# The Great Cycling Holiday on the Elbe

13 DAYS / 12 NIGHTS, APPROX. 645 KM BOOKING CODE: NO-ELHD12

DAILY ROUTE LENGTH ••••

TOPOGRAPHY ••••







#### Your tour

On your cycling holiday on the Elbe, you will cycle from Hamburg to Dresden along a large part of the Elbe Cycle Route, which is one of the most beautiful cycle routes in Germany. Six federal states – each with its own history, landscape and culture. This is exactly what makes the tour so varied. You will experience the flair of the state capitals: Hamburg with its large harbour and lively city centre. In Magdeburg, culturally interested visitors will find the Hundertwasser House. And last but not least Dresden with its long history and numerous sights.

## Itinerary

Day 1	Individual arrival in Hamburg
Day 2	Hamburg – Lauenburg, approx. 55 km
Day 3	Lauenburg – Hitzacker, approx. 55 km
Day 4	Hitzacker – Wittenberge, approx. 75 km
Day 5	Wittenberge – Havelberg, approx. 40 km
Day 6	Havelberg – Tangermünde, approx. 50 km
Day 7	Tangermünde – Magdeburg, approx. 80 km
Day 8	Magdeburg – Dessau, approx. 75 / 85 km
Day 9	Dessau – Wittenberg, approx. 40 km
Day 10	Wittenberg – Torgau, approx. 70 km
Day 11	Torgau – Strehla, approx. 40 km
Day 12	Strehla – Dresden, approx. 65 km
Day 13	Individual departure

## Travel time

Season A	01.04. – 05.05.	08.09. – 30.10.	
Sasson B	06.05 - 04.09		

Arrival Monday, Wednesday and Sunday 01.04. – 30.10.2024 The season is dictated by the arrival date.

### Services

- → 12 nights with breakfast, national 3\*-level
- → Luggage transport from hotel to hotel to Dresden, max. 2 pieces per person, max. 20 kg / piece
- → Cycle route description with maps (1 x per room)
- → Service-Hotline (7 days, 08.00 a.m. 08.00 p.m.)

# Not included services

→ Citys or visitors tax, if payable

## Basic price per person

Doubleroom, Season A	1349,-
Doubleroom, Season B	1409,-
Price Surcharge Singleroom	399,-

## Additional night prices per person

Dresden DBL / BB	75,–
Dresden SGL / BB	109,-
Hamburg DBL / BB	89,–
Hamburg SGL / BB	119,-

### Additional services per person

E-bike / Pedelec	399,–
Rental bike (7- / 21-gear)	199.–

#### **Exemplary hotel list**

Hamburg	Best Western Raphael Hotel Altona Hamburg	http://www.raphael-hotel-altona.de/
Lauenburg	Zum Alten Schifferhaus Lauenburg	http://www.schifferhaus.de/
Hitzacker	Hotel zur Linde Hitzacker	www.zurlinde-hitzacker.de
Wittenberge	Germania Wittenberge	www.hotelgermania-wittenberge.de
Havelberg	Hotel am Hafen Havelberg	http://www.hotel-havelberg.de/
Tangermünde	Alte Brauerei Tangermünde	http://www.hotel-alte-brauerei.de/
Magdeburg	Ratswaage Magdeburg	http://www.ratswaage.de/hotel
Dessau	Radisson Blu Fürst Leopold Dessau	http://www.hotel-dessau-city.de/
Wittenberg	Luther Hotel Wittenberg	http://www.luther-hotel-wittenberg.de/
Torgau	Goldener Anker Torgau	www.goldener-anker-torgau.de
Strehla	Ambiente Hotel Strehla	www.ambiente-hotel-strehla.de
Dresden	Park Inn by Radisson Dresden	www.parkinn-hotel-dresden.de

#### Child reduction on basic price

0 - 2 Years	100%
3 - 12 Years	50%
13 - 17 Years	10%

Due to the more demanding stages, we recommend this trip only for young people with good stamina. Reduction for children is valid for accommodation in room with two full-paying guests.

## **Languages Travel documents**

→ German, English

#### Additional note

- → All bookings are on request.
- → Return journey to Hamburg: by train on your own, connections every 2 hours, duration approx. 4.5 hours, without changing trains.
- → Twin / double rooms / separate beds are only occasionally available. We treat requests as non-binding customer requests, if above mentioned room types are a booking condition, it must be mentioned as a condition at the time of booking.

## **Equipment of our rental bikes**

- → on request: odometer, map holder (to be specified when booking)
- → Bike lock
- → Breakdown kit (1 x per booking)
- → Waterproof pannier

# **Journey to Hamburg**

- → Closest airports: Hamburg
- → Train stations: Hamburg Hbf, Hamburg-Wilhelmsburg

### Parking in Hamburg

- → Parking garage in Hamburg: Cost approx. 12 to 20 euros / day
- → Hotel parking spaces (available in individual hotels, chargeable, details in the travel documents).

# **Travel documents**

→ Travel document dispatch to the arrival hotel, hotel list and arrival information in advance by e-mail

## Stages description

## Day 1: Individual arrival in Hamburg

The Hanseatic city is one of the most beautiful and exciting cities in Germany and offers numerous sights as the starting point for your cycling holiday on the Elbe. Arrive early and visit the Speicherstadt on foot or by excursion boat. Enjoy the evening on the banks of the Alster with a romantic sunset and in anticipation of the cycling days ahead.

