ADVENT IN GRAZ 2026

ENG

to the program



TOURIST INFORMATION GRAZ REGION

Herrengasse 16, 8010 Graz
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GRAZ GUTSCHEIN

graztourismus.at/christmas

Steiermark Erlebnisregion GRAZ

WELCOME TO THE GRAZ REGION



Christmas tree

This year's Christmas tree for Graz's Hauptplatz (main square) is a roughly 26 metre tall spruce tree from Semriach. The approximately 50 year old tree grew at an altitude of around 700 metres above sea level and has a trunk diameter of around 40 centimetres. With its imposing size, it will once again create a festive atmosphere in the heart of Graz's Old Town this year.

As every year, Energie Graz will provide the festive sparkle and create a magical atmosphere by decorating the tree with thousands of lights; making the main square the shining centrepiece of the Advent season in Graz once more.

Hauptplatz (main square)
From Sat., 28.11.2026, daily from 6 am to 12 am,
Thu., 24. and Thu., 31.12.2026 until 2 am

Illumination ceremony:
Sat., 28.11.2026, 4 pm







Advent in Graz – 1986 to 2026

A 40-year success story: what started in 1986 with the relocation of the Christmas market from the Volksgarten to Franziskanerplatz has grown into one of the city's most significant events and tourist attractions. In 1995, the "Advent of the Regions", featuring eight linked Advent squares, new Christmas illuminations and a new market concept, laid the foundation for what is now known as "Advent in Graz". One year later, the ice nativity scene in the Landhaushof, which is celebrating its 30th anniversary this year, emerged as one of its most famous landmarks. Today, „Advent in Graz" delights visitors with a variety of markets, sparkling lights and a diverse programme that blends tradition and modernity, regional craftsmanship, Styrian cuisine and many other special experiences.

Façade-Projection at Graz City Hall

The façade projection at Graz City Hall combines traditional Christmas motifs with modern light art. Animated digital elements and impressive large-scale projections bathe the City Hall façade in a festive glow. Both the artistic concept and the technical implementation are by OchoReSotto, who have been illuminating Graz City Hall with outstanding light concepts for over 15 years.

Hauptplatz (main square)
From Thu., 19.11. to Sun., 27.12.2026, daily from 4 pm to 12 am, Thu., 24.12.2026 until 2 am





Christmas Lights

The Christmas lights add a special festive atmosphere to Graz city centre. Over 70 streets, alleys and squares are illuminated by around 760,000 energy-saving LEDs and a variety of light installations. The official launch and first illumination of the lights will take place on 19 November in Herrengasse.

City Centre
From Thu., 19.11.2026, daily from 4 pm to 12 am
Thu., 24. and Thu., 31.12.2026 until 2 am

ENERGIE GRAZ

Murinsel ("Island in the Mur")

Immerse yourself in a festive Christmas world right in the middle of the river Mur! Our event arena shines with holiday splendour with over 70 beautifully decorated Christmas trees and the Murinsel itself illuminated in a colourful display of lights. Let yourself be enchanted by the atmospheric setting and enjoy special moments of mindfulness. At our outdoor bar, you can savour delicious Christmas treats – perfect for experiencing the Advent season with all your senses.

Murinsel outdoor bar
From Tue., 24.11. to Wed., 23.12.2026



30th anniversary of the ice nativity scene in the Landhaushof

The ice nativity scene in the historic Landhaushof is one of the true classics of "Advent in Graz" and delights Christmas lovers year after year – attracting visitors from all over the world. This year, we celebrate its 30th anniversary! Renowned Finnish ice artist Kimmo Frosti and his international team of sculptors transform more than 35 tonnes of crystal-clear ice into a unique work of art. After dusk, atmospheric lighting makes the ice nativity scene shine even more beautifully.

Landhaushof
From Sat., 28.11.2026

New Year's Eve Spectacle

Look forward to another spectacular show in the heart of Graz! Water, fire, lasers and lights come together in an impressive display, creating a breathtaking performance against the stunning backdrop of Graz City Hall.

Hauptplatz (main square)
Thu., 31.12.2026
From 5.30 pm to 12.20 am
graztourismus.at/new-years-eve

"Stüh" – an interactive and artistic retreat

Enjoy the special atmosphere surrounding the wooden installation in the "Courtyard of Silence" at the Minoriten Centre. An artistically designed retreat awaits you, where, far from the hustle and bustle and the frenzy of shopping, you can simply be "stüh" – that is, be still.

Courtyard of the Minoriten Centre
Mariahilferplatz 3
From Tue., 1.12. to Sun., 20.12.2026

Advent and Christmas in the churches of Graz

Those wishing to prepare for the celebration of the birth of Jesus will find many opportunities in Graz's churches: from early-morning Rorate Masses and places of quiet reflection to atmospheric Advent wreath blessings and concerts featuring famous Christmas music, as well as children's nativity celebrations, tower fanfares, and festive Midnight Masses.

