



# 2024 | WHITE CHRISTMAS

## CLASSIC EASTERN EUROPE & CHRISTMAS MARKETS

TOUR DATES: 09 DECEMBER – 20 DECEMBER 2024



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€2870\* PP SHARING TWIN/DOUBLE ROOM | €705\* SINGLE SUPPLEMENT  
LAND ARRANGEMENTS ONLY (AIRFARE SEPARATE)

## INTRODUCTION

Spend up to three days in Budapest, Vienna, and Prague, where you'll get the chance to experience impressive cathedrals, imperial palaces, and storybook castles. In addition, you'll be treated to a tapestry of aromas, colours, and magical moments at some of Europe's most beautiful Christmas markets. And if we're lucky ... SNOW. Join us on an unforgettable tour with luxury accommodation and transport, jam-packed with local experiences. If you have always dreamt of a true White Christmas adventure, this is just for you. It's no wonder that this is one of our oldest and most popular tours.

## LEEF JOU REIS EXPERIENCE

**BUDAPEST:** Visit a traditional strudel bakery, taste the true strudel delicacy and learn the Hungarian art of baking this renowned treat. You'll also enjoy a freshly baked warm strudel served with exceptional coffee!

**VIENNA:** Classical era concert in a Palace where Mozart used to give his performances whilst listening to well-known Strauss Waltzes.

**PRAGUE:** The hidden gems of Prague such as the Astronomical Clock, and one of the city's oldest underground restaurants with live music and traditional dishes. And of course, Prague is home to the most beautiful Christmas markets in Europe.



**BREATH TAKING ADVENTURE IN  
BUDAPEST, VIENNA & PRAQUE**

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## TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- The Matthias Church in Budapest
- St Vitus Cathedral in Prague
- Schönbrunn Palace in Vienna
- Christmas Markets where the aroma of spices fill the air
- Palace with a classical-era concert in Vienna
- Oldest Restaurant in Prague with traditional music
- The famous Blue Danube River
- Traditional dishes like Sacher-Torte (chocolate cake), the Coffee House culture of Vienna, Trdelník in Prague and the Paprika seasoned goulash of Hungary
- City tours of Budapest, Vienna, and Prague with local specialists and the Leef Jou Reis team.
- See the Heroes Square, Váci Utca, the Hungarian Parliament Building and the Fishermans Bastion in Budapest. Hofburg Imperial Palace and Opera House in Vienna. Český Krumlov Castle, Prague Castle, the Old Town Square, and the Astronomical Clock in Prague
- Enjoy the breathtaking scenery while you travel through the Viennese countryside and Bohemia in our luxury coach.

## AUTHENTIC MEALS

- Welcome dinner at Gundel in Budapest
- One of the oldest restaurants in Prague with traditional music in a medieval setting
- Gastronomical experience in the Viennese countryside from a forgotten era where Napoleon, Kings and the famous of yesteryear would gather and dine.
- Pilsner beer and smoked cheese at the Christmas Markets (optional)
- Traditional Strudel baked delicacies.

