

Cycling Europe

THE ROMANTIC ROAD 2020

WÜRZBURG TO DONAUWÖRTH, 8 DAYS/7 NIGHTS, APPROX. 307KMS

DONAUWÖRTH TO FÜSSEN, 6 DAYS/5 NIGHTS, APPROX. 216KMS



Fairy Tale Landscapes, Traditional Bavarian Cuisine & Rich History. Germany's oldest and most celebrated tourist route, the Romantic Road takes the cyclist through a rich heritage of Bavarian history, art and culture. Baroque gardens, rococo churches, fairytale castles, towers and gateways that speak of mystery and intrigue. The Romantic Road offers historical drama extending from Roman times to the present day. The actors are the emperors, kings, nobles, burghers and peasants. The set varies from magnificent residences, monasteries, cathedrals and castles in an ever-changing landscape from Würzburg to the Austrian Alps. The Romantic Road personifies "the fine art of bicycle touring." With an incredible network of cycling paths, you see more of the Bavarian countryside, away from traffic. From Würzburg to Rothenburg, the "Gem of Germany," to the fairy tale castles of King Ludwig II perched on the cliffs of the Alps, cycle through the river valleys and forests of southern Germany. A once in a lifetime trip through one of the most beautiful and historic areas in all of Europe.

ITINERARY: WÜRZBURG TO DONAUWÖRTH OR RAIN

Day 1: Würzburg

Starting point of your journey is the Frankish residence town Würzburg. With its splendid buildings, the residence and the fortress Marienburg, the town became world-famous. There were great artists acting: Balthasar Neumann, Tilman Riemenschneider and Tiepolo. Enjoy the charm of this town that is located among vineyards at the Main-riverside, and experience the romantic wine taverns. Your overnight stay is in Würzburg.



Day 2: Würzburg - Wertheim

You leave Würzburg on a path through a forest and along the Steinbach valley. Worth seeing is the Gothic fortress-church with the Saint Mary's altar at Dertingen. Further on you cycle through small villages and follow the Aalbach River. Near Bettingen you reach the Main. Now there are only few kilometers left till Wertheim. This small town between Spessart and Odenwald forest is located picturesquely at the estuary of the Tauber into the Main. The beautiful castle ruin made of striking red sandstone stands majestically high above the old city. In the evening, enjoy the romantic atmosphere of this town. Overnight stay is in Wertheim. **Cycling: 46km**



Day 3: Wertheim - Bad Mergentheim

Today you leave the Main River and cycle on the bike path along the Tauber River. You can enjoy both: pure nature and art-historical witnesses of a thousand year-old history. As for instance Balthasar Neumann became the artist of bridge-building along the Tauber valley. In many bends the river flows first in direction to Gamburg. Soon you arrive at Tauberbischofsheim with its great castle. This town has an interesting history that you can explore many buildings and monuments. From now on you follow the Romantic road to Bad Mergentheim, your overnight village. **Cycling: 48km**

Day 4: Bad Mergentheim - Rothenburg ob der Tauber

First of all a visit of the lively and friendly health resort Bad Mergentheim. The renaissance market square is surrounded by splendid buildings. Near to it is the castle with a museum. Soon after leaving Bad Mergentheim you can visit the water fortress of Weikersheim with its park in baroque-style. At Creglingen you should visit the well-known Saint Mary's altar of Tilman Riemenschneider. Finally there's the highlight of your journey, Rothenburg. Stroll around in this world famous medieval town that is surrounded by a protective wall with seven doors. At 8.00pm, make a trip through the town with the night watchman (included - English speaking guide). Overnight stay is in Rothenburg. **Cycling: 53km**

Day 5: Rothenburg ob der Tauber - Dinkelsbühl

The first destination of your journey is Schillingsfürst with an impressive baroque castle. Before you get there, there's a small ascent to cover. Biking through Feuchtwangen you reach your today's destination, Dinkelsbühl. This town lies at the idyllic Wörnitz river valley. There's a

beautiful market place and several traditional restaurants to visit. A city tour with the Dinkelsbühl night watchman is highly recommended. You spend the night in Dinkelsbühl.

Cycling: 60km

Day 6: Dinkelsbühl - Nördlingen

Today you cycle through a region of special geographical interest, the Nördlinger Ries. 15 million years ago there was the impact of a meteorite of 1500 meters diameter, which left a crater of 20 to 25 kilometers diameter. Nördlingen has Germany's only fully conserved town wall to walk on. You can enjoy the view from the 90 meters high bell tower of Saint George's church. For those who are geologically interested there's the crater museum to visit.

Overnight stay is at Nördlingen. **Cycling: 37km**

Day 7: Nördlingen – Donauwörth or Rain

You leave the Ries crater region and reach the beautiful Wörnitz valley. You pass Harburg - the old fortress sits high above the valley. Then you arrive in Donauwörth situated at the confluence of the Wörnitz into the Danube. Be sure to visit the splendid imperial street (Reichsstraße) with impressive buildings side by side. Another attraction of this town is the Käthe-Kruse-puppet-museum. Overnight stay is in Donauwörth or in Rain at the river Lech.

Cycling: Approx. 39 km (63km to Rain)

Day 8: Tour ends after breakfast

GRADE: Easy to moderate, with some easy stretches. Flat to rolling terrain, with several short climbs on a daily basis. Much of the ride is on bicycle paths.

