

Austria, Slovakia & Czechia: Bratislava, Prague & Vienna

Bike Vacation + Air Package

We designed this vacation to include the vibrant Slovakian capital of Bratislava—something most companies skip! Cycle quiet bike paths across the borders of Austria, Slovakia, and Czechia, take a boat ride on the Danube, and ride a portion of the Mikulov Wine Trail—stopping along the way to explore rich wine cellars built into the hillside. Explore Czechia’s UNESCO-protected Lednice-Valtice Cultural Landscape with your local VBT trip leaders—pedaling from castle to castle as you spin past scenic lakes and monuments. Discover the quaint village of Telč with its brightly-colored houses, explore Czechia’s protected Vysočina region, and enjoy a lively evening of traditional Czech folksongs with local musicians. Stay in a five-star Bohemian castle where you’ll enjoy exquisite cuisine and elegant vintages—and you’ll also be treated like family during an intimate dinner featuring locally made delicacies roasted over an open fire.

Cultural Highlights

- Explore the heart of Central Europe by bicycle, delving into the cultures of three fascinating countries.
- Relax in carefully selected accommodations featuring spas and swimming pools—whether in hilltop towns or UNESCO-protected landscapes.
- Cycle the Moravian Wine Road and the Iron Curtain Trail, two of the region’s most scenic and culturally rich routes.
- Immerse yourself in UNESCO World Heritage sites, including Telč’s historic town center and the Lednice–Valtice Cultural Landscape.
- Celebrate the winemaking traditions of Moravia and Lower Austria with wine tastings, winery visits, and traditional music.

What to Expect

This tour features a combination of easy terrain and moderate hills, making it ideal for both beginning and experienced cyclists. Our VBT support shuttle is always available for those who would like assistance with the hills.

Tour Duration: 10 Days

Average Daily Mileage: 12-45 miles

Average Cycling Time: 2-5 hours

Group size: 20 max

Climate Information

Average High/Low Temperature (°F)

May 69°/41°, June 76°/55°, July 79°/58°, August 79°/59°, September 69°/46°, October 56°/46°

Average Rainfall (in.)

May 1.89, June 2.44, July 1.89, August 2.0, September 1.65, October 1.06

FLIGHT DAY: Depart for Your Vacation

Your vacation is about to begin! Spend your first night aloft and arrive ready for an unforgettable trip.

ARRIVAL DAY: Arrive in Vienna / Pre-Tour Hotel Night: Bratislava

A VBT representative will greet you at the Vienna airport to start your adventure off right. A complimentary car service will whisk you across the border to your conveniently located hotel in Bratislava.

You'll be staying for one night at the elegant Hotel Arcadia, a beautifully restored 13th-century building located in a quiet corner of Bratislava's Old Town. This boutique hotel combines historic charm with modern comfort and is just steps from the city's vibrant main square, quaint cobbled streets, and architectural landmarks. Its ideal location places you within easy walking distance of Bratislava Castle, St. Martin's Cathedral, and the lively cafés and shops that line the Danube.

You are free to enjoy Bratislava at your own pace using our included city information to guide your discoveries.

DAY 1: Your VBT Vacation Begins / Bratislava Walking Tour / Danube

Meet your local guide at 9:00 a.m. in the hotel lobby. Please be dressed in your cycling clothes and bring a day bag with any items you may need for the day—including warm layers for the afternoon boat ride—as you will not have access to your luggage again until the evening. Comfortable walking shoes are also recommended.

This morning, enjoy a walking tour of Bratislava's Old Town, where you'll discover the charms of Europe's youngest capital. Watched over by Bratislava Castle from its perch on a rocky outcrop, the city unfolds along the Danube on a more intimate scale than many European capitals. You'll be enchanted by its Baroque architecture, colorful history, and whimsical bronze sculptures scattered through its cobbled streets.

After the tour, board a riverboat and head upstream to Devin Castle, a Bronze-Age fortress perched dramatically at the confluence of the Danube and Morava Rivers. Enjoy lunch on board as you cruise. Upon arrival, meet your trip leaders for a bike-fitting and safety session.

This afternoon, set out on a warm-up ride along EuroVelo 13, also known as the Iron Curtain Trail. Once a heavily guarded border, this peaceful route now winds through quiet forests and wetlands, home to abundant birdlife. Cross the Freedom Cycling Bridge over the Morava River into Austria, stopping at Schloss Hof—the grand Baroque hunting lodge of Prince Eugene of Savoy—before continuing into the Czech Republic.

