



Tour description

for the individual bike & boat journey along the Danube

„Passau-Vienna-Passau“

Dear Cyclist!

We would like to give you a warm welcome to our Bike & Barge tour along the Danube from Passau to Vienna and back. The itinerary has been described from the cyclist's perspective, the way you will experience the route from your bike seat.

Before starting the cycle tour, the tour manager explains the respective route in a briefing, introducing the sights you will find on the left and on the right hand of the tour. Naturally, these are merely suggestions for a better planning of your trip.

Please note that this route description cannot substitute a guidebook.

Information and **tips** have been highlighted in colours to distinguish from the mere route description.

However, nobody is perfect — please note that the situation on-site can sometimes be different from the route description due to road works, new traffic signs, overturned or overgrown signs, etc. If you should encounter similar situations, please do not hesitate to inform us. Our team from SE-Tours as well as all cyclists using this route will be thankful for your suggestions! Of course, we also appreciate any proposal for improvement. Please note: all indicated ferry schedules may be subject to change.

We wish you a relaxing time and lots of fun on your combined Bike and Boat Tour.

Important telephone numbers

MS Prinzessin Katharina Cruise Manager: 0049-170-99 15 159

Ship reception desk: 00421-917 883 851



Legend:



Map number



Caution!



Point of interest

Direction Arrow (for rough orientation only):



Go straight on or follow the route



Turn right



Turn left


1 **2** *Day 1: Arrival to Passau / Embarkation / Boat tour to Engelhartszell*

For indication on how to get to the mooring place in Passau and the times of embarkation please refer to your travel documents.

3 *Day 2: Cycle Tour Engelhartszell - Aschach, approx. 40 - 43 km* *Boat Tour Aschach - Linz*

Info: Founded in 1293, Engelszell Abbey in Engelhartszell is the only Trappist Abby in Austria. The Abby Church with its 76- metre-high tower is considered one of Austria's most authentic Roco-style buildings. From 1754 to 1764, the abby church had been built and contains notable art works by Johann Georg Üblher, Joseph Deutschmann and Bartolomeo Altomonte. After being damaged, the ceiling was repainted in 1957 with an impressive contemporary painting from Fritz Fröhlich. Opening hours abby church: Winter 08:00 am - 5 pm, Summer 8:00 am - 7:00 pm.

Tip: In Engelhartszell, take the ferry and cross over to the opposite bank (boats run daily from Apr./ Oct. 10:30 am - 5:00 pm, May/Sept. 9:30 am - 5:30 pm, June 9:00 am - 6:00 pm, July/August 9:00 am - 6:30 pm), or you cycle for about 3 km upstream until you reach the Jochensteinfels rock. There cross the Danube over the lock at the Jochenstein Power Plant.

 Due to construction work, the power plant crossing at lock Jochenstein is expected to be closed until October 2024.

After crossing to the other cycling side of the river on the **Engelhartszell bike ferry**, pick up the **towpath** and continue cycling directly **alongside the river in direction of Niederanna**.

→ **4** Shortly before the junction of the **Ranna River** with the **Danube**, you reach a country road. Turn right towards **Niederranna**.

→ In **Niederranna**, just after the **church**, turn right and follow the signposts for the **Danube cycle path EV6 / R1** and pass under the **Danube bridge**.

Continue alongside the river.

After about **6 km**, you will reach **Au**.

Info: At the **Schlögener Schlinge** (Danube Loop), nature's powerful force and beauty becomes apparent. That was probably the reason why the loop was declared "Natural Wonder of Upper Austria" in 2008. The formation of the loop was initiated when the Danube carved its way through the Bohemian Massif. Through a subsequent uplift of land, the Danube incised for almost 300 m into the terrain, thus creating a valley in the Schlögen Danube Loop that almost forms a full circle. The Schlögen Danube Loop is often referred to as the most beautiful and most natural part of the Danube.

