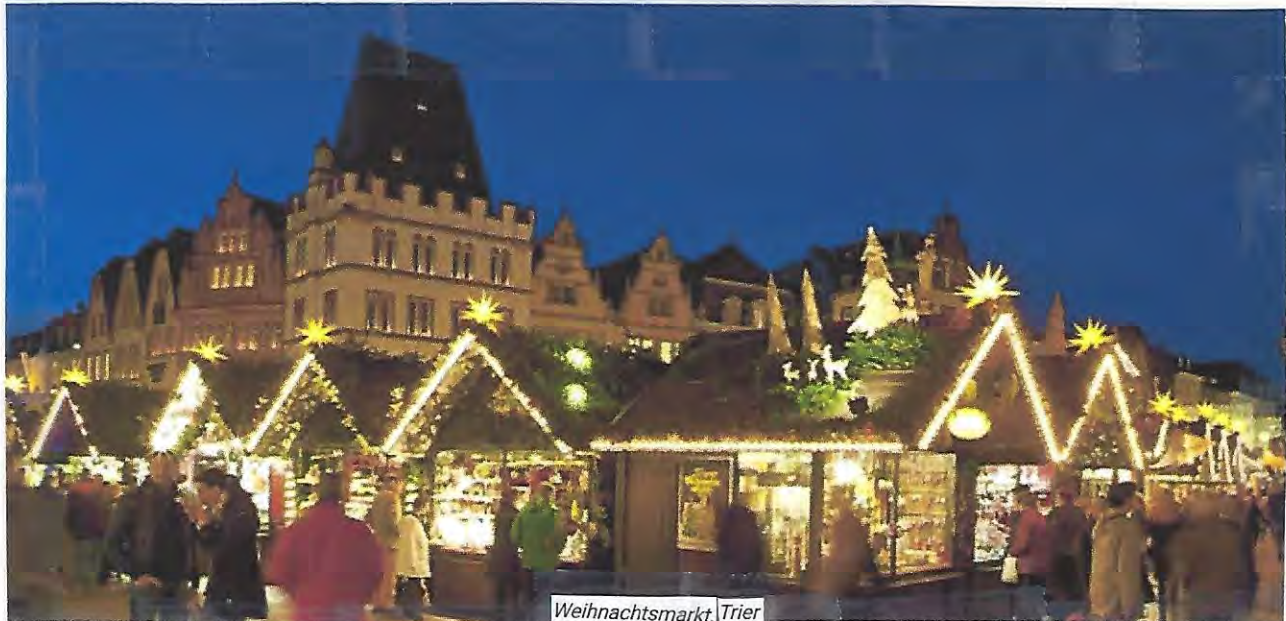


VORWEIHNACHTENSITTEN (PRE-CHRISTMAS CUSTOMS)

EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT PREPARING FOR CHRISTMAS LIKE A GERMAN

Head to the Christmas markets



Bundle up and get thee to your nearest public square or Platz because chances are, it has already been transformed into a winter wonderland of lights, smelling of candied nuts and mulled wine. Nothing raises seasonal spirits like a German Christmas market and this year as of November 27th, Christmas markets across the country have officially opened.

Order your goose

Forget the turkey - a goose is the traditional German yuletide feast in Germany. Around five million geese are eaten each year in Germany in the period between St. Martin's Day on November 11th and Christmas alone, according to the [Tagesspiegel](#). If you're planning to partake in this particular tradition, make sure to order your bird ASAP so you don't miss out!

Not a fan of goose? Weihnachtscarpfen meaning Christmas carp are a pescatarian alternative also enjoyed on the holy night of the 24th. So track down your local fishmonger and put in an order for fresh carp to be ready in time for your feast.

Set out your advent wreath

The four Sundays preceding the big day are known as Advent Sundays. Germans mark them with a wreath called an '*Adventskranz*', decorated with four candles. On the first Sunday, one candle is burned, on the second, two, and so on.