

# Amazon of Europe

## Guidebook

## About Amazon of Europe Destination Guidebook

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# Contents

<b>Information about the book</b> .....	<b>2</b>	<b>Austria</b> .....	<b>23</b>
<b>Introduction</b> .....	<b>6</b>	<b>Facts about Austria</b> .....	<b>24</b>
<b>Dear reader,</b> .....	<b>6</b>	<b>Practical and basic information</b> .....	<b>24</b>
<b>Amazon of Europe</b> .....	<b>8</b>	<b>Arriving in Austria and transport</b> .....	<b>24</b>
<b>About the Amazon of Europe area</b> .....	<b>8</b>	<b>Red tape</b> .....	<b>25</b>
<b>Location and basic characteristics of the AoE area</b> .....	<b>10</b>	<b>Emergency phone numbers</b> .....	<b>26</b>
<b>5-country Biosphere Reserve</b> .....	<b>11</b>	<b>Money</b> .....	<b>26</b>
<b>Europe's largest protected riverine area</b> .....	<b>12</b>	<b>Healthcare</b> .....	<b>27</b>
<b>Trans-Boundary River System of the Mura, Drava and Danube</b> .....	<b>13</b>	<b>Telephone numbers, mobile number &amp; internet</b> .....	<b>27</b>
<b>Wildlife and vegetation</b> .....	<b>14</b>	<b>Public holidays</b> .....	<b>28</b>
<b>Climate</b> .....	<b>16</b>	<b>Electricity</b> .....	<b>28</b>
<b>AoE Booking Center - book your holiday in advance</b> .....	<b>17</b>	<b>Tourist offices</b> .....	<b>28</b>
<b>Amazon of Europe official booking center</b> .....	<b>17</b>	<b>Eating &amp; drinking</b> .....	<b>29</b>
<b>When to travel</b> .....	<b>18</b>	<b>Language</b> .....	<b>29</b>
<b>Low impact travelling</b> .....	<b>19</b>	<b>Top 10 Austria</b> .....	<b>30</b>
<b>A brief overview of the history of the area of the lower reaches of the</b> <b>Drava and Mura rivers and the middle Danube</b> .....	<b>20</b>	<b>AoE partner accommodations in Austria</b> .....	<b>34</b>
<b>Culture</b> .....	<b>22</b>		

<b>Slovenia</b> .....	<b>35</b>	<b>Red tape</b> .....	<b>52</b>
Facts about Slovenia .....	36	Money .....	53
<b>Practical and basic information</b> .....	<b>36</b>	Emergency phone numbers .....	53
Arriving in Slovenia and transport .....	36	Healthcare .....	54
Red tape .....	37	Telephone numbers, mobile number & internet .....	54
Money .....	38	Electricity .....	55
Emergency phone numbers .....	39	Tourist offices .....	55
Healthcare .....	39	Public holidays .....	56
Telephone numbers, mobile numbers & internet .....	40	Food & drinks .....	56
Electricity .....	40	Language .....	57
Tourist offices .....	41	<b>Top 10 Croatia</b> .....	<b>58</b>
Public holidays .....	41	AoE partner accommodations in Croatia .....	62
Eating & drinking .....	42	<b>Hungary</b> .....	<b>63</b>
Language .....	43	Facts about Hungary .....	64
<b>Top 10 Slovenia</b> .....	<b>44</b>	<b>Practical and basic information</b> .....	<b>64</b>
AoE partner accommodations in Slovenia .....	48	Arriving in Hungary and transport .....	64
<b>Croatia</b> .....	<b>49</b>	Red tape .....	65
Facts about Croatia .....	50	Money .....	66
<b>Practical and basic information</b> .....	<b>50</b>	Emergency phone numbers .....	66
Arriving in Croatia and transport .....	50	Healthcare .....	67
		Telephone numbers, mobile number & internet .....	68

Electricity .....	68	Language.....	85
Tourist offices .....	68	<b>Top 10 Serbia</b> .....	<b>86</b>
Public holidays .....	69	AoE partner accommodations in Serbia .....	90
Eating & drinking .....	70	<b>Experience the destination</b> .....	<b>91</b>
Language.....	71	Amazon of Europe Bike Trail – A unique cycling experience .....	92
<b>Top 10 Hungary</b> .....	<b>72</b>	<b>AoE BT maps</b> .....	<b>93</b>
AoE partner accommodations in Hungary .....	76	<b>River Journey</b> .....	<b>105</b>
<b>Serbia</b> .....	<b>77</b>	Guided paddling on the Mura, Drava and Danube .....	107
Facts about Serbia .....	78	Big River Journey Mura-Drava-Danube .....	108
<b>Practical and basic information</b> .....	<b>78</b>	Free-flowing River Journey Mura-Drava .....	108
Arriving in Serbia and transport .....	78	<b>Top AoE experience</b> .....	<b>109</b>
Red tape .....	79	Top 15 getaway cities .....	110
Embassies.....	80	Top 15 natural sights .....	115
Emergency phone numbers .....	81	Top 15 cultural sights .....	121
Money .....	81	<b>Appendix</b> .....	<b>127</b>
Healthcare .....	82	AOE dictionary .....	127
Telephone numbers, mobile number & internet.....	82	Short dictionary .....	128
Electricity .....	82		
Tourist offices .....	83		
Public holidays .....	84		
Eating & drinking .....	85		

## Introduction

### Dear reader,

I would like to warmly invite you to discover the brand-new Amazon of Europe destination. On this journey along the Mura, Drava and Danube rivers you will immerse yourself in the pristine nature of endless floodplain forests with vivid flora and fauna. The area is so special that it was designated by UNESCO as the first world's 5- country Biosphere Reserve in 2021.

The idea of the destination was born many years ago to create one umbrella brand that unites 11 regions of 5 countries along the three rivers into one destination – Amazon of Europe. This Guidebook presents the following unforgettable experiences:

 Ksenija Glazar Mura



 Thomas Sattler

- ➔ Amazon of Europe Bike Trail with over 1,250 km of cycling trails,
- ➔ Amazon of Europe River Journey – exclusive canoe tours on the rivers,
- ➔ Amazon of Europe Amazing Moments – authentic experiences of local gastronomy, cultural and natural heritage.

These experiences will create some of the most unforgettable memories the Amazon of Europe has to offer, such as:

- ➔ mysterious misty mornings when nature wakes up slowly,
- ➔ sweet tiredness and satisfaction after tens of cycled kilometres,

- ➔ quiet moments sitting at the riverbanks marvelling at birds and listening to the sounds of nature,
- ➔ gliding with a canoe between branches, admiring a colony of herons, spotting a black stork or a majestic white-tailed eagle,
- ➔ spotting a deer or wild boar while cycling on dykes,
- ➔ learning the unique technique of Naïve art in its birthplace and painting a picture of your own,
- ➔ tasting the very special sparkling wine that has never seen the light of day while you are in darkness yourself,
- ➔ joining a cooking class with the locals on how to prepare the typical fish paprikash dish,
- ➔ evening talks with the locals with a glass of Decanter awarded wine with its specific taste as it is grown on the »Croatian Sahara« sand,
- ➔ pampering in one of the many spas at the end of the day before a deserved sleep, and many others.

Our network of carefully selected service providers awaits you to visit them and create your own memories. We strongly encourage you to travel responsibly, respect the nature and the locals. This way, they will welcome you with all their pristine warmth and hospitality.



📷 Goran Šafarek Danube

In this Guidebook, you will find a presentation of the Amazon of Europe, the experiences waiting for you, whether on bike, discovering the area on your own, or joining a group tour. The guidebook also presents the Top 10 must sees and key travel information for each country. Wishing you wonderful exploring,

### **Urška Dolinar,**

project manager of the Amazing Amazon of Europe project and director of Iskriva, Institute for Development of Local Potentials, project lead partner

## Amazon of Europe

The amazing Amazon of Europe is a leading sustainable cross-border tourism destination, preserving the natural and cultural heritage of its area and inviting its explorers to slow down along the mighty rivers, reconnect with nature and recharge their batteries through amazing green local stories. It offers comfortable river adventures, cycling and forest paths combined with authentic local natural, cultural, and culinary experiences. It has its own AoE Booking Center that will design a custom-made package for you and provide support on every step of your (transformative) journey.



Ante Vekić Kopački rit

The area represents the largest and most preserved free-flowing river system in Central Europe. Pristine natural beauty, endangered habitats and diverse cultural traditions have enormous potential for sustainable tourism, while underdeveloped border regions face a lack of capacities, unemployment and emigration.

### About the Amazon of Europe area

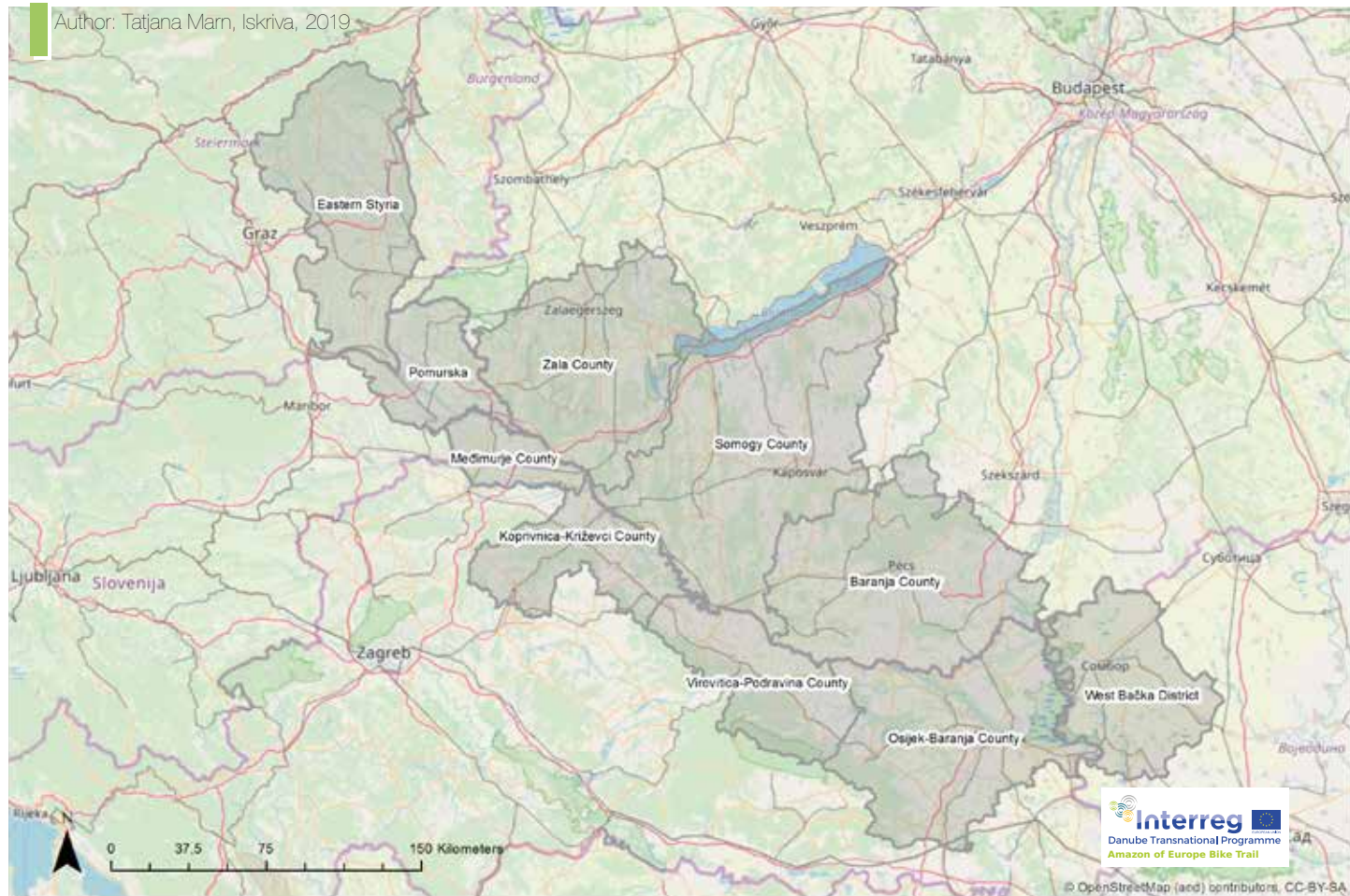
Spanning across the border regions of Austria, Croatia, Hungary, Serbia and Slovenia, the lower courses of the Drava and Mura rivers and related sections of the Danube are among Europe's most ecologically important riverine areas: the so-called »Amazon of Europe« (hereinafter »AoE«). The rivers form a 700 kilometres long green belt connecting almost 8,499.28 km<sup>2</sup> of highly valuable natural and cultural landscapes from all five countries and form a symbol of unity by being the world's first five country Transboundary UNESCO Biosphere Reserve »Mura-Drava-Danube«.

Matthew Nelson Regional park Mura-Drava





Author: Tatjana Marn, Iskriva, 2019



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## Location and basic characteristics of the AoE area

The Amazon of Europe passes along the Mura, Drava and Danube rivers through five countries (Austria, Slovenia, Croatia, Hungary and Serbia), 11 NUTS 3\* regions and 12 protected areas. The area stretches across 11 regions: Eastern Styria in Austria, the Pomurska region in Slovenia, Međimurje County, Varaždin County, Osijek-Baranja County, Koprivnica - Križevci County and Virovitica-Podravina County in Croatia, Zala County, Somogy County and Baranya County in Hungary and West Bačka District in Serbia. It covers an area of 22,740.29 km<sup>2</sup> with a population of 2,084,658 people. The NUTS 3 regions in the Amazon of Europe area cover 8.5% of the total surface of the five countries in which they're located (Austria, Slovenia, Croatia, Hungary and Serbia) and therefore, they represent a substantial part of their national territories.

The largest NUTS 3 region in the AoE area is Somogy County with a size of 6,065 km<sup>2</sup> covering 21 % of the whole area. It is followed by Baranya County (4,430 km<sup>2</sup> i.e. 15 % of the AoE area), Osijek-Baranja County (4,149 km<sup>2</sup> i.e. 14 % of the AoE area) and Zala County (3,785 km<sup>2</sup> i.e. 13 % of the AoE area). The smallest two regions are Međimurje County with a size of 729 km<sup>2</sup> covering 2.5 % of the AoE area and



📷 Goran Šafarek

the Pomurje region with a size of 1,337 km<sup>2</sup> covering 4,6 % of the AoE area. The surface shares of the other four regions vary from 6 % to 8.4 % of the whole AoE area.

The area connects 12 protected areas along the rivers highlighting their ecological values including the world famous »Kopački Rit« Nature Park at the Danube-Drava confluence, »Drava-Mura« Regional Park in Croatia, »Gornje Podunavlje« Special Nature Reserve in Serbia and the »Danube-Drava« National Park in Hungary as well as – Biosphere Reserve Mura in Slovenia and Natura 2000 Site and Protected Landscape, Mura in Austria. This stunning riverine landscape contains both amazing natural beauty and rich cultural heritage, thus representing a great tourist potential.

\* NUTS 3 represents a broader area than the biosphere reserve area.

This area is among the largest alluvial complexes in Europe. Despite numerous man-made changes in the past, this stunning river landscape hosts an amazing biological diversity and is a hotspot of rare natural habitats such as large floodplain forests, river islands, gravel and sand banks, side branches and oxbow lakes. These habitats are home to many protected and rare species of animals and plants.

In addition to high levels of biodiversity, the river and floodplain areas are vital to the local communities. Local fishermen rely on the fish populations for their livelihoods. The extensive floodplains lower the risk of floods, secure favourable groundwater conditions and self-purification of water which is essential for drinking water, forests and agriculture. People also enjoy recreational activities along the rivers such as walking, swimming, fishing, or canoeing. This landscape offers a shared opportunity to pursue sustainable and nature-based development, which will also be in line with the principles of nature conservation and cultural heritage and based on active participation of the local population.

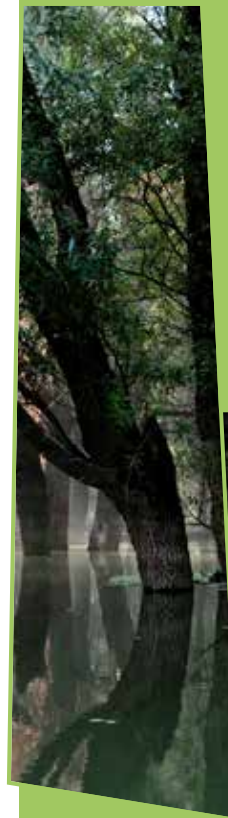
## 5-country Biosphere Reserve

For almost 30 years, nature conservationists have been working towards the preservation of the largest semi-natural river and floodplain ecosystem in Central Europe along the Mura, Drava, and Danube Rivers within a transboundary Biosphere Reserve. The International Coordinating Council of the UNESCO's Man and the Biosphere Programme declared in September 2021 the Mura-Drava-Danube Transboundary Biosphere Reserve (TBR MDD) as the world's first 5-country biosphere reserve. Stretching across Austria, Slovenia, Croatia, Hungary and Serbia, the reserve covers a total area of 930,000 hectares extending along 700 km of the Mura, Drava, and Danube rivers, which makes it the largest riverine biosphere reserve in Europe. It comprises about 300,000 hectares of core and buffer zones (existing protected area network) and around 700,000 hectares of transition zones. The core zone is the ecological backbone of the reserve. It primarily covers the river and floodplains areas which are mostly situated within flood control dykes.

The goals and measures in the core zone are pre-dominantly focused on the preservation of natural habitats, species, and processes as well as the restoration of already degraded areas. The buffer zone extends along the rivers outside

the inundation zone. It is characterised by a mosaic of cultivated land and village areas and also contains some smaller detached zones like oxbow lakes, fish ponds and small wetlands. Extensive agriculture such as cattle grazing, hay making, organic production, local products marketing and ecotourism are some of the key activities in this area. The outer transition zone provides regional economical and scientific support to the buffer zone. The majority of towns and universities are situated within this area. The long-term vision for the TBR MDD is to jointly maintain and promote a fully natural and dynamic river ecosystem as the basis for the rich biodiversity and sustainable livelihoods and life quality of local people. The aim is, while jointly conserving the river and floodplains, to maintain and ensure greater benefits for local people, reaching from high quality drinking water, natural flood protection, traditional land use, climate buffer, sustainable business to recreation. Under UNESCO protection within the Man and the Biosphere programme, biosphere reserves are model regions where nature conservation goes hand in hand with sustainable regional development.

## Europe's largest protected riverine area



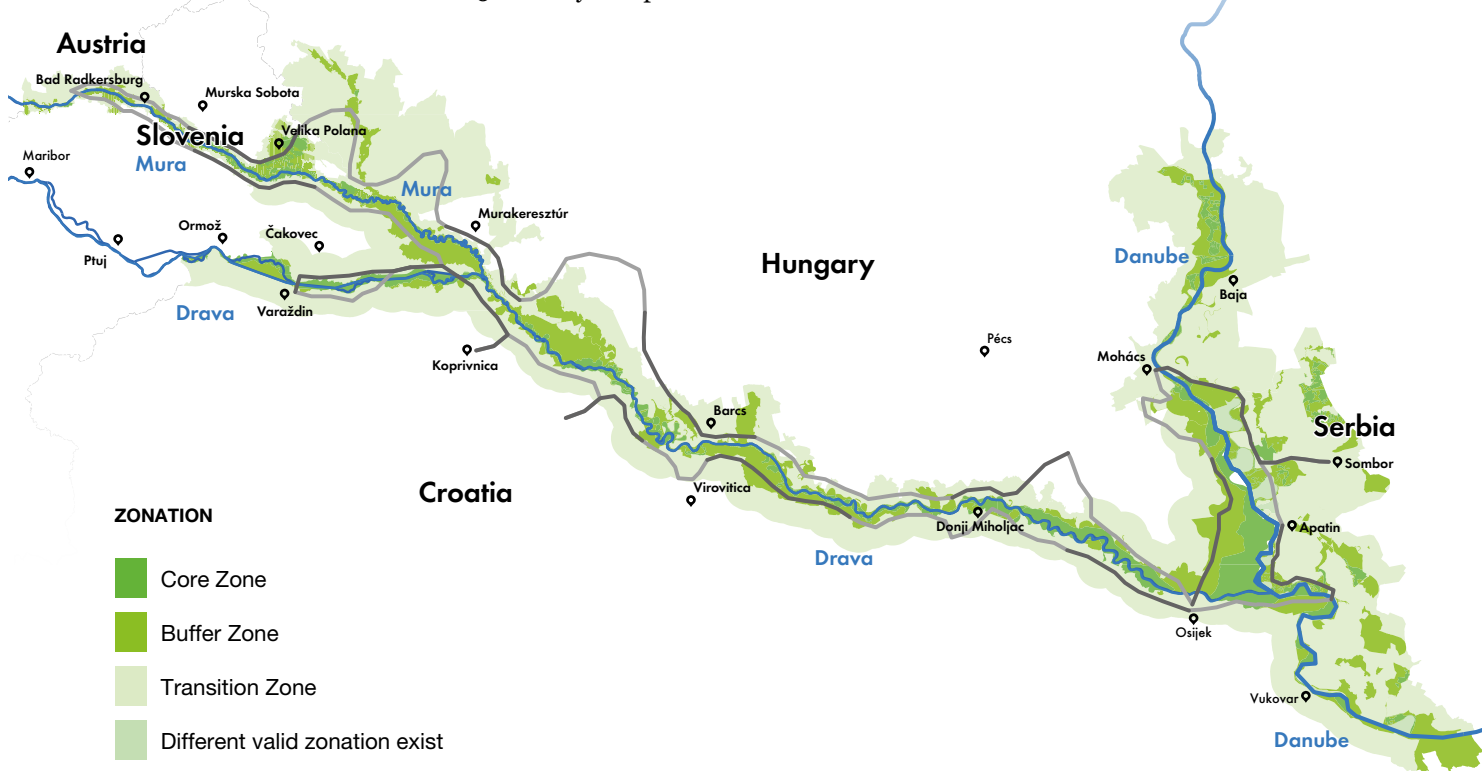
The UNESCO designation of the world's first 5-country biosphere reserve on 15 September 2021 represents a historic step towards a new era for people and nature in the Mura-Drava-Danube region and overall Europe. This landmark cross-border designation is a powerful demonstration of a shared green vision that builds on and reinforces, both, regional cooperation and unity in Europe.