Churches of the Diocese of Graz-Seckau in the city centre
From Sat., 28.11.2026 to Wed., 6.1.2027
You can find all service times at
kath-kirche-graz.at

Fairytale forest and Advent wreath at Schloßbergplatz

Visit us in the Forest of Stories and let yourself be enchanted by the magic of fairy tales and the Christmas spirit! From 20 November to 24 December 2026, Schloßbergplatz will be transformed into an enchanting place for children and families in cooperation with FRida & freD – the Graz Children's Museum. Here you can stroll through the Forest of Stories, decorated with illuminated Christmas trees and lovingly designed pendants. Listen to fairy tales and take part in the competition.

Schloßbergplatz
From Fri., 20.11., 5 pm, to Thu., 24.12.2026

Christmas Exhibition at the Diocesan Museum Graz

Under the title "You Can Smell Christmas", the special exhibition at the Diocesan Museum invites you to discover the Christmas festival in an extraordinary way – through scent. What does Christmas smell like to you? Like green fir trees, beeswax, incense, freshly baked biscuits or aromatic spices? Immerse yourself in the mystery of Christmas with all your senses and marvel at a variety of wonderful nativity scenes that set the mood for the celebration of the birth of Jesus.

Diocesan Museum Graz, Bürgergasse 2
From Wed., 18.11.2026 to Sun., 10.1.2027
From Mon. to Fri., 9 am to 5 pm, Sat., Sun., public holidays 11 am to 5 pm
(closed on 25.12., 26.12., 31.12.2026, 1.1.2027)
dioezesanmuseum.at



Beyond the city gates

The Advent season is just as magical in the region around Graz: atmospheric Christmas markets, captivating light displays and living traditions invite visitors to enjoy special pre-Christmas experiences.

regiongraz.at/christmas

LUMAGICA, Murhof Golf Club
Magical worlds of light and fascinating installations
From Fri., 13.11.2026 to Sun., 10.1.2027

Frohnleiten Advent Market, Hauptplatz Frohnleiten
Christmas magic in the historic old town
9. to 13.12.2026

Lichterwelten am Schwarzlsee
A sparkling winter wonderland right by the lake
14.11.2026 to 10.1.2027

Perchten parade Gratkorn, town centre
Traditional Krampus masks and impressive costumes
21.11.2026, 6 pm

Advent at Piber Castle, Köflach
Crafts and Christmas spirit in the historic castle courtyard
12.12.2026, 10 am to 9 pm; 13.12.2026, 10 am to 6 pm

Discovering the Traditions of a Rural Christmas at the Austrian Open-Air Museum Stübing
28.11. to 29.11. and 5.12. to 6.12.2026, 11 am to 6pm

Nativity scene exhibition at Rein Abbey, Gratwein-Straßengel
Artistic nativity scenes from all over the world
27.11.2026 to 7.1.2027, selected days 10 am to 4 pm

Barthlmäer Advent, St. Bartholomä
A contemplative Advent with regional arts and crafts and music
12. to 13. and 19. to 20.12.2026,
Sat. from 1 pm, Sun. from 11 am

Graz Winter World

The Graz Winter World has long been one of the special highlights of the Advent season in Graz. The ice rink covering an area of 3,000 m² offers many options for enjoying some winter fun: Here, guests can not only enjoy some classic ice skating; they can also try their skill at curling or ice hockey. For those who do not have any equipment of their own with them, there is a comprehensive skate rental service available.

Jahngasse 3
From 13.11.2026 to 31.1.2027
Ice rink: daily from 9 am to 7 pm

Advent Paradise: from Mon. to Wed., 4 pm–7 pm, Thu., Fri., 4 pm–10 pm, Sat., 12 am–10 pm, Sun., 12 am–7 pm



Advent slow train and Advent tram

The traditional Advent slow train invites passengers of all ages to enjoy a leisurely sightseeing journey on wheels through Graz's historic city centre. Also travelling along the tracks is the Advent tram – a festively decorated vintage tram operated by the Graz Tramway Museum. Both services start on 20 November 2026.

Advent slow train:
From 20.11.2026, daily from 11 am to 7 pm (24.12., 11 am to 2 pm). Special rides for groups available from 10 am (on request). Departure from the Christmas market at Hauptplatz (main square), fare: € 5 (adults), € 2 (children)

Advent tram:
From 20.11. to 20.12.2026, Fri., Sat., Sun., from 4 pm to 9 pm (24.12., 11 am to 4 pm)

Route: Hauptplatz–Schmiedgasse–Landhausgasse–Herrengasse–Stubenberggasse–Schmiedgasse–Albrechtgasse–Neutorgasse–Murgasse–Hauptplatz. Boarding and alighting are possible at any stop along the route.





