
Christmas Market - Must See!

Posted by roadlesstrvled - 2007/12/01 14:43

Sorry I didn't think about posting this information earlier, but this weekend and next is a Christmas Market experience that is one of the most unique I know of. If you're going to be in Upper Bavaria in the next few days, plan on visiting! If you're already thinking about next Christmas, be sure and consider making the Chiemsee one of your travel destinations!

Bavaria's largest lake, the Chiemsee, has four islands, two that are inhabited and reachable by frequent ferry service. The larger island, the Herrenchiemsee, is home to King Ludwig's never-completed version of Versailles. Nearby is the Fraueninsel, site of a famous cloister and, for two weekends a year, a traditional Christmas market.

<http://www.christkindlmarkt-fraueninsel.de/english/index.htm>

The ferries are lighted for the occasion and the atmosphere is very "authentic" with local craftsmen and food vendors lining the paths around the quaint fishing village. (You should taste the fresh-roasted fish pulled fresh from the lake!) There is also traditional Bavarian musical entertainment in the cloister (check the program for details) and a small stage by the lake for local groups to perform throughout the afternoon and evening.

The easiest way to reach the Fraueninsel is by ferry service that departs from Prien am Chiemsee. Prien is located halfway between Salzburg and Munich, close to the A8 autobahn and is also accessible by IC, EC, and RB trains. It is a 15-minute walk from the station to the lake. (There is a local steam train that can take you from the train station to the ferry terminal for an extra fee.)

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