

2008 Team Sarcoma Bike Tour

July 12-19, 2008

Along the Danube River

From Passau, Germany, to Vienna, Austria



Liddy Shriver Sarcoma Initiative Logo Placeholder

**The 2008 Team Sarcoma Bike Tour
is a Liddy Shriver Sarcoma Initiative project.**

The 2008 Team Sarcoma Bike Tour will take us to the Danube Bicycle Path, one of Europe's most beautiful bike paths. We start in the Bavarian city of Passau and end a week later in Vienna, Austria. Most of the route is on well-marked, dedicated bike paths away from traffic, which makes this an excellent tour for families. Local guides will accompany us to explain the rich history and culture of the region.



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Raising Awareness of Sarcoma and Raising Research Funds

Sarcoma is a rare and dangerous cancer. It affects both children and adults. Between 15-20% of all children's cancers are sarcomas and about 1% of adult cancers are sarcomas. The 2008 Team Sarcoma Bike Tour raises public awareness about this disease and the impact it can have on families, raises public awareness of the lack of young adults in cancer-related clinical trials, and raises money for sarcoma-related cancer research.

On July 12th, the participants forming 2008 Team Sarcoma will meet in Passau, Germany, to begin a bike tour along the Danube River that will take them into Vienna, Austria, on July 18th. The event is targeted to draw 50 cyclists including sarcoma patients, caregivers, physicians, friends, families, and those concerned about sarcoma. We anticipate cyclists from many countries to participate on this bike tour as "Sarcoma Knows No Borders".

The 2008 Team Sarcoma Bike Tour is part of an *internationally coordinated* set of events called the 2008 Team Sarcoma Initiative. This initiative will involve thousands of people worldwide and in the last few years has become an "International Sarcoma Awareness Week." People form local "Team Sarcomas" in their home countries around the globe and they cycle, run, walk, hike, swim, etc. on one or more of the days that the members of the "core" team are biking along the Danube. The media coverage of this effort will help make hundreds of thousands of people aware of this devastating and often deadly cancer. Such awareness can affect thousands of families and can aid in directing much needed funds toward research to find methods to diagnose and cure this disease.

The 2008 Team Sarcoma Bike Tour is being coordinated by Donauradfreunde ("Danube Bike Friends"), which started the first commercial bicycle tours along the Danube nearly 20 years ago. They are represented in North America by BikeToursDirect, which is serving as our primary liaison for the bike tour and is handling registrations and bookings.

If you would like to join us, please contact Bruce Shriver at shriver@genesis2.com



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Before reading the detailed itinerary ...

The Danube Bicycle Path is among Europe's most beautiful, with stunning river landscapes, picturesque villages and medieval towns, imposing castles and monasteries, and expansive vineyards. Most of the route is on well-marked, dedicated bike paths away from traffic. We start in a deep valley with craggy outcroppings topped with the ruins of ancient castles. Soon, the hills turn into the rolling vineyards of the Wachau region, dotted with medieval towns. As the river widens, flat pastures spread to the horizons, and we meander through farms and villages. From time to time we cross the river, over dams, locks and bridges and sometimes in small ferries that hold barely a dozen cyclists. We finish in Vienna, where we have a chance to see the city by bicycle. This is an excellent tour for families. Children's bikes, trailers, and trailer cycles are available.

Each day, Team Sarcoma participants have a choice of three programs: one designed for strong cyclists (**SC**), another for leisure cyclists (**LC**) and the third for those who would prefer to walk, hike, or take part in other activities (**W**). All team members come together for lunch, dinner and many activities. The group will be accompanied by three trained guides and two support vans. Cycling options are very flexible and support vans will be available to assist those who tire or need a bike repair, as well as to supply refreshments and snacks. *Make sure to read the "Frequently Asked Questions" at the end of this brochure.*

The detailed itinerary is meant to provide an overview of daily programs. Actual activities and times may vary.



2008 Team Sarcoma Bike Tour

Day 1 — Saturday, July 12

Arrival in Passau, Germany

12 Noon – 4:00 PM	Arrival and registration, Hotel am Jesuitenschlössl in Passau
4:00 PM - 6:00 PM	Bike fitting and short cycle tour along the Inn River
7:00 PM	Opening reception and dinner
8:30 PM	Guided walk through Passau

Lodging in Passau: Hotel am Jesuitenschlössl (★★★★)

Arrive in Passau, the City of Three Rivers, at the confluence of the Inn, Ilz and Danube Rivers. If you'd like, take a sightseeing tour around the city and St. Stephen's Cathedral, where you might hear a concert on one of the world's largest church organs.