Free travel in Advent

On three saturdays during Advent, public transport* and the Schlossberg funicular can be used free of charge:
5.12., 12.12., 19.12.2026

* Applies to all buses and trams (1- or 2-digit numbers within fare zone 101, excluding night buses)

Photos: Marco Schreiter | Winterwelt – Stefan Leitner | Graz Tourismus – Harry Schiffer, Werner Krug | Region Graz – studio draussen | Region Graz – Robert Maybach (RBMH) | Foto Fischer

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CHRISTMAS MARKETS IN GRAZ

ADVENT IN GRAZ

Christmas markets: from 20 November to 24 December 2026
Arts and crafts market: from 27 November to 23 December 2026

During “Advent in Graz”, visitors can expect numerous pre-Christmas attractions throughout the city centre during what is arguably the most wonderful time of the year. The many different markets and Advent highlights are all within easy walking distance. In addition, however, there are also convenient and attractive Christmas mobility services.

Christmas markets

gastronomy arts and crafts

1 Christmas market in front of the city hall

20.11.–24.12.2026: Mon.–Sun., 11 am–10 pm
Mon.–Sun., 11 am–8 pm, 24.12.2026: 11 am–2 pm

The Advent market on Graz’s Hauptplatz (main square) enchants visitors with its festive Christmas tree, music, arts and crafts, and culinary delights. Special highlights make it an experience for young and old alike.

2 Adventlounge in Schmiedgasse

20.11.–23.12.2026: Mon.–Sun., 12 noon–10 pm

Lovingly decorated Advent huts, a selection of fine punches and many culinary specialities invite you to relax and linger in the cosy lounge areas.

3 Advent am Eisernen Tor

20.11.–23.12.2026: Mon.–Thu., 2 pm–10 pm, Fri.–Sun., 11 am–10 pm Mon.–Thu., 2pm–8pm, Fri.–Sun., 11 am–8 pm

The Advent market am Eisernen Tor delights visitors with its peaceful Advent atmosphere, atmospheric music and special moments of contemplation.

4 Good products from all over the world on Freiheitsplatz

20.11.–24.12.2026: Mon.–Sun. & public holidays, 10 am–10 pm Mon.–Sun., 10 am–7 pm, 24.12.2026: 10 am–2 pm

Handcrafted treasures from four continents, a bazaar-like atmosphere and regional cuisine make this Advent market a treat for the whole family.

5 Christmas market on Glockenspielplatz

20.11.–24.12.2026: Mon.–Sun., 11 am–10 pm, Mon.–Sun., 11 am–8 pm, 24.12.2026: 11 am–2 pm

Styrian traditions, Advent wreath-making and the celebration of festive customs give this Christmas market its own unique charm.

6 Christmas market on Mehlplatz

20.11.–24.12.2026: Mon.–Sun., 11 am–10 pm Mon.–Sun., 11 am–7 pm, 24.12.2026: 11 am–4 pm

A variety of punches and mulled wines, a selection of handcrafted arts and crafts and freshly baked waffles create a cosy Advent atmosphere.

7 Grieskindlmarkt on Nikolaiplatz

20.11.–20.12.2026: Thu.–Fri., 3 pm–8 pm, Sat.–Sun., 11 am–8 pm

Discover sustainable gift ideas, exquisite craftsmanship and delicious winter treats in a cosy Advent atmosphere.

8 Christmas market on Südtiroler Platz

20.11.–23.12.2026: Mon.–Fri., 2 pm–10 pm, Sat.–Sun., 11 am–10 pm Mon.–Sun., 11 am–8 pm

Around the „Steirerhütte“, winter specialities, carefully selected fashion and a rustic Advent atmosphere ensure cosy moments.

9 Aufsteirern Christmas market on Schlossberg

20.11.–20.12.2026 Fri.–Sun.: Fri., 12 noon–9 pm, Sat., 10 am–9 pm, Sun., 10 am–8 pm
Special opening days: 7. & 8.12., 10 am–9 pm

A festive atmosphere, lovingly crafted items and winter specialities make this Advent market a truly special experience.

10 Traditional Graz Christmas market on Franziskanerplatz

20.11.–24.12.2026: Mon.–Sun., 12 noon–10 pm Mon.–Sun., 11 am–7 pm, 24.12.2026: 10 am–2 pm

Graz’s oldest Christmas market combines rural traditions with Thuringian Christmas tree decorations, Styrian specialities and traditional cuisine.

11 Children’s Advent on Kapistran-Pieller-Platz

20.11.–24.12.2026: Fri.–Sat., until 10 pm Mon.–Fri., 12 noon–8 pm, Sat.–Sun., 11 am–8 pm, 24.12.2026: 11 am–4.30 pm

A carousel, a vintage Ferris wheel and sweet treats make Advent at Kapistran-Pieller-Platz a treat for the whole family.

