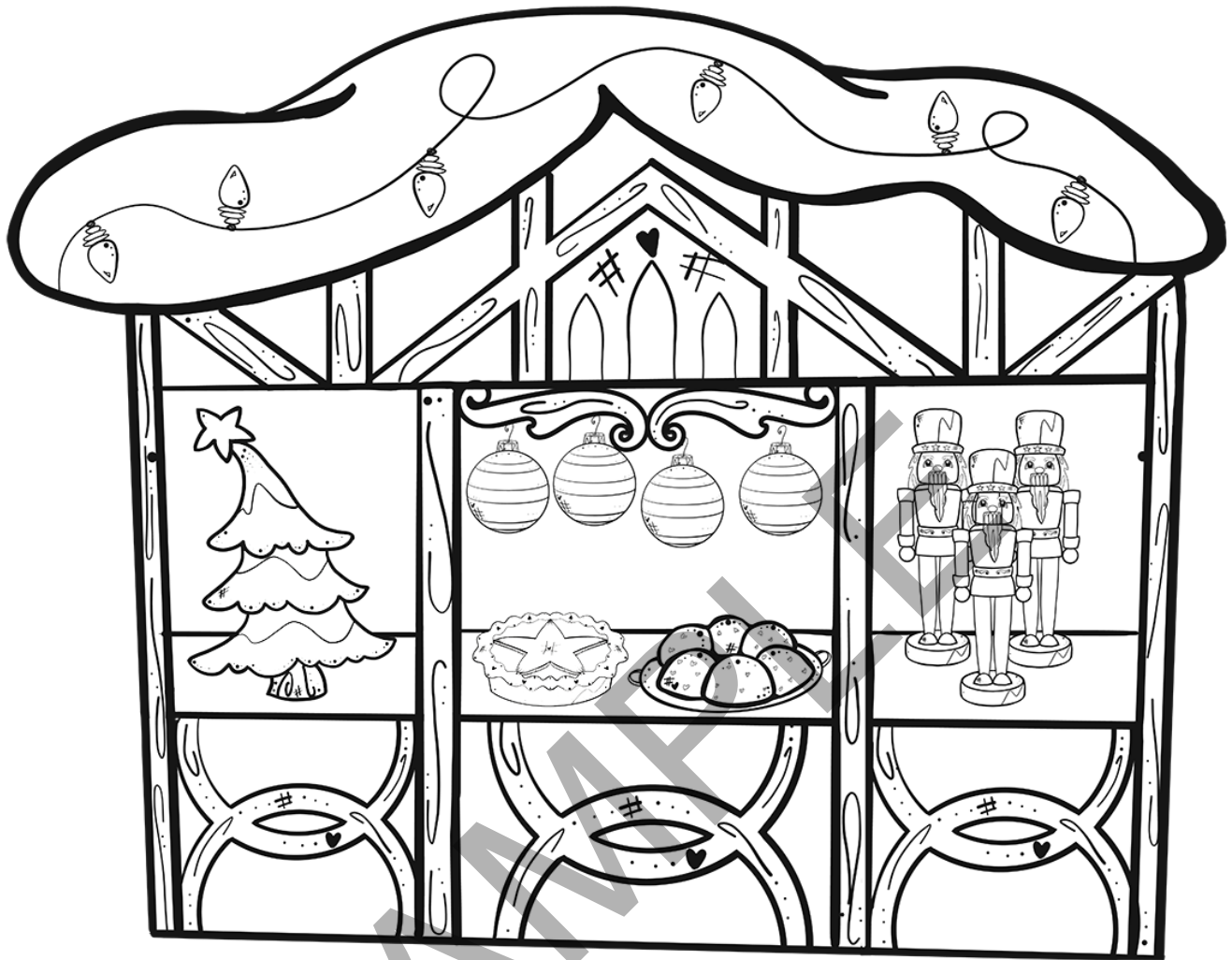


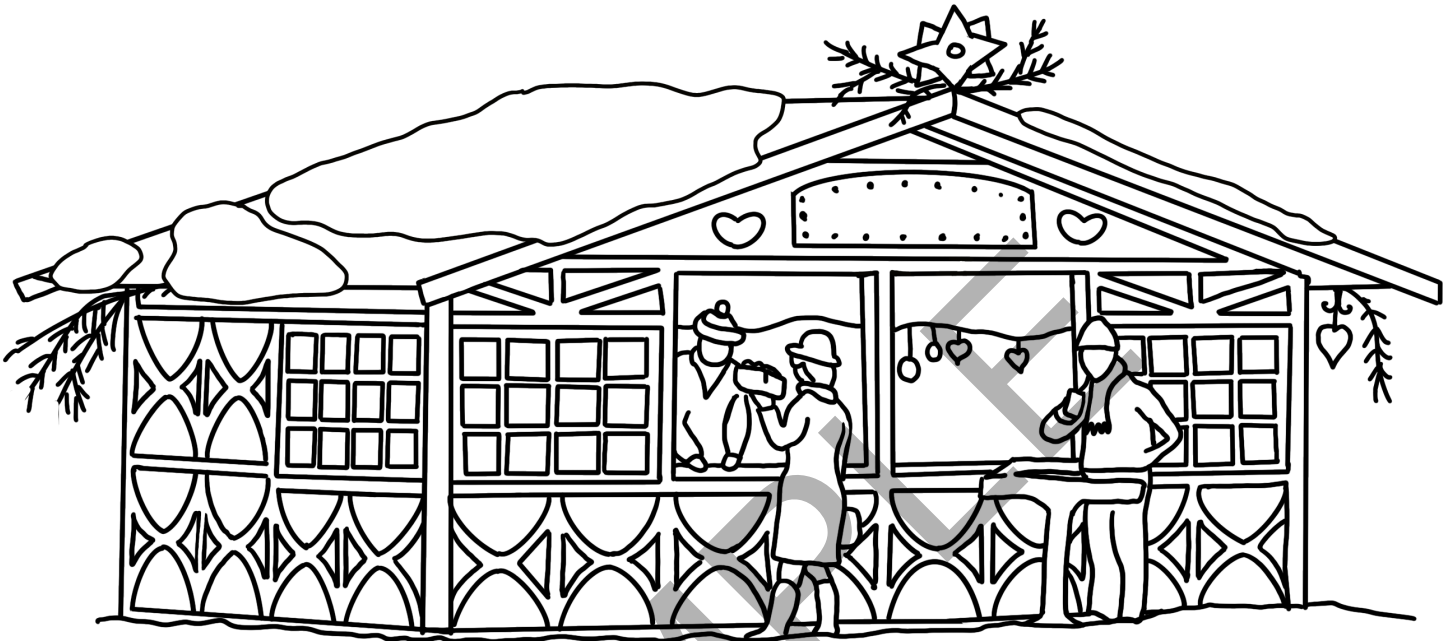
Christmas is very
important to the
people of Germany;
many go to special
church services.



The tradition of
outdoor Christmas
markets (called
Weihnachtsmärkte)
began in . . .



Germany in the
1300s. People came
to buy food,
decorations, and . . .

