



Romantic Road 2010 Itinerary

The Romantic Road (Romantische Strasse) is one of the most scenically beautiful attractions in Germany. Starting in Würzburg it winds its way south to the little town of Füssen at the foot of the Bavarian Alps. Along the way we visit Rothenburg ob der Tauber, one of the most splendidly preserved medieval towns in Europe and the tour ends at "Mad" Ludwig's most fantastic creation: Neuschwanstein Castle.

The route stretches 450 km along bike paths or quiet back roads. On the way we pass through a series of medieval villages and towns. We stay at small hotels or B&B's and there will be ample opportunity to sample the local German cuisine, including the products from the area's well-known vineyards and breweries!

Both Frankfurt and Munich are good entry points as there is excellent train service to our starting point, Würzburg, and from the end point, Füssen, and bikes are allowed on the trains.



Neuschwanstein

Highlights include:

- Würzburg, a well-preserved, baroque city on the river Main
- Rothenburg ob der Tauber
- Augsburg, the 3rd largest city in Bavaria
- Wieskirche, an unassuming church from the outside but with a spectacular Rococo style interior
- Neuschwanstein, the inspiration for the Disney's castles

Trip at a Glance

TRIP PRICE

\$1,995 double occupancy
\$400 single supplement

DURATION

12 days, 11 nights

LEVEL

Easy to Moderate

DATES

May 29 – June 9

Maximum group size: 10

Your luggage will be transported between hotels you all you have to do is bike and enjoy the scenery.

Itinerary

May 29- Würzburg

Arrive by train or car in Würzburg. In the afternoon we check our bikes and afterwards bike around the "Altstadt" (the old town). Würzburg is one of the loveliest baroque cities in Germany and marks the northern end of the Romantic Road.

May 30 - Würzburg -Wertheim - 40 km

Leaving Würzburg, we cross the river Main and follow quiet country roads with rolling hills through small, picturesque villages - we are now in Bavaria. We stay overnight in the small town of Wertheim.

May 31 - Wertheim - Bad Mergentheim - 50 km

After leaving Wertheim we bike along the valley Taubertal and soon come to Tauberbischoffheim, which means the home of the bishop on the Tauber. It was originally the seat of the first bishop in Germany back in the 8th century. We continue to Bad Mergentheim, a spa town with a mineral spring. The water is supposedly good for the treatment of digestive disorders, so if you have any ailments of that nature, make sure to test the waters.

June 1 - Bad Mergentheim - Rothenburg ob der Tauber - 50 km

Following the bike path out of town we continue towards Creiglingen and follow quiet back roads to the most famous town on the Romantic Road: Rothenburg ob der Tauber (Red castle above the Tauber river). Walking through town is like being in a medieval outdoor museum. A climb up the church tower gives you a marvellous 360-degree view over the town and the surrounding countryside. Wander through the old streets and absorb the atmosphere or walk on the walls surrounding the town.



Rothenburg ob der Tauber

June 2 - Rothenburg - Dinkelsbühl - 50 km

We now head out of town through the city gates and into the country-side towards the town of Schillingfürst at the end of a 3 km hill. We continue along mainly quiet roads to Feuchtwangen and end the day's ride at Dinkelsbühl, another walled town on a smaller scale than Rothenburg but with the same type of half timbered buildings.

June 3 - Dinkelsbühl - Nördlingen - 40 km

Leaving Dinkelsbühl we continue south towards Wallerstein along quiet back roads and bike paths. We can stop along the way for lunch at a Bierstube or Brauerei - German beer is excellent! We pass by the Ries crater, a meteorite impact crater 24 km in diameter and continue to Nördlingen, again a walled town, first settled by the Romans.

June 4 - Nördlingen - Donauwörth - 35 km

We continue south from Nördlingen towards the Danube river and the town of Donauwörth, a small but pretty town on the river. Much of the town centre was destroyed during WWII but has been extensively restored.

June 5 - Donauwörth - Augsburg - 50 km

The tour continues along back roads and bike paths and we end the day's cycling at Augsburg, the biggest city on the route. The city was built by the Romans under Augustus, hence the name. We will tour the city and visit the Golden Room in the City Hall, Perlach Tower, with its panoramic view of the city, and the Fugger Palace (the Fuggers were a seriously rich family that did for Augsburg what the Medici's did for Florence).

June 6 - Augsburg - Wörthsee - 60 km

As we bicycle from Augsburg to Lake Wörthsee we are back in the forests and farmlands, which are densely settled with small villages and hamlets all along the way.

June 7 - Wörthsee - Murnau - 45 km

We bike along the shores of Wörthsee and Prisenensee to the monastery Andechs. We pass the small town of Weilheim - the monks of the surrounding 12 monasteries contributed to the modern appearance of the town. If you feel like swimming you have further opportunities in Staffelsee and Riegsee near Murnau.

June 8 - Murnau - Füssen - 60 km

This is our last day of biking and what a day it will be! Among the sights we will take in today is Wieskirche (Wies Church), a UNESCO world heritage site that is well worth a visit. It doesn't look like much from the outside, but the inside takes your breath away. Next on the agenda is a visit to Neuschwanstein and Hohenschwangau built by "Mad Ludwig", the king of Bavaria.



Wies Church

June 9 - Leaving Füssen

After a good breakfast we take you back to the station so you can catch a train to your exit point (either Munich or Frankfurt)

For the most part the tour follows bike paths or secondary roads with some rolling hills. However as our guest you should never hesitate to use the support vehicle when the cycling is no longer pleasant for you.

TRIP TOTAL: 480 km averaging 45 km per day.

What's Included

The estimated cost includes the following:

- All accommodations
- All breakfasts
- Tour guide and route maps
- Luggage transfers

What's not Included

- Travel to the starting point (Würzburg) and from the end point (Füssen)
- Lunch, dinner and any alcoholic beverages
- All entrance fees to historic sites and museums
- Bike Rental. We can arrange rentals

Our Bike Route