## ITINERARY AT A GLANCE

4 Countries

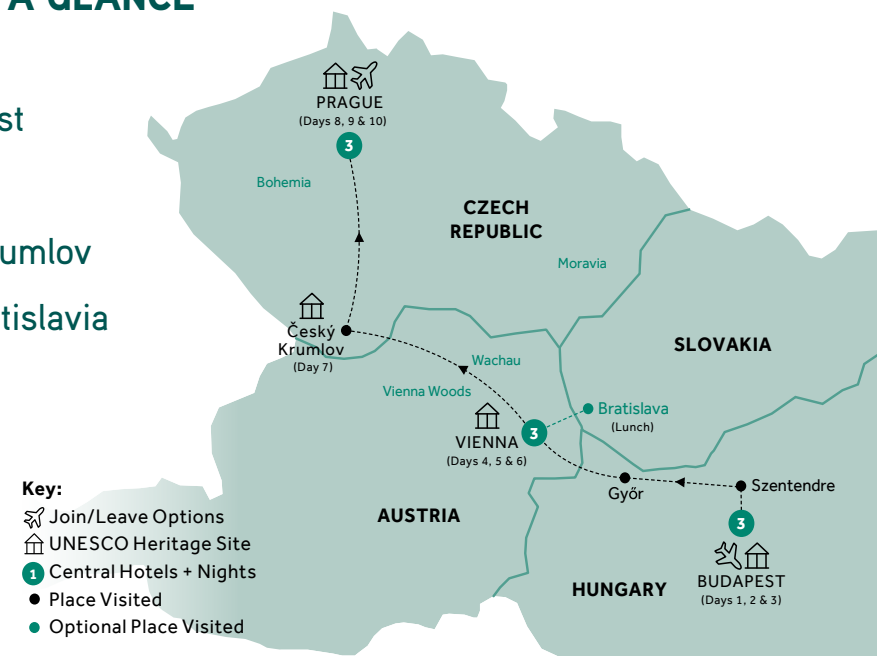
3 Nights Budapest

3 Nights Vienna

1 Night Český Krumlov

1 Day visit to Bratislava (Slovakye)

2 Nights Prague



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## DAY 1: WELCOME IN BUDAPEST

On our arrival in Budapest, we are whisked straight to our hotel to store our luggage. Take time to then explore the Christmas markets in the area and savour the festive atmosphere of this beautiful city before we check in at the hotel. Tonight, we enjoy dinner at the hotel, where we will get to know our Leef Jou Reis friends better. **(Dinner and wine included)**

## DAY 2: RELAXED START TO THE DAY AS WE EXPLORE BUDAPEST, QUEEN OF THE DANUBE

We travel along Budapest's beautiful boulevards towards the Heroes Square where a local guide will accompany us on a walking tour along the river to the renowned Chain Bridge. We then follow the cobblestoned streets in the Castle District up to the Matthias Church. Enjoy the incredible views from the Fishermans' Bastion to the breathtaking Parliament Building across the Danube River. Afterwards there will be time to relax or to explore the city and Christmas markets at your leisure. Watch in awe as a baker at a strudel bakery stretches the dough, stacks the delicious filling on top and bakes the most mouthwatering apple strudel. Enjoy the pastry with a steaming cup of fresh coffee.

We finish our evening on a high note with a mouth-watering meal at one of Budapest's oldest and most renowned Restaurants. Traditional dishes, Hungarian wine and a string orchestra await you!

**(Breakfast, Strudel Snack, Dinner)**





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## DAY 3: A LEISURE DAY IN BUDAPEST AND A BOAT TRIP ON THE DANUBE

Today is a free day in which you can explore the beautiful city and its ancient wonders at your own pace. Maybe visit the Christmas markets or take a dip at one of the hot springs and baths with their healing waters. A visit the Jewish quarters with the “Ruin bars” and a Palinka, (traditional fruit spirit with origins in the medieval Hungary) can be added to your list of highlights. Budapest is picture perfect, and we suggest you take a leisurely stroll along the Danube, taking in the incredibly beautiful architecture and buildings. The Parliament Buildings is one of the most iconic and famous sights - both day and night. It is home to the Holy Crown of Hungary which was used to crown King Stephen I in the 12th century and most of its Kings thereafter.

Later this evening we meet for a relaxing boat trip on the beautiful Danube River, enjoying a dinner on board. This is sure to be another one of your highlights! **(Breakfast, Dinner)**

## DAY 4: TRAVEL ALONG THE SHORES OF THE DANUBE TO STATELY VIENNA AND A VISIT TO BRATISLAVA, THE SMALL CAPITAL OF SLOVAKIA

Today we head to Vienna, where several highlights await you. We stop at the Christmas market in Bratislava where you can stroll around the unique small-town square.



The beautiful St Michaels gate (which dates from the medieval times) overshadows all the other landmarks. The castle is also close should you wish to explore this magnificent site. What a bonus to see this beautiful city while enroute to Vienna. Our next stop is stately Vienna, home of classical music, elegant coffee shops and grand architecture. Enjoy dinner at one of the many restaurants in the area. Our Leef Jou Reis team will be on hand to help with options in the area. **(Breakfast)**

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## DAY 5: RELAXING DEPARTURE, A SURPRISE AND VIENNA IN YOUR FREE TIME

Today we sleep in, enjoy a lazy breakfast and even a second cup of coffee before departing for a very special experience only found in Vienna. You will have to wait and see what Leef Jou Reis has in store for you!