You might want to arrive in Passau a day or two early as there are many things to see. The following quote is adapted from the online encyclopedia, Wikipedia: "Tourism in Passau focuses mainly on the three rivers, the St. Stephen's Cathedral (*Der Passauer Stephansdom*) and the "Old City" (*Die Altstadt*). With 17,774 pipes, the organ at St. Stephen's Cathedral was long held to be the largest church pipe organ in the world and is today second in size only to the organ at First Congregational Church, Los Angeles, which was expanded in 1994. St. Stephen's Cathedral is a true masterpiece of Italian Baroque, built by Italian architect Carlo Lurago and decorated in part by Carpoforo Tencalla. Many river cruises down the Danube start at Passau and there is a cycling path all the way down to Vienna. It is also notable for its gothic and baroque architecture. The town is dominated by the Veste Oberhaus and the former fortress of the Bishop, on the mountain crest between the Danube and the Ilz rivers. Right beside the town hall is the Scharfrichterhaus, an important jazz and cabaret stage on which political cabaret is performed."



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Day 2 — Sunday, July 13

Passau to Haibach, Austria

8:00 AM	Breakfast
Morning	W: Passau to Engelhartzell, Austria, by boat SC and LC: Cycle from Passau to Engelhartzell Visit monastery church and Danube Park “Minimundus”
Lunch	Picnic lunch
Afternoon	W: Transfer by bus to hotel in Haibach and easy hike through forest to a point with a Danube outlook. SC and LC: Cycle across the locks at the Jochenstein power plant to north bank and go on to Schlögener Donauschlinge, where the river carves its way through a deep valley. Cross with ferry to south bank and go on to Kobling. Transfer for LC by van to hotel. SC either can ride or join the transfer to the hotel.
Evening	Dinner at hotel.

Lodging in Haibach: Gasthof Pointner (★★★)

Bike Routes: **LC:** 32 miles / 51 km; **SC:** 39 miles / 62 km

We will start our bike ride along the right (southern) bank of the Danube. After a short distance outside of Passau, the bike path enters Austria. We will visit the charming town of Engelhartzell with its unique Trappist monastery and beautiful rococo church. The monastery, Engelhartzell Abbey, was established in 1293, and the monks make their own brandies, which you might pick up for later consumption. After leaving Engelhartzell, we see granite massifs and enter an opulent green landscape. We soon come to Schlögen, where the Danube rounds a nearly 270-degree bend. The S-Curve is called “Schlögener Schlinge”. We overnight in nearby Haibach.



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Day 3 — Monday, July 14

Haibach to Linz

8:00 AM	Breakfast
Morning	<p>W: Transfer by van to Schlögen. With boat departing at 11:05 AM arriving at Aschach at 12:25 PM. Hiking tour along the Danube to Brandstatt (approximately 1 hour).</p> <p>SC and LC: Cycle to Brandstatt and join lunch with rest of the group.</p>
Lunch	Lunch at charming restaurant (excellent fish meals).
Afternoon	<p>W: After lunch transfer by van to Eferding. Visit church St. Hypolyt. Transfer to Wilhering (monastery church). After transfer directly to hotel in Linz.</p> <p>SC and LC: Cycle to Wilhering and visit monastery church. After visit, cycle to hotel in Linz.</p>
Evening	Dinner at 7:00 PM in hotel (or maybe restaurant downtown). In the late evening walking tour through Linz or ride with the famous “Bummel train” through the historic city.

Lodging in Linz: Hotel Arcotel Nike (★★★★)

Bike Routes: **LC:** 31 miles / 49 km; **SC:** 34 miles / 55 km

We will continue our ride along the Danube under the gaze of old castles that look from the hilltops. We will visit St. Hypolyt’s Church in Eferding and the Abbey church of Maria Himmelfahrt in Wilhering. This church is acclaimed to be one of the most outstanding rococo buildings in Austria. We’ll soon come to Linz, Austria’s third-largest city, with an historic market square surrounded by baroque buildings. The majestic fifteenth-century Linz Citadel stands watch over the Danube.