Tonight, you'll stay at Resort Valtberg N48 Valtice, a charming countryside retreat nestled in the heart of South Moravia's wine region. Located in the picturesque town of Valtice, renowned for its viticultural heritage and part of the UNESCO-listed Lednice–Valtice Cultural Landscape, the resort offers a peaceful setting and modern comforts in a region steeped in tradition. At the hotel, enjoy a wine tasting under the vaulted ceilings of its historic cellar, followed by a delicious dinner prepared with regional ingredients. Raise a glass to exploring three countries in one day!

Today's Ride Choices

Afternoon: Warm-Up Ride Along the Morava River — 21 km (13 miles)

What to Expect:

This afternoon's warm-up ride follows a mostly flat, designated bike path near the Morava River, with occasional stretches along quiet rural roads with little to no traffic.

Cumulative Distance Range: 21 km (13 miles)

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 2: Lednice–Valtice UNESCO Cultural Landscape

Today, you set out into the Lednice–Valtice Cultural Landscape, a 110-square-mile tapestry of architectural and natural splendor in South Moravia and a designated UNESCO World Heritage site. This remarkable region of châteaux, pavilions, gardens, and monuments was shaped over centuries by a single noble family—the Liechtensteins.

After breakfast, enjoy a gently rolling ride along a designated bike route. This morning's scenery is a blend of manmade elegance and natural beauty: tranquil lakes, unspoiled wetlands rich in birdlife, and thoughtfully landscaped gardens—all protected within this cultural treasure.

Your destination is Lednice Castle, a stunning example of 19th-century Neo-Gothic architecture. You'll have time to explore its vast English-style landscape park, with manicured hedges, flower gardens, tree-lined paths, romantic pavilions, and serene lakes. Before touring the castle grounds, enjoy lunch on your own in the adjacent village of Lednice.

Afterward, begin your return ride to Valtice, following peaceful bike paths that wind through the protected wetlands of Moravia. As you cycle past reeds, grasses, and tree-lined riverbanks, birdsong and the rustling of leaves provide a soothing soundtrack. Along the way, you'll pass Janův Hrad (John Castle), a picturesque folly once used as a hunting lodge by the nobility. Surrounded on three sides by the Dyje River, it stands as a romantic echo of aristocratic leisure in centuries past.

Back in Valtice, perhaps visit Valtice Castle, the sister estate to Lednice. Once the seat of the Dukes of Liechtenstein, its Baroque architecture and gardens are among the finest in the region. You may also wish to stop by its Salon of Wines, where you'll find a curated collection of the 100 best wines in the Czech Republic.

This evening, you're free to relax at the resort's swimming pool or spa and dine on your own in town. Or, opt to join an open-air barbecue in the hotel's garden—a casual, festive way to end another inspiring day in South Moravia.

Today's Ride Choices

Morning: Valtice to Lednice — 40 km (24 miles)

Afternoon: Lednice to Valtice — 20 km (12 miles)

What to Expect:

This morning's ride departs from the hotel and follows a packed gravel bike path—a flat, relaxing route where you may encounter local families and fellow cyclists. A short uphill section on a paved secondary road leads to another flat bike path, continuing all the way to Lednice Castle. The afternoon ride back features flat terrain on paved or packed gravel bike paths.

Cumulative Distance Range: 20 — 60 km (12 — 36 miles)

Included Meals: Breakfast

DAY 3: Wine Route from the Znojmo Region to Mikulov / Folkloric Music

After breakfast, board a local train and head to the Znojmo region of the Czech Republic. Upon arrival, cycle along gently rolling hills through small hamlets, taking in bucolic views of farms and vineyards. You'll cross the border into Austria, pedaling into the tiny village of Hadres in the Pulkau Valley of Lower Austria. Take time to admire its charming wine street, with whitewashed press houses and family-run wineries nestled among the vines.

Back in the Czech Republic, stop for lunch on your own—your trip leaders can suggest local wineries or cafés along the route. Then continue riding to Mikulov, a town where warm climate, rich soil, and undulating terrain have supported winemaking traditions since Roman times. This scenic landscape, dotted with vineyards and crowned by hilltop views, has earned the nickname “Czech Tuscany.”