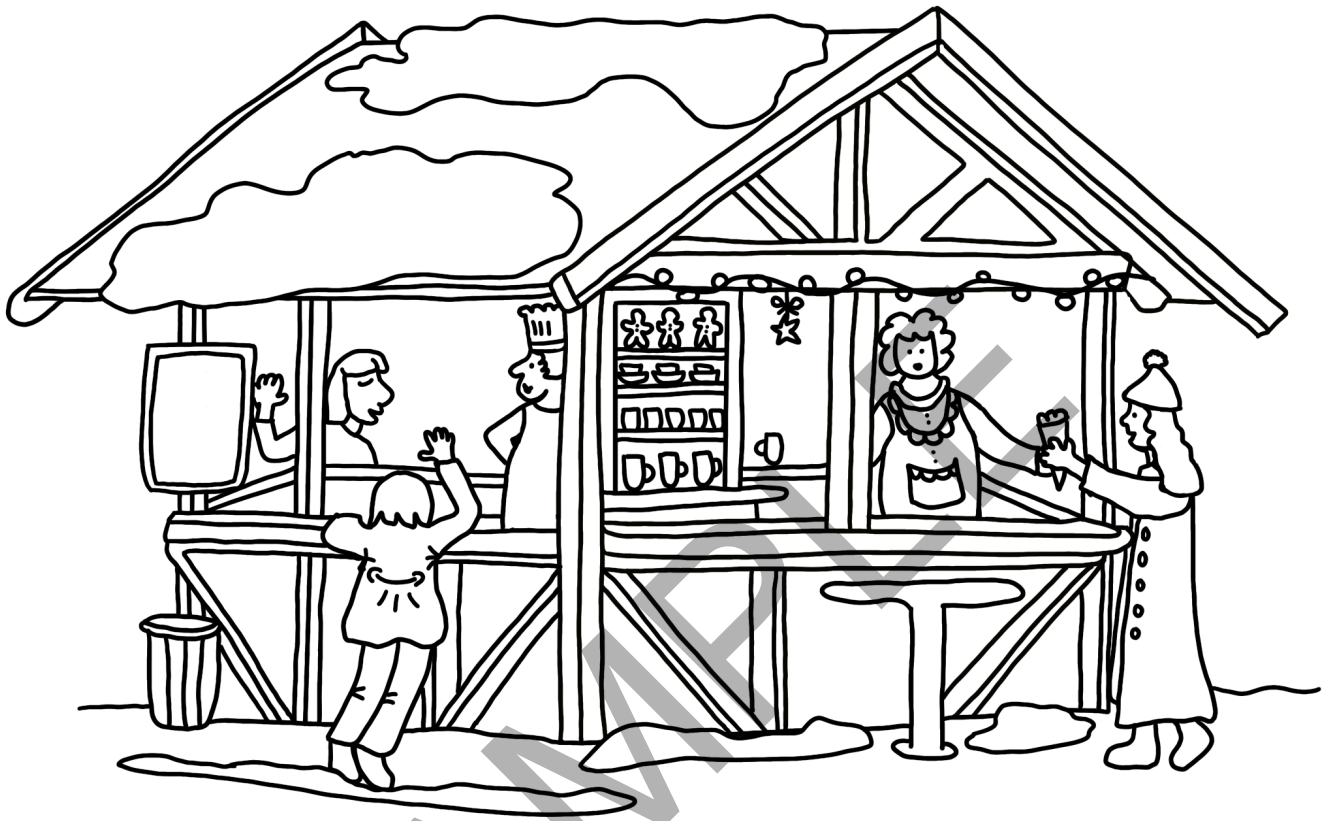


gifts. In the 1700s

