

Trains for bicycle tourists



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Analysis of regional and long distance timetables on the Danube axis

- The internet timetable information system of the Austrian federal Railway company ÖBB, called „Scotty“ provides information for train travelers in whole Europe
- It is possible to ask for trains which carry bicycles,



The screenshot displays the ÖBB Scotty website interface. At the top, the ÖBB logo and the Scotty logo are visible, with the tagline "SCOTTY – der Routenplaner für Öffis." Below this is a navigation bar with tabs for "Fahrplanauskunft", "Stationsinformation", "Züge/Linien", "Zugradar", and "Fahrplanheft". The main content area is divided into three sections: "Route", "Wann", and "Womit".

Route: The "Von:" field contains "Nürnberg Hbf" and the "Nach:" field contains "WIEN". There are "Karte" buttons next to each field and a "→ Über" link.

Wann: The "Datum:" field shows "So, 15.09.2013" with a calendar icon. The "Uhrzeit:" field shows "10:57". There are radio buttons for "Abfahrt" (selected) and "Ankunft", and a "→ Rückfahrt" link.

Womit: The "Verkehrsmittel" dropdown menu is set to "Alle Verkehrsmittel". There are checkboxes for "Fahrradmitnahme" (checked) and "Rollstuhlstellplatz (innerhalb Österreichs)".

www.oebb.at

Long-distance connections

Frankfurt – Nürnberg – Passau – Wien

ICE trains every 2 hours with a travel time of 6:45, but no possibility to transport bicycles.

Scotty recommends travelling via München with 2 or more train changes and much longer travel times.

The night trains carry only bicycles between Würzburg and Wien.

Some years ago, every EC train transported bicycles, see photo with the bicycle room.

The ÖBB provide a special train for bicycle tourist between Passau and Wien : comfortable but slower than ICE



Long distance (2)

Stuttgart – Ulm – München

Intercity- and Eurocity-trains transport bicycles, but a reservation is required, moreover, regional express trains carry bicycles. The trains circulate approximately every hour.



München - Salzburg – Linz – Wien

IC and EC trains carry bicycles as well as the double-decker trains of the Westbahn between Salzburg and Vienna. For transporting a bicycle between München and Wien it's always necessary to change in Salzburg. At least every hour connections are available, between Salzburg and Wien almost every hour 2 connections in each direction.

A problem is that the Railjet- trains between München, Wien and Budapest are currently not equipped to transport bicycles, but it is planned to provide space in these trains.



Long distance (3)

Wien - Bratislava (– Budapest)

All REX-trains (regional-express) via Marchegg and via Parndorf (near Neusiedler See) trains carry bicycles, some tickets (e.g. Euregio- tickets) include transporting bicycles.

Based on the good possibilities to transport bicycles between Vienna and Bratislava this route is also recommended to transport bicycles via Bratislava to Budapest and taking the EC-trains between Bratislava and Budapest (reservation required)

Wien – Győr – Budapest

The problem is that rail-jet trains don't carry bicycles. Passenger with bicycles can use only in the morning the Euronight-train in the morning from Wien to Budapest and in the evening from Budapest to Wien or REX trains with changing in Győr.

Further connections are available via Sopron and Győr.



Long distance (4)

Budapest – Novi Sad - Beograd

The 2 capitals are only connected by 2 trains in each direction, one train in each direction is an overnight train. Only the trains during the day (departure in Budapest 13.14 and in Beograd already at 6.45) transport bicycles (reservation is required)



Budapest – Drobeta- Turnu Severin

Although some connections daily are available, including 1 direct Intercity train in each direction, no possibility to transport bicycles could be found.



Beograd – Drobeta-Turnu Severin

In Scotty no connections could be found.



Regional train services (Germany)

Donaueschingen - Tuttlingen –
Ulm

Direct IRE (inter regional) trains
every 2 hours, all transport
bicycles

Ulm – Donauwörth – Ingolstadt

Many direct regional trains
(Agilis) transport bicycles – at
least every 2 hours

Ingolstadt – Regensburg

Every hour regional trains (Agilis)
transporting bicycles

Nürnberg – Regensburg

Direct RE (regional express)
trains every 2 hours with space
for bicycles

Regensburg – Plattling –Passau

Connection approx. every hour
hours, some with changing in
Plattling, all transport bicycles



Regional train services (Austria 1)

Passau – Wels – Linz

Direct regional trains to transport bicycles, on working days every hour, on weekend every 2 hours



Eferding – Linz

Regional trains every hour, all transport bicycles

Linz – Grein

Direct regional express trains (REX) with some exceptions every 2 hours , all transport bicycles



Linz – Melk

Regional /REX trains with changing in St. Valentin every 2 hours , some connections with IC trains (reservation for bicycles required)



Regional train services (Austria 2)

Melk – Krems (Wachau)



A lot of train- connections with changing in St. Pölten, moreover, on weekends and daily in July until September tourist trains

Emmersdorf (near Melk) 3 x daily to Krems and back, moreover , ships transport bicycles (for 2,-€)

Krems – Tulln – Wien



All REX trains (almost every hour) transport bicycles, from Tulln to Wien additional S-Bahn trains circulate.

Wien – Bratislava

Excellent connections for cyclists with REX trains , more information see also long-distance

Wien – Hainburg - Wolfsthal

S-Bahn every hour, 6 km to Bratislava for cycling

Cheap ticket for cyclists:

<http://www.oebb.at/de/Tickets/Gruppenticket/Einfach-Raus-Radticket/index.jsp>

Regional train services (Austria /Hungary)

Wien – Bruck an der Leitha –
Parndorf- Neusiedl am See –
Eisenstadt or Pamhagen
(Seewinkel)

Attractive trains for cyclists every
hour from Wien to Neusiedl and
every 2 hours to Eisenstadt and
Pamhagen (Seewinkel)

Wien – Parndorf – Hegyeshalom
– Győr – (Budapest)

Connections transporting bicycles
every 2 hours, some with
changing in Bruck an der Leitha,
connections from Győr to
Budapest at least every 2 hours



Neusiedl am See – Parndorf –
Bratislava Petržalka

Good connections for cyclists
every 2 hours with changing in
Parndorf , duration onl y approx.
40 minutes

First Conclusions



- Almost all analyzed regional train connections along the „Transdanube“ axis provide suitable services for cycle tourists, a bottleneck is the closed rail line between Grein and Emmersdorf / Krems an der Donau.
- Regarding the long distance connections on the “Transdanube” the conditions for cycle tourists are worst for travelling from Frankfurt – Nürnberg to Wien, because the ICE –T trains units (type 411) provide no possibility to transport bicycles.
- In the relation between München – Salzburg – Wien - Budapest it would be a big improvement for cycle-tourists when the Railjet-trains will be as soon as possible equipped to transport some bicycles.
- This analysis should be continued more detailed in the frame of “Transdanube”.

Thank you for your kind attention !

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