After your magical treat, feel free to explore beautiful Vienna at your leisure. There is a treasure trove of attractions to be seen, not to mention the Christmas markets which you will find around every corner. The Leef Jou Reis team will be ready to help with suggestions, directions, and recommendations.

We meet again tonight for a festive dinner like no other. You will be whisked away to a fairy tale Restaurant which dates back to the Napoleonic era (1799 to 1815). The women are mostly in awe of the male bathrooms, and once there you will discover why! **(Breakfast; Dinner)**

## DAY 6: VIENNA AND THE HAPSBURGS

Today we meet up with our local specialist for a tour to the Maria Theresa Schönbrunn Palace and formal gardens. The stately gold clad rooms are guaranteed to take your breath away and the estate boasts the world's oldest zoo. We begin our visit early to avoid the crowds.

Keep your cameras ready for a breathtaking ride on the famous Ringway. The Opera House, Hoffburg Imperial Palace, the Austrian Parliament building and the Karlskirche, are all built along these ancient city walls. Vienna's Christmas markets are a sight to behold, and gluhwein is a must as part of your Austrian adventure. The famous Landtman Coffe house is directly opposite the market and their Sacher pie is a winner. Vienna is a magical city with many beautiful hidden gems to explore.

We end the day with yet another highlight! We immerse ourselves in the splendour of a palace where Mozart gave his first concert and enjoy a classic era concert. **(Breakfast ; Champagne)**



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## DAY 7: RELAXING DEPARTURE TO THE PICTURESQUE ČESKY KRUMLOV

After crossing the Czech border, we travel further to the picturesque Bohemian town of Český Krumlov where we kick off with a quick orientation tour. A leisurely walk along the traffic-free cobblestone paths, passing colourful houses along the way, takes us to the most impressive castle in the country dating back to the 13th century. Enjoy the panoramic views of the old town and the Vlatava river from the top of the Castle's round bell tower.

We stay in Český Krumlov for the night to allow you time to savour the beauty of this exquisite little town. Our hotel is situated literally on the old city square, within walking distance to everything. From here you can hear the Christmas music being played at the Christmas markets. Find a cozy place for dinner and let the spirit of Christmas surround you. **(Breakfast)**

## DAY 8 : PRAGUE – THE CITY OF A HUNDRED TOWER SPIRES

Today yet another highlight awaits as we leave the fairy tale town of Český Krumlov and journey to the heart and jewel of Eastern Europe - Prague! We stow our luggage at the Hotel and enjoy a short orientation tour of the city to show you the "must see" spots. Who knows, we might also stop for a cold Pilsner, something which Prague is renowned for. The Christmas markets of Prague are

famous for being the most beautiful in the world. After gazing at the astronomical clock tower situated on the old city square, we guarantee that your senses will be in overdrive. The remainder of the day is yours to enjoy at leisure. The Leef Jou Reis team will even show you where you can bath in beer. **(Breakfast)**

## DAY 9: RELAXING DEPARTURE AND THE SECRETS OF PRAGUE

Enjoy a walking tour with a local specialist through one of Europe's most extraordinary and historical cities. We begin at the 1000-year-old Prague Castle where you can peek through the stained-glass windows of St Vitus Cathedral down to the majestic sights of the Old City. The Leef Jou Reis team will point out popular landmarks.

We then make our way down to the Charles Bridge which will dazzle you with its beautiful sculptures and fascinating stories. The tour ends at the old City Square where the Astronomical Clock has entertained every hour, on the hour for the past 600 years. The remainder of the day is yours to enjoy and explore the city.

The evening brings yet another culinary surprise blended with a medieval feel. Traditional Czech dishes and music is on the menu, and we invite you to toast a glass with us and say "Na zdravi" to an exceptional evening. **(Breakfast and Dinner)**

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## DAY 10: DEPART FROM PRAGUE

After breakfast, this wonderful tour unfortunately comes to an end. The details regarding departure and travel will be shared closer to the time.

