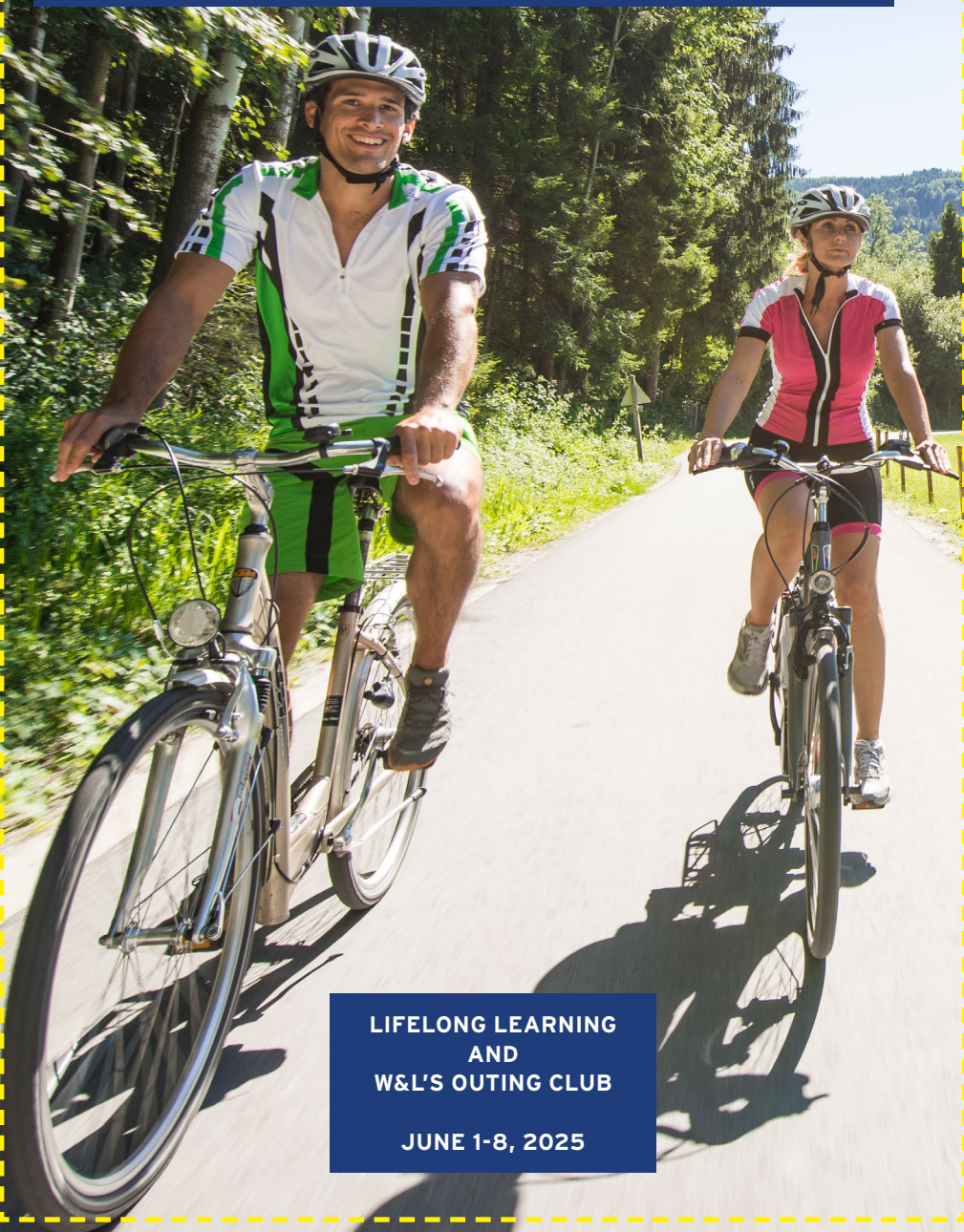


WASHINGTON AND LEE  
UNIVERSITY

# CYCLING ALONG THE DANUBE RIVER: FROM PASSAU TO VIENNA

An eight-day, 285-kilometer cycling tour  
highlighting the Wachau Valley, a UNESCO World  
Heritage Site along the Danube River.



LIFELONG LEARNING  
AND  
W&L'S OUTING CLUB

JUNE 1-8, 2025



# Stay Active, Learn Outdoors

Dear W&L Alumni, Parents, and Friends,

After a successful inaugural collaboration in 2024, Lifelong Learning and the Outing Club are pleased to announce their second European active adventure, "Cycling Along the Danube River." Drawing upon W&L's strengths in education travel and outdoor education, this specially designed trip offers the opportunity for alumni to combine their love of outdoor physical activity with their pursuit of travel and continued learning. The trip leader is James Dick, a legendary figure on campus and beloved by students.

This program offers individual challenge and group enjoyment with the backdrop of one of Europe's most scenic bike routes and historic rivers. We designed this trip to be affordable while ensuring comfortable accommodations and local meal choices. Six days of biking will cover almost 300 kilometers with mostly flat terrain suited to a casual cyclist who yearns for a special holiday abroad.

