



Czech-Austria-Liechtenstein-Slovakia- Iron Curtain Trail by Bike (2025)

9 Days/ 8 Nights

Individual Self-Guided



The name says it all – we will ride along the border between Communist East and Democratic West, marked by the infamous Iron Curtain from 1948 until late 1989. But we will discover lands that were connected for centuries whose spirits still endure and even thrive together again.

These borderlands and their brutal separation bring numerous stories of villages that are no more, of bridges that cross to nowhere, of roads and paths that simply finish without destination.. It tells us about people who had lived on both sides and who have desperately tried to return to each other, risking and in many cases losing their lives! Luckily, this time is over! The countryside slowly heals its

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wounds and gives us the unique opportunity to see the process, to enjoy the bits of the lush countryside, the sleepy forest, misty ponds and people living together again. It is not an easy route; the trails combine everything from asphalt to dirt trails. The story is challenging, so is the biking; but it will leave you with indelible memories!

Day by Day

Day 1 Arrival to České Budějovice (Budweis)

This day is yours to explore České Budějovice, the capital of the Bohemian south. Take your time to climb up the Black tower, walk the huge Přemysl Otakar II square or simply enjoy the local Budvar beer (yes, this is the home of the one and only original Budvar!) on the banks of Vltava or Malše rivers.

Day 2 České Budějovice - Nové Hradky Distance: 50 km / 31 miles

You start cycling from the lovely town of České Budějovice to the southeast, along a route taking you through a country of lakes and ponds, even past the legendary spot where the Hussite warlord Jan Zizka was born in the cozy town of Borovany. We conclude the day in Nové Hradky, a small but picturesque town with a castle, a chateau and a monastery. The place was related to the Buquoy noble family for over 3 centuries, and remains the capital of Novohradske hory, a remote but lovely area. When there, do spend some time exploring the lovely Tercino údolí, a great landscape park dating back to the 18th century!

Day 3 Nové Hradky – Slavonice Distance: 65 km / 41 miles

Today we meet the border and history of the Iron Curtain trail! It will zig-zag across the Czech-Austrian border showing us tons of remote nature beauties and forgotten villages and towns telling stories and tales of those who have lived here. We can admire the Chateau in Litschau, the majestic castle in Landštejn and finally the great renaissance beauty – the town of Slavonice. In between tons of ponds, bunkers and even spots where villages and across-the-border connections used to be.





Day 4 Slavonice - Vranov nad Dyjí Distance: 60 km / 38 miles

Again, across the border and back and again and again... First, we use the lovely dismantled railway track into Austria, then start meandering through the villages of Upper Austria like Neugiers and Drossendorf. We learn who Grassel was and how his surname became a nickname for bandits and villains. Finally, back on the Czech side of the border we end up in the small sleepy town of Vranov with a magnificent chateau crowning the town.



Day 5 Vranov nad Dyjí – Znojmo Distance: 45 km / 28 miles

Today we combine the lovely nature of the Podyji / Thayatal National Park with its wealth of small villages like Hardegg, WWII monuments and remains of the Iron Curtain itself. When it all gets too heavy, we squeeze through some lush vineyards and end up in lovely Znojmo, to relax, drink some great local wine and simply enjoy the views!

Day 6 Znojmo - Laa an der Thaya Distance: 56 km / 35 miles

And here we go again! Saying goodbye to Znojmo, we hop across the border, fly through the sleepy town of Hardres which shelters the longest cellar lane in Austria and on we go to the sleepy chateau in Jaroslavice. All this framed in the countryside where Maria Theresia's military cartographers drew the first maps of the kingdom. When tired by riding, we end up in the teeny-tiny spa town of Laa, the local castle tower giving us a good view of the area around!



Day 7 Laa an der Thaya – Břeclav Distance: 55 km / 34,5 miles

Today we enter the lands of a family that has written the history of the area for over 8 centuries – the Liechtensteins! Yes, the people with their own country between Austria and Switzerland. We can admire what they have built here, the lively town of Mikulov, wine palaces like Valtice, numerous saletts in the forest and of course ponds and vineyards. And naturally, we learn more Iron Curtain stories and have time to remember the unfortunate ones who died along it at the raw but very touching Monument of the Victims of the Iron Curtain. On a happier note, the town Breclav is our final destination of the day!

Day 8 Břeclav – Bratislava Distance: 75 km / 47 miles (to Marchegg)

The last cycling day brings on board another country – Slovakia and its capital Bratislava. As the full distance would be over 100 km, we only bike to Marchegg, a historical town in Austria right on the river March/Morava which creates the Slovak-Austrian border. Until then we admire the lovely so-called Moravian Amazon at the confluence of Dyje and Morava rivers, the tiny Austrian villages with views across the border and centuries of history of the area. From Marchegg a transfer takes us to Bratislava, the lively Slovak capital which has all the ability to refresh us after a long cycling journey!

