

# Danube Cycle Path

## Passau – Budapest | 4 Countries – 1 Experience



### Info

Along the beautiful Blue Danube, you can find Europe's most famous cycling path: Passau to Budapest. Discover a wonderful landscape, picturesque villages and the numerous impressive sights of the Roman and Nibelungen times. Schlägener Loop, Strudengau, Nibelungengau and the Wachau Valley (UNESCO region) all have their own unique and alluring attractions. You will cycle along the Danube through gorgeous landscapes of rolling hills, forests and meadows. Art and cultural aspects show and tell stories former times. Cosy wineries and other inns invite you to enjoy the culinary "Schmankerln" (specialities of the region). One of the many highlights included on this tour is the "City of Music", Vienna. The Slovakian capital Bratislava is a diverse city with a picturesque old town and is a "must-see" on the way to Hungary. The Hungarian metropolis Budapest, one of the most beautiful cities in Europe, is the crowning conclusion to your journey. This tour offers a pure and cultural experience mostly set away from touristic centres and is "off the beaten track". Untouched nature and cultural monuments can be found on the route between Vienna and Budapest. You cycle through the infinite widths of the Hungarian lowlands and you can also visit the famous Arabian National Stud in Babolna. The Basilica in Esztergom is the largest Catholic cathedral in Hungary and is more than worth a visit with all its cherished treasures. Enjoy the friendly people and the Hungarian hospitality on an unforgettable journey of a lifetime.

### Itinerary

#### Day 1: Passau

Individual arrival. Use the remaining time on a city tour or get to know the "City of Three Rivers" on a boat cruise (not included) or simply go for a stroll through the picturesque old part of town. Between 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. bike hand over – for late arrivals the next morning.

#### Day 2: Passau – Schlägener Loop, approx. 41 km

Start the first cycle tour through the Upper Danube Valley to Schlägen. In Engelhartzell, you can visit the one and only "Trappist" monastery in Austria and you can even sample some delicious liqueurs straight from the convent. Continue the journey to the impressive "Schlägener Loop", where the river makes a complete 180-degree bend.

#### Day 3: Schlägener Loop – Linz, approx. 55 km

There are small ferries between the banks. Enjoy the special experience of riding past the many ferries along the riverbanks as you continue to cycle through the Eferdinger Valley to Linz, the capital of Upper Austria. Enjoy the summer evenings with a stroll through the enchanting old part of town.

#### Day 4: Linz – Strudengau, approx. 60 km

An excursion to Enns, the oldest town in Austria is highly recommended and worthwhile in any case. This leg guides you through beautiful meadows while passing the Celtic village Mitterkirchen, rolling by the majestic church in Baumgartenberg and on to the romantic

### Highlights

- 3 river city Passau
- Historical theatre Grein
- Romantic Wachau Valley
- Danube metropolises Vienna, Bratislava & Budapest
- Abbey Melk
- the Danube Auen National Park
- Archaeological Park Carnuntum
- the Basilica in Esztergom
- the Danube Bend

### Tour profile

Level 1-2; the tour is mostly flat and only sometimes slightly hilly. The Austrian section follows well-maintained and equipped cycling paths, in Hungary you will often cycle on country back and side roads. Upon entering and leaving cities there is traffic that must be closely observed.

### Accommodation

#### Category A

selected 4\*hotels; exceptional best 3\*hotels possible

#### Category B

quaint inns, 3\* hotels and pensions. In Vienna, Bratislava and Budapest 4\* hotels

castle of Clam. Toward the end of the day, you reach the gorgeous Baroque village of Grein. There is the oldest theatre in Austria, which is awaiting your royal visit.

#### **Day 5: Strudengau – Nibelungengau, approx. 50 km**

Today's tour is enjoyed by cycling through the fascinating landscape of tall and densely wooded rock formations on both sides of the Danube. High above the Danube is the Pilgrimage Church of Maria Taferl. From the distance the marvellous Benedictine Monastery of Melk is greeting you.

