

# **EuroVelo 14**





Along the waters of Central Europe

1150km length, 2 countries crossed, 2 UNESCO sites, 4 European rivers



#### In Austria:

Distance: approx. 434km Climb: 1469m altitude Duration: approx. 9 days Accessible by public transport: very good

**Route:** Tauern cycle path, Enns cycle path, Rastland cycle path, Mur cycle path, Mostwärts cycle path and Raabtal cycle path



www.eurovelo.at









The EuroVelo14 connects well-known riverside cycle paths, such as the Tauern, the Enns and the Mur providing a journey through all of Austria's landscapes.



The start is in the world-famous **Zell am See**, which has a high-frequency train station with very good connections to Salzburg. Here the route follows the **Tauern cycle path** eastwards through Taxenbach to St. Johann in Salzburg and towards Bischofshofen, then continuing through the Fritz valley in the direction of the **Enns cycle path**. From **Altenmarkt-Zauchensee** you cycle via **Radstadt** with stunning views of the **Dachstein**, and downstream to **Schladming** where you connect with the famous **Enns cycle path**. Here, you can make a short detour to Admont and its famous monastery, as well as the small neighbouring town of Selzthal. From Selzthal you cycle along the **Rastland cycle path** to St. Michael in Upper Styria, where you change to the **Mur cycle path.** 

This takes you downstream through small villages and historic towns such as Leoben and Bruck an der Mur, in the direction of Graz. **Graz**, which is both a UNESCO World Heritage Site and a UNESCO City of design, is worth more than just a stopover.

On the west side of Graz, the design district boasts the futuristic "Kunsthaus" museum. From there, the old town of Graz is a short distance across the River Mur, where you can find a 10th century hill-top castle at **Schlossberg**. From Graz you take the Mostwärts cycle path over Laßnitzhöhe to Gleisdorf, where





you change to the **Raabtal cycle path.** Culinary manufacturies, vinyards, romantic villages as well as small towns such as Gleisdorf or Feldbach are your companions here. Finally, the route crosses through southern Burgenland, just a few kilometres from the border of Hungary and the town of Szentgotthard. Here, the EuroVelo 14 runs via Balaton and Budapest to Debrecen.





## HIGHLIGHTS



#### The hydropower concentration of the Salzach

#### **River from Taxenbach**

There is hardly any other section of the Salzach River where the surrounding geology and landscape is as concentrated as it is between Taxenbach and Schwarzach. Here, the river is held by the grip of two mountain ranges, whilst still being fed by the lateral tributaries of Rauriser and Gasteiner Ache. In the late Middle Ages they provided sufficient water power for the timber drift.

The floating logs were collected in Lend and grouped together in order to be transported to Hallein, where they were used to fuel the drying pans of the saltworks. The salt was then





transported north by boat on the Salzach River.

#### The ski jump in Bischofshofen

The Bischofshofen ski jump really attracts attention. Every year at Epiphany, the top three of the Four Hills Tournament are called to the podium at the Schanzenstadion. Sepp Bradl, born in the nearby town of Mühlbach am Hochkönig, was the first person to jump over 100 metres. Primož Roglič, a ski jumper from Slovenia, managed to swap his ski jumping career for a career in cycling. So far, he has won the Giro d'Italia and the Vuelta in Spain even several times. He managed this thanks to his aerodynamic skills on the descents, which he acquired as a ski jumper.



honoured with having his image on the 1,000-shilling banknote. Today, the Pernegg Turbine Museum pays tribute to him and provides a great place to rest and relax on whilst on the EuroVelo 14 route. It is conveniently located nearby the Bed+Bike Guesthouse "Ritschi".



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#### Energy conversion on the Mur near Pernegg

The River Mur reaches Pernegg approximately 235 kilometres away from its source, at almost 1,400 metres above sea level. At the Pernegg power plant, hydropower is once again converted into electrical energy. In addition to a Francis turbine, three Kaplan turbines provide electricity for 35,000 households. Their inventor, Viktor Kaplan, is a native of Styria. His ancestors came from Croatia and he invented his turbine at the Technical University in Brno. The pioneer was once



Photo: © Verbund, Paul Ott





#### The Johann Puch 6 Museum in Graz

The "Puch Gun Bike" ("Waffenrad") is one of the most legendary bicycles. In order to utilise the "Austrian Munitions Company" in Steyr during times of peace, production of this bike began towards the end of the





mark Tourisi

19th century.

In 1934, production moved to the Puch factory in Graz-Thondorf, which was named after its founder: the Styrian bicycle pioneer Johann Puch. The "gun bikes" were manufactured there until the brand was sold to the Italian manufacturer Piaggio in 1987. Since 2012, the Johann Puch Museum has honoured Austrian biking history inside the former factory hall of the "Steyr Gun Bike". The Bed+Bike-JUFA Hotel Graz City, 3 kilometres away, is recommended for nostalgic contemplation and dreaming.

# The Graz Clock Tower

Visible from far away, the Graz Clock Tower (the Uhrturm) stands impressively over the Styrian capital. In the 13th century it was part of a fortress complex. In 1809 the castle was captured and destroved by Napoleon's troops. However, the people of Graz soon got their clock tower rebuilt. Originally, only a long hour hand rotated around the dial; the shorter minute hand was only added later.

The clock tower has three bells today, one of which is the "poor sinner's bell" that was used to ring in the curfew for local restaurants during the 19th century. One of them today is the cosy "Steirerstub'n" Guesthouse, which is located on Lendplatz and accommodates Bed+Bike travellers for overnight stays.

### First Austrian volcano museum

www.vulkanland.at/ vulkanismus



#### Berghofer mill on the Raab

For around 800 years, the Berghofer Mill on the Raab has been tirelessly transforming wheat, rye and spelt into flour and semolina. Since 1845, the company has been run by the sixth generation of the Berghofer family: the three sisters Diana. Liane and Isabella Berghofer. Pumpkin seeds have been pressed into pumpkin seed oil for 100 years, one of "the" regional products of Eastern Styria. Today, the award-winning family business invites you to take guided tours and stroll through the Mühlenhof Garden

The mill shop offers many things, including spelt biscuits, pumpkin seeds, and the famous "Müller-Binkerl" which contains regional specialties and snack boards as well as a provided pocket knife. Bed+Bike host: Hotel & Wirtshaus Hödl-Kaplan, Feldbach.

#### The Schlösslberg near Mogersdorf

On a hill near Mogersdorf, a chapel with a large cross commemorates the Battle of St. Gotthard/Mogersdorf. In 1664, the superior Ottoman troops of Grand Vizier Ahmed



 $\odot$ Photo: Supported by 💳 Bundesministerium

Köprülü were defeated by the Allied armv under General Count Montecuccoli The battle was already recognised by contemporaries as a historical turning point: the Turkish armies lost their invincible reputation and the Habsburgs could now turn against the expansion plans of the French King, Louis XIV. However, the Eisenburg (Vasvár) armistice was unsatisfactory for the Hungarian nobility. In the former tobacco drying barn, a museum commemorates the battle. Bed+Bike host: Hotel Restau-

rant Bistro Raffel, Jennersdorf.

Arbeit und Wirtschaft



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