

SWITZERLAND & AUSTRIA - FROM ST MORITZ TO INNSBRUCK

7-days / 6-nights – inn-to-inn **SELF-GUIDED** cycling along the Inn River Trail



As seen with Lochie Daddo on Australia's Channel 9 TV Travel Show 'Getaway'.

A wonderful and popular independent self-guided cycling holiday that takes you through a chocolate-box, picture-perfect classic alpine landscape, with spectacular mountain views and traditional alpine villages. The route avoids the high slopes and steeper hills by following the well-signposted and clearly defined Inn River Bike Trail, one of a network of trails from the fashionable mountain resort of St Moritz to the city of Innsbruck in Austria.

Following a well-made and popular designated trail, the **Inn Bike Trail** starts in St Moritz and takes you through the breathtaking countryside of the wide Upper Engadine Valley, over several days of easy to moderate cycling, partly on bike paths or on roads, some of which have dedicated bike lanes, partly on wood trails or gravel paths. The stages are occasionally hilly, with two to three mid-range ascents and many regular downhill sections. The scenery changes frequently from the forested terrain of the Swiss National Park to panoramic mountain views and picture-perfect Engadine villages such as Zernez, Susch, Lavin, Guarda, Ftan and Scuol.

In the Finstermünz Gorge you cross the border into the Austrian province of Tyrol and here both the country, the currency and the scenery changes. Passing the Tyrolean towns of Hall and Schwaz you will see many churches, monasteries gorges and gardens before reaching the former Olympic city of Innsbruck.

Departs: Every **Saturday** from 2nd May to 12th September 2020

Cost per person (twin share) from: \$1645 High season supplement: \$85 (12th June - 28th August 2020)

Also available: Single room supplement if required: \$335 Upgraded hybrid bike: \$90 supplement per bike
Half Board: \$340 supplement per person Electro-bike hire: \$205 supplement per bike

Inclusions: Accommodation with ensuite bathrooms in hotels (3-star standard along the route and 4-star in St Moritz and Innsbruck); buffet breakfast each day; 6 dinners on the Half Board option only (at least a 3-course dinner each night); luggage transfers from hotel to hotel; multi-gear bike hire and bike insurance; detailed travel notes and route maps with sight-seeing suggestions and important telephone numbers; emergency service telephone hotline.

Not Included: Lunch, dinner (except half board option), other meals, drinks, sightseeing, local city taxes (paid locally), personal expenses.

Cycling Route: Easy to Moderate - on bike paths, tarmac roads (some with tunnels and dedicated bike lanes) or on wood and gravel paths. At times hilly with intermediate ascents and downhills. Total distance @ 230km

Call OUTDOOR TRAVEL on 1800 331 582 for details or reservations



Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1 Saturday: Arrive in St Moritz

Arrive in St Moritz mid to late afternoon and make your way to your hotel.

Day 2 Sunday: St. Moritz – Zernez

cycling @ 35km

Collect your bikes after breakfast at around 10.00am and start along your cycling route through the elevated valley of the Upper Engadine as far as Zernez. Right from the outset there are a few inclines but you'll be rewarded with interesting sightseeing such as in Samedan (the Old Tower), La Punt (early gothic San-Andrea church with many frescos) and in Zuoz (stained glass windows in the San Luzi church). Then follow the Inn River to Zernez, the entrance to the National Park.

Day 3 Monday: Zernez – Scuol

cycling @ 35km

Our route today is a panoramic one through typical Engadine villages. First to Lavin, which is a beautifully preserved old mountain village, then the village of Guarda ("Look!") named for its beautiful views. End the day in Scuol, a spa town with the Bogn Engiadina spa. You can also visit the Tarasp castle, a majestic landmark of the Engadine. Scuol offers something for everyone so why not let off steam in the Bike Park (on the downward slopes) or simply relax and recover from the day's adventures in the Bogn Engiadina spa.

Day 4 Tuesday: Scuol – Prutz / Ried

cycling @ 55km

From Scuol you cycle through Martina until you reach the border with Austria. Then ride through the villages of Pfunds and Tösens to Ried. In Pfunds, look out for Kaiser Maximilian's hunting castle. The cycling follows the Inn River through the Finstermünzer Schlucht (gorge) and into the town centres of Stuben and Pfunds in Tyrol.

Day 5 Wednesday: Prutz / Ried – Imst

cycling @ 40km

Today you cycle through the Tyrolean Inn valley with picturesque mountain scenery in every direction. Ride through the "Obere Gericht" (Upper Court) from Ried to Prutz and down to Landeck, where the ruins of the 13th Century castle have a museum and the Gerberbrücke is a symbol of the Tyrolean struggle for freedom. You pass the Zams monastery and through Milser Au to Imst, a city of fountains, churches and chapels, and well known for its sunny position. We do recommend a visit to the Rosengartenschlucht (rose garden gorge).

Day 6 Thursday: Imst – Innsbruck

cycling @ 65km

Today offers an attractive but demanding ride so an early start is advised. Going over the Karrer Höhe you come to Stams, where you can see the Zisterzienserstrift Stams, perhaps the most famous monastery in Austria. There are numerous small churches and ruins along the Inn River Valley. Passing the Martinswand you arrive in Innsbruck, an historic town with much to see and explore. Allow time to see the Goldenes Dachl (Golden Roof) and climb the tower in the old centre beside the river. Nearby Hofburg, Hofgarten and Helbinghaus are worth visiting but your bikes must be returned in the afternoon.

Day 7 Friday: Tour ends in Innsbruck

Tour ends after breakfast. Ask about adding extra nights of accommodation to explore more of Innsbruck.

Outdoor Travel offer many self-guided or small group inn-to-inn cycling tours in Europe. Other river rides include Passau to Vienna along the Danube or Vienna to Budapest. There are rides in Italy, Spain, France, Germany, Holland, Belgium, Ireland, England or Scotland, Hungary, in the Czech Republic and New Zealand. Outdoor Travel also offer Bike & Barge cruises in many destinations including France, Holland, Germany, Italy and Bike & Boat trips on the Amalfi Coast, Dalmatian Coast of Croatia, the islands of Greece and the Lycian coast of Turkey

Contact Outdoor Travel direct for more details and reservations

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