Day 9 Departure

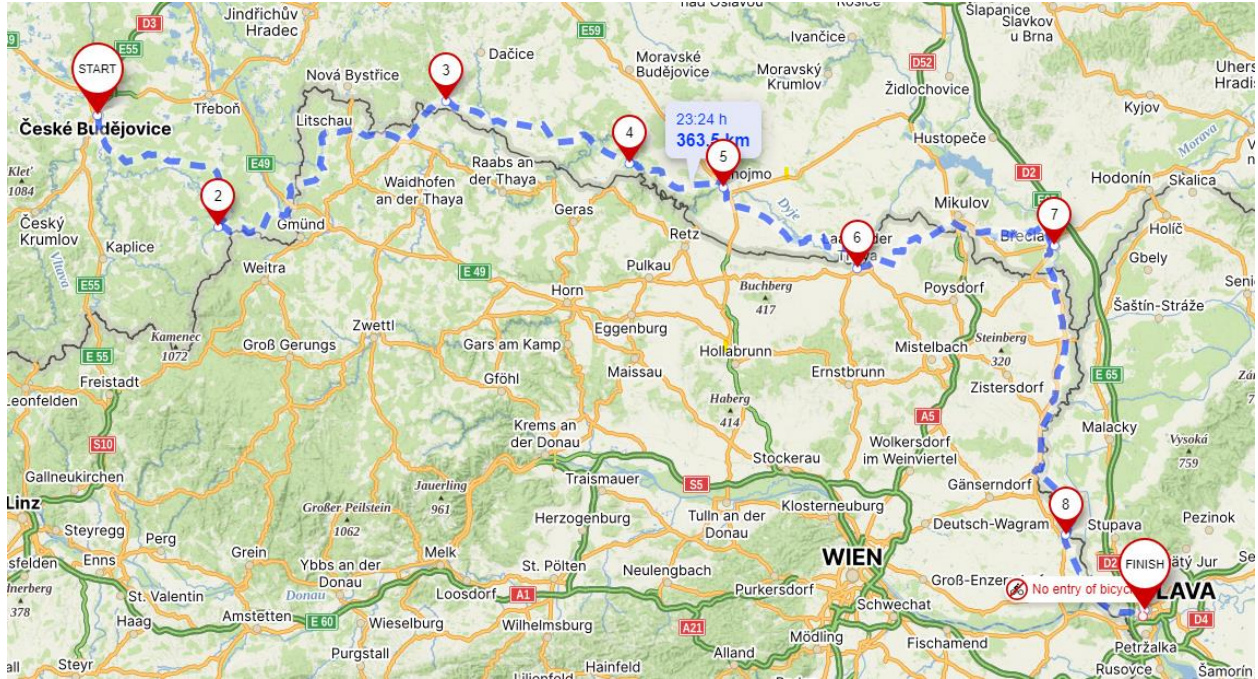
We highly recommend you take a time to tour this magnificent city, the Slovak capital has a tiny city center full of picturesque places and buildings, and the castle is worth a visit.

You can also prolong your tour by a ride to Budapest or take a boat trip there or to Vienna!



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Route



Moderate cycling. Total distance 401 km.

Dates

Daily April 15-October 10

Price per person double occupancy in Euros- all prices subject to confirmation on booking

Double occupancy	€ 1050
Single supplement	€ 250
Premium accommodation surcharge	€ 235
Premium accommodation single surcharge	€ 310
Solo rider surcharge	€ 220
Bike rental	€ 135
Gravel Bike rental	€ 180
e-Bike rental	€ 270
Half Board	€ 235
Premium Half Board	€ 395

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Included

- Individual pre-tour meeting at appointed time at client's hotel on the first day of the tour
- Accommodation in selected hotels and pensions (city standard/premium)
- Breakfast on all days
- Day by day description with altitude profiles, places to visit and local tips
- Official biking maps with highlighted routing (per room)
- Detailed tailor-made cycling maps (per room)
- Detailed town maps with highlighted routing to/from hotel (per room)
- Step by step route description (per room)
- Train tickets and train timetables (for tours where train transfer is part of a tour schedule)
- Transportation of luggage between hotels between 9-17:00 (for option including luggage transfers only!)
- Practical bike ride and safety information
- 24-hour hotline assistance service

Not Included

- Personal travel and health insurance for participants in the tour
- Transportation (air tickets) to/from starting/final point of the tour
- Transfer from Prague Airport to your Prague hotel on the day of arrival
- Transfer from hotel to the airport on departure day
- Meals (except for breakfasts)
- Entrance fees to museums, castles and chateaux
- Local municipality/spa/tourist tax (to be paid on spot directly to the hotel)
- Bike rental

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Bikes

Hybrid male bike. Pells Crono Pro (3x9 speed)

Size: 15", 17", 19", 21", 23"

Includes: Front handlebar bag (5litres), 1x rear pannier (20 litres), helmet, water bottle holder, water bottle

Why choose PELL'S Crono Pro Bike?

