



Route description

for your individual Bike & Barge Tour

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 Tour guide: 0049-170-991 51 59

MS SE-Manon Tour guide: 0049-171-517 52 23

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 - Untermühl, approx. 35 km / Boat Tour Untermühl - Linz**

Info: Founded in 1293, **Engelszell Abbey** in Engelhartszell is the only Trappist Abbey in Austria. The Abbey Church with its 76-metre-high tower is considered one of Austria's most authentic Rococo-style buildings. From 1754 to 1764, the abbey 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. Abbey church opening hours: daily from 8:00 am - 8:00 pm; opening hours monastery gateway: April to October daily 9:00 am - 5:00 pm.

Tip: In Engelhartszell, you can take the ferry and cross over to the opposite bank (boats run daily from Apr./Oct. 10:30 am - 5:00 pm, May/Sept., 09:30 am - 5:30 pm, June 09:00 am - 6:00 pm, July/August 09:00 am - 6:30 pm) or cycle for about 3 km upstream (**violet route**) until you reach the Jochensteinfels rock and cross the Danube over the lock at the Jochenstein Power Plant.

Info: The myth-enshrouded Jochensteinfels rock rises out of the Danube and is believed to be the seat of the Danube mermaid „Isa“, a sister of the Lorelei.

- After having crossed the **Danube** over the **lock** at the **Jochenstein Power Plant**, turn right after the **electrical substation** onto the lane **Am Jochenstein**.

Keep cycling **along the river** and follow the **Danube cycle path EV6 / R1** through the village of **Jochenstein**.

Follow the concrete pavement slab lane that forks off to the **Austrian border**.

Info: At the Dantlbach creek, cross the border from Germany to Austria.

From the **Engelhartzell bike ferry**, pick up the **towpath** and continue cycling **directly alongside the river**.

You pass through the village of **Kramesau**.

- 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**.

4 Continue alongside the river.

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

Info: At the **Schlögenger 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 **2nd ferry Au-Inzell** – the ferry dock is just next to  "**Jausenstation Pumberger**" (ferry runs daily Apr./Sept.-Oct. 09:00 am - 6:00 pm, May-Aug. 08:00 am - 8:00 pm) and cross over to the **opposite bank of the Danube**. Now continue along the **south river 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 **Kobling**.

Tip: Alternatively, you can take the **ferry Donaubus-Längsfähre Au-Grafenau** (daily May/June/Sept. 10:00 am - 6:00 pm, July/Aug., 09:30 am - 7:00 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 dotted route**). *Attention:* you stay on the north river bank of the river.

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** towards **Untermühl** to the **mooring place**.

From **Untermühl** you sail to **Linz**.

Your tour manager will inform you about the exact departure time.

Day 3: Boat Tour Linz – Mauthausen / Cycle Tour Mauthausen – Grein, approx. 36 – 42 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.

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:

7 Red Route Variant – South River Bank

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

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

Cross the **roundwood bridge** - with 88 m built on 4 bridge pillars the longest one in Europe.

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

8 You reach **Au** and continue to follow the **Danube cycle path EV6 / R1**.

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



9 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).

7

8

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** (description starting on page 7).

9

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 cycling straight onto the **country road**.



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, 9:00 am - 5:00 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**.

You cycle towards **Mettensdorf** and follow the **Danube cycle path EV6 / R1**.



Pass the **farms of Pitzing** and **Eizendorf** and then head back towards the **Danube**. Turn left at the **bathing lake** and continue to **Dornach**. **Before** the **railway** turn right onto the **towpath** again. 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**.

9

Orange Route Variant – North River Bank

From the  **Danube Power Plant Wallsee-Mitterkirchen**, first follow the **violet route** to **Mitterkirchen**, then drive to the **Celtic village**.

From here, follow the **signposted route** via **Klam** to **Grein**.

Info:

This route requires some effort and a lot of attentiveness, as the markings are sometimes confusing. In places the road is very steep. Partly you cycle directly along the main road with a lot of traffic. And please note: Klam Castle can only be visited by advanced reservation.

From **Mitterkirchen** cycle past **the church** in direction of **Baumgartenberg**.



Pick up the **A-road** in the direction of **Klam**
(please be careful: 16% steep hill upwards for approx 1.7 km).

Tip:

Built in the 12th century, **Burg Clam Castle** with its impressive architecture is one of Austria's best-preserved castles. It bears mentioning that the castle is not a museum in the strict sense but rather a fully furnished residential, mediaeval castle. Please note that Klam Castle can only be visited by advanced reservation.

Afterwards, cycle via **Oberhörnbach** and **Unterhörnbach** to **Grein**



Please mind out the descent!



In **Grein**, you will get back to the **Danube**. At the **A-road** turn left and you will arrive at the **ship**.

10 **Day 4: Cycle Tour Grein – Melk, approx. 50 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. **2.2 km upstream to the Danube bridge (violet route)** 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**.

Info: 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 dugged so the ships could avoid the narrow stretch providing that the water level was high enough.

After about a further **12 km**, you will reach **Freyenstein**.

Continue cycling along the **Danube** via **Willersbach** in the **direction of Ybbs**.

11 After approx. **7 km**, you reach the  **Ybbs-Persenbeug Power Plant**.

Tip: 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**.



Cycle onto the **Donaulände** (streetname) until you reach **Ybbs** and there follow the **signposts EV6 / R1**.

Tip: 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**.

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

← After the **Danube harbour Krummnussbaum**, 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 Erlau**.

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

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

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

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

Info: The **Melk Abbey** 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.

