



A school trip to Aachen's Christmas markets is the unique magical experience to get your German students talking about German traditions and culture.

Aachen is Germany's westernmost city and sits on the borders with Belgium and the Netherlands, putting it within easy reach for a short 3 or 4-day school trip to the German Christmas markets.

Set against the magnificent backdrop of the gothic Aachen Town Hall & Cathedral—one of the oldest in Europe—this Christmas market school trip to Germany will inspire your students to consider German as a language option.

Make sure you try some of the famous "Printen" – this local type of gingerbread is delicious, especially when it's fresh out of the oven!

Other German cities offering authentic German Christmas Markets include Cologne with its gothic cathedral, Burg Monschau and Boppard – all can be added as a day trip from Aachen.

## CURRICULUM LINKS

There really are lots of German language activities to choose from here, so you can really tailor your day to meet your specific learning objectives.



### KS3

- Exploring the town
- Hobbies and pastimes
- Food and drink
- Eating out
- Introducing yourself
- Describing others
- Likes and dislikes
- Cultural traditions

### GCSE

- Food, drink and eating out
- Daily life and free time activities
- Customs, celebrations and festivals
- Holiday destinations
- Travel and tourism

### A Level

- Aspects of German-speaking society
- Festivals and traditions
- Art and architecture
- Individual research project opportunities

# SUGGESTED ITINERARY

With Aachen being a 6-hour drive from Calais a short 3-day tour is achievable or why not add on a day in Cologne, which has its own Christmas market, or visit the Cathedral and the Lindt Chocolate Museum.

<b>Day 1</b>	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
	Board coach and transfer to port for ferry crossing	Onward travel to Aachen	Evening meal at accommodation
<b>Day 2</b>	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
	Transfer to Cologne to visit to Gothic Cathedral	Visit the Chocolate Museum and Cologne's Christmas Market	Evening meal at accommodation
<b>Day 3</b>	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
	Full day visit to Aachen's Christmas Markets	Full day visit to Aachen's Christmas Markets	Evening meal at accommodation
<b>Day 4</b>	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
	Board coach and transfer to Calais	Return ferry crossing to Dover and onward travel	Arrive back at school



# SAMPLE ACCOMMODATION

German youth hostels offer high standard accommodation for school groups and in Aachen and Cologne there are many options available.



## DJH AACHEN

Situated in its own grounds and just a 10-minute drive from the city centre, this is a friendly and welcoming hostel which was completely renovated in 2016. Students are accommodated in 4-5 bedded rooms with teachers in singles. There are showers and toilets on each floor. There is free wi-fi throughout the building and an on-site restaurant providing breakfast, evening meals and packed lunches if required.

## DJH KOLN DEUTZ

Located just across the river from the Cathedral, in the heart of Cologne, this modern youth centre is perfect for school groups. This modern hostel has 506 beds, with students accommodated in 2-6 bedded en-suite rooms, while teachers will be accommodated in twin and single rooms. Meals are served as a buffet and take place in one of the two large dining rooms. The centre also features seminar rooms, a disco room and a small shop selling drinks and snacks.



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