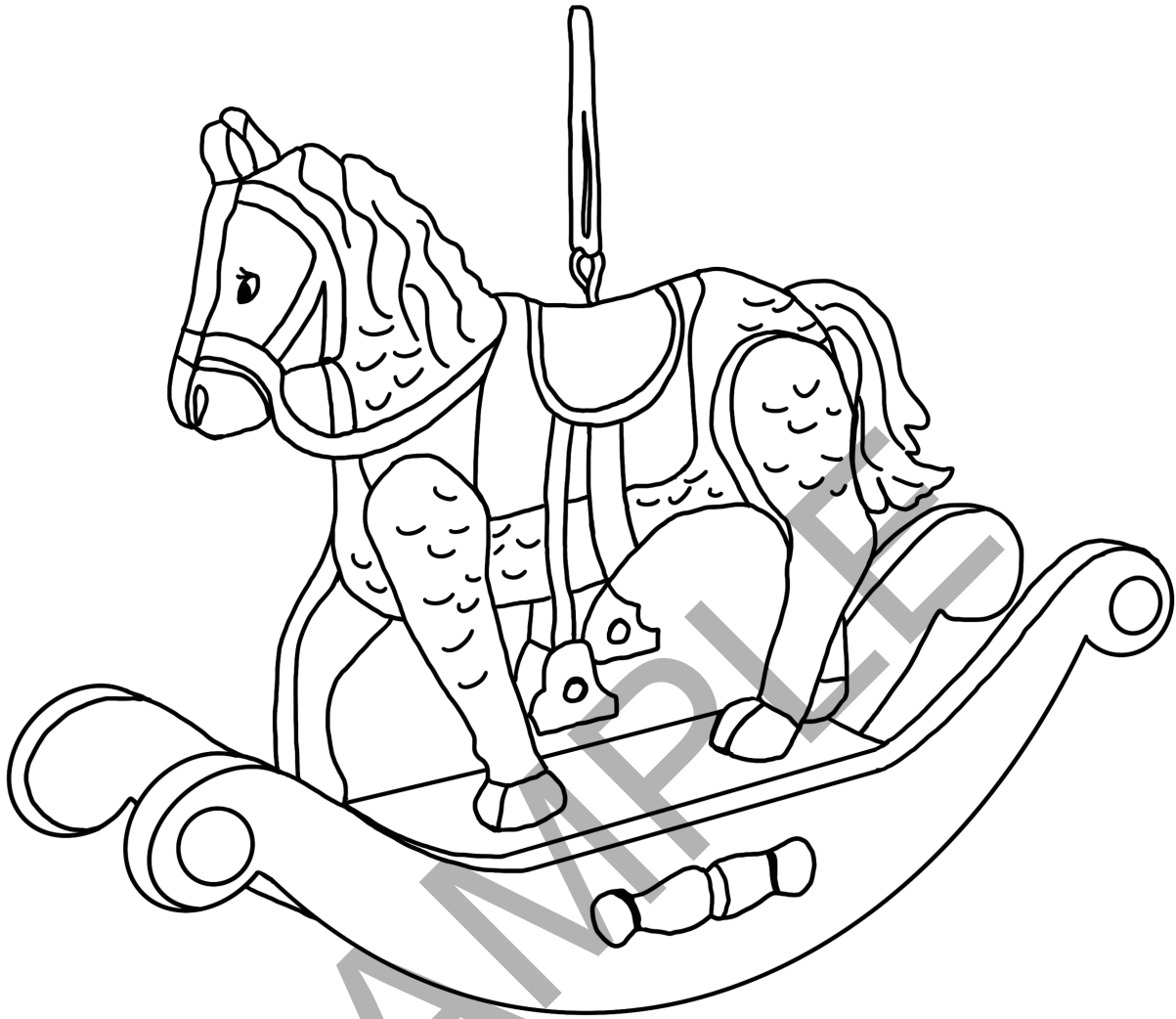
and 1800s, tourists

who visited the

markets . . .



