends of the Crib
- 4 Nativity Exhibition in the Museum of the Diocese
- 5 Nativity Exhibition of the Missionary Museum
- 6 Christmas and Nativity Exhibition in the Historical Museum

### Nativity Scenes in Churches (7-28)

- 7 St. Stephan: Modern stone crib
- 8 St. Gangolf: Zograscopes crib
- 9 Upper Parish Church: Huge Baroque crib
- 10 Cathedral: 20th ct. crib plus medieval Veit Stoß Christmas altarpiece
- 11 St. Jakob: Oriental crib
- 12 St. Joseph: Bavarian style
- 13 St. Elisabeth: From the 1920's
- 14 Congregatio Jesu: Clay figures
- 15 St. Josef: All natural materials
- 16 St. Otto: Crib of the market gardeners' with original Bamberg buildings as background
- 17 St. Martin: Historic Stage crib
- 18 Altenburg castle: Crib in the castle gate chapel
- 19 St. Urban: oriental style crib from 1993
- 20 St. Wolfgang: oriental style crib
- 21 Maria Hilf: wooden crib from 1928
- 23 Erlöserkirche: Peruvian crib made of clay
- 24 St. Josef: oriental style crib plus Christmas scenes in the altar piece from 1905
- 25 Auferstehungskirche: wooden crib
- 26 St. Heinrich: crib includes a little stream
- 27 St. Kunigund: oriental style crib
- 28 St. Anna: oriental style crib from 1981

### Lifesize Nativity Scenes (29-32)

- 29 Dohlushaus: plaster cast crib
- 30 Maxplatz Square: Franconian crib
- 31 Kunigundenschule: wooden crib
- 32 Schönleinsplatz: wooden crib from 1963

### Nativity Scenes in public buildings (33-36)

- 33 Siechenkapelle: Baroque cabinet
- 34 Infozentrum Michelsberg: South Tirolean crib
- 35 Landratsamt Bamberg: Cribs from K.-H. Exner
- 36 Tourist Information: Crib from K.-H. Exner



## Christmas markets

During the Christmas season, the market square Maximiliansplatz in Bamberg's pedestrian zone is filled with pre-Christmas atmosphere. In the heart of the Old Town with its illuminated and decorated shops and streets, the irresistible aroma of grilled bratwurst, roasted almonds, mulled wine and lebkuchen fills the air. Toys and baubles hang from the market stands, selling Christmas fare, hand-crafted gifts, decorations and much more. At the end of the market lanes, the large nativity scene dominates the square, comprising a Franconian half-timbered house which depicts different scenes over time. This market always takes place from Thursday before 1st Advent until December 23rd.

In addition, up to four crafts Christmas markets offering high quality hand crafted goods and art take place on Advent weekends only, usually the first and the third weekend. Further details on [www.bamberg.info/weihnachtsmaerkte](http://www.bamberg.info/weihnachtsmaerkte)

