

Cycling Safaris

Vienna – Bratislava - Budapest 2024 Self Guided Tour

260 - 285 km | 7 night / 8 days

On this classic cycling tour you will experience the combination of scenic riverbanks of the Danube as well as the unique opportunity to visit the most important cities that lay alongside the Danube. Vienna, Bratislava and Budapest have an overwhelming history with genuine notions of the yesteryear.



Nostalgia is combined with a deeply intriguing history along the ever-changing riverbanks of the Danube and all are included in the places that you will come across. Just to scratch the surface of this in-depth tour; it takes you to The Castle of Eckartsau, which happens to be the place where Austrian Emperor Karl the 1st and his wife Zita met their fate. And in Bratislava, where the coronation of Hungarian Kings took place and the famous empress Maria Theresia acquired much of her fame, prestige and honour. In Esztergom, the first Hungarian king, King Stephan was born and accepted his coronation. Empress Sissi of Austria was crowned Queen of Hungary in Budapest. All of this plus much more will certainly make for a trip of a lifetime.

Highlights:

- 3 capitals: Vienna, Bratislava, Budapest
- National Park Donauauen
- Archaeological Park Carnuntum
- Protected Area “Szigetköz”
- Basilica in Esztergom – Hungary’s biggest church
- Danube Bend
- Artist town Szentendre

**Donauradweg 3-Länder-Tour
Danube Cycle Path 3-country-tour**



Tour profile

The tour is mostly flat and 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 observed.

Vienna to Budapest

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TOUR ITINERARY

Day 1 Vienna

Individual arrival to Vienna (our tip: low cost carrier to Vienna/Bratislava); this evening belongs to you! What about a short city walk or a visit at a typical Viennese tavern Heurigen

Day 2 Vienna –Bad-Deutsch Altenburg approx. 42 km

Not far from Vienna begins an untouched landscape and a Nature Reserve with stunning and diverse Flora and Fauna. Get away from it all and enjoy the wonderful peace and silence, only interrupted by the twittering chirps of birds. The ancient Romans have left their print and also have relaxed in the nice warm water of Bad Deutsch Altenburg. The Archaeological Park of Carnuntum will invite you into an exciting journey of the past.

Day 3 Region Bad D. Altenburg – Bratislava approx. 26 km

Nestled between the hills of Hainbury and the Carpathian Mountains, cycle to Europe's youngest capital, Bratislava. The quaint old city centre with numerous sights, a lovely pedestrian zone and countless restaurants and cafes will invite you to an extended stroll. High above the city, stand the towers and walls of an exceptional castle.

Day 4 Bratislava – Szigetköz – Győr approx. 50 km + train Mosonmagyaróvár-Győr

The marshy landscape of the Szigetköz is an ideal environment and paradise for birds and fish alike. In the midst of these wild and untouched lowlands with more than 500 tiny islands, you will find quaint farming villages and a labyrinth of countless Danube canals and creeks. After a relaxing and short train ride you reach the day's final destination, Győr with its gorgeous Baroque-style old town squares. If you feel like more cycling, it's also possible to cycle the route and not using the train, which adds another 32k to the journey

Day 5 Győr – Komarno/surroundings approx. 57 km

The National Stud of Babolna is world famous for its Arabian horse breeding and is definitely worth a stroll through. While you are visiting the Studs and the Stud Museum you can catch a glimpse of some secrets Hungarian horse breeding techniques and methods. After cycling through the lush rolling hills into the village of Komárom, where you will stay in this favoured village of renowned King Matthias.

Day 6 Komarno – Danube Bend approx. 52 km

Today you cycle along the banks of the Slovakian Danube on small low-traffic roads through quaint and quintessential villages. On your way to the "Town of Bishops and Kings", Estergom, also known as the "Hungarian Rome" or "Royal City", you pass the Roman fort of Kelemantia. The Basilica of Estergom, the largest Catholic Church in Hungary, and the rest of the town are a highlight of this trip.

Day 7 Danube Bend – Budapest approx. 50-67 km + ship or train ride

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 Open-Air Museum Skanzen. A few notable highlights include some of the most famous attractions in Budapest. All in which you will discover on your boat ride into the city.

Day 8 Budapest

You enjoy this day in the metropolis of Budapest. If you want you can go back to Vienna by train. The two capital cities are very well connected. Direct trains to Vienna run every hour. Duration of the trip is approx. 3 hours.