2020 SCHEDULE:

Start any day from 20 April to 25 October (subject to hotel availability)

ACCOMMODATION:

Category A – Good to very good inns and comfortable hotels - 3 & 4*

Category B – Good inns and middle class hotels - 3*



2020 COSTS PER PERSON:

	CAT. A	CAT. B
Double / Twin Share	€799	€729
ADD High Season 15 July – 15 August	€130	€100
Single Supplement	€200	€200
Optional Dinner Supplement (3 courses)	€178	€178
Bike Rental (21-speed or 7-speed)	€ 75	€ 75
Electric Bike	€180	€180

EXTRA NIGHTS:

Wurzburg – Double/Twin	€ 83	€ 72
Wurzburg - Single	€116	€104
Donauworth/Rain – Double/Twin	€ 84	€ 73
Donauworth/Rain – Single	€122	€100

2020 TOUR COST INCLUDES:

- 7 night's accommodation on a bed and breakfast basis with private facilities
- Luggage transfers between 9.00am and 5.30pm– no limit (but not more than 20kg per piece)
- Detail cycling notes, route description, and information on places of interest
- Service hotline
- Guided tour with the night watchman in Rothenburg
- GPS data on request
- Rental bike protection insurance

Not included: Visitors tax – pay at hotel approx. €2 – 3 per person, per night

ITINERARY: DONAUWÖRTH TO SCHWANGAU/FÜSSEN

Day 1 : Donauwörth or Rain

Arrival day in Donauwörth/Rain

Day 2 : Donauwörth – Augsburg

Cycle to Biberbach known for its famous baroque pilgrimage church located on the hill above the village. The last part of today's distance brings you to the memorial stone "Via Claudia Augusta" at Langweid in the independent university town Augsburg. Augsburg, the third largest city in Bavaria, was founded by the Romans and is one of the oldest cities in Germany. This city, offers numerous places of interest, the most well-known being the Augsburger Puppenkiste marionette theatre, the Fuggerei social housing complex, the Renaissance City Hall and the Cathedral. Connected to the splendid history of Augsburg are the names Fuggger and Welser, Mozart, Bertold Brecht and Rudolf Diesel. The Augsburg Confession is known around the world. Entrance is included for the Schaezlerpalais - a magnificent baroque palace in Augsburg. The Palace extends far back from the street, encompassing dozens of magnificent rooms, courtyards and gardens. **Cycling: Approx. 55-79 km**

Day 3: Augsburg - Landsberg am Lech

Today you firstly cycle to Königsbrunn, one of the youngest settlements in Bavaria. The archeological museum Königsbrunn presents regional findings of the pre- and early history till the modern time. In the centre of the city you can admire "Mercateum", the biggest globe of the world. Continue to Landsberg am Lech you will notice the well preserved townscape with its colourful row of houses. **Cycling: Approx. 52km**



Day 4 : Landsberg am Lech - Schongau

Flat cycling to Pfaffenwinkel a part of southwestern Bavaria that is famous for its religious buildings and history. The name itself refers to the local dialect for priests ("Pfaffen") - in other words, the "priests' corner". As its name suggests, there are many pilgrimage churches and monasteries in the small villages and hilly countryside that make up the area -. We recommend you cycle west of the Lech through Asch, Leeder and Denklingen to Schongau a former Bavarian border fortress with fortified passages on the town wall that can still be accessed. Enjoy the splendid view over the Lech Valley. Wander the old part of town and explore places of interest. **Cycling: Approx. 35 km**



Day 5: Schongau – Schwangau/Füssen

Cycle through the beautiful landscape to Peiting. Of the two options available we suggest Biking though Rottenbuch and Wildsteig as this is an easier cycling route. Definitely worth stopping enroute is the miraculously preserved in the beautiful setting of an alpine valley, the Church of Wies (1745–54), the work of architect Dominikus Zimmermann, is a masterpiece of Bavarian Rococo – exuberant, colourful and joyful. Enroute make a detour to King Ludwig's fairytale castles of Neuschwanstein and Hohenschwangau. The last destination of the bike tour along the Romantic Road is the city Füssen.

The city is surrounded by magnificent alpine peaks and blue-green mountain lakes. Stroll around the city in the pedestrian zone where you will see the outline of the Via Claudia.

Cycling: Approx. 50 km

Day 6: Arrangements end after breakfast in Schwangau/Füssen

GRADE:

Easy to moderate, with some easy stretches. Flat to rolling terrain, with several short climbs on a daily basis. Much of the ride is on bicycle paths.

2020 SCHEDULE:

Start any day from 20 April to 5 October (subject to hotel availability)

ACCOMMODATION:

Category A – Good to very good inns and comfortable hotels - 3 & 4*

Category B – Good inns and middle class hotels - 3*

2020 COSTS PER PERSON:

	CAT. A	CAT. B
Double / Twin Share	€749	€679
ADD High Season 15 July – 15 August	€100	€100
Single Supplement	€140	€140
Optional Dinner Supplement (3 courses)	€155	€155
Bike Rental (21-speed or 7-speed)	€ 90	€ 90
Electric Bike	€195	€195

EXTRA NIGHTS:

Donauworth/Rain – Double/Twin
Donauworth/Rain – Single

CAT. A

€ 84
€122

CAT B.

€ 73
€100

Schwangau/Fussen – Double/Twin
Schwangau/Fussen - Single

€ 97
€110

€ 67
€ 94

2020 COST INCLUDES:

- 5 nights accommodation on a bed and breakfast basis, all rooms with private facilities
- Luggage transfers from 9.00am to 5.30pm
- Detail cycling notes, route description, and information on places of interest
- Service hotline
- Entrance into Schaezler Palais, Augsburg- open 10am-5pm
- GPS Data on request

Not included: Visitors tax – pay at hotel approx. €2 – 3 per person, per night



Nördlingen

BOOK THROUGH

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