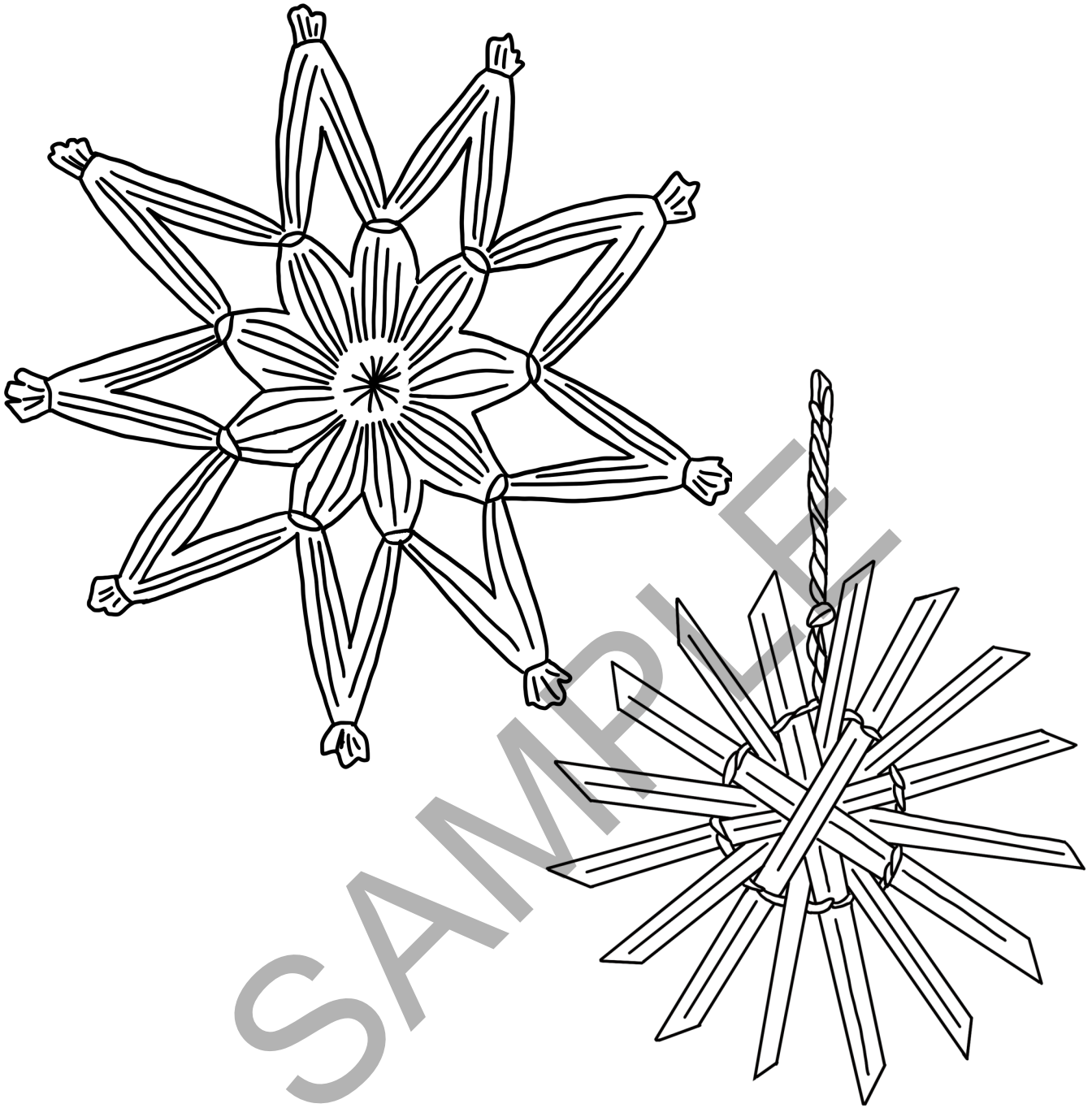
took the tradition to
their countries.



Rocking horse

(schaukelpferd)

ornaments



and Strohsterne, straw
stars, are popular
decorations.