

ALPE ADRIA: VILLACH - GRADO / TRIESTE

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DESCRIPTION

The starting point of this bike tour is Villach, situated on the edge of the Klagenfurt basin, where the rivers Drau and Gail flow together. Soon, however, it is time to say goodbye to Austria, before the cycling tour continues in Italy.

The Friuli-Venezia Giulia region not only offers a variety of landscapes, but also invites you on a journey through the cultural diversity of the region. This mix of cultures is also reflected in the kitchen: Alpine-Austrian, Slovenian and Venetian influences characterise the gastronomic offer of the region. Leaving the peaks of the Carnic Alps far behind, you will cycle towards the sea on the southern side of the Alps. In front of you the Adriatic coast will stretch with miles of sandy beaches.

All those who go to Trieste: Treat yourself to a "lazy day" in Grado, one of the most popular seaside resorts at the Adriatic Sea, before you reach the former Habsburg port of Trieste, following the sea breeze.

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE ROUTE

The tour from Villach to Trieste is an easy tour. It goes along bike paths or very quiet side roads, through small villages and picturesque landscape. The tour is suitable for children over 14 years.



A DAY BY DAY ACCOUNT OF THE ROUTE

Day 1: Arrival

Individual arrival at the starting-hotel in Villach. Parking place close to the hotel available.

Day 2: Villach – Tarvisio / Camporosso (approx. 40 km)

Following the Gail river you leave Villach behind and shortly after you say goodbye to Austria and enter Italy. In the three-nation corner Italy-Austria-Slovenia extends the Val Canale valley, whose main centre is the town of Tarvisio, on the Italian border. Here Austrians, Slovenes, Friulians and Italians have been living together for hundreds of years, because all the three big European language families – Teutons, Romans and Slavs – join there.

Day 3: Tarvisio / Camporosso – Carnia / surroundings (approx. 55 km)

Tarvisio, a small town surrounded by wide valleys and wood, in a modern garb, with an old soul and full of traditions, is today the starting point of your cycle tour. It is not only one of the most important mountain resorts of Friuli Venezia Giulia, but it is also famous for its winter offer in this region. Continuing through the Val Canale valley you can admire the beauty of the Friuli-Alps-Region with an intact, unspoilt nature and vast, intact forests.

Day 4: Carnia/surroundings - Udine (approx. 60 km)

The small town of Gemona del Friuli, situated at the southern end of the Val Canale valley and at the foothills of the Julian Alps, is considered one of the most beautiful historic towns in Friuli Venezia Giulia. The town is dominated by the majestic Cathedral of Santa Maria Assunta, which is well worth a visit. The wine prevails on today's stage. Hills full of vineyards line your way and invite you to taste some local wine. The town of Udine, characterised by Venetian influences, radiates peace and tranquillity; over a coffee in the "piazza" or a stroll through the city centre you can admire its impressive buildings of the late Gothic and Renaissance.

Day 5: Udine – Grado (approx. 55 km)

Accompanied by the breeze of the Scirocco you pass through reed landscapes and water canals and arrive to Grado, a historic city of fishers and one of the most popular beach resorts on the Adriatic sea. On the way, the UNESCO World Heritage Site, the city of Palmanova and the extensive excavation sites of the ancient city of Aquileia await your visit.

Day 6: Departure

Individual departure or possibility to extend your stay.

VARIANT UNTIL TRIESTE (8 days / 7 nights)

Day 6: Day off at the sea or cultural day in Aquileia

You are spoiled for choice: either an exciting day of sightseeing in Roman built Aquileia or a relaxing day by the sea: Today you have the opportunity to discover the secrets of the Roman city of Aquileia, the so-called "Second Rome"; Roman ruin sites, ancient churches and secluded landscapes on the edge of the lagoon await you. Or would you rather enjoy the warm sunbeams in the deck chair on one of the miles of sandy beaches?