1. The new PELL'S Crono Pro offers geometry for a more comfortable and upright sitting position. The Shimano rear and front derailleurs ensure an ideal ride through the city and lighter terrain.
2. This is borne out by the easy attachment of accessories and add-ons.
3. The Crono Pro is equipped with the versatile features of an SR Suntour NCX suspension fork, Shimano Alivio 3x9 drivetrain, Shimano BR-MT201 hydraulic disc brakes and Continental Speed Ride tyres.
4. Fully Equipped for Your Needs: Every rental comes equipped with essential accessories, including a helmet, a repair kit, and a lock, ensuring a safe and hassle-free ride.

Hybrid female bike Crono Comp Woman (3x8 speed)

Size: 16", 18"

Includes: Front handlebar bag (5litres), 1x rear pannier (20 litres), helmet, water bottle holder, water bottle

Why choose PELL'S Crono Comp

- 1) The new PELL'S Crono Comp W offers geometry for a more comfortable and upright sitting position. The Shimano rear and front derailleurs ensure an ideal ride through the city and lighter terrain.
- 2) The Crono W range is a lightweight all-purpose bike for a wide range of applications. This is borne out by the easy attachment of accessories and add-ons.
- 3) Thanks to the lowered top frame tube, the women's version is easier to mount.

Gravel bike Pells Raw 3 Grey (1x11 speed)

Includes: 1x rear pannier (20 litres), helmet, water bottle holder, water bottle.

Size: 49", 54", 56", 58"

Wheel size: 28"

Why choose Pells Raw 3 Grey

- 1) This purebred gravel bike is the perfect companion for endless exploration and fast rides. With Raw, no destination is too far away.
- 2) An all-carbon fork ensures effective vibration damping. Propulsion is provided by the proven Microshift Advent X 1x10 set with a range of 11-48t.
- 3) The quiet ride and reliable chain retention even in rough terrain thanks to the friction clutch derailleur, together with the easy-to-service and efficient Tektro mechanical brakes, make the Raw 3 ideal for use wherever reliable function and easy maintenance are important.

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Diverge Sport Gravel Bike

E5 (2x 9 speed)

Size: 48, 49, 52, 54, 56, 58, 61

Embrace the Unbeaten Path with the Specialized Diverge Sport

Discover the ultimate freedom on two wheels with our Specialized Diverge Sport Gravel Bikes. Ideal for adventurers who seek to blend on-road efficiency with off-road capabilities, this gravel bike is your perfect partner for exploring the diverse terrains of Europe.

Why Rent a Specialized Diverge Sport?

1. All-Terrain Versatility: With its gravel-optimized geometry, the Diverge Sport offers a balanced ride on all types of surfaces. Its design ensures comfort and control, whether you're cruising on asphalt or venturing off-road.
2. High-Performance Technology: Equipped with top-of-the-line components, this bike delivers exceptional performance. Its responsive handling and robust construction make it a reliable choice for any cycling expedition.
3. Enhanced Comfort and Stability: The Diverge Sport features a Future Shock suspension system, absorbing shocks and vibrations, ensuring a smooth ride even on the bumpiest trails.
4. Fully Equipped for Adventure: Your rental includes all necessary accessories, such as a helmet, repair kit, and water bottle holder, so you can embark on your journey with confidence and convenience.

Ebike Agogs

City Liner Class 1x8 speed, approx 90 km distance cover

Includes: 1x rear pannier (20 litres), helmet, water bottle holder, water bottle.

Size: unisex 150 cm – 190 cm, 26" wheels

Why choose

- 1) Low-step electric bicycle for with exceptional comfort for individuals.
- 2) The new AGOGS CityLiner Easy is a robust, low step e-bike with 26-inch wheels and 7 Shimano ACERA gears.
- 3) It is an ideal city e-bike with a load capacity of 125kg and a highly efficient SWXH motor with an output that peaks at 500W.
- 4) This model is equipped with a multi-function LED display and requires minimal maintenance

Assisting people in realizing their touring dreams worldwide is our passion.



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THIS IS A FULLER TOUR FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

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