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Day 4 — Tuesday, July 15

Linz to the pilgrimage town of Maria Taferl

8:00 AM	Breakfast
Morning	<p>W, SC, and LC: Transfer of the whole group by bus to Mauthausen. Optional visit to the former German WWII work camp or take a walking tour through the town of Mauthausen.</p> <p>W: Transfer by van to Mitterkirchen. Visit Keltendorf museum. Transfer to Grein.</p> <p>SC and LC: cycle via Mitterkirchen to Grein</p>
Lunch	Lunch in charming Gasthaus in Grein. After lunch, guided walking tour through Grein and visit its famous theater.
Afternoon	<p>W: Transfer to Maria Taferl.</p> <p>SC: Cycle from Grein to Maria Taferl.</p> <p>LC: Cycle from Grein to Marbach. Transfer by van from Marbach up to Maria Taferl.</p>
Evening	7:00 PM dinner in restaurant of Hotel Rose.

Lodging in Maria Taferl: Hotel Rose (★★★★)

Bike Routes: **LC:** 42 miles / 67 km; **SC:** 50 miles / 80 km

We start the day with an optional visit to the concentration camp memorial at Mauthausen. There will also be an optional tour of the town of Mauthausen to see the town center, St. Nikolaus Church (with sections dating to the 13th century), and the Karner (chapel house). We will then cycle on to and have lunch in Grein, a small medieval town where most of the houses in the town center date to the 16th and 17th centuries. Grein's bourgeois flair is especially evident in the 19th century inns and taverns. We then bike on to Maria Taferl where, from our hotel, the Hotel Rose, you will have a stunning view of the Danube. In Maria Taferl you can visit the pilgrimage church, the Maria Taferl Basilica. There is also a monument for the fallen of both World Wars in Maria Taferl where these men and women are honored annually at meeting of veteran's groups.



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Day 5 — Wednesday, July 16

Maria Taferl to Krems

8:00 AM	Breakfast
Morning	SC and LC : Cycle to Melk. W : Transfer by van to Melk. Guided tour in the world famous monastery, Melk Abbey, for the whole group. W : transfer by van to Dürnstein.
Lunch	Lunch in Spitz en route to Melk
Afternoon	W : Continue transfer by van to Dürnstein. Walking tour to the castle ruin. Then transfer by van to Krems. SC and LC : Cycle from Melk to Krems on the north bank.
Evening	In the evening dinner at a winemaker's restaurant. Visit the wine cellar and taste some wines.

Lodging in Krems: Parkhotel (★★★)

Bike Routes: **LC**: 33 miles / 53 km; **SC**: 46 miles / 73 km

One of the highlights of the Danube bicycle trail is the famous Wachau wine region. You cycle to Melk with its imposing Benedictine abbey. Melk Abbey (Stift Melk) is an historic Austrian Benedictine abbey, and one of the world's most famous monastic sites. It is located above the town of Melk on a rocky outcrop overlooking the river Danube. It has the rare distinction of surviving as an active Benedictine monastery continuously since its foundation. Melk also is the gateway to Wachau. Through vineyards and orchards you cycle past the wine-growing towns of Spitz, Weißenkirchen and Dürnstein to Krems. After reaching Krems, we'll enter it through its impressive Stone Gate. The 1000-year-old town is surrounded by vineyards and filled with historic buildings — including churches, monasteries and fortifications. It's also a lively town with cafés, shops and bistros. To get an idea of the culinary temptations, we'll enjoy a traditional vintner's dinner and a wine-tasting in the centuries-old wine cellar of a local winemaker. We will stay in Krems two nights.



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Day 6 —Thursday, July 17
Visiting Melk and the scenic Wachau Wine Region

8:00 AM	Breakfast
Morning	W, SC, and LC: The whole group takes a boat from Krems (departure 10:10 AM) to Melk (arrival 1:00 PM).
Lunch	Picnic next to the Danube.
Afternoon	W: Transfer by van on the south bank to Rossatzbach. Walking tour on the south bank to Krems. SC and LC: Cycle on the south bank to Rossatzbach. The whole group will visit a winemaker. Continue by bike to Krems.
Evening	Dinner in a restaurant downtown at 6:30 PM. Later in the evening, a luminary in a park next to the Danube.