Today, roughly 95% of the Czech Republic's vineyards are found in Moravia, a region particularly renowned for its white wines, which make up nearly 80% of production. Standout varietals include Müller-Thurgau, Grüner Veltliner, Sauvignon Blanc, Pinot Gris, Gewürztraminer, and Riesling—all flourishing at a latitude similar to Alsace and Champagne.

Mikulov's rich heritage is also reflected in its beautifully preserved historic center, overlooked by the stately Mikulov Castle, an 18th-century landmark built on the foundations of a Romanesque fortress. Following the expulsion of Jews from Vienna in 1421, many settled here, and by the 18th century, Mikulov had the largest Jewish population in Moravia. Though few remained after World War II, their legacy lives on in the Jewish Quarter, a poignant reminder of the town's diverse past.

Tonight, check in to Hotel Volarik, a modern and stylish retreat located in the heart of Mikulov's wine country. Surrounded by vineyards and just steps from the town's historic center, the hotel features welcoming rooms, a top-floor wellness spa, and panoramic views of the surrounding hills—including Svatý Kopeček (Holy Hill).

This evening, gather with your group for a festive dinner at a traditional wine cellar, where you'll enjoy Moravian music—a joyful celebration of your journey through this vibrant winemaking region.

Today's Ride Choices

Morning: Dyje to Jaroslavice — 32 km (19 miles)

Afternoon : Jaroslavice to Mikulov — 39 km (23 miles)

What to Expect:

This morning, take a shuttle and train to the Znojmo region, where you'll begin the longest—but not most difficult—ride of the week. Most of the route follows the Wine Route, offering easy, flat terrain with occasional easy-to-moderate sections on side roads that often transition into dedicated bike paths through small hamlets and villages. As you cross the border into Austria, you'll tackle a longer incline leading to the village of Hadres. Once back in Moravia, your ride concludes along narrow, gently rolling roads and a bike path that leads to your hotel in Mikulov.

Cumulative Distance Range: 32 km — 71 km (19 — 42 miles)

Included Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 4: Ride from Mikulov Through Austrian and Czech Vineyards / Falkenstein / Iron Curtain Trail

Set out by bicycle along another section of EuroVelo 13, the Iron Curtain Trail. This gently rolling route traces the former post-war political boundary that once divided Eastern and Western Europe. Along the way, you'll pass remnants of the physical border—stark reminders of the Cold War era.

Cross into Austria, where you'll immerse yourself in the celebrated wine culture and protected vineyard landscapes of the Weinviertel, or "wine quarter"—Austria's largest wine-producing region. With its

undulating hills, neat rows of vineyards, and whitewashed villages dotted with steepled churches, the scenery evokes the charm of Tuscany. This region is also famous for its Kellergassen—wine cellar-lined roads that reflect a deep-rooted winemaking tradition. You may wish to pause and sample the area's signature grape, the peppery Grüner Veltliner.

Stop for an included lunch in Falkenstein, one of Lower Austria's most romantic wine villages. Your hosts, a local winemaking family, will welcome you to their cellar and serve a light picnic lunch alongside their house wines. The village's main street is lined with *Heurigers*—traditional taverns where winemakers serve their new wine with simple regional dishes.

This evening, return to Hotel Volarik in Mikulov, where the rest of your day is at leisure. Perhaps relax at the hotel's spa or explore more of the town before enjoying dinner on your own at one of the nearby restaurants.

Today's Ride Choices

Morning: Mikulov to Falkenstein — 30 km (18 miles)

Afternoon: Falkenstein to Mikulov — 15 km (9 miles)

What to Expect:

The first part of this morning's ride follows an easy, dedicated bike path leading to the EuroVelo 13 Iron Curtain Trail. After crossing the border into Austria, you'll cycle along moderate, short rolling hills on rural roads often used by local farmers tending to their vineyards. Following your visit to Falkenstein, the route mostly coasts downhill on smooth pavement through open fields and scenic vineyards. There are also optional independent rides available today—ask your trip leader for details.

Cumulative Distance Range: 30 — 45 km (9 — 27 miles)

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

DAY 5: Slavonice / Telč / Czech Canada

After breakfast, depart Moravia and travel to a very different region of the Czech Republic—Vysočina. This spectacularly preserved area lies within the Bohemian-Moravian Highlands, a scenic region of mountains,

forests, and rivers.