Gregory Egger Kopački rit

# Trans-Boundary River System of the Mura, Drava and Danube

UNESCO 5-country Biosphere Reserve Mura-Drava-Danube



## ZONATION

- Core Zone
- Buffer Zone
- Transition Zone
- Different valid zonation exist



## Wildlife and vegetation

Despite numerous man-made changes in the past, this stunning river landscape hosts an amazing biological diversity and is a hotspot of rare natural habitats such as large floodplain forests, river islands, gravel and sand banks, side branches and oxbow lakes. These habitats are home to the highest density of breeding pairs of white-tailed eagles in Continental Europe and other endangered species such as the little tern, black stork, beaver, otter and the nearly extinct ship sturgeon. There are also many rare fish on a European scale, such as sturgeon, nesting sites for many endangered bird species such as sand martins. Every year, more than 250,000 migratory waterfowls use the rivers to rest and to feed.

📷 Simon Veberic Mura



📷 Aleksander Koren Mura

The Amazon of Europe hosts a variety of animal species. Floodplain forests are inhabited by red deer, roe deer and wild boars, foxes, martens, and other smaller animals. Rivers, side branches and lakes are habitats of many fish

📷 A. Mohl Drava



species. The available data shows that there are 69 fish species recorded in the Drava River only. Some of them are Northern pike, pikeperch, asp, zingel, European mudminnow and others. The Mura, Drava and Danube Rivers were once important habitats for the starlet, a sturgeon species that is now the most endangered species group on planet Earth. Rivers and connected habitats are also living spaces for otters and beavers.

The most prominent and most researched group of species in the Amazon of Europe are birds. The Amazon of Europe hosts the largest continental breeding population of white-tailed eagle. It is a resting site for more than 250,000 water

birds during migration and also a breeding area for many endangered and strictly protected species like the little tern. Steep bank and gravel/sand bar breeders like sand martins, European bee-eaters, kingfishers, terns, little ringed plovers, and sandpipers still find suitable nesting habitats on the Amazon of Europe rivers even though their numbers are decreasing due to river regulation, building of hydropower plants, lack of sediment and other human-related impacts. Black storks, cormorants, grey herons and white egrets are some of the other important birds that can be seen along the Amazon of Europe.

Simon Veberic Mura



Mario Romulić



Climate



**Murska Sobota** (188 m)

Average daytime temperature (January):	<b>-1.2 °C</b>
Average daytime temperature (July):	<b>19.7 °C</b>
Average precipitation (yearly):	<b>805 mm</b>

**Bad Radkersburg** (209 m)

Average daytime temperature (January):	<b>-1.4 °C</b>
Average daytime temperature (July):	<b>19.4 °C</b>
Average precipitation (yearly):	<b>841.2 mm</b>

**Varaždin** (173 m)

Average daytime temperature (January):	<b>-0.4 °C</b>
Average max daytime temperature (July):	<b>20.6 °C</b>
Average precipitation (yearly):	<b>873 mm</b>

**Osijek** (94 m)

Average daytime temperature (January):	<b>-0.6 °C</b>
Average daytime temperature (July):	<b>21.7 °C</b>
Average precipitation (yearly):	<b>682.5 mm</b>



📷 Goran Šafarek Kopački rit

**Sombor** (88 m)

Average daytime temperature (January):	<b>-1.3 °C</b>
Average daytime temperature (July):	<b>20.7 °C</b>
Average precipitation (yearly):	<b>573.5 mm</b>

**Mohács** (80 m)

Average daytime temperature (January):	<b>2 °C</b>
Average daytime temperature (July):	<b>24 °C</b>
Average precipitation (yearly):	<b>359 mm</b>

**Lenti** (170 m)

Average daytime temperature (January):	<b>-1 °C</b>
Average daytime temperature (July):	<b>21 °C</b>
Average precipitation (yearly):	<b>575 mm</b>



## AoE Booking Center - book your holiday in advance

To provide the most comfortable adventures for our guests, the Amazon of Europe destination has its own Info & Booking Center where you can book your full package holidays – all you need for a trouble-free and unforgettable experience on the Amazon of Europe.

The comprehensive services of the Amazon of Europe Info & Booking Center include:

- ➔ interesting and surprising offers
- ➔ unique individual travel planning and booking with an online booking system
- ➔ top advice from an experienced and competent team
- ➔ accommodation in the best rated local hotels and bed & breakfasts
- ➔ food with focus on local cuisine (half board or B&B)
- ➔ services such as luggage transfer, shuttle services and transfer back to the starting point
- ➔ AoE Kingfisher Service – 7/12 Hotline
- ➔ extended travel documents with the itinerary of your holiday adventure including cycling, river or/and authentic local experiences
- ➔ information on must see locations, backed by a smartphone app with GPS guiding for cycling

- ➔ Give Back to Nature programme – by booking a journey with the AoE Booking Center you support nature conservation projects in the UNESCO biosphere reserve
- ➔ all travel offers comply with the EU Package Travel Directives 90/314/EEC.

With the »Bookable stage« system, as a customer you can optimize your journey to your wishes, so that you:

- ➔ start your travels when you want
- ➔ start your travels where you want
- ➔ travel as long as you want
- ➔ travel with whom and how many people you want
- ➔ travel in which comfort you want
- ➔ always feel safe with the 7/12 reachable Kingfisher Hotline.

## Amazon of Europe Booking Center

+386 30 467 457

[info@aoebookingcenter.com](mailto:info@aoebookingcenter.com)

[www.visitaoe.com](http://www.visitaoe.com)



## When to travel

The area is interesting and worth a visit in all seasons. The most suitable time for cycling, water sports and outdoor activities spans from mid-May to the beginning of October. May is probably the ultimate choice for this adventure – think lush green meadows, blossoming fruit trees and moderate temperatures. The peak season is in Summer; but even the summer heat is easily bearable with the cooling headwinds in your face, and of course both the rivers and the swimming lakes offer plenty of opportunities for a refreshing dip along the way – where allowed. Be sure to

 Thomas Sattler



 Ksenija Glazar Mura

check the weather report for afternoon showers, so you can set off a little earlier in the morning if need be. In the summer, due to the heat, we recommend carrying out activities in the morning or in the afternoon. Don't forget about rehydration and always have enough liquid with you. Autumn with crisp, refreshing air, forests bursting with colour, pleasantly cool temperatures can be also a fantastic time for a journey on the Amazon of Europe, as long as you come well-prepared for the lower temperatures. In winter, keep in mind that some attractions are closed.

## Low impact travelling

- ➔ Leave no trace, take care of nature.
- ➔ Take all trash, leftover food and litter with you, or dispose of it in a designated area, recycle when possible.
- ➔ Keep your bike clean to prevent the spread of weeds and plant diseases.
- ➔ Avoid animals and growing crops; avoid cycling through meadows or forests, unless there are sign-posted paths. If not possible, keep contact to an absolute minimum.
- ➔ Never feed animals. Feeding wildlife influences their health, alters natural behaviours, and exposes them to predators and other dangers.
- ➔ Avoid wildlife during sensitive times (e.g. mating, nesting, raising young, or winter).
- ➔ Seeing wildlife in their natural habitat is a privilege; respect them and the habitats in which they live, and do not endanger them (avoid stepping on gravel bars, steep banks, etc.). For the best viewing experiences use binoculars or a camera with zoom.
- ➔ Rest, picnic, camp, swim or make fire only in places where it is allowed.
- ➔ If you stop for a swim or go for a guided water tour, avoid stepping on gravel or sand islands, as these are refuges for wild nesting birds.
- ➔ Preserve the past: examine, but do not touch cultural or historic structures and artefacts.
- ➔ Let nature's sounds prevail. Avoid loud voices and noises.

## A brief overview of the history of the area of the lower reaches of the Drava and Mura rivers and the middle Danube

In the areas along the lower reaches of the Drava and Mura rivers and the middle Danube, for centuries European, regional and local roads were at a crossroads, causing a collision of compatible and diverse cultures of numerous nations. The longitudinal connection with the southern Drava valley, which from ancient times connected the west with the east (and vice versa), as well as the transversal directions that crossed it from north to south, was extremely important for the historical development and for the creation of the local settlement grid.. The first permanent medieval settlements were created on these routes. It seems that in stable times the majority of settlements were concentrated on slightly elevated terrain, but during times of instability the settlements would move to impassable, swampy areas closer to rivers.

The Sereti, Serapili, Jasi, Andizeti and Amantini are the first peoples known by name who lived along the lower reaches of the Drava and Mura rivers and the middle Danube. Some researchers believe that they were descendants of a Late Bronze Age culture, which lasted from the beginning of the 13th century BC to the end of the 8th century BC. At the beginning of the 3rd century BC, the Celts moved in and continued to live alongside the natives. They were later

joined by the Scythians, whose traces were found south of the Drava, near Jalžabet.

In the beginning, the areas along the lower reaches of the Drava and Mura rivers and the middle Danube were the sphere of interest of Rome only, but in the 1st century military occupation followed. The main concern of the Romans was how to build a road network in the newly founded province of Pannonia so that they could more easily control the conquered tribes. Northly and southly, local or vicinal routes connected to the main Podravina road route from Poetovia (Ptuj) via Iovia (Ludbreg) to Mursa (Osijek). In 379, with the permission of Emperor Gratian, the first groups of barbarian peoples – Goths, Alans and Huns – settled in the Roman province of Pannonia. Since then,

 Matthew Nelson Čakovec



Pannonia was often ravaged and plundered, and its roads were penetrated by barbarians from the north. In addition to the remnants of the earlier Avars, Slavs, and probably Gepids who survived the fall of the Avar Khaganate, numerous new colonists from the west began to arrive in Pannonia. The areas around the lower reaches of the Drava and Mura rivers and the middle Danube became a kind of »melting pot«, in which the Slavs had the upper hand. The ethnic picture stabilized for a long time with the coming of the Hungarian population at the end of the 9th century and the formation of the Hungarian state. From the second half of the 16th century and throughout the 17th century, these areas were marked by conflicts between the Habsburg Monarchy and the Ottoman Empire.

 Günther Maierhofer



 Matthew Nelson Varaždin

The life of people in the pre-industrial era depended on the natural environment to which the population was exposed. During the 18th and 19th centuries, people tried to defend themselves against the encroachment of the rivers on their settlements and roads, livestock and arable fields, by cutting meanders, building embankments and digging drainage channels. It remains a question to what extent the works on river regulation made the population happy, since their way of life in the pre-industrial era was deeply dependent on the benefits the rivers provided as well as the harm they caused. Regulating the rivers at first glance eliminates the damages; but at the same time the benefits and the lifestyle of the population who were in complete harmony with nature are also irreversibly lost.

After 1918/1919 parts of the area along the lower reaches of the Drava and Mura rivers and the middle Danube became part of Yugoslavia, Austria and Hungary. After the breakup of Yugoslavia, independent Slovenia, Croatia and Serbia assumed responsibility for their parts of the Drava, Mura and Danube rivers. Stronger protection of nature has been institutionalized since 1976, when the Kopački rit nature park was established in Croatia. In Hungary, the Danube-Drava National Park was established in 1996. With the recent declaration of the Mura-Drava-Danube world biosphere reserve by UNESCO, the lower reaches of the Drava and Mura rivers and part of the middle Danube became part of the largest protected river area in Europe.

**prof. dr. sc. Hrvoje Petrić,**

Department of History, Faculty of Philosophy, University of Zagreb

📷 Matthew Nelson Siklós castle



## Culture

The area's cultural heritage is the evidence of a vibrant past with various cultural influences from east and west. The presence of the Ottoman and the Habsburg empires is visible in the architecture of many old cities in the region. Croatians, Hungarians, Serbs and even some Austrian, German or Czech descendants can still be found in the villages of Croatian Baranja or Serbian Vojvodina. Aside from natural beauty, the Amazon of Europe is very rich in cultural heritage and local crafts that can be found in the cities and rural areas. Ancient castles, picturesque churches, museums, and traditional watermills are only a few examples of the most typical cultural attractions in the area. Moreover, many interesting festivals take place in the region including fairs, cultural, music, dance and cycling festivals that are very attractive for potential visitors. The rich natural and cultural heritage of the area therefore represents a great opportunity for further development and strengthening of the tourism economy in the region.

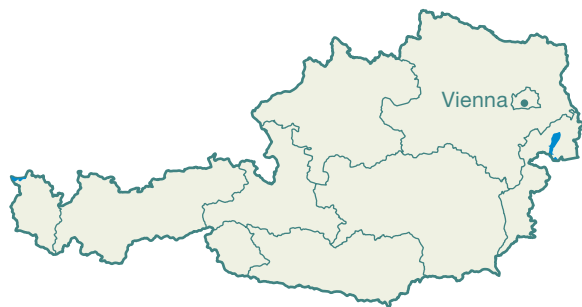
# Austria



## Austria



## Facts about Austria



**Population:** 9,061,848 (2022)

**Area:** 83,882.86 km<sup>2</sup>

**Government:** Austria became a federal, representative democratic republic through the Federal Constitution of 1920. The political system of the Second Republic with its 9 states is based on the constitution of 1920, amended in 1929, which was re-enacted on 1 May 1945.

**Capital city:** Vienna, population 1,931,593 (2022)

**Administrative division:** 9 states

**Official language:** German

**Currency:** Euro (€)

**GDP per capita (in €):** 45,043 (2021)

## Practical and basic information

## Arriving in Austria and transport

**By plane**

Austria has 6 International Airports: Vienna International Airport, Graz, Innsbruck, Linz, Salzburg and Klagenfurt.

**By bus**

Main Coach services to Austria are: FlixBus ([www.flixbus.at](http://www.flixbus.at)), Eurolines ([eurolines.com](http://eurolines.com)), RegioJet ([www.regiojet.at](http://www.regiojet.at)) and Union Ivkoni ([tickets.union-ivkoni.com](http://tickets.union-ivkoni.com)).

**By train**

ÖBB-Austrian Railways ([www.oebb.at](http://www.oebb.at)) offers attractive ticket options for travelling through Austria by train.

**By car**

Austria has a well-developed road network which lets you reach your destination with ease. Find all pertinent information about rules of the road and answers to frequently asked questions here: [www.austria.info/en/service-and-facts/getting-there-around/by-car](http://www.austria.info/en/service-and-facts/getting-there-around/by-car).



## Red tape

### Visas and Border Formalities

Citizens of EU member states, the European Economic Area (EEA) and Switzerland do not need a visa for entering the Republic of Austria. Nationals of other countries might require a visa in order to enter the Schengen Area or the Austrian territory. Please check the information on whether you require a visa or not on the website of the Federal Ministry of the Interior: [www.bmi.gv.at/202/Fremdenpolizei\\_und\\_Grenzkontrolle/start.aspx](http://www.bmi.gv.at/202/Fremdenpolizei_und_Grenzkontrolle/start.aspx).

Foreigners who are not nationals of an EEA state or Switzerland and who wish to pursue gainful employment or a short-term activity similar to gainful employment (e.g.

Matthew Nelson Bad Radkersburg



Matthew Nelson Castle Kornberg

internship) always require a visa (see also »Temporary work visa«).

Nationals of those states for which the visa requirement has been lifted by means of an EU regulation are entitled to visa-free entry to Austria for a maximum of 90 days per 180 days in case of no gainful employment.

### Embassies

There are many embassies in Austria. You can search for embassies in Austria via the following link: [www.bmeia.gv.at/en/embassies-consulates/search-for-foreign-representations-in-austria/](http://www.bmeia.gv.at/en/embassies-consulates/search-for-foreign-representations-in-austria/).

## Money

The currency in Austria is the Euro and has been ever since January 1st, 2002. One Euro is made up of 100 cents. Major credit cards are accepted almost everywhere, but please do check card charges from your bank in foreign countries before the trip. Most card machines will offer you to pay in Euros or in your card currency. We recommend choosing the Euro option since the card operator might have very unfavourable rates for your card. Usually, your bank will give you the best exchange rate with Euro. When tipping serving staff, Austrians normally add 5% to 15% to the bill so it's rounded up to a convenient number.

 Matthew Nelson Vulkanland



 Matthew Nelson Coffee Roastery Frutten



## Emergency phone numbers

- 112** Single European emergency number
- 122** Fire service
- 128** Gas emergency
- 133** Police
- 140** Mountain rescue
- 141** Emergency doctor
- 142** Crisis hotline
- 144** Ambulance service
- 147** Emergency services for children and young people
- 01 406 43 43** Poison center
- 0800/133 133** Emergency services for the deaf and hard of hearing (SMS, FAX)

## Healthcare

The nation of Austria has a two-tier health care system in which virtually all individuals receive publicly funded care, but they also have the option to purchase supplementary private health insurance. Care involving private insurance plans (sometimes referred to as »comfort class« care) can include more flexible visiting hours and private rooms and doctors. Some individuals choose to completely pay for their care privately.

Healthcare in Austria is universal for residents of Austria as well as those from other EU countries. Members of EU/EEA countries or Switzerland with national health insurance in their home country can use the European Health Insurance Card.

📷 Matthew Nelson Hutter Vinary Reiting



📷 Matthew Nelson Schiffsmuehle Mureck

## Telephone numbers, mobile number & internet

The international calling code for Austria is +43.

There are only three major mobile network operators in Austria (A1 Telekom Austria, Magenta Telekom and Hutchison Drei Austria), but there are still many different providers of mobile communications.

**Free WiFi:** You can find free WiFi in a big majority of hotels, bars, pubs and restaurants. The service is usually free of charge; however guests may need to ask staff for login details. Many cities offer free WiFi throughout central areas.

## Electricity

Austria uses 2-pin Schuko sockets and plugs. This is the same 2-pin system as in much of continental Europe.

## Tourist offices

Official Website for travelling to Austria:

[www.austria.info/en](http://www.austria.info/en).

Matthew Nelson Schiffsmuehle Mureck



## Public holidays

- 1 January **New Year's Day**
- 6 January **Epiphany**
- flexible* **Easter Monday**
- 1 May **Labour Day**
- flexible* **Ascension Day**
- flexible* **Whit Monday**
- 15 August **Assumption of the Virgin Mary**
- 26 October **Austrian National Holiday**
- 1 November **All Saints' Day**
- 8 December **Immaculate Conception**
- 24 December **Christmas Eve**
- 25 December **Christmas Day**
- 26 December **Boxing Day**
- 31 December **New Year's Eve**

Matthew Nelson Bad Radkersburg



## Eating & drinking

From west to east, from apple strudel to Zwetschgendatschi (plum pastry), from locals for guests: Austria tastes unique. This is especially due to the people. Austrian hosts are full of passion for regional cuisine. There are specialities and moments of pleasure to be discovered in every region. Styria shines with two epithets: the Green Heart and the delicatessen of Austria. Between apple trees, vineyards and pumpkin fields, the gently hilly province attracts visitors with a variety of local and regional specialities.

The Vulkanland Route 66 road is the path that leads you to a zest for life in the Thermen- & Vulkanland. Packed along the 80 km route or situated just off it are all sorts of interactive factories and authentic family-run businesses where visitors can sample the wares, spend a few hours, and take home some souvenirs. On Route 66, everything is geared towards gourmet pleasure in the truest sense of the word. Every kilometre reveals new attractions in a seemingly endless landscape of culinary adventure: well-known gourmet stops, such as the Zotter Chocolate Adventure World, the Fromagerie (Austria's first cheese art and ripening factory), Gölles (a factory for fine brandies and vinegars), the Vulcano Schinkenmanufaktur (ham factory) or even the Berghofermühle (flour mill) in Fehring, to name but a few.



Matthew Nelson Coffee Roastery Fruttem

It's also well worth exploring smaller producers who specialise in niche products, for example Kober organic chokeberry farm, Koller pumpkin farm and workshop, Maika coffee roasting house, or the exciting Vulkanland snail farm.

## Language

The languages of Austria include German, the official language and lingua franca; Austro-Bavarian, the main dialect outside Vorarlberg; Alemannic, the main dialect in Vorarlberg; and several minority languages.

# Top 10 Austria

Austria

Slovenia

Croatia

Hungary

Serbia

Austria

Mura

Danube

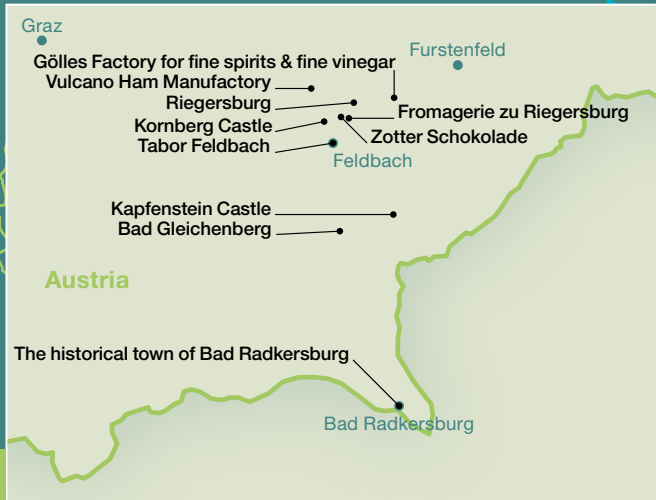
Slovenia

Hungary

Drava

Croatia

Serbia



## Zotter Schokolade



Jaqueline Jud

[www.zotter.at](http://www.zotter.at)

Endless snacking on chocolate! Visit Zotter and experience how chocolate is made. Over 500 different chocolates await you. In the Edible Zoo you can relax and dine in one of the most unusual restaurants. On the exciting tasting tour, you will see through the glass architecture into the production area, and at many creatively staged snack stations you will experience the unique taste spectrum of Zotter: cheese, bacon or even fish in chocolate? – Everything is possible here!