#### **Day 6: Nibelungengau – Krems/surroundings, approx. 50 km**

Another highlight on this tour is the chance to cycle through the magnificent Wachau Valley. A landscape where you will find terraced vineyards, apricot groves interspersed with castles, palaces and monasteries. There is also the possibility to take a break off your bike and relax on a short boat excursion. On your way to Krems you cycle through the wine villages of Spitz, Weißenkirchen and Dürnstein. Through these charming villages you will see quaint alluring taverns, which are just waiting to present Austrian hospitality at its best.

#### **Day 7: Krems/surroundings – Vienna, approx. 40 km + train ride Krems - Tulln**

You will depart this UNESCO World Cultural Heritage Region by train. After arriving in Tulln, you ride your bike directly through the Vienna Woods (Wiener Wald) and pass through "The Gates of Vienna". Along the way don't forget to visit the impressive monastery in Klosterneuburg and then continue to the "City of Music", Vienna.

#### **Day 8: Vienna – Bad Deutsch Altenburg/surroundings, approx. 42 km**

Not far from Vienna an untouched alluvial landscape and a Nature Reserve of stunning and diverse Flora and Fauna begins. Enjoy the wonderful peace and quiet, only interrupted by the twittering chirps of birds. The ancient Romans have left their footprints and also have relaxed in the nice warm water of Bad Deutsch Altenburg. The Archaeological Park of Carnuntum is waiting to take you into an exciting journey of the past.

#### **Day 9: Bad Deutsch Altenburg/surroundings – Bratislava, approx. 32 km**

Nestled between the hills of Hainburg and the Carpathian Mountains, you cycle on to Europe's youngest capital, Bratislava. The Slovakian capital has an enchanting sleepy old town parallel to magnificent modern buildings.

#### **Day 10: Bratislava - Szigetköz – Győr, approx. 45 km + train Mosonmagyaróvár – Győr**

The landscape of the Szigetköz is an idyllic paradise for birds and fish. In the midst of this wild and untouched landscape with more than 500 tiny islands you will find farming villages and a labyrinth of countless Danube creeks. After a short train ride you reach Győr with its beautiful Baroque-style old town.

#### **Day 11: Győr – Komarno/surroundings, approx. 57 km**

Take a look to the National Stud of Babolna which is the world famous Arabian horse breeding and is defiantly worth a visit. While you are visiting the Studs and the Stud Museum you can catch a glimpse of some secret Hungarian horse breeding techniques and methods. After cycling through the lush rolling hills into the village of Komárom, you will find your accommodation in the favourite village of renowned King Matthias.

#### **Day 12: Komarno/surroundings – Danube bend region, approx. 52 km**

Cycle along the banks of the Slovakian Danube on low-traffic roads through quaint and quintessential villages. On your way to the "Town of Bishops and Kings", Esztergom, you pass the Roman fort of Kelemantia. Highlight of the day will be the Basilica of Esztergom, the largest Catholic cathedral in Hungary with its beautiful view.

#### **Day 13: Danube bend region – Budapest, approx. 62 km + Cruise**

Amidst the hilly landscape, the river Danube divides itself into parts creating the Szentendre-Island. On this island, you cycle through typical Hungarian villages. Szentendre is famous for its numerous handicraft boutiques and the Open-air Museum of Skanzen. A few particular highlights include some of the most famous attractions in Budapest. During your boat ride to Budapest you'll enjoy the beautiful view of Budapest's most popular sights.

#### **Day 14: Budapest**

Enjoy this day in the metropolis of Budapest. If you want you can go back to Vienna by bus, departures by scheduled bus every 2 hours on a daily basis. The bus has to be booked prior to the guests' arrival. Duration of trip approx. 3 hours. On request the bus is also stopping at Vienna International Airport. Train ticket Vienna-Passau is also available on request

## **Travel dates**

Arrival every Saturday, Sunday and Monday. In Season 1 arrival only possible on Sunday.

