

Via Claudia Augusta

Across the Alps from FÜSSEN to QUARTO d'Altino/VENICE – classic

On Roman footsteps!

Your cycling tour starts along the antique route of the *Via Claudia Augusta* straight through Forggensee lake. After a short intermezzo with King Ludwig's visions in his castle of Neuschwanstein your cycle trip proceeds past the Füssener Lechfall, then the cycle path continues along river Lech into the Tyrolean Alps. From Reutte an organised shuttle-transfer takes you to Fernsteinsee Castle and the cycle path takes you through the picturesque Gurgltal (Gurgl Valley) and into the Upper Inn Valley. Another shuttle-transfer takes you from Landeck to Nauders on the Reschenpass.

From Reschensee in South Tyrol you take the Adige Cycle Path, along the playful river, through the lush fruit growing landscapes of the sun-drenched Vinschgau valley, via the spa town of Merano and the idyllic shimmering Lake Caldaro to the lovely Castelfeder holiday region. The wine gardens and numerous manorial castles nestle upon the hills and high plateaus around Lake Caldaro and the South Tyrolean lower land flows seamlessly into the famous Trentino. By another shuttle transfer you leave Trento behind and ride the famous Valsugana thermal region along Brenta river which accompanies you almost to Feltre. Soon you leave the gracious hills of the world famous Prosecco-production area of Valdobbiadene behind and cycle through contemplative and historically significant cities like Treviso before you reach Quarto d'Altino. By train you ride directly into the centre of Venice - nothing's in the way of strolling through the innumerable alleyways and to discover the Serenissima with its many Palazzi and cultural treasures.

Highlights

- 🚲 Roman Villa Rustica, Schwangau by Füssen
- 🚲 King Ludwig's fairy-tale castles of Neuschwanstein and Hohenschwangau, Füssen/Schwangau
- 🚲 Sunken church tower of Altgraun (14th century), Reschenstausee water reservoir
- 🚲 Botanical gardens of castle Trauttmansdorff, Merano
- 🚲 Original milestone of Rabland, city museum of Bolzano
- 🚲 Borgo Valsugana, Suganer Valley
- 🚲 Forte Leone, Primolano
- 🚲 National archaeological museum of Altino, Quarto d'Altino
- 🚲 Lagoon city of Venice with historical treasures and sights

Route characteristics

- ~ Mostly paved/asphalted bike paths, farm roads, quiet side roads and local thoroughfares
- ~ Transfer across the toughest ascents across Fernpass (Reutte - Fernsteinsee lake) and Reschenpass (Landeck - Nauders)
- ~ From Reschenstausee water reservoir to Merano are some longer descents
- ~ Shuttle transfer from Trento to Levico Terme
- ~ 2 parts of approx. 5 km with more frequented roads between Feltre and Quarto d'Altino
- ~ Train ride from Quarto d'Altino to Venice and back

Level of difficulty

Touring bicycle 🚲🚲🚲🚲🚲

Pedelec/E-Bike 🚲🚲🚲🚲🚲

Suitable for families with children from the age of approx. 12 years (appropriate cycling enthusiasm required)

Arrival | Travel time | Type of trip

- ☑ May 7th 2024, June 4th 2024, July 2nd 2024, July 23rd 2024, September 3rd 2024 (Tuesdays)
- ☑ 11 days | 10 nights (incl. days of arrival and departure)
- ☑ Stretch trip - approx. 440 resp. 450 cycling kilometres
- ☑ Individual cycling trip
- ☑ From 2 persons (single travellers on application)

Itinerary

Day 1: Individual journey to Füssen

King Ludwig II. and his fairy-tale castle welcome you in Füssen.

Day 2: Füssen/Schwangau – Imst (approx. 40 km | without transfer approx. 70 km)

Today the tour takes us from Füssen to Reutte. From there our transfer brings you across Fern Pass in a comfortable way. From Fernstein castle you cycle past Nassereith and through the picturesque Gurgltal Valley to Imst. A “beery” adventure awaits you at the microbrewery at Starkenberg castle.

Day 3: Imst – Holiday region Lago di Resia & Alta Venosta (approx. 55 km | without transfer approx. 105 km)

After a hearty breakfast you cycle from Imst to Landeck. From there we take the shuttle up to Nauders. Soon afterwards you cross the border to Italy at Reschen pass and with it the main Alpine ridge. You cycle downwards towards Malles past Reschenstausee reservoir with the sunken church tower of Altgraun, one of the most famous photo motifs of Italy. Enjoy the first evening on South Tyrolean soil and enjoy strolling through the old alleyways of the town.

