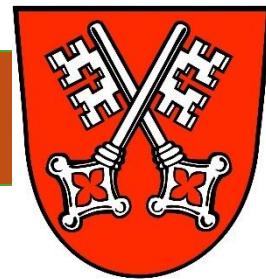


Mifflinburg Christkindl Market



- The Mifflinburg Christkindl Market was founded in 1989 and is the oldest, authentic, outdoor Christkindl Market in the United States.
- It has become an important Christmas tradition for families near and far and welcomes 10,000 to 15,000 visitors every year.
- A custom **unique to our market** is the selection of a German or Austrian city as our **Market Theme**.
- The history, customs, and stories associated with the theme city are highlighted.

Regensburg, Germany



The 2025 Christkindl Market Theme is the **City of Regensburg**, located in southeastern Bavaria on the Danube River.

The city has a population of 150,000, making it the fourth- largest city in Bavaria.

It is recognized as one of the **best-preserved medieval cities in Germany** and is listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

making it the fourth-largest city in Bavaria.



Old Stone Bridge



One of the city's most famous landmarks is the **Old Stone Bridge (Steinerne Brücke)**, crossing the Danube and linking the Old Town with Stadtamhof to the north.

It was commissioned in the 12th century by the **Emperor Charlemagne**.

A **masterwork of medieval engineering**, until the 1930s, it remained the city's only bridge crossing the river.

The Salzstadel and gate tower at the entrance into the city.



- The bridge was important in the expansion of trade in northern Europe. Regensburg was one of the major European centers of the **salt trade**.
- To the left in the photo is the **Salzstadel**, a large storehouse for salt.
- Today, the **UNESCO Visitor Center** and space for conferences and exhibitions are located here.

Regensburg Cathedral



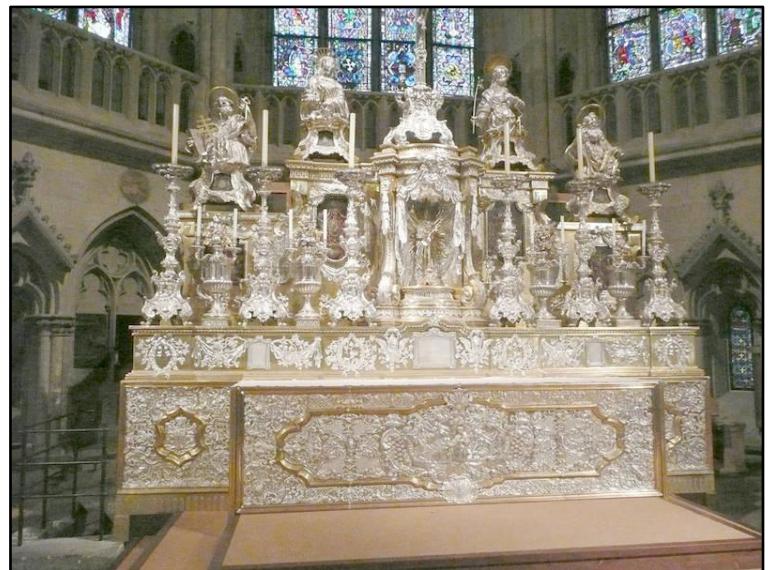
St. Peter's Cathedral (Dom)

St. Peter) is a prominent feature to the city's skyline.

The structure replaced two earlier churches that stood near the site. The second church burned in 1273.

Construction of the present cathedral was begun in 1280 and not fully completed until 1872.

Silver High Altar from 1675-1785



St. Peter's Cathedral Interior



- The cathedral's first master builder was a man by the name of Ludwig. Trained in France, he designed the cathedral in the “new” Gothic style.

Regensburger Domspatzen 2024



- St. Peter's Cathedral is home to the **Regensburger Domspatzen** (Regensburg Cathedral Sparrows).
- The choir of boys and young men was established around 975 as part of a cathedral choir school.
- The choir's primary purpose is performing the liturgies of the cathedral but also to perform concerts, and have made international tours and recordings.
- Girls were admitted to the choir school beginning in 2022.

