



## LIFESTYLE HOLIDAYS - AUSTRIA

### Danube Bike & Sail – 8 days ex Passau



This 8 day lifestyle bike and boat trip takes you along Europe's second largest river; the spectacular Great Loop offers a combination of Europe's most popular river cruise and favourite cycleway. You will experience river landscapes with steep forested hills and vineyards. The forest of the National Park 'Donau Auen' as well as the picturesque Hungarian Danube Bend alternate with pulsating metropolises such as Vienna, Bratislava and Budapest. The wide and powerful Danube flows like a silver belt through Budapest separating the hilly Buda and the flat Pest. The imposing cupola of the Basilica in Esztergom can be seen from the distance. At the foothills of the Carpathian Mountains, the Slovak capital Bratislava (former Pressburg) draws you in with its charming old centre. Vienna offers many sights to see; dreamy cafes and distinct comfy wine taverns await you.

**Experience Passau, Vienna, Bratislava and Budapest:** Highlights on this 8 day lifestyle bike and boat tour include Passau, Schlogener Donauschlinge - 'The Great Loop', Wachau, National Park 'Donau Auen', the cities of Bratislava, Budapest and Vienna.

**A little bit of cycling and a whole lot of fun:** Each ride offered on this self-guided tour is completely optional and is on the cycle path which is completely paved and flat. It almost always runs directly along the riverbank and is suitable for children and beginners. Cycling distances vary offering smaller distances for those looking for an easy ride and longer distances for those looking for more.

**Beautiful accommodation on board a floating hotel:** MV Theodor Korner is a charming ship which offers a very comfortable and nostalgic atmosphere and will be your home away from home for 7 nights. Experience a variety of national and regional cuisine; in the evening musicians will perform and even dance. Cabins are quaint and rustic.

## Tour Itinerary

### Day 1. Arrive Passau

Passau - the 'Bishop-City' is where the Inn, Ilz and the Danube come together close to the German and Austrian border. Boarding time is at 5pm. In the evening enjoy a welcome cocktail and dinner with live music.

**Accommodation: Onboard**

**Meals: Dinner**

**No cycling**

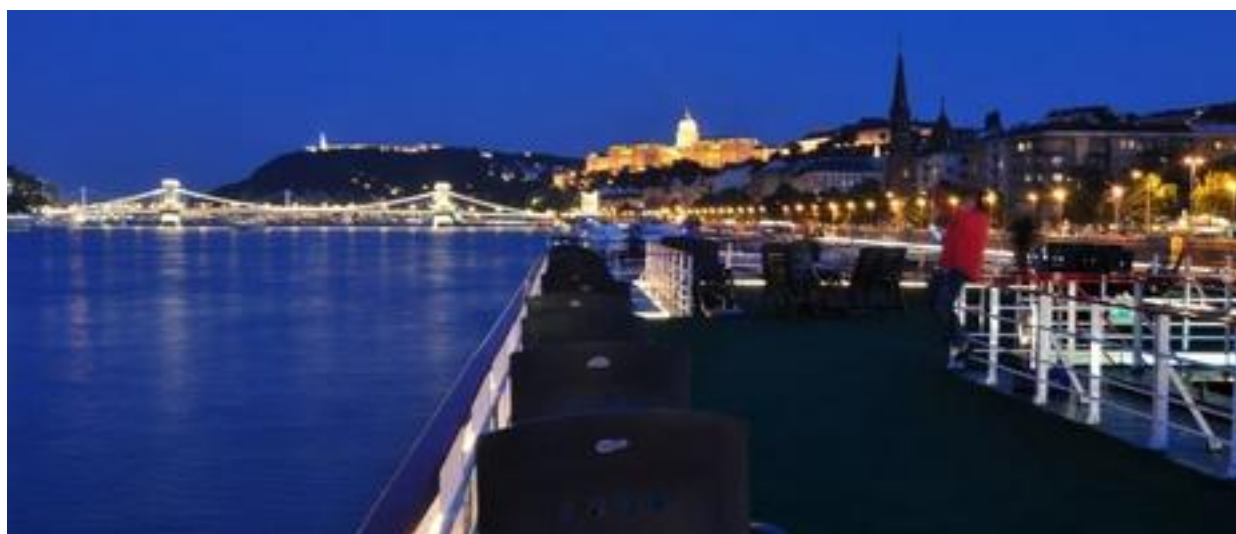
### Day 2. Engelhartszell - Aschach - Vienna

Today starts in Engelhartszell where we head towards the 'Great Loop' - one of the most beautiful and original sectors of the Danube. While cycling, encounter small villages and cozy must-see taverns. You'll board again in the charming village of Aschach.

**Accommodation: Onboard**

**Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner**

**Cycling: approx 40km**



### Day 3. Vienna - Bratislava

Before Vienna you can experience pure nature, wild and untamed, at the National Park Donauauen, which is one of the last, unspoiled floodplains of Europe. At the foot of the Little Carpathian Mountains is Bratislava. During a walk in the evening (optional) you can discover hidden alleys, places, and all the sights of this ambitious metropolis.