Vienna to Budapest

2024 TOUR DATES & PRICES

You have a choice of accommodation type on this tour:

Category A - selected 4* hotels in all cities (on request)

Category B - 3* or 4* hotels/inns (we will assume this category unless otherwise stated)

Season 1: April 27 – May 3, October 5 - 12 (arrival on Saturdays only)

Category B

€700 per person sharing

€1000 for single occupancy

Category A

€800 per person sharing

€1140 for single occupancy

Season 2: May 4 – June 28, September 14 – October 4 (arrival on Saturdays & Sundays)

Category B

€800 per person sharing

€1100 for single occupancy

Category A

€900 per person sharing

€1240 for single occupancy

Season 3: *June 29 – September 13 (arrival Saturdays and Sundays)

Category B

€870 per person sharing

€1170 for single occupancy

Category A

€970 per person sharing

€1310 single occupancy

Please note, bike hire is not included in the 2024 tour price.

- 21/24-speed bike (unisex) for €100 (option for purchasing bike disclaimer/insurance for an additional €19)
- E-bikes are available for €220 (option for purchasing bike disclaimer/insurance for an additional €45)

Reduction:

Reduction with 2 full paying adults in double room (third bed)

0-6 years (100%) plus bike seat / child bike

7-11 years (45%)

12-14 years (20%)

15-99 years (8%)

- ****Except Formula 1 Grand Prix in Budapest from July 19-21 2024 / equals starting in Vienna on July 13 and July 14 / supplement of €60 per room per night (€30 per person) in Budapest. 2 nights minimum length of stay in Budapest in category B.***

WHAT IS INCLUDED IN THE TOUR PRICE

- 7 nights accommodation with private facilities & breakfast
- Daily Luggage transfer up to hotel in Budapest (2 pieces/max. 20 kg piece per person)
- 1x ship or train transfer Danube Bend area
- Service Hotline
- Handlebar bag with travel book, maps and information material incl. tour app and GPS data per room

*if you wish to avail of dinners a supplement applies:

€220-Category B (6 dinners included, in Vienna breakfast only)

€240-Category A (7 dinners included Vienna)

This must be highlighted at the time of booking.

Not included optional extras (to be booked up to 10 days in advance):

- 21/24-speed bikes (unisex) for €100
- E-bikes are available for a €220
- Bike insurance: €19 (bike), €45 (e-bike)
- Helmet purchase, payable local, 40 euro (compulsory in Slovakia outside of cities!)
- If you have not rented our bikes but have brought your own, there is a cost of €70.00 to bring bikes by coach, available every Friday in Season 1 and in Season 2+3 every Saturday.

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BIKE INFORMATION

21-gear ladies bikes come as standard bikes with 28" wheels in frame sizes 46 / 51 / 56 cm .

For men taller than 186 cm we offer men frames.

Our bicycles are equipped with:
1 good sized waterproofed pannier bag,
1 handle bar bag, repair kit, air pump, lock



- Electric bikes, children's bikes, specialized equipment for children upon request
- All rental bikes are equipped with a pannier (saddle bag) and an odometer (except e-bikes)
- Helmet purchase possible for €40 on request (paid locally)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- The bike tours are unescorted. All mileages are approximate distances of recommended routes.
- Vienna, Bratislava (approx 75km from Vienna, Bus Bratislava – Vienna approx €12) and Budapest are accessible by many low-cost airlines.
- In Slovakia you have to wear a helmet outside of cities. Helmets can be purchased for €40 and this is payable locally but we recommend you bring your own if possible so you are more comfortable.
- In Austria it is mandatory for children under 12 years to wear a helmet when on a bike.
- In Hungary you have to wear a safety vest at night and by poor visibility outside cities/villages.

WHAT TO BRING

Your enjoyment of the tour will also depend on whether you choose the right clothes to take along. 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 will protect you from getting too much sun.

ACCOMMODATION

Catagory A – selected 4* hotels in all cities
Catagory B -- 3* or 4* hotels/inns (we will assume this category unless otherwise stated)

We can arrange extra nights/accommodation before or after the tour in either Vienna or Budapest in our hotels (pending availability). The cost for this is:-

Extra night in Vienna:

Double/Twin room €85.00 per person sharing (Cat A/B) Single room €130.00 (Cat A/B)

Extra night in Budapest

Double/Twin room €85.00 per person sharing (Cat A) Single room €150.00 (Cat A)
€85.00 per person sharing (Cat B) Single room €130.00 (Cat B)

Vienna to Budapest

RETURN TRIP TO VIENNA

By train:

There is a train connection from Budapest to Vienna <https://www.raileurope.com/en/destinations/budapest-vienna-train>
Duration is approx 2 hours 37 minutes. Price approx €15.

By hydrofoil:

You can also return to Vienna by hydrofoil.

Booking for hydrofoil has to be before arrival in Vienna (only limited number of passengers possible).

Check-in: one hour before departure (luggage up to 20kg per person)

The transfer prices are approximate so always check with our office

ENTRY FORMALITIES

Citizens of the states of the European Union need a valid passport to enter Austria, Slovakia and Hungary.

We kindly ask citizens of other countries to refer to their local Consulates or Embassy.

Vienna to Budapest