



Kärnten Werbung / Edward Gröger

self-guided tour

bicycle holiday

DIFFICULTY: medium

DURATION: 8 days / 7 nights

DISTANCE: approx. 420 km

DESCRIPTION

The Carinthian Lake Loop is an approx. 400km long cycle tour to the most beautiful lakes of Carinthia. Past blue and turquoise lakes, accompanied by a hilly and mountainous landscape, the route fascinates with a varied landscape. The Mediterranean influence in the south of Austria makes cycling a pleasure from April to October. The sportive or e-bike tour is a cycling tour for sporty, more ambitious and more experienced cyclists. There are some ascents to overcome and the route also leads along roads with heavier traffic for several kilometres in some sections.

The cycle tour takes you from Villach, the cycling capital of Carinthia, to Lake Ossiacher See, Lake Millstätter See, Lake Weissensee, Lake Presssegger See, Lake Faaker See and Lake Wörthersee. The well-known Drava cycle path (awarded with 5 stars by the ADFC) takes you to Lake Klopeiner See and the new section in the Mittelkärnten / Central Carinthia region takes you to Lake Längsee and Lake Malschacher See.

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE ROUTE

This tour leads mostly on well laid out bicycle routes, often directly along the lakesides. In some sections the route leads along federal roads without a cycle path. In addition, there is a long slope on the route to Lake Weissensee to overcome (transfer optional). The rest of the route is mainly flat, sometimes slightly hilly. The route is ideal for E-bikes.

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 – Lake Ossiacher See – Gegendtal valley – Lake Millstätter See (approx. 70 km)

You start in Villach. Through the town the way leads out in the direction of Lake Ossiacher See where you will soon catch sight of the castle ruin of Landskron towering high above the countryside. Idyllically nestled in the surrounding mountains, inviting bathing resorts and the romantic Ossiach monastery welcome you. The dark green colour of the water is something special. You cycle around Lake Ossiacher See and then you cycle towards Lake Millstätter See. The tour leads you through the so-called Gegendtal valley past the two small idyllic lakes Lake Afritzer See and Lake Brennsee and the small town of Radenthein to the eastern shore of Lake Millstätter See. After that there are a few more kilometers directly along the lake to reach today's destination Millstatt.

Day 3: Lake Millstätter See – Lake Weissensee – Lake Pressegger See/Hermagor/Tröpolach (approx. 60 km)

Today you start at Lake Millstätter See and then you will cycle to Lake Weissensee. There are two different variants to reach Lake Weissensee. If you choose variant 1, you will cycle almost car-free along the Drava cycle path upstream, where you turn off towards Lake Weissensee shortly before Greifenburg and meander through small paths towards the western shore of the lake. Variant 2 leads through the small town of Spittal an der Drau and then via the Stockenboier Landesstrasse to the eastern shore of the lake, where you have to take the boat to the western shore (ticket not included), as there is no road connection between the two shores.

Both variants are charming – simply choose on the spot which one suits your daily routine best. As soon as you leave Lake Weissensee a short ascent to the Kreuzberg Pass and a rapid descent await you, as well as a few kilometres in the dreamy Gitschtal valley before you reach the stage destination.

Day 4: Lake Pressegger See/Hermagor/Tröpolach – Lake Faaker See – Lake Wörthersee (approx. 75 km)

Your cycle tour today takes you downhill along the Gailtal valley cycle path. The wide valley is unspoilt and the cycle path runs right through the natural landscape along the river. At the beginning of the cycle tour you will pass Lake Pressegger See. Like all Carinthian lakes, it is a bathing lake with warm temperatures. Part of the tour then leads before Villach at the foot of the majestic Dobratsch mountain through a nature reserve that was created in the course of a historic rock fall. Here, too, you cycle directly along the Gail river, which is wide and shallow at this point and used as a bathing spot by many nature lovers. The cycle path continues towards Lake Faaker See. It is the emerald among the Carinthian lakes, not very big but very warm and turquoise like the Caribbean. You circle the lake from south to east and then cycle a short distance along the Drava cycle path to your stage destination – Lake Wörthersee.

