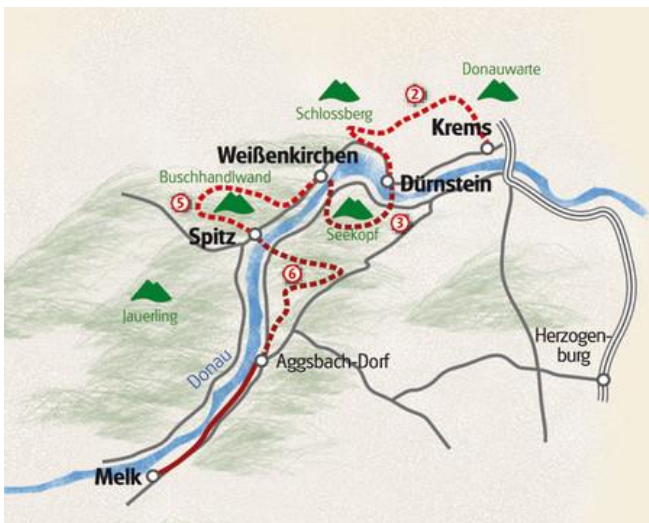




## Austria Wachau – Walking along the Danube 2024

### Self guided tour 7-nights



#### *Moderate – 7 nights*

In Wachau the Danube is even more beautiful than elsewhere. The mild climate and steep hills make it ideal territory for wine and fruit growing. A varied walking tour leads past steep rocks, across soft hills and through scented vineyards. Little hamlets dot the landscape and apart from the famous wine delicious apricot specialties belong to the outstanding regional specialties.

Medium difficulty: You walk mainly on good trails and some paved vineyard paths. Depending on the route, you can make the stages more comfortable or more challenging. The peaks in the Wachau region are not high, but steep in places. Surefootedness therefore is required in some places. This week offers a perfect blend of nature, culture and culinary delight.

Dog friendly: On this particular walking tour you have the option of bringing your “four-legged friend”. When booking, simply let us know the breed and size of your dog. Possible additional costs are payable locally on site.

## TOUR ITINERARY

### Day 1: Individual arrival at Krems / Stein

Nice little town, easy to get there from Vienna by boat or train.

### Day 2: High up into the vineyards and to the ruins of fortress Dürnstein

**Details: approx. 4.5 hours | 12 km | ↑ 500 m ↓ 490 m.**

Walk up into the vineyards to the tower with view on blue Danube, the city Krems and impressive monastery Göttweig. Cross the hills to the cozy Fesslhütte and reach the Dürnstein ruins on a trail with great views before reaching the banks of the Danube..

### Day 3: Walking Dürnstein – Weißenkirchen “Heart of Wachau”

**Details: approx. 5 hours | 16 km | ↑ 480 m ↓ 480 m.**

Take the ferry from Dürnstein to Rossatz. Continue past the largest apricot growing area of Austria, on old tracks up to Seekopf with stunning views to the Alps. Optional take a walk along Danube through orchards to the ferry.

### Day 4: Rest day in Weißenkirchen “Wachauer Dolce Vita”

Surrounded by sunny vineyards and green forests the mighty gothic parish church of Weißenkirchen is a remarkable sight. The wine grower villages Joching, Woendorf and St. Michael form together with Weißenkirchen the biggest wine grower community in Wachau. Visit museums, beautiful walking trails or take a boat tour on Danube. Enjoy a glass of Wachauer wine in one of the wine taverns. Or do a short hike on the Achleiten circuit to stop by the winegrower!

### Day 5: Weißenkirchen - Spitz “Observation platform Buschhandlwand”

**Details: approx. 4 to 5 hours | 12 km | ↑ 600 m ↓ 600 m.**

Leave Weißenkirchen via the wine trail, past picturesque wine cellars to the climb up to Seiber. Walk through the forest at first quite steep to Buschhandlwand where an observation platform allows stunning panorama views. An alternative route passes through vineyards to the famous wine grower community Spitz an der Donau.

### Day 6: Spitz - Melk “Ruin Aggsbach”

**Details: approx. 4.5 to 5.5 hours | 15 km | ↑ 640 m ↓ 640 m.**

Cross the Danube by ferry to Maria Langegg. Here you follow St. Jacob’s trail to ruin Aggsbach. Visit the fortress with scenic views across the Danube valley and stop for a snack. Down you walk to Aggsbach where you catch the coach to Melk.