### Fromagerie zu Riegersburg



📷 Bernhard Gruber

[www.thecheeseartist.at](http://www.thecheeseartist.at)

Austria's first cheese art and maturation manufactory. Here cheese is ripened to bloom and refined. Let yourself be carried away into the world of cheese – ideally on a guided tour followed by a tasting. Bernhard Gruber built his own cheese stronghold with the Fromagerie and has been grinning from ear to ear ever since. Perhaps because he says »cheese« so often during tastings and tours? During the tasting, the cheese heart beats faster.

### Riegersburg



📷 Günther Maierhofer

[www.dieriegersburg.at](http://www.dieriegersburg.at)

Old fame: Riegersburg Crag first appeared in written records in 1138. The impressive basalt crag on which the castle was built was populated 6000 years ago already. With its extensive fortifications, the largest Baroque castle in Styria, was rightly known as the strongest fortress in the Occident. It was never taken. Recently, the castle has been extensively renovated and an inclined elevator has been installed to ease accessibility. Today it is one of the most famous tourist attractions in Styria. The changing exhibitions on witch-hunts, weaponry and castle life are always worth the climb.

### Kornberg Castle



📷 Matthew Nelson

[www.schlosskornberg.at](http://www.schlosskornberg.at)

Kornberg Castle was first mentioned in 1284. Since 1871, Kornberg Castle has been in the possession of Count Bardeau. In recent times, its magnificent Renaissance courtyard and fine restaurant has made it a very popular venue for weddings and other celebrations. Experience the flair of the green salon, admire the historic ancestral gallery and stroll through the arcade. By reserving a tour, you can get an exclusive view of the private rooms, with the castle lord, Consul Andreas Count of Bardeau as your personal tour guide, followed by a champagne reception.

## Top 10 Austria

### Vulcano Ham Manufactory



📷 Vulcano Schinkenmanufaktur

[www.vulcano.at](http://www.vulcano.at)

Vulcano ham production is known for its specially matured types of cured ham. Dive into the world of savoury Vulcano ham and learn all the secrets of this fine ham. In a very gentle procedure, ham is air-dried for up to 27 months.

»Vulcano Ursprung« is a tour through the world of ham from the Vulcano meat products factory in Auersbach near Feldbach: Here, guests are taken away into the world of ham and immersed in a realm of the senses – in an ambience that tastefully displays the specialities and fine products of this unique indulgence factory in the gently hilly south-eastern Styria region.

### Gölles Factory for fine spirits & fine vinegar



📷 Manufaktur Gölles,  
[www.candid-moments.at](http://www.candid-moments.at)

[www.goelles.at](http://www.goelles.at)

Take a look behind the scenes of the Gölles manufactory, which has been producing fine spirits and vinegars for over 30 years. On the adventure tour, you will learn more about the origins of the company, the people behind it, the handling of valuable resources and the added value of the products. Only the best, cleanest and ripest fruit finds its way into the stills. Distillation is carried out according to the traditional double distillation method. Free of additives such as sugar, flavorings or colorants, of course.

### The historical town of Bad Radkersburg



📷 Matthew Nelson

[www.badradkersburg.at](http://www.badradkersburg.at)

The historical town is located directly on the Austrian border with Slovenia. The two- and three-storey houses that surround the main square were once owned by wealthy merchants and nobles. The influence of Italian builders can still be seen at numerous points in the city – for example in the magnificent arched courtyard of Herberstorff Palace. Through the discovery and development of a thermal spring in 1978, Bad Radkersburg has also become a popular spa and tourist resort.



### Tabor Feldbach



📷 Stadtgemeinde Feldbach

[www.tabor-feldbach.at](http://www.tabor-feldbach.at)

On 18 May 1952, a museum was opened in Tabor, which has been maintained since 1985 by the Southeast Styrian Association for Local History in cooperation with the municipality of Feldbach. In the following decades, the museum was continually expanded. Today it encompasses almost the entire structure and houses in more than 40 rooms various departments that allow visitors large and small opportunities to discover life in the past.

### Kapfenstein Castle



📷 Familie Winkler-Hermaden

[www.schloss-kapfenstein.at](http://www.schloss-kapfenstein.at)

Kapfenstein Castle was built from the 10th to the 11th century by the Kapfenstein family as a border fortress against the Magyars. The castle experienced times of decay and reconstruction and several changes of ownership. Since 1918, the castle and its lands have been owned by the Winkler-Hermaden family. In newer times a restaurant and hotel were opened in the castle. Kapfenstein Castle sits amid 40 hectares of vineyards that are cultivated organically on volcanic soils by the Winkler-Hermaden Winery. Through meticulous selection of grapes during harvest, the wines reflect the typicality of the soil and the respective grape varieties.

### Bad Gleichenberg



📷 Werner Krug, [www.derkrug.at](http://www.derkrug.at)

[www.bad-gleichenberg.at](http://www.bad-gleichenberg.at)

Bad Gleichenberg is a spa town with over 180 years of tradition. The numerous hiking paths in Bad Gleichenberg that run along the gentle hills with fruit orchards, meadows and forests are a feast for the eyes. The heart of the town is made up of the 20 hectare spa park and the newly redesigned main square.

## AoE partner accommodations in Austria

### Hotel Sporer der Parktherme\*\*\*\*

Emmenstraße 13, 8490 Bad Radkersburg, Austria  
+43 3476 41104

### Gasthof Zum Lindenhof\*\*\*

Laafeld 22, 8490 Bad Radkersburg, Austria  
+43 3476 2460

### Pension Troicher Mansuet

### (Wirtshaus Restaurant Pension Steirerland)\*\*\*

Grazer Straße 40, 8480 Mureck, Austria  
+43 664 231 80 95

📷 Matthew Nelson Castle Kornberg



📷 Matthew Nelson Hutter Vinary Reiting

📷 Matthew Nelson



# Slovenia



## Slovenia



## Facts about Slovenia



**Population:** 2,107,180 (2022)

**Area:** 20,273 km<sup>2</sup>

**Government:** Slovenia is a democratic republic founded on the principle of the separation of powers into legislative, executive and judicial

**Capital city:** Ljubljana, population 293.218 (2022)

**Administrative division:** 58 administrative units, 212 municipalities

**Official language:** Slovenian, also Hungarian and Italian in their respective ethnically mixed areas

**Currency:** Euro (€)

**GDP per capita (in €):** 24,678 (2021)

## Practical and basic information

## Arriving in Slovenia and transport

**By plane**

You can travel to Slovenia by air to the central Jože Pučnik International Airport or Maribor Edvard Rusjan Airport or to any of the airports in the neighbouring countries.

**By bus**

Slovenia's public transport network is well-developed and reliable. In general, local buses run several services a day on weekdays, reduced services on Saturdays and in some areas no services on Sundays. Major bus carriers: Avtobusni promet Murska Sobota ([www.apms.si](http://www.apms.si)) and Arriva ([arriva.si](http://arriva.si)); FlixBus ([www.flixbus.si](http://www.flixbus.si)), one of Europe's leading coach companies, also operates in Slovenia and offers connections between European cities.

**By train**

Slovene railways are well connected to all neighbouring countries. Several international routes and special offers exist for some destinations. Slovenia has an extensive railway network with more than 1,300 km of track connecting all major (and smaller) cities and towns across the country. Slovenian

Railways ([www.slo-zeleznice.si](http://www.slo-zeleznice.si)) also provides frequent services to different destinations.

### By car

The Slovene highway network is well connected to all neighbouring countries. Slovenia requires that all vehicles buy a vignette – »vinjeta« (road tax) before using motorways or expressways. Vignettes are usually sold at gas stations. The electronic vignette is a digital version of the vignette, and has replaced traditional vignette stickers on vehicles. It is linked to the vehicle registration number entered into the central tolling system upon the purchase of the electronic vignette. Always up to date touring information or traffic conditions can be found on pages of the Slovenian national automobile association – AMZS ([www.amzs.si](http://www.amzs.si)).



 Ksenija Glazar



## Red tape

### Visas and Border Formalities

Citizens of the European Union do not need a visa or residence permit to enter the Republic of Slovenia. Entry is permitted based on a valid identity card or a valid passport for the first three months after entry; individuals may reside in Slovenia without residence registration. Third-country nationals who wish to enter and reside in the Republic of Slovenia for the purposes of tourism, business, personal visit, employment, study, family reunification or other forms or purposes of residence must obtain a visa (if required for entry into Slovenia) or a residence permit at a diplomatic

 Peter Škrilec Lendava wineyards



mission or consular post of the Republic of Slovenia abroad prior to their entry into the Republic of Slovenia.

Slovenian diplomatic missions and consular posts issue Schengen visas (A and C type visa) and national visas (D type visa). To obtain a visa, a third-country national must submit the required documents and meet the conditions prescribed by law.

More information: Ministry of the Interior – [www.gov.si/en/topics/entry-and-residence/](http://www.gov.si/en/topics/entry-and-residence/).

Useful information for foreigners entering Slovenia: [infotujci.si/en/third-country-nationals](http://infotujci.si/en/third-country-nationals).

Slovenia is in the Schengen Area, which means that, in general, there are no checks at the border crossings with Italy, Austria and Hungary. To enter Slovenia from Croatia, it is sufficient to have a passport or an identity document, if the visit does not last more than three months.

### Embassies

Contacts of Slovenia's diplomatic missions and consular posts in a specific country are available in the Country registry. Several countries have an embassy in Slovenia. If you require help offered by the embassies, you can contact them directly. If you are looking for an embassy of a specific country, use the website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs



📷 ZTK Beltinci Tinek Ferry

([www.gov.si/drzave](http://www.gov.si/drzave)). It contains an up to date list of all diplomatic missions of all the countries of the world, relative to Slovenia.

### Money

From 1 January 2007 Slovenia has been using the Euro as official currency. The Slovenian currency before the Euro was the Tolar (SIT).

ATMs are literally everywhere and you shouldn't have problems finding one.

Credit cards are widely accepted.

Tipping in Slovenia is getting more and more common, but it is not obligatory. It is appreciated, polite and appropriate for a good service, though. Not tipping is ok, rounding up is welcome.



## Emergency phone numbers

**112** The common European emergency call number

**113** Police

**080 12 00** Reporting offenders, anonymous phone line

**1987** AMZS – roadside assistance and towing

 Zavod Marianum Veržej DUO Craft Center



## Healthcare

Medical care is very well spread across Slovenia. All Slovenian cities have health centers, while there are individual clinics in small towns. All Slovenian settlements are served by emergency medical assistance, even by helicopter if necessary.

The citizens of European Union Member States can travel to Slovenia with the European Health Insurance Card. This card can also be obtained by the citizens of Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland. A special agreement also applies to the citizens of Croatia, who can obtain health services in Slovenia with their health cards. For the citizens of all other countries, it is best that you take out international travel insurance even before travelling to Slovenia. This is also recommended for citizens of the above-mentioned countries.

For more detailed information on using health services, please refer to the Health Insurance Institute of Slovenia ([www.zzzs.si](http://www.zzzs.si)).

For minor problems, such as colds, headaches, fever or insect bites, it is possible to obtain medications in pharmacies without prescription as well. The majority of Slovenian towns have pharmacies, while there are also 24-hour pharmacies in the cities.

## Telephone numbers, mobile numbers & internet

The international calling code for Slovenia is 386, the prefix for international calls is 00, and the area code prefix is 0. Three mobile companies, Telekom Slovenije and Telemach, as well as A1, provide good GSM/HSDPA and LTE coverage. Roaming between European phone companies is free due to EU regulation, while calls to or from non-EU providers remain expensive. Pre-paid GSM SIM cards are widely available in supermarkets, post offices and gas stations. You can find free WiFi in a big majority of hotels, bars, pubs and restaurants. The service is usually free of charge, however guests may need to ask staff for login details. Some cities such as Ljubljana offer limited free WiFi throughout central areas.

📷 Archiv Zavoda Marianum Verzej Babič Mill on Mura river



📷 Archiv RCMS Expanso

## Electricity

The mains electricity in Slovenia is 230 V, with a frequency of 50 Hz. Slovenia uses the so-called European plug with the official designation CEE 7/16. This plug is used in most other European countries.

📷 Natalija Kreft Interpretative point Krog





## Tourist offices

The official travel guide to Slovenia: [www.slovenia.info](http://www.slovenia.info)

Official travel guide to Pomurje, Visit Pomurje:

[www.visitpomurje.eu](http://www.visitpomurje.eu)

Pomurje Tourist Association: [www.pt-zveza.si](http://www.pt-zveza.si)

Almost every municipality has its own tourist information center, where they will give you information about the area and attractions that you can see along the way, as well as catering and additional tourist offers.

 ZTK Beltinci Island of love



## Public holidays

Slovenia has state holidays and work-free days as well as Catholic religious holidays. Beside the public holidays listed below, there are also other holidays traditionally celebrated in Slovenia that are not work-free.

Here's a list of work-free days which may affect working hours for shops, restaurants, museums, banks, transportation, etc:

1 and 2 January	<b>New Year's Day</b>
8 February	<b>Prešeren Day, the Slovenian Cultural Holiday</b>
<i>flexible</i>	<b>Easter Monday</b>
27 April	<b>Day of Uprising against Occupation</b>
1 and 2 May	<b>May Day Holiday</b>
25 June	<b>Statehood Day</b>
15 August	<b>Assumption Day</b>
31 October	<b>Reformation Day</b>
1 November	<b>All Saints Day</b>
25 December	<b>Christmas</b>
26 December	<b>Independence and Unity Day</b>

## Eating & drinking

Slovenia boasts a bounty of tasty dishes. Some are influenced by its neighbours Austria, Italy and Hungary while others are home-grown, but all are prepared with the freshest ingredients in season. Complementing all that goodness on the plate, the local wine, beer, fruit brandy and even water are also of the highest quality.

Pomurje cuisine is simple but full of flavour and made using ingredients provided by the local environment. Typical ingredients include buckwheat, pumpkin seed oil and minced lard, while poppy seeds are often used in desserts.

Matthew Nelson Hiša vina Cuk



## What to taste in Pomurje?

**Prekmurje ham** – dried pork thigh off the bone. It has a recognisable pear shape. It has been registered under the protection of geographical indication scheme, the highest form of protection for traditional foodstuffs.

**Tünka meat** – with minced lard, it makes for an excellent combination with vegetables and homemade bread. The wooden container traditionally used to preserve meat is known as a tünka.

**Bograč** is a type of goulash, originating from the Pannonian plain.

**Dödöli** – potato mush i.e. žganci. It goes perfectly with goulash, or as a main dish seasoned with cream.

**Retaši** – various types of strudel. They can be sweet (filled with fruit, cottage cheese, poppy seeds) or savoury (filled with cabbage or turnip). Different combinations of these fillings are also popular.

**Prekmurska gibanica** – unique dessert classed among the national dishes of Slovenia. The fillings used to make Prekmurska gibanica are divided by butter-brushed pastry sheets and layered in this exact order: poppy seeds, cottage cheese, ground walnuts, and grated apples.

From spring to autumn, the culinary Festival Sočna vilica in Murska Sobota offers many tastes and culinary experiences. This festival of street culinary delights invites you to taste the diverse dishes of local and international cuisine, supplemented by top-quality wines from local winemakers, a varied beer selection and other creative beverages from different providers.

📷 Matthew Nelson Expanso



📷 ZTKS Murska Sobota Interpretative point Krog

## Language

Slovenian is the official language of the Republic of Slovenia. Particularities of the Slovenian language:

- ➔ It is a South Slavic language and one of the few Indo-European languages that has preserved the dual (grammatical number)
- ➔ The alphabet has 25 letters recording 29 sounds
- ➔ It has three grammatical numbers
- ➔ It has six cases, eight declensions and three grammatical genders
- ➔ It has over 40 dialects

# Top 10 Slovenia



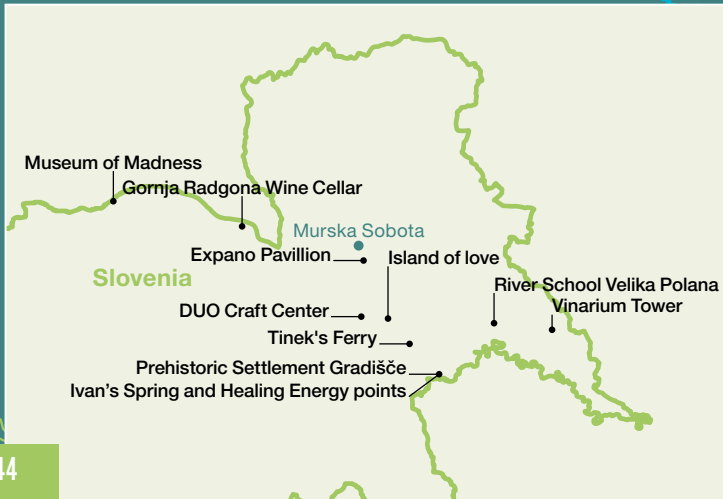
## Expano Pavillion



📷 Jure Banfi

[www.expano.si](http://www.expano.si)

The Expano Pavillion is designed as a small Pomurje with a presentation of the region, regional tourist offers, business opportunities and key sights. The regional promotion center establishes a central hub for the economy and tourist offer in the region – exhibitions, cuisine and regional products, it serves as an information point with a shop, restaurant and meeting rooms.



## Island of love



📷 Ksenija Glažar

[www.ztks-beltinci.si](http://www.ztks-beltinci.si)

In Ižakovci, in the immediate vicinity of Beltinci, there is a popular tourist point called the »Island of Love«. Until 2022, a floating mill operated on the Mura River. A special type of boat or ferry has been preserved to demonstrate the ancient way of crossing the river. You can visit the permanent exhibit collection »Büjraštvo on the Mura river« in the »Bank House« where you will find out how the riverbanks of the Mura river used to be consolidated. There is also a tourist information office and a shop with handcrafted products, drinks, and tourist literature.

## River School Velika Polana



📷 Tonči Hožjan

[www.velika-polana.si](http://www.velika-polana.si)

The River School Velika Polana offers a unique insight into the floodplain forest and wet meadows in an interactive way that interprets the natural and cultural heritage of the area. You can learn about the Transboundary Biosphere Reserve Mura – Drava – Danube, especially about the whole Mura Biosphere Reserve. At the River School Velika Polana you can discover life along the Črnek stream and find out more about water and waterside animals and plants, upgrade your knowledge in an outdoor classroom or simply enjoy your time playing games in nature.

## Tinek's Ferry



📷 Ksenija Glažar

[tinekov-brod.weebly.com](http://tinekov-brod.weebly.com)

In the past, Mr. Milan Pozdrec, called Tinek, used a ferry to transport passengers, livestock, and cargo over the Mura river, until a bridge was built. A few years ago, a new ferry was installed. It runs from dawn till dusk on the route from Gornja Bistrica to Mota. It is used to transport a variety of loads, ranging from passenger cars, tractors, cyclists and pedestrians. The capacity of the ferry is up to 8 tons.

## Top 10 Slovenia

### Vinarium Tower



📷 Kristijan Jesenović

[vinarium-lendava.si/en/](http://vinarium-lendava.si/en/)

The Vinarium Tower is the tallest lookout tower in Slovenia. At 53,5 m high it offers a beautiful 360° view of the colourful landscape that extends from the Lendava hills all the way to the Mura river basin and captures breathtaking views of the plains and hills of Slovenia, Hungary, Croatia and Austria.

### Museum of Madness



📷 Branimir Ritonja

[muzejnorosti.eu](http://muzejnorosti.eu)

Cmurek Castle stands on the northern edge of Slovenske gorice and offers the most beautiful view of the Mura River. It is considered one of the oldest and most famous Styrian castles. Today, it houses the Museum of Madness, which invites you to see and hear the story of the rich cultural and natural heritage of Cmurek, or to simply relax under the canopy of the old castle's linden trees. The castle and exhibits are open to the public during scheduled events and by prior arrangement.

### Gornja Radgona Wine Cellar



📷 Matthew Nelson

[www.radgonske-gorice.si](http://www.radgonske-gorice.si)

Gornja Radgona is your go-to place to taste some of the most exquisite sparkling wines. The most well-known is the Zlata Radgonska Penina, which is produced according to the traditional i.e. classical method by fermenting in bottles. In addition, you can also have a taste of the silver sparkling wine, Traminec sparkling wine, Hugo-flavoured sparkling wine and others.

## DUO Craft Center



📷 Arhiv Zavoda Marianum Verzej

[marianum.si/rokodelski-center](http://marianum.si/rokodelski-center)

The Center for Home and Arts and Crafts (DUO) is dedicated to promotion of almost forgotten handicraft professions in north-eastern Slovenia. They offer creative workshops in knitting with natural materials, and you can learn how to use a potter's wheel. The handicraft store also offers beautiful products for purchase, designed from natural materials: clay, straw, willow, wood, metal and others.

## Prehistoric Settlement Gradišče



📷 Tourist information center Razkrižje

[www.razkrižje.si](http://www.razkrižje.si)

On the edge of the village of Šafarsko in the Municipality of Razkrižje, there is a prehistoric village, built on the site of archaeological excavations, showing the lives of ancient peoples. Nearly half a century ago, remains of copper pots were found here, and a number of objects and ancient buildings were later excavated. Get to know how people in the past lived, ate, and more.

## Ivan's Spring and Healing Energy points



📷 Tourist information center Razkrižje

[www.razkrižje.si](http://www.razkrižje.si)

According to folk tradition, Ivan's spring has been known since ancient times. Many people believe in the healing power of this spring water, which is supposed to help improve vision and well-being. Near the spring and its surroundings, radioesthetists and bioenergetics have found 22 places that are conducive to human well-being. These points are of particular importance to the visitors, as they can rest, relax and gain new strength in such places.

