

CZECH AUSTRIA TOUR

11 days / 9 Riding Days



Touring the beautiful and historically-rich countries of Czech Republic and Austria is an experience which combines great riding and classic European culture. We'll cruise the traffic-free roads which wind through lush green hills laced with vineyards and orchards and dotted with quaint Baroque towns. At the beginning and end of this tour we also ride a few stunning mountain passes, which can only be found in the Alps.

But this tour also provides a good measure of history and culture. Two of Europe's greatest cities, Prague and Vienna, are on the itinerary. Off the bike, experience the art and architecture that makes these and other cities on the tour famous. Take in a bit of musical culture and enjoy the area's fine wine and cuisine.

TOUR MAP



CULTURE

ROADS

LANDSCAPE



GENERAL OVERVIEW

DATES in 2010

May 31 - June 10
or any time May - Oct for Self guided tour

COUNTRIES

Czech Republic, Austria, Slovenia

TOUR STARTS / ENDS

Ljubljana

REST DAYS

2; Vienna, Prague

ROUTE

Mileage: 1.900 km (1.200 miles)
Daily rides: 250 - 330 km (155 - 210 miles)
The whole tour runs on asphalt.

HIGHLIGHTS

Riding in Austrian Alps, Vienna, Castles in Czech, Prague, Cesky Krumlov, Salzburg, Grossglockner pass.

ACCOMMODATION

Very comfortable, middle-class hotels, always conveniently close to the town centre.
Mostly 4 star.

DAY BY DAY

- Day1:** Arrival in Ljubljana
- Day2:** Ljubljana - Graz
- Day3:** Graz - Vienna
- Day4:** Rest day in Vienna
- Day5:** Vienna - Olomouc
- Day6:** Olomouc - Prague
- Day7:** Rest day in Prague
- Day8:** Prague - Cesky Krumlov
- Day9:** Cesky Krumlov - Salzburg
- Day10:** Salzburg - Ljubljana
- Day11:** Flight Home

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CZECH AUSTRIA TOUR DAY BY DAY

DETAILED ITINERARY

Day 1: Arrival in Ljubljana

Dobrodosli!
Welcome to Slovenia!

We'll greet you at the airport and bring you to your hotel in Ljubljana. In the afternoon, we have time for a short introductory ride around the countryside, to familiarize you with your motorcycle. Ride starts at 3 PM and takes about 2hrs. That night, you will experience a traditional Slovene meal and excellent wine, and we'll conduct a short tour briefing.

Day 2: Ljubljana - Graz

We'll start the day with some introductory riding through the Slovenian Alps. Part of the Eastern Alps mountain range, the Slovenian Alps provide fantastic riding through high alpine valleys and snow-capped mountains. We'll cross into Styria, the mountainous part of eastern Austria, and tour the meandering roads through an area famous for its vineyards and castles. Tonight we stay in Graz, the provincial capital with an exciting blend of old and new architecture. It's possible to climb the Schlossberg (Castle Hill), to view the Old Town and the ultra-modern bubble-shaped Kunsthaus Graz. Afterwards, we'll relax and have refreshments in the unique glass seashell-shaped Inisel café on the River Mur.

Day 3: Graz - Vienna

From Graz, we head north into the Styrian countryside again. We'll tour through some of the most lush farm land in Austria, an area known for its far-stretching views of intense rolling, green hills. We'll pass picturesque fruit orchards and vineyards dotted with scenic small lakes and quaint medieval towns. This part of Austria supplies the cities with water. In the evening, we'll arrive in the city of Vienna, considered by many to be one of the great cities of Europe. That night, it's possible to have dinner and a wine tasting at a Heuriger (wine tavern) where we can try some of the wine made from the grapes grown in the region we rode through earlier in the day.

Day 4: Rest day in Vienna

Vienna was once the seat of the Habsburgs, rulers who left their Baroque architectural and artistic legacy throughout central Europe, but nowhere more so than in Vienna. Stroll the interior of the Ringstrasse, Vienna's enormous pedestrian-only area, to see the ancient Stephansdom Cathedral and Hofburg Imperial Palace. Appreciate the elaborate architecture, window shop, and experience a cafe culture which has been elevated to a high art form. If you book in advance, it is possible to experience a performance at the world-famous opera or symphony. Or if a ride is in store for you, head out of the city to experience more of the fantastic countryside, perhaps stopping at a lakeside resort for a relaxing lunch or swim.

Day 5: Vienna - Olomouc

Today we ride north again, entering Czech Republic, a landlocked country bordering Germany, Austria, Slovakia and Poland. This area of Czech is known as Moravia, an area where the people are some of the friendliest in all of central Europe. Coffee breaks are spent in the central squares of beautiful Renaissance towns or at the side of clear streams in the scenic rural areas. Tonight we stay in Olomouc, one of Czech's most beautiful, interesting and exciting cities all at once. With tourist numbers down to a trickle compared to the capital, Olomouc with its squares, fountains and astronomical clock, remains one of the Czech Republic's best-value cities.