Neupfarrplatz and the Neupfarrkirche

- **Neupfarrplatz** (New Parish Church Square) possesses a 2000-year history. During Roman occupation, it was the site for residences of Roman officers.
- In the Middle Ages, Regensburg's Jewish quarter was located here.
- In 1519, the Jews were expelled and their houses demolished.
- In the same year, construction of the Catholic **Neupfarrkirche** (New Parish Church) was begun on the former site of a synagogue.



- The church was intended to be a Catholic pilgrimage church.
- Construction was halted in 1528 due to the dwindling number of pilgrims and the lack of funds necessary to complete the church.
- In 1552 the city converted to the Evangelical Lutheran denomination and the city council designated the church as the city's **first Protestant parish church**.
- The relatively simple architecture reflects the aesthetic of the Lutheran Reformation.
- The church was completed in 1860.
- The **Neupfarrplatz** surrounding the church is the site of one of Regensburg's Christmas markets.

Historic Sausage Kitchen of Regensburg



The Historic Sausage Kitchen of Regensburg (Wurstküche zu Regensburg) is recognized as the **oldest, continuously operated restaurant in the world.**

The present building dates to the 17th century. An earlier structure, erected in 1143, was built to function as the construction office for the **Old Stone Bridge**.



When the bridge was completed in 1146, the structure became a restaurant, serving the dock workers and sailors on the Danube. Cathedral workers also patronized the restaurant.

The Goliath House



- The **Goliath House** (Goliathhaus) is a tall “city castle” built in 1260 on the site of a Roman soldiers’ camp. It is well-known for its large mural depicting the Biblical figures of **David and Goliath**.
- The mural was painted in 1573 by **Melchior Bocksberger**, an artist from Salzburg. The mural has been repainted several times over the centuries.
- The house, located in the Old City, is believed to be named after the **Goliards**, a group of young clergymen who resided there in the 13th century. The Goliards were known for their satirical poetry. Goliath was associated with the leader of this group.

Altes Rathaus (Old City Hall)



The oldest part of the building complex is the 180-foot-high tower built in 1245 when Regensburg was elevated to the status of Free Imperial City

The lighter colored building to the far right was added to the complex in the 1700s.

North of the tower is the **Reichssaal (Imperial Hall)**, built around 1320/1330. It became the site of the **Perpetual Diet of the Holy Roman Empire** in 1663.



The Reichssaal – The Imperial Diet



- **The Reichssaal (Imperial Hall)** was probably the most important building in Europe at the time.
- From 1663 to 1806, the city was the permanent seat of the **Imperial Diet (Reichstag)** of the Holy Roman Empire.
- Prior to 1663, the Diet met in various cities. Upon establishing Regensburg as the permanent seat, the Diet became known as the **Perpetual Diet of Regensburg**.
- Envoys of the sovereign princes and imperial cities of the Empire met to pass resolutions or enact laws.
- The Diet is considered the forerunner of European parliaments and the UN.
- The last meeting of the Diet was in 1803, and the Diet dissolved with the dissolution of the Empire in 1806.

St. Emmeram



- St. Emmeram was a Frankish priest born in Poitiers, Aquitaine.
- Hearing of the paganism that existed among the people of Bavaria, he traveled to Regensburg around 649 to carry out missionary work to Christianize the people. He was welcomed at the court of **Theodo I, Duke of Bavaria**. Theodo developed a great respect for Emmeram and convinced him to stay in Regensburg.

Legend of St. Emmeram

- In 652, the duke's unmarried daughter, **Uta**, confided to Emmeram that she had become pregnant. She and the father, a member of the duke's court, were fearful that if Theodo would find out, they would be executed. Hoping to mitigate her shame, Emmeram advised Uta to name himself as the father, believing his favor with the duke would protect him.
- Shortly after this confession, Emmeram embarked on a pilgrimage to Rome. When Theodo's son **Lantpert** heard of Uta's pregnancy, and that Emmeram was possibly the father, Lantpert set off after Emmeram.

- At a place now called Kleinhelfendorf, south of Munich, Lantpert confronted Emmeram. Not wanting to reveal the real father, Emmeram didn't defend himself, and Lantpert had him cruelly tortured.

