

Via Claudia Augusta

Across the alps from AUGSBURG to RIVA del GARDA – classic

Out of the city and into nature!

The cycle path leads from the local recreation area of the Augsburg forest along the Lech river through botanical treasures and the Lech heathlands and passes on the lead by Schongau to the gentle hills of the Pfaffenwinkel nature region all the way to Forggensee, the Füssen bathtub. After a short intermezzo with King Ludwig's visions in his castle of Neuschwanstein your cycle trip proceeds past the Füssener Lechfall, then the cycle path continues along river Lech into the Tyrolean Alps. From Reutte an organised shuttle-transfer takes you to Fernsteinsee Castle and the cycle path takes you through the picturesque Gurgltal (Gurgl Valley) and into the Upper Inn Valley. With another relaxing shuttle-transfer you overcome the climb up to Nauders on the Reschenpass. From Reschensee in South Tyrol you take the Adige Cycle Path, along the playful river, through the lush fruit growing landscapes of the sun-drenched Vinschgau valley, via the spa town of Merano and the idyllic shimmering Lake Caldaro to the lovely Castelfeder holiday region. The wine gardens and numerous manorial castles nestle upon the hills and high plateaus around Lake Caldaro and the South Tyrolean lower land flows seamlessly into the famous Trentino. It seems just a stone's throw from Trento to the deep blue lake Garda and the craggy cliffs and delicate pink blossoms of oleander bushes by Riva del Garda.

Highlights

- Roman museum in the Augsburg armoury
- Fugger house and „Fuggerei“, Augsburg
- Historic Augsburg water management (UNESCO world heritage site)
- King Ludwig's fairy-tale castles of Neuschwanstein and Hohenschwangau, Füssen/Schwangau
- Sunken church tower of Altgraun (14th century), Reschenstausee water reservoir
- Original milestone of Rabland, city museum of Bolzano
- Tridentum. The Roman underground city - S.A.S.S., Trento
- City tower/Torre Apponale, Moated castle/Rocca di Riva, Riva del Garda

Route characteristics

- Mostly paved/asphalted bike paths, farm roads, quiet side roads and local thoroughfares
- Transfer across the toughest ascents across Fernpass (Reutte - Fernsteinsee lake) and Reschenpass (Landeck - Nauders)
- From Reschenstausee water reservoir to Merano are some longer descents

Level of difficulty

Touring bicycle 

Pedelec/E-Bike 

Suitable for families with children from the age of approx. 12 years (appropriate cycling enthusiasm required)

Arrival | Travel time | Type of trip

- 📅 Every Saturday from May 1st to September 25th 2025
- 📅 11 days | 10 nights (incl. days of arrival and departure)
- 📅 Stretch trip - approx. 445 cycling kilometres
- 📅 Individual cycling trip
- 📅 From 2 persons (single travellers on application)

Itinerary

Day 1: Individual journey to Augsburg

Visit of the Roman provincial capital „Augusta Vindelicorum“

Day 2: Augsburg – Landsberg (approx. 50 km)

The place name Augsburg derives from the Roman name of the town „Augusta Vindelicorum“, which was founded in 15 B.C. under the rule of Emperor Augustus. Augsburg's popularity however, was established with its role as a Fugger town. Therefore, a visit of the Fuggerei, which is the world's oldest project for social housing still in use today, is almost a must. The stage to Landsberg is thought to be a comfy „run in“ on almost flat terrain.

Day 3: Landsberg – Region Schongau (approx. 45 km)

On the horizon you can already see the Alps but you get to enjoy the beauty of the region Pfaffenwinkel first. Schongau features a picturesque old town and almost completely preserved town walls.

Day 4: Region Schongau – Füssen/Schwangau (approx. 40 km)

Having left the old town of Schongau the cycling path along River Lech takes you into the Tyrol. Before heading over the border from Germany to Austria the beautiful fairy tale-like Neuschwanstein castle awaits you.