### **Season 1**

October 03 – October 10 2020

### **Season 2**

April 12 + April 19 + September 19 – October 02 2020

### **Season 3**

April 25 – September 18 2020

## **Rental bikes & equipment**

- 7-speed-bikes with back pedal brake or 21-speed bikes, (ladies/gents)
- Electric bikes, children's bikes, special equipment for children upon request.

All rental bikes are equipped with a pannier (saddle bag) and an odometer.

## **Parking**

### **Passau:**

Parking lots available, approx. 70,- to 130,- EUR per week.

## **Reduction**

### **with 2 full paying adults in double room (additional bed):**

0-6,99 years	-100%
7-11,99 years	-50%
12-14,99 years	-25%
15-99 years	-10%

In Austria it is mandatory for children under 12 yrs to wear a helmet when on a bike.

## **General information**

- All bike tours are unescorted
- The mileages and approximations are distances of the recommended routes
- Please be prepared by packing all necessary items, for example proper rain gear (jacket and pants), sun hat, sunscreen and proper sport shoes
- The arrival to Passau is not included in the tour price and has to be arranged on your own
- In Slovakia you have to wear a helmet by law outside of city borders
- In Hungary you have to wear a safety vest at night and by poor vision outside of cities/villages
- This cycling tour is not suitable for people with limited mobility. Individual requests are in special cases possible (f.e. handicapped accessible room)

## Included services

- 13 nights in rooms with private facilities
- Breakfast or dinner option (Cat. A: 13x dinner, Cat. B: 12x dinner, Vienna breakfast only)
- Daily luggage transport (1 suitcase per Person/ max. 20 kg)
- Welcome drink at the arrival hotel in Passau
- 1 bottle of high-quality wine in the Wachau Valley per room
- A tasting of regional products
- 1 x train Krems – Tulln (incl. bike)
- 1 x train Mosonmagyaróvár – Győr (incl. bike)
- 1 x ship or train (before/after seasonal boat schedule) Szentendre – Budapest
- Service-hotline (also accessible on weekends)
- Handlebar bag with route book, maps and information material per room

Prices p.P. in €	Biketour Kat B			Biketour Kat A			Rental bike		Extra night		
	Dbf	Single	Dinner option	Dbf	Single	Dinner Option	7/21	Electro		Dbf	Single
Season 1	929	1.299	249	1.219	1.659	329	145	315	Passau 3* Cat. B	57	80
Season 2	1.069	1.439		Passau 4* Cat. A	68				98		
Season 3	1.199	1.569		1.479	1.919				Vienna 4*	68	98
									Budapest 4* Cat B	52	88
									Budapest 4* Cat A	64	116

Extra nights in Vienna are possible before or after the tour or during the bike journey (only with arrival on Saturday or Sunday).

## Please note

Errors, changes in prices and availability accepted. Tariffs as of August 2019.

All sales prices listed in this document correspond with the prices 2020 published in the RAD + REISEN catalogue. The prices in your offers may NOT fall below.

Please forward your final publications for error checking before publishing/printing

## Nearest airports

- Munich ( Transfer Munich Airport/city – hotel Passau, shared transfer)
- Linz (approx. 1 h away from Passau by train)
- Vienna

## Early-bird discount

For bookings until 60 days prior arrival **5 % reduction** off tour-price (excluding: bike rental, extra nights and extra services)!

## Additional charge\*

- Helmet purchase – payable in advance € 29
- Return transfer of own bikes to Vienna € 39, on Saturdays only!
- Bus ticket Budapest-Vienna (price will follow)
- Train ticket Vienna- Passau“ € 44
- Local tax payable on spot (approx. € 1 - 2,5 per person/night) valid for Passau-Vienna section
- Transfer Munich Airport– hotel Passau<sup>1</sup> One way € 69, both directions € 119

<sup>1</sup> from/to Munich city centre/train station – Passau: € 40 one-time surcharge (1-8 pers.)

\* must be reserved at time of booking