Be sure to take the **ferry Au-Inzell** – the ferry dock is just next to **Pumberger's farm / Jausenstation** (ferry runs daily Apr./Sept.-Oct. 9:00 am - 6:00 pm, May-Aug. 8:00 am - 8:00 pm) and cross over to the **opposite bank of the Danube**. Now continue along the **south bank, cycle path EV6 / R1**.

Through the marvellous **Schlögen Danube Loop**, cycle for about **3.5 km** and reach **Inzell**.

From **Inzell**, continue alongside the river for approx. **5 km** up to **5 Kobling**.

Please continue following the **red route** via **Kaiserau 6 7** until **Aschach**.

Here, you will board the ship again and sail to **Linz**.

Your cruise manager will give you the exact departure time.

Tip:

4 **5** **6** **7** Alternatively, as of May, you can take the **ferry Donaubus-Längsfähre Au-Grafenau** (daily May/June/Sept. 10:00 am - 6:00 pm, July/Aug., 9:30 am - 6:30 pm), directly from the bike ferry Au for approx. 5 km through the Danube loop up to the north river bank near Grafenau. Then you continue by bike on the north river bank to **Obermühl** (**violet route**).

Here you will again cross to the southern bank to **Kobling** using the **ferry** (daily May/September from 8:00 am to 6:00 pm, June to August from 8:00 am to 7:00 pm), and then continue following the **red route** to **Aschach**.

Closure of the cycle path between Kobling and Kaiserau (expected until end of April)

Info:

Due to urgent rock stabilization work (risk of rockfall), the Danube Cycle Path R1 between **5** Kobling and Kaiserau on the right bank of the Danube will be closed until end of April 2024. Please bypass the closure using the Kobling-Obermühl ferry and the Untermühl-Kaiserau ferry.

5 In **Kobling**, take the **ferry** to **Obermühl** (ferry service daily Apr./Oct. 9:00 am - 5:00 pm, May/Sept. 8:00 am - 6:00 pm, June to August 8:00 am - 7:00 pm).

You are now on the **north river bank** and follow the **signposting EV6 / R1 (violet route)** towards **Untermühl**. Here again take the ferry to the south riverbank (daily Apr - Sept 9:00 am - 6 pm).

6 **7** You are cycling now on the **red route** to **Aschach**. Here you go aboard the ship and continue your journey with a **boat tour** to **Linz**. Your cruise manager will give you the exact departure time.

Day 3: Boat Tour Linz – Mauthausen / Cycle Tour Mauthausen – Grein, approx. 36 – 40 km

Early morning boat tour from Linz to Mauthausen. Later in the morning, you will have the possibility to visit the Mauthausen Concentration Camp Memorial (see **orange route** on the map. You cycle approx. 3 km to the memorial and 3 km back to the pier).

Info: Between 1938 and 1945, more than 120.000 persons lost their lives in the **Mauthausen Concentration Camp**. It was the main camp of a complex with more than 40 sub camps, and centre of political, social and racist persecution at hands of the Nazi Regime on Austrian territory. Today it is a place of memory, a site of historical and political education. Opening Hours: daily 9:00am–5:30pm. The entrance to the Memorial is free.

For today's cycle tour, you have two possibilities:

9 Red Route Variant – South River Bank

From the **mooring in Mauthausen** cross over to the opposite bank with the **Cross ferry / Triangular ferry Enns-Mauthausen-St. Pantaleon** (ferry runs daily May/Sept. 9:00 am - 6:00 pm, June to Aug., 9:00 am - 7:00 pm).

From here, cycle **downstream, Danube cycle path EV6 / R1**.

→ Please cycle under the **Mauthausen bridge** and then take the first right.

After the small town of **Albing**, continue to follow the **Danube cycle path EV6 / R1** and head towards **St. Pantaleon**.

10 **11** Continue to follow the **Danube cycle path EV6 / R1**.


12 You reach the **Danube Power Plant Wallsee-Mitterkirchen** and by-pass the **bounded power plant area**.





13 14 15 You continue to follow the **cycle path signs EV6 / R1** until you reach the **Danube bridge** before **Grein**.

Cross the bridge - you are now on the **north river bank** - and follow **the way alongside the river to the mooring place**.

