

Alpe Adria cycle path









Across the Alps from VILLACH to GRADO – sporty

The starting point of this cycling tour is Villach, situated on the edge of the Klagenfurt basin, where the rivers Drau and Gail flow together. After a few kilometres of cycling, however, it's time to say goodbye to Austria before the bike tour continues in Italy.

The Friuli Venezia Giulia region not only offers a variety of landscapes, but also invites you to a tour of a foray into the cultural diversity of the region. This mix of cultures is also reflected in the cuisine: Alpine-Austrian, Slovenian and Venetian influences characterize the gastronomic offer of the region.

Leaving the peaks of the Carnic Alps far behind you, you cycle on the south side of the Alps towards the sea and in front of you stretches the coast of the Adriatic Sea with miles of sandy beaches.

Highlights

-  Old town of Villach
-  Madonna di Lussari, Tarvis
-  Railroad path Pontebbana
-  Cathedral in the old town of Gemona
-  Gemona del Friuli
-  Piazza della Libertà, Udine
-  Basilica with baptistery, archaeological sites - UNESCO World Heritage Site, Aquileia
-  Sunny island and historic fishing town Grado

Route characteristics

-  Routing on mostly well-maintained bike paths and low-traffic side roads







Level of difficulty

Touring bicycle 

Pedelec/E-Bike 

Also suitable for families with children/teenagers with an affinity for bikes

Arrival | Travel time | Type of trip

-  Every Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday from April 24th to October 2nd 2024
-  5 days | 4 nights (incl. days of arrival and departure)
-  Stretch trip - approx. 200 cycling kilometres
-  Individual cycling trip
-  From 2 persons (single travellers on application)
-  Non schedule arrival dates: minimum of 5 persons upon request

Itinerary

Day 1: Individual journey to Villach

Welcome to Villach, an important hub in the Alpe Adria region, which is known for its thermal springs and warm bathing lakes in alpine surroundings. It's popular beyond the borders.

Day 2: Villach – Pontebba (approx. 60 km)

Following the river Gail, you leave Villach behind, and soon you say goodbye to Austria and hello to Italy. In the border triangle of Italy-Austria-Slovenia stretches the Canal valley, the centre of which is the Italian border town of Tarvis. Austrians, Slovenians and Italians have lived together here for centuries - three major European language families - Germanic, Slavic and Romance - meet directly here.

The Alpe Adria cycle route continues in the Canal valley following the course of the impressive former Pontebbana-train track and from the saddle of your bike you can enjoy the attraction of this section and the beauty of the Friulian Alpine region.

The torrent Pontebbana flows through the alpine village and once functioned as a border between Austria and Italy, as evidenced by the border stone at the bridge.

Day 3: Pontebba – Udine (approx. 75 km)

Cycling further through the Canal valley, you will discover villages whose medieval centres cling like honeycombs to the hills and slopes of the Carnic and Julian Alps. Imposing municipalities like the "lavender town" of Venzone with its well-preserved city walls or Gemona del Friuli with its majestic Cathedral of Santa Maria Assunta are definitely worth a visit.

The Venetian-influenced city of Udine exudes peace and tranquillity, while sipping a coffee at the "piazza" or during a stroll through the city centre, you can admire important buildings of the late Gothic and Renaissance.

Day 4: Udine – Grado (approx. 55 km)

Today's cycling tour takes you through the flat landscape of the northern Italian plain. Impressive cities such as the star-shaped Palmanova and Aquileia, once known as one of the most powerful cities of the Mediterranean and famous for its valuable historical archaeological sites, lie on your way.

Accompanied by a breeze from the Scirocco, you will glide past reed beds and water canals and reach Grado, a historically important fishing town and one of the most popular seaside resorts of the northern Adriatic Sea.

Day 5: Individual departure or extension

Included Services | Price per Person | Extras

Included services

- ✓ Overnight stays including breakfast in guesthouses and hotels of the 3- and 4-star category (in Pontebba: small hotel or B&B)
- ✓ Videobriefing
- ✓ Luggage transport from accommodation to accommodation
- ✓ Detailed travel documents (route maps, route description, sights, important telephone numbers)
- ✓ Navigation App
- ✓ Phone service daily from 8:30 am to 7:00 pm

Price per person

- Accommodation in a double room * (from 24.04. & 02.10.)	Euro	449,00
- Accommodation in a double room * (from 25.04. & 09.09.)	Euro	529,00
- Accommodation in a double room * (16.06.–08.09.)	Euro	599,00
- Single room surcharge	Euro	180,00

Extras

- Rental of 21-gear touring bicycle	Euro	79,00
- Rental bike TOP (unisex – men's model on request)	Euro	109,00
- Rental of Pedelec/E-Bike	Euro	179,00
- Extra night in Villach in DR/B&B *	Euro	79,00
- Extra night in Villach in SR/B&B *	Euro	104,00
- Extra night in Grado in DR/B&B *	Euro	89,00
- Extra night in Grado in SR/B&B *	Euro	128,00
- Return transfer Grado-Villach (every Mon., Thurs., Fri.)	Euro	79,00/person+39,00/own bike

* Any local taxes that may be due are not included and are payable locally

Not included services: everything not explicitly mentioned under the point "Included services" (e.g.: Travel to the return at the end of the tour; drinks, tourist tax and all extras; lunch, dinner; entrance fees not mentioned; bicycle rental and travel insurance).