Day 5: Cycle Tour Tulln-Vienna, ca. 35 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** until you reach **Greifenstein/St. Andrä**.

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

16 In the **direction of Greifenstein**, past **Langenlebarn** and **Muckendorf**, you arrive at a  Marina. Here the road forks.



17 Keep to the left and keep cycling **directly alongside the river** until you reach the  **Greifenstein Power Plant**.



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**.

You reach **Kritzendorf**.



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

Alongside the **canal** called **Klosterneuburger Durchstich** continue cycling until you reach the **junction** with **Rollfährstraße**.

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.

18

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).

Along **Donaustraße** cycle through the **industrial area**, and continue onto **Kuchelauer Hafenstraße**.

Cycle through **Kahlenbergedorf** and continue for a short while **alongside the Danube** until you reach the mooring of the ship in **Vienna-Nußdorf**.

Depending on the mooring place you may continue to the berth Handelskai (approx. 5 km)

Follow **Relegasse** for **about 850 m** in a south-easterly direction to the **Josef von Schemerl bridge** and **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 into the street **Am Brigittenauer Sporn** (the Danube Canal is now on your right).
- ← Continue on **Handelskai** (street's name) and turn slightly left to **stay on Handelskai**. You drive a little bit uphill (*Watch out:* please do not cross the rails). You will then reach **Treppelweg** (street's name).

Follow **Treppelweg** and **pass under** the **Nordbrücke Bridge**, the **Floridsdorfer Bridge**, the **Georg Danzer-Bridge**, the **Brigittenauer Bridge** and cycle to the **Reichsbrücke Bridge** and reach your **berth at Handelskai**.

Violet Route Variant – North River Bank

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

- **15** **16** On the **Danube promenade**, past the **equestrian statue of Marc Aurel**, pass under the **Danube bridge**, then immediately turn right and cycle onto the **bridge**. After **crossing the Danube**, turn right and ride **in a loop** back to the **bank of the Danube**.

17 You reach the **Greifenstein Power Plant**.

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**.

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

- ← The **Danube** slowly turns southwards. The path turns left into an **alluvial forest**.
- Cross over **two water veins** and keep following the **Danube cycle path signposts EV6 / R1**
- along the **motorway** in the **direction of Langenzersdorf**.

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

18 Keep following the **Danube cycle path signposts EV6 / R1** to reach the **Danube Island**.

→ At the **first bridge (Nordbrücke)** keep following the **signposts EV6 / R1** to the right. After
→or← **crossing the Danube Canal**, *depending on the mooring place*, turn right to **Nußdorf** or left to **Handelskai**, situated not far from the **Reichsbrücke Bridge**.

Day 7: Cycle Tour Wachau - Pöchlarn, approx. 39 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: Depending on your **mooring place in Rossatz or Dürnstein**, there are different variants:

19 **Red Route Variant – Mooring in Dürnstein**



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**.

Continue alongside the **railroad tracks** to **Weißkirchen**.

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

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

Info:

It is a good idea to take the ferry in Weißenkirchen (ferry Weißenkirchen - St. Lorenz, service runs Mo-Fr 8:30 am - 11:45 / 01:30 pm - 6.45 pm and Sa/So/holiday 08:00 am - 6:45 pm) or in Spitz (Ferry Spitz - Arnsdorf, service runs from Mo-Fr 06:15 am - 6:00 pm and Sa-So 08:15 am - 06:00 pm) to cross the river, in order to avoid the cycleway along the heavily trafficked Danube A-road (B3).

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



Watch out: The cycle path just before **Bacharnsdorf** to **Hofarnsdorf** is 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:

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**, **Aggstein**, **21 Aggsbach Dorf** and **Schönbühel** towards **Melk**.

22 22a 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**.

Info: If you decide to continue **along the northern bank to Pöchlarn** anyway, cycle from **(red line on the map) 20 Spitz to Schwallenbach**.

Here the **cycleway** leads shortly **away from the bank of the Danube**.

21 22 After **Groisbach**, you get back to the **Uferstraße**. Pick up the sometimes narrow cycleway alongside the **A-road** until you reach **Aggsbach Markt**.

From here, follow the **Danube cycle path** via **Schallemerisdorf** 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**.

19 Violet Route Variant – Mooring in Rossatz

At the beginning of **Rossatz**, you 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.

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

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

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



Watch out: The cycle path just before **Bacharnsdorf** to **Hofarnsdorf** is closed due to construction work until the end of the year. The detour runs parallel on the road.

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

Keep cycling alongside the **bank of the Danube**, past **St. Johann im Mauerthale**, **Aggstein**, **21 Aggsbach** and **Schönbühel** until towards **Melk**.

22 22a Shortly before reaching **Melk**, cross the the **little river Pielach**, pass **under the bridge** and continue cycling onto the **Danube cycle path** to **Pöchlarn** until you reach the **mooring place**.

Day 8: Passau - Disembarkation



IMPRESSUM / ABOUT US

SE-Tours GmbH
Am Grollhamm 12a
27574 Bremerhaven
Tel.: +49 (0)471-800 735
Fax.: +49 (0)471-800 735 29

Geschäftsführer/Managing Director: Jörg Gövert
Handelsregister/Trade register: HRB 2601 BHV
UST-ID-Nr. DE 163249225
E-Mail: info@se-tours.de
Website: www.se-tours.de

*Die Reproduktion oder Übernahme des Routenbuches oder von Teilen daraus ist nur in Absprache mit der SE-Tours GmbH erlaubt. / The reproduction or adoption of the whole route book or of parts of it is only allowed when agreed with SE-Tours GmbH.
Schutzgebühr / Nominal fee: € 10,-*