

Cycling Europe

VIENNA TO PRAGUE 2020

SELF GUIDED & GUIDED CYCLE TOURS - 8 days/7 nights



On this tour you glide serenely amid rolling pine-clad hills and fields adorned with carp ponds, beer hops growing on racks, and brilliant yellow fields of rape.

This unindustrialised region has few tourists. You cycle a picturesque countryside alongside streams and lakes, through forests and past storybook castles and palaces. There are good wines from ancient hill towns and complex beers that give Germany and Belgium a run for their Euros.

VERSION A - LENGTH 275KM

Favoured by those who like history, and adds the unique Lednice-Valtice area and World Heritage UNESCO site of Cesky Krumlov.

VERSION B - LENGTH 452KM

For cyclists who really want to pound out the whole way from Vienna to Prague by bicycle.

HIGHLIGHTS

- 6 World Heritage Sites (protected by UNESCO)
- Schonbrunn Palace in Vienna
- Chateaux in Lednice - Valtice Area
- Renaissance square in Telc
- Medieval town of Cesky Krumlov
- Rustic baroque village of Holasovice
- Old Town of Prague
- Old walled town of Trebon
- Jewish cemetery in Mikulov
- Last remnant of the Iron Curtain in Cizov
- Czech beer

ITINERARY- VERSION A

DAY 1: VIENNA – VALTICE

Transfer by train from Vienna to Breclav (train ticket not included) where you meet your local contact person, who will drive you to your hotel and give you the tour briefing. If time permits visit the cellars in the chateau to sample a wide variety of Czech wines.



DAY 2: VALTICE - LEDNICE - MIKULOV

Today start your biking trip in Lednice-Valtice area (UNESCO World Heritage Site), and ride through forest and field trails. There are two magnificent chateaux to visit in the area. A third class road with little traffic then leads you to Mikulov with its imposing castle, historic square, the tomb of the Dietrichstein family, as well as the synagogue and Jewish Cemetery, where the oldest tombstones date back to 1605. **Cycling: 30kms**

DAY 3: MIKULOV-ZNOJMO–VRANOV NAD DYJI

This morning transfer by van from Mikulov to Znojmo, a royal town with a lovely historical centre. Here the scenic part of the trip begins, with the National Park Podyji, the river canyon and viewpoints that will reward you for enduring the hilly terrain. The last remnants of the Iron Curtain in the village of Cizov are one of the highlights alongside the fairy-tale-like castle of Vranov, perched on a cliff high above the riverbed. **Cycling: 41kms**



DAY 4: VRANOV NAD DYJI – SLAVONICE – TELC

From Vranov skim the Austrian border past the village of Safov with a quaint old Jewish cemetery, then past Uhercice, with a Renaissance chateau where a massive conservation effort is underway and can be toured, and a lovely pottery workshop on the pond in the village green. On arrival in Slavonice, travel by local train to the town of Telc, listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site for its perfectly preserved Renaissance town center.

Cycling: 46kms

DAY 5: TELC – JINDRICHUV HRADEC

Today you will cycle through the Czech/Moravian Highlands, through fields and forests. A unique stop on the way is the memorial of Jewish painter Frantisek Moritz Nagl in the village of Kostelni Myslova. He died in Auschwitz extermination camp in Poland, but loved to paint in the surrounding landscape. Today's destination is the old town of Jindrichuv Hradec, boasting the third biggest castle complex in the Czech Republic. **Cycling: 42kms**

DAY 6: JINDRICHUV HRADEC – TREBON

First, take in the historic town and castle of Jindrichuv Hradec, then cycle through the mosaic of ponds, woods and meadows in the Bohemia Lake District to the town of Trebon, a medieval city whose walls are still largely intact. The only way to enter the historical core is through a gate in the old fortifications, across a moat which is a part of a unique water regulation system dating back to the 16th century. **Cycling:**

30kms



DAY 7: TREBON – CESKY KRUMLOV

The last day of cycling leads through hilly terrain to the jewel of South Bohemia, the town of Cesky Krumlov (a UNESCO Heritage Site), situated on the banks of the meandering upper course of the Vltava River. The old town has been well preserved with virtually all buildings intact and still vital, an unparalleled ensemble of Gothic, Renaissance, and Baroque structures. It is the second largest castle complex in the Czech Republic and the oldest working Baroque theatre in Europe.

