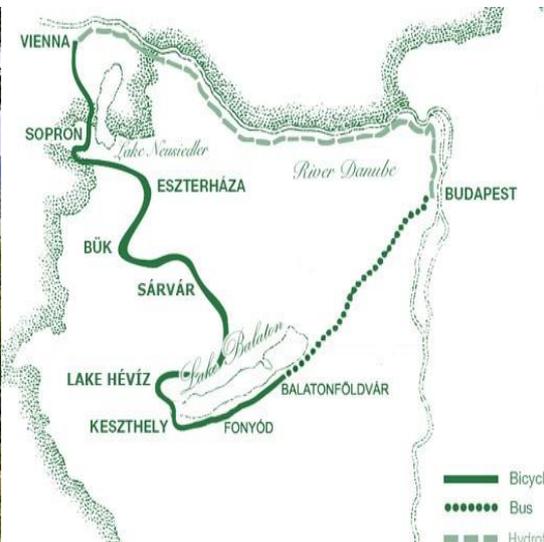


AUSTRIA & HUNGARY – FROM VIENNA TO BUDAPEST

7-day / 6-night independent **SELF-GUIDED** inn-to-inn cycling but within a small group



Travel from Vienna to Budapest between the two capitals of the “Danube Monarchy”. Cycle beside beautiful lakes, through ancient forests and charming rustic villages – through a largely undiscovered region of eastern Austria and Hungary. We pass by two of the most beautiful and important Hungarian lakes and to the unique thermal lake of Hévíz. The cycling route is varied with plenty of places of interest along the way with gentle undulating hills. Our tour guide does not cycle with you as a tour leader but instead follows with a support vehicle which carries the luggage, meets you at pre-arranged points, is contactable by mobile phone and assists with emergency bike repairs if necessary. You can travel at your own pace, with all the time in the world to stop for a photograph, a relaxing swim or even a thermal spa.

Highlights: Vienna – Danube River – Lake Fertő – Thermal Lake Hévíz – Lake Balaton – Budapest

Departs: 29th March, 13th, 26th April; 3rd, 17th May; 7th, 21st June; 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th July; 2nd, 30th August, 13th, 27th September; 11th October, 2020

Cost from: \$1415 per person (twin share) Single room supplement from \$305

Half-board supplement: from \$150 per person (includes 4 dinners – no dinner included in Vienna or Budapest)

Includes: 6 nights’ twin-share accommodation in comfortable hotel/guesthouses with ensuite bathrooms; six breakfasts; transfers as shown; hire of 21-gear trekking bicycle with panniers; support vehicle; luggage transport; route notes and maps; welcome briefing.

E-Bikes are available at an additional cost of \$120 per bike – please request when making a booking.

Grading: Moderate cycling – 50 to 65 kilometres per day over undulating terrain.

Suggested itinerary:

Day 1 Vienna.

Plan to arrive at your Vienna hotel in the late afternoon although if you get there earlier there is so much to see and do in Vienna. Ask us about cost and availability of extra nights in Vienna prior to your tour.

Day 2 River Danube

cycling @ 50km

After breakfast meet with your guide/driver at 8.45am for a briefing on the route ahead and to fit your bicycles. Today we cycle along the River Danube cycle path through the Donau-Auen National Park to the spa town of Bad Deutsch Altenburg. Here we meet the driver for a transfer by vehicle to Bratislava, the capital and coronation city of Slovakia. Its pedestrianised Old Town has many lively bars and cafés.

Call OUTDOOR TRAVEL on 1800 331 582 for details & reservations

Day 3 Lake Neusiedl and Sopron

cycling @ 60km

Start the day with a transfer from Bratislava to Parndorf back in Austria again, then cycle along the reed-covered shore of Lake Neusiedl (called Lake Fertő in Hungary). On our way is the picturesque town of Rust, famous for its storks that roost in the town's chimneys. We cycle to Mörbisch, where the "Small Hungarian Plain" begins. Our day ends in Sopron, the only Hungarian city where almost the entire city centre architecture has survived from the Middle Ages. Yet its history goes back further – when Western Hungary was a province of the Roman Empire, a city called *Scarbantia* stood here. The Forum was located where the main square of Sopron is today.

Day 4 Haydn and The Eszterházy Dynasty

cycling @ 56km

After breakfast cycle towards Lake Fertő. The salt waters of the lake and its surrounding marshland are home to some 250 species of waterbirds. We cycle towards Fertőd (Eszterháza) and its impressive baroque palace built by the Prince Eszterházy family. Joseph Haydn was court musician here for 30 years. Our destination today is Bük / Sárvár in Hungarian spa country, with healing mineral water springs.

Day 5 Lake Hévíz

cycling @ 60km

A wonderful cycling route leads us through typical and traditional villages. Stork nests decorate the roofs and steeples. We reach the spa resort Hévíz on the largest natural thermal lake in Europe. It has a constant water temperature of 30-35°C. We then travel onwards to Keszthely on the shores of Lake Balaton.

Day 6 Lake Balaton

cycling @ 56km

Ride around the shores of Lake Balaton with again many pretty small villages and perhaps a chance to take a refreshing dip in the lake waters. This is flat, easy cycling to Balatonföldvár where we leave our bikes and board the support vehicle to Budapest, on the River Danube. Travel time is approximately 1.5 hours. On arrival in Budapest, you have free time to explore this fascinating city – actually two cities in one, Buda and Pest, on opposite banks of the Danube.

Day 7 Budapest

The tour ends after breakfast at the hotel in Budapest. If you would like to extend your stay in Budapest, we can arrange extra nights at additional cost – please ask when making your booking. We can also book a transfer back to Vienna, by rail, bus or hydrofoil – ask for prices and availability when booking this tour.

Please note this tour operation is subject to minimum numbers, check with us for dates available.



These are just a few of the many small group guided or self-guided inn-to-inn cycling tours we offer in Europe – including river rides from Passau to Vienna along the Danube. Other cycling holiday destinations include **Tuscany, Umbria and the Veneto** in Italy; **Catalunya and Asturias** in Spain; the **Loire Valley, Bordeaux, Burgundy**, and the **Dordogne** in France; Germany, Austria and Switzerland, including **Lake Constance** and the **Inn River Trail**; and areas in Ireland, England and Scotland, Hungary, in the Czech Republic, Poland, Vietnam, New Zealand and Australia.

We also offer group guided **Bike & Barge** or **Bike & Boat** cruises in many destinations including along the Danube in Germany, Austria, Hungary and Romania, in many regions of France, Belgium, Holland, Germany, Italy, the Dalmatian Coast of Croatia, the islands of Greece, and Vietnam.

Contact Outdoor Travel for more details and reservations

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