## AoE partner accommodations in Slovenia

### Hotel Štrk\*\*\*

Polana 40, 9000 Murska Sobota, Slovenia

+386 2 52 52 159

### Hotel Cubis\*\*\*\*

Mlinska ulica 5a, 9220 Lendava, Slovenia

+386 2 577 46 11

### Terme Banovci\*\*\*

Banovci 1a, 9241 Veržej, Slovenia

+386 41 655 218



📷 Sandi Baumgartner Church of St. Trinity

📷 Ksenija Glažar Murska Sobota castle



📷 Ksenija Glažar Zgornje Konjišče





# Croatia



## Croatia



## Facts about Croatia

**Population:** 3,888,529 (2021)

**Area:** 56,542 km<sup>2</sup>

**Government:** Croatia is a democratic republic founded on the principle of the division of powers into legislative, executive and judicial.

**Capital city:** Zagreb, population 769,944 (2021)

**Administrative division:** The territory is administratively divided into municipalities, towns, 20 counties and the City of Zagreb, which has a special status as a city and a county.

**Official language:** The Croatian language and the Latin script are in official use in Croatia. In addition to Croatian, in some parts of Croatia other languages, i.e. Italian, Serbian, Czech, Hungarian, Slovak and Russian are in official use as well.

**Currency:** Euro (€)

**GDP per capita (in EUR):** 13,460.00 (2021)

## Practical and basic information

## Arriving in Croatia and transport

## By plane

You can travel to Croatia by air to the central International Airport Franjo Tuđman or eight international airports situated in the continental part of the country (Zagreb, Osijek), along the coast (Split, Dubrovnik, Pula, Rijeka, Zadar) and on the islands (Mali Lošinj, Brač) or to any of the airports in the neighbouring countries (Graz or Vienna – Austria, Budapest – Hungary, Sarajevo – Bosnia and Herzegovina, Belgrade – Serbia, Venice – Italy). More information: [www.croatiaairlines.com](http://www.croatiaairlines.com).



## By bus

Croatia's public transport network is well-developed and reliable. Travelling by bus is popular and practical since they travel to or pass through the most interesting Croatian cities. The extensive network of bus carriers uses high-quality, safe and comfortable vehicles.



Major bus carriers are Arriva ([www.arriva.com.hr/en](http://www.arriva.com.hr/en)) and Croatia Bus ([getbybus.com/hr/](http://getbybus.com/hr/)). In addition, FlixBus ([www.flixbus.hr/](http://www.flixbus.hr/)) operates in Croatia as well. It is one of Europe's leading coach companies, which offers connections between European cities.

### By train

Trains aren't as popular in Croatia as in certain European countries with a more developed railway infrastructure. Still, larger city centers, especially Zagreb, are well connected to all parts of the country where there are railways. ([www.hzpp.hr/en](http://www.hzpp.hr/en))



### By car

Croatia has a modern, high-quality network of highways, rapidly and safely connecting all tourist regions in Croatia with the rest of Europe. Alongside the toll highways, there is a network of highly maintained and user-friendly state and regional roads. The amount of toll depends on the length of the road section used and the vehicle category. Up-to-date tourism information or traffic conditions can be reached on the pages of HAK – the Croatian National Automobile Association ([www.hak.hr](http://www.hak.hr)).



📷 Ante Vekić Osijek



📷 Matthew Nelson Drava



## Red tape

### Visas and Border Formalities

Citizens of the European Union do not need a visa or residence permit to enter the Republic of Croatia. The same applies for a few other non-EU-member countries in the region, such as Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia and Montenegro. Entry is permitted on the basis of a valid identity card or a valid passport. Passengers from other countries must have a valid passport, and some might need a visa. A visa is an authorization for: transit through the territory of the Republic of Croatia or a stay in the territory of the Republic of Croatia for a maximum duration of up to 90 days in any period of 180 days, transit through the international transit area of the airport.

Types of visas are: air transit visa (visa A), short-term visa (visa C). Visas are issued by diplomatic missions or consular offices of the Republic of Croatia abroad. They can also be issued by a diplomatic mission or a consular office of another country with which the Republic of Croatia has made an agreement on representation in issuing visas. More information: Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs: [mvep.gov.hr/en](http://mvep.gov.hr/en)

Useful information for foreigners entering Croatia:

[www.croatia.hr/en-gb](http://www.croatia.hr/en-gb).

Croatia is a member state of the European Union, and it is part of the Schengen Area, therefore there is no control on the border sections with Hungary, Italy and Slovenia.

### Embassies

Several countries have an embassy in Croatia. If you need assistance offered by an embassy, you can contact them directly. If you are looking for an embassy of a country, use the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs' website ([mvep.gov.hr/en](http://mvep.gov.hr/en)). It contains an up-to-date list of all diplomatic missions of all countries in the world, relative to Croatia.

Matthew Nelson Mura Drava confluence



## Money

Croatia introduced the Euro as its official currency on 1 January 2023. ATMs are available everywhere and there shouldn't be any issues in finding one. Credit cards are widely accepted. Tipping in Croatia is getting more and more common, but it is not obligatory. Tipping is a personal decision of the guest based on their impression on the quality of the service rendered and the personal commitment of the staff.

 Ante Vekić Molve



 Matthew Nelson Đurđevac



## Emergency phone numbers

- +385 112** The common European emergency call number
- +385 192** Police
- +385 194** Emergency medical assistance
- +385 193** Fire department
- +385 1987** Roadside assistance and towing

## Healthcare

Domestic and foreign tourists in the Republic of Croatia can rest assured that healthcare is available to them, and that they will be taken care of, especially in emergencies. Medical care is well distributed across Croatia. All Croatian cities have health centers, while there are individual clinics in small towns.

The citizens of European Union member states can travel to Croatia with the European Health Insurance Card. The citizens of all other countries are advised to take out international travel insurance prior to travelling to Croatia.

 Matthew Nelson Drava gold panning



For detailed information on available health services, please contact the Croatian Health Insurance Fund ([hzzo.hr](http://hzzo.hr)) For minor health issues, such as colds, headaches, fever or insect bites, it is possible to obtain medications in pharmacies without prescription. Most Croatian towns have pharmacies, and there are also 24-hour pharmacies in the cities.

## Telephone numbers, mobile number & internet

The international calling code for Croatia is 385, the prefix for international calls is 00. Telephone area codes are divided by county.

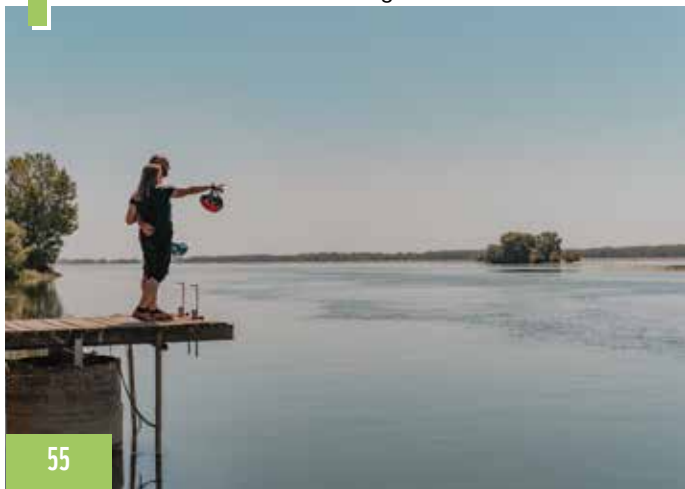
Croatia has three main providers: Croatian telekom (Hrvatski telekom), A1 and Telemach. Roaming between European phone companies is free due to EU regulation, while calls to or from non-EU providers remain expensive. Pre-paid GSM SIM cards are widely available in post offices, gas stations and supermarkets.

You can find free WiFi in a vast majority of hotels, bars, pubs and restaurants. The service is usually free of charge, although guests may need to ask the staff for login details. Some cities offer limited free WiFi throughout their centers.

## Electricity

the electric energy system in Croatia is the same as in the rest of Europe. All installations emit an alternating current of 220V/50Hz, and the sockets are type F (the so-called »Schuko« sockets). This means that European visitors (except for those from Great Britain and Ireland) won't require any adapters, while visitors coming from countries with a different system or socket standard should use standard EU adapters. In case you forget to bring an adapter, you can buy a new one in most shops offering electronic or IT equipment.

 Matthew Nelson Marina Prelog



 Matthew Nelson Drava

## Tourist offices

**Croatian National Tourist Board:**

[www.croatia.hr](http://www.croatia.hr)

**Osijek Baranja County Tourist Board:**

[www.visitslavoniabaranja.com](http://www.visitslavoniabaranja.com)

**Koprivnica Križevci County Tourist Board:**

[www.podravinaiprigrorje.hr](http://www.podravinaiprigrorje.hr)

**Međimurje County Tourist Board:**

[www.visitmedimurje.com](http://www.visitmedimurje.com)

**Varaždin County Tourist Board:**

[www.turizam-vzz.hr](http://www.turizam-vzz.hr)

## Public holidays

There are state holidays and work-free days in Croatia, including Catholic holidays. Here's a list of work-free days which may affect working hours of shops, restaurants, museums, banks, transportation, etc:

- 1 January **New Year's Day**
- 6 January **Epiphany**
- Flexible* **Easter Day and Easter Monday**
- 1 May **International Labour Day**
- 60 days
- after Easter **Corpus Christi**
- 30 May **Statehood Day**
- 22 June **Anti-Fascist Struggle Day**
- 5 August **Victory and Homeland Thanksgiving**
- 15 August **Assumption of Mary**
- 1 November **All Saints' Day**
- 18 November **The Day of Remembrance for the Victims of the Croatian War of Independence and the Day of Remembrance for the Victims of Vukovar and Škabrnja**
- 25 December **Christmas**
- 26 December **Saint Stephen's Day**

## Food & drinks

Each region in Croatia has its own special culinary features that will impress you. In the continental regions of Croatia, there is a strong Hungarian, Viennese and Turkish influence in meat and vegetable dishes as well as desserts.

Slavonia offers traditional flavours with specialties such as čobanac, fish stew, ham, kulen and kulenova seka, salenjak pastry prepared in the traditional way with pork fat, strudel pies filled with apples and walnuts. Famous Slavonian wines such as Ilok Traminac, Kutjevo Riesling and Graševina perfectly complement these delicious specialties.

The central region (Podravina, Zagorje, Međimurje) is known for the Međimurje layer cake called gibanica, pumpkin oil, pasta with cabbage, orehnjača and makovnjača (walnut and poppyseed rolls), as well as wines, such as the Pušipel from Međimurje. Delight in the flavours of traditional specialties from Zagorje such as buckwheat porridge, zlevanka pie or a typical Zagorje specialty, turkey with a traditional flatbread called mlinci or the famous Bregofska pie from Podravina.



## What to taste?

**Čvarci** – Fried snacks made from pig rind (pork scratchings), known to Croats as čvarci, are one of the most famous dishes in northern and eastern Croatia and a distinctive element of Croatian cuisine.

**Čobanac** – Several kinds of meat are used in čobanac, mostly pork and beef, and sometimes wild game or lamb and many types of vegetables and seasonings such as bay leaves, salt, pepper and, naturally, ground sweet and hot red peppers which give čobanac its famous red colour. One of the main characteristics of this dish is its spiciness, which is enhanced by adding dried spicy chilli peppers.

**Zagorje štrukli or štruklji** – A traditional specialty from Hrvatsko Zagorje. Štrukli can be prepared in two ways, cooking and baking. The basic dough filled with cottage cheese is used in both methods. However, the štrukli cooked in salted water can be covered with melted fat and sprinkled with toasted breadcrumbs when served.

**Međimurje gibanica** – The basic element of this interesting cake is the thinly stretched puff pastry, specially made for it. In between the pastry, rich layers of fillings (walnuts, poppyseed, apples and cheese) provide various textures and tastes which complement each other perfectly.



Matthew Nelson Grešna pilnica

**Bregofska pie** – A traditional dish of the Koprivnica region. In 2012, it was included in the list of intangible cultural assets of the Republic of Croatia. It is prepared from home-made dough, apples, raisins and walnuts.

## Language

Croatian is the official language of the Republic of Croatia. The Croatian language has three dialects: Shtokavian, Kajkavian and Chakavian.

## Top 10 Croatia



## Trakošćan Castle



📷 Domagoj Sever

[www.trakoscan.hr](http://www.trakoscan.hr)

The landscape of the Varaždin area is unimaginable without the panoramic view of the Trakošćan Castle, which is considered to be the most beautiful castle in Croatia. The Trakošćan Castle attracts numerous tourists with its beautiful park, romantic lake and the extremely well preserved interior of many rooms, all of which make it one of the most visited places in continental Croatia.

## Ivanščica



📷 Pointers produkcija

[www.ivanec-turizam.hr](http://www.ivanec-turizam.hr)

Encircling the small town of Ivanec, the most striking mountain in northern Croatia is a popular destination for numerous hikers and nature lovers visiting its beautiful plains covered in flowery meadows. The mountain peak of 1060 meters is the highest one in Croatia north of the Sava river. Its diverse terrain, shade in the thick forests and countless tracks and paths make it perfect for hiking. While visiting the top of Hrvatsko Zagorje, make sure you continue sightseeing and discover other special features of the Ivanec area.

## Regional Park Mura Drava in Podravina



📷 Matthew Nelson

The Regional Park Mura Drava covers the routes of the Mura and Drava rivers in Croatia and is the largest protected area in the Koprivnica-Križevci County. The protected area of the Drava river in this location is full of side channels, sandbars, and eroded steep riverbanks, floodplains with backwaters, oxbow lakes, abandoned riverbeds, meanders and riparian forests, and is home to many protected and rare plant and animal species. Explore the untouched landscape of this regional park, pick your favourite nature hotspot in area from the Mura-Drava confluence to the significant landscape of Jelkuš, and enjoy the experience of the »Amazon of Europe«.

## Marian sanctuary Molve



📷 Goran Šafarek

The tradition of this sanctuary dedicated to the Virgin Mary goes back to the age of wars with Ottomans and is connected to a legend about the miraculous power of the Gothic statue of the Mother of God from the 15th century, which is kept in a chapel in Molve. The church dedicated to the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary into Heaven, the so called »Podravina cathedral«, dominates the place and, because of its height, can be seen from wider surroundings. Visit Molve and discover why this picturesque settlement is a central pilgrimage place for catholic believers from the region and surrounding areas.

## Top 10 Croatia

### Old town of Đurđevac



📷 Goran Šafarek

[muzej-djurdjevac.hr](http://muzej-djurdjevac.hr)

This middle age fortress with its unique fortification shape was very important in the age of the Ottoman raids and today is the home of the Đurđevac City Museum and Gallery. Culturally and historically this old town is one of the most interesting urban units of north-western Croatia. At the end of June, the famous festival called »The Legend of Picoki« is held in the fortress' surroundings, and the area also hosts many other attractive events during the year.

### Erdut Vineyards



📷 Ante Vekić

[www.erdutski-vinogradi.hr](http://www.erdutski-vinogradi.hr)

One of the highest quality winegrowing areas in Croatia. Also known as the owner of one of the largest wine barrels in Europe with a volume of 75,000 litres. The Erdut vineyards are located on the east slopes of the Dalj Hill along the Danube river.

### Đakovo



📷 Ante Vekić

[www.djakovo.hr](http://www.djakovo.hr)

Đakovo is a town in eastern Croatia, which administratively belongs to the Osijek-Baranja County. The city bears the title of »Heart of Slavonia«. According to the number of inhabitants, Đakovo is the second largest city in the Osijek-Baranja County. Đakovo is the city of bishops, writers and painters, but also of great events (Đakovački vezovi and Đakovacke buse). The town of Đakovo, with its rich past and present, invites you to visit it throughout the year. You will surely be satisfied with the rich gastronomic offer, along with the indispensable Đakovo wines.

## Marina Prelog



📷 Matthew Nelson

[www.prelog.hr](http://www.prelog.hr)

Marina Prelog is the ideal resting place for runners, cyclists, boaters and nature lovers. This quiet corner is a part of Dubrava lake and a perfect place for fishing, walking, sailing or simply enjoying the gastro offer right by the Marina.

## Observation deck on Maderka Hill



📷 Mathew Nelson

[www.strigova.info](http://www.strigova.info)

Maderka is a hill near Štrigova, near the Slovenian border. It is situated 314 meters above the sea level, which is only 3 meters lower than the highest point in Međimurje County, with a tower at the very top. The tower has a platform for visitors at the height of 21 metres, with the overall height of the tower being 28 metres. It was built with laminated timber according to a star-shaped floor plan and it has perforated metal steps. The new observation deck provides a lovely view of the scenic beauties of the northernmost county in Croatia, the hills and vineyards of Međimurje, and a view of four countries – Austria, Slovenia, Hungary and, when the weather is nice, even Slovakia.

## Mill on the Mura



📷 Matthew Nelson

[visit.svetimartin.hr](http://visit.svetimartin.hr)

Up there in the northernmost point in Croatia, in the village of Žabnik, the Mura river turns the impressive wheel of a wooden mill. It is a unique example of traditional architectural heritage in Croatia. The water murmur and the creaking sound of grindstone take visitors back to the long gone 1902 when flour was ground for the first time on that floating »oldster«. The »Miller's educational path« was built in idyllic natural surroundings by the mill. Apart from offering a walk in untouched nature, the educational path also presents a multitude of interesting facts about natural and traditional heritage of the Significant Landscape of the river Mura. There is also a river raft that, just like a perpetuum mobile, takes people and vehicles from one river bank to the other, without a motor, sails or oars.

## AoE partner accommodations in Croatia

**Sobe Merlon\*\*\***

Ul. Franje Markovića 3, 31000 Osijek  
+385 98 212 633

**Boutique hotel Tvrdá\*\*\*\***

Franjevačka 7, 31000 Osijek  
+385 (0) 31 201 555

**Baranjski Dvori\*\*\***

Ul. Peteffi Šandora 61, 31307 Zmajevac  
+386 91 2005 885

**Terme Sveti Martin\*\*\*\***

Izvorska 3, 40313 Sveti Martin na Muri  
+385 99 242 3857

**Hotel Panorama/DG Sport\*\*\***

Ulica Matije Gupca 102, 40323 Prelog  
+385 98 463 527

**Hotel Golf\*\*\***

Glavna ulica 79, 40327 Donji Vidovec  
+385 98 242 670

**Hotel Kralj\*\*\***

Ludbreška 93, Donji Kraljevec  
+385 40 650 170

**Hotel Varaždin\*\*\***

Trg kralja Petra Svačića 1a,  
42000 Varaždin, +385 42 290 720

**Park Boutique Hotel\*\*\*\***

Jurja Habelića 6, 42000 Varaždin  
+385 42 420 301

**Hotel Zlatan\*\*\***

Varaždinska c. 177A, 48000 Koprivnica  
+385 98 1657 992

**Hotel Podravina\*\*\***

Ulica Hrvatske državnosti 9,  
48000 Koprivnica, +385 48 621 025

**Apartmani Kristina/Stari zanati\*\*\***

Ulica bana Josipa Jelačića 139,  
48323 Hlebine, +385 91 883 5006

**Seljačko domaćinstvo Ivančan\*\***

Molve Ledine 35, 48327 Molve  
+385 91 955 4544

**Hotel Picok\*\*\*\***

Trg Svetog Jurja 9, 48350 Đurđevac  
+385 48 672 200

**Wine Tale\*\*\***

Mičetinac 168, 48350 Đurđevac  
+385 98 441 075

**Dravska Iža\*\*\***

Križnica 27, 33405 Pitomača  
+385 033 801939

**Hotel Kurija Janković\*\*\*\***

Kapela Dvor 22, 33406 Lukač  
+385 033 639 767

**Dvorac Janković\*\*\*\***

Vukovarska 4, 33410 Suhopolje  
+385 033 646 645

**Dravska Priča\*\***

33523 Noskovci  
+385 033 722 033

**Sobe Industrial Belišće\*\*\***

Ul. kralja Tomislava 2, 31551 Belišće  
+385 95 901 2373

**Susi's Cakes\*\***

Ul. Mladena Palinkaša 18,  
31205 Aljmaš, +385 91 558 7771

**Etno kuća Stari Dud\*\***

Ul. Ivana Bakića 53, 31206 Erdut  
+385 99 77 44 123

# Hungary



# Hungary



## Facts about Hungary



**Population:** 9,689,010 (2022)

**Area:** 93,025 km<sup>2</sup>

**Government:** Hungary is a multiparty parliamentary democracy. The unicameral National Assembly (parliament) exercises legislative authority.

**Capital city:** Budapest, population: 1,729,040 (2022)

Administrative division: 1 capital city + 19 counties

**Official language:** Hungarian

**Currency:** Hungarian Forint (HUF)

**GDP per capita (in €):** 18,772 (2021)

## Practical and basic information

### Arriving in Hungary and transport

#### By plane

You can travel to Hungary by airplane to the central Budapest Ferenc Liszt International Airport, Debrecen International Airport or Hévíz-Balaton Airport. Furthermore, the country is accessible from any of the airports in the neighbouring countries.



#### By bus

In general, the Hungarian national passenger bus company (Volánbusz) covers the whole country with bus services, reduced services on Saturdays and more reduced services on Sundays. Schedules and information can be found here:

[www.menetrendek.hu](http://www.menetrendek.hu).

In Hungary, FlixBus ([www.flixbus.hu](http://www.flixbus.hu)), and Regiojet ([www.regiojet.hu](http://www.regiojet.hu)) also operate, offering intercity bus connections with many European cities.





### By train

The Hungarian railways are well connected to all neighbouring countries and connect the most important cities, towns, and villages in each region. Similarly to Hungarian passengers, EU citizens are also entitled to various discounts over the course of their travel in Hungary. Detailed information and all schedules can be found here: [www.mavcsoport.hu](http://www.mavcsoport.hu).



Furthermore, the Austrian Railways company (ÖBB) operates daily high-speed trains between Budapest and many Austrian, German, and Swiss destinations.

### By car

The Hungarian highway network is well connected to all neighbouring countries and covers almost the whole territory of Hungary. In Hungary, it is a requirement to buy a vignette – »autópályamatrica« (road tax) before using motorways or expressways. Vignettes are usually sold at gas stations, but online purchasing is also available ([www.autopalyamatrica.hu](http://www.autopalyamatrica.hu)).