Day 5: Füssen/Schwangau – Imst (approx. 40 km | without transfer approx. 70 km)

Today the tour takes us from Füssen to Reutte. From there our transfer brings you across Fern Pass in a comfortable way. From Fernstein castle you cycle past Nassereith and through the picturesque Gurgltal Valley to Imst. A “beery” adventure awaits you at the microbrewery at Starkenberg castle.

Day 6: Imst – Holiday region Lago di Resia & Alta Venosta (approx. 55 km | without transfer approx. 105 km)

After a hearty breakfast you cycle from Imst to Landeck. From there we take the shuttle up to Nauders. Soon afterwards you cross the border to Italy at Reschen pass and with it the main Alpine ridge. You cycle downwards towards Malles past Reschenstausee reservoir with the sunken church tower of Altgraun, one of the most famous photo motifs of Italy. Enjoy the first evening on South Tyrolean soil and enjoy strolling through the old alleyways of the town.

Day 7: Holiday region Lago di Resia & Alta Venosta – Merano (approx. 65 km)

Today you cross the entire Val Venosta. The route leads from an altitude of more than 1,000m down to the town of Merano that is located at an altitude of 350m. Most of the route follows the course of River Adige. From your starting place this pleasant cycling stretch leads down to the smallest town of the Alps, the town of Glorenza. Past the marble town of Laas you get to Naturns and eventually – past the impressive Kastellbell castle – to the spa town of Merano. Enjoy an evening walk through town along the “Passer” promenade surrounded by subtropical flora.

Day 8: Merano – Castelfeder Holiday Region (approx. 50 km)

There is plenty to see along this route: Niederlana's famous Schnatterpeckaltar, the largest Gothic wing altar in the Alpine area, the highest church tower of the South Tyrol in Terlan and a great number of fortresses and ruins on both valley slopes. And - after the optional visit of Bolzano you'll have the wonderful opportunity to refresh your legs at Lake Caldaro.

Day 9: Castelfeder Holiday Region – Trento (approx. 50 km)

Today you cycle along River Adige that is lined by orchards until you get to Salorno. The German-speaking part of the South Tyrol ends here. The stage finishes in the town of Trento which features an old town worth seeing with historic buildings like the cathedral and Buonconsiglio castle.

Day 10: Trento – Riva del Garda (approx. 50 km)

The last stage leads past Rovereto and Mori to Lake Garda. After a brief ascent up Passo S. Giovanni (150m) you can enjoy a fantastic view while riding downhill to the lake and Riva/Torbole.

Day 11: Individual Return Journey or Extension

Included Services | Price per Person | Extras

Included services

- ✓ 10 Overnight stays including large breakfast buffet in hotels of the 3-star category *
- ✓ Luggage transport from hotel to hotel
- ✓ Shuttle transfer from Reutte to Fernsteinssee lake and from Landeck to Nauders
- ✓ Extensive travel papers | Navigation app | GPS-data on demand
- ✓ Local tax in all places of accommodation
- ✓ Phone service daily from 8:30 am to 7:00 pm

Price

	per person
- Accommodation in a double room (arrival from May 1 st)	Euro 1.659,00
- Accommodation in a double room (arrival from May 15 th)	Euro 1.729,00
- Accommodation in a double room (arrival from July 15 th)	Euro 1.789,00
- Single room surcharge	Euro 449,00

Extras

	per person
- Rental of 21-gear touring bicycle	Euro 105,00
- Rental of Pedelec/E-Bike	Euro 260,00
- Extra night in Augsburg in DR/B&B	Euro 88,00
- Extra night in Augsburg in SR/B&B	Euro 125,00
- Extra night in Riva del Garda in DR/B&B	Euro 118,00
- Extra night in Riva del Garda in SR/B&B	Euro 162,00
- Return transfer Riva del Garda-Augsburg (every Tues, Thurs, Sun)	Euro 230,00

* Restaurant recommendations for dinner in all stage towns can be found in the travel information after booking