Tip:

Greinburg Castle  : Built between 1488 and 1493, Austria's oldest residential Castle features unique state rooms with original wall decorations (possibility to visit the castle with guided tour during an optional excursion).

9 10 11 12 **Violet Route Variant – North River Bank**

On the **cycleway along the bank**, ride eastwards, downstream. Follow the **Danube cycle path EV6 / R1**. Pass the  **campsite** and reach the  **Danube Power Plant Wallsee-Mitterkirchen (kiosk/toilet)**.

At this point you can decide whether to stay on the **violet route** on the **north river bank** or switch to the **red route** on the **south river bank**. To do so, please **cross the bridge** at the **power plant**.

Info:



Due to excavation and asphaltting work at the bridge near Dornach, the Danube Cycle Path R1 **13 14** from *Eizendorf to Dornach* is completely closed probably until the end of April 2024. *During this period, please be sure to switch to the **red route** at the Wallsee-Mitterkirchen Danube power station crossing!*

12 If you want to stay on the **violet route**, continue on a country road to reach **Mitterkirchen**. Follow the **Danube bike path EV6 / R1**.

Continue along the **Danube Cycle Path** across the **little river Naarn**.

↑ After **crossing the little river**, keep following the **Danube bike path EV6 / R1**.

← If you want to make a detour to the  **Celtic village of Mitterkirchen**, follow the signs and turn left.

Tip: **Celtic village of Mitterkirchen:** opening hours mid-April until October, 10:00 am - 4:00 pm. In 1980, the remains of a huge Celtic cemetery from 700 BC were found. The excavations had lasted for 10 years and had produced interesting results for experts. A fully reconstructed Celtic village was built here to show the life and work of people from that period.

After the visit, please return to the **violet route, Danube cycle path EV6 / R1**.



13 You cycle towards **Mettensdorf** and follow the **Danube cycle path EV6 / R1** in the direction **of Grein**.

← → Pass the **farms of Pitzing** and **Eizendorf** and then head back **towards the Danube**. Turn left at the **bathing lake** and continue to **14 Dornach**. **Before the railway** turn right onto the **towpath** again. **15** Passing **the castle of Dornach** you reach the **Danube bridge of Grein** in **about 4 km**. Continue cycling along the **river** to the **mooring place**.

16 *Day 4: Cycle Tour Grein – Melk, approx. 51 km / Boat Tour Melk – Tulln*

From the **mooring in Grein**, you can either take the **Danube ferry** (runs daily May/Sept. 09:00 am - 06:00 pm, June until Aug., 08:00 am - 06:00 pm) to get to the **south river bank** to the village of **Wiesen** or cycle for approx. **2 km upstream to the Danube bridge** and cross over.

Info: Until Melk simply follow the signs of the Danube cycle path EV6 / R1:

←	After crossing the bridge , turn left onto a service road back to the village of Wiesen . Follow the route along the Danube to Hößgang .
<i>Info:</i>	You are approaching the narrow stretch at Struden , once feared by sailors. At the level with the island of Wörth, a rock once caused a notorious whirlpool. Early on, through the tongue of land that connected the rock with the right bank of the river, the "Hößgang" passage was digged so the ships could avoid the narrow stretch providing that the water level was high enough.
	<p>17 After about a further 12 km, you will reach Freyenstein. From Freyenstein to Ybbs you cycle about 8.5 km along the A-road (B25).</p> <p>After approx. 7 km, you reach the  Ybbs-Persenbeug Power Plant.</p>
<i>Tip:</i>	At the bridge, there is an information point for cyclists.
←	Pick up the cycleway at the southern end of the power plant and after the cycle information point turn left to reach the river bank .
→	18 Cycle onto the Donaulände (streetname) until you reach Ybbs and follow the signposts EV6 / R1 .
<i>Tip:</i>	Before continuing, bend right for a well worth side-trip to the main square in Ybbs. Here stroll around the picturesque Old Town.
→ ← → ↑	At the end of the Donaulände , turn right, take the 2nd street to the left onto Wiener Straße , then turn right onto Fabrikstraße and continue straight to the roundabout .
	There cross over to the cycleway on the left hand side and continue to the town exit of Ybbs .
←	After passing the  wood processing company /sawmill Stora Enso and crossing the river Ybbs , turn left and continue onto the Danube cycle path . Follow the signposts EV6 / R1 .