Begin your ride in Slavonice, a Renaissance jewel known for its ornate, wedding-cake-style houses. Cycle through Czech Canada, a beloved biking region named for its expansive forests, shimmering ponds, massive granite boulders, and natural beauty.

Soon, you arrive in Telč, where the charming Hradecké Square—one of the most beautiful in Europe—is lined with pastel-hued gabled houses, creating an ideal setting for your midday break. A UNESCO World Heritage site, Telč is considered a masterwork of Renaissance town planning. Enjoy lunch and a beer tasting at a small artisanal brewery. By some accounts, Czechs drink more *pivo* (beer) per capita than any other nation. While traditional pilsners remain favorites, the country is also enjoying a vibrant craft beer renaissance—so raise a glass and sample for yourself.

Afterward, enjoy time to explore Telč at your own pace, discovering its elegant Renaissance and Baroque architecture.

Later, settle into your accommodations at Chateau Herálec, a luxurious 13th-century manor turned boutique hotel. Set amidst tranquil grounds, the château offers refined elegance, spacious rooms, and top-tier amenities. Perhaps unwind with a visit to the spa, relax by the covered pool, or stroll through the gardens before enjoying a traditional dinner—roasted over an open fire in the hotel's park-like setting, weather permitting.

Today's Ride Choices

Morning: Slavonice to Telč — 39 km (24 miles)

What to Expect:

After a two-hour drive this morning, you'll follow an easy, flat bike path that connects the villages of Vysočina. Along this scenic route, take in views of wetlands, oak and plane tree forests, and pass a significant archaeological site as you pedal through this tranquil landscape.

Cumulative Distance Range: 39 km (24 miles)

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 6: Lipnice Castle / Světlá nad Sázavou

After an extravagant breakfast, head out on a loop ride from your hotel. The Vysočina region offers spectacular scenery—a patchwork of sylvan forests, sweeping meadows, and tranquil lakes—making it an ideal setting for your morning ride to Lipnice nad Sázavou, a humble town with a fascinating past.

As you approach, catch glimpses of its magnificent centerpiece, Lipnice Castle—one of the largest 14th-century castles in the Czech Republic and now a national cultural monument. It's believed the famed Lipnice Bible was completed here in 1421.

There will be time to explore the town's quiet streets. Keep an eye out for the Memorial of Jaroslav Hašek, a stone sculpture honoring the Czech writer and Lipnice's most famous son. His best-known work—a satirical novel lampooning World War I military authority—remains unfinished, but widely celebrated.

Continue along picturesque bikeways, passing serene vistas and tiny villages. Your route soon descends toward the Sázava River, where a peaceful riverside trail leads you to Světlá nad Sázavou. This charming town has been at the heart of Czech glassmaking since the 17th century and is now home to Crystal Bohemia, the country's largest glass producer. You may wish to stroll the nearby English-style park, adjacent to the town's castle.

This afternoon, avid riders may cycle back to the hotel, or opt for a shuttle ride instead. Later, gather for a festive farewell dinner featuring a curated tasting menu, accompanied by delicious Moravian and Bohemian wines.

Today's Ride Choices

Morning : Hralec to Lipnice and Světlá — 40 km (24 miles)

Afternoon : Světlá to Hralec — 27 km (16 miles)

What to Expect:

Ride out directly from your hotel for a challenging day on the bike, following easy-to-moderate routes through the Vysočina region. You'll cycle along rural roads through meadows, forests, and beautiful natural landscapes. A two-mile incline leads you up to Lipnice Castle, a highlight of the morning. En route to Světlá nad Sázavou, you'll ride a designated paved bike path along the river for

several miles. The afternoon ride is shorter but features more rolling hills, offering a rewarding end to your day. You may choose to complete the ride by bicycle or opt for a shuttle back to the hotel.

Cumulative Distance Range: 40 – 67 km (24 – 40 miles)

Included Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 7: Travel to Prague / Your VBT Vacation Ends / Post-Tour Hotel Night: Prague

After breakfast, board our private coach to Prague (approximately 1.5 hours). Upon arrival around 10:30 a.m., meet your local guide for an included walking tour of the city. The tour concludes around noon, giving you time to find a spot for lunch on your own.

Please note that check-in at Hotel Paris Prague begins at 3:00 p.m. While your room may not be ready upon arrival, your luggage will be delivered directly to your room once it becomes available. In the meantime, you're free to begin exploring the city at your leisure. VBT provides city information with helpful recommendations for cafés, restaurants, museums, and transportation to support your independent exploration.