Lodging in Linz: Parkhotel (★★★)

Bike Routes: **LC:** 22 miles / 35 km; **SC:** 34 miles / 55 km

We'll return to Melk by boat and then leisurely make our way through the Wachau vineyards back to Krems. The Wachau is an Austrian valley with a beautiful landscape formed by the Danube River. It is 30 km (about 19 miles) in length and was already settled in prehistoric times. A well-known place and tourist magnet is Dürnstein, where King Richard the Lion-Heart of England was held captive by Duke Leopold V. The Wachau is well-known for its production of apricots and grapes, both of which are used to produce specialty liquors and wines. The Wachau was added to the UNESCO list of World Heritage Sites in recognition of its architectural and agricultural history.



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Day 7 — Friday, July 18
Krems to Vienna

8:00 AM	Breakfast
Morning	W: Take train to Heiligenstadt. Hiking tour on Danube Island. SC and LC: Take train to Greifenstein. Cycle on the north bank on Danube Island to Reichsbrücke.
Lunch	Lunch or picnic on Danube Island.
Afternoon	W: Continue walking or take van to Hotel Lassalle. SC and LC: Cycle to Hotel Lassalle. The afternoon is open for you to enjoy Vienna.
Evening	Dinner in Hotel Lassalle for the whole group. In the evening guided walking or bus tour in Vienna and ride on the famous Riesenrad Ferris wheel the Prater amusement park in Vienna.

Lodging in Vienna: Hotel Lassalle (★★★★)

Bike Routes: **LC:** 24 miles / 38 km; **SC:** 53 miles / 84 km

We start off the day with a train ride to either Heiligenstadt or Greifenstein, depending on if you are biking or not. Our common goal is to join together for lunch on the Danube Island. There are many recreational activities to engage in on Danube Island: swimming in bays along shallow beaches, hiking, jogging, cycling and skating along an extensive network of paths. You can either enjoy some of these possibilities or visit sites in Vienna.

Vienna is a marvelous city. The most historic section of Vienna, the Innere Stadt (Inner City), was once surrounded by a mighty city wall. The wall was removed in 1857, and the new space was used for a street around Vienna, today's "Ringstrassen" (ring roads). Imposing buildings, monuments and parks were created along these Ringstrassen, such as the Rathaus (town hall), the Burgtheater, the University, the Parliament, and the State Opera. The focal point of the historic center and the geographical and emotional heart of Vienna is St. Stephan's Cathedral, founded in the 12th century, whose 135-meter (443-foot) gothic spire towers over the city. The ornate Schönbrunn Palace was once home to the imperial family.

It is impossible to think of Vienna without thinking of Mozart. The Vienna Mozart Orchestra plays concerts with internationally renowned singers and soloists — all in magnificent historical costumes and wigs and creates a special atmosphere in Vienna's largest and most famous concert halls, like State Opera, Musikverein Golden Hall, Hofburg and Konzerthaus. Vienna has wonderful and accessible museums, a number of which are located in the Museumsquartier (museum quarter) in the former Imperial Stables, which were converted into a museum complex in the 1990s. It houses the Museum of Modern Art (Ludwig Foundation), the Leopold Museum (focusing on works of the Viennese Secession, Viennese Modernism and Austrian Expressionism), additional halls with special exhibitions and the Tanzquartier, Vienna's center for modern dance and performance. The Liechtenstein Palace contains one of the world's largest private art collections. There are a multitude of other museums in Vienna, including the Military History Museum, the Technical Museum, the Vienna Clock Museum and the Burial Museum. The museums dedicated to Vienna's districts provide a retrospective of the respective districts. You may very well want to stay on a few days in Vienna after the bike tour ends.

We will have dinner in the Hotel Lassalle followed by a tour in Vienna and ride on Vienna's famous Riesenrad, until recently the world's largest Ferris wheel.

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Day 8 — Saturday, July 19

Depart or spend some extra days in Vienna

8:00 AM	Breakfast, then depart or spend extra days in Vienna.
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Tour Price and Related Costs

- €1295/person, double occupancy; single room supplement €181.
- Children staying in the same room with 2 adults
 - 0 - 6 years, free
 - 6 - 12 years, 15% off
 - 12 - 18 years, 5% off
- 3rd adult in double room 5% off.
- Trailers and trailer cycles are €50 each.
- Price reduced €50 for bringing your own bike.