12 Christmas market at Joanneumsviertel

20.11.–23.12.2026: Mon.–Sun., 3 pm –10 pm

Some of Styria’s most renowned restaurateurs serve only the very best in an atmospheric setting.

13 Arts and crafts market on Färberplatz

27.11.–23.12.2026: Mon.–Sat., 11 am–10 pm, Sun., 12 noon–8 pm Mon.–Thu., 11 am–7 pm, Fri.–Sat., 11 am–8 pm, Sun., 12 noon–6 pm

At Färberplatz, you’ll find unique handmade items, regional specialities and delicious hot drinks, accompanied by live music.

14 Winter Wonderland on Mariahilferplatz

20.11.–23.12.2026: Mon.–Wed., 2 pm–10 pm, Thu.–Sun., 1 pm–10 pm

Mariahilferplatz combines twinkling lights, carefully selected goods and festive treats to create a magical Advent atmosphere.

15 Christmas on Karmeliterplatz

20.11.–23.12.2026: Thu.–Fri., 1 pm–10 pm, Sat.–Sun., 11 am–10 pm, Special opening hours: 8.12., 21.12., 22.12., 23.12., 1 pm–10 pm

Karmeliterplatz invites you to linger, with its high-quality arts and crafts, regional specialities and a unique urban Advent atmosphere.

The opening hours of individual stalls may vary.



Graz Winterworld ice rink & Advent Paradise
Jahngasse 3

Photopoints

1. Love Graz
2. Snow globe
3. Christmas tree
4. St. Nicolas
5. Illuminated clocktower
6. Styria-heart
7. Life-sized nativity scene (Priest seminary, 9 am to 5 pm)
8. Snowman (Priest seminary courtyard)
9. Nutcracker and FärBÄR – the polar bear of Färberplatz

Quiet Zones – calm spaces amid the Advent festivities

For the first time, dedicated quiet zones are being introduced at the Graz Advent markets. These spaces offer a peaceful retreat, particularly for people on the autism spectrum and those experiencing psychological stress. Here, visitors can take a moment for themselves, unwind and recharge in a calm environment. With this new initiative, Advent in Graz is taking another step towards becoming a more inclusive and enjoyable experience for everyone.

Market path through the city centre

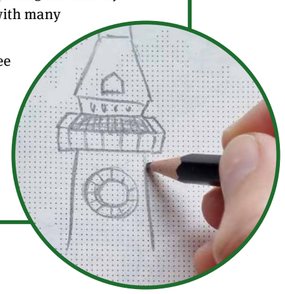
The market path connects the numerous Christmas markets in the festively illuminated city centre with special Advent attractions, regional arts and crafts, and culinary delights. Follow the market path and enjoy a leisurely stroll through Graz’s charming city centre, filled with Christmas cheer!

A picturesque Christmas greeting from Graz

Illustrator Ulrike Halvax has designed this year’s festive colouring postcard, depicting the nativity scene at Graz Hauptbahnhof with many charming details.

The postcards are available free of charge at the Tourist Information Graz Region, Herrengasse 16, and at Kircheneck, Herrengasse 23.

kirchenkulturgraz.at



Festive attractions

1. Christmas tree and Façade-Projection at the City Hall
2. Ice nativity scene in the Landhaushof
3. Fairytale forest and Advent wreath on Schloßbergplatz
4. Enchanting Advent at the Murinsel (“Island in the Mur”)
5. Graz Winter World ice rink & Advent Paradise
6. “Stüh” – an interactive and artistic retreat
7. Office for Christmas Carols

Out and about at Christmas

- Christmas markets
- Photopoints
- Sales outlets for the Graz voucher
- Churches of the Diocese of Graz-Seckau in the city centre
- Slow train
- Free trip with the historic city tram
- Advent tram
- Market path
- Tourist Information Graz Region
- Entry/Exit Coaches
- Car parks in Graz city centre

Sales outlets for the Graz voucher:

Holding Graz, Tourist Information Graz Region (Herrengasse 16, open daily), Lotto Treff Jakomini, Musikverein Graz, Tabak-Trafik Andritzer Hauptplatz, Trafik Andrea Hold at Hauptplatz
holding-graz.at/grazgutschein

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Mein Graz app:

Services, offers, events and the latest news from the City of Graz – all on your smartphone. Including useful information about the Christmas markets as well as locations of public toilets and defibrillators.
graz.at/meingraz

MEIN GRAZ

Schau auf Graz app:

Report issues such as overflowing bins, litter, etc. and help make the city even more beautiful during Advent.
holding-graz.at/schauaufgraz

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