**Accommodation: Onboard**

**Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner**

**Cycling: approx 55-75km**

### Day 4. Budapest

In the morning enjoy the panoramic view of the Danube's gorgeous landscape. The gateway to Budapest is overwhelming as many of the famous tourist features are situated directly next to the shore. Nearby, you find the Margaret Island which is ideal for exploring by bike. The market hall - called 'the stomach of Budapest' - is attractive with Hungarian hand made crafts. During a city tour at night (optional) you can experience a beautiful illuminated Budapest.

**Accommodation: Onboard**

**Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner**

**Cycling: Optional**

### Day 5. Visegrad - Esztergom

The Danube bend, also called the Hungarian Wachau, is definitely one of the most delightful and attractive parts of this journey. Today's bike leg starts at Visegrad which is famous for its fortress and the ruins of the former palace. You can choose between 2 different routes: the longer one includes a side trip to the island of Szentendre and the baroque village of Valč, which has been influenced by the architects of Austria's empress Maria Theresa. The shorter route leads you directly to the bishop-town of Esztergom with its gorgeous basilica - Hungary's largest Catholic Church which overlooks the village.

**Accommodation: Onboard**

**Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner**

**Cycling: approx 24-57km**

### Day 6. Vienna

Discover Vienna's most beautiful attractions. During a city tour by bike you will experience up close the most famous examples of architecture; the imperial Hofburg, St. Stephens Cathedral, the gorgeous boulevard 'Ringstraße' with the State Opera House, the Burgtheater and town hall, as well as the colorful 'Hunderwasserhaus' and the Ferry wheel, which is situated directly at the Prater. Take time to relax at one of the numerous small coffee bars. The evening ends impressively with a Waltz and Opera Concert at the Hofburg(optional), or at a wine tavern.

**Accommodation: Onboard**

**Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner**

**Cycling: Optional**



### Day 7. Krems - Melk

Today you will pass by small quaint towns, apricot trees, vineyards, castles, monasteries and ruins along sloping hills. This is pure biking bliss! In Spitz, you will find comfy wine taverns along your bike route. There you can take a well-deserved break! You have to walk along with your bike through Dürstein's narrow alleys. King Richard Lionheart was not a voluntary guest here during the medieval times. At the end of this stage is Melk, famous for its gorgeous baroque monastery of the Benedictine monks. This evening enjoy a ceremonial gala dinner, with lots of fun and entertainment on board during a folklore show.

**Accommodation: Onboard**

**Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner**

**Cycling: approx 36km**

### Day 8. Passau

After rest and relaxation, and definitely being in good spirits you will arrive in Passau in the late morning. Disembarkation is approximately 12pm. We do however advise you to be flexible with the departure time.

**Accommodation: Onboard**

**Meals: Breakfast**

**No Cycling**

## Accommodation - MV THEODOR KOERNER

This charming ship of traditional craftsmanship has a very comfortable and nostalgic atmosphere. On board, the guest is king! Our crew aims to satisfy every wish and also makes a large contribution to the unbelievable successfulness of this voyage. Your bike tour through various countries is a culinary expedition through the diversity of national and regional cuisine; in the evening musicians will perform and even dance!

The ship offers a restaurant, a panorama-bar, a salon with sunny verandas as well as a spacious sun deck with lounge chairs that are at your disposal. Books and magazines in our air-conditioned library provide relaxation and reading pleasure as well as parlour games, which offer all kinds of disport. Our dignified furnished cabins are quaint and rustic, approx. 8m<sup>2</sup>, big and equipped with either 2 adjoined beds (2-Bed-Cabin) or with bunk beds (Double-Cabin), en suite (shower and toilet), TV, radio and air condition. 3-Bed-Cabin: Wiendeck: 2 adjoined beds and 1 upper bed; Linzdeck: 3 adjoined beds. The windows can be opened in all cabins on Wiendeck and in most double cabins amidship on Linzdeck.

**Technical Details:** length 87 m, breadth 17 m, draft 1,70 m, speed max. 25 km/h; 65 cabins, max. 135 passengers



## Tour Information

### Included in the tour price:

- 7 nights in external cabins with air conditioning
- Welcome cocktail
- Daily cabin cleaning
- Full board: breakfast, packed lunch, afternoon coffee break, dinner
- Gala-Dinner with Farewell-Cocktail
- Farewell-Crew-Show
- Daily Live-Music
- Bike rental
- 1x detailed map and information material
- Daily informational meetings
- Cruise director/tour guide on board

### Not included in the tour price

- International flights and/or Travel visas (where applicable)
- Single Supplement
- Meals not included above
- Travel Insurance
- Tips for guides and restaurant / hotel staff

### Tour Grade

This tour is graded 1/2 easy (on a scale of 1-10 with 9/10 being extreme).

### Fitness Required

A low level of fitness is required, exercising at least once a week prior to the tour.