

Cycling Safaris

The Large Lake Constance Discovery Trip 12D/11N Self Guided Tour 2010



This trip includes all the most important visitor attractions in the area, which are described in the guidebooks. The stages are designed so that there is enough time to experience everything.

TOUR ITINERARY

Day 1. Individual arrival in Constance

The European church convention chaired by the German Kaiser Sigismund which fundamentally changed the Latin church, met here from 1414-1418 in the cathedral and the council building. The aquariums in the Sea Life Center and the Archaeological Museum are also recommended.

Day 2. Constance - Isle of Reichenau - Diessenhofen, ca. 29 km

The first highlight is Reichenau Island, a world heritage site since 2001. A boat will then bring you over to the Hõri peninsula and along the Upper Rhein to the medieval town of Diessenhofen with its wooden Rhein bridge.

Day 3. Diessenhofen - Schaffhausen - Diessenhofen, ca. 20 km

Today you will cycle to Schaffhausen, overlooked by the Munot fort. Then you will visit the Rheinfall, the largest waterfall in Central Europe. A boat will bring you to the Rheinfall rocks, so you will experience the full force of the thunderous waters.

Day 4. Diessenhofen - Stein am Rhein - Constance, ca. 40 km

You will cycle up along the Rhein today back to Stein am Rhein. Numerous picturesque Swiss fishing villages lie along your return path through the peaceful countryside of the Lower Lake. Napoleon's stepdaughter Hortense de Beauharnais made this area her adopted home. You will visit her former home in Arenenberg, which is now a Napoleon museum.

Day 5. Constance - Mainau Island - Radolfzell, ca. 26 km

Today you will explore the „flower island“ of Mainau. After your visit you will have a short cycle trip through Allensbach, which is well known due to its public opinion research institute, to the former imperial town and modern Kneipp health resort of Radolfzell.

Day 6. Radolfzell - Uhldingen/Meersburg, ca. 40 km

The Northern shores of Lake Constance will spoil you with numerous historical monuments: monasteries former imperial towns, baroque churches and old castles. In Uhldingen you will have the chance to visit reconstructed lake dwellings.

Day 7. Uhdingen/Meersburg – Friedrichshafen, ca. 22 km

Meersburg, awaits you today with numerous attractions. Accompanied by a beautiful panoramic view of the Alps, you will cycle towards the lively town of Friedrichshafen where you can visit the Zeppelin museum.

Day 8. Friedrichshafen - Lindau - Bregenz, ca. 38 km

You will cycle through expansive orchards and reach the Bavarian metropolis of Lindau, whose protected old town is on an island. After a few kilometres you will find yourself on Austrian soil and cycle directly along the lakeshore towards the drama festival town of Bregenz with its unique lakeside stage.

Day 9. Bregenz – Pfänder – Rorschach, ca. 30/20 km

The cable car will bring you and your bicycle to the top of the Pfänder, the Bregenz mountain which is 1064m high. Back to Bregenz you will then continue along the lake through the delta mouth of the Rhein descending from the Swiss Alps.

Day 10. Rorschach - Heiden – Rorschach, ca. 8 km walking-tour

Today you will need a sturdy pair of shoes! The small mountain railway will bring you to the picturesque village of Heiden, in the Appenzell countryside. Then you will follow the well signposted joke hiking trail („Witzwanderweg“) to Walzenhausen. The hike takes about 2.5 hours without breaks. Instead of hiking you could take the bus (Postbus: Price from ca. 6 Swiss Francs not inclusive). In Walzenhausen a mountain railway will bring you back to the lake at Rheineck and a boat will bring you along a romantic branch of the Rhein back to Rorschach.

Day 11. Rorschach – Romanshorn – Constance, 36 km

The last day on the Lake Constance cycle path belongs to the Swiss canton of Thurgau, which due to its many orchards and its comparatively isolated situation is also lovingly known as „Cider India“.

Day 12. Return home or extension of your stay

After breakfast you may return home or extend your stay.

TOUR PRICE DATES

Low Season (24April - 6May & 10September - 3October)

€1185.00 per person sharing

€1415.00 for single occupancy

High Season (7May – 9 September)

€1285.00 per person sharing

€1515.00 for single occupancy

TOUR PROFILE

This trip includes all important visitor attractions in the area, which are described in the guidebooks. The stages are designed so that there is enough time to experience everything.

WHAT IS INCLUDED IN THE TOUR PRICE

- ▶ 11 overnight stays in double rooms with breakfast in very good guesthouses, 3* und 4*-Hotels
- ▶ All Dinners
- ▶ Rooms with bathroom or shower/WC

- › Luggage transport from hotel to hotel, unlimited number of pieces of luggage, each piece must however weigh under 20 kg.
- › Boat trip Reichenau-Gaienhofen incl. bicycle
- › Boat trip Schaffhausen-Diessenhofen incl. bicycle
- › Boat trip to the Rheinfall rocks
- › Entrance to the Hermann-Hesse-Haus (museum), to the Napoleon museum, to Mainau Island, to the lake dwelling museum, to Meersburg castle, to the Zeppelin museum
- › Journey by mountain railway from Rorschach-Heiden
- › Journey by cable car to Pfänder (bike transport is free between 9-10 am)
- › Journey by mountain railway from Walzenhausen-Rheineck
- › Boat trips Rheineck-Rorschach (until 01.05.08 and from 14.09.09 this journey is not by boat but by train, in the case of low lake water levels the stretch between Rheineck-Rorschach is always by train)
- › Comprehensive tour information and maps
- › 7-day Service-Hotline

WHAT TO BRING

We would recommend that you bring padded cycling shorts and / or a gel saddle cover which will make your days cycling more comfortable. Cycling gloves are also a good investment, as are hard-sole shoes which will help protect your feet. And don't forget raingear including a rain jacket, rain pants and slip-on boots. A hat and sunglasses will protect you from getting all too much sun. Finally, please make an effort to pack lightly. This will make your travels easier and will be much appreciated with the luggage transfers.