

# **Along Elbe River to Prague**

Number of days	8
Number of nights	7
Number of cycling days	6
Total distance	275 km / 165 miles
Grade of difficulty	Easy

### **Highlights**

- Krkonoše (Giant Mountains) national park
- Špindlerův Mlýn mountain resort
- Hiking to Elbe River spring
- Picturesque dam and reservoir Les Kralovství
- Dvůr Králové ZOO
- Unique Baroque monument <u>Hospital Kuks</u>
- Hradec Králové cultural centre of the region
- <u>Pardubice</u> home of the famous <u>Velká Pardubická Steeplechase</u> since 1874
- Kutná Hora UNESCO heritage site
- Well-known spa town of Poděbrady
- Nymburk city with its preserved brick fortifications
- Prague the capital city of Czech Republic

### Standard tour program

### Day 1

### Prague – Špindlerův Mlýn

(150 km / 90 miles by minibus or car) Tour starts with transfer from Prague to Telč. You have free evening to enjoy demanding historical town with renaissance square.

## Day 2 Špindlerův Mlýn – Dvůr Králové (52 km / 32 miles by bike)

You can take a lift up to St. Peter (bicycle transfer is free of charge) and continue on the cycling path with a long slightly downhill ride through the forests to Vrchlabí. Or you can take a paved road along the Elbe River to Vrchlabí. Both options have the same length. Vrchlabí is called "The Gateway to the Giant Mountains". Do not miss the charming chateau built in the 16th century.

Then we cycle along the shore of the picturesque dam and reservoir, Les Království, on the way to Dvůr Králové. Despite its small size it is probably the most beautiful dam site in the Czech Republic. Dvůr Králové is home of a very popular and important ZOO which is specialized in African wildlife.



Day 3 Dvůr Králové – Hradec Králové (40 km / 24 miles by bike)

Shortly you will reach the little village of Kuks. Here you can explore a unique Baroque monument – Hospital Kuks. The Chapel of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary was built there in 1696, followed by the chateau in 1710. The hospital also served as a spa, which was in its time more splendid than the famous Carlsbad. You should not miss the open-air stone theatre of Baroque statues situated in the forest nearby. On the way there is the Baroque fort Josefov founded in 1780. Over the night you will stay in a city with one of the longest histories, Hradec Králové.

# Day 4 Hradec Králové – Pardubice (24 km / 14 miles by bike)

It is a short distance to another important city of eastern Bohemia, Pardubice, which will give you plenty of time to visit Kunetická Hora. There is a spectacular castle on a hill which is only 80 m high. However, the castle looks much more impressive as it is surrounded by flat farmlands. The Museum of Fairy Stories and Gingerbread is nearby. Tonight we will stay in the city of Pardubice. The city is famous for the Velká Pardubická Steeplechase, a cross-country race which has been run since 1874.

### Day 5 Pardubice – Kutná Hora (57 km / 36 miles by bike)

This day we cycle along the strengthening stream of Labe through flat territory till we reach the oldest stud farm in Europe, Kladruby. Its history reaches back to the 16th century and the local horses have been used for centuries by many royal and noble families. At the end of the day we divert form Elbe to see one of the most significant UNESCO cities of medieval Europe – Kutná Hora. Before we reach the city, we visit the beautiful classicist chateau Kačina and the uniquely preserved and breath-taking charnel-house in Sedlce at Kutná Hora with the mortal remains of more than 30 000 people.



#### Day 6

# Kutná Hora – Nymburk (43 km / 25 miles by bike)

We climb one of the few hills on our journey and head to Kolín, a significant city and important seat of Central Bohemia. A Jewish synagogue, a gothic church or a unique look-out with marvelous view over the landscape can be found there. After that we follow the newly constructed cycling routes that lead us to the city of Poděbrady.

These routes are among the best in the Czech Republic. The atmosphere of this beautiful and peaceful spa town can be enjoyed at the colonnade, where you can taste one of the local healing springs. The aim of the day is Nymburk with its unique medieval battlements.

### Day 7

### Nymburk - Prague

(45-60 km / 27-36 miles by bicycle, distance depends on your hotel's location and if you use public transportation in Prague or not).

The last cycling day offers many stops along the route again. Who is interested in history, he should make a stop at the open-air museum in Přerov nad Labem. This outdoor museum features the first old Bohemian cottages and another 31 historical buildings and structures with interior exhibitions, which have been carefully re-located from all over the Czech Republic. Upon arriving in the suburbs of Prague you can use the metro and get to the centre or you can prolong your cycling on the recommended cycling route and get almost directly to your hotel by bike. The second option is 10 km longer.

# Day 8

# Prague

The tour ends with a breakfast in Prague. You can easy prolong the tour with route Prague – Dresden along Elbe River.



### **Included on Self Guided tour**

- Pick-up from any hotel in Prague on the first day of the tour
- 7x night in chosen category Standard or Premium
- 7x Buffet breakfast
- GPX data and off-line maps for smartphones
- Maps of towns of accommodation on the tour (per room)
- Detailed cycling maps (per room)
- Program and Route Book (per room)
- Transfer to starting point
- Transfer from ending point to the last hotel
- Luggage transfers between hotels
- 24/7 AVE hotline

### **Included on <b>Guided Group** tour

- Pick-up from AVE Hotel in Prague on the first day of the tour at an appointed time
- 7x accommodation standard hotels and B&B
- 7x Buffet breakfast
- 3x Dinner (no drinks)
- Specialized AVE bicycle tour leader
- Support minibus
- Refreshments in the supporting vehicle
- Water for bike-flasks
- Maps of towns of accommodation on the tour (per room)
- Detailed cycling maps (per room)
- Program and Route Book (per room)
- Transfer to starting point
- Transfer from ending point to the last hotel
- Luggage transfers between hotels

### **Additional charge**

Local tax payable on spot (approx.  $\leq 1 - 2$  per person/night).

### **Arrival / Parking / Departure**

Start of the tour - Prague End of the tour - Prague

Airport - Václav Havel airport in Prague Car parking in Prague for 19 € per night Train station – Prague





#### Bike rental

- standard trekking bike, 24 gears or more
- e-bike
- road/gravel
- accessories:
- a handlebar bag (only standard bike)
- a lock
- a repair kit (on Self Guided option)
- a rear pannier (on request)
- a helmet (on request)



### **Optional:**

- a new helmet for a sale
- 35 € (has to be ordered in advance)



- a new cycling water bottle (has to be ordered in advance)

### Prices and dates of departure

Tour type	Guided Group Tours	Self-Guided Individual Tours
Scheduled Tours	14.7.2024	Daily, from April till the end of October
Price per person Cat B (based on double- room occupancy)	1130 €	820 €
Single room Cat B	1320 €	1000 €
Bike rental	88 €	88 €
E-bike rental	195 €	195 €
Road bike	140 €	140 €

### **Optional services**

- GPS device with recommended route -15 €, has tobe ordered in advance
- transfer airport-hotel in Prague transfer of 1-3 persons - 38 € transfer of 4-8 persons - 58 €
- 3 hour private walking tour in Prague
  - 49 Euro per person (for 2 persons)
  - 33 Euro per person (for 3 persons and more)
- <u>Bicycle trip to Karlstejn Castle</u> 68 € per person, minimum two persons
- a new helmet for a sale 35 € per piece

**Note:** Museums, castles etc. are generally closed on Mondays.

### **Contact**

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