Day 7: Grado – Trieste (approx. 40 km + train ride or approx. 70 km)

The rough karst accompanies you through the hinterland along the Adriatic coast. Following a breathtakingly beautiful coastal area, you cycle to your destination. Miramare Palace invites you for a last visit before you enter the former Habsburg city of Trieste. The old port and commercial city is a worthy conclusion of this bike trip. If you want, you can shorten the last part of this stage from Monfalcone to Trieste by train (ticket <u>not</u> included).

Day 8: Departure

Individual departure or possibility to extend your stay.



SPORTIVE VARIANT UNTIL GRADO (5 days/4 nights)

Day 1: Arrival

Individual arrival at the starting-hotel in Villach. Parking place close to the hotel available.

Day 2: Villach - Pontebba (approx. 50 - 70 km)

Following the Gail river you leave Villach behind and shortly after you say goodbye to Austria and enter Italy. In the three-nation corner Italy-Austria-Slovenia extends the Val Canale valley, whose main centre is the town of Tarvisio, on the Italian border. Here Austrians, Slovenes, Friulians and Italians have been living together for hundreds of years, because all the three big European language families – Teutons, Romans and Slavs – join there.

Day 3: Pontebba – Udine (approx. 60 – 80 km)

Through the Val Canale valley you can admire the beauty of the Friuli-Alps-Region with an intact, unspoilt nature and vast, intact forests. The small town of Gemona del Friuli, situated at the southern end of the Val Canale valley and at the foothills of the Julian Alps, is considered one of the most beautiful historic towns in Friuli Venezia Giulia. The town is dominated by the majestic Cathedral of Santa Maria Assunta, which is well worth a visit. The wine prevails on today's stage. Hills full of vineyards line your way and invite you to taste some local wine. The town of Udine, characterised by Venetian influences, radiates peace and tranquillity; over a coffee in the "piazza" or a stroll through the city centre you can admire its impressive buildings of the late Gothic and Renaissance.

Day 4: Udine - Grado (approx. 60 km)

Accompanied by the breeze of the Scirocco you pass through reed landscapes and water canals and arrive to Grado, a historic city of fishers and one of the most popular beach resorts on the Adriatic sea.

Day 5: Departure

Individual departure or possibility to extend your stay.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Classification of the cycle tour: self-guided tour

Duration: 6 days/5 nights (until Grado) // 8 days/7 nights (until Trieste) // sportive variant 5 days/4 nights (until Grado)
Distance: approx. 210 km (until Grado) // approx. 250 – 280 km (until Trieste) // sportive variant approx. 170 – 210 km (until Grado)

Starting point: Villach

ARRIVAL

By car: Villach is easily accessible on the motorways A2, A10 or A11 (depending on the point of origin).

By train: Good train connections to Villach. Timetables: www.deutschebahn.de, www.oebb.at, www.trenitalia.com

By plane: Airports Klagenfurt, Salzburg and Ljubljana. There are good train and bus connections from all these cities to your starting point.

ACCOMMODATION

Hotels in 3-, partly 4-star-category // Attention: Tourist tax – if requested – has to be paid on the spot.

PARKING

- Free unattended public parking close to the centre
- Depending on the first hotel, unattended parking facilities are available either directly at your hotel or nearby (for the first night)
- Public parking garage (approx. €40.00 per week)

Reservation of the parking area / parking garage not possible; payable on the spot.

TRANSFER

From Grado: Every Monday, Thursday and Friday return transfer from Grado to Villach by shuttle bus – €79.00 per person + €39.00 per own bike (reservation and payment upon booking).

From Trieste: Every Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday return transfer from Trieste to Villach by shuttle bus – €85.00 per person + €39.00 per own bike (reservation and payment upon booking).