In **Sarling**, the **Danube Cycle Path** gets back to the **Danube**.

The **cycleway** runs between **river** and **railway tracks**.

Simply follow the **signposts EV6 / R1**.

In **Wallenbach**, the way leads shortly away from the bank and continues left to the **railway**.

← After the **Danube harbour Krumnussbaum**, turn left onto the **towpath** (straight on there is the village).

→ Follow the **signposts** for the **Danube cycle path EV6 / R1**.
You reach the **bridge** over the small **river Erlauf**.

← After **crossing the bridge**, turn immediately left and cycle back to the **bank of the Danube**.

19 Cycle for about **6 km** alongside the bank past **Pöchlarn** until you reach
▶ **Melk Power Plant**.

Tip: The Danube lake in Weitenegg is a wonderful place to swim (**orange route**).

Continue following the **Danube cycle path signposts EV6 / R1 for Melk**.

Here on the **bank of the Danube** you reach the **mooring place** **20**.

Info: The **Melk Abbey** (Opening hours April - October, daily 9:00 -17:30; last admission 17:00) is one of the most beautiful and largest Baroque ensembles in Europe and has been included on the UNESCO World Heritage list. Perched on a hilltop overlooking the town of Melk, the abbey is picturesquely situated at the entrance to the Wachau Valley. Since its foundation in 1089, Benedictine monks have continually been living in the Abbey. A visit includes the High Baroque abby church, the state rooms, a stunning view over the Danube valley and the abby park, which offers relaxation from May to October.

For the next tour section, take the ship and sail from Melk to Tulln.


21 Day 5: Cycle Tour Tulln – Vienna, ca. 32 - 39 km

Info: The **town of Tulln** has established a national and international reputation as the “town of flowers”. The Danube town itself is crossed by green areas from the water park via the Donaulände to the Aubad lake. Birthplace of famous Austrian artists Egon Schiele, Tulln has won fame also for being an artist town.


Red Route Variant – South River Bank

Follow the **signposts** for the **Danube cycle path EV6 / R1**:

On the **Danube promenade**, past the **equestrian statue of Marc Aurel**, pass under the **Danube bridge** and follow the **Dammweg**.

22 In the **direction of Greifenstein**, past **Langenlebar** and **Muckendorf**, you arrive at a **23**  Marina. Here the road forks.

←↑
oder
→

Keep to the left and keep cycling **directly alongside the river** until you reach the  **Greifenstein Power Plant**.
If you want to stay on the south river bank, you can alternatively cycle to the right (**red dotted line**).

←

If you want to switch to the **north bank** at this point (**violet tour variant**), proceed to the **lock** and **cross** the **Danube** at the **power station**.

→

For the **red tour variant**, turn right just **before the lock** and follow the small path in a **right-hand bend** through the **forest** until you reach the **oxbow canal**.

←

Turn left here, continue along the path and cross the **oxbow canal**.

Cycle along the street **Donaulände** until you reach the **bank of the Danube** again.


Tip: Enjoy the beautiful view of Greifenstein Castle

Keep following the **signposts** for the **Danube cycle path EV6 / R1**.


24 You reach **Kritzendorf**.

↑ At the **station in Kritzendorf**, cycle straight on.

Alongside the **canal** called **Klosterneuburger Durchstich** continue cycling past the **Abbey Klosterneuburg**.

Info: The  **Klosterneuburg Abbey** was founded in 1108 on the site of a former Roman fort and had been expanded from the 15th until the 19th century. The Abbey's reconstruction in Baroque style was supposed to demonstrate the Baroque unity of Church and Imperial State, but the beginning secularisation put a premature end to the project. A must-see in the abbey church of our Lady: the famous Altar of Verdun.

