

# Great Explorations



## Trip Dates:

2011

Jun 15-22

Jun 29-Jul 5

Jul 6-12

July 13-19

Aug 26-Sep 1

Sep 10-16

Self-guided and custom trips also available and can start any day. Call or email for details.

## 2012

Jun 14-21

Jun 28-Jul 4

Jul 5-11

Jul 12-18

Aug 25-31

Sep 9-15

## Trip Size:

8-16 participants

## Total Days:

7 days/ 6 nights

## Arrive/Depart:

Prague/ Vienna

## Prague to Vienna

From the Old World charm of Prague and the Czech Republic, our journey will include the Unesco World Heritage site of Cesky-Krumlov and idyllic countryside of southern Bohemia; in Austria, we'll follow the Danube River, where you can choose between gentle bike paths or venture into the nearby moderate hills where vineyards tempt. Our trip finishes in Vienna, one of Europe's most important artistic centers.

Only Great Explorations:

- Small groups, extraordinary guides, and authentic experiences.
- We've planned layover days in Cesky-Krumlov, Maria Taferl and Weissenkirchen-Durnstein to make this an easygoing tour.
- See lots of castles including a guided visit of Krumlov Hrad.
- Order off the menu at restaurants you won't find in guidebooks.
- Distinctive, charming hotels too small for larger groups.
- We design and operate our own trips so there are only good surprises.

## Itinerary

### Getting there :

The trip begins in Prague, Czech Republic, and ends in Vienna, Austria. We suggest that you fly into Prague's Ruzyně Airport. You can return to Prague after the trip ends or fly out of Vienna. Consider our extensions in Prague and Vienna as both of these cities are worth spending additional time in.

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## Accommodations:

[Hotel Zlaty Andel,  
Cesky-Krumlov](#)

[Hotel Schachner,  
Maria Taferl](#)

[Hotel Raffelsburger,  
Weissenkirchen](#)

## Activity Level:

Easygoing/ Moderate  
20-40+ miles daily

## Terrain:

mix with some re-warding (moderate) hills in the Czech Republic. The Danube bike paths are flat, so 3 of the 6 days are easy-going.

## Cost:

Land Cost (current year):  
US \$2250  
Includes 6B/2L/5D

## Single Supplement:

US \$400

## Bike Rental:

US \$140

## DAYS 1+2:

*Cesky-Krumlov* Our trip will begin at 9:30 at the Bellagio Hotel in Prague. We'll shuttle south to the Hussite village of Tabor to begin cycling. At Hluboka, we'll visit a Gothic castle and then have lunch in Cesky-Budejovice. Afterwards, we'll continue to Zlata Koruna, a 16th century monastery and then Cesky-Krumlov, the most exquisite town in the Czech Republic. Next day, we ride south to Lake Lipno in Sumava National Park returning along the Vltava River. Back in Cesky-Krumlov, we'll take a walking tour with a local historian including a visit to the castle of Krumlov Hrad. We'll enjoy dinner at a favourite local restaurant, with entertainment provided by local folk musicians.



## DAYS 3+4:

*Maria Taferl* For anyone wanting to try a century ride, today presents that option. For mere mortals, we'll shuttle into Austria, to the lush Danube River Valley with its vineyards, fruit orchards and river-side cycling path. Along the way, we'll visit the museum/castle of Artstetten and the infamous church of Maria Taferl. Next day, you'll have choices between flat riding along the Danube towards Grein or an option into the nearby hills with wine tasting en-route. There are also options for cruising on the river by boat stopping to relax in charming river-side villages.



## DAYS 5+6:

*Weissenkirchen* Following the Danube east through the Wachau, a region of abbeys, churches and castles we'll reach Melk Abbey, a magnificent Baroque building still used by Benedictine monks; our hotel, the Raffelsberger Hof, located in Weissenkirchen, dates from 1574 and was renovated into a boutique hotel by the Anton family.

Next day, our cycling route loops to the world Heritage center of Krems before climbing up through vineyards along the River Kamp. The long option can reach the extraordinary castle at Schloss Rosenberg before returning to the comfort of our hotel on the Danube.

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**DAY 7:** Transfer to Vienna for flights or extended stay.

Extension Prague: Prior to starting our cycling trip, consider a 2-day extension in Prague that includes 2 nights at the Bellagio Hotel with breakfast daily, 1/2 day guided visit of the city and Travelogue with recommendations on what to see, where to eat etc. US\$395

Extension Vienna: After your trip, consider a 2-day extension to Vienna, one of Europe's most important artistic centers. This includes 2 nights at the Hotel Se-fanie, in the historical center, 1/2 day guided visit of the city and Travelogue with recommendations on what to see, where to eat etc.. US\$395

## Map of the Area



# Great Explorations



## Accommodations



### **Hotel Zlatny Andel** , Cesky-Krumlov

This 4-star hotel, a collection of 3 properties with Gothic exterior, is in the historical center of town and features comfortable rooms and an ideal location.



### **Hotel Schachner**, Maria Taferl

This 4-star hotel is located in the village of Maria Taferl, with views of the Danube. The restaurant here is excellent and there is a pool and spa facilities.



### **Hotel Raffelsburger**, Weissenkirchen

Weissenkirchen Built in 1574, this property was renovated by the Anton family and now is a treasure of antiques. With just 15 rooms, it is intimate and boasts a location overlooking the Danube, and close to the quaint villages of Durnstein and others.