- Lantpert's men tied Emmeram to a ladder and proceeded to cut off his limbs, bit by bit.
- Two of Emmeram's traveling companions, Vitalis and Wolflete, finding Emmeram still alive, quickly brought him to the small town of **Aschheim** near Munich, where Emmeram soon died and was buried. A small chapel was built to mark Emmeram's original burial site.
- When Emmeram's innocence was later revealed, a remorseful Theodo had Emmeram's remains brought to Regensburg and interred in a small church in the city.
- Images of St. Emmeram often include a **ladder, the symbol of his martyrdom**.



Image of St. Emmeram from Medieval Manuscript

Basilica of St. Emmeram – St. Emmeram's Abbey



- By circa 739, **St. Emmeram's Abbey**, a small Benedictine monastery was established near St. Emmeram's burial place in the southern portion of the city.
- Following a fire in 1642, a new **St. Emmeram's Basilica** was constructed, and the saint's bones were collected and interred in a reliquary.
- Between 1731 and 1733, the interior of the basilica was remodeled in the magnificent Baroque style by the famed artist brothers, **Egid Quirin Asam** and **Cosmas Damian Asam**, from Munich.
- The Asam brothers' decorating skills complemented each other and they often worked together on commissions.
- Egid Quirin was particularly skilled in **sculptural stucco work**, and Cosmas Damian was a master of **fresco painting**.

Basilica of St. Emmeram - interior



Basilica of St. Emmeram – Frescoed Ceiling



St. Emmeram's Abbey



- During the Early Middle Ages, the monastery was an important **center of book production and illumination**.
- St. Wolfgang, shortly after becoming bishop of Regensburg, established a library at the monastery.
- By the 11th Century, the monastery's library had grown and became renowned for its extensive collection.
- In addition to religious works, the library held ancient manuscripts, as well as manuscripts on the subjects of arithmetic, logic, grammar, rhetoric, astronomy, and music.
- By the late Medieval Era, the monastery had grown to become **one of the most important religious and cultural centers of Europe**.

Thurn and Taxis Palace or St. Emmeram's Palace



- Following the early Napoleonic Wars, German monasteries were dissolved, and the abbey was secularized in 1802/1803.
- In 1812, the princely **Thurn and Taxis Family**, who controlled the nationalized postal service, acquired the monastery as compensation from the Kingdom of Bavaria.
- The former abbey, now known as **Thurn and Taxis Palace** or **St. Emmeram's Palace**, was transformed and expanded to well over 500 rooms, making it the **largest privately inhabited castle in Germany**.
- The St. Emmeram Basilica became a parish church and in 1964, elevated to the status of **basilica minor** by Pope Paul VI.

Porta Praetoria



One of the oldest Roman structures in Germany, the remnants of the old city wall and **Roman Gate** dating back to 179 A.D.

The House of Bavarian History - Haus der Bayerischen Geschichte



The House of Bavarian History

- The museum, which opened in 2019, is dedicated to 2,000 years of Bavarian history from Roman times to 1806, and the Kingdom of Bavaria from 1806 to the present.
- There is also a Gift Shop and an in-house Bavarian pub.
- The museum contains over 8,000 square feet of exhibition space featuring over 1,000 objects.



Visitors are greeted in the lobby by the **Lion, symbol of Bavaria.**



Regensburg's Christmas Markets



There are five Christmas Markets in Regensburg.

The **Regensburger Christkindlmarkt**, located on the Neupfarrplatz, is the city's oldest and most popular Christmas Market.

The market features specialties like the **Original Regensburger Bratwürste** and the half-meter long **Regensburger sausage**.



The **Romantic Christmas Market at Thurn and Taxis Palace**, is the largest market in Regensburg.

Regensburg's Christmas Markets



The **Lucrezia Arts and Crafts Market** is spread over two locations: the **Haidplatz**, located a few minutes walk from Neupfarrplatz; and **Kohlenmarkt**, a few blocks east of the Haidplatz.

The **Count's Christmas Market** is located in the **Dörnbergpark**, west of the Romantic Christmas Market at the Thurn and Taxis Palace.



The **Advent Market at Katharinenspital** is a small market located on the grounds **St. Catherine's Hospital**, on the bank of the Danube, at the northern end of the Old Stone Bridge.

Regensburg, Germany



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I hope you enjoyed our visit to Regensburg.

Frohe Weihnachten!

Merry Christmas!