Cycling: 53kms



DAY 8: CESKY KRUMLOV – PRAGUE

Today enjoy all that Cesky Krumlov has to offer and later in the afternoon transfer by bus from Cesky Krumlov to Prague.

ITINERARY - VERSION B

DAY 1: VIENNA - STOCKERAU

Arrive in Vienna and make your way to Stockerau (an easy commuter train from Vienna city centre) where they will spend the night. Next morning your contact person will deliver bikes and give you tour briefing.

DAY 2: STOCKERAU – MIKULOV

Over hilly terrain along the "Leiserberweg" bicycle trail to Ernstbrunn (Leiser Berge Natural Park). Cross the Border at Laa an der Thaya, then cycle over 13 kms of flat South Moravian lowland to Drnholec. **Cycling: 77kms**

DAY 3: MIKULOV - ZNOJMO – VRANOV NAD DYJI

This morning transfer by van from Mikulov to Znojmo, a royal town with a lovely historical center. Here the scenic part of the trip begins, with the National Park Podyji, the river canyon and viewpoints that will reward you for enduring the hilly terrain. The last remnants of the Iron Curtain in the village of Cizov are one of the highlights alongside the fairy-tale-like castle of Vranov, perched on a cliff high above the riverbed. **Cycling: 100kms**

Shorter cycling options are available as follows - Morning car transfer from Mikulov to Znojmo (Cycling 43kms) or transfer by van Mikulov to Hevlin (Cycling 71kms).



Day 4: Vranov Nad Dyji – Slavonice – Telc

From Vranov skim the Austrian border past the village of Safov with a quaint old Jewish cemetery, then past Uhercice, with a Renaissance chateau where a massive conservation effort is underway and can be toured, and a lovely pottery workshop on the pond in the village green. Arrive in Slavonice and travel by local train to the town of Telc, listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site for its perfectly preserved Renaissance town centre.

Cycling: 78kms

A shorter cycling option, with a train transfer from Slavonice to Telc, is available (Cycling 48kms).

DAY 5: TELC – JINDRICHUV HRADEC

Today you will cycle through the Czech/Moravian Highlands, through fields and forests. A unique stop on the way is the memorial of Jewish painter Frantisek Moritz Nagl, in the village of Kostelni Myslova. He died in Auschwitz extermination camp in Poland, but loved to paint in the surrounding landscape. The destination today is the old town of Jindrichuv Hradec, boasting the third biggest castle complex in the Czech Republic. **Cycling: 42kms**



DAY 6: JINDRICHUV HRADEC - TABOR

Today's route leads through a tapestry of woods and ponds to Cervena Lhota, with a beautiful little chateau built on a rocky island in the middle of a lake. Afternoon arrival in Tabor leaves enough time for a tour of this historic town founded by the Hussites. **Cycling: 49kms**



DAY 7: TABOR - BENESOV

From Tabor ride through a region of highlands with woods and pastures, an area known as Czech Siberia for its rough weather and unspoiled environment. There is a beautiful view of the River Luznice from the bridge in the town of Sedlec-Prčice, the destination of the annual Prague-Prčice walk. **Cycling: 73kms**

DAY 8: BENESOV - PRUHONICE - PRAGUE

The last leg of the journey leads through Pruhonice Park to Prague, the capital of the Czech Republic. Arrangements end mid afternoon in Prague. **Cycling: 40kms**

TERRAIN

Gently to moderately rolling with a few short hills

2020 SCHEDULES

Self-guided tours (Versions A and B)

Every day from April to the end of October

*Guided Tours Version A (via Cesky Krumlov)

Set date departures guaranteed to depart with a minimum of four people

Dates to be reconfirmed: June 13 – 20 (includes Five-petalled Rose Festival); July 11 – 18; August 08-15; September 04 – 11 (includes Mikulov Wine Festival).

