

# Cycling Europe

## Switzerland

### ALONG THE RHINE - CHUR TO BASEL

**SELF GUIDED CYCLING** via Lake Constance and the Rhine Falls  
2020 - 8 days / 7 nights - approx. 315km



*What a ride! Enjoying the wild Swiss Alpenrhein, lovely Lake Constance and the romantic Upper Rhine as you cycle from Chur to Basel. The Swiss Alpenrheine connects the mountains of Graubünden with Lake Constance. From Chur you pedal through fascinating scenery that includes the 400m deep Ruinaulta Gorge. Beautifully situated*

*wine and fishing villages and medieval towns line your way throughout. Your constant companion is the Rhine, one of the world's most important waterways. In Schaffhausen the river drops down some 23m into the pool of the impressive Rhine Falls with incredible force. Basel – your destination – awaits with a whole host of magnificent museums. A good basic level of fitness is necessary for this brilliant bike tour in Switzerland along the Rhine.*

## TERRAIN

**Mostly flat on asphalt cycle paths or quiet side roads. In towns the cycle route is sometimes on the streets. Note that you will encounter hilly sections along the Rhine. Average daily cycling between 45km - 65km.**



## ITINERARY

### DAY 1 Arrival in Chur

The history of Chur, the oldest city in Switzerland, dates back over 11,000 years. Stroll through the winding alleys and the Bärenloch in the Old Town. The complex network of courtyards in the town gives visitors an excellent insight into Medieval life. Enjoy your evening in one of the many *Beizen* (Swiss German for *pub*). Chur is well-known for its lively cultural scene.

### DAY 2 Chur – Feldkirch, approx. 65 km

Today you will cycle along the Rhine through the *Bündner Herrschaft*, one of the most famous wine producing areas in Switzerland – the Completer wine is aged for five years in larch barrels and an absolute rarity. You will then cycle through the homeland of the heroine of children's books, Heidi, and across the principality of Liechtenstein, to the Austrian medieval town of Feldkirch. The Schattenburg Castle, one of the best preserved castles in Central Europe, towers above the town at the end of the Ill Valley.



### DAY 3 Feldkirch – Altstätten – Gais – St. Gallen, approx. 45 km + train ride



Today you cross the Rhine and then go by train from Altstätten up to Gais in Appenzellerland. Alpine pasture and cows are your constant companions on the hilly route to St. Gallen, the town known for its beautiful linen and embroidery. Particularly worthy of a visit is the Baroque collegiate church from the 18th century and its library. The entire St. Gallen collegiate complex was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1983.

### DAY 4 St. Gallen – Arbon – Constance, approx. 45 km

Enjoy the downhill stretch to Lake Constance and your arrival near Arbon. Next, cycle along the lake through cultivated little Swiss villages and orchards, back to Constance. Take a break wherever you want in any of the many cafes along the lakeside, or take a refreshing dip in the water. Finally, enjoy a visit to Rosgarten Museum and stroll through the old quarter of Constance.

## **DAY 5 Constance – Stein am Rhein – Schaffhausen, approx. 50km**

Cycle through picturesque Swiss fishing villages along the South shore of the Untersee (Lower Lake) to Stein am Rhein - famous for its beautifully preserved Old Town featuring painted facades and half-timbered houses. From there follow the Rhine to Schaffhausen.



## **DAY 6 Schaffhausen - Rhine Falls - Waldshut-Tiengen, approx. 60 km**

Cycle just under 5kms from Schaffhausen to the Rhine Falls. Right in the middle of the waterfall are the Rhine Fall rocks which you reach by boat and climb stairs to the top of the rock ... an exhilarating and recommended experience! After your boat trip continue along the Rhine, passing the picturesque island-set Rheinau monastery, and on to today's destination. There are a few hilly bits along the way but you are

rewarded with amazing views.

## **DAY 7: Waldshut – Rheinfelden - Basel, approx. 50 km + train ride**

Today you will be cycling to Bad Säckingen via Laufenburg, where you will find Europe's longest covered wooden bridge. The town also has two exceptional museums on offer, the Mullmuseum (garbage museum) and the Trumpeter Museum, which tells the romantic story of the Bad Säckingen Trumpeter. You will later cycle along the Rhine's northern bank toward Rheinfelden, from where you will be taking the train to Basel.

## **DAY 8 Tour arrangements end after breakfast in Basel**

### **SCHEDULE 2020: Start any Tuesday to Saturday 30 April-03 October 2020**

**Low Season:** 30 April – 28 May, 16-27 June, 15 September-93 October

**Mid Season:** 02-13 June, 30 June – 04 July, 25 August-12 September

**High Season:** 29 May-30 May, 07 July-22 August

**Note:** The season is determined by arrival date

**Day 7:** Cannot fall on a Saturday or Sunday due to train trip

### **2020 TOUR COST INCLUDES:**

- 7 nights accommodation with ensuite in 3\* hotels
- Breakfast daily
- Luggage transport from hotel to hotel (no limit on pieces, max. 20kg per piece)
- Train ride Altstätten-Gais incl. bike
- Train ride Rheinfelden-Basel incl. bike
- Entrance Rosgarten museum Constance including 1 coffee
- Boat trip to the Rhine Falls rock
- Cycle route notes and maps (1 set per room)
- 7-days service hotline

## NOT INCLUDED IN TOUR COST

- Personal expenses, extra excursions/sightseeing, anything not stated as included
- City or visitor's tax at hotels (if applicable)

## 2020 TOUR COST – PER PERSON IN EUROS

<b>Low season:</b> Double room with breakfast	€1019
<b>Mid- Season:</b> Double room with breakfast	€1099
<b>High season:</b> Double room with breakfast	€1169
Single room surcharge	€215
Rental bike (27 speed)	€79
Electric bike	€195
Extra nights (all destinations on tour) Double (b&b)	from € 75
Extra night (all destinations on tour) Single (b&b)	from € 99

## ACCOMMODATION

Selected, good standard 3\* hotels. Note that hotels have a double bed (1 bed frame with 2 mattresses, width 1.80m). Most of the hotels do not have rooms with twin beds however we can request twin beds where possible.

## BIKE RENTAL

- 27-gear unisex bikes, derailleur gears with free-wheel chain
- Electric bike with free-wheel
- Pannier and handlebar bag, speedometer, lock, pump and puncture repair kit included

## HELMET

Rental helmets are not available on this tour - please supply your own. Note that it is not obligatory to wear a helmet in Switzerland, Germany or Austria.

**Book through:**

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