

VIENNA TO PRAGUE – AUSTRIA TO THE CZECH REPUBLIC

8-days / 7-nights guided or self-guided inn-to-inn cycling tours

This is the original *classic* cycling route connecting two of the most fascinating and exciting cities in Europe - the Austrian capital Vienna and the capital of today's Czech Republic, Prague. The journey encompasses six **World Heritage Sites** (protected by UNESCO) and offers a ride full of history and culture with varied, ever changing countryside, interesting towns and villages whose pubs reputedly serve the **best beer in the world**.

You will pass pine-clad hills and fields of brilliant yellow rape flowers, there are streams and rivers, carp ponds, hop gardens, storybook castles and palaces such as the **chateaux of Valtice** and Lednice, visit the renaissance town square in Telc, the medieval town of **Cesky Krumlov** and the rustic baroque village of **Holasovice**. Cycle along the remnants of the Iron Curtain – the border between east and Western Europe during the Cold war - as you follow the border to Austria.

This tour is rated as easy to moderate – ideal for recreational cyclists - although we do offer a slightly more challenging option for those wanting greater distances each day.



Self-guided tours: Depart daily on demand from April to October

Costs: AU\$1895 per person (twin share)
Single room supplement AU\$515 + Solo traveller supplement AU\$365 if touring alone.

Guided tours: **Option A** Departs June 16-23 (Includes Five-Petalled Rose Festival, Cesky Krumlov), July 7 - 14, August 18 - 25
September 7 - 14 (Includes Mikulov Wine Festival, Mikulov)

Option B Departs May 14 - 21, July 2 - 9, August 6 - 13
September 10 - 17 (Includes the Tabor Meetings Festival, Tabor)

Private guided tours also available (min of 4 people), on any date, April to October.

Guided Tour cost: AU\$2555 per person (twin share) for 8+ people. Single supplement: AU\$515
AU\$2850 per person (twin share) for from 2 to 7 people. Single supplement: AU\$515

All tour cost includes:

- Accommodation with bathrooms in selected hotels and pensions with buffet breakfast each day
- Luggage transfer & transportation by car as indicated in the tour program
- English route descriptions, detailed cycling maps, town maps
- Global Positioning System (GPS) console with programmed route
- Welcome briefing upon arrival & back-up support (cell phone and contact person)
- TREK bike hire (helmets are not provided)

Guided tours also include:

- Professional bilingual guide, support vehicle, dinners each night, entry fees, guided tours and wine tasting.

Call OUTDOOR TRAVEL on 1800 331 582 for Reservations



VIENNA – PRAGUE SELF-GUIDED BICYCLE TOUR – EASY OPTION (A) *

Day 1) Vienna – Valtice

Make your way by train from Vienna to Breclav where you meet our representative, who will drive you to your first hotel, fit you with your bikes and equipment and introduce you to the program. You will get all the necessary route information and material.

Overnight in Valtice.

Day 2) Valtice - Lednice - Mikulov (30km)

You will start your biking trip in Lednice-Valtice area (UNESCO World Heritage Site), where you will ride on forest and field trails. Two magnificent chateaux grace the area, along numerous 'follies', romantic structures set in a harmonious way into the surrounding landscape. A paved 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 tombstone dates back to 1605. Overnight in Mikulov.

Day 3) Mikulov - Znojmo – Vranov nad Dyji (42km)

Morning transfer by car from Mikulov to Znojmo (1 hour). Then cycle through the Podyji National Park with untouched nature, beautiful views of the deep, forested river valley and the last remnant of the Iron Curtain. Vranov chateau, perched high on a rock above the Dyje River is another highlight.

Overnight in Vranov nad Dyji.

Day 4) Vranov nad Dyji – Slavonice – Telc (46km)

From Vranov skim the Austrian border to Slavonice, a forgotten jewel with sgraffito houses. Then transfer by local train to the town of Telc, listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site for its perfectly preserved Renaissance town centre. Overnight in Telc.

Day 5) Telc – Jindrichuv Hradec (42km)

Today you will cycle through the Czech-Moravian Highlands, through fields and forests. A unique stop on the way is the memorial in Kostelni Myslova to Jewish painter Frantisek Moritz Nagl, a local artist who died in Auschwitz along with his family. Finish the day in the old town of Jindrichuv Hradec, containing the third biggest castle complex in the Czech Republic. Overnight in Jindrichuv Hradec.

Day 6) Jindrichuv Hradec – Trebon (30km)

Take in the historic town and castle of Jindrichuv Hradec, and then start cycling through the mosaic of ponds, woods and meadows of the Bohemia Lake District to Trebon, a medieval town whose walls are still largely intact. Enter the historical centre through a gate in the old fortifications and across a moat, part of a unique water regulation system dating back to the 16th century. Overnight in Trebon.

