

GREAT BEAR – ROTTERDAM TO VENICE 2021

The 12 day ride is 28th August – 10th September 2021

The price for this trip is £1950

WHAT THE PRICE INCLUDES

- * Transport to Harwich from Milton Keynes
- * Overnight ferry crossing in twin cabins
- * 12 nights' accommodation in twin rooms in hotels
- * Breakfasts
- * Baggage transfers for the duration of the trip
- * Vehicular support for the entire cycle including back up vehicle carrying spares, mechanical support and use of spare bike should you need it (including lubricants for your bike)
- * Overnight bike storage
- * Photos of your trip

WHAT THE PRICE EXCLUDES

- * Bike and helmet hire
- * Personal clothing and equipment
- * Insurance – you must have your own holiday insurance
- * Evening meals

DAILY

Saturday 28th - Afternoon transport to Harwich – Overnight ferry crossing

Sunday 29th – Rotterdam to Oisterwijk – near Tilburg – 71 miles

Monday 30th – Oisterwijk to Maastricht – 68 miles

Tuesday 31st – Maastricht to Vielsalm – 54 miles

Wednesday 1st – Vielsalm to Luxembourg – 66 miles

Thursday 2nd – Luxembourg to Saarbrücken – 63 miles

Friday 3rd – Saarbrücken to Strasbourg – 78 miles

Saturday 4th – Strasbourg to Bad Dürkheim – 69 miles

Sunday 5th - Bad Dürkheim to Bregenz – 82 miles

Monday 6th – Bregenz to Klosters – 65 miles

Tuesday 7th – Klosters to Malles Venosta – 55 miles

Wednesday 8th – Malles Venosta to Levico Terme – 97 miles

Thursday 9th – Levico Terme to Venice – 86 miles

Friday 10th – Tour end

*Hotels and overnight stops are subject to change to suit the group size. These mileages are based on the routes I have planned and are purely there to get you from one hotel to another, you do not have to follow these routes and can take any roads you desire to get to the hotel.

TRANSPORT

Transport to Harwich docks will be on the Saturday afternoon leaving from Milton Keynes at around 15.00pm. We will travel on the overnight ferry to Rotterdam then unload the bikes at the docks on arrival and off you go! The trip terminates in Venice and we stay on the mainland for the final night, you can then stay on and explore the traditional Venice or fly straight back it is up to you. Bikes will be brought back to the UK in the van where you can collect them from me or have them couriered to you. The van will not be back in the UK

ACCOMMODATION

The accommodation provided on the trip is in hotels. They vary due to nature of our locations each night and are based on 2 people sharing a twin room. Accommodation has food and a bar available on site or nearby as well as Wi-Fi.

***I will be monitoring the Covid-19 situation like everyone else and it may be the case that I will have to run the trip on single room basis which may increase the price slightly – all we can do at this point is wait and see.**

BIKES AND EQUIPMENT

We strongly recommend that you ride a road or touring bike for the tour. Whatever you choose make sure the bike has a suitable range of gears as you will be climbing steep hills in places and if you are not familiar with the mechanics of your bike it would pay to take it to a cycle shop for a service prior to the trip.

You are responsible for your own routine maintenance throughout the trip but I will help out in any way that we can and there will be a spare bike and spare wheels available. If you don't already own a pair prior to the ride you may want to get hold of some waterproof overshoes. These are often overlooked but can make a ride like this a lot more pleasurable should the weather turn.

Lights, you may think well 'I won't be riding at night', but in heavy rain, fog and under tree cover you need to give that vehicle approaching you from behind at 60mph every chance they can get to see you. Some people turn up with lights that can barely be seen halfway down a lay-by and I would only recommend a high output LED pulsating rear light. Better safe than sorry.

Gloves, you can never have too many pairs.

Helmets – we used to give you the option but from 2014 it is mandatory to be wearing a helmet while on one of our rides.

It is recommended that you bring a range of spares for your bike but we do have a certain amount for sale on board the support vehicle, please understand however that it is not possible to stock for every single bicycle. We have tyres, tubes, bar tape, cleats, brake pads, gear and brake cables, chains and much more.

BAGGAGE ALLOWANCE

Your baggage allowance for this trip is just the one bag, suitcase or holdall, Space is limited so please don't turn up with 4 bags, 2 spare wheels and a track pump. The bags will be with the support van for the whole trip.

SUPPORT

The support vehicle will always be on hand should you need assistance at any time during the trip. In the van is a tool kit, spare wheels and even a spare bike. We will always be close to the riding group and will get ahead of you now and again for you to fill up water bottles and have a sit down. Whether you need a break, have bike trouble or just need emotional support getting up a big hill, we will do what we can to keep you going.

FOOD

Breakfast is provided by your accommodation and is almost everyday a continental buffet.

Lunches – You're on holiday - cafes, restaurants, bistros and bakeries are there for you to sample, feel free to stop where you wish.

Due to where we will be travelling there will be a small fridge on the van and it is recommended that you keep some food with the vehicle should you not be able to get any on route in areas such as the Alps. Evening meals and drinks are not included in the price. Evening meals are available at most accommodations or we are close to pubs/towns with selections of eating places.

LAUNDRY

Due to the fact that we are constantly moving on during the cycle trips it is not practical to be using commercial washing services and it is recommended that you bring enough cycle clothing to rotate and wash in your accommodation by bringing some detergent with you. Due to the material that most bibs are made from people find they are normally dry by the next morning's ride anyway.

DOCUMENTS

You will need to have full travel insurance including repatriation, an up to date passport and if they are still available by the date of the trip an E111 card would be helpful.

Any further queries or questions please contact me on – Carl – 07860 563810

carlshearman@live.co.uk

Or through the website at www.great-bear-tours.co.uk