## INCLUDED

- Luxury coach with air conditioning
- Boat cruise on the Danube with dinner
- All gratuities/tips throughout
- Classical concert with champagne at the Castle
- Daily breakfasts
- 5x Dinners (3 with wine/beer)
- Leef Jou Reis team as your perfect hosts
- Travel Insurance to age 74 (please contact us for assistance)
- 3x Nights luxury accommodation in Budapest, 3x Nights luxury accommodation in Vienna, 1x Night Luxury accommodation in Český Krumlov, 2x Nights luxury accommodation in Prague
- Transport to and from Airport while travelling as a group.
- All excursions, specialist guides and entry fees where applicable

## EXCLUDED

- International flights (We will assist with a group flight booking)
- Dinners, (unless otherwise specified) and all drinks.
- Lunches (unless otherwise specified) and all drinks.
- Personal expenses
- Optional excursions
- Visas
- Domestic flights in South Africa

## REMARKS

- A visa is compulsory and at your own cost. We will however assist you with all the relevant documentation for the process.
- A Leef Jou Reis team member will be available throughout the tour to assist with questions and information.
- Optional Extras are available and the Leef Jou Reis team can assist with this. Every tour member however is free to come and go freely.
- You are in good hands, so sit back, relax, and enjoy the trip without worries. You can also set your own pace. At Leef Jou Reis we love to walk, but there are alternative options available and sometimes we spontaneously change the route and hire a taxi or shuttle. Especially when we've had a special taste of Palinka ...
- Come with an open mind and be ready to broaden your horizons and make new friends.



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- Pack warmly and come live your Leef Jou Reis experience.
- We start a Whatsapp group a week before we leave in which we communicate all important information. Please make sure that you supply your correct cell numbers when you complete your reservation form. This group will also be used to share photos and videos amongst each other during the trip.
- Please note that we reserve the right to amend the program should the need arise so that we can give you an even better chance to experience the trip of a lifetime.
- The program includes Bed and Breakfast and several dinners and excursions as indicated, a classical concert and several specialist guides.
- The tour price includes transport to and from the airport. We can assure you that your road trip will be luxurious and comfortable.

## THINGS TO REMEMBER

- To **assure your place on this remarkable tour**, we need a **non-refundable deposit of R12 000**. Please take note that we are obliged to pay a deposit and admin fee to our operators which is non-refundable so please familiarise yourself with the terms and conditions as stipulated on the website.
- The **second payment of R15 000 will be due on 1 August**. The **subsequent payment of R10 000 will be due on 1 September** and the **total outstanding balance by 15 October 2024**.
- The itinerary can change subject to availability and safety issues.

- Your **passport must be valid for at least 6 months after the end of your trip (in this case 20 June 2025)** with at least two blank pages still available.
- The rate of exchange used on final invoice is €1 = R21 to accommodate and cover exchange rate changes and also the cost of payments on the dates completed to suppliers outside of South Africa. Should the Rand weaken against the Euro below 21, the price will be amended to accommodate the fluctuation.
- Prices are based on EFT payments.



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## WHAT TO DO?

Steps to follow to ensure your place on the White Christmas tour:

### STEP 1:

Let us know via E-mail that you would like to join us on this exhilarating tour and drop your Email address and Cell number. We will respond by sending you a reservation form to complete and return with a copy of your passport and proof of payment of the deposit (to our email address [leefjoureis@twf.co.za](mailto:leefjoureis@twf.co.za))

- **BANKING DETAILS:**

LeefJouReis TWF, Standard Bank, Branch Code: 051001, Account Number: 012324523

- **REFERENCE ON DEPOSIT: WIT24 + NAME + SURNAME.** Please make sure that you use the correct reference number send it to [leefjoureis@twf.co.za](mailto:leefjoureis@twf.co.za)

### STEP 2:

We will send you a confirmation as well as tips for the trip, destinations, and things to plan.

### STEP 3:

Get excited and look forward to the most unforgettable adventure of your life!



**FOR MORE INFORMATION FEEL FREE TO CONTACT US ON:**

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**STAY UP TO DATE, FOLLOW US ON:**

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@Gerriepret

Leef jou Reis met Gerrie Pretorius