Your stay is at the elegant 5-star Hotel Paris Prague, a beautifully restored Art Nouveau landmark ideally located in the historic center of Prague. Just steps from Old Town Square, the Municipal House, and the Powder Tower, the hotel places the city's architectural gems, vibrant culture, and dining scene all within easy walking distance.

Included Meals: Breakfast

DEPARTURE DAY: Departure

After breakfast this morning, complimentary transportation will be provided to Prague International Airport (approximately 35 minutes, depending on traffic) for your departing flight.

Included Meals: Breakfast

Accommodations

May vary depending on departure date.

Hotel Arcadia (Arrival Day)

Delight in an unforgettable two-night stay at the Arcadia Hotel, one of the Leading Small Hotels of the World and the first 4-star hotel in Bratislava. Set in the middle of the Old Town and close to the city's main attractions—such as the Opera House, St. Martin's Cathedral, Bratislava Castle, and Hviezdoslav Square—this lovely, carefully restored hotel exudes the romance of its 12th-century structure, graced with wrought iron from the Renaissance and Baroque eras. The foyer's arched hallways and painted-glass ceiling provide an artistic touch, and the 34 guest rooms are furnished in a classic historical style.

Yet, the hotel also offers thoroughly modern amenities, including oversized marble bathrooms, free wireless Internet service, air conditioning, and the Arcadia Spa, featuring a fitness center, whirlpool, sauna, steam bath, and private Jacuzzi. While here, you might also enjoy the open fireplace of the 24-hour Library Bar and the relaxing lobby lounge.

Resort Valtberg N48 Valtice (Days 1-2)

Set in the heart of Valtice, the Resort Valtberg N48 Valtice captures the essence of the Czech Republic in a modern yet classic fashion. A family-run business, guests experience a more intimate stay, with the comforts of home and personalized service. Located just steps from Chateau Valtice, other local attractions include Lednice Chateau and Colonnade na Reistně. The exceptional amenities, including a rooftop swimming pool, garden and barbeque, create an inviting outdoor space where guests can enjoy a delicious meal with spectacular views of the castle. The most notable wine region in the Czech Republic, the property is built amongst some of the oldest houses in Valtice, with large underground catacombs now serving as wine cellars. Elegant and spacious accommodations offer tasteful furnishings, cosmetics, air conditioning, and complimentary WiFi.

Hotel Volarik (Days 3-4)

Historic Mikulov Castle dominates the stunning views that await you at the Hotel Volarik, set just a five-minute walk from the main square of this charming town. Completely renovated in 2017, this 4-star hotel offers a host of modern conveniences, including a wellness center and spa, indoor and outdoor pool, restaurant, wine cellar, and trendy lobby snack and wine bar. Free WiFi is available as air-conditioning.

Chateau Heralec (Days 5-6)

The Chateau Heralec, a 5-star boutique hotel, offers guests a magnificently historic experience with exceptional service and enchanting charm. This beautiful and romantic castle is surrounded by the untouched nature of the Czech Highlands, the English Park from the 18th century, and UNESCO World Heritage sites. Offering one of the largest collections of branded Bordeaux wines in the Czech Republic, this stunning hotel includes a grand chateau restaurant offering tasteful dining located in the oldest part of the castle. L'OCCITANE, the castle spa, provides guests with world-class facilities and spa treatments. Harmoniously blending the old with the new, each room and suite feature sleek interior designs with individually decorated details and top of the line amenities, as well as complimentary WiFi, satellite tv, and a mini bar.

Hotel Paris Prague (Day 7)

Hotel Paris Prague, a luxury 5-star hotel just steps away from Prague's Powder Tower, is best known for its Neo-gothic style and Art Nouveau expression. Situated in the heart of Prague Old Town, this historical monument was founded in 1904 and exudes classical elegance and upscale amenities. Immerse yourself in the vibrant mecca of Prague and enjoy nearby attractions such as the Wenceslas Square and Prague Castle. Boasting notable architecture and design, accommodations range from deluxe and executive rooms to Mucha and Tower suites. Each individually decorated room features complimentary WiFi and air conditioning, as well as a mini bar and satellite TV. The on-site restaurant, with a charming Parisian atmosphere, offers delicious international cuisine.