

GERMANY AUSTRIA SWITZERLAND – LAKE CONSTANCE CYCLING

8-days / 7-nights self-guided inn-to-inn cycling around the lake from Bregenz



One of the most popular cycling routes in Europe, this easy to moderate 8-day Inn-to-Inn cycle tour around scenic Lake Constance is guaranteed to be a memorable active holiday experience. The splendid freshwater lake divides three German-speaking countries and it plays an important role in both tourism and travel in this part of Europe. The bike trail along its shores and through towns and villages is well used and allows some beautiful cycling with beautiful vistas of waterfalls, forests and mountains. Pretty villages, ancient fortresses, castles and monasteries dating back centuries, market towns with cobbled streets and Mainau Island.

Daily distances are reasonable but you can elect to take trains to shorten any day on certain sections. The total distance is @ 285km (with 5km by ferry) with @ 90% on cycle tracks and @ 10% on roads (local through traffic and side streets).

Departs: Daily from 21st April to 21st October 2012

Cost (per person, twin share):	Low	Regular	High	Festival Season
Bed & Breakfast Only	\$935	\$1025	\$1060	\$1130
With Half Board (breakfast & dinner)	\$1165	\$1255	\$1295	\$1360
Single Room Supplement on Request				

Seasons:	Low:	21 st – 27 th April, 7 th – 21 st October 2012
	Regular:	28 th April – 16 th June, 2 nd September – 6 th October 2012
	High:	17 th June – 18 th July, 20 th August – 1 st September 2012
	Festival Season:	19 th July – 19 th August 2012

Starts: Bregenz

Tour Includes: Twin share accommodation in comfortable 3-star & 4-star hotels with ensuite bathroom and breakfast each day (3-course dinner also is included in the Half Board option), multi-gear (21 gear) bike hire is included (ideal for the relatively flat terrain) with a bike lock, one bike pannier/handlebar bag per room, daily luggage transfers, tour information and a route map, Stein/Rhein to Konstanz train, Wallhausen – Überlingen ferry, Mainau Island entry, emergency telephone assistance if required.

Tour does not include: Meals not described, drinks, other optional entry fees, ferries and other transport. Helmets are not provided but we do highly recommend you bring or buy a bike helmet for this tour.

Call OUTDOOR TRAVEL on 1800 331 582 for details or reservations



Suggested itinerary:

Day 1 - Arrive in Bregenz*

Arrive in the afternoon at your hotel, an historic coaching inn in the centre of Bregenz. Collect your bicycles and explore the cobbled streets of the old town.

Day 2 - Bregenz to Arbon 40km

Stunning views of the snow-capped Alpine peaks this morning cycling west along Lake Constance's southern shore before crossing the mighty Rhine delta straddling the border between Austria and Switzerland. It's an area of great natural beauty and a refuge for wildlife. The final stretch takes you around the lake to Arbon with its pretty half-timbered houses and 16th castle.

Day 3 - Arbon to Konstanz 32km

Travelling clockwise around the lake, you'll pass numerous pretty, waterfront villages with panoramic views and sunny terraces for coffee stops or lunch. In the afternoon, cycle between sleepy harbours, the white sails from the boats reflecting brightly on the clear blue waters to Konstanz.

Day 4 - To Stein am Rhein 32km (+ optional 50km) & return by train to Konstanz

Cycle around the lake to Stein am Rhein & then take time to explore this mediaeval town with its 11th century monastery, beautiful frescoed square and tempting chocolate shops! Alternatively, If you are up for a longer ride today, cycle to nearby Schaffhausen a lively German town with great shopping, and a riverside cycle path to Schloss Laufen – a castle perched precariously above the tumbling Rheinfalls waterfall – the biggest in Europe! Take the train back from Stein am Rhein to Konstanz (cost included in your tour).

Day 5 - Konstanz via Isle of Mainau to Überlingen 20km

This morning ride to the Isle of Mainau, as this is a short cycle there is time to enjoy the famous "Island of Flowers". Continue on to Wallhausen, then take the ferry (cost included) to Überlingen where you overnight.

Day 6 - Überlingen to Friedrichshafen/Langenargen 32km/40km

Continue on the Northern (German) side of the lake to Uhdingen, which is famous for its "Pfahlbauten" (lake dwellings). Cycle on to fairytale Meersburg, with its twin castles, steep streets and hillsides of vines. Then, pedalling south, it's a gentle coast into Friedrichshafen or Langenargen.

Day 7 - Friedrichshafen to Bregenz 36km

Depart Friedrichshafen or the pretty village of Langenargen and through peaceful vineyards and cherry orchards to Lindau, a gorgeous island village surrounded by cobalt blue waters. Lots of choices for lunch then, keeping the lake at your side, a final ride takes you back down to Bregenz. If time allows take the cable car up Pfander mountain, (at 1050m), for a fantastic views of your entire route – a real achievement!

Day 8 – Tour ends

Tour ends after breakfast in Bregenz* * Note: In Festival Season, your hotel may be located outside Bregenz.

Outdoor Travel offer Bike & Barge cycling tours or small group or self-guided inn-to-inn cycling holidays in France, Italy, Germany, Holland, Ireland, Spain, Croatia, Romania, Vietnam, Australia & New Zealand.

Contact **Outdoor Travel** or your travel agent for more details, travel brochures and reservations:

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