

Danube Cycle Path The Classic Tour

Passau-Vienna

ca. 290
Bike kilometres



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Alongside of the “blue” Danube lies the renowned and most famous cycling path in Europe. Passau to Vienna is an absolute cycling classic. Discover the enchanting river landscape, picturesque villages, lush vineyards and countless cultural sites from the time of the Romans and Nibelungengau. As you cycle comfortably along the banks of the mighty river, enjoy the wooded forests and the magical meadows of the Schlägener Loop, Strudengau, Nibelungengau and Wachau, as each region offers its own impressive and unique attractions. Art and cultural features convey myths and stories of the past while quaint accommodations and taverns invite you to relax in the culinary world of Austria. The welcoming Austrian hospitality and the scrumptious Austrian cuisine add to this absolutely remarkable experience.

Tour profile: Level 1: the cycling path is completely paved from one end to the other, flat, almost always directly along the riverbank, very suitable for beginners and children.

Accommodation:

Category A: Comfort rooms in 4-star hotels, the best 3-star hotel in town

Category B: Comfort rooms in 3 & 4-star hotels

Category C: Comfort rooms in typical Austrian inns; 3-star category, sometimes satisfactory 2-star inns

Highlights: Passau, Schlägener Schlinge – Great Danube Loop, Linz – Capital of Upper Austria, Grein - City Theatre, Wachau, Abbey of Melk, Krems, Vienna

ROUTING

Day 1: Arrival to Passau

Day 2: Passau – Schlägener Loop, ≈ 44 km

Day 3: Schlägener Loop – Linz, ≈ 53 km

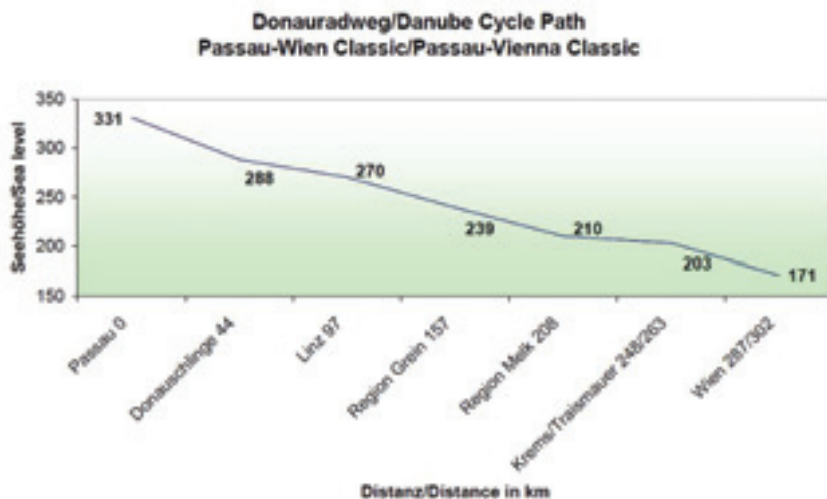
Day 4: Linz – Region Grein, ≈ 60 km

Day 5: Region Grein – Region Melk, ≈ 51 km

Day 6: Region Melk – Krems/Traismauer, ≈ 40/55 km

Day 7: Krems/Traismauer – Vienna, ≈ 39 km

Day 8: Departure from Vienna



ITINERARY

Day 1: Passau

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

Day 2: Passau – Schlögener Loop, approx. 44 km

Start the first cycling route through the Upper Danube Valley to Schlögen. 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 "Schlögener Loop", where the river makes a complete 180-degree turn.

Day 3: Schlögener Loop – Linz, approx. 53 km

Between the banks of the Danube there are small passenger ferries waiting for you to take them. Next, you cycle through the slowly widening fertile basin of Eferdinger and on into Linz, the capital of Upper Austria and European Culture Capital of 2009. Enjoy the magical summer evening doing some shopping around the lovely main square of the city.

Day 4: Linz – Region Grein, 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 and tranquil hinterland while passing the Celtic village Mitterkirchen, rolling by the majestic church in Baumgartenberg and on to the romantic 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: Region Grein – Region Melk, approx. 51 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 there, you are greeted from afar by the marvellous Benedictine Monastery of Melk.