Matthew Nelson Gyékényes

## Red tape

### Visas and Border Formalities

Hungary is a party to the Schengen Agreement, which allows for free movement between certain European countries. Citizens of the European Union do not need a visa or residence permit to enter Hungary. Entry is permitted based on a valid identity card or a valid passport for 90 days after entry; individuals may reside in Hungary without residence registration. More information:

[konzinfo.mfa.gov.hu/en](http://konzinfo.mfa.gov.hu/en).

Hungary is in the Schengen Area, which means that, in general, there are no checks at the border crossings with Austria, Slovenia and Slovakia. To enter Hungary from Croatia, Romania and Serbia it is sufficient to have a passport or an identity document, if the visit does not last more than 90 days.

## Embassies

Contacts of Hungary's diplomatic missions and consular posts in a specific country are available in the Country registry. Several countries have an embassy in Hungary. If you need help that is offered by the embassies, you can contact them directly.

More information: For a list of embassies, use the website of the Hungarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs: [konzinfo.mfa.gov.hu/en](http://konzinfo.mfa.gov.hu/en).

 Matthew Nelson Lendvadedes



## Money

In Hungary, the official currency is the Hungarian Forint (HUF). ATMs are available mainly in bigger settlements or towns; in some villages ATMs cannot be found. Most of the ATMs are not able to provide euros for users, only the Hungarian Forint is available.

Credit cards are widely accepted in Hungary, but in rural areas it is strongly recommended to have smaller amounts of cash (10.000 or 20.000 HUF).

EUR in cash is only accepted in bigger hotels or supermarkets.

Tipping in Hungary is common, but not obligatory. It is appreciated, polite and appropriate for a good service, though. In several cases, you can tip by credit card as well.



### Emergency phone numbers

- 112** The main emergency call number is the same as the common European emergency call number
- 107** Police
- 105** Fire department
- 104** Ambulance
- 188** Roadside assistance

## Healthcare

Almost all Hungarian cities have health centers or hospitals, additionally private clinics can be found even in small towns. All Hungarian settlements are served by emergency medical assistance, even by helicopter if necessary.

The citizens of European Union Member States can travel to Hungary with the European Health Insurance Card.

This card can also be obtained by the citizens of Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland. For citizens of all

 Matthew Nelson Szecsisziget



 Matthew Nelson Lispezentadorjan

other countries, it is best that you take out international travel insurance before travelling to Hungary. For minor problems, such as colds, headaches, fever or insect bites, it is possible to obtain medications in pharmacies without prescription as well. The majority of Hungarian towns have pharmacies, while there are also 24-hour pharmacies in bigger cities.

## Telephone numbers, mobile number & internet

The international calling code for Hungary is +36, the prefix for international calls is 00.

In Hungary, there are four mobile companies – the Hungarian Telekom, Yettel, Vodafone and Digi Mobile provide good GSM/HSDPA and LTE and, in some cases, 5G coverage. Roaming between European phone companies is free due to EU regulation, while calls to or from non-EU providers remain expensive. Pre-paid GSM SIM cards

📷 Matthew Nelson Mohács treadmill



are widely available in supermarkets, post offices and gas stations.

You can find free WiFi in a big majority of hotels, bars, pubs, and restaurants. The service is usually free of charge; however, guests may need to ask staff for login details. Some bigger cities offer limited free WiFi throughout central areas.

## Electricity

The mains electricity in Hungary is 230 V, with a frequency of 50 Hz. Hungary uses the so-called European plug with the official designation CEE 7/16. This is the plug used in most other European countries. Guests coming from certain European countries will have to provide the appropriate adapter.

## Tourist offices

The official travel guide to Hungary: [csodasmagyarorszag.hu](http://csodasmagyarorszag.hu) or [visithungary.com](http://visithungary.com).

The official active tourism platform: [aktivmagyarorszag.hu](http://aktivmagyarorszag.hu). Almost every bigger town has its own tourist information center, where they will give you information about the place and attractions that you can see along the way, as well as additional tourist offers.

## Public holidays

There are state holidays and work-free days in Hungary and among them also Catholic religious holidays. Beside the public holidays listed below, there are also other holidays traditionally celebrated in Hungary that are not work-free.

Here's a list of work-free days which may affect working hours for shops, restaurants, museums, banks, transportation, etc:

1 January **New Year**

15 March **Memorial Day of the Revolution War (1848-49)**

*The last Friday before Easter*

**Good Friday**

*flexible* **Easter Sunday and Monday**

1 May **May Day Holiday**

*Pentecost* **the 7th Sunday and Monday after Easter**

20 August **Statehood Day**

23 October **Memorial Day of the Revolution War (1956)**

1 November **All Saints Day**

25-26 December **Christmas**



Matthew Nelson Gyékényes lake

Matthew Nelson Kaszó canopy trail



## Eating & drinking

Gastronomy has always played an important role in Hungarian culture. It is characterised by both tradition and innovation, as well as creative ideas and solutions inspired by a heritage of many centuries. Hungary has very popular and famous soups like the iconic goulash and fish soups, which are prepared in myriad variations, both in restaurants and at home. The other famous meal in Hungary is the »Pörkölt« — a dish of stewed meat — an archetypical Hungarian dish. Its precise preparation is the subject of passionate debate: ask a handful of Hungarians and you'll get at least a dozen opinions.

On the sweeter side, Hungary excels in desserts. Hearty Gundel pancakes are filled with a walnut/rum mixture smothered in dark-chocolate sauce, Somlói sponge cake is vanilla-flavoured with chocolate sauce, rum and raisins, while túrógombóc is sweet cottage cheese dumplings with a sweet-sour cream sauce. The most iconic cakes are the classic Dobos and Esterházy, while Hungary also created the walnut-apricot zserbó slice and the apricot-cottage-cheese Rákóczi túrós.

Hungary is one of Europe's most intriguing historic wine-producing countries, but it remains a blank spot in the world's wine map for many wine-lovers. The country is in

the unique position of being one of the oldest winemaking countries, yet it is still re-introducing itself to the world—a process that began in the early 1990s after Communism ended and the modern Hungarian wine industry was born. Hungary has 6 larger wine regions.

 Matthew Nelson Murakeresztúr



## Language

The Hungarian language is the official language in Hungary, which is part of the Uralic language family. The language is complex and unique: despite the country's location in central Europe, it is fundamentally different from every spoken language in the neighbouring countries – and it is one of the hardest languages in the world to learn. In terms of dialects, there are no major differences within the country.

📷 Matthew Nelson Villány vinyards



📷 Matthew Nelson Mohács silk factory

📷 Matthew Nelson Nagyarsány statue park



# Top 10 Hungary



## Lenti Thermal Spa



Hotel Balance, [www.aosebiketrail.com](http://www.aosebiketrail.com)

[lentifurdo.hu](http://lentifurdo.hu)

The city is famous for its healing benefits thanks to the Lenti Thermal and Medicinal Spa, which is situated at the meeting point of the so-called St. George energy lines. Their beneficial effects for body and soul make this spa unique throughout Europe. The spa has been recently renovated, located next to the Amazon of Europe Trail, and offers a wide range of services, multiple outdoor and indoor pools, as well as adventure pools awaiting visitors all year long.



## Lake in Kistolmács



📷 Matthew Nelson

[www.zalaerdo.hu/hu/horgaszat/kistolmacsi-viztarozo](http://www.zalaerdo.hu/hu/horgaszat/kistolmacsi-viztarozo)

The reservoir lake with a surface of over 11 hectares and a depth between 1-7 meters is suitable for fishing and bathing. It is the perfect place for a picnic and some relaxation. Accommodations, restaurants, buffets and a camping site can be found around the lake.

## Mura-Drava confluence in Őrtilos



📷 Matthew Nelson

[www.bfnp.hu/hu/tajvedelmi-korzetekrol/mura-menti-tajvedelmi-korzet-hu](http://www.bfnp.hu/hu/tajvedelmi-korzetekrol/mura-menti-tajvedelmi-korzet-hu)

Experience the confluence of two wild rivers and the ever-changing riverine landscape. The Mura and Drava confluence is one of the most beautiful natural landscapes of the region. The surrounding forests hide a unique wildlife.

## Kaszó forest



📷 LEADER LAG Rinya-Drava,  
[www.acebiketrail.com](http://www.acebiketrail.com)

[www.kaszort.hu/](http://www.kaszort.hu/)

The Kaszó Forestry covers a 15,000 hectares of state-owned forest area, where you can enjoy a real forest experience. An asphalt road of good quality leads through the forest, which is excellent for cycling. The forestry in the village of Kaszó operates a narrow-gauge railway between Szentá and the village of Kaszó, and a wildlife park in Kaszó.

## Top 10 Hungary

### The Ancient Drava Visitors' Center of the Danube-Drava National Park



📷 Pámer Zoltán

[ddrp.hu/okoturizmus/bemutatohelyek/os-drava\\_latogatokozpont](http://ddrp.hu/okoturizmus/bemutatohelyek/os-drava_latogatokozpont)

Ancient Drava Ecotourism Visitors' Center in Szaporca is the newest visitors' center of the Danube-Drava National Park, established in 2015. The center offers an indoor exhibition, several hiking paths, thematic guided tours (also with audio guides and through mobile applications) and a farm with traditional animals. The center offers rentable bikes, canoes and kayaks.

### Wine growing tradition and cellars in Villány



📷 Adrian Radulescu,  
[www.aosebiketrail.com](http://www.aosebiketrail.com)

[villany.hu/szabadido/villanyi-es-viragosi-pincesor/](http://villany.hu/szabadido/villanyi-es-viragosi-pincesor/)

Villány is the center of the famous wine-growing area. The local museum gives a thorough insight into the history of wine-making in the area. Visit the romantic old town with streets full of cultural heritage houses /cellars. Most of the cellars offer wine tasting and menus of traditional food. The town has several accommodations and high-rated restaurants.

### The castle of Siklós



📷 Siklósi Várszínház Nonprofit Kft,  
[www.aosebiketrail.com](http://www.aosebiketrail.com)

[www.siklosivar.hu](http://www.siklosivar.hu)

Siklós is famous for its impressive castle, well visible from everywhere in the nearby area. The castle offers a wide range of permanent exhibitions (gothic balcony, prayer niche, dungeon, torture chamber, wine museum with a shop of local wines, exhibition of renaissance furniture, armoury). Besides those, the castle provides a venue for various regularly organised programmes, usually on weekends, for families and children.

## Mohács National Memorial Site



📷 Komiós Attila, Danube-Drava National Park Directorate, [www.aeobiketrail.com](http://www.aeobiketrail.com)

[ddnp.hu/okoturizmus/bemutatohelyek/mohaasi\\_nemzeti\\_emlekhely](http://ddnp.hu/okoturizmus/bemutatohelyek/mohaasi_nemzeti_emlekhely)

The Mohács National Memorial Site is a 1.5 km detour off the Amazon of Europe route towards Sátorhely. The Memorial is devoted to the battle of the Hungarians against the Turks in 1526. The lost battle – being a turning point for the whole of Central Europe – had a great influence on the 150 year-long Turkish rule. The park is home of the grave of 1700 soldiers and of King Louis II. The Memorial has a visitors' center with an exhibition including interactive features.

## Béda Protection Area



📷 Town of Mohács, [www.aeobiketrail.com](http://www.aeobiketrail.com)

[www.ddnp.hu/okoturizmus/ajanlatok/kenuturak\\_beda-karapanesan](http://www.ddnp.hu/okoturizmus/ajanlatok/kenuturak_beda-karapanesan)

The Béda Protected Area, which is part of the Danube-Drava National Park, is located between Mohács and the state border, along the Danube. You can get acquainted with the vivid wildlife of the area (including the famous, but shy black stork) by visiting the Museum of the White Stork in Kölked, and the Nagypartos study trail. The National Park often organises tours by carriage, canoe or bicycle. From the Külső-Béda a detour can be made on the asphalted dike to the state border with Croatia.

## Mohács, town of the busó, part of the UNESCO Spiritual Heritage



📷 Matthew Nelson

<https://www.mohaacs.hu/>

Mohács is a town of 17 thousand inhabitants, located on both sides of the Danube river. The main attraction of the town is the Busó Festival («Poklade» in Croatian), a local one-week event every February, which is under UNESCO protection as Spiritual Heritage. The Poklade is a carnival event of the local Šokci people, during which the local busó's cross the Danube in their traditional wooden masks, and burn a bonfire on the main square with a coffin of the winter. You may get familiar with the tradition by visiting the Busó Court open all year long. Out of the numerous churches of the town, the byzantine style Votive Church on the main square is the one that stands out the most. It is also recommended to pay a visit to the St. Michael water- and treadmill, which is a unique experience. The mill is open only if you make a reservation/request.

## AoE partner accommodations in Hungary

**Thermal Hotel Balance Lenti\*\*\*\***

Lenti, Táncsics u. 8, 8960 Hungary

+36 20 27 00 994

**Gosztola Gyöngye Spa/****Pearl of Gosztola Wellness Hotel\*\*\***

Gosztola, Fő u. 16, 8978 Hungary

+36 30 21 44 641

**M7 Galéria Panzió\*\*\***

Bajcsy-Zsilinszky u. 36, Letenye, 8868 Hungary

+36 30 245 98 95

**Radics Panzió Étterem és Pihenő Központ\*\*\***

Rákóczi Ferenc u. 98, Letenye, 8868 Hungary

+36 30 913 9184

**Hotel Solar Nagyatad\*\*\***

Széchenyi tér 28, Nagyatad, 7500 Hungary

+36 30 500 3135

**Erdődy Vendégház Kastélyosdombó\*\*\***

Fő u. 2, 7977 Kastélyosdombó, Hungary

+36 70 552 5591

**Belvárosi Apartments\*\*\***

Béke utca 6, Bares, 7570 Hungary

+36 20 962 1241

**Alexandra Guesthouse Dravatamasi\*\*\***

Fő utca, Drávatamási 44, 7979 Hungary

+36 70 342 5888

**Kolokan Hostel Szaporca\*\***

7843 Szaporca, Hungary

+36 30 334 6703

**Crocus Hotel Villany\*\*\*\***

Diófás utca 4-12, 7773 Villány, Hungary

+36 72 492 195

**Blum Winery\*\*\***

Baross Gábor u. 103, 7773 Villány, Hungary

+36 30 9027 072

**Centrum Pension\*\*\***

Dózsa György u. 2., 7700 Mohács, Hungary

+36 30 6464761

**Pannon Hotel\*\*\***

Dózsa György u. 17, Mohács, 7700 Hungary

+36 30 500 8285

An aerial photograph of a river in Serbia. The river flows from the top center towards the bottom right, curving through a dense, lush green forest. To the left of the river, there are agricultural fields, some of which are brown, suggesting they have been plowed. A dirt road or path runs parallel to the river on the left side. In the middle of the river, there are two small bridges or structures. The overall scene is a mix of natural forest and human-made agricultural land.

# Serbia

## Serbia



## Facts about Serbia

**Population:** 6,797,105 (2022, estimate)

**Area:** 88,499 km<sup>2</sup>

**Government:** Serbia is a democratic republic founded on the principle of the separation of powers into legislative, executive and judicial

**Capital city:** Belgrade, population: 1,688,677 (2022)

**Administrative division:** Serbia is divided into 29 administrative districts, of which 7 are located in Vojvodina, 9 in Southern and Eastern Serbia, 8 in Šumadija and Western Serbia, and 5 in Kosovo and Metohija, while the City of Belgrade represents its own administrative district.

**Official language:** Serbian, also Hungarian in their respective ethnically mixed areas

**Currency:** dinar (RSD)

**GDP per capita (in €):** 7,803 (2021)

## Practical and basic information

## Arriving in Serbia and transport

There are several ways to get to Serbia and the West Bačka district, City of Sombor and Apatin municipality.

**By plane**

You can travel to Serbia by air to the central Nikola Tesla International Airport or to any of the airports in the neighbouring countries.

**By bus**

Serbia's public transport network is well developed. In general, local buses run several lines a day on weekdays to larger cities. Buses go less often to smaller towns. Main bus carriers: Lasta a.d. Belgrade ([www.lasta.rs](http://www.lasta.rs)) and ATP Severtrans Sombor ([www.severtrans.rs](http://www.severtrans.rs)); they also offer connections between European cities.

**By train**

The total length of the railway network in Serbia is 3,808.7 km, of which 3,533.2 km are single-track and 275.5 km are double-track. Since March 2022, the first new



high-speed train has been running on the reconstructed line between Belgrade and Novi Sad. This is the first high-speed train in the history of Serbian railways, and the most modern in the region ([www.srbvoz.rs](http://www.srbvoz.rs)).

### By car

The highway network in Serbia is well connected with all neighbouring countries. Tolls are paid at toll booths. You can always get up-to-date information about the roads or the traffic situation on the pages of the Automobile Association of Serbia – AMSS ([www.amss.org.rs](http://www.amss.org.rs)).



 Milan Djurdjevic Sombor



 Milan Djurdjevic Sombor

## Red tape

### Visas and Border Formalities

On October 30, 2014, the Government of the Republic of Serbia adopted the Decision on visa-free entry into the Republic of Serbia for holders of foreign national passports who have a valid Schengen visa, a visa of Great Britain and other member states of the European Union, or a visa of the United States of America, as well as for holders of foreign national passports that have a regulated stay in Schengen zone countries, European Union Member States or the United States of America. With this decision, the aforementioned categories of foreign citizens can, without prior application for a visa, enter, travel through and stay in

the Republic of Serbia for up to 90 days during a six-month period, but not exceeding the expiration date of the said visas or residence permits.

It is possible for foreign citizens to enter the Republic of Serbia with two passports, e.g. an outdated national passport with a valid visa or residence permit and a valid national passport without a valid visa or residence permit. Foreign citizens, who have a residence permit in the form of a special card (not a sticker affixed to their passport), must present their valid passport when entering the territory of the Republic of Serbia ([www.mfa.gov.rs](http://www.mfa.gov.rs)).

The state border is crossed at the border crossing with a valid travel document or other document prescribed for crossing the state border, during the working hours of the

📷 Milan Djurdjevic Sombor



📷 Jovan Gojkovic

border crossing and in accordance with the international agreement.

The working hours of border crossings that are not open 24 hours are visibly marked with special signs.

## Embassies

Contacts of Serbian diplomatic and consular missions in a certain country are available in the state register. Several countries have embassies in Serbia. If you need help offered by embassies, you can contact them directly. If you are looking for a country's embassy, use the website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs ([www.mfa.gov.rs/en](http://www.mfa.gov.rs/en)). It contains an up-to-date list of all diplomatic missions of all countries in the world in relation to Serbia.



## Money

Serbia uses the dinar as its official currency (RSD).

ATMs are literally everywhere and you should have no problem finding them.

Credit cards are widely accepted and you can use them almost everywhere.



## Emergency phone numbers

- 192** Police
- 193** Fire department
- 194** Ambulance
- 1976** Military ambulances
- 1985** Information and warning services
- 1987** Roadside assistance
- 19860** Military police



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## Healthcare

In Serbia, there are health care institutions at the primary, secondary and tertiary levels of health care. When the health problem exceeds the technical conditions of the hospital or a professional opinion of the highest level of health care is needed, the patient is referred to clinical centers of which there are 4 (Belgrade, Novi Sad, Kragujevac and Niš) or one of the clinics (6), i.e. institutes (16) or KBCs (4). These represent the tertiary and last level in the health care system of Serbia. For all visits to doctors at the tertiary level, you need a referral from your doctor from a health center, which they issue based on the recommendation of the doctor from the hospital. This referral must be certified by the competent branch of the Republic Institute for Health Insurance (RZZO).

In order to regulate your stay in the Republic of Serbia, it is necessary to have a voluntary health insurance policy issued in the Republic of Serbia.

For more detailed information on using health services, please refer to the Institute for Public Health of Serbia »DR Milan Jovanović – BATUT« ([www.zdravlje.gov.rs](http://www.zdravlje.gov.rs)).

## Telephone numbers, mobile number & internet

When calling Serbia from another country, enter »00« or »+«, then the area code for Serbia (»381«), then the two-digit area code of the telephone district (without 0 for local calls), and finally the six-digit telephone number within the telephone network circle.

Three mobile companies, Telekom Srbija, Yettel and A1, provide good GSM/HSDPA and LTE coverage. Roaming between European phone companies is free due to EU regulation, while calls to or from non-EU providers are still expensive. Pre-paid GSM SIM cards are widely available in supermarkets, post offices and gas stations.

You can find free WiFi in most hotels, bars, pubs and restaurants. The service is usually free, but guests may need to ask staff for log-in details.

## Electricity

The mains electricity in Serbia is 230 V, with a frequency of 50 Hz. Serbia uses the so-called European plug with the official designation CEE 7/16. This is the plug used in most other European countries. Guests coming from certain European countries will have to provide the appropriate adapter.

## Tourist offices

Tourist Organization of Serbia: [www.serbia-tourism.org](http://www.serbia-tourism.org)

Tourist Organization of Vojvodina: [vojvodina.travel/en/](http://vojvodina.travel/en/)

Tourist Organization of Sombor: [www.visitsombor.org](http://www.visitsombor.org)

Tourist Organisation of Apatin: [www.apatin.org.rs](http://www.apatin.org.rs)

Almost every municipality has its own tourist information center, where they will give you information about the place and attractions that you can see along the way, as well as catering and additional tourist offers.



📷 Milan Djurdjevic Sombor

📷 Milan Djurdjevic Sombor



📷 Milan Djurdjevic Sombor



## Public holidays

There are state holidays and work-free days in Serbia and among them also Christian (Catholic and Orthodox) religious holidays. Beside the public holidays listed below, there are also other holidays traditionally celebrated in Serbia.