*Guided Tours Version B

Set date departures guaranteed to depart with a minimum of four people

Dates to be reconfirmed: May 4 – 11; June 15 – 22; August 3 – 10; September 6– 13 (includes Tabor Meetings).

2020 TOUR COST PER PERSON IN EURO

SELF GUIDED TOURS VERSION A & B

8 Day/7 night Self Guided tour

Double or twin share € 1490

Single room supplement € 350

(prices above for minimum 2 people – for solo travellers a 15% surcharge applies)

GUIDED TOURS* VERSION A & B – MINIMUM 4 PEOPLE REQUIRED

8 Day/7 Night Guided tour

Double or twin share €2240

Single supplement € 350

Note there is a reduction of €200 per person for 8+ people travelling.

BIKE RENTALS

Trek FX 3 Bike

Included

E Bike

from €20 per person per day

Gel seats or covers available on request

TREK FX 3

Lightweight aluminum frame

Carbon fork

Groupset Shimano Alivio

Trek FX 3 is a lightweight hybrid bike with

a carbon fork which brings both speed and comfort to any of our routes you choose. It comes in all sizes to fit you perfectly and it is available also in Women's Specific Design.

Size Men : 15" 17.5" 20" 22.5" 25"

Size WSD: 15" 17" 19"



PRAGUE TO VIENNA – SELF GUIDED CYCLE

This tour can be done in reverse starting in Prague.

EXTRA NIGHTS

Available in Vienna and Prague – on request

2020 SELF-GUIDED TOUR COST INCLUDES

- Accommodation for 7 nights in smaller selected hotels and pensions
- Daily Buffet breakfast
- Luggage transfer
- English route descriptions
- Detailed cycling maps
- Town maps
- Global Positioning System (GPS) console
- Transportation by car according to program
- Bus ticket Cesky to Prague
- Welcome briefing upon arrival
- Quality bike with helmet
- Stand-by support (cell phone and contact person)

2020 GUIDED TOUR COST INCLUDES

- Professional bilingual guide
- Accommodation for 7 nights in smaller selected hotels and pensions
- Support van and bus ticket Cesky to Prague
- Buffet breakfast and dinner included daily
- Luggage transfer
- English route descriptions
- Detailed cycling maps
- Town maps
- Global Positioning System (GPS) console with programmed route
- Quality bike with helmet
- Guided tours at castles, museums and other selected attractions
- Special events, including wine tasting and picnic

TIME TO GO: CLIMATE

On the continent in Central Europe the weather is cold with snow in the winter but the summers are lengthy with a lot of sunshine and clear days. Our cycling tours run from the beginning of April to the end of October – the optimum months here for a good bicycle trip. May, June and September are the times to experience the cooler, but still warm weather. The temperature in the summer can get quite high, so July and August are perfect for sun loving people. April and October are wonderfully changeable and can be chilly. These times are perfect for people wanting to experience the changing of the seasons as they cycle.

TOURIST NUMBERS

July and August tend to be the busiest times in terms of crowds. We feel it is important to mention this in case you are expecting to see some national monuments relatively crowd free.

FESTIVAL & EVENTS

Central Europe is rich in festivals and cultural events. Worth mentioning are the local festivals celebrating the grape harvest in September - vinobraní. There is much merrymaking by the local residents with consumption of delicious wine. In some areas a folk culture is connected to wine growing and this can particularly be seen during the vinobraní. Consider timing your tour to take advantage of the following:

Cesky Krumlov – The Festival of the Five-petalled Rose (June) is a historical Renaissance festival with parades of people in medieval clothes as well as music concerts and historical demonstrations.

Mikulov – Palava Wine Harvest Festival (September) A grand event with a historical fair and

wine market, historical and folk costume parades, wine tasting, a program of events for all ages and local culinary specialties.



Book through:

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