

### Christmas Markets in Europe

Today, let's talk about Christmas markets in Europe. Probably the most popular destination for tourists seeking Christmas markets is Germany. Cities hosting them include Cologne, Nuremburg and Trier. Here visitors can sample the local bratwurst and gingerbread, as well as tasting the local beers and hot mulled wine – Glühwein.

Central Europe offers visitors some wonderful Christmas markets. These include Vienna Bratislava, Budapest, and Prague. Each offers some wonderful locally-made Christmas gifts. In the week before Christmas check out the locals buying carp from carp tanks!

Other popular Christmas markets in Europe to consider visiting include Bruges and Brussels in Belgium, and the capital cities of Stockholm, Copenhagen and Amsterdam. The oldest Christmas market in France is in Strasbourg.

In the UK Christmas markets have mushroomed. Surprisingly even Belfast in Northern Ireland, Manchester and Nottingham now offer German style Christmas markets. Did you know that the Birmingham Frankfurt Christmas Market and Craft Fair was the first UK Christmas market? Today, it is in its 11<sup>th</sup> year!

Christmas markets form an integral part of the Christmas experience by allowing us to have fun, meet our friends and look for presents. We can drink a mug of steaming hot Glühwein, try some locally made Punsch or a cup of honey liquor.

Visitors to Christmas markets can buy everything from chestnuts to spicy cookies. Why not buy some locally made jewellery or Christmas ornaments? Advent calendars and hand dipped candles are popular. You can also listen to the carol singers or perhaps join in the fun on the ice rink. Whatever you choose, enjoy yourselves and have a very merry Christmas!

### SPEAKING – WARM UP

Think of three things you know about Christmas markets. Go round the room swapping details with others.

### LISTENING – WRITING - DICTATION

The teacher will read some lines of the article slowly to the class.

### READING

Students should now read the article aloud, swapping readers every paragraph.

### SPEAKING - UNDERSTANDING

**1) The article** – Students check any unknown vocabulary or phrases with the teacher.

**2) The article** - Students should look through the article with the teacher.

- 1) What is the article about?
- 2) What do you think about the article?
- 3) Was this an easy or difficult article to understand?
- 4) Was this a boring or interesting article?
- 5) Discuss the article.

**3) Article quiz** - Students quiz each other in pairs. Score a point for each correct answer. Score half a point each time you have to look at the article for help. See who can get the highest score!

### Student A questions

- 1) Where is Belfast?
- 2) What is in its 11<sup>th</sup> year?
- 3) What is a Christmas market?
- 4) Name three cities in central Europe.
- 5) What is a chestnut and a candle?

### Student B questions

- 1) What is an advent calendar?
- 2) What is a carp?
- 3) What is probably the most popular Christmas market destination?
- 4) Where is the oldest Christmas market in France?
- 5) What have mushroomed and where?

## Christmas Markets in Europe – 30<sup>th</sup> November 2015

### WRITING / SPEAKING

*In pairs.* On the board write as many words about the '**Christmas Markets**'. *One-two minutes.* Compare with other teams. Using your words compile a short dialogue together.

### WRITING / SPEAKING

*In pairs* choose three things you know about the Christmas markets in your country. Write them below. Talk about them!

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_

**Add** three things you might buy at a Christmas market and three things you might like to eat. Discuss together.

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_ (1) \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_ (2) \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_ (3) \_\_\_\_\_

*The teacher* will choose some pairs to discuss their findings in front of the class.

### SPEAKING - GAME

*As a class* – Form a circle – "I went to a Christmas market and I saw..."

Go round the circle and repeat the previous words used. Forget a word and you are eliminated! *5 mins.*

### DISCUSSION

#### Student A questions

- 1) What do you think about what you've read?
- 2) Which is your favourite Christmas market?
- 3) What do you like to do at a Christmas market?
- 4) Do you visit the pub afterwards to warm up?
- 5) What do you prefer to drink at a Christmas market?
- 6) What do you like to eat at a Christmas market?
- 7) Does your town/city have a Christmas market? If yes, describe it!
- 8) Are you going to visit a Christmas market this year? If yes, where?
- 9) Do you light a candle or two before Christmas?
- 10) Have you learnt anything in today's English lesson?