Here's a list of work-free days which may affect working hours for shops, restaurants, museums, banks, transportation, etc:

1, 2 and 3\* January

**New Year** (non-working days)

7 January **Orthodox Christmas** (non-working day)

27 January **Saint Sava Day** (working holiday)

15 and 16 February

**National Day** (non-working days)

*Flexible* **Easter holidays** (for Catholics and members of other Christian religious communities) (non-working days)

22 April **Day of Remembrance for the Victims of the Holocaust, Genocide and Other Victims of Fascism in the Second World War** (working holiday)

*Flexible* **Easter holidays** (non-working days)

1, 2 and 3\* May **Labor Day** (non-working days)

2 May **The first day of Eid al-Fitr** (for members of the Islamic community) (non-working day)

9 May **Victory Day** (working holiday)

28 June **Saint Vittus Day (Vidovdan)** (working holiday)

9 July **The first day of Kurban Bayram** (for members of the Islamic community) (non-working day)

5 October **The first day of Yom Kippur** (for members of the Jewish community) (non-working day)

21 October **Day of Remembrance of Serbian Victims in the Second World War** (working holiday)

11 November **Armistice Day in the First World War** (non-working day)

25 December **The first day of Christmas** (for Catholics and members of other Christian religious communities) (non-working day)

\* *3 January and 3 May are non-working days only if 1 or 2 falls on Sunday*

## Eating & drinking

Serbian cuisine is heterogeneous, although stormy historical events have also affected the diet of the people, so each region has its own specificities and differences. It can be said that the decisive influences were Byzantine-Greek, therefore – Mediterranean, then Oriental and Austro-Hungarian. Food preparation is an integral part of Serbian tradition and culture.

Serbia boasts an abundance of delicious dishes. Some are influenced by their neighbours, while others are homemade, but all are prepared from the freshest ingredients in season. Along with all that goodness on the plate, you can also enjoy high-quality homemade wines and fruit spirits.

### What to taste in Vojvodina?

Vojvodina cuisine is a mixture of different cuisines of the peoples who have lived in this area for centuries. Of the main meat dishes, dishes such as goulash, stew, tokanja, perkelt and ajmok are important, which are prepared with an abundant use of onions, tomatoes and other types of vegetables, with various spices, such as ground red pepper. Fish stew and homemade strudel with poppy seeds are an indispensable part of the traditional diet in the territory of Vojvodina.



📷 Milan Djurdjevic Sombor

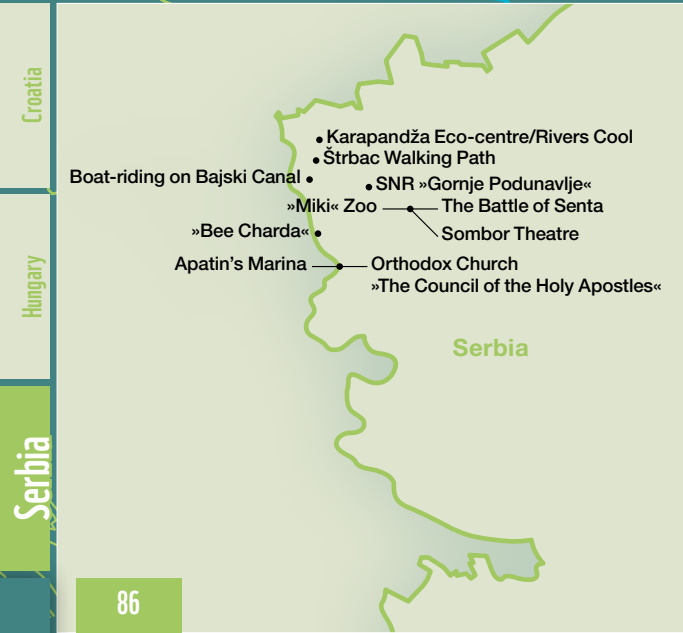
## Language

Serbian is the official language of Serbia.

Particularities of the Serbian language:

- ➔ The Serbian alphabet has 30 Cyrillic letters. The basic characteristic of the modern alphabet is that it is phonetic, which means that one symbol or letter corresponds to one sound.
- ➔ There are seven cases.
- ➔ It has over 10 dialects.

# Top 10 Serbia



## Karapandža Eco-center/Rivers Cool



📷 Vojvodinašume

[www.vojvodinasume.rs](http://www.vojvodinasume.rs)

In the heart of the »Upper Danube«, you can easily join and share in a truly unique experience of attending an eco class in an open classroom, designed and adapted to receive visitors, where expert guides/keepers are at your disposal, telling the story of the reserve of the protected area, introducing the audience to topics related to nature protection, the reserve itself and the animal world in it.

## Štrbac Walking Path



📷 Vojvodinašume

[www.vojvodinasume.rs](http://www.vojvodinasume.rs)

The »Štrbac« Walking Path, situated between the villages Bački Monoštor and Bezdan, is surrounded by the wetlands of Monoštor. It is also an educational walking path marked with comprehensive info-boards, tables and benches for relaxing and enjoying untouched nature. The walking tour takes 1.5 hours and ends at pond Šarkanj (Black pond), where you can also do some bird watching from the path's lookouts.

## Boat-riding on Bajski Canal



📷 Vojvodinašume

[www.vojvodinasume.rs](http://www.vojvodinasume.rs)

The cleanest canal around with a variety of ecosystems. The embankments are overgrown with forests, reeds and wetland vegetation, while the coastal part is adorned with ponds that provide shelter for numerous fish species in one of the cleanest canals in Vojvodina. The water is quite deep and the forestry is full of exotic animal species, like the famous European deer and more than 270 bird species. The canal also belongs to the Karapandža area.

## The Battle of Senta



📷 Milan Djurdjevic

[www.sombor.rs](http://www.sombor.rs)

The Painting »The Battle of Senta« is the work of Hungarian artist of German descent MA Ferencz Eisenhut. It was commissioned for the Millennium Exhibition, organized in 1896 in Pest, to commemorate the Hungarians' 1000th anniversary in the Pannonian Plain. Today it is located in Sombor, in the City Administration building in Županija. The canvas itself is huge: 7 metres wide and 4 metres high (28 m<sup>2</sup> in total). With a richly gilded half-metre-wide frame that is a work of art in itself, the total area of the painting is 40 m<sup>2</sup>. These dimensions make the Battle of Senta the largest oil on canvas, not only in Serbia but also in the former Yugoslavia.

## Top 10 Serbia

### Sombor Theatre



📷 Milan Djurdjevic

[www.npozoristeso.co.rs](http://www.npozoristeso.co.rs)

On 25 November 1882, the first ever performance was held in the Sombor Theatre building and it has been developing ever since. It has always been a home for the most prominent directors and actors who perform great domestic and world theatre classics and avant-garde drama literature. Since 1993, each theatre season ends with the Theatre Marathon Festival. During three days and nights, one after the other, performances of guest theatres, theatre groups and students of drama faculties continuously alternate on stage. It is a manifestation, or rather a journey, which has most certainly outgrown local, even state boundaries.

### »Miki« Zoo



📷 Miki zoo

[www.kolutzoo.com](http://www.kolutzoo.com)

The »Miki« Zoo is located in Kolut and is the only private zoo in the country. It was founded in 1988. The zoo has over 100 animal species from all over the world on an area of about seven and a half hectares of woods, lawns and a dozen artificial lakes. Only in this garden and in Frankfurt can you see two species of flamingos (ordinary and dwarf) and rare secretary birds. In the zoo in Kolut there are bustards, Livingston's turk, raja utva or orinoco geese, fallow deer, donkeys, ponies, white and black swans, pythons, monkeys, squirrels. The zoo also has a bear that was brought over from Frankfurt. The bear is unique in that its parents are a grizzly bear and a polar bear.

### SNR »Gornje Podunavlje«



📷 Nemanja Jović

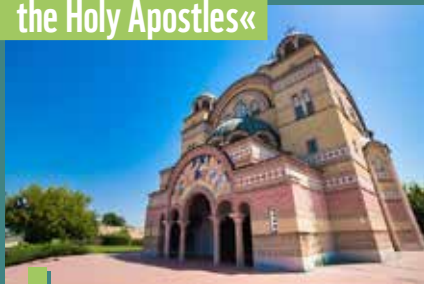
*Camp site »Staklara« at Sonta and »Mesarske livade« – »Tošina bara« (»Tosha's swamp«)*

[www.turistickiklub.com](http://www.turistickiklub.com)

Mesarske livade is a place where civilization and untouched nature meet. It offers a unique opportunity for frequent encounters with wild animals living in the area, such as: wild hogs, deer and various bird species, many of which are protected. Here you might encounter the very shy black stork, the majestic white-tailed eagle, which has its largest nesting numbers in Middle Europe just across the Danube, in Kopački rit, or white and gray herons. There is a hunting lodge nearby, with accommodation.



## Orthodox Church »The Council of the Holy Apostles«



📷 Nemanja Jović

[www.orthodox-world.org](http://www.orthodox-world.org)

This magnificent Orthodox church is built in the spirit of old Serbian tradition and famous Serbian-Byzantine style. The temple was built from Apatin's silicate brick and painted with beautiful murals by masters of fresco-painting. This is where the flow of the Danube through Orthodox lands begins, marked by the so-called »Gate of Orthodoxy«, located along the city promenade on the Danube bank.

## Apatin's Marina



📷 Nemanja Jović

[www.marinaapatin.rs](http://www.marinaapatin.rs)

The international marina »Apatin« is the only one categorized in Serbia according to international quality standards. In the marina you have the opportunity to visit the Special Nature Reserve »Gornje Podunavlje« by boat, sightseeing the city from the water, as well as renting bikes. The marina has quality studio apartments, a restaurant, a gas station with a shop and a reception where you can get information at any time of the day and night.

## »Bee Charda«



📷 Nemanja Jović

[www.apatin.org.rs](http://www.apatin.org.rs)

An extremely attractive and popular picnic spot, located near the village of Kupusina, between Apatin and Sombor. The specificity of this Charda is that you only have drinks in the catering offer, while you will have to take care of the gastronomic pleasure yourself. You will get everything you need, from a covered place for preparing a barbecue or a fish stew, to wood, cutlery, plates and napkins. After your meal, you won't have to worry about the dishes, the hosts will do it for you, all you have to do is bring the food and pay a symbolic fee for the service. This place also has a dock where you have access to the Danube backwater, so you can swim or rent a boat. There are also beach volleyball and football terrains, as well the possibility of renting rooms for overnight stay.

## AoE partner accommodations in Serbia

### Garden house\*\*\*

Dimitrija Tucovića 41, Apatin, Serbia  
+381 (0)63 11 45 646

### Hotel Marina\*\*\*

Dunavska obala bb, Apatin 25260, Serbia  
+381 25 515 0068

### Hotel Andrić\*\*\*

Trg Koste Trifkovića bb, Sombor, Serbia  
+381 25422 422

### Sobe Karibo\*\*\*

Rade Končara 12, Sombor, Serbia  
+381 64 9596281

### Bike Camping Sosul

Venac Petrove Gore 23, 25000 Sombor, Serbia  
+381 652426274

### Hotel Barcode\*\*\*\*

Jugoslovenske Narodne Armije bb, Sombor 25101, Serbia  
+381 (25) 304 424



📷 Milan Djurdjevic Sombor

📷 Milan Djurdjevic Sombor



# Experience the destination



## Experience the destination

### Amazon of Europe Bike Trail - A unique cycling experience

The Amazon of Europe Bike Trail is a transnational long-distance cycling trail offering you a unique opportunity for cycling holidays. It follows the natural meanders of the rivers Mura, Drava, and Danube crossing Austria, Slovenia, Hungary, Croatia, and Serbia. You can cycle more than 1,250 km through the world's first 5-country UNESCO biosphere reserve where you can discover natural river landscapes of pristine beauty, floodplain forests, and beautiful cultural landscapes and villages. There are 27 stages, 11 on the North and 16 on the South route, offering unique sights, various activities, and genuine hospitality which you will carry in your heart and memories forever. The start point of both routes of the Bike Trail is in the town of Mureck, Austria, and the end point is in the town of Mohács, Hungary (close to Pécs).

**The Amazon of Europe Bike Trail has its own Service & Booking Center where you can book full package cycling holidays. Our product is unique since it allows you to combine individual freedom with service, comfort, and safety.**

By booking cycling holidays with us you also support nature conservation programmes for endangered habitats and species in the region.

 Thomas Sattler

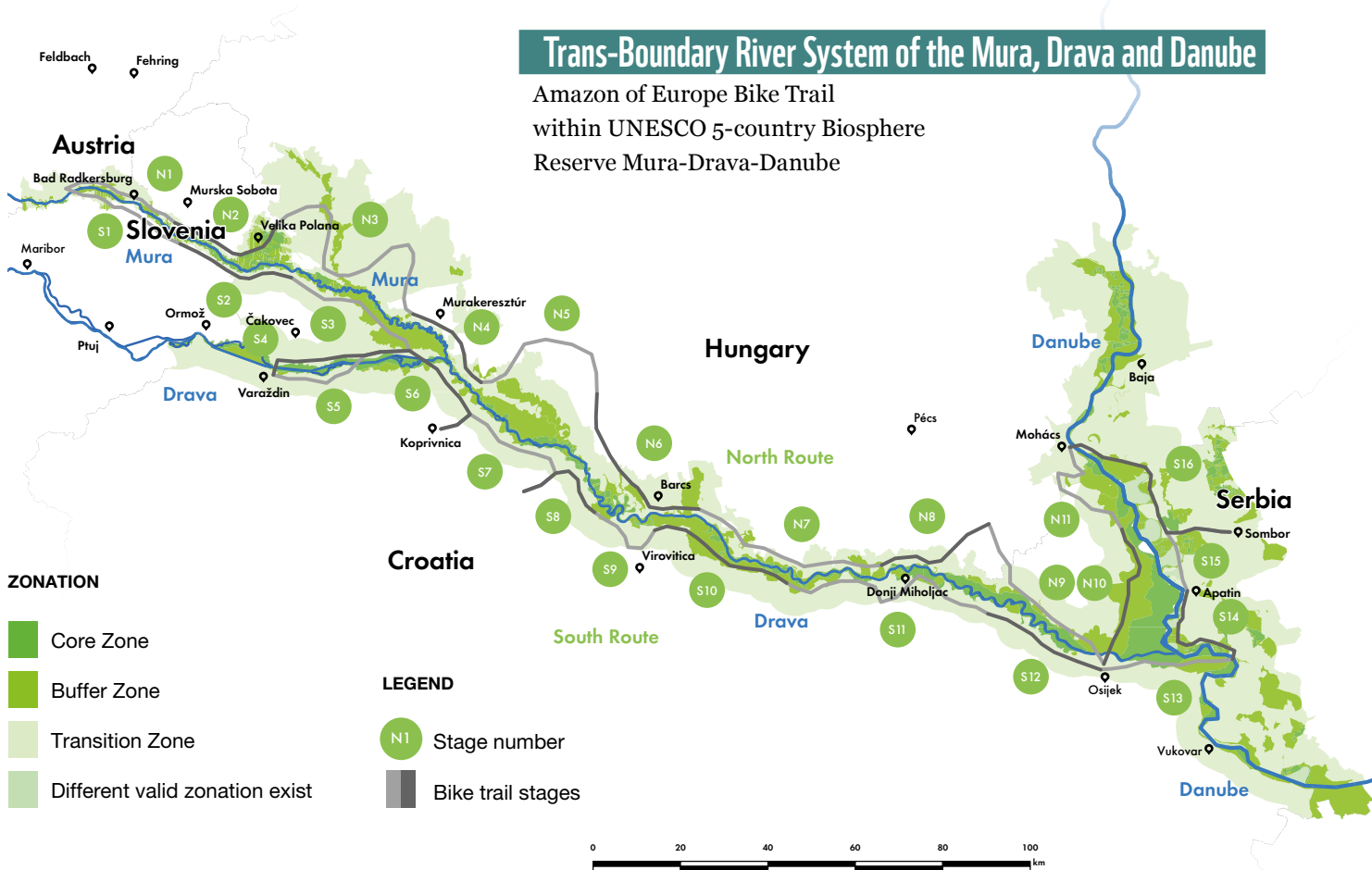


*Discover the route:*

[www.auebiketrial.com](http://www.auebiketrial.com)

# Trans-Boundary River System of the Mura, Drava and Danube

Amazon of Europe Bike Trail  
within UNESCO 5-country Biosphere  
Reserve Mura-Drava-Danube



## ZONATION

- Core Zone
- Buffer Zone
- Transition Zone
- Different valid zonation exist

## LEGEND

- N1 Stage number
- Bike trail stages

## Amazing Moments – Authentic experiences along the Mura, Drava, and Danube Rivers


Amazing Moments are unique experiences that connect the cultural heritage, authenticity, and wild nature of the Amazon of Europe. The local hosts will welcome you with their hospitality and you as a guest will be actively engaged in a special moment that focuses on discovering the forests and wildlife along the rivers, sensing the cultural highlights and the Pannonian soul, or immersing in culinary delights where all your senses will be pampered.

The authentic experiences include activities such as handcrafting, exquisite wine tasting, gold panning, truffle hunting, bird watching, forest hiking, getting to know ethnic stories in a different way, activities on rivers, and so much more. Seize the opportunity to experience the »Amazing Moments« that are hiding all the way along the Amazon of Europe.

 Aleksander Koren



## Vulkanland Route 66

 Southeast Styria, Austria



 Matthew Nelson

On the Vulkanland Route 66 you are literally on a trail of pleasure. Every kilometre reveals new temptations in seemingly endless culinary worlds. The spectrum ranges from world-famous experience manufactories to small producers, who are specialised on one specific product. There is something for every taste to be found on the trail

of pleasure, so come and experience it yourself.

**What awaits you:**

- ➔ 62 certified experience manufactures
- ➔ Many tasting opportunities of 100% locally produced goods

## Feel history through a pottery class

📍 **Center DUO, Veržej, Slovenia**



📷 Ksenija Glažar

In Veržej you can test your skills at the interesting pottery workshop and feel the unique texture of modeling clay.

With the help of an experienced potter, you will get a feeling for the material and what it is all about. Take the chance of creating your own unique piece, with almost no limits in creativity. After shaping the wet clay with your bare hands for a while, you will forget about your surroundings and totally dive into this Amazing Moment.

**What awaits you:**

- ➔ Short introduction to pottery
- ➔ Creating your own unique piece with your bare hands
- ➔ Visiting the in-house showroom and having a look at professional handicrafts from the Pomurje region

## Untouched by Light

📍 **Radgonske gorice d.o.o., Gornja Radgona, Slovenia**

Can you imagine a flavour explosion in complete darkness? In Gornja Radgona you can taste the unique sparkling wine Untouched by Light, which is the first



📷 Matthew Nelson

sparkling wine in the world produced in total darkness. It must also be tasted in a unique way. That is why Radgonske gorice have prepared a unique type of tasting, with which they want to ensure two important things at the same time. The goal is to limit the access of light to the sparkling wine so that the first sip you take is truly authentic and untouched by light, and at the same time to sharpen your senses, so that you can better perceive the nuances of flavours while the sparkling wine in the

glass in front of you changes with the presence of light.

**What awaits you:**

- ➔ Tour of the Pod rimskim kolesom and Pod slapom cellars
- ➔ Tasting the Zlata Radgonska penina sparkling wine
- ➔ Visiting the Pod skalo cellar and learning about the Untouched by Light sparkling wine
- ➔ Tasting the Untouched by Light sparkling wine in complete darkness

## Husk Weaving Workshop

📍 **ZRP Pomelaj, z.o.o., Mala Polana, Slovenia**

At Pomelaj, the place where the past inspires the future, you can take part in a husk weaving workshop. There you will be taught the traditional handicraft by very special people from the local area. In the workshop, you will have a chance to try yourself in creating beautiful husk products, equally unique



📷 Matthew Nelson

as the employees themselves. After the workshop, homemade food products will be waiting for your taste buds. In the end, in the in-house store, you can buy some unique souvenirs.

**What awaits you:**

- ➔ Husk Weaving Workshop
- ➔ Tasting of jams, salted breadsticks, and roasted pumpkin seeds



📷 Matthew Nelson

## Tastes of the nature of the Upper Danube

📍 **PR sportsko i rekreativno obrazovanje Quantum Solution Apatin (Meeting point: Pčela čarda, Kupusina), Apatin, Serbia**



📷 AoE Booking Center

Would you like to spend a day in the wild, in harmony with nature? First you will be invited on a canoe tour along a side branch of the Danube River where calmness meets pure nature. At this part of the »Upper Danube« nature reserve you will learn from your local



expert how to row and what you can experience on the river. The further you go, the more animal species you will discover in the water, on the trees, and in the sky.

At the end, a culinary experience awaits you.

**What awaits you:**

- ➔ Guided canoe tour on the Danube River
- ➔ Exploring nature, observing flora and fauna
- ➔ Culinary experience: preparation of fish-stew / wild game



📷 AoE Booking Center

## Canoe tour along the Drava River

📍 **Helian NaTour Kft., Baranya, Hungary (Meeting point: Szaporca Ancient-Drava Visitor-center)**



📷 Helian NaTour

Hidden side streams and water gates, beautiful pebble beaches, and fascinating wildlife and plant species are waiting for you along the Drava River. This full-day tour on a canoe includes some nice resting places to take a break and swim in the refreshing water. After the fitting and

equipment check, you will receive safety instructions and learn how to paddle. Let yourself relax and feel the calmness of the river, this is a memory that will stay in your mind long after the adventure ends.

**What awaits you:**

- ➔ Full day guided canoe tour
- ➔ Safety instructions and learning how to paddle
- ➔ Options for swimming
- ➔ Observing the wildlife and plant species

## Experience the KASZÓ Forest - Hungary's best-preserved wildlife territory

📍 **Kaszó Zrt, Kaszó, Hungary**

This unique experience of the wildlife of the swampy Baláta lake is waiting for you in the middle of Hungary's best-protected forest. You will explore the green and rich wildlife of the Kaszó Forest, one of Hungary's best-preserved



Matthew Nelson

forest areas. The entry to this world, where wildlife comes together, is the old forest railway. A forest ranger will welcome you and take you on a walk through the swamps of Balata Lake, which is exceptionally rich in wildlife.

