

AUSTRIA & GERMANY – HIGHLIGHTS OF THE DANUBE CYCLE PATH

8-days / 7-nights River cruising & easy to moderate **GUIDED** or **SELF-GUIDED** cycling



The **River Danube** is a highlight of any trip to Europe and this is a **guided or self-guided** cycling and cruising holiday for those who want to be more active and to travel at their own pace. We offer this cruise on a **Premium** barge, and the interesting and mostly sealed cycling route, mainly along the river, passes small villages, castles and palaces in the picturesque countryside. Starting and ending in Passau, Germany, you follow the 'bridal voyage' taken by Austrian Empress Sisi to meet Emperor Franz. Along the way explore Linz, capital of Upper Austria and a place of vibrant contrasts with its mix of modern and historic architecture, and Vienna with its Cathedral, beautiful town hall, Riesenrad (ferris wheel) and famous Naschmarkt (food market).

Bike and Barge cycling cruises combine cycling and river cruising and allow partners of different abilities and interests to holiday together, and the cycle route is interesting for both leisure cyclists and enthusiasts. You unpack just once and come 'home' each night to your floating hotel where dinner is prepared for you.

On the River Danube, the barges are larger, carrying up to 150 passengers, with an attentive crew and a relaxed atmosphere. Local and regional cuisine is served in the restaurant. There is a stylish lounge with panoramic windows and a sun deck with comfortable chairs and space to relax. Cabins offer twin beds, ensuite shower and toilet, hairdryers, a television and air conditioning. Upper deck cabins have a private balcony.

Departures: 25 April, 23, 30 May, 13 June, 11, 18, 25 July, 15, 22 August, 5, 19 September 2026

Cost from: **Self-guided:** **\$2040** per person, twin-share: Main Deck cabin
 \$2605 per person, twin share: Mid Deck cabin
 \$2985 per person, twin-share: Superior Mid/Upper Deck cabin with balcony
 High Season supplements from **\$275** per person apply for some departures.
 Single cabins are available with a supplement on request, please ask for details.

Guided cycling supplement add \$485 per person (30 May and 22 August 2026)

Self-guided tour includes: 7 nights' accommodation in twin-share outside cabins with ensuite and air-conditioning; full board (breakfast, packed lunch and dinner); onboard entertainment and Gala Dinner; hire of multi-gear hybrid bike with panniers; detailed route map & cycling information (one set per cabin); port fees & charges.

Guided tour includes the items above, plus a cycle tour guide on your rides, ferry rides, use of a bike helmet.

Shown 'optional' excursions, city walks or sightseeing with guide can be booked and paid for during the cruise.

Not included: Arrival or departure transfers, entrance fees, excursion and sightseeing fees, gratuities or personal expenses. For clients on self-guided tours, bike helmets must be reserved in advance (extra cost).

E-Bikes: a limited number of E-bikes are available for hire at extra cost – please ask for details.

Call OUTDOOR TRAVEL on 1800 331 582 for details or reservations



Suggested itinerary:

Day 1: Arrive Passau

Board the boat in central Passau at 4:00pm. Near the Bavarian / Austrian border, Passau, known as the “City of Three Rivers” is well worth exploring with its charming Old Town and the world's largest church organ at Stephansdom. The crew will help with bike fitting, a pannier, lock and other necessary equipment or advice. There is a shop onboard to purchase a helmet, clothing and souvenirs. The boat departs at 6:30pm sailing eastward along the romantic Danube Valley and there is a welcome cocktail and dinner with live music onboard.

Day 2: Engelhartszell – Brandstatt

cycling @ 45km

Cycle from Engelhartszell along the Upper Danube valley through pristine countryside with dense forests, lush green farm pastures and sleepy villages. Visit the Schlögener Blick observation point for a jaw-dropping view of the Schlögener Schlinge, where the Danube loops and carves its way through a gorge.

Day 3: Brandstatt – Linz

cycling @ 24km

Continue along the Danube to the Upper Austrian capital of Linz. In the afternoon there may be time to explore the city, a former European Capital of Culture, on a bright yellow miniature train or to visit the cathedral, the biggest church in Austria. Dinner onboard and overnight cruising.

Day 4: Tulln – Vienna

cycling @ 31km

Amidst breathtaking scenery is the monastery of Klosterneuburg. The dome of this 900-year-old Baroque building comes into view well before you arrive. “Kahlenbergerdorf” with its wine taverns is only a hop from the pier and worth a visit. After a stroll through the vineyards, you can enjoy the panoramic view over Vienna. Optional bus or guided walking tours are offered this afternoon to take in the famous sights in the historic centre of Austria’s capital.

Day 5: Vienna – Free day

You can ride your bike or take a tram, bus or taxi into the city centre to see the Prater, St. Stephens Cathedral and the Hofburg or the *Ringstraße* boulevard with the Burgtheater, State Opera House and the town hall. Take time in the afternoon to stroll around the city or visit the famous Viennese coffee bars. In the evening consider buying tickets for a Waltz and Opera concert or visit a beer hall or wine tavern.

Day 6: Krems - Melk

cycling @ 37km

Great cycling today in the picturesque Wachau valley: small scenic towns, apricot orchards, terraced vineyards, castles, monasteries and ruins abound. The charming little town of Dürnstein with its narrow lanes is an absolute highlight. In the wine-growing village of Spitz you can find a tavern to sample the local Riesling and Gruner Veltliner.

Day 7: Grein – Mauthausen

cycling @ 36km

From the medieval town of Grein, home to Austria’s oldest theatre and the Castle of Grein, you cycle the beautiful “Strudengau” hinterland via Clam Castle and Mitterkirchen with its reconstructed prehistoric Celtic village. Perhaps pay a visit to the Mauthausen concentration camp memorial on a hill near the town.

Day 8: Tour ends in Passau.

Our cruise returns along the river to Passau where you can enjoy the early morning tranquillity before disembarking around 11.00am. To allow for potential delays, please do not plan any onward connections until well after 12.00pm.





General Information: The suggested itinerary is indicative only and is subject to change without notice. These cruises are subject to water levels, navigation of locks and bridges, etc. All distances shown are approximate. The tour is subject to minimum numbers – status will be confirmed 4 weeks before departure – please ask for further details.

The ship cruises and has engine power at night, so if you are sensitive to noise, we recommend you bring earplugs, and choose a cabin on an upper deck. The ship has three decks: main, middle and upper. On the main deck, portholes are fixed shut, and engine noise is more noticeable than on the other decks.

Non-cycling passengers are welcome on these tours but remember whilst there may be activities planned for the evenings there are no sightseeing excursions included in the tour cost during the day. Optional guided sightseeing excursions, city tours or evening events can be booked during the week and paid for on-board.

Outdoor Travel offers Bike & Boat cruises to many areas of Europe including the the popular Amsterdam to Bruges or Bruges to Paris routes, in the Loire Valley, Bordeaux, Champagne and Burgundy or Provence in **France**, several routes in **Holland, Germany** – along the Rivers Saar, Moselle and Rhine, in **Italy** on the Po near Venice, island hopping on the spectacular Dalmatian coast of **Croatia** or to the islands of **Greece** and **Turkey**.

Contact Outdoor Travel for more details and reservations:

- Call Toll free 1800 331 582 or (03) 57551743 or Fax (03) 57501020
- Email: info@outdoortravel.com.au
- Web: www.outdoortravel.com.au
- Mail: Outdoor Travel Pty Ltd, PO Box 286, Bright 3741