Follow the **Danube cycle path signposts EV6 / R1** in the **direction of Vienna**.

← Cycle past the **former**  **Essl Museum, now closed**, and at the next junction turn left onto **Donaustraße** (streetname).

↑ **25** Keep going straight until you come to a  fork.

Here you can either stay on the **Donaustraße** and cycle through an **industrial area** or you cycle for about **3 km** on an **unpaved gravel path** directly **along the Danube (red dotted line)**. To get back to the main route cross the **bridge** at **Nußdorfer Yachthafen**.

You cycle through **Kahlenbergerdorf** and continue **alongside the Danube** until you reach the mooring place of the ship in **Vienna-Nußdorf**.

26 To the **berth Handelskai**

You continue alongside the Danube until you reach **Josef-von-Schemerl bridge**. Here you **cross the Danube Canal** (the **bridge is green** and is flanked by **two lions looking upstream**, standing on the wall pillars).

→ **After the bridge** turn right onto street **Am Brigittener Sporn** (the Danube Canal is now on your right). Continue on **Handelskai** (street's name).

↑ Now, continue straight ahead towards **Vienna city center**, passing under the **Nordbrücke**, the **Floridsdofer Brücke**, **27** the **Georg Danzer Steg**, and the **Brigittener Brücke** until you reach the **28** **Reichsbrücke**. The **moorings at Handelskai** are located on **both sides** of the **Reichsbrücke**.

You will be informed about the exact mooring place during the daily cycle route briefing.

Violet Route Variant – North River Bank

21 22 23 You ride along the **red route** on the **south river bank** to the **Greifenstein power station** and **cross the Danube**.

After the **power plant**, follow the **Danube cycle path signposts EV6 / R1** for **Vienna** – cycle in a **zickzack line** back to the **bank of the Danube**.

24 Here pick up the **towpath** in the **direction of Korneuburg**.

The **Danube** slowly turns southwards.

→ Cross over **two water veins** and keep following the **Danube cycle path signposts EV6 / R1**
→ along the **motorway** in the **direction of Vienna**.

After the **ferry in Korneuburg**, pick up the **towpath**.

25 Follow the **signs EV6 / R1** to the **Danube Island** and continue in the **direction of the city center**.

- ← **Mooring Nußdorf:** Take a left turn to **Steinitzsteg** and cross it. Next you cycle in a **wide right bend** back to **Nußdorf** to the **mooring place** of your ship.

26 27 28 **Mooring Handelskai:** Stay on the **Danube Island** and continue to the **Reichsbrücke**. Here you **cross the Danube**. The **moorings at Handelskai** are located to the right and left of the **Reichsbrücke**.

You will be informed about the exact mooring place during the daily cycle route briefing.

Day 7: Cycle Tour Wachau - Pöchlarn, approx. 40 - 50 km / Boat Tour Pöchlarn - Passau

Today enjoy the last cycle day of your journey through the marvellous Wachau Valley. The beautiful scenery with gently rolling hills dotted with picturesque villages, terraced vineyards, castles, monasteries, and ruins will enchant you.

Info: You can cycle on both banks of the Danube.

29 Red route on the map

To get to the **other side of the Danube**, you can either **cycle downstream to Mautern**, in order to **cross the Danube bridge (= plus 10 km)** or you **cycle upstream to the ferry Rossatz - Dürnstein** (operating hours Apr./Oct. Fri, Sat, Sun and bank holidays from 10:00 am - 5:00 pm, May/Sept. daily from 9:30 am - 6:00 pm, June to August, Mon - Fri 9:30 am - 6:00 pm, Sat/Sun 9:00 am - 6:30 pm)



If you would like to take a quick **side trip** to the **town centre of Dürnstein**:

Watch out! In the pedestrian zone, you have to walk your bike!

Please keep following the **signposts EV6 / R1 Danube cycle path**.

In **Dürnstein**, follow the cycleway **along the A-road** and continue along an **agricultural road** through vast terraced **vineyards**.

30 Continue **alongside the railroad tracks to Weißenkirchen**.

Tip: In Weißenkirchen, you can find a lot of Heurige (wine taverns) in narrow lanes.