ALTERNATIVE From Grado: By bus to the train station Cervignano-Aquileia-Grado and proceeding by train to Udine and Villach. From Trieste: Train connections Trieste > Udine and Udine > Villach. Timetables: www.oebb.at, www.trenitalia.com

RENTAL BIKES

- 21-gears women's or men's bicycle
- Rental Bike TOP
- E-bike (UNISEX bike, 500 W battery; range up to 100 km)



INCLUDED SERVICES

- Accommodation in hotels in 3-, partly 4-star-category
- Breakfast buffet or full breakfast
- Video briefing/Information video about the cycling tour
- Luggage transfer from hotel to hotel
- Well planned routes
- Detailed documents (maps, route description, places to visit, important telephone numbers)
- Telephone service hotline for the entire tour
- Navigation app

NOT INCLUDED SERVICES

- Arrival to the starting point of the tour
- Departure at the end of the tour
- Drinks, tourist tax and all extras
- Lunch, Dinner
- Not mentioned entries
- Rental bikes and travel insurance
- All not expressly mentioned under the item "Included services"

STARTING DATES 2024

ARRIVAL

Every Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday: 24/04/2024 (first available date) to 02/10/2024 (last available date)

DISABLED DATES (no start possible!)

27/07/2024 up to and including 03/08/2024 // 31/08/2024 up to and including 07/09/2024

NON SCHEDULE ARRIVAL DATES

Minimum of 5 persons upon request!

PRICES 2024

SELF-GUIDED TOUR VILLACH - GRADO (6 days / 5 nights)	
Package price per person in a double room incl. breakfast – Season 1*	€ 549.00*
Package price per person in a double room incl. breakfast – Season 2**	€ 649.00**
Package price per person in a double room incl. breakfast – Season 3***	€ 689.00***
Surcharge double room for single use, per person	€ 229.00
ADDITIONAL SERVICES	
Rental Bike (Trekking, 21 gears)	€ 89.00
Rental Bike TOP	€ 119.00
E-bike	€ 199.00
EXTRA NIGHTS IN VILLACH	
Per person and night in a double room incl. breakfast	€ 79.00
Surcharge double room for single use, per person	€ 25.00
EXTRA NIGHTS IN GRADO	
Per person and night in a double room incl. breakfast	€ 89.00
Surcharge double room for single use, per person	€ 39.00



SELF-GUIDED TOUR VILLACH – TRIESTE (8 days / 7 nights)	
Package price per person in a double room incl. breakfast – Season 1*	€ 749.00*
Package price per person in a double room incl. breakfast – Season 2**	€ 819.00**
Package price per person in a double room incl. breakfast – Season 3***	€ 859.00***
Surcharge double room for single use, per person	€ 259.00
ADDITIONAL SERVICES	
Rental Bike (Trekking, 21 gears)	€ 99.00
Rental Bike TOP	€ 169.00
E-bike	€ 249.00
EXTRA NIGHTS IN VILLACH	
Per person and night in a double room incl. breakfast	€ 79.00
Surcharge double room for single use, per person	€ 25.00
EXTRA NIGHTS IN TRIESTE	
Per person and night in a double room incl. breakfast	€ 89.00
Surcharge double room for single use, per person	€ 39.00

SELF-GUIDED TOUR VILLACH – GRADO SPORTIVE (5 days / 4 nights)	
Package price per person in a double room incl. breakfast – Season 1*	€ 449.00*
Package price per person in a double room incl. breakfast – Season 2**	€ 529.00**
Package price per person in a double room incl. breakfast – Season 3***	€ 599.00***
Surcharge double room for single use, per person	€ 180.00
ADDITIONAL SERVICES	
Rental Bike (Trekking, 21 gears)	€ 79.00
Rental Bike TOP	€ 109.00
E-bike	€ 179.00
EXTRA NIGHTS IN VILLACH	
Per person and night in a double room incl. breakfast	€ 79.00
Surcharge double room for single use, per person	€ 25.00
EXTRA NIGHTS IN GRADO	
Per person and night in a double room incl. breakfast	€ 89.00
Surcharge double room for single use, per person	€ 39.00

We suggest travel insurance. Changes in the offer as well as errors, printing errors and arithmetic errors reserved!

^{*} Season 1: arrival dates 24/04/2024 and 02/10/2024

^{**} Season 2: arrival dates from 25/04/2024 up to and including 15/06/20243 and from 09/09/2024 up to and including 01/10/2024

^{***} Season 3: arrival dates from 16/06/2024 up to and including 08/09/2024