

ATYPUS® journeys in central europe

...the art of travelling

GREAT JOURNEY THROUGH CENTRAL EUROPE HISTORY



Special offer of cultural walking journey will take you through beautiful countries of former socialist block. After 15 years when communism finished in Eastern Europe many things have been changed but there are many beautiful and fascinating matters of interest there too. Budapest and Krakow definitely belong to historical pearls of whole Europe. Slovakia is a small country which offers great variety of natural and cultural attractions for all its visitors. This trip will show you some of the best ones.

Day 1: Arrival at BUDAPEST and transfer to our hotel in historical centre, which is mixture of old houses, palaces and medieval cathedral with 19th century architecture and art nouveau style. Sightseeing tour of city centre and welcome dinner in traditional restaurant.

Day 2: Transfer to the middle of Slovakia, visit of BANSKA BYSTRICA with nice old town square and Museum of the resistance in the WWII. Night in BANSKA STIAVNICA - the historical mining town with picturesque surrounding filled by lakes and old mines.

Day 3: Morning transfer to village of VLKOLINEC and shorter walk in the area. The village is listed in the UNESCO World Heritage, as the settlement with the traditional architecture and way of life.

Day 4: Transfer to less visited part of HIGH TATRAS. The main valley offers a walk that

passes around its cascade and its lakes, and all this is surrounded by the rock faces of the main ridge with typical flora and fauna. Visit an open air museum of Slovak village in ZUBEREC .

Day 5: Visit of the spectacular ruins of the SPISSKY HRAD Castle, a 13th century vision in white atop a green hill. We continue driving through picturesque countryside to the medieval jewel of LEVOCA, which was centre of the most prosperous regions of the Slovakia for four centuries.

Day 6: optional day (day off)
Our hike today takes place in the unique setting of the SLOVENSKY RAJ. We follow a trail up the canyon then cross through a woodland to reach the sloping meadows of Klastorisko with ruins of 13th century monastery. Optional visit of the High Tatras.

Day 7: A day trip to PIENINY National Park on the Slovak-Polish border. Here we can take a walk along the Dunajec river or take a rafting trip through its scenic gorge. Transfer to Zakopane for overnight.

Day 8: ZAKOPANE - „Chamonix des Tatras“, the French guy would say. Center of the Polish Tatras, full of tourists and life day and night. We will make a short walk before we will enjoy the spirit of this town. An evening transfer to Krakow .

Day 9: Full day in KRACOW, a remarkable city virtually unscathed by the wars of the 20th century. We spend the afternoon individual exploring of medieval Krakow and enjoy our farewell dinner tonight.

Day 10 : Transfer to the airport for departure on homeward flights. Extra days can be added.

GREAT MOUNTAINS OF SLOVAKIA



Hiking journey to the most highest and beautiful mountains of Slovakia and central Europe. The High Tatras ridge has been great hiking paradise for visitors for long period. Recently more and more visitors come there and discover beauties of mountains and traditional folk culture of Slovaks. The area is not too large but offers great variety of attraction. The impressive peaks hail visitors from far away, surrounding picturesque scenes of mountain lakes, waterfalls. Friendly local people welcome visitors from all over the world and introduce them unusual local customs which already disappeared from the rest of the world. Trip could start in Vienna (Austria), Krakow (Poland) or Kosice (Slovakia).

Day 1: First short walk in MALA FATRA mountains. This small national park is famous for unusual Alpine flora, Orchids, number of rare birds, Eagles and also home of European Brown Bear. One of few areas in Slovakia where local people live traditional way of life .

Day 2: Climb to the highest peak of the area - Velky Krivan (1709m), reaching the summit along a fine rising ridge (6 -7hours). Shorter option for those who will take cable car to the ridge.

Hikes

Daily hikes vary from 5 - 8 hours with more options for some days. Options will be discussed with trip leader.

Walks

Daily walks vary from 3 - 5 hours with more options for some days. Options will be discussed with trip leader.

Day 3: We move to the HIGH TATRAS mountains. We stop and visit the village of VLKOLINEC which is signed in UNESCO heritage list, ORAVSKY PODZAMOK castle or the medieval town of LEVOCA, one of the best preserved in Slovakia.

Day 4: Short transfer to Popradske pleso. We follow a popular route to the summit of Rysy (2499m) also the highest peak in Poland. Its rocky summit gives spectacular views across the nearby peaks and ridges.

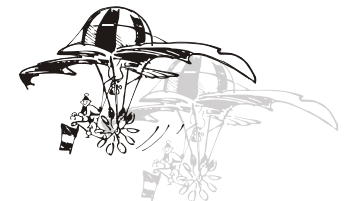
Day 5: Walk up the valley to Teryho chalet, the oldest in the High Tatras. Climb over the Priečne saddle (2352m), a fairly tough climb with a section of scrambling. Easier option possible.