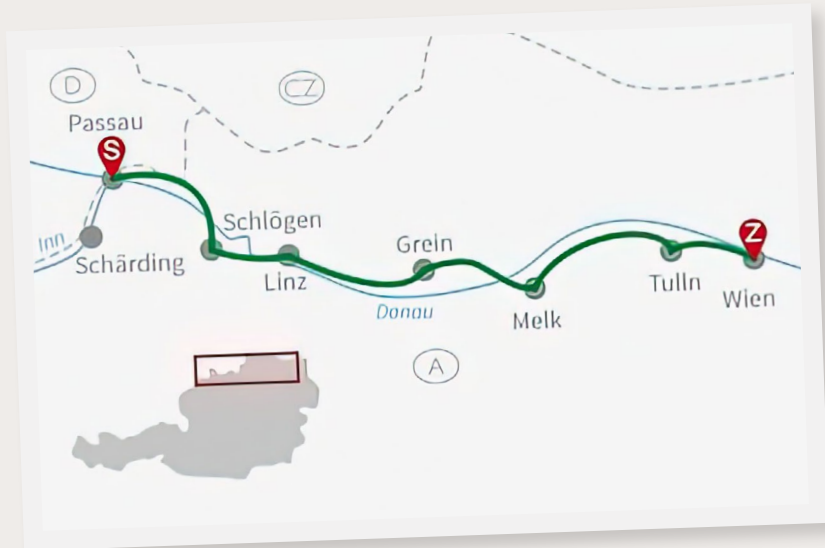
Join us for this next Lifelong Learning and Outing Club adventure. Space on this tour is extremely limited, so reserve your spot today.

Stay Active and Keep Learning,



Ruth Candler  
Associate Director, Lifelong Learning





## Your Eight-Day Itinerary

### Day 1

#### Individual arrival to Schärding | Passau

Stroll through the pretty baroque town of Schärding and admire the famous "Silberzeile," or stroll through the "New Centre" of the Passau, known as the City of Three Rivers, which has been completely redesigned as a car-free pedestrian zone. Information talk and bike hire takes place in the evening.

### Day 2

#### Schärding | Passau - Danube Bend | surrounding, approx. 40-60 km

You cycle along the river Inn to the three-river city of Passau. Here we recommend a short city tour, and a visit to the cathedral, with a concert on the world's largest church organ (open except Sundays and public holidays). Continue your trip along the river Danube. Via Obernzell, you cycle through the "Sauwald region" to Engelhartzell, where the only Trappist monastery of Austria invites you to a liqueur tasting. Then the route guides you through the nature reserve, "Donauleiten," from where you reach the Schlögen Bend. This is where granite proved to be too much of an opponent and forced the Danube to change directions by 180 degrees. This natural spectacle will inspire you!

### Day 3

#### Danube Bend - surrounding Linz, approx. 55-60 km

Today you cycle through the green Eferdinger Basin via the market towns of Aschach, Ottensheim, and Wilhering to the Upper Austrian capital of Linz. The historic old town has many pubs and eateries for you to discover. Other highlights of the European Capital of Culture 2009 include the magnificent views from Pöstlingberg Mountain and a walk through the Donaulände Park.

### Day 4

#### Linz - Ardagger | Grein, approx. 55-65 km

For a change, the route guides you away from the course of the Danube via St. Florian (Augustinian monastery) to Enns. There you can view the town square with its 60-meter-high town tower, the landmark of the oldest town in Austria, or you can visit the archaeological collection in the municipal museum Lauriacum. Back on the Danube, you will cycle alongside and reach the beautiful little baroque town of Grein. Here you have the opportunity to visit the oldest municipal theater in Austria that is still being used. Additionally, you can visit the maritime museum or Greinburg Castle.

**CONTINUED ON THE NEXT PAGE**

# Itinerary Continued

## Day 5

**Ardagger | Grein - Wachau Valley, approx. 60-75 km**

This section of the Danube, called the Strudengau, was once feared by sailors due to its strong currents, but you can now take a leisurely cycle ride alongside it. In Maria Taferl, high above the Danube, you will find the magnificent pilgrimage church, which attracts thousands of pilgrims every year. You should make a little stop in Melk and look up, or you will miss the beautiful monastery that overlooks the Danube. As soon as you leave the town, you will enter the picturesque Wachau region, where you can enjoy the charming atmosphere of the region's typical orchards and vineyards. A wine tasting is a must in this area – we have included it for you.

## Day 6

**Wachau Valley - Tulln, approx. 50-60 km**

Today you will pass through the little wine village of Dürnstein with its castle ruin, then cycle past the 1,000-year-old town of Krems, and finish your tour in Tulln. This city is also known as City of Flowers. Worth a visit is the local Egon Schiele Museum. Enjoy your last night in a more rural surrounding before you head into the Austrian capital of Vienna.

## Day 7

**Tulln - Vienna, approx. 40 km**

The final kilometers of your bike tour will be a relaxed trip to the Danube metropolis of Vienna. As soon as you arrive, you can enjoy all the amenities of the city for the rest of the day. Treat yourself to a Viennese-style Americano coffee and a piece of the famous Sachertorte cake in one of Vienna's typical coffee houses. Take a stroll along Vienna's parade shopping street, along Mariahilfer Strasse, visit the St. Stephen's Cathedral, or see the main sights and take a trip in one of the famous Fiaker cabs.

