



Holidays in GERMANY



Every winter, Christmas markets open in towns across Germany. There is a giant Christmas pyramid in the center of each market. These look like windmills with paddles on top. The markets are filled with booths to buy gingerbread, candy apples, and pretzels. Nutcracker ornaments can be found in all shapes and sizes.

People in Germany use advent wreaths during the holiday season. The wreaths are decorated with pine cones and berries. They have four large candles. Each week in December a candle is lit to count down the time until Christmas.

Did you know there is a special Christmas post office in Germany? Every letter sent to Santa is opened and answered. If it arrives at least ten days before Christmas, you will get a reply.



Wooden nutcrackers sold at a Christmas market

A German holiday meal includes duck, goose, or rabbit. It may also have apple and sausage filling. A favorite desert is *stollen*. Stollen is a sweet bread made with nuts and fruits. Many German children leave cookies for Santa on special plates called *bunter tellers*.

What is an advent wreath? _____

What does the Christmas post office do? _____

Where can you see a Christmas pyramid? _____
