

## Best Christmas markets around the world

Christmas shopping doesn't have to mean joylessly battling through department store crowds or trawling the Internet for bargains. Why not combine present-buying with some travel?

Viennese Christmas Market, Vienna, **Austria**

Few cities **steep** themselves in the festive spirit like Vienna. The Austrian capital's first Christmas Market was held in 1298 and today the city has more than 20 events to choose from.

Austria 奥地利

steep 陡峭的；浸泡

First timers, though, should make a **beeline** for the Viennese Christmas Market, which takes place in front of City Hall.

beeline 直线

stall 货摊

With around 151 **stalls** serving everything from **boozy** Christmas punch to **gut busting** Austrian sausages, the market also boasts a huge ice **rink** for skating, **reindeer** rides for kids and a classic **nativity** scene.

boozy 酩酊的；醉酒的

gut 内脏；肠子

bust 坏的；打破

rink 溜冰

reindeer 麋鹿

nativity 出生

Tivoli Gardens, **Copenhagen**, Denmark

Copenhagen's Tivoli, with its **fairground** rides and warren of shops and stalls, is a year-round destination in its own right. But it's during December that this Danish institution really comes into its own.

Copenhagen 哥本哈根

fairground 露天市场

As well as the usual stands selling Christmas decorations and nibbles, there are three different light shows which take place in the park, as well as a traditional Pixie Band playing festive songs at various points around the site.

Old Town Square and Wenceslas Square, *Prague, Czech Republic*

Prague 布拉格

Czech Republic 捷克共和国

No city lends itself to Christmas better than Prague.

The city's two main Christmas markets, in Old Town Square and Wenceslas Square, are only five minutes' walk from each other, so can both easily be explored in one day.

Visitors can grab a klobása (Czech sausage) and wash it down with a Pilsner Urquell in the afternoon, then hang around for the main tree to be lit up on Old Town Square.