### SPEAKING – ROLEPLAY 1

*In groups.* One of you is the interviewer. The others are one of the following people. You are in the *Discussion FM* radio studio in Vienna. Today's interview is about: *Christmas Markets in Europe.*

- 1) A tourist.
- 2) A stallholder.
- 3) A local.
- 4) A journalist.

*The teacher* will choose some groups to roleplay their interview in front of the class.

### SPEAKING - ROLEPLAY 2

*In pairs* - *Student A* loves visiting Christmas markets. *Student B* positively hates them! *3 mins.*

### SPEAKING - DISCUSSION

*Allow 10 minutes* – As a class.

*Discuss the following...*

Christmas markets in Europe – the best / the worst / the biggest / the one you might like to visit / the food / the drink / the best atmosphere / the one with vast crowds / the ones with snow / that have an ice rink / your choice 1 / your choice 2

*The teacher* can moderate the session.

### DISCUSSION

#### Student B questions

- 1) Did the headline make you want to read the article?
- 2) Have you ever visited a Christmas market in another country to your own? If yes, where?
- 3) Does your town/city have a Christmas market ice rink?
- 4) Do you like to go ice skating at a Christmas market?
- 5) Do you like to eat carp? Why?
- 6) What Christmas gifts might you buy at a Christmas market?
- 7) Do you ever keep the mug you drink your Glühwein from at a Christmas market?
- 8) What makes a Christmas market special?
- 9) Do you like to visit a Christmas market with your friends?
- 10) Did you like this discussion?

**GAP FILL: READING**

**Christmas Markets in Europe**

Today, let's talk about Christmas (1)\_\_\_ in Europe. (2)\_\_\_ the most popular (3)\_\_\_ for tourists seeking Christmas markets is Germany. Cities hosting them include Cologne, Nuremburg and Trier. Here visitors can sample the local bratwurst and gingerbread, as well as tasting the local beers and hot mulled wine – Glühwein.

Central Europe offers visitors some wonderful Christmas markets. These include Vienna Bratislava, Budapest, and Prague. Each offers some (4)\_\_\_ locally-made Christmas gifts. In the week before Christmas check out the (5)\_\_\_ buying (6)\_\_\_ from carp (7)\_\_\_! Other (8)\_\_\_ Christmas markets in Europe to consider visiting include Bruges and Brussels in Belgium, and the capital cities of Stockholm, Copenhagen and Amsterdam. The oldest Christmas market in France is in Strasbourg.

**popular / carp / wonderful / probably / tanks / markets / destination / locals**

In the UK Christmas markets have (1)\_\_\_ . Surprisingly even Belfast in Northern Ireland, Manchester and Nottingham now offer German style Christmas markets. Did you know that the Birmingham Frankfurt Christmas Market and Craft Fair was the first UK Christmas market? Today, it is in its 11<sup>th</sup> year!

Christmas markets form an integral part of the (2)\_\_\_ experience by allowing us to have (3)\_\_\_, meet our friends and look for presents. We can drink a (4)\_\_\_ of steaming hot Glühwein, try some locally made Punsch or a cup of honey liquor. Visitors to Christmas markets can buy everything from chestnuts to spicy cookies. Why not buy some locally made jewellery or Christmas (5)\_\_\_? Advent calendars and hand dipped (6)\_\_\_ are popular. You can also listen to the carol singers or perhaps join in the fun on the (7)\_\_\_ . Whatever you choose, enjoy yourselves and have a very (8)\_\_\_ Christmas!

**ice rink / Christmas / merry / ornaments / mug / mushroomed / fun / candles**

**GAP FILL: GRAMMAR**

**Christmas Markets in Europe**

Today, let's talk about Christmas markets in Europe. Probably the most popular destination for tourists seeking Christmas markets is Germany. Cities hosting (1)\_\_\_ include Cologne, Nuremburg and Trier. (2)\_\_\_ visitors can sample the local bratwurst and gingerbread, (3)\_\_\_ tasting the local beers and hot mulled wine – Glühwein.

Central Europe offers visitors (4)\_\_\_ wonderful Christmas markets. (5)\_\_\_ include Vienna Bratislava, Budapest, and Prague. (6)\_\_\_ offers some wonderful locally-made Christmas gifts. In the week before Christmas check out the locals buying carp (7)\_\_\_ carp tanks! (8)\_\_\_ popular Christmas markets in Europe to consider visiting include Bruges and Brussels in Belgium, and the capital cities of Stockholm, Copenhagen and Amsterdam. The oldest Christmas market in France is in Strasbourg.