Day 6: Olomouc - Prague

Today we ride through famed Bohemia, which provides fast riding through a landscape of sandstone pinnacles, heady ravines, rich forests, and lush meadows. Occasionally we slow down as we pass through quaint towns of gabled, half-timbered houses. On the way we stop in Kutna Hora to visit ghoulish Ossuary Chapel of All Saints. Traffic will pick up slightly as we approach the Golden City of Prague, which outwardly appears as a city forgotten in time. It's a place where different architectural styles stand cheek by jowl, creating an atmosphere that's both intimate and romantic, and quite impossible to forget once you visit.

Day 7: Rest day in Prague

A rest day in this stunning city will give you the opportunity to walk the old town and enjoy its grandeur in full. Or make a day ride back into the fantastic Bohemian countryside, stopping in the legendary town of Plzen, where lager was invented in 1842. Pilsner Urquell is located here, and it is possible to visit the Brewery Museum housed in an authentic medieval malt house. Back in Prague, non-riders can spend the day taking in the many sites within Prague Castle, or wandering the lanes of Baroque neighborhoods. Finish your walking tour in the Stare Mesto (Old Town) next to the city's famous Charles Bridge. And do not leave town without tasting some of many excellent beers that are brewed here.

Day 8: Prague - Cesky Krumlov

Leaving Prague we ride south into Central Bohemia, a land of numerous castles and old towns. We ride the gentle, sweeping roads of an area of green farmland networked with small lakes, until we meet and ride alongside the meandering Vltava River. The best part of the day is fabulous riding through low, forest clad hills of the Sumava range national park. In the evening, we pull into the enchanting town of Cesky Krumlov, a World Heritage Site, where the majority of buildings are designated cultural monuments.

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Day 9: Cesky Krumlov - Salzburg

From the legendary beauty of the Czech Republic, we pass back into Austria, into the Salzkammergut, an area known for its tall pointed peaks and picture-perfect lakes which provide for great riding on twisty roads over high passes. Once the holiday destination of the Hapsburgs, we will ride narrow sweeping roads through several beautiful resort and spa towns, tucked into the side of high mountains and on the shores of peaceful lakes. At the end of the day Salzburg awaits.

Day 10: Salzburg - Ljubljana

Our last day might be the most enjoyable ride since we'll be snaking up and down high alpine passes, admiring valleys below and snow covered mountains above. This is

the Hohe Tauern (high passes), which includes some of the highest mountains in the Alps and definitely the highest mountains in Austria. Riding the challenging mountain twisties provides much memorable exhilaration on our final riding day. You can also ride the amazing road over the Grossglockner pass, the highest pass in Austria. We pass the border into Slovenia again, still on the exciting mountain roads, before dropping into the fertile Slovenian countryside and returning once again to Ljubljana.

Day 11: Flight Home

Stroll through the narrow streets of Ljubljana, enjoying the charming old town with its animated cafe culture and trendy shops. Or try Castle Hill, which provides excellent 360 degree views of the city, before heading out to the airport.

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2010 CZECH AUSTRIA TOUR MOTORCYCLE PRICES (per person in EUR)

Motorbike	Sharing a double room and riding the motorcycle two up.	Sharing a double room and riding the motorcycle solo.	Staying in a single room and riding the motorcycle solo.
Honda CBF 600 S Suzuki V-Strom 650	1.990	2.390	2.710
BMW F 650 GS Honda CBF 1000	2.080	2.490	2.810
BMW F 800 GS	2.150	2.630	2.950
BMW R 1200 GS BMW R 1200 R Yamaha FJR 1300	2.230	2.740	3.060
BMW R 1200 RT	2.330	2.940	3.260
Your Own Motorcycle	1.610	1.750	2.070
Self-guided tour	app 20% discount applies for tour prices above, contact us		

Group discounts available.

The 11 day Czech Austria Tour includes:

- Late model motorcycle with lockable hard luggage and/or tank bags plus a Third party liability insurance and Comprehensive vehicle insurance.
- Competent guide on a motorcycle.
- Support van for luggage and souvenir purchases.
- 10 nights accommodation in quality 3*** or 4****.
- 10 complete buffet breakfasts in the hotel.
- 8 dinners, mostly in traditional local restaurants.
- Guided tour of Vienna and Prague with local guide.
- Airport transfers on arrival and departure.
- Highlighted maps of the region
- Extensive tour booklet.

Not included in the tour price:

Air ticket, dinners on rest days, most lunches, drinks, gasoline, tolls, personal spending, tips.