Price includes: accommodations (in ★★★ and ★★★★ hotels) for seven nights, all breakfasts, all dinners and six lunches (including picnics along the riverside), refreshments en route, and bike rental. Bikes come with saddle bags and water bottles. Helmets are not provided. *Each cyclist must bring and wear a helmet!* Bus, train and ferry rides as required, daily luggage and bike transport, and support vans are included in the price.

Tour prices are fixed in Euros (€). Use the following Currency Calculator to compute *approximate* amounts in your own currency: <http://www.xe.com/ucc/>. Actual amounts are usually higher as described in the "Frequently Asked Questions".

Travel

The bike tour begins in Passau, Germany, and ends in Vienna, Austria. Participants are responsible for their own travel arrangements and the cost of getting to and from Passau and Vienna. Both cities can be reached via air, bus, train, or automobile. Travel suggestions are outlined on the BikeToursDirect website.

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Frequently Asked Questions

Q. How do I register for the 2008 Team Sarcoma Bike Tour?

A. First, send a note to Bruce Shriver at shriver@genesis2.com to check to see if space is available. He can also answer questions that you might have about the bike tour. If space is available, then you'll be able to book the tour online through the BikeToursDirect website.

Q. How long does it take to get confirmation when I book the tour?

A. Please allow 5-7 business days for BikeToursDirect to confirm the booking.

Q. Why is tour price given in Euros (€)?

A. Donauradfreunde is based in Austria, and the tour price is fixed in Euros. To find the price in your country's currency, please use the Euro Converter (<http://www.xe.com/ucc/>). Please use it as a guide only as this is the "mid-market" rate — the rate midway between buy and sell rates. Buy rates charged to consumers and small businesses are about 3-4% higher. This is the rate that you are charged.

Q. How much is my deposit?

A. \$ 200 per person, which is charged to your credit card.

Q. When is the balance due?

A. 60 days before departure. There's a 4% service charge if you make your balance payment by credit card. You can avoid this fee by paying by check. Payment is due in United States dollars, although arrangements may be possible for participants booking from countries that use the Euro. Please contact us.

Q. How much does BikeToursDirect charge for their service?

A. BikeToursDirect's fees are included in the tour price.

Q. Where do I call if I have a question?

A. If you have a question about registering for the tour or the general program, call Bruce Shriver at 914-762-3251. If you have booked the tour and have a question about bookings or payments, please call Simon at 877-462-2423, ext. 2.

Q. Is my money safe?

A. Bookings and payments are processed by Nonstop Travel of Torrance, California, a member of ASTA (American Society of Travel Agents) and IATAN (International Airlines Travel Agent Network) and a licensed California Seller of Travel (CST 1018469-10). Donauradfreunde is governed by the consumer and financial regulations of Austria and of the European Union. Most countries require tour operators to put funds in escrow or have a bank guarantee to cover your payments through the end of your trip. These laws protect you in case of insolvency or fraud. BikeToursDirect participates in the BBBOnline Reliability Program (Better Business Bureau® Program).

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Q. What if I need to make a change?

A. Donauradfreunde and BikeToursDirect will charge a combined change fee of €75 Euros per reservation for even minor changes such as adding a night of lodging or adding bike rentals. This covers administrative costs. Please be as sure as possible of your plans when you book.

Q. What if I have to cancel?

A. Donauradfreunde's cancellation fee depends on when you cancel: Up to the 28th day before the beginning of the tour: 10% of the tour price, at least € 50. From the 27th to the 8th day before the beginning of the tour: 50% of the tour price. From the 7th to the day before the beginning of the tour: 80 % of the tour price. On the arrival day and non-participation: 100% of the tour price. BikeToursDirect charges 10% of the tour price on top of Donauradfreunde's charges. Please note that you can make a name change within your party and be charged just a change fee. BikeToursDirect strongly encourages the purchase of travel insurance.

Q. What if Donauradfreunde cancels?

A. It is highly unlikely this will happen. If it does, you are entitled to a refund of funds paid toward the tour or may have an option to apply those funds toward another tour. BikeToursDirect will refund your payment within 15 days of when we receive funds from the tour operator.