**as well as / other / these / some / them / each / here / from**

In the UK Christmas markets have mushroomed. Surprisingly even Belfast (1)\_\_\_ Northern Ireland, Manchester and Nottingham now offer German style Christmas markets. Did (2)\_\_\_ know that the Birmingham Frankfurt Christmas Market and Craft Fair was the first UK Christmas market? Today, it is in (3)\_\_\_ 11<sup>th</sup> year!

Christmas markets form an integral part of the Christmas experience by allowing (4)\_\_\_ to have fun, meet (5)\_\_\_ friends and look (6)\_\_\_ presents. (7)\_\_\_ can drink a mug of steaming hot Glühwein, try some locally made Punsch or a cup of honey liquor. Visitors to Christmas markets can buy everything from chestnuts to spicy cookies. Why not buy some locally made jewellery or Christmas ornaments? Advent calendars and hand dipped candles are popular. You can also listen to the carol singers or perhaps join in the fun (8)\_\_\_ the ice rink. Whatever you choose, enjoy yourselves and have a very merry Christmas!

**on / us / in / we / for / you / our / its /**

## Christmas Markets in Europe – 30<sup>th</sup> November 2015



### GAP FILL: LISTENING

### WRITING/SPELLING

#### Christmas Markets in Europe

Today, let's talk about \_\_\_\_\_ Europe. Probably the most popular destination for tourists seeking Christmas markets is Germany. Cities hosting them include Cologne, \_\_\_\_\_. Here visitors can sample the local \_\_\_\_\_, as well as tasting the local beers and hot mulled wine – Glühwein.

Central Europe offers visitors some wonderful Christmas markets. These include Vienna Bratislava, Budapest, and Prague. Each offers some wonderful locally-made Christmas gifts. In the week before Christmas check out the locals buying \_\_\_\_\_! Other popular Christmas markets in Europe to consider visiting include Bruges and Brussels in Belgium, and the capital cities of Stockholm, \_\_\_\_\_. The oldest Christmas market in France is in Strasbourg.

In the UK Christmas markets have mushroomed. Surprisingly even Belfast in Northern Ireland, Manchester and Nottingham now offer German style Christmas markets. \_\_\_\_\_ the Birmingham Frankfurt Christmas Market and Craft Fair was the first UK Christmas market? Today, it is in its 11<sup>th</sup> year!

Christmas markets \_\_\_\_\_ of the Christmas experience by allowing us to have fun, meet our friends and look for presents. We can drink a mug of steaming hot Glühwein, try some locally made Punsch or a \_\_\_\_\_.

Visitors to Christmas markets can buy everything from chestnuts to spicy cookies. Why not buy some locally made jewellery or Christmas ornaments? \_\_\_\_\_ hand dipped candles are popular. You can also listen to the carol singers or perhaps join in the fun on the ice rink. Whatever you choose, enjoy yourselves and have a \_\_\_\_\_!

**www.newsflashenglish.com**

Copyright D. J. Robinson 2015 (V2)

#### WRITING / SPEAKING

**1) On the board** - In pairs/As a class, list 20 things you know about Christmas markets. *One-two minutes. Talk about each of them.*

**2) Sentence starters** - Finish these sentence starters. Correct your mistakes. Compare what other people have written.

- 1) Christmas \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) My favourite \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) This year \_\_\_\_\_

**3) Write down 50 words about: *Christmas Markets in Europe.*** Your words can be read out in class.

**4) Homework** - Write and send a 200 word email to your teacher about: ***Christmas Markets in Europe.*** Your email can be read out in class.

#### SPELLING

The teacher will ask the class individually to spell the following words that are in the article. Afterwards check your answers.

- 1) probably
- 2) destination
- 3) sample
- 4) wonderful
- 5) popular
- 6) mushroomed
- 7) offer
- 8) surprisingly
- 9) even
- 10) integral

#### SPELLING

Use the following ratings:

**Pass = 12**

**Good = 15**

**Very good = 18**

**Excellent = 20**

- 11) mug
- 12) locally
- 13) everything
- 14) jewellery
- 15) ornaments
- 16) calendars
- 17) perhaps
- 18) whatever
- 19) enjoy
- 20) merry

Christmas Markets in Europe – *30<sup>th</sup> November 2015*