Day 6: Special trip to PIENINY National Park. Easy walk along border of the river Dunajec or traditional log rafting. On return journey we stop in beautiful medieval town - KEZMAROK. Day trip to historical city of Krakow(Poland) may be arranged.

Day 7: Short transfer to the BELIANSKE TATRY, which was closed to visitors until 1993. It is known as a wildflower paradise for its high density of alpine flowers, including many orchids and endemic plants.

Day 8: Transfer to Kosice airport and flight to PRAGUE (Czech republic). Trip may continue to polish Tatras or city of Krakow. Farewell dinner in traditional restaurant in historical centre.

Day 9: Full day in PRAGUE or flight home.



ROADS WHERE HISTORY MARCHED ON

(Prague - Vienna - Bratislava - Budapest)



This great biking journey gives you a chance to discover new unknown corners of Europe on your bikes. It will take you over unique countryside of Moravia and Bohemia, lower Austria, Slovakia and Hungary. With their richness of folklore traditions, architectural pearls and natural oases of those countries. Only a few countries of Europe can match richness of the historical and architectural monuments.

Day 1: Arrival to PRAGUE and head in to Prague to explore. Welcome dinner.

Day 2: A quick transfer to the town of PISEK. Continuing south, the day's ride finishes on the banks of the Vltava river in CESKY KRUMLOV with its impressive castle and well preserved medieval town centre protected by UNESCO. Riding distance approx. 70km.

Day 3: We continue through the southern Bohemian countryside to the beautiful Renaissance town of TREBON, located in a region of pine and oak woods and large lakes. Ride approx. 50km.

Day 4: Today landscape becomes more rolling. Our target today is TELC. This town boasts a wonderfully-preserved square with Renaissance gables and sgraffitto facades. Ride approx. 50km.

Day 5: We are now heading towards the boarder with Austria. Passing through Renaissance town SLAVONICE, through mostly wooded, hilly country we ride to VRANOV NAD DYJI with another beautiful castle. Ride approx. 70km.

Day 6: Today we visit a short stretch of the Iron

Curtain - potent symbol of a recent and very different time. We are on the way to the old town of MIKULOV, on the edge of the limestone Pavlovske vrchy hills.

Day 7: In Austria the landscape remains similar, but roads are busier, highlighting the different rates of development that Austria and the Czech Republic have experienced. We transfer into the city of VIENNA, a cultural gem in the heart of Europe. Ride approx. 45Km (or 90km total distance).

Day 8: Free time to explore VIENNA

Optional extension:

Day 9: Along Danube to capital of Slovakia - BRATISLAVA. Almost all day riding through national park Donau-Marchauen. Ride approx. 70km.

Day 10: We enter Hungary and stop in MOSONMAGYARÓVÁR - known from 1st century as Roman fortress Arx Flexum. Along Danube we finish in GYOR. Town is also known as Raab. Ride approx. 90 km.

Day 11: Today first stop will be small town BABOLNA, one famous place to get racing horses. We finish in the town TATA with beautiful medieval castle surrounded by water channels. Ride approx. 60km.

Day 12: Today it will be "mountain lap" across Gerecse hills. You will enjoy several beautiful views on Donau. We will be invited by ESZTERGOM. Old city with rich history dated back to 9th century. Ride approx. 50km.

Day 13: Again on the bank of Danube river. Our bicycle path will lead us to old castle VISEGRAD originated in 11th century. Via several other old towns we approach capital of Hungary BUDAPEST.

Day 14: Free time to explore BUDAPEST. End of the trip

CASTLES, CHATEAUS AND WINES OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC



The tour will take you to beautiful and still little known areas of central Europe. You will have a great opportunity to see fascinating places like impressive large meadows with many unusual wildflowers in UNESCO biospheric reserve of White Carpathian mountains and meet local people in charming Moravian villages where folk music and customs are still alive and places where tourists are real strangers. Beautiful places of architectural and archaeological importance as UNESCO town of Cesky Krumlov and Telc, Dolni Vestonice and many others. Visit of vine cellars of local producers in Moravia and tasting some of delicious local wines add our tour new dimension.

Day 1: Transfer from Vienna to southern Moravia to the medieval town of MIKULOV. You may explore the town and castle or take an easy walk to Palava Hills (an UNESCO Biosphere Reserve with unique flora and fauna). Welcome dinner.

Day 2: An easy walk through beautiful orchid meadows of the White Carpathian mountains. The area is called SLOVACKO and it is here where the most distinctive cultural traditions in the Czech Republic still live. Visit a unique open air museum of Moravian village in STRAZNICE.

Day 3: Walk around BUCHLOV Castle and then to village of BUCHLOVICE, visiting

*Biking
Biking distance varied from 25 -50 miles and there are some options for longer days. All transfers and transport of luggages are arranged by supported vehicle. Supported*

Chateau and surrounding park. Later we visit little town of VELEHRAD with beautiful cathedral from 9th century. On our way to BRNO we stop in the town of SLAVKOV (Austerlitz), the site of the battle in which Napoleon defeated the allied armies of the Austrians and Russians.

