

# Kat's Great Adventures

**Austria – Germany - Hungary – Slovakia Impressions from the Danube Bike and Boat Tour 2024**  
**Self-Guided Tour**  
**8 Days / 7 Nights**



Accompanied by a cruise ship you cycle along Europe's second largest river Danube from the charming Bavarian “Three River City” of Passau straight into the heart of the once glorious Imperial and Royal Monarchy. Enjoy three of the most enchanting European capitals: the lively Vienna, the Slovak coronation city of Bratislava at the foot of the Carpathian Mountains and Budapest, the "Hungarian Danube Queen"! By bicycle you discover the stunning natural spectacle of the Schlögener Donauschlinge ("Great Loop"), the legendary Wachau with romantic towns and mighty castles amidst lovely vineyards, the untouched alluvial forests of the Danube National Park, as well as the picturesque Hungarian Danube bend where the important cupola of the basilica in Esztergom salutes from the distance. The highlights of the tour: Passau, the City of Three Rivers, the Schloegen Danube Loop, the Hungarian Danube Bend, the World Heritage Site Wachau, the metropolises of Bratislava, Budapest and Vienna.

## Itinerary Day to Day

### **Day 1: Passau - Engelhartzell**

Arrival in the "Three River City". Passau attracts many with the world's greatest church organs at the Stephansdom and its charming Old Town. Embarkation will be around 4:00 p.m., departure around 7:00 p.m. Enjoy your first dinner on board and an evening sail to Engelhartzell.



### **Day 2: Engelhartzell - Great Loop - Brandstatt 43 - 49 km**

The day starts in Engelhartzell (the only Trappist monastery in Austria), where we head towards the "Great Loop" - one of the most beautiful and original sectors of the Danube. Your cycling tour will encounter small villages and cosy must-see taverns. You'll board again in Brandstatt. Then, you "sail into the night" towards Bratislava.

### **Day 3: Bratislava 53 km**

Arrival at Bratislava. You start cycling from Bratislava via Hainburg to the imposing Imperial Palace of Hof's beautifully terraced gardens and idyllic manor farm. Further on to Devin and then back to Bratislava. Tip: discover hidden alleys of Bratislava, places and all the

sights of this ambitious metropolis during a tour by mini train and by foot. At night sailing to Budapest.

### **Day 4: Budapest (day of rest) | or roundtrip to Szentendre 48 km**

In the early morning, you enjoy the panoramic view of the Danube's gorgeous landscape on the sundeck. The gateway to Budapest is overwhelming, as many of the famous tourist features are situated directly next to the river bank. In the afternoon you can explore the city. Nearby, you find the Margaretheninsel which is outstandingly qualified for a small bike tour or the charming town of Szentendre with Mediterranean atmosphere and lively art life. At night sailing to Visegrad.

### **Day 5: Danube Bend - Vác – Esztergom 48 km**

The Danube bend is definitely one of most delightful and attractive parts and is called the Hungarian Wachau. Today's bike leg starts at the baroque village of Vác, which has been influenced by the architects of the Austrian empress Maria Theresia. Cycling through the picturesque and gently undulating countryside your route leads you directly to the bishop-town of Esztergom, with its gorgeous basilica – Hungary's largest Catholic Church – overlooking the village. In the night shipping to Vienna.



## Day 6: Vienna - Nussdorf (day of rest)

You should be sure to see the most famous places of interest like the St. Stephens Cathedral, the Hofburg, the gorgeous boulevard "Ringstraße" with the Burgtheater, the State Opera House or the town hall takes you back to the past. At night sailing to Rossatz or Dürnstein (Wachau).



## Day 7: Wachau – Melk – Pöchlarn 40 - 50 km

Your last biking day is a special highlight! Amidst small dreamy villages, apricot trees, vineyards, castles, monasteries and ruins, this gentle hilly landscape enchants everybody. A powerful ruin looms above the small Baroque town of Dürnstein, while the blue tower of the monastery church is a landmark of Wachau. In the small village of Emmersdorf – just opposite of Melk - you will board again. After the farewell gala dinner, you start "sailing" back to Passau.

## Day 8: Passau

Every journey draws to an end. Once again you enjoy on deck the first sunbeams and the peaceful silence of the Danube Valley. Arrival is approximately at 10:00 a.m., disembarkation half an hour later. We recommend to arrange connecting trips from noon onwards.



## Route



### Technical Characteristics:

**Tour Profile:** Easy. The bike tours are individual, at your own pace, without a tour guide, but with daily briefings on board and detailed bicycle maps and directions. When a guest does not want to cycle one day, she/he can skip the bike tour and relax on board while cruising to the next harbour.

**Distance:** 184 - 248 km

**Travel Season:** Friday departures: June 21; June 28; July 5; July 26; August 2; August 9; August 30; September 6; September 13 and September 20, 2024



**Prices per Person:**

Two Bed Cabin Main Deck	€ 1149.00
Two Bed Cabin for Single Use Main Deck	€ 1723.50
Two Bed Cabin Middle Deck	€ 1399.00
Two Bed Cabin Upper Deck	€ 1599.00
Hybrid Bike Rental 7 speed unisex bicycle, with hand and pedal break or hand pedal brakes only	€ 89.00
E-Bike Rental 8 gear with freewheel or back pedal brake	€ 199.00

**Included:**

- 7 nights in outside cabins with private facilities in the booked cabin category
- Programme according itinerary from/to Passau
- Captains greeting and welcome drink
- Daily cabin cleaning
- Changing of towels and bed clothes if necessary
- Full meals: 7x breakfast, 6x light lunch on board (non-cyclists) or packed lunch for cyclists, 6x afternoon coffee break, 6x three course dinner and 1x farewell dinner and farewell drink
- Daily informational meeting
- Information pack with route book (one per cabin)
- Tour guide on board (does not cycle with group)
- GPS tracks
- Passenger and port fees

**Not included:**

- Journey to and from Passau
- Shuttles
- Entrance fees and excursions
- Bike rental
- Ferry fees
- Drinks on board
- Tips

## The Cruise Ship MS SE-Manon



On board our comfortable premium ship MS SE-Manon you will find a relaxed and cozy atmosphere. All 75 cabins are outside cabins, about 14 square meters in size, comfortably furnished with hotel beds and featuring en suite facilities with shower/WC\* (\*cabins 306, 307, 308 and 309 have a bathtub), hairdryer, TV, safe, in house telephone and individually adjustable air conditioning. After the bike tour you can use the small inviting wellness area with sauna and whirlpool, read a book in the pleasant library or relax in the panorama salon. Then enjoy your dinner in the restaurant with panoramic views. The spacious and partly shaded sun deck holds deck chairs, which invite you to enjoy the passing scenery. Here is also the storage space for the bicycles. A special highlight is the outdoor pool (8.7 meters by 4.5 meters). Middle deck and upper deck can be reached by elevator.



## Bikes

### Hybrid Bike



The bikes are fitted with comfortable Selle Royal saddles. They also come with coaster brakes or a freewheel hub – all hub gears come from Shimano – and you can pick whichever one you prefer.

We offer three frame sizes: 45cm, 50 cm and 55 cm

All bikes are additionally equipped with tire pumps, repair kits with tools and spare inner tubes. For extra storage room, most bikes are fitted with panniers and/or handlebar bags.

### Electric Bike



All the Pedelecs are equipped with Bosch mid-drive motors that come with fully integrated 500 watt Bosch rechargeable batteries. The innovative way of construction allows the batteries to become almost invisible. That way, cyclists gain the advantage of a well-balanced bike that is easily operated. It is perfect support and a high level of comfort even on long tours.