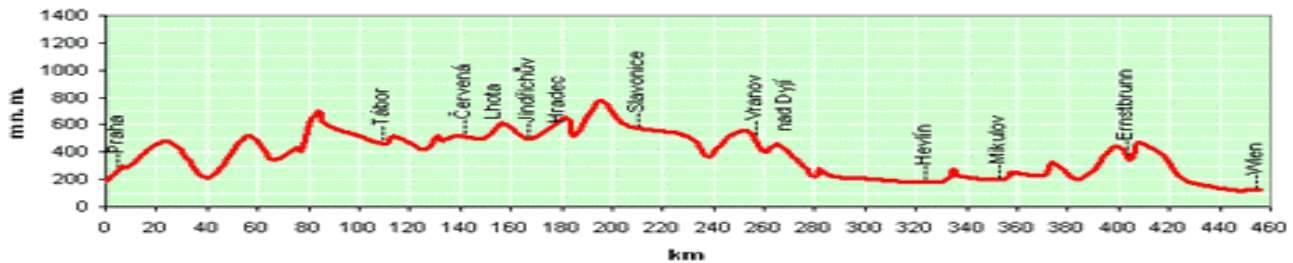
Day 7) Trebon – Cesky Krumlov (53 km)

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. Overnight in Cesky Krumlov.

Day 8) Cesky Krumlov – Prague

Enjoy all that Cesky Krumlov has to offer today. The old town preserves a wonderful and virtually intact and unparalleled ensemble of Gothic, Renaissance, and Baroque structures. Among the attractions are the second largest castle complex in the Czech Republic and the oldest working Baroque theatre in Europe.

In the afternoon make your own way by bus from Cesky Krumlov to Prague. Extra nights of hotel accommodation can be booked in Prague (at extra cost) – ask for details when making your reservation.



VIENNA – PRAGUE SELF-GUIDED BICYCLE TOUR – EASY TO MODERATE OPTION (B) *

Day 1) Vienna – Stockerau

Arrive in Vienna and make your way individually to Stockerau (car, train or 18 km by bike). Our representative will meet you at your first hotel with the necessary route information and your bikes. Overnight in Stockerau.

Day 2) Stockerau - Drnholec (64km)

On the first day of the route you follow the Leiserbergweg bike path to Ernstbrunn (Leiser Berge Natural Park). After passing into the Czech Republic through the border post at Laa an der Thaya, you cross the South Moravian lowland terrain which is flat all the way to Drnholec. Overnight in Drnholec.

Day 3) Drnholec - Znojmo – Vranov nad Dyji (41km)

After breakfast take a van transfer from Drnholec to Znojmo, then cycle the Podyji National Park, beautiful views of the untouched, deep, forested river valley and the last remnant of the Iron Curtain. Another highlight is Vranov castle, perched high on a rock above the Dyje River. Overnight in Vranov nad Dyji.

Day 4) Vranov nad Dyji – Slavonice – Telc (46km)

Cycle along the Austrian border to Slavonice, a forgotten jewel with sgraffito houses. Then cycle from Slavonice to Telc, which has a well-preserved Renaissance town centre listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. After arriving in Slavonice, travel by local train to Telc. Overnight in Telc.

Day 5) Telc – Jindrichuv Hradec (42km)

Today you will cycle through the Czech-Moravian Highlands, through fields and forests. A unique stop on the way is the memorial in Kostelni Myslova to Jewish painter called Frantisek Moritz Nagl, a local artist who died in Auschwitz extermination camp along with his family. Finish the day in the old town of Jindrichuv Hradec, containing the third biggest castle complex in the Czech Republic. Overnight in Jindrichuv Hradec.

Day 6) Jindrichuv Hradec - Tabor (52km)

This 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 pond. Afternoon arrival in Tabor leaves plenty of time for a tour of this historic town, founded by the Hussites. Overnight in Tabor.

Day 7) Tabor - Benesov (69km)

From Tabor we ride through a region of highlands with woods and pastures, an area known as Czech Siberia for its blustery winter 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. The highlight of this day is a visit to the impressive chateau of Konopiste with its large, English park and Rose Garden. Overnight in Benesov.

Day 8) Benesov – Pruhonice - Prague (37km)

The final part of this tour takes you to Pruhonice with its Renaissance chateau and park - a centre of botany and garden science in the Czech Republic, on the way to Prague city centre where your tour ends.

Extra nights of hotel accommodation can be booked in Prague (at extra cost) – ask for details when making your reservation.

* *These itineraries are subject to change – see booking conditions for details*

For reservations or further information call OUTDOOR TRAVEL Pty Ltd

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