

Cycle route symphony HOHE TAUERN









from INNSBRUCK via SALZBUGER LAND to VILLACH

With sun flooded slopes, imposing mountain peaks towering overhead leading down to wonderful radiant green meadows and impressive waterfalls, together with a backdrop of the famous glaciers and surrounded in completely unspoilt nature, you know that this will be a good 'bike' day. Welcome to the Hohe Tauern National Park region - one of the most biodiverse and imposing spots on Mother Earth.



The Austrian states of Tyrol, Salzburg and Carinthia share this natural jewel geographically and each one offers their own regional specialities. Marvel at the high mountain landscapes of Austria's highest mountain - Großglockner and the globally important ecosystem with the glacier moraines of the Pasterze, the Venediger Group mountain range, with the famous Großvenediger peak, or the Krimml Waterfalls - one of the most amazing in Europe. This uniquely diverse landscape will inspire you!

In order to be able to take in this breath taking natural backdrop at your own pace, five famous cycle ways are there to help you to explore - the Inn, Ziller valley, Tauern, Glockner and Drau cycle paths – these link and form a harmonious network of cycle paths and are just waiting to be discovered by you.

Highlights

-  Culture and nature in alpine-urban Innsbruck / Tyrol
-  Krimmler Waterfall, Krimml/Salzburg
-  Picturesque Pinzgau and Zeller See lake, Salzburg
-  Großglockner high alpine road, Salzburg/Carinthia
-  Kaiser-Franz-Josefs-Höhe, Pasterze glacier, Salzburg/Carinthia
-  Natural heritage Raggaschlucht, Flattach/Carinthia
-  Renaissance Castle Porcia, Spittal a.d. Drau/Carinthia
-  Inner city of Villach, Carinthia

Route characteristics

-  Mostly flat, asphalted bike and farm paths as well as little-used side streets and local through roads
-  Shuttle transfers to cross the two imposing pass crossings






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

-  June 1st 2024, June 29th 2024, July 20th 2024, August 3rd 2024, August 31st 2024 (Saturdays)
-  8 days | 7 nights (incl. days of arrival and departure)
-  Stretch trip - approx. 280 cycling kilometres
-  Individual cycling trip
-  From 2 persons (single travellers on application)

Itinerary

Day 1: Independent arrival in Innsbruck

Welcome to the 3-time Olympic city of Innsbruck. Although the Alpine town is widely known as a popular winter sports destination, you will be surprised by the colourful ambience that awaits you here in the warm season. Give yourself enough time to experience and enjoy the cultural diversity of Innsbruck.

Day 2: Innsbruck – Strass im Zillertal (approx. 45 km)

The first stage on the flat Inn cycle path promises “Glittering” experiences. Accompanied by the Karwendel Natural Park, you cycle down the river towards Hall in Tirol, the former salt mine town with its glorious coinage history, and soon reach the iconic giant in the artfully designed park of Swarovski Kristallwelten (Crystal World) in Wattens. The historically significant city of Schwaz tells the story of its heyday of the silver trade, where the most influential personalities pulled the strings of global politics in the Middle Ages.

Where the Ziller river flows into the Inn and a pilgrimage church sits high up on the rock is the municipality of Strass in the Zillertal, your first stage destination.

Day 3: Strass im Zillertal – Krimml im Pinzgau (approx. 30 km plus Shuttle-Transfer)

Drawn in by the beautiful mountain scenery of the Tux and Kitzbühel Alps, your day today will take you on tree-lined bike paths through the Zillertal (Ziller valley) to Zell am Ziller. The upcoming 30 km mountain stage on the Gerlos Pass is an Eldorado for experienced "Bike Fanatics" not only due to its challenging nature, but also because of the spectacular views into the steeply sloping path that opens out between the Kreuzjoch and the Zillertal Alps. A shuttle transfer from Zell is available to help you master this imposing mountain road - including fantastic mountain sightseeing!

An almost mystical water world welcomes you to Krimml, a small town in the Hohe Tauern, which proudly presents its impressive waterfall.