Day 5: Lake Wörthersee – Lake Klopeiner See – Klagenfurt (approx. 85 km)

You start your tour through the idyllic lake valley of Keutschach. It lies parallel to Lake Wörthersee and captivates with several small charming lakes that lie like a string of pearls along your route. Near Klagenfurt you turn south and cycle through Maria Rain to the Ferlach power station, where you then reach the Drava cycle path. You follow the Drava cycle path until Tainach, where the tour leads via Stein im Jauntal to Lake Klopeiner See. Lake Klopeiner See is one of the smaller lakes but is considered one of the warmest lakes in Europe. The route then leads back along the Völkermarkt reservoir and a railway accompanying cycle path directly to today's stage destination – the provincial capital Klagenfurt. In the old town of Klagenfurt there are many buildings from the Renaissance to marvel at and captivates with its southern flair. Small bars and shops round off the ambience. Culture lovers should visit the Modern Art Museum while those interested in history should visit the newly designed Carinthia Museum. Those who prefer to look at things from above must climb the steps to the city parish tower.

Day 6: Klagenfurt – Lake Längsee – St. Veit an der Glan – Lake Malschacher See – Klagenfurt (approx. 60 – 85 km)

Today you start off in a northerly direction to the region of Central Carinthia rich of castles and many historic places. On your way you can see the Maria Saal Cathedral, Hochosterwitz Castle with its 14 fortifications, the small picturesque Lake Längsee and the imposing Taggenbrunn Castle ruins with their vine-covered slopes. Then the former capital of Carinthia awaits you – St. Veit an der Glan. You can still see the former importance of the town today. The defence wall is almost completely preserved and the main square – surrounded by magnificent buildings – invites you to linger. Afterwards, the tour leads along the river Glan and then turns south again. You will reach Lake Malschacher See, which not only offers peace and idyll with its undeveloped shores, but also invites you to take a short dip in the water. The tour leads back to Lake Wörthersee and back to Klagenfurt.

Day 7: Klagenfurt – Lake Wörthersee – Villach (approx. 45 km)

The first section today takes you along the north shore of Lake Wörthersee through the well-known and popular seaside resorts of Pörtschach and Velden. Along the Lake Wörthersee cycle path, small bathing spots invite you to take a refreshing dip. From Velden the tour returns to the Drava cycle path and past Lake Silbersee towards Villach, the destination of this cycle tour.

Day 8: Departure

Individual departure or possibility to extend your stay.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Classification of the cycle tour: self-guided tour

Duration: 8 days/7 nights

Distance: approx. 420 km

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

Inns and hotels in 3- and 4-star-category // Attention: Tourist tax – if requested – has to be paid on the spot.

PARKING

Depending on the first hotel, unattended parking facilities are available either directly at your hotel or nearby.

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

RENTAL BIKES

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

INCLUDED SERVICES

- Accommodation in inns and hotels in 3- and 4-star-category (Not all accommodations are directly located nearby the lake!)
- 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
- Boat ticket Lake Weissensee
- Not mentioned entries
- Rental bikes and travel insurance
- All not expressly mentioned under the item "Included services"

STARTING DATES 2024

ARRIVAL

Every Saturday: 04/05/2024 (first available date) to 28/09/2024 (last available date)

Additionally every Wednesday and Sunday: 22/06/2024 to 08/09/2024

DISABLED DATES (no start possible!)

27/07/2024 up to and including 03/08/2024 // 31/08/2024 up to and including 04/09/2024

NON SCHEDULE ARRIVAL DATES

Minimum of 5 persons upon request!

PRICES 2024

SELF-GUIDED TOUR

Package price per person in a double room incl. breakfast – Season 1*	€ 789.00*
Package price per person in a double room incl. breakfast – Season 2**	€ 889.00**
Package price per person in a double room incl. breakfast – Season 3***	€ 919.00***
Surcharge double room for single use, per person	€ 219.00

ADDITIONAL SERVICES

Rental Bike	€ 99.00
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 and night	€ 25.00

* Season 1: arrival dates 04/05/2024 and 28/09/2024

** Season 2: arrival dates from 05/05/2024 up to and including 21/06/2024 and from 09/09/2024 up to and including 27/09/2024

*** Season 3: arrival dates from 22/06/2024 up to and including 08/09/2024

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