



NatureTravel
est. 1990

Hungary: Cycling around the Balaton

Individual tour

Category:	bicycle tour 
Duration:	6 days
Offer:	2021
Meals:	breakfasts, suppers on first and last day of the tour
Accommodations:	3 and 4* hotels, rooms with bathroom
Difficulty:	easy
Cycling distance:	215 km

Balaton is one of Hungary's highlights, it's turquoise waters attract tourists since decades. The lake is of volcanic origin, which is still visible in the area of Tihany and Badacsony. Thanks to the fact, that's it's waters are quite shallow, it's temperature allows bathing since June. Balaton is encircled by a modern, comfortable cycling road which is over 200 km in length. Side roads lead to beautiful residential areas, which highlight the atmosphere of the Hungarian countryside. The northern shore is slightly elevated, and the cycling road leads through the national park, passing many vineyards. A pause for sampling the wine while admiring the lake leaves an unforgettable experience. The southern shore is more flat, full of lively resorts and beautiful harbors. Numerous beaches, allowing bathing pauses can be found there.

Arrival:

By plane – The most convenient way is by plane to Budapest. From there, to the starting point we recommend to take a train, which will take about 2:15 hours with a stop in Lepsény. Trains depart from Budapest Deli every hour, the cost is about 8 EUR (2520 Ft).



Places to see:



Balatonfüred

Balatonfüred is the biggest and oldest resort in the Balaton. Thermal waters, known for their beneficial effect for the cardiovascular system, have been discovered here in XVIIIth century. Nowadays, it's a holiday resort with numerous hotels and restaurants, and a harbor by the shore. Further, a promenade stretches, with enormous plane trees and aromatic rose squares. A nice place to rest, while observing the sailboats on the lake.



Siófok

Considered Hungary's summer capital. Worth noting are its boulevards and modern marina. Numerous cafe's can be found here. One of its landmarks is the renovated, century old water tower in the town centre. We recommend to climb its top, in order to admire the view and sip coffee in the rotating cafe.



Badacsony

Located on the northern shore of Balaton. The region is known for wine production, especially the Olaszrizling, with the aroma of bitter almonds. Neighbouring Badacsony mountain (437 m. above sea level) is of volcanic origin and is populated by rare animal and plant species. It lies in the Balaton National Park.



Short summary of the route:

Dzień 1. Arrival to Balatonfüred

Dzień 2. Balatonfüred - Balatonfüzfő - Siófok

Dzień 3. Siófok - Zamárdi - Balatonföldvár -Balatonfenyves

Dzień 4. Balatonfenyves - Kesztehly - Bad Heviz - Badacsony

Dzień 5. Badacsony - Halbinsel Tihany - Balatonfüred

Dzień 6. Balatonfüred – departure, or extending your stay.

Day 1. Balatonfüred



Arrival to Balatonfüred. After checking in the hotel, the day is for your disposal. We recommend taking a walk in the town, admiring the views and visiting local restaurants. In the summer, harbor offers atmospheric wine weeks, when the producers sell their wares and offer sampling.

Price includes: supper in the hotel

Day 2. Balatonfüred - Balatonfüzfő - Siófok



Distance: about 55 km

At 9:00 we meet the company's representative at the reception and receive the bikes and materials about the route. After preparing the bikes the first day of cycling begins. Riding along the northern and eastern shore we pass Balatonfüzfő. Further, along the shores at Balatonkenese and Akarattya where you can admire the views of the lake. Most of today's route leads through residential areas, ending at today's accommodation - Siófok resort. Accommodation in 4* hotel.

Day 3. Siófok - Zamárdi - Balatonföldvár - Balatonfenyves



Distance: about 50 km

Siófok is Hungary's summer capital. Imre Kálmán (1882-1953), composer, was born here. His family house is located on the street named after him. The cycling road for today's trip begins at the lake's shore. It will lead through one of Hungary's most popular holiday regions. We will be passing numerous beaches. Zámárdi offers a long coastline and magnificent view of the Balaton. Further, in Balatonföldvár you can walk the beautiful promenade with magnificent, old trees.

