



PRESS RELEASE

Immersive Christmas experiences in Saxony

London, October 2018. From palaces and castles to wine-growing estates, a park and of course romantic towns and bustling cities – Christmas markets in Saxony go way beyond the usual setting and even better; the festive spirit runs well into the New Year, offering visitors the chance for a more relaxed, post-Christmas mug of *Glühwein*.

Saxony surprises: of old Christmas favourites & new kids on the block

We cannot talk about Christmas without mentioning Germany's [oldest Christmas market in Dresden](#) (28 Nov to 24 Dec 2018): The so-called *Striezelmarkt* in the heart of the city's Baroque centre is a sight for the eyes and delight for the senses. Time your visit to coincide with the *Stollen* festival on the second Advent weekend (8/9 December 2018) where a giant version of this special Christmas cake that was invented in Dresden is paraded through the streets. For a more intimate experience, check out the [medieval Christmas market in Dresden's Stallhof](#) with 50 stalls in a charming courtyard. The "back to the roots" market does without singing and illuminations and instead has craftsmen, such as potters, leather workers or carvers, demonstrating their skills. It is on until 6 January so you can enjoy your mulled wine even after Christmas in a more relaxed mood. Over in nearby Leipzig the [Christmas market](#) (27 Nov to 23 Dec 2018) on and around the market square not only features a giant spruce tree but also a special Scandinavian section where visitors can sample a selection of Scandi delicacies, from roasted salmon to *Glögi* mulled wine.

Among the many delightful smaller Christmas markets in Saxony's historic towns, [Seiffen](#) is a particular highlight. The town in the Ore Mountains is at the centre of the region's famous wooden toy and Christmas decoration industry which goes back to the 17th century when impoverished miners turned to toy making. Wooden candle arches, pyramids, nutcrackers and candlesticks can be bought here directly from the makers. During Advent, Seiffen turns into a veritable Christmas town including a picture-perfect market (30 Nov to 23 Dec 2018) and some unique Christmas traditions, such as the Miners' Parade on 15 December. [These spectacular parades](#) take place throughout the Ore Mountains in former mining strongholds, including Freiberg and Annaberg.

For something a bit different, try the new [Christmas Garden Pillnitz](#) (14 Nov 2018 to 6 Jan 2019), taking place for the first time this year on the grounds of Schloss & Park Pillnitz outside Dresden. On a 1.25-mile walk, the park is transformed into a fairy tale inspired landscape with light effects and special architectural features for visitors to enjoy an immersive experience full of light and sparkle. For more winter fairy tale moments, try the market at [Königstein Fortress](#) south of Dresden where an illuminated fairy tale path takes centre stage alongside traditional crafts, Saxon folk art and Christmas carol singing (1/2, 8/9, 15/16 & 22/23 Dec 2018). Heading north towards Meissen, the delightful Schloss Proschwitz, also Saxony's oldest privately run wine-growing estate, hosts the [Proschwitzer Weihnacht](#) (29 Nov to 2 Dec 2018) market where the vineyard's wines can be tasted in a suitable Christmassy atmosphere.

ENDS

SAXONY. STATE OF THE ARTS.



Note to the Editor

- For more information on Christmas markets in Saxony, see [here](#)
- For more information on palaces and castles hosting Christmas markets in Saxony, see [here](#)
- Updated version of the “Christmas Wonderland Saxony” app by Saxony Tourism, with information about over 50 Christmas markets, selected seasonal events and specific Saxon Christmas traditions, from mid-October on [Google’s play store](#) and the [App store](#)

Travel information:

Easy access to Saxony: All major airlines to Berlin and [Ryanair](#) to Leipzig

New: ICE high-speed rail link cutting travel times from Munich and Nuremberg – Munich-Erfurt 2 hrs 15 min, Nuremberg-Erfurt 1 hr, Munich-Leipzig 3 hrs 15 min, Nuremberg-Leipzig 2 hrs

About Tourismus Marketing Gesellschaft Sachsen mbH

Tourismus Marketing Gesellschaft Sachsen mbH has been marketing Saxony as an attractive travel destination in Germany and abroad since 2000. Using the slogan “Saxony. State of the Arts”, it positions the region as a top cultural destination, focusing on arts, culture and city breaks as well as family, wellness and active holiday. Corresponding holiday packages can be booked via reservation systems and tour operators. Saxony’s main source markets are Germany, the Netherlands, Switzerland, Austria, USA, UK, Poland and Italy.

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