Day 6: Region Melk – Krems/Traismauer, approx. 40/55 km

Another highlight of this tour is the chance to cycle through the magnificent Wachau. 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 winery villages of Spitz, Weißkirchen and Durnstein. Through these charming villages you will see quaint alluring taverns, which are just waiting to present Austrian hospitality at its best. Something you have to experience first hand.

Day 7: Krems/Traismauer – Vienna, approx. 39 km + Train

By train you will depart from this UNESCO World Cultural Heritage region. After arriving in Tulln, you will ride your bike for the last time on this tour directly through the Vienna Woods (Wiener Wald) and pass through "The Gates of Vienna". Along the way don't forget to stop in and visit the impressive monastery in Klosterneuburg and then continue on to "The City of Music": Vienna.

Day 8: Vienna

Some say that one must personally experience this great city. A few of the must-sees include the famous Naschmarkt (international food/goods market), the City Opera, the Ringstrasse, (a beautiful boulevard with imposing buildings which bear witness to ancient times) and of course the gorgeous imperial castle Schönbrunn. Train ride back to Passau (included) or extension in Vienna. Comfortable is also to return to Passau by bus or cruise ship (not included – surcharge).

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 must be arranged on your own. In Austria it is mandatory for children under 12 yrs to wear a helmet when on a bike.

PARKING

- ✓ Different possibilities: approx. 30,- to 60,- EUR per week

INCLUDED SERVICES

- ✓ 7 nights in chosen category, rooms with private facilities
- ✓ Breakfast or 6 x half-board for an extra charge (in Vienna breakfast only)
- ✓ Daily luggage transport (1 suitcase per Person/ max. 20 kg)
- ✓ Welcome drink at the arrival hotel in Passau
- ✓ 1 bottle of wine (Wachau) per/room
- ✓ A tasting of regional products
- ✓ 1 x train Krems/Traismauer – Tulln incl. bike
- ✓ Train ride Vienna – Passau (transfer own bikes not incl.)
- ✓ Service-hotline (also accessible on weekends)
- ✓ Handlebar bag with travel book, maps and informational material included with room

RENTAL BIKES & EQUIPMENT

7-gear-UNISEX-touring bike with coaster brake (back pedal) or 21-gear women/gents bikes
Electric bikes, children's bikes and other specialized equipment for children upon request.
All rental bikes are equipped with a pannier (saddle bag) and an odometer.



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TRAVEL DATES 2013

Arrival daily

Season 1: April 13 – April 26 + September 28 - October 12, 2013**Season 2:** April 27 – May 17 + August 31 – September 27, 2013**Season 3:** May 18 – August 30, 2013**PRICES 2013¹**

Price p. p. in Euro	Cat. C			Cat. B			Cat. A		
	Bike tour			Bike tour			Bike tour		
	DbI	Single Suppl.	Half- board	DbI	Single Suppl.	Half- board	DbI	Single Suppl.	Half- board
Season 1	425	130	103	495	150	122	555	170	139
Season 2	509			575			625		
Season 3	525			589			655		

Bike rental		Extra night – Price per person							
Price per Bike		3* (Cat. C)				4* (Category A + B)			
		Passau 3*		Vienna 3*		Passau 4*		Vienna 4*	
7/21	Electro	DbI	Single Suppl.	DbI	Single Suppl.	DbI	Single Suppl.	DbI	Single Suppl.
62	129	47	19	60	28	59	21	64	28

Additional Charge*	Price p. p. in Euro
Helmet rental – payable locally	35
Reduction for "no return-ticket to Passau"	27
Supplement for sending train ticket before arrival	12
Ship passage Vienna-Passau (3 days/2nights, Thu-Sat, Fri-Sun) in 2-bed-cabin incl. fullboard	30
Porterage of own bike on ship from Vienna to Passau	198
Supplement bus ride Vienna-Passau incl. own bike; only possible in Season 3; Wednesday-Sunday between 8 and 9 a.m.	10
Transfer Munich Airport – Hotel Passau (Collecting transfer) or return	51

*Has to be reserved at booking time

Reduction with 2 full paying adults in double (additional bed):

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

Early Booking Discount:When booking is done until 60 days before arrival **5 % reduction** on tour-price (excluding: half board suppl, bike rental, extranights and extra services)

¹ „The rates in this document are according to the official catalogue prices of RAD & REISEN/EUROCYCLE 2013 and MUST NOT fall short in your advertisements.”