

Cycling Safaris

The Bavarian Beer Tour 2018

Self guided
340 km | 7 nights / 7 days



On the beer tour through romantic Franconia, discover and taste a real brewing tradition. You cycle through Aischtal valley, which has an average of one brewery per kilometre, making it the area with the greatest number of breweries in the world. You will get to know the medieval towns of Nuremberg, Bamberg and Rothenburg.

Hilly sections with many small inclines, usually on quiet farm roads and side roads, not much of the route is along forest or field paths. A basic level of fitness is recommended.

TOUR ITINERARY

Day 1 Arrival in Rothenburg (also possible to start tour in Nuremberg!)

Rothenburg is the epitome of German Romanticism and a perfect medieval town. After checking in to your accommodation you can take a stroll through the old town guided by an

Day 2 Rothenburg - Ansbach approx. 55 km

This day offers two options on the Jura Plateau, we recommend a detour to the Altmühl source. If that's not enough for you, you can attempt the steep approach to the well-preserved Colmberg Castle. From here, you will cycle onwards to the beautiful Brandenburg count's Rococo castle in Ansbach. You can enjoy your evening in one of the many beer gardens.

Overnight stay in Ansbach

Day 3 Ansbach - Roth - Nuremberg approx 55 km + train ride or approx 75 km

You will cycle along the Deutsche Burgenstraße (German Castle Route), past the star-shaped moated castle Lichtenau. In Roth you should definitely pay the Margrave Castle a visit. Later in the day you will reach Nuremberg, which is not only famous for Gingerbread and its impressive castle - A number of breweries also compete for your attention. Be sure to try the beer of the Barfüßer house brewery.

Overnight stay in Nuremberg, Bavaria's second-largest city and the unofficial capital of Franconia. It is an energetic place where the nightlife is intense and the beer is as dark as coffee.

Day 4 Nuremberg - Erlangen - Forchheim - Bamberg approx 70/80 km

You can follow the Regnitz cycle path through picturesque valleys and small villages, always along the river's loops and windings. Or, you can choose to quickly cycle along the flat Rhine-Main-Danube canal. Today's final destination is Bamberg, the city with a patron saint for brewing - St. Lawrence. Within the city's perimeters nine breweries invite you to sample their products, with several more in the surrounding area.

Overnight stay in Bamberg

Day 5 Bamberg - Höchstadt - Neustadt approx 55 km + train ride or approx 70 km

You have the option of initially going back the same way as yesterday for a bit. If you don't want to cycle this part twice you can take the train to Hirschaid (not included). From there you follow the small river Aisch to Neustadt.

You will cycle in direction of Hirschaid and reach the romantic Aisch Valley. Take a break in Höchstadt and sample the famous mirror carp - the crispy fried fish is a local delicacy. In Neustadt, your destination for the day, you can watch a mechanical wooden billy goat bleat and jump around the top of the town hall every hour - a fabulous spectacle.

Overnight stay in Neustadt an der Aisch

Day 6 Neustadt - Bad Windsheim - Rothenburg approx. 60 km

Today you will visit Bad Windsheim and the impressive Franconian open-air museum. Here historical buildings were reassembled on a large area. You can enjoy the homebrewed beer at the restaurant or in one of the beer gardens. Rothenburg's medieval backdrop offers a beautiful atmosphere to soak in the evening sun and sample delicious food.

Overnight stay in Rothenburg

Day 7 Individual journey home or extension of your stay

After breakfast your cycling tour comes to an end.

2018 TOUR PRICE DATES

You can start any day from 21 April to 7 October 2018

From 5 May - 2 June & 30 June - 24 August

€695.00 per person sharing

€845.00 for single occupancy

From 3 June - 29 June & 25 August - 15 September

€675.00 per person sharing

€825.00 for single occupancy

From 21 April - 4 May & 16 September - 7 October:

€575.00 per person sharing

€725.00 for single occupancy

WHAT IS INCLUDED IN THE TOUR PRICE

- 6 overnight stays in a double room with breakfast on an national 3* level
- Bike rental (7- or 24 gears)
- Transport of luggage from hotel to hotel, no limit on pieces of luggage but luggage may only weigh a maximum of 20 kg
- Comprehensive tour information and maps
- Guided tour with the night watchman in Rothenburg
- Voucher for 5 x 0.5 l beer per room, to be used in Bamberg
- Entrance Fränkisches Freilandmuseum (Franconian open-air museum) Bad Windsheim (Mondays closed)
- Comprehensive travel info and maps (1x per room)
- 7-day service hotline

The train rides Roth-Nuremberg incl. Bike (€5,50 per person plus €2,80 per bike) and Bamberg-Hirschland incl. Bike (€3,30 per person plus €1,70 per bike) are not included
City or visitor's tax, if payable, is not included in the travel price

Optional extras

E-Bike available for additional supplement of €100

Extra night in Rothenburg on request

BIKE & FITNESS



Bike hire is included in the tour package.

- 7 - speed hub and coaster brake or 24 - speed derailleur
- All unisex bikes with low step-through
- Fitted with road bicycle tire " Schwalbe Marathon Plus "
- Pannier and handlebar bag , and tachometer , lock , pump and spare tire . Puncture repair kit is in the pockets.

Requirements

The cycling routes require a basic level of fitness, which you should have acquired by steady cycling. The routes can reach an altitude of 200 to 500 meters. The daily routes, of 20 - 60 km, cover some hilly terrain and can be completed without time constraints. You will also come across some longer and climbs, where walking your bike is of course advised. The roads are mostly asphalted and there is little traffic outside of holiday periods.

Helmet use is mandatory on all bike tours. You are strongly encouraged to bring your own (well fitted) helmet. Rental Helmets are available on board in limited number (reservation requested).

BACK-UP-SERVICE

As this is a self led trip you do not have the back-up of a guide and support van. Our aim is to allow you feel like an independent traveller, free to cycle each day at your own pace while at the same time having the security of knowing that your luggage will be waiting for you in your next accommodation.

If you experience small problems with the bike (e.g., a puncture) you will have a spare tube, pump and tyre lever. You also have access to a 24 hour helpline.

WHAT TO BRING

We would recommend that you bring padded cycling shorts and / or a gel saddle cover which will make your days cycling more comfortable. Cycling gloves are also a good investment, as are hard-sole shoes which will help protect your feet. And don't forget raingear including a rain jacket, rain pants and slip-on boots. A hat and sunglasses will protect you from getting all too much sun. Finally, please make an effort to pack lightly. This will make your travels easier and will be much appreciated with the luggage transfers.