31 Via **Wösendorf**, keep cycling **parallel to the Danube** until you reach **Spitz**.

Info: It is a good idea to take the ferry to St. Lorenz in Weißenkirchen (ferry Weißenkirchen - St. Lorenz, service runs Mo-Fr 8:00 am - 11:45 am / 1:15 pm - 6:45 pm and Sa/So/bank holidays 8:00 am - 6:45 pm). Alternatively, take the ferry in Spitz (Ferry Spitz - Arnsdorf, service runs from Mo-Fr 6:15 am - 7:00 pm and Sa/So/bank holidays 8:15 am - 7:30 pm) to cross the river, in order to avoid the traffic alongside the A-road (B3).

30 31 If you take the **ferry** in **Weißenkirchen** to cross over to **St. Lorenz** (you are now on the **violet route**), pick up the cycleway that leads to **Bacharnsdorf** and **Mitterarnsdorf**.



Watch out: The cycle path near **Mitterarnsdorf** will probably be closed due to construction work until the end of the year. The detour runs parallel on the road.

Through **wine villages** and **orchards** cycle past **Hofarnsdorf** along the **towpath** to **Oberarnsdorf**.

Info: **31** If you take the **ferry** in **Spitz**, you will arrive in **Oberarnsdorf** and here you join the **violet route**.

Continue along the **bank of the Danube**, past **St. Johann im Mauerthale**, **32 Aggstein**, **Aggsbach Dorf** and **33 Schönbühel** towards **Melk** .

34 35 36 Shortly before reaching **Melk**, cross the little **river Pielach** and pass under the **bridge** to pick up the **Danube Cycle Path** in the direction of **Pöchlarn** until you reach the **mooring place**.

Tip: The Danube lake in Weitenegg is a wonderful place to swim (**orange route**).

Info:

If you decide to continue along the northern bank to **Pöchlarn** anyway (**red route**), cycle from **31 Spitz** to **Schwallenbach**. Here the **cycleway** leads shortly away from the **bank of the Danube**.

32 33 34 35 36 After **Groisbach**, you get back to the road alongside the river. Pick up the at times **narrow cycleway alongside the A-road** until you reach **Aggsbach Markt**. From here, follow the **Danube Cycle Path** via **Schallemsdorf** and **Emmersdorf** up to **Klein Pöchlarn**.



When the **A-road** leads away from the bank, you can either cycle up alongside **the dam** or you continue left of it onto **the towpath**. In **Klein Pöchlarn**, turn left and cross the **bridge** to reach



Pöchlarn on the **other side of the Danube**. After crossing the **bridge**, turn right and continue cycling **alongside the bank** until you reach the **mooring place**.

29 [Violet route on the map](#)

From the mooring cycle upstream. You will meet a cycleway that leads **parallel to the road**. Follow the **cycleway** through **Rossatzbach** and **Rossatz**. Here the **cycleway** leads away from the **Danube** for a while.

30 On an agricultural road, cycle through **orchards to Rührsdorf**.

At the **ferry dock St. Lorenz**, the way leads back to the **Danube**.

31 Continue along the cycleway to **Bacharnsdorf** and **Mitterarnsdorf**.



Watch out: The cycle path near **Mitterarnsdorf** will probably be closed due to construction work until the end of the year. The detour runs parallel on the road.

Through **wine villages** and **orchards**, pedal along the **towpath** past **Hofarnsdorf** to **Oberarnsdorf**.

Keep cycling along the bank of the **Danube**, past **St. Johann im Mauerthale**, **32 Aggstein, Aggsbach Dorf** and **33 Schönbühel** until towards **Melk**.

34 35 36 Shortly before reaching **Melk**, cross the little river **Pielach**, pass **under the bridge** and continue cycling onto the **Danube Cycle Path** to **Pöchlarn** until you reach the **mooring place**.

Tip: The Danube lake in Weitenegg is a wonderful place to swim (**orange route**).

Day 8: Passau - Disembarkation



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