Day 4. Balatonfenyves - Kesztehly - Bad Heviz - Badacsony



Distance: about 60 km

The cycling roads leads along the flat, souther shore with a view of the vineyards on the other side. We shall pass the Small Balaton National Park. It's vast waters attract over 100 bird species, which nest here. Wandering birds can also be spotted here. On the north-western shore is Kesztehly, an atmospheric town with beautiful, baroque palace of Festetic family. Please don't hesitate to stop and admire the building. Only 8 km away is Bad-Heviz, a renowned Hungarian spa resort. Further road leads through the national park, offering picturesque views of the vineyards. Szigiliget, another town, emerges from the lake like an isle. In it's area, you can tour the castle ruins on one of neighbouring mounts. There is also a Africa museum with wild animals park in Balatonederics. The day ends in Badacsony.

Day 5. Badacsony - Tihany - Balatonfüred



Distance: about 50 km

The road today leads along the northern shore to Balatonfüred. Cycling towards Tihany we will see the protected peninsula stretching 5 km into the lake and its picturesque fishing huts. Tihany's symbol is the Benedictine church towering the lake, a true regional gem with a magnificent view of the lake. Afterwards, we head to Balatonfüred for our last accommodation.

Price includes: supper in the hotel

Day 6. Balatonfüred - departure

This is the last day of the trip. We hope you bring home great memories of the Balaton. After breakfast you can take a walk in the town and afterwards depart the region, or extend your stay in Hungary.

Price includes:

- 5 accommodations with breakfasts in local hotels/pensions, good standard with bathrooms included
 - Warm supper on day 1 and 5
 - Baggage transfer between accommodations
 - Technical assistance during the trip
 - Tourist's package: detailed description of the route, along with the information required for reaching the destination by bike.
 - Handing out and picking up of the bike at the appointed location
 - **Minimal number of participants: 1 person**
-

Price does not include:

- cost of arrival at the starting location
 - cost of return from the finishing location
 - Bike rental
 - Car parking cost during the trip, which is paid separately at the hotel – about 4€/day
 - Local taxes at the hotel, about 1,5€/person/night
 - War meals, excluding the supper on day 1 and day 5
 - Additional accomodations
 - Additional private expenses during the trip
-

Price per person:

2 people price/person in a double room

Season 1 (1.05-31.05 and 01.09-30.09.2021): 389 EUR

Season 2 (01.06-30.06.2021): 419 EUR

Season 3 (01.07-30.08.2021): 449 EUR

Single room surcharge: 99 EUR/person

Additional discounts:

- Children discounts upon request – resolved individually

Dates:

Arrival on Sunday:

MAY: 2.05; 16.05;. 30.05

JUNE: 13.06; 27.06

JULY: 11.07; 25.07

AUGUST: 08.08; 22.08

SEPTEMBER: 05.09; 12.09

OCTOBER: 03.10; 17.10

ADDITIONAL DATES CAN BE ARRANGED FOR GROUPS OF AT LEAST 6 PEOPLE

Our bikes:

We offer trekking Unisex 7-gear bikes and 7-gear electric bikes with V-brakes.

7-gear Unisex trekking bikes:

A standard trekking bike, suitable for this trip. Thanks to 7-gears with Shimano derailleurs the level of effort can be adjusted to the elevation.

Price includes:

- Bicycle lock
- Cycling pannier
- Pump
- Spare inner tube
- Repair set (for 1 or 2 people)

7-gear electric bike

Our electric bikes are equipped with V-brakes. The battery is meant to provide assistance during the ride, it should not be considered an engine. Fully loaded, it will be sufficient for about 70-90 km, depending on the chosen programme (Eco, Sport, Turbo). The battery should be reloaded daily.

Price includes:

- Bicycle lock
- Cycling pannier
- Pump
- Spare inner tube
- Repair set (for 1 or 2 people)
- Battery
- Battery charger

Cost of bike rental:

Unisex trekking bike – 50 EUR/person/trip

Electric bike – 110 EUR/person/trip