Day 4: Relaxing day in BRNO or a visit well-known karst area of MORAVSKY KRAS with many caves. Afternoon for individual sightseeing walks including Gregor Mendel Museum, Spilberk Castle, Vila Tugendhat (signed in UNESCO cultural list), etc.

Day 5: We move to the southwest and visit several old towns with beautiful architecture sights as ZNOJMO, SLAVONICE and TELC. Continue to town of Trebon. The countryside around TREBON is a large network of fishponds and interconnecting canals.

Day 6: Morning transfer to CESKY KRUMLOV, the best-preserved medieval town in the Czech Republic. Visit the Krumlov chateau, the second largest residence in Bohemia.

Day 7: Transfer to Prague in afternoon. On the way we stop and visit village of HOLASOVICE. Short sightseeing tour of PRAGUE. Farewell dinner in traditional restaurant.

Day 8: Transfer to the airport or extra days in Prague.

We also operate similar itinerary for family and different version based on accommodation in chateaus and luxury hotels. Full details on request.

vehicle follows the group most of days. Most of days trials going through beautiful and ever changing landscape with little traffic and unspoiled countryside.



Dear Travelers,
 Welcome to Atypus® world of active journeys throughout central and eastern Europe. Atypus® walking and biking trips will lead you through still less visited corners of Europe, which offer great variety of different attractions. For over 18 years of Atypus history, we designed many unusual journeys in central and eastern Europe. Thanks our wide network of local experts and cooperators, we are able to satisfy all inquiries from any fields.

We believe that Atypus® journeys are not only an excellent value for the money, but firstly they are designed by experts with first class hotels and restaurant. It makes no difference whether you are cycling through Moravian vineyards or hiking to the summit in the High Tatras, you will always receive the best available services from us. Atypus tour leaders are the key to making every journey never-to-be-forgotten lifetime experience.

Let come with us and discover unknown corners of Europe.

For your Atypus® team
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CULTURE TOURS

BAROQUE ARCHITECTURE IN CZECH COUNTRIES

Czech countries experienced giant boom of engineering works in the first half of the 18th century. Under leadership of prominent architects Johan Bernhard Fisher from Erlach, Jacob von Hildebrandt, Octavio Broggio, Giovanni Battista Alliprandi and Maxmilian Kanka arose jewels of baroque architecture. The top of the baroque creation is represented by works of Krystof Dienzenhofer, Jan Blazej Santini and Kilian Ignac Dienzenhofer, which didn't have any analogy in whole European art of that time.

WINE TOUR TO MORAVIA

Wine was and is a drink of top excellence and is a symbol of human's skill together with the gentle influences of nature. The first written sign of wine-growing in Bohemia is dated 937 AD, when wine-growing had already been fairly developed here. Many vintners then continued this long-lasting tradition of wine growing.

CZECH HIGHLIGHTS

The great baroque castles, which have disappeared in many other countries, still retain their original garden styles. Old Gothic structures, remodeled many times over the centuries, are surrounded by vast parklands. The tour will combine visits to some of the greatest and most beautiful places in the country. Special excursions such as tasting of delicious Moravian wines or private concerts of classical or folk music add our tours special taste.



WALKING AND HIKING TOURS

SLOVAK HIGHLIGHTS

New itinerary of walking tours focused on best selection of nature and culture monuments in Slovakia. Great opportunity to come and see lost corners of central Europe. Surprisingly with high quality of services compared with other less known east European countries.

FROM BUDAPEST TO KRACOW

Variant of easy walking trip. Highlights of the trip include visits to historical cities of Budapest and Krakow, orthodox wooden churches of Slovakia and meadows filled with Carpathian flowers.

FAMILY SELF-GUIDED TRIPS

Similar variants of tours mentioned above will be also arranged for families with children. We offer different level of walks for each day to suit the age of your children and level of fitness.



BIKING TOURS

GRAND BIKING TOUR OF CENTRAL EUROPE

Two week tours starting from Vienna via Austria, Slovakia, Moravia and Bohemia to Prague (or reverse). Based on comfortable accommodation and full support. Cycling through vineyards of Slovakia, meadows of Moravia and hills of Bohemia, country roads that pass by many picturesque villages every day.

BIKING TRIP PRAGUE-VIENNA

A classical week trip from Prague to southern Bohemia and Moravia with conclusion in Vienna. Gentle cycling through lovely countryside of rolling hills with views of many castles and mansions.

BIKING TRIP VIENNA-KRACOW

Nearly two week trip from Vienna to southern Slovakia. Here are blended sunny lowlands and limestone hills for all who are fit and like to go somewhere off popular routes. The tour will take you to the less visited areas, where people so far haven't changed their way of life too much.

For list of culture events to combine with our itineraries visit our web site <http://www.atypus.cz>