Day 4: Holiday region Lago di Resia & Alta Venosta – Merano (approx. 65 km)

Today you cross the entire Val Venosta. The route leads from an altitude of more than 1,000m down to the town of Merano that is located at an altitude of 350m. Most of the route follows the course of River Adige. From your starting place this pleasant cycling stretch leads down to the smallest town of the Alps, the town of Glorenza. Past the marble town of Laas you get to Naturns and eventually – past the impressive Kastellbell castle – to the spa town of Merano. Enjoy an evening walk through town along the “Passer” promenade surrounded by subtropical flora.

Day 5: Merano – Castelfeder Holiday Region (approx. 50 km)

There is plenty to see along this route: Niederlana’s famous Schnatterpeckaltar, the largest Gothic wing altar in the Alpine area, the highest church tower of the South Tyrol in Terlan and a great number of fortresses and ruins on both valley slopes. And - after the optional visit of Bolzano you’ll have the wonderful opportunity to refresh your legs at Lake Caldaro.

Day 6: Castelfeder Holiday Region – Trento (approx. 50 km)

Today you cycle along River Adige that is lined by orchards until you get to Salorno. The German-speaking part of the South Tyrol ends here. The stage finishes in the town of Trento which features an old town worth seeing with historic buildings like the cathedral and Buonconsiglio castle.

Day 7: Trento – Feltre (approx. 65 km)

An easy start by transfer to Valsugana is followed by a beautiful tour on a new cycle path from Levico Terme along river Brenta to Borgo Valsugana and Primolano. From here you have to take a regular road up to Arsie and Fonzaso in order to finish in Feltre, one of the most important historical cities.

Day 8: Feltre – Pieve di Soligo (approx. 50 km or 60 km via Praderadego-Pass)

Today you've got two options. Either you take the hilly but not too exhausting road through the Proseccovineyards

or you take the sporty road and pass by Lentiai and the impressive Praderadego-Pass (approx. 900 Altitude difference). Pieve di Soligo is definitely perfect to relax after a "harder" day.

Day 9: Pieve di Soligo – Quarto d'Altino/Venice (approx. 65 km)

You have to hit the pedals just one more time in order to get to Venice. On the way you find some real highlights too. Right past Pieve di Soligo, still in the middle of the prosecco hills you see Castello San Salvatore throning. Soon after Ponte Priula you arrive at the art and radicchio-town of Treviso which is finally followed by Quarto d'Altino, a small town very close to the original start of Via Claudia Augusta!

Day 10: Excursion to Venice – Overnight stay again in Quarto d'Altino

Set aside your bike and relax while you take the train in approx. 20 minutes to the train station Santa Lucia of Venice. This is the perfect initial point to explore the uncountable alleys and channels of Venice.

Have a look at Piazza San Marco and maybe even treat yourself with a gondola ride ...

Day 11: Individual Return Journey or Extension

Included Services | Price per Person | Extras

Included services

- ✓ 10 Overnight stays including large breakfast buffet in hotels of the 3-star category *
- ✓ Luggage transport from hotel to hotel
- ✓ Shuttle transfer from Reutte to Fernsteinsee, from Landeck to Nauders and from Trento to Levico Terme
- ✓ Train ticket from Quarto d'Altino to Venice and back
- ✓ Extensive travel papers | GPS-data available on demand
- ✓ Local tax in all places of accommodation
- ✓ Phone service daily from 8:30 am to 7:00 pm

Price per person

- Accommodation in a double room (arrival from May 1 st)	Euro 1.715,00
- Accommodation in a double room (arrival from May 15 th)	Euro 1.769,00
- Accommodation in a double room (arrival from July 15 th)	Euro 1.819,00
- Single room surcharge	Euro 409,00

Extras

- Rental of 21-gear touring bicycle	Euro 145,00
- Rental of Pedelec/E-Bike	Euro 290,00
- Extra night in Füssen in DR/B&B	Euro 99,00
- Extra night in Füssen in SR/B&B	Euro 139,00
- Extra night in Quarto d'Altino in DR/B&B	Euro 79,00
- Extra night in Quarto d'Altino in SR/B&B	Euro 105,00
- Return transfer Quarto d'Altino-Füssen	on request
- Vehicle transfer Füssen-Quarto d'Altino	on request

* Restaurant recommendations for dinner in all stage towns can be found in the travel information after booking