



Austria –World Heritage Trail Wachau Walking Tour (2024)
Individual Self-Guided
8 days/7 nights



Here in the Wachau area the Danube is even more beautiful than anywhere else. The mild climate and steep hills make it ideal territory for orchards and vineyards. Our hiking week leads through the long distance trail "World Heritage Trail Wachau" along the ridges of the Danube valley. On the varied walking routes you can enjoy magnificent views of one of Austria's oldest cultural landscapes with characteristic vineyards, apricot gardens and the impressive Danube stream in the valley. A varied walking tour leads past steep rocks, across soft hills and through aromatic vineyards. Little hamlets dot the landscape and apart from the famous wine, delicious apricot delicacies belong to the outstanding regional specialities.



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Itinerary

Day 1: Individual journey to Krems



Day 2: Krems - Dürnstein, 'Vineyards' 12 km + 510 m – 500 m

Walk up into the vineyards to the tower with a view over the 'blue' river Danube, the city Krems and the magnificent monastery Göttweig. Cross the hills to the cosy Fesslhutte and reach the Dürnstein ruins on a trail with great views before reaching the banks of the Danube.

Day 3: Dürnstein - Weißenkirchen, 'Heart of Wachau' 16 km + 480 m – 480 m

Take the ferry from Dürnstein to Rossatz. Continue past the largest apricot growing area of Austria, on old tracks up to Seekopf with stunning views to the Alps. Optional walk along Danube through orchards to the ferry.

Day 4: Day off in Weißenkirchen, 'Wachauer Dolce Vita'

Surrounded by sunny vineyards and green forests the mighty gothic parish church of Weißenkirchen is a remarkable sight. Wine growing villages such as Joching, Wösendorf and St. Michael form together with Weißenkirchen the biggest wine grower community of the Wachau region. Visit museums, seize beautiful walking trails or take a boat tour on the Danube. Enjoy a glass of Wachauer wine in one of the wine taverns. Or do a short hike on the Achleiten circuit to stop by the winegrower!



Day 5: Weißenkirchen - Spitz, 'Observation platform Buschhandlwand' 12 km + 600 m – 600 m

Leave Weißenkirchen via the wine trail, past picturesque wine cellars and ascend to Seiber. Walk through the forest, initially quite steep to Buschhandlwand where an observation platform allows stunning panoramic views. An alternative route passes through vineyards to the famous wine grower community Spitz an der Donau.

Day 6: Spitz - Melk, 'Ruin Aggsbach' 15 km + 640 m – 640 m

Cross the Danube by ferry to Maria Langegg. Here you follow the St. Jacob's trail to ruin Aggsbach. Visit the fortress with scenic views across the Danube valley and stop for a snack. Downward to Aggsbach where you catch the bus to Melk.

Day 7: From Melk to Krems, 'Danube Cruise'

Visit the impressive monastery with its beautiful grounds before you board the Danube boat. During the cruise to Krems you pass the highlights of the week, see all the vineyards as well as Spitz and Durnstein.

Day 8: Individual departure or extra days



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Route



Technical Characteristics:

Route Profile: Moderate. You walk mainly on well-maintained trails and some paved vineyard paths. Depending on the route, you can make the stages more comfortable or more challenging. The peaks in the Wachau region are not high, but steep in places. Surefootedness therefore is required in some places. This week offers a perfect blend of nature, culture and culinary delights.

Total Distance: 51 km

Travel Season: Every day from 23.03. to 13.10.

Season 1: 23.03. – 14.04. | 26.08. – 08.09.

Season 2: 15.04. – 09.06.

Season 3: 10.06. – 25.08. | 09.09. - 13.10.



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Prices per person:

Season 1 Double Occupancy B&B	€839
Season 2 Double Occupancy B&B	€899
Season 3 Double Occupancy B&B	€989
Single Room Surcharge	€249

All prices subject to confirmation on booking

Accommodation:

Category: partly 4**** hotels, mainly 3*** hotels, country hotels

Included:

- 7 overnight stays, as indicated, breakfast included
- Luggage transfer
- 1 wine tasting
- 1- Boat cruise from Melk to Krems*
- Carefully elaborated route description
- Detailed travel documents 1 per room
- Navigation APP and GPS data
- Service hotline

* Boat cruise is only possible starting from mid-April, bus ride as an alternative

Not Included:

- 3 ferry crossings Danube, bus fare from Aggsdorf to Melk, approx. EUR 6 per person
- Any visitor's taxes, payable locally

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