## Day 8

**Individual departure or extend your stay**

There is a lot to discover in Vienna.

## CYCLING SCHEDULE

### May 31

**Depart U.S.**

### June 1

**Arrive in Passau (D)**

- Welcome dinner at the hotel

### June 2

**Bike Passau - Danube Bend (B, L)**

- Schlögener Loop
- Ferry to hotel

### June 3

**Bike Danube Bend - Linz (B, L)**

- Danube Loop
- Eferding Basin

### June 4

**Bike Linz - Grein Area (B, L)**

- Enns
- Entrance to Strudengau

### June 5

**Bike Grein - Wachau Area (B, L)**

- Maria Taferl - Pilgrimage site
- Abbey of Melk

### June 6

**Bike Wachau - Tulln (B, L)**

- UNESCO World Heritage Site
- Wine tasting

### June 7

**Bike Tulln - Vienna (B, L, D)**

- Vienna Gate

### June 8

**Vienna (B)**

- Departure on your own



## **WHAT'S INCLUDED?**

- » Lodging each night (June 1-7) (double occupancy); single supplements available (+\$300)
- » Bike rental, E-bikes available at additional cost
- » Daily luggage transfer
- » 7 breakfasts, 6 lunches, 2 dinners
- » Daily breakfast from buffet and hotels and picnic-style lunch every day of the trip
- » Welcome dinner and closing dinner at local restaurants
- » Train ticket from Krems to Tulln (including bike transport)
- » Wine tasting event in the Wachau Valley
- » Ferry ticket at Schlögen
- » Admission to historical sites and cultural experiences
- » Educational materials and resources

## **WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED?**

1. Airfare and personal travel to start hotel. Excellent rail service is available from many European cities and/or a straightforward 2.5 hour train from Vienna airport to Passau, Germany.
2. All dinners (other than the two mentioned) are paid for by individual participants. Any additional alcoholic or non-alcoholic drinks and extra snacks at all café stops or during meals are to be paid for by individual participants.
3. Transfer(s) from end hotel to final destination or departure airport.
4. Bike helmets are required for trip. They are not provided. Not available for rent.





### **TRAVELING WITH YOU**

James has directed the university's Outdoor Education Department for 22 years and has led backcountry expeditions and adventure programs on four continents. He is also a frequent host for Lifelong Learning tours, including recent trips to the Galapagos Islands and the National Parks of the American Southwest. James graduated from the University of New Mexico.



### **PHYSICAL ACTIVITY AND COMFORT LEVELS**

This program is an active educational adventure that requires participants to ride a bicycle under their own power. Participants should be prepared to bike between 45-65 kilometers per day, including moderate elevation changes. Travel will remain on schedule in inclement weather, so participants should be ready to bike in a variety of weather conditions. Accommodations will be comfortable and will highlight options that cater to active travelers. Provided meals (see above) include hotel breakfasts, casual picnic lunches on-the-go, and restaurant dinners offering opportunities to sample locally produced specialties and nourishing fare while engaging with fellow adventurers.

# Register Today

## CYCLING ALONG THE DANUBE: PASSAU TO VIENNA

**JUNE 1-8, 2025**

To reserve your space, complete the online registration form available at [go.wlu.edu/biketour25](https://go.wlu.edu/biketour25). Once you submit your reservation, W&L Lifelong Learning will contact you to confirm your reservation and collect your deposit and additional information.

**Cost Per Person (double occupancy):** \$1,975 from Passau, Germany

**Single Supplement:** \$300

**Reservations, Deposits, and Final Payment:** Due to the nature of this tour, limited space is available and will be assigned on a first come, first served basis. A completed registration form and a deposit of \$600 per person are required to secure your reservation. Final payment is due on or before April 5, 2025. If your reservation is made between the final payment due date and the departure date, the full cost of the program is due at the time of registration. If final payment is not received by the due date, W&L may cancel your reservation with no right of refund. Payments are accepted by check or major credit card.

**Cancellations, Refunds, and Additional Fees:** All cancellations must be submitted to W&L Lifelong Learning in writing. Refunds will be processed as follows:

- » Cancel before March 1, 2025: Full refund less a \$250 cancellation fee;
- » Cancel March 1 - April 1, 2025: Full refund less \$600 deposit;
- » Cancel April 2 - May 2, 2025: 50% refund;
- » Cancel after May 2, 2025 (or no show): No refund available.
- » No full or partial refunds will be made for early departures or non-participation in tour activities.
- » Participants are responsible for additional expenses associated with emergency health care and travel extensions beyond the tour package as described.
- » Travel insurance is recommended for all participants.

**Assistance and More Information:** Contact W&L Lifelong Learning at [lifelong@wlu.edu](mailto:lifelong@wlu.edu) or (540) 458-8723.

**Tour Operator:** Pedalo-Radreisefreunde GmbH - Engelhartzell, Germany.





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