## Day 2: Hamburg - Lauenburg, approx. 55 km

You leave bustling Hamburg with a tailwind and cycle through the wild dune landscape of Schleswig-Holstein. In Geesthacht, you can marvel at the Elbe lock and the largest fish ladder in Europe before you cycle comfortably close to the banks to Lauenburg. Learn more about the history of shipping, which has always been an important part of the town's life, at the Elbe Shipping Museum in this tranquil little town.

## Day 3: Lauenburg - Hitzacker, approx. 55 km

Today's cycling holiday on the Elbe takes you through the tranquil marshland past fruit trees, quaint farms and picturesque half-timbered houses. Flocks of sheep graze on the wide open spaces. Enjoy the vastness and tranquillity and park your bike on a lush green meadow to take a break. Rest and relax as you cycle to Hitzacker. Take a stroll around the old town and marvel at the numerous restored half-timbered houses

# Day 4: Hitzacker – Wittenberge, approx. 75 km

The Elbe cycle path always leads over or along the dyke into the former German-German border area. In the Niedersächsische Elbtalaue biosphere reserve, you will experience a true paradise for plants and birds. A protected habitat for storks, sand martins and grey herons. Your stage destination of Wittenberge shines with numerous Art Nouveau buildings. Enjoy the evening in the beautiful old town centre.

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#### Day 5: Wittenberge - Havelberg, approx. 40 km

Because the Elbe often floods the areas here, today you cycle through deserted, lonely stretches of land, which makes this stage a special experience. Every year, over 30 pairs of storks come to Rühstädt to make their home high above the rooftops. Roll comfortably into idyllic Havelberg. From the cathedral, you can enjoy a wonderful view of the old town island and the Havel lowlands.

# Day 6: Havelberg - Tangermünde, approx. 50 km

Today, your cycling holiday along the Elbe takes you from one Hanseatic city to the next. You cycle through many small villages in the beautiful green countryside. There are numerous places where you can cross the Elbe using the yaw rope ferries that are still in operation. You will find history you can touch in your stage destination of Tangermünde. The medieval castle, which was built to protect the beautiful town on the River Tangier, towers high above the town.

#### Day 7: Tangermünde - Magdeburg, approx. 80 km

Architectural superlatives await you on today's stage. First, you reach the European waterway intersection at Hohenwarte. The trough bridge, the longest canal bridge in Europe, carries the Mittelland Canal over the Elbe. In the Elbe metropolis of Magdeburg, you will experience a wonderful evening. Take time to visit the green citadel, a masterpiece by the artist Hundertwasser. The cathedral and the Old Market are also well worth a visit.

# Day 8: Magdeburg - Dessau, approx. 75 / 85 km

Experience pure nature on the first part of today's stage. You cycle through the Middle Elbe biosphere reserve. During a guided tour, you will learn more about the extraordinary flora and fauna. Your cycling holiday on the Elbe takes you to the Bauhaus town of Dessau. It got its name from the most famous architecture and art school, the Bauhaus, which the town was home to from 1926 to 1932. Do you fancy a change from cycling? Then there are countless possibilities in Dessau, such as canoeing or stand-up paddling.

# Day 9: Dessau – Wittenberg, approx. 40 km

Follow the numerous bends of the Elbe through the beautiful countryside, small villages and towns. You will reach Wittenberg in the afternoon. Follow in Martin Luther's footsteps through this town

steeped in history. The 95 theses on the reformation of the church, published by the monk and scholar Martin Luther, are still inscribed on the church door today. Enjoy the evening in a good restaurant.

## Day 10: Wittenberg - Torgau, approx. 70 km

Before you leave Wittenberg, it is worth visiting the places where other personalities worked, such as the philosopher Philipp Melanchton and the painter Lucas Cranach. Cycle through the wonderful floodplain landscape along the banks of the Elbe to Pretzsch. Shortly afterwards, you cross the state border and reach Saxony. You will recognise Hartenfels Castle - a Renaissance masterpiece - from afar. Various exhibitions and guided tours bring history to life and provide an insight into life in the days of the electors.

## Day 11: Torgau - Strehla, approx. 40 km

Always close to the banks, your cycling holiday on the Elbe takes you to Belgern, a cosy town with a historic centre. Among other things, there is a six metre high Roland statue here. In the Middle Ages, Roland statues were erected as a symbol of civil freedom. Fourteen of these figures have been erected in Rolandpark in Belgern - almost all German Rolande in an area that is easily accessible for cyclists. You soon reach Strehla, a rural gem in the middle of the idyllic Elbe meadows. Visit the legendary Nixstein. It is said that Elbe mermaids dragged their victims into the river at this point on the Elbe meander.

### Day 12: Strehla - Dresden, approx. 65 km

You will encounter a whole series of well-known and famous towns on today's stage. Cycle past the pasta town of Riesa to the porcelain town of Meissen. Your destination, however, is the Florence of the North - Dresden. The imposing backdrop of the historic old town will greet you from afar. Take enough time to visit the countless sights such as the Zwinger, the Semper Opera House, the Frauenkirche or the Green Vault. In the evening, relax in a good restaurant with traditional Dresden sauerbraten and a Waldschlösschen beer.

# Day 13: Individual departure

After breakfast you start your individual return journey home or extend your stay.