

„Bei uns ist immer was los!“

ADVENTZEIT—PERIOD OF TIME BEFORE CHRISTMAS

THE ADVENT CALENDAR'S SWEET HISTORY

Twenty-four doors, 24 surprises - Advent calenders sweeten the wait for Christmas. Tracing its origins back a century, this German tradition has found its way into the hearts of children and adults around the world.

Counting down to Christmas



With the opening of each little door, Christmas Eve creeps closer. Advent calendars aren't just popular for children in Germany, but also adults. Whether purchased or handmade, filled with chocolate or toys, they've got a big fan following. The story of this German tradition traces its roots back to early 20th-century Protestantism.

Back to the roots



Until the 16th century, children received their holiday presents on St. Nicholas' Day, December 6. Reformist Martin Luther, however, rejected the veneration of saints and changed the tradition. Since then, gift exchanges occur on Christmas. To shorten the longer waiting time for children, Protestants developed several customs, including the Advent calendar.