

Christmas Markets of Eastern Europe

PRE-DEPARTURE INFORMATION FOR YOUR TOUR



Passport & visa requirements

- This tour visits Hungary, Austria, the Czech Republic, and Poland (and Germany on the tour extension). In order to enter these countries, U.S. and Canadian citizens need a valid passport with an expiration date extending at least six months beyond the date of reentry.
- We recommend having at least one blank passport page for entry stamps.
- There is no visa required for U.S. or Canadian citizens.
- If you are not a U.S. or Canadian citizen, you must contact each country's consulate for your specific entry requirements.

Tour pace

- You will walk for about 2.5 hours daily across mostly flat terrain, including paved roads and cobblestone streets, with few hills or stairs.
- Travelers should be healthy enough to participate in all included walks without assistance. Adding optional excursions may increase the total amount of walking on your tour.
- You should feel comfortable managing your own luggage at times.
- If you have any mobility concerns or physical restrictions, please contact our Customer Relations Team at 800.597.0350.

Transportation & arrival information

- Round-trip flights booked through Go Ahead Tours arrive in Budapest and depart from Warsaw (or Berlin on the tour extension). A representative from Go Ahead Tours will meet you at the airport and take you to your hotel. Please remain in the arrival lounge, as the representative might be escorting one of your fellow travelers to the bus at the time of your arrival.
- Transfers to and from the airport at your destination are included for travelers who have purchased their flights through Go Ahead Tours. Travelers who purchase their own flights may request airport transfers with Go Ahead Tours for an additional cost.
- A train ride from Warsaw to Berlin is included with the tour extension.
- All other included transportation on this tour is by

private motor coach.

Baggage allowance

- Airlines have varying weight restrictions on baggage. Some airlines may impose additional charges if you choose to check any baggage; be advised that you are responsible for any such costs.
- Contact your airline for baggage size and weight restrictions for your flight, but please note that our travelers are restricted to one checked bag per person due to storage limitations on motor coaches and other transfers, which may include train connections or flights.
- One carry-on bag of 45 total inches (length + width + height) is also permitted.
- Make sure you label your baggage and keep valuables, medication, and documents in your carry-on bag.

Clothing & packing tips

- To ensure you're comfortable for outdoor sightseeing and celebrations, we recommend packing a warm coat, hat, and gloves, as well as rainwear.
- We also suggest packing lightweight, loose-fitting clothing that can easily be layered.
- A sturdy pair of walking shoes or boots is recommended for sightseeing.
- You may want to pack dressier attire if you plan to visit a high-end restaurant or special performance.

Health

- There are no major health risks associated with traveling to any of the countries on this tour.
- Check with your doctor or healthcare provider for the latest updates and entry requirements, or visit the Center for Disease Control and Prevention website at cdc.gov.^{*} If you have medication that you take daily, be sure you have enough for each day of the tour as well as any possible delays encountered.
- If you have dietary restrictions and/or food allergies please notify Go Ahead Tours at least 30 days prior to departure by logging in to your account and updating your traveler info. To update this information closer to your departure date, please call our Customer Experience Team.

Cuisine

- Hungary claims goulash as its national dish, but also is known for excellent salamis, cheeses, nut-flavored pancakes, freshwater fish and preserved fruits.
- Austria is known for its savory Wiener schnitzel and excellent wild trout, carp and crayfish. Save room for dessert—especially the strudels of fruit and nuts elegant chocolate cakes, such as the world-famous Sachertorte.
- Czech food is hearty, and you'll find large portions of veal, beef, and potato dishes. Some of the world's finest beers are produced here, including the original Budweiser and Pils.
- When in Poland, fill up on favorites like kielbasa and pierogi. Don't miss out on trying the bagels—they were born here.
- German food, on the tour extension, is hearty and substantial. Among the specialties are dumpling stews, sauerkraut, sausages, smoked cheeses, and dark breads. Bavaria produces some of the world's purest beers and exceptional white wines.

Electricity

- All countries on this tour operate on the European standard 220-240 volts and use Types C, E, or F plugs with two or three small, round pins.
- We recommend packing a universal adapter, as well as a voltage converter if you plan on using your own hairdryer or other device without a built-in converter.
- Your hotels on this tour may provide hairdryers, irons, and other small appliances. However these amenities cannot be guaranteed.

Connectivity

- Wi-Fi is available in most hotels, though some charges may apply.
- There is no Wi-Fi on any of the motor coaches.
- Please contact your mobile service provider for information on roaming charges.

Time Zones

- The countries on this tour are one hour ahead of Greenwich Mean Time (GMT) and six hours ahead of Eastern Time (ET).
- When it's noon in New York, it's 6pm on tour.

Speak to a travel expert today

1.800.719.9805 | goaheadtours.ca/eec

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GO AHEAD
TOURS

Currency

- You will use the Polish zloty, Czech crown, Hungarian forint, and the euro in Austria, as well as Germany on extension.
- Better rates of exchange are usually available overseas, although it's worth ordering some currency from your local bank to use when you first arrive.
- We strongly advise that you take debit/bank cards and credit cards, which can be used to withdraw cash at local banks, as needed.
- You can use most debit/credit cards at ATMs on the international networks Cirrus and Plus, but make sure to check with your home bank about withdrawal fees.
- Inform your bank and credit card company of your travel plans, so that they won't confuse your international purchases for fraudulent charges.
- International banks and businesses primarily accept debit and credit cards that work with the EMV chip system. If you do not already have at least one debit or credit card with a chip in it, we strongly recommend requesting one from your bank prior to your tour.

- Some optional excursions may only be purchased in advance. See page four of your tour itinerary for more information.

Tipping

- At the conclusion of your tour, it's customary to offer your Tour Director and driver a gratuity in local currency. Please keep current exchange rates in mind.
- We recommend tipping the equivalent of \$7USD to \$10USD per person per day for your Tour Director and the equivalent of \$3USD per person per day for your driver.
- If applicable, we also recommend the equivalent of \$2USD per local guide.
- Tips can only be paid in cash.

Purchasing excursions on tour

- Most optional excursions will be available for purchase while you are on tour.
- Your Tour Director will only accept cash (in USD only), Visa, or MasterCard as payment for excursions.
- Please be advised that if you pay for an excursion by credit card while on tour, it may take up to three months for your card to be charged.

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