

## Along the Morava River

Number of days	8
Number of nights	7
Number of cycling days	6
Total distance	320 km / 190 miles
Grade of difficulty	Easy



### Highlights

- [Prague](#) – the capital city of Czech Republic
- Jeseníky – hills in northern Moravia on the Polish border
- [Olomouc](#) – on the UNESCO heritage list thanks to the Plague Column of the Holy Trinity
- [Kroměříž](#) – on the UNESCO heritage list thanks to Re-naissance buildings, The Květná zahrada (Floral garden) and archbishop's chateau
- [Bata's floating channel](#)
- [Strážnice](#) – home of biggest annual folklore festival
- [The Lednice-Valtice complex](#) is registered on the list of UNESCO World Heritage monuments.

### Standard tour program

#### Day 1

##### Prague – Horní Morava

(225 km / 135 miles by minibus or car)

Pick up at hotel or airport in Prague and transfer to Horní Morava, check-in at the hotel there, adjusting the bicycle for you, practical training in safe cycling (Guided Group Tours only), dinner at town.

#### Day 2

##### Horní Morava – Šumperk

(35 km / 21 miles by bicycle)

Most of the route follows the flow of the Morava River today. There is only one longer uphill climb with 200 m gain in the last section. Near Dolní Morava you have the opportunity to visit two well-preserved bunkers. These bunkers were part of the defence system of Czechoslovakia against attack from Hitler's Nazi Germany. On our way we can stop at one of the largest Moravian breweries, Holba in Hanušovice. The Šumperk district had the largest catholic inquisitorial trials in the 1780s. Do not miss the city-hall and several citizens' houses in Šumperk.

#### Day 3

##### Šumperk – Olomouc

(63 km / 38 miles by bicycle)

We start cycling through the valley of the Desná River on lesser used roads. Outside the town of Úsov we will avoid car roads and use a nice path through the river forest.

You can enjoy a visit of the attractive Renaissance chateau in Úsov. During the 40 minute walking tour of Mladečské jeskyně (caves) you can admire the stalactical formations in all kinds of shapes.

Our tour will take you to Litovel – known as the Venice of Haná. The Morava River flows with six streams through this town, even under the city-hall and square.

The open air museum in Příkladky has an exhibition of Haná settlements and historical residential houses.

We will stay overnight in Olomouc. This city is on the UNESCO heritage list thanks to the Plague Column of the Holy Trinity. It is also the largest grouping of Baroque statues in the framework of a single sculpture in central Europe. The cathedral of St. Václav and the archbishop's palace is also worth visiting. The palace is also famous for the coronation of Franz Joseph I during the Habsburg monarchy.

Olomouc has fortress buildings built during the war between Austria and Prussia for supremacy in Central Europe during the 18th century.



#### Day 4

##### **Olomouc – Kroměříž**

**(45 km / 27 miles by bicycle)**

Tovačov is a picturesque little village set amongst ponds. Here you will find the tower of a Renaissance chateau Spanilá. Do not miss the great view from the 96 m high tower and visit the old Jewish cemetery.

Kroměříž is called the Athens of Haná thanks to many Re-naissance buildings of antique influence. Kroměříž is also on the UNESCO Heritage list since the beginning of the 1990s.

The Květná zahrada (Floral garden) and archbishop's chateau is well worth visiting. You can enjoy the exhibition of paintings by Titian, Veronese and Brueghel – masters of the Renaissance and Baroque periods.

#### Day 5

##### **Kroměříž – Strážnice**

**(60-74 km / 36-45 miles by bicycle, depends on route)**

We will enjoy a brand new special cycling path along the Morava River in the morning. Then there is a short section on roads without traffic followed by one of the oldest and most popular cycling paths in the country. These paths will take you along the Morava River and Bata's floating channel banks. We will cycle along an interesting border point between the Haná, Valašsko and Slovácko counties near Otrokovice. These are the most historical and powerful districts of Moravia. At Napajedla we will see one of the best horse-breeding farms which rears English thoroughbred horses.

Bata's floating channel was built during 1935-1938 for the industrial transportation of lignite from Hodonín into Otrokovice where Bata's factories were, as well for touristic reasons. We will pass through Velehrad, the most well-known pilgrimage site with the basilica of St.Cyril and Methodius. The regional museum in Staré Město has an exhibition of artefacts from settlements of the oldest state system, Velká Morava.

It is possible to visit another exhibition of old aircraft in Kunovice, where some of the exhibits were made in a close aircraft factory.

We will stay overnight in little town Strážnice. Entrance into the town was guarded by two fortified gates built in 16th century as a prevention against Turks. This town is also famous for biggest annual folklore festival in Czech Republic.

#### Day 6

##### **Strážnice – Valtice / Lednice**

**(64-71 km / 38-42 miles by bicycle)**

Ahead is another day on mostly new paved cycling paths with a long section along the bank of

the Morava River. For a short time we will also visit Slovakia.

Only 5 km from Strážnice we will make our first stop at Plzeň with its collection of 80 wine-cellars. The first had already been built in the 15th century. After a further 15 km we will reach Hodonín, the hometown of philosopher and first Czechoslovakian president, T.G. Masaryk. We will cycle through several small villages. It is possible to make a short stop at Lanžhot and visit a small chateau and local museum. We will also make another interesting stop at the Pohansko archeological area, where you can learn about the development of this area in the middle of the floodplain forest since the 6th century.

Tonight we will stay in Valtice, small town near Austrian border famous for its Baroque chateau from the 12th century.

#### Day 7

##### **Valtice – Lednice – Prague**

**(23 km / 14 miles by bicycle and 260 km / 160 miles by bus)**

Our last cycling day: after breakfast we will visit the Valtice chateau and then cycle through the Lednice-Valtice complex. At the end of the 18th century, the local aristocratic family, the House of Liechtenstein, began to create a unique manmade landscape complex. The complex is registered in the list of UNESCO World Heritage monuments. After 20 km we will stop at the Lednice chateau and English-style landscaped garden. You will have enough time to visit the chateau, explore other monuments around or simply relax in the garden. In the early afternoon we will return to Valtice and take a shuttle back to your hotel in Prague.

#### Day 8

##### **Prague**

Departure after breakfast unless you are prolonging your holiday in the Czech Republic.



### 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 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 (non 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

### 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



### Prices and dates of departure

Tour type	Guided Group Tours	Self-Guided Individual Tours
Scheduled Tours	4.8.2024	Daily, from April till the end of October
Price per person Cat B (based on double-room occupancy)	1390 €	1090 €
Single room Cat B	1590 €	1290 €
Bike rental	88 €	88 €
E-bike rental	195 €	195 €

### Additional charge

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

### Optional services

- GPS device with recommended route – 15 €, has to be 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)
- Bicycle trip to Karlstejn Castle - 68 € per person, minimum two persons
- a new helmet for a sale - 35 € per piece

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







### Bike rental

- standard trekking bike, 24 gears or more
- e-bike
- road/gravel bike
- 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)

### Contact

#### AVE Travel

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Czech Republic

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Web: [www.bicycle-tours.cz/](http://www.bicycle-tours.cz/)



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