**What awaits you:**

- ➔ Guided walking around the Kaszów Forest
- ➔ Ride with the railway from Kaszów village to the entrance of the Baláta lake trail
- ➔ Guided tour on the Baláta lake trail
- ➔ Individual visit of the canopy trail

- ➔ Individual visit to the wildlife park
- ➔ Lunch at the Főherceg Inn in Kaszów

**Experience and learn the art of naïve painting**

📍 **Tihomir Želimorski, Hlebine, Croatia**



Matthew Nelson


In Hlebine you can get to know a unique art of painting – Naïve Art. Use your imagination and learn special techniques under the skilful hands of

a professional artist. There is no more authentic place in Croatia where you could learn the unique art of naïve painting than Hlebine. One of the most famous Naïve artists will introduce to you the art step by step. Under his guidance, you will have the opportunity to create your own artistic masterpiece.

**What awaits you:**

- ➔ Introduction and presentation of Naïve Art
- ➔ Learning how to use colours and what to pay attention to during this special painting technique on glass
- ➔ Using your imagination with the help of the »maestro«
- ➔ Glass painting workshop
- ➔ Visit to the Gallery of Naïve Art

## Hunting for treasure on the Drava River

 **Rudi express d.o.o. - Jelena Berečić, Međimurje, Croatia**  
**(Meeting point: Sveta Marija)**


A revival of the gold panning tradition, a centuries-old and unique experience awaits you in Međimurje. Try your hand at patience and luck as you stand knee-deep in the waters of the Drava River, throwing out gravel on a board, always keeping an eye out, hoping that something shiny will soon emerge from in between the small stones. Experience the unique heritage of gold panning

with locals from Međimurje, who keep the tradition alive. After hopefully finding some gold, you will get to have float down the Drava River.

**What awaits you:**

- ➔ Experience of finding gold
- ➔ Boat ride on the Drava River
- ➔ Tasty picnic

## Invisible companions - The sounds of the birds

 **Međimurje Nature – Public Institution for Nature Protection, Visitor center »Between Two Waters«, Međimurje, Croatia**

Get lost in the wildness of nature and experience stunning birdlife along the Mura River. This short tour allows you to experience the stunning birdlife at a more relaxed pace and gives you great insights into the local species. Together with a park ranger, you will explore river wetland habitats, oxbow lakes, and floodplain forests in the Regional Park Mura-Drava and learn how to recognize at least 20 different bird species and try to recognize bird songs. Let's give the sound of music orchestrated by nature some faces.

**What awaits you:**

- ➔ Getting familiar with the Amazon of Europe's diverse and unique birdlife
- ➔ Guided tour by a local park ranger
- ➔ For the duration of the tour, you will receive binoculars and the Collings Bird Guidebook
- ➔ Free entrance to the Visitor Center »Between Two Waters«




 Matthew Nelson



 Matthew Nelson

## Wildlife water adventure in Kopački rit

 **Green Osijek, Osijek-Baranja County, Croatia (Meeting point: Osijek)**



 Ante Vekić


Experience the waters and wildlife of the Danube floodplains as well as the rich history of the Baranja region. Go on an adventure in the pristine nature of the Amazon of Europe and dive into the heart and backwaters of the Nature Park Kopački rit and the Danube floodplains by canoe and on foot. Your

private guides will not only take you on a two-part water and wildlife safari but will also give you exclusive insights into the beauty of this natural wonder and its biodiversity.

### What awaits you:

- ➔ Guided canoe tour through the backwaters of Kopački rit with wildlife watching and photography
- ➔ Arrival at the largest heron colony in the Middle Danube – observing and photographing from photo hides
- ➔ Guided tour with a small boat in the Special ZOO reserve
- ➔ Getting to know local cuisine

## Eco-center Karapandža

 **Vojvodinašume, Bezdan, Serbia**  
Explore the diversity of forests, reeds, and wetlands. The Eco-center, which is located on Bajski canal and belongs to the Karapandža radius, is widely known for its' clean water, abounding in a diversity of ecosystems within



 Vojvodinašume

the river and in its surroundings. The embankments are overgrown with forest, reeds, and wetland vegetation, while the coastal part is adorned with ponds that provide shelter for numerous fish species in one of the cleanest canals in Vojvodina. The water is quite deep, and the forestry is abundant with exotic animal species. Apart from the above, this spot offers various water activities to visitors and is a common starting point for boat rides.

### What awaits you:

- ➔ A tour of the Karapandža promenade and motorboat ride accompanied by an expert guide
- ➔ Possibility to row a boat yourself
- ➔ Bicycle ride accompanied by an expert guide along a stone path – part of the known walking path

## Once upon a time - The life and food habits of the »Šokci« people

📍 **PG Mali Bodrog, Bački Monoštor, Serbia**



📷 AoE Booking Center

Travel to the early days – experience how life was lived in the good old days. In this Amazing Moment you will experience how the local people lived hundreds of years ago in the ethnic house »Mali Bodrog« in the village of Bački Monoštor and learn how to prepare a traditional local dish from scratch.

### What awaits you:

- ➔ Warm welcome and story about the history of the house and village of Bački Monoštor
- ➔ Traditional food and drinks
- ➔ Culinary course: fish or chicken stew and making the traditional pasta for the stew

## On the track of the Danube Swabians - Historical city tour through Sombor

📍 **City of Sombor museum and City of Sombor touristic organization, Sombor, Serbia**



📷 Milan Djurdjevic

In the footsteps of the Danube Swabians find out what lies behind these historic events in the city of Sombor. This day of culture and history starts in the city center of Sombor with a guided city walk where the Prefecture building is one of the highlights, because there you can find the biggest oil on canvas painting in this region aka the »Battle of Senta«. After hearing the background story of this battle you will visit another site, which was decisive in the history of the region, the Museum of the Danube Swabians. Also located

in the city center, this museum is an institution where, for the first time ever, the cultural heritage and tradition of the German »Donauschwaben« were collected in one place.

**What awaits you:**

- ➔ Guided tour in the City of Sombor center, cultural heritage, and a visit to the Prefecture building and the »Battle of Senta« painting
- ➔ Visiting the Danube Swabians museum and a guided storytelling about their history and culture in this region

## On the hunt for the black gold - Pure pleasure for truffle gourmets

📍 **Snježana Mikulčić Jakopović, Varaždin, Croatia**

An unforgettable day of truffle hunting and rich truffle cuisine – pure pleasure for truffle gourmets is waiting for you. Wide leafy forests, pleasant freshness, the twittering of birds and



📷 AoE Booking Center

the creaking of the forest floor beneath your feet... but beware! You may be already walking on black gold, which is hidden everywhere in the ground. It's a good thing that our four-legged friend Jenö, together with his excellent truffle nose and his master Stefan are accompanying you on this truffle hunt. While Jenö is showing off his truffle skills, our truffle expert can tell you everything you want to know about this edible gold. After the search in the forest, it's time for an absolute taste highlight. In a truly stylish and cosy ambiance, a high-class chef duo awaits

you! What excellent dishes will the two magically conjure up on the plate on-site at the cooking show? You'll have to see and taste for yourself.

**What awaits you:**

- ➔ Guided walk with a truffle specialist and truffle dog
- ➔ Welcome breakfast
- ➔ Truffle hunt
- ➔ 5-course truffle lunch

## Drava river adventure

📍 **Nikola Želimorski, Varaždin, Croatia**



📷 Matthew Nelson

Green coloured calm water and inviting river banks, where you can listen to the sounds of nature and enjoy the untouched beauty of one of the big three Amazon of Europe rivers, the Drava, is waiting for you to discover it. Embrace yourself and the nature during this beautiful outdoor day on the river. A rafting tour or the possibility to try out a SUP yourself await you. The calmness of the river makes it possible to go for a swim, and the dense forest provides shade for some rest in between. When you feel like it, you can have a picnic break where you will make your own meal by campfire after the water activities.

**What awaits you:**

- ➔ Rafting or SUPing and swimming in the Drava River
- ➔ Storytelling about nature, plant, and animal species
- ➔ Food and bonfire/picnic in the forest (optional)

## Hands on clay - Unleash your creativity with clay



**Edit Herman (Meeting point: Alkotmány út 9, 8834 Murakeresztúr), Zala County, Hungary**



Matthew Nelson

Do you want to feel the clay in your hands, create your own objects and enjoy the creativity of your mind? In Murakeresztúr you will have the opportunity to try your hand at a potter's wheel and to design your own

products under the supervision and help of your personal pottery master Edit, with no limits to your creativity. Together you'll learn which moves are needed to create a bowl, cup, plate, or any other item of your choice. Get to know more about traditional pottery in Hungary and see how the clay can be transformed into a beautiful handicraft product.

**What awaits you:**

- ➔ Creation of small clay products
- ➔ Firing two hand-made clay products you created – depending on the visitors (1st burn: terracotta, second: with glaze)
- ➔ Coffee, lemonade/soft drinks, snacks
- ➔ Opportunity to buy products from the »shop«

## Water tour on three rivers - Experience the river side from up close

📍 **»TIMEX – 2000« Kft., Zala  
County, Hungary (Meeting  
point: Kerkaszentkirály, Petőfi  
út 1. Coordinates: 46.500702,  
16.577366)**



📷 Matthew Nelson Kerkaszentkirály

You are invited to paddle on three different rivers as part of a single water tour, while feeling yourself become an integral part of nature. Observe the

wildlife and enjoy the beautiful riverine landscapes, touch the water, take a rest on a gravel bar, and be witness the the erosion work of the rivers. The trip starts near Kerkaszentkirály on a smaller tributary stream of the Mura River called Lendva, continues on the larger Kerka and ends on the most powerful part of the Mura River in the vicinity of Muraszemenye. During the water tour you will be going down three different water courses with three different characteristics and experience all the beauties and diversity of this border area.

### **What awaits you:**

- ➔ Transfer to the starting point of the water tour (Kerkaszentkirály, Lendva creek)
- ➔ Equipment and instructions
- ➔ Water tour by rafting boat on Lendva, Kerka and Mura Rivers
- ➔ Intermediate stop on a gravel island in the middle of the Mura River

➔ End of the water tour at Muraszemenye (Alsószenenye) – »Hódvár« water tourism base



# River Journey



By paddling in a canoe or kayak you can discover the largest protected free flowing rivers of Europe: the Mura, Dava and Danube which span over 700 km. Welcome to this unique adventure – our third special AoE product, the River Journey.

River Journeys are prepared multi day canoe and kayak trips on the rivers Mura, Drava and Danube. They are run and guided by local experts for water sport activities. They will present and lead you through the wild life of these magnificent rivers. You will discover adventure on the Amazon of Europe from the water's perspective. By boat you can discover places that are hard to reach by foot so they are still wild and untouched by the influence of modern times.

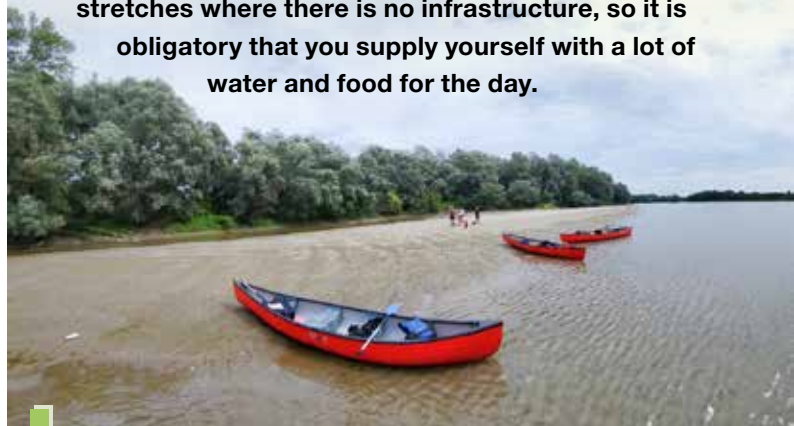
📷 Jure Čuček / Drava Sport



**In terms of paddling technique, the rivers Mura, Drava and Danube pose no significant challenge. The paddling difficulty class is I-II. If you are beginner, we recommend you join a guided tour where you will be escorted by our guide for the whole trip. You will learn how to steer and paddle correctly and at the end of the tour you will be rewarded with new knowledge.**

**On this guided tour you will paddle stretches that can be 30 kilometres long or more and you will be remote from civilization for multiple hours so good preparation before the trip is needed. You will paddle stretches where there is no infrastructure, so it is obligatory that you supply yourself with a lot of water and food for the day.**

📷 Jure Čuček / Drava Sport



## Guided paddling on the Mura, Drava and Danube

### Good to know

You will be provided with an open canoe or long sea kayak. A certified professional guide will be with you at all times providing a safe and memorable experience. Our guide's knowledge of the area is important for nature preservation and protecting all local animal species.

The guided tour is also suitable for children from ages 10 and up, provided they have good stamina.

### When?

The most suitable time for a river journey is from mid-May till the end of September. May and June are the probably the best months for this adventure. The river is quicker due to snow melting in high mountains so you can paddle easier and this gives you more time for observing nature's awakening.

In summer the temperature of the Drava River is just perfect for swimming. You will be amazed by long sandy or rounded stony beaches where you can stop your canoe or kayak and take a swim. Surrounded by just the trees you will feel as if you are alone with the planet.

Pleasantly cool temperatures – autumn can be a fantastic time for a river journey. Time stops after the summer heat

and nature will welcome you with the nice brown colours of the river trees. Due to low temperatures on the river, paddling activities are not recommended in wintertime.

**The Amazon of Europe booking center is running multiday tours that can be booked by individuals or groups.**

 Jure Čuček / Drava Sport



## Big River Journey Mura-Drava-Danube

### (8 day programme)

On this River Journey you will experience the confluence of 3 mighty rivers.

This River journey will take you through 4 of the 5 countries which form the UNESCO 5-Country Biosphere Reserve Mura-Drava-Danube. In 8 days you will experience the nature of the Drava River like you have never seen it before. The flow of the Drava River is suitable for beginners and will reward you with a nice flow and beautiful meanders. Starting at the Mura-Drava confluence in Legrad, you will be paddling on the border between Croatia and Hungary, and finishing at the mighty Drava-Danube confluence and world-famous Nature Park Kopački rit. Along the way, you will meet amazingly hospitable locals who will share with you their cultural and natural uniqueness. You will immerse yourself by paddling in the most spectacular sections of a magical and yet so little-known destination; the Amazon of Europe.

## Free-flowing River Journey Mura-Drava

### (5 day programme)

If you want to discover the largest protected free flowing rivers of Europe, we invite you to experience paddling on two mighty free flowing rivers, Mura and Drava. While



paddling on the Mura River you will pass three countries in the biosphere reserve with a great number of rare internationally endangered habitat types and wildlife species. On the journey you will meet hospitable locals from three different cultures telling you their stories of living together with the river and nature. On the confluence of the rivers Mura and Drava in Legrad you will experience the great power of rivers merging into one. The Drava will reward you with diamond blue colours and meanders full of birds of all kind. Join us on an adventure of a lifetime by paddling in a canoe or kayak in one of the last free flowing river systems in Europe – the Amazon of Europe.

You can find more River Journeys programmes on:

[www.visitaoe.com](http://www.visitaoe.com).

# Top AoE experience



Matthew Nelson

## Top 15 getaway cities

### Feldbach (Austria)



📷 Stadtgemeinde Feldbach

Feldbach is the fifth largest town in Styria and the district capital of south-eastern Styria, located directly on the Vulkanland ROUTE 66 and the Schösserstraße. Highlights include the most colourful church tower in the world and the Decalogue Trail, which is a sculptural implementation of the 10 Commandments. Right next door is the Museum im Tabor, where you

can experience life in south-eastern Styria from the Stone Age to the recent past. The picturesque old town alleys bear witness to the contemplative tranquillity of times long past. One landmark – the »Steinerne Metzen«, a medieval grain measure – stands directly in front of the town hall. In addition, well-marked cycling and hiking trails entice visitors to actively enjoy nature.

### Fehring (Austria)

Due to its perfect geographical location in the heart of the Styrian thermal springs and wine country, Fehring is the ideal starting point for many excursions, such as to Riegersburg,



📷 Stadtgemeinde Fehring, Daniel Hermes

to the Kapfenstein Castle or to the neighbouring thermal springs. Fehring has all the benefits of a well-structured small town. The distinctive main square, the numerous shops, inns and cafes are meeting points for the young and old.

### Murska Sobota (Slovenia)



📷 Ksenija Glažar

Murska Sobota lies in the heart of the lowlands of Prekmurje. In the proximity of a large river and easy access have always made it an attractive destination

for the population. Murska Sobota was first mentioned as a town in 1366. Since the middle ages it has been the center of different administrative and judicial functions. In the 1950's it acquired several regional institutions, becoming the center of Pomurje, the geographic and statistical region, which connects the Slovenian part of Pannonia with regions on both banks of the Mura river – Prekmurje on the left and Styria on the right. Today, Murska Sobota is the center of the northernmost Slovenian municipality with a population of 19,000 inhabitants. The name »Sobota« originates from Saturday fairs, and later the adjective »Murska« was added because of the Mura River.

## Ljutomer (Slovenia)

Set in the heart of the Prlekija region, the town of Ljutomer is most known for three things, namely harness racing, film and wine. »Lotmerk«, as the locals



 Funkit Marketing

call it, boasts a rich cultural heritage and some trailblazing events. Some that went down as the most significant in the country's history took place in this very town. The first mass rally (»tabor«) in support of a united Slovenia was held in Ljutomer in 1868, the first motion-picture films in Slovenia were made here, the first dedicated harness racing club in the country was formed in

Ljutomer, and last but not least, the first Slovenian self-serve grocery store was opened downtown some 60 odd years ago. Many significant figures hailing from the region left their mark in the history pages both locally and abroad.

## Lendava (Slovenia)



 Ksenija Glažar

The town of Lendava is located in the far east of Slovenia, near the Slovenian-Hungarian and Slovenian-Croatian borders. It lies at the foot of the Lendava Mountains, not far from the Mura

river. Its inhabitants are Slovenians, Hungarians, Croats and members of other nations. Based on a rich cultural tradition, the town formed a natural multicultural environment, which defines the town and the municipality. The municipality has the status of an ethnically mixed municipality, as in its settlements – except for Benica and Hotiza – the autochthonous Hungarian ethnic community lives alongside the majority Slovene community.

## Varaždin (Croatia)



Matthew Nelson

The town of Varaždin stands out from the line of Central-European towns and cities presenting itself to its visitors as a rare urban jewel. A town of harmony and closeness, a town that reveals its urban identity not only with the everlasting beauty of the old baroque architecture, but also with the warmth of its lovely squares, streets and parks and, most of all, the rich and well-preserved museum collections. Indeed, Varaždin has managed to preserve some of the most important features of the so-called Croatian »Vienna« as the town of baroque, music and flowers, making it a cosy resting point for its visitors.

## Čakovec (Croatia)

Čakovec is a town in northern Croatia and the county seat of Međimurje County, a region situated between the Mura and Drava rivers. Čakovec is the administrative, economic and cultural center of Međimurje County. The town



Matthew Nelson

takes pride in the variety of its trading, gastronomic, sports and recreational offer. It used to be famous for the well-developed textile industry which still has its fair share in the economy, but also for construction, graphic and printing industries, metalworking, engineering and food industries. Both production companies and small businesses have introduced other fields which are gaining importance such as processing of plastic, IT and various other industries, thus matching the demands of the modern market.



## Koprivnica (Croatia)



📷 Goran Šafarek

Koprivnica is the center of the Croatian food and pharmaceutical industries and also one of the most beautiful small towns in Central Europe with its picturesque town square full of attractions. Take a walk through the town center and explore its galleries and museums, church architecture and well-preserved remains of the renaissance town walls as well as the town park and the outdoor bike museum. Enjoy one of the many outdoor cafes over a glass of

local wine, beer or a simple cup of coffee and try the local cuisine at a traditional restaurant.

## Osijek (Croatia)

Osijek is a city in eastern Croatia. It



📷 Ante Vekić

is located in a plain on the right bank of the Drava River between 16 and 24 kilometres from the mouth of the Danube. It is the largest city in Slavonia, the fourth largest city in Croatia, and is the industrial, administrative, academic, judicial and cultural center of

the Osijek-Baranja county. Osijek is the city with the most greenery and green areas in Croatia; there are 17 parks in the city with a total area of 394,000 m<sup>2</sup>.

## Pécs (Hungary)

With its 140,000 inhabitants, Pécs is



📷 [www.pecs.hu](http://www.pecs.hu)

the 5th largest city in Hungary and the economy and cultural center of South Transdanubia. Pécs has a number of remains and important (UNESCO) cultural heritage sites from the Roman (Sophiane, early Christian burial chambers) and Turkish times (mosques,

tombs), and the city was the Cultural Capital City of Europe in 2010. Pécs has good transport connections (highway network and public transport) with Budapest and the Villány/Mohács region.

## Nagykanizsa (Hungary)

Nagykanizsa is the second biggest



 [nagykanizsa.kornyeke.hu](http://nagykanizsa.kornyeke.hu)

city in Zala county with good public transport and highway connections with Budapest, and the city itself

is relatively close to the Amazon of Europe. The heyday of the city dates back to the Middle Ages.

## Szigetvár (Hungary)

Szigetvár is a town with around 10,000



 [www.szigetvar.hu](http://www.szigetvar.hu)

inhabitants, located between Barcs and Pécs. Szigetvár was an important city for Hungary in the Middle Ages. After the Turkish army conquered the town in 1566, it became one of the most important centers of the Ottoman Empire. Nowadays a big memorial site can be found in the town called the Hungarian-Turkish Friendship Park.

## Keszthely (Hungary)



 [www.keszthely.hu](http://www.keszthely.hu)

Keszthely is the »capital« city of lake Balaton, which is the biggest lake in Central Europe. The lake itself is excellent for swimming, water sports and active tourism (cycling), but thanks to the surrounding gorgeous landscape, Balaton is more than a lake – it is a mixture of cultural and natural heritages which is ready to be discovered. In Keszthely, the Festetics Castle can be found, which is the most visited castle in Hungary.