### Day 7: Melk – Krems “Danube Cruise”

Visit the impressive monastery with beautiful grounds before you board the Danube boat. During the cruise to Krems you pass the highlights of the week, see all the vineyards as well as Spitz and Dürnstein.

### Day 8: Individual departure or additional nights

#### Tour Character

*You walk mainly on good trails and some paved vineyard paths. Depending on the route, you can make the stages more comfortable or more challenging. The peaks in the Wachau region are not high, but steep in places. This week offers a perfect blend of nature, culture and culinary delight.*

## PRICES AND DATES 2024

**Tour can start any day from 23<sup>rd</sup> March to 13<sup>th</sup> October 2024**

€840 per person sharing (Season 1: 23<sup>rd</sup> March – 14<sup>th</sup> April & 26<sup>th</sup> August – 8<sup>th</sup> September)

€900 per person sharing (Season 2: 15<sup>th</sup> April – 9<sup>th</sup> June)

€990 per person sharing (Season 3: 10<sup>th</sup> June – 25<sup>th</sup> August & 9<sup>th</sup> September – 13<sup>th</sup> October)

Single Supplement - €250

## TOUR PRICE INCLUDES

- 7 x overnights of partly 4\*, mainly 3\* hotels, country hotels; including breakfast
- Luggage transfer
- Wine tasting
- 1 Boat trip from Melk to Krems\*
- 1 Wine tasting (German, English)
- Route description
- Detailed travel documents 1x per room
- App for Navigation and GPS-data
- Service hotline

(\*) boat cruise is only possible starting from mid April otherwise a bus ride is organized as an alternative

### Not included in the tour price:

- Tourist tax if due is not included in the tour price
- 3 x ferry over the Danube
- Bus from Aggsdorf to Melk (approx. €6-7)



## WHAT TO BRING

Your enjoyment of your walking holiday will be greatly helped by having the right gear. The following list should help you in planning your packing for your trip.

**Footwear:** Good footwear is vital for a happy walking holiday! We recommend waterproof, breathable, walking boots with good ankle support. Boots which are “broken in” (i.e. not brand new), teamed with **well fitting hiking socks** will keep your feet snug and dry and help to avoid blisters.

### Hiking Clothes

We recommend the “onion look” of layering clothing as the best protection against heat/cold:

- Base Layer –this layer should not retain moisture but transport it away from the skin (there are lots of “wick away” fabrics now on the market.
- Insulation layer – this layer should stop you from losing body heat – fleece is ideal
- Outer Layer – this layer should keep you dry even in a downpour! A waterproof, breathable jacket and over-trousers are as important as your comfy boots. You should bear in mind that clothing tends to lose its “waterproofness” over time so if you have had your gear for many years it might be time to treat yourself with a trip to an outdoor store!
- Walking trousers/ shorts (avoid denim)
- Warm hat and gloves for chilly mornings or high mountains
- Sun hat
- Walking stick/pole (a great help on uneven terrain)

**Daypack** - a small comfortable rucksack to carry the bits and pieces you will need during the day:

- Water bottle/flask
- Moleskin/plasters/”second skin” – ward off any impending blisters before they become a problem!
- Sun screen
- Camera
- Binoculars
- Waterproof map case
- Mobile phone

## GENERAL INFORMATION

**Travel Insurance** - It is essential to take out holiday insurance to cover cancellation, personal accident, illness, or loss of possessions.

### Travel

#### By Air:

From Airport Vienna-Schwechat by CAT train into Vienna then change to REX (regional express train) to Krems. Please see [www.oebb.at](http://www.oebb.at) for more details.

From Airport Linz-Hörsching (Ryan Air) you take a taxi to the station in Linz, then take a train to St. Pölten (see below).

#### By Train:

From Vienna (station Franz-Josef-Bahnhof) to Krems: duration approximately 1 hour; see [www.oebb.at](http://www.oebb.at)

From St. Pölten to Krems: duration approx. 30 - 45 min. The distance from the station to the first hotel can be covered walking in a couple of minutes. Please see the website of the Austrian Railway Company OEBB: [www.oebb.at](http://www.oebb.at) for more details for planning your trip. (Also in English)