Day 4: Krimml im Pinzgau – Zell am See (approx. 65 km)

Accompanied by the happy splashing of the Salzach, you cycle along the Tauern cycle path through the down-to-earth Oberpinzgau today. In terms of landscape, the Großvenediger group, located on the southern flank, with its raised rocks and snow-covered fields contrasts uniquely with the gentle pastures and paddocks on the valley floor. The farmhouses and haystacks, which are kept in a traditional style suggest a homogeneous interplay of people and nature, and you are invited to linger and taste a regional traditional ‘Mårend’ (snack). The National Park Center Hohe Tauern in Mittersill beckons you with a variety of information before you reach the Zeller See, where you can reflect and end your impressive day.

Day 5: Zell am See – Heiligenblut (approx. 15 km plus Shuttle-Transfer)

Good morning and get on your bike, another eventful day is coming!

The few kilometers to Fusch on the Glocknerstrasse give you the time you need to get in the mood for the upcoming shuttle along the famous Großglockner High Alpine Road. The untamed alpine high mountains in the middle of the Hohe Tauern National Park with all its facets of flora and fauna can rarely be beaten in terms of diversity. As you go by you probably won't see any ibex or other wild animals as they naturally take care to avoid the area by the road but the national park, far away from the pass road, is a habitat for numerous plants and animals that are essential for the ecological cycle.

When you stop at Kaiser-Franz-Josefs-Höhe, you suddenly dive into a surreal world of snow and ice, and Großglockner and the Pasterze glacier stand magnificently opposite you.

Heiligenblut, a mountain village with a religiously spiritual history, provides you with a constant view of the impressive Grossglockner, and the 'Haus der Steinböcke' will help you understand the world of these wild animal climbing enthusiasts.

Day 6: Heiligenblut on Grossglockner – Obervellach/Möllbrücke in Mölltal (approx. 60 km)

Today the cycle path now leads through the narrow and tranquil Mölltal valley to Flattach, where another, spectacular natural jewel - the Raggaschlucht (an amazing waterfall with walkway) - awaits your visit. Refreshed and cooled, follow the next few kilometres, accompanied by lush meadows and impressive mountains, along the Glockner bike path to the lower Mölltal.

Day 7: Obervellach/Möllbrücke in Mölltal – Villach (approx. 75 km)

Back on the Drau bike path, the route follows this path to the district capital, Spittal an der Drau, with its 16th-century Renaissance palace Porcia. A true insider tip along the way is to visit the Museum Carantana, in the small village of Molzbichl, where sensational finds from the early Middle Ages are located.

Finally Villach, the stage of the Austrian Faschingstreibens (Fasching Carnival) invites you, with their Mediterranean influenced flair, to a wonderful stay and this is a perfect time to reflect on all the impression gained and experiences enjoyed whilst travelling.

Day 8: Independent home travel or extension

Included services | Price per person | Optional extras

Included services

- ✓ 7 overnight stays with a rich breakfast buffet in 3 and 4 star Hotels*
- ✓ Luggage transport from accommodation to accommodation
- ✓ Bus Shuttle from Zell am Ziller to Gerlospass or Krimml and from Fusch to Franz-Josefs-Höhe or Heiligenblut
- ✓ Krimml guest card with many attractive included services
- ✓ Detailed tour information, GPS data available on request
- ✓ 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 June 1 st)	Euro 1.499,00
- Accommodation in a double room (arrival from July 15 th)	Euro 1.549,00
- Single room surcharge	Euro 269,00

Extras

- Rental of 21-gear touring bicycle	Euro 115,00
- Rental of Pedelec/E-Bike	Euro 245,00
- Extra night in Innsbruck in DR/B&B	Euro 84,00
- Extra night in Innsbruck in SR/B&B	Euro 119,00
- Extra night in Villach in DR/B&B	Euro 90,00
- Extra night in Villach in SR/B&B	Euro 125,00
- Return transfer from Villach to Innsbruck	on request

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