## City of Sombor (Serbia)



📷 Tourism organization of the City of Sombor

Sombor, a city of rich cultural heritage, custodian of old traditions and nurturer of history, where many artists and poets found their widely known lowland peace and created their most outstanding works. Sombor is widely known for its greenery, more specifically for the bojós trees that were brought from the Mississippi Valley as early as 1903, and rightly bears the epithet of the greenest city in Europe.

## Apatin (Serbia)



📷 Nemanja Jović

Apatin has an extremely favorable geographical position. The proximity of the river and the natural resources of this region (fertile soil, forests by the river, abundance of fish on the hills and backwaters and wild game in the forests) have always attracted people to settle here, so cultures have changed since prehistoric times. Sarmatians, Celts, Goths and other nations have inhabited this area. Apatin was mentioned for the first time in written documents in 1011, and was named after the abbey of the Kaločka diocese.

## Top 15 natural sights

### Floodplain landscape of the Mura River (Austria)



📷 Tourismusverband Thermen- und Vulkanland, [www.pixelmaker.at](http://www.pixelmaker.at)

The floodplain landscape of the Mura River is a unique highlight of nature and culture. The Mura and its unique shore landscape are part of the first UNESCO biosphere reserve, which extends over five countries. In Styria, the section of the Mura between Murfeld and Bad Radkersburg is of particular importance. In the middle of this pristine floodplain landscape, a

unique mill floats on the Mura river. It is one of the last floating ship mills in Central Europe.

## Geo Info Kapfenstein (Austria)



📷 Geo Info

The museum »Geo-Info Kapfenstein«, sees itself as a supplement to the Geo-Trail Kapfenstein and a starting point for visiting geologically interesting places in the Thermen- & Vulkanland. Lava flows and ash showers as well as »olivine bombs« tell of a dynamic development in the Styrian Volcanic Land. The exhibition in Kapfenstein

provides insights into the landscape changes of a region with a lot of (earth) history. Geo-Info Kapfenstein is a museum for the presentation of the geological development in and around Kapfenstein, as well as the Styrian Volcanic Land.

## Tourist and Recreation Center and the Father of Pannonian oaks (Slovenia)



📷 Ksenija Glažar

This beautiful tourist destination with its amazing surroundings of several

fishponds and beautiful nature gives you the opportunity to perform various activities and play different sports. It is a perfect place for relaxation, alone or in company. Right nearby is the Father of Pannonian oaks, the remains of a giant, magnificent, centuries old oak tree. It crashed into the water from the banks of the Mura more than 1350 years ago. It was not encountered until 1999, during the rehabilitation of abandoned gravel pits. In 2005, the trunk was completely excavated and is exhibited under a thatched roof, reminiscent of old Pannonian homesteads.

## Lisjakova struga Forest Park (Slovenia)

The forest park of Lisjakova struga is a natural treasure, dedicated to recreation, relaxation and to becoming familiar with our natural inheritance. In Lisjakova struga, there are a few types of trees that are protected by



📷 Ksenija Glazar

the state or locally, such as the black cottonwood (*Populus nigra* L.) and the white willow (*Salix alba*). Both young and old can benefit from the rich natural conditions. Pre-school and school children come to visit the learning path of Lisjakova struga, where they become familiar with the local plants and animals, which they can study and examine all year long, in all seasons.

It is a place where you can organise a picnic, have fun, play different sports and, of course, fish!

## Stork Land Park (Slovenia)



📷 Tonči Hozjan

In the center of the village of Velika Polana is the Stork Land Park. Here you can find various indigenous plant and tree species characteristic of the swampy surroundings. The Štrk educational trail runs through the park. The park exhibits awards received by the municipality in various competitions, including a Guinness Book of Records certificate, the Entente florale of Europe for the most beautiful place in Europe, the most beautiful

market town in Slovenia, the most beautiful excursion place in Slovenia of the year and others.

## The Drava River (Croatia)



📷 Matthew Nelson

The Drava River is a part of the recently proclaimed UNESCO World Biosphere Reserve Mura-Drava-Dunav. With its preserved nature, the river provides an adventurous experience, since there are various enjoyable options such as rafting, SUP or driving around in a legendary safari jeep.

## Regional Park Mura-Drava in Međimurje (Croatia)



Matthew Nelson

The Mura-Drava Regional Park extends over the territory of 3 cities and 13 municipalities, covering a total area of 87,680.52 ha, of which 16,962.54 ha (19.4%) belong to Međimurje County. The Mura and Drava rivers are characterized by a high level of biological diversity, which is due to the fact that they are among the last rivers with natural flows in Central Europe. They are wet habitats that are

among the most endangered in Europe, and they are also protected in the Republic of Croatia: floodplain forests, wet grasslands, dead backwaters, abandoned riverbeds and meanders, shoals and steep eroded shores where strictly protected species nest. The Park contains 37 out of 60 classified rare and endangered habitat types, with the wider Drava area being categorized as an important area for birds in the EU.

## Sands of Đurđevac (Croatia)



Matthew Nelson

This interesting natural phenomenon, also known as the Bloody Sands and the Croatian Sahara, is located near the town of Đurđevac. The area of the remaining sands has been declared a special geographical and botanical reserve and is a distinctive habitat important for preserving unique sand vegetation. While visiting the Sands of Đurđevac, stop by the Visitors center and learn about the creation of this natural phenomenon during the last Little Ice Age and the connection between this process and the Drava river.

## Nature Park Kopački rit (Croatia)

Kopački rit is a nature park located in the corner of the Danube and the Drava tributaries. It is one of the most preserved floodplains in Europe and the largest land delta of the Danube, including the Special Zoological Reserve as the most valuable part of



Ante Vekić

the Park. The entire area is known as the habitat of numerous waterfowl, the population of common terns and its most important inhabitant – the golden eagle, which is also the symbol of the Park.

## Old Plane tree in Letenye (Hungary)

The 500 years old sycamore tree is the symbol of Letenye; it stands in the garden of Szapáry-Andrássy castle in city center. The tree's trunk is 6.15 m wide and 20 m tall, with an average canopy diameter of 36 m.



[www.outdooractive.com](http://www.outdooractive.com)

## Ancient beech-wood in Vetyem and arboretum in Budafa (Hungary)



[www.zalaerdo.hu](http://www.zalaerdo.hu)

The forest reserve's speciality and beauty come from certain

sub-Mediterranean effects which predominate the continental climate of the area and the soil of the forest with luvisol, which provide excellent living conditions for the forest. No forest farming activities have been carried out in the beech reservation for more than 40 years so everything you can see there has been formed by nature.

The arboretum is situated about three kilometres from Kistolmács, Kiscsehi and Bázakerettye. 132 types of pine-needled and 88 types of leafy trees were planted in the park. The arboretum becomes a real fairy garden in spring when azaleas bloom; silver fir, sequoia and cypress populations give you a special spectacle all year long.

## Mailáthpuszta, Kisinci oxbow lake (Hungary)

Leaving the route towards Szaporca you can pass by the beautiful Kisinci oxbow lake, where a river viewpoint



 <https://www.outdooractive.com>

and a furnished rest area are available. The oxbow lake, which is part of the river bed of the Ancient Drava, is an internationally protected Ramsar site.

## Gyékényes (Hungary)



 Matthew Nelson

The gravel pit lake is the largest landmark of Gyékényes on the Hungarian-Croatian border. The gravel mines have been operating near the village since 1920 and the water of the lake is so clear that the visibility under water can reach up to 8 meters. The lake is a real fishing paradise, a favourite spot for swimmers and divers.

## Upper Danube (Serbia)



 Tourism organization of the city of Sombor

Due to the wealth of exceptional natural values, the Upper Danube Region in Serbia was declared an area of

importance for birds (IBA) in 1989. It is an integral part of the »Drava-Mura« biosphere reserve and is included in the list of potential wetlands of the Ramsar Convention. The Gornje Podunavlje Special Nature Reserve was placed under state protection on 20 July 2001 as a first category natural state asset. The Upper Danube Region is of enormous ecological importance in the preservation, protection and improvement of natural resources.

## Banks of the Danube in Apatin (Serbia)



 Nemanja Jović



On the banks of the Danube River in Apatin there are countless beautiful locations perfect for anglers, swimmers, bird and nature lovers. What fascinates everyone who comes to Apatin is the view of the river, especially during sunset. It is impossible to remain indifferent and not keep that image in your head. From winter walks along the coast and observing the frozen Danube, to spring boating to summer camping and swimming, to autumn fishing, the Danube near Apatin is a natural wealth of enormous proportions.

## Top 15 cultural sights

### Lavabräu (Austria)



📷 Lava Bräu

In the Auersbach »Atelier für Gebräutes«, fervent enthusiasm is turned into cool brewes. The small brewery in the heart of the Vulkanland is also a multiple award-winning whisky manufactory. Carefully selected ingredients of organic quality and intensive involvement with production create incomparably tasty beers and exceptional whiskies, which you can taste on an excursion through the

manufactory and of course also buy in the brewery shop.

### Nostalgic Country Life Museum »Nostalgisches Landleben« (Austria)



📷 Tourismusverband Thermen- und Vulkanland, Kerstin Steiner

The Wiedner family offers you a living museum with rural crafts, machines and tractors of the last century. After 50 years of collecting, they've accumulated a lot. Experience a living museum that never ends, with rural

crafts, tools, machines and tractors of the last century. During the guided tour through the »Nostalgic Country Life« museum you can immerse yourself in the last century of crafts and rural life in Southeast Styria. By the way: A few steps further you will find the Johannisbrunnen healing water museum.

### Church of St. Trinity and the Hadiks mummy (Slovenia)



📷 Archive ZTR Lendava

On the way to Lendava you can see, from a long distance, hills planted with

picturesque vineyards and among them an ancient church dedicated to the Holy Trinity, the protector of Lendava. In the tomb of the church you can see the naturally mummified body of General Mihael Hadik, one of the greatest heroes in the battles with the Turks. The church represents the charm of the history of Lendava.

### Babič Mill on the Mura River (Slovenia)



📷 Ksenija Glažar

If you want to experience something new, make sure you pay a visit to the

Babič Mill, which is the only Pannonian floating mill in the area today, a unique monument of Slovenian cultural heritage of inestimable value. The Babič Mill is a local, ethnographic, historical and tourist feature of Prlekija and thus the Pomurje region.

### Murska Sobota Castle (Slovenia)



📷 Ksenija Glažar

Together with its park, the Murska Sobota Castle is an important center of cultural and social events in the town.

Since 1956, it has housed the Regional Pomurje Museum of Murska Sobota, featuring a permanent exhibition on the life of the people on the Mura from the first settlement to the present, the Kološa Cabinet of Art Photography, based on the legacy of the local art photographer Jože Kološa, and a permanent exhibition of portraits of Slovene impressionists by Drago Tršar. The museum's activities are completed by occasional thematic exhibitions, workshops, and other contents for children and adults, as well as a museum shop with select products. The castle also houses the Youth Information and Culture Club (MIKK), which organises programmes of modern visual arts and music by young artists, select concerts, and presentations in the club's café. There is also a multi-purpose hall for minor stage performances and shows, events, and meetings.

## The Varaždin Old Town (Croatia)



Matthew Nelson

The first thing that comes to mind when thinking of Varaždin is the sight of the Old Town, the most important and most magnificent historical building in the town. The construction of the castle lasted from the 14th to the 19th century and it now houses the collections of the oldest Culture and History department of the Varaždin City Museum.

## Treasury of Međimurje (Croatia)

The Museum of Intangible Heritage  
»Treasury of Međimurje Čakovec«



Denis Perčić

is located in the fortification of the Old Town of Zrinski in Čakovec. The complex of the Old Town of Zrinski in Čakovec is the largest profane monument of Međimurje County with the status of protected immovable cultural property of national significance for the Republic of Croatia. The name Zrinski was given after the famous family of Croatian bans (counts) and fearless warriors – the defenders of the borders of the Hungarian-Croatian kingdom against the invasion of the Ottomans, the Zrinski family.

## Hlebine School of naive art (Croatia)



📷 Goran Šafarek

Hlebine is the birthplace of the world famous Hlebine School of naive art. This form of art is a glass painting technique used by self-taught artists from the rural area and it was quite popular during the second half of the 20th century. The works of naive painters and sculptors are on display at the Naive Art Gallery in Hlebine, as well as in various other galleries in the Podravina region. Visit Hlebine and see

the best pieces of naive art, explore the Gallery Roads of Podravina and enjoy the cultural and artistic offer of the local artists.

## Holy Trinity Square in Osijek (Croatia)



📷 Ante Vekić

Located in the old part of Osijek called Tvrđa, it was built in 1729 as a votive statue of the people of Osijek to God so that the plague that ravaged the city would not return.

## Reformed church in Drávaiványi (Hungary)



📷 [www.outdooractive.com](http://www.outdooractive.com)

The dominant religion of the Ormánság area is Calvinism. Churches in the area are typical for their painted wooden coffered ceilings. The most beautiful example of these church interiors is found in Drávaiványi, a village half-way between Drávasztára and Sellye.

## Abandoned village in Révfülu (Hungary)



 [www.outdooractive.com](http://www.outdooractive.com)

Between Felsőszentmárton and Drávasztára make sure you don't miss out Révfülu (Drvljanci), an abandoned village in the floodplain, now part of the Danube-Drava National Park. There you can see the remains of traditional local architecture. During summertime the place is popular among artists and hikers. Its best-known landmark is the small local chapel in the center of the former village.

## Lovászi bunker (Hungary)



 Simon András, Lovászi

The bunker system in South-Zala was built in the middle of the 20th century; one of the most spectacular parts can be found in Lovászi. Over the course of an approximately 13 km long walking tour, you can visit establishments on and under the ground, including a 1 km long underground bunker.

## Busó House (Hungary)

The Busó festivities are a tradition stemming from a few thousand-year-old nature-praising belief system: its source



 Matthew Nelson

was the worship of the mythological figure of the God Pan. It was a celebration of the ancient tribes, pastors and forest men from the Adriatic to the Balaton. It is a wonder that against all prohibitions of the Church and the unprofessional treatment of it, the tradition is still preserved nowadays.

## The City Museum of Sombor (Serbia)

The city museum consists of several departments: archaeological, numismatic, ethnological, historical and the department for the history



📷 Tourism organization of the city of Sombor

of domestic art and the collection of contemporary Yugoslav art. The museum has a collection of valuable books from the 18th, 19th and 20th centuries. The Gallery of Contemporary Yugoslav Art is located in the building of the museum itself and has a collection of various works of art. The annual art exhibition »Fall Art Gallery« was started by our most famous painter Milan Konjović.

## Black Virgin in Apatin (Serbia)



📷 Nemanja Jović

Among the numerous monuments of the material cultural heritage of Apatin, the Baroque statue of the Mother of God or the Black Madonna, made of ebony, is especially outstanding. It was brought in one of the waves of Maria Theresa's colonization. The Virgin is presented in a standing, counterpoise posture with a small Christ in the left and gold-plated sceptre in the right hand.

## Appendix

### AoE dictionary

#### TBR MDD

The International Co-ordinating Council of UNESCO's Man and the Biosphere Programme (UNESCO MAB-ICC) designated the Mura-Drava-Danube Transboundary Biosphere Reserve (TBR MDD) as the world's first 5-country biosphere reserve. Stretching across Austria, Slovenia, Croatia, Hungary and Serbia, the reserve covers a total area of 930,000 hectares extending along 700km of the Mura, Drava and Danube rivers, which makes it the largest riverine biosphere reserve in Europe. It comprises about 300,000 hectares of core and buffer zones (existing protected area network) and around 700,000 hectares of transition zones.

#### Amazon of Europe

The name »Amazon of Europe« describes the area of the three transboundary rivers Mura, Drava and Danube and was introduced by WWF in 2009 with the aim to strengthen the conservation of these uniquely preserved riverine landscapes. Though there is only one Amazon in the world, the Mura-Drava-Danube area is comparable with the Amazon. When experiencing the area from within and being present at the river you have a strong feeling of being in the real Amazon. The name also suggests these rivers and their floodplains' significance as one of the most bio diverse areas in Europe. Meanwhile, the Amazon of Europe has become a widely known and used brand for the international Mura-Drava-Danube River landscape.

#### Give back to nature

We have established the Amazon of Europe Bike Trail Destination Management Organisation, where a part of the contribution from your cycling holiday is used for financing nature conservation projects in the region. By booking your next cycling adventure with us you are directly giving something back to the Amazon of Europe. The Cycle for nature programme is our way of giving back to this beautiful region and maintaining the extraordinary ecosystems of the 5-country UNESCO Biosphere Reserve Mura-Drava-Danube.

## Short dictionary

English	German	Slovenian	Croatian	Hungarian	Serbian
<i>Greeting phrases</i>					
Hello	Hallo	Živjo/Zdravo	Zdravo	Szia	Здраво   Zdravo
Good day	Guten Tag	Dober dan	Dobar dan	Jó napot	Добар дан   Dobar dan
Good night	Gute Nacht	Lahko noč	Laku noć	Jó éjszakát	лаку ноћ   Laku noć
Goodbye	Auf Wiedersehen	Nasvidenje	Dovidenja	Viszontlátásra	Збогом   Zbogom
I'm Ana	Ich bin Anna	Jaz sem Ana	Ja sam Ana	Ana vagyok	Ја сам Ана   Ja sam Ana
Sorry	Es tut mir Leid	Oprostitute	Ispričavam se	Elnézést kérek	Извините   Izvinite
Please	Bitte	Prosim	Molim	Kérem	Молим   Molim
Thank you	Vielen Dank	Hvala	Hvala	Köszönöm	Хвала   Hvala
Do you speak English?	Sprechen Sie Englisch?	Ali govoriš angleško?	Govorite li engleski?	Beszélsz angolul?	Да ли говориш енглески? Da li govoriš engleski?
Yes	Ja	Da	Da	Igen	Да   Da
No	Nein	Ne	Ne	Nem	Не   Ne



English	German	Slovenian	Croatian	Hungarian	Serbian
<i>Culinary phrases</i>					
Bon appetite	Guten Appetit	Dober tek	Dobar tek	Jó étvágyat	Пријатно   Prijatno
The bill, please	Rechnung bitte	Račun, prosim	Račun molim	Kérem a számlát	Раџун молим   Račun molim
Cheers!	Prost!	Na zdravje!	Živjeli!	Egészségére!	Живели!   Živeli!
Breakfast	Frühstück	Zajtrk	Doručak	Reggeli	Доручак   Doručak
Lunch	Mittagessen	Kosilo	Ručak	Ebéd	Ручак   Ručak
Dinner	Abendessen	Večerja	Večera	Vacsora	Вечера   Večera
Dessert	Dessert	Sladica	Desert	Desszert	Десерт   Desert
Soup	Suppe	Juha	Juha	Leves	Супа   Supa
Chicken	Huhn	Piščanec	Piletina	Csirke	Пилетина   Piletina
Beef	Rindfleisch	Govedina	Govedina	Marhahús	Говедина   Govedina
Fish	Fisch	Riba	Riba	Hal	Риба   Riba
Cheese	Käse	Sir	Sir	Sajt	Сир   Sir
Salad	Salat	Solata	Salata	Saláta	Салата   Salata
Vegetables	Gemüse	Zelenjava	Povrće	Zöldségek	Поврће   Povrće
Fruit	Früchte	Sadje	Voće	Gyümölcs	Воће   Voće
Bread	Brot	Kruh	Kruh	Kenyér	Хлеб   Hleb
Coffee	Kaffee	Kava	Kava	Kávé	Кафу   Kafa
Tea	Tee	Čaj	Čaj	Tea	Чаж   Čaj
Juice	Saft	Sok	Sok	Gyümölcslé	Сок   Sok
Milk	Milch	Mleko	Mlijeko	Tej	Млеко   Mleko
Water	Wasser	Voda	Voda	Víz	Вода   Voda
Beer	Bier	Pivo	Pivo	Sör	Пиво   Pivo
Red/white wine	Rot-/Weißwein	Rdeče/belo vino	Crveno/bijelo vino	Vörösbor/fehér bor	Црвено/бело вино Crveno/belo vino

English	German	Slovenian	Croatian	Hungarian	Serbian
Travel phrases					
A car	Wagen	Avto	Automobil	Egy autó	Ауто   Auto
A bike	Fahrrad	Kolo	Bicikl	Kerékpár	Бицикл   Bicikl
A boat	Boot	Čoln	Brod	Hajó	Брод   Brod
The river	Fluss	Reka	Rijeka	A folyó	Река   Reka
Forest	Wald	Gozd	Šuma	Erdő	Шума   Šuma
An animal	Tier	Žival	Životinja	Állat	ЖИВОТИЊА   Životinja
Bird	Vogel	Ptica	Ptica	Madár	ПТИЦА   Ptica
A plant	Pflanze	Rastlina	Biljka	Növény	БИЉКА   Biljka



📷 Goran Šafarek Kopački rit



📷 Mario Romulic Danube-Drava Confluence

English	German	Slovenian	Croatian	Hungarian	Serbian
Numbers					
0	Null	Nič	Nula	Nulla	Нула   Nula
1	Eins	Ena	Jedan	Egy	Један   Jedan
2	Zwei	Dva	Dva	Két	Два   Dva
3	Drei	Tri	Tri	Három	Три   Tri
4	Vier	Štiri	Četiri	Négy	Четири   Četiri
5	Fünf	Pet	Pet	Öt	Пет   Pet
6	Sechs	Šest	Šest	Hat	Шест   Šest
7	Sieben	Sedem	Sedam	Hét	Седам   Sedam
8	Acht	Osem	Osam	Nyolc	Осам   Osam
9	Neun	Devet	Devet	Kilenc	Девет   Devet
10	Zehn	Deset	Deset	Tíz	Десет   Deset

📷 A. Mohl Mura



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📷 Goran Šafarek



📷 Simon Veberic Mura

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