

Tandem Bike Tour

2018: Munich, Salzburg, Vienna, and Prague





We headed out of Munich, en route to Salzburg, certain that we had found a flat way into the Alps. Unfortunately, Ridewithgps has a few flaws and we had some significant climbing before we arrived. Fortunately, we stumbled into some beautiful scenery and even a parade to provide a distraction.



One of the highlights of our day was usually dinner, followed closely by sightseeing. The occasional odd sight usually provided a thought-provoking discussion like "Why would anyone need a plate especially made for eyeballs?"



March of the giant gherkins.



Occasionally, we came across reminders of the past, such as these brass copies of the pamphlets that were scattered as a group of students were arrested and later executed during the lead-in to World War II.

The roads we rode varied widely, but almost all of them were comfortable to ride on (most of the exceptions were in the Czech Republic, where conversations ceased and tension went up).



The occasional flat did pop up, in this case when we went across a curb and pinch-flatted. In any event, rain and rough roads didn't stop us although it made the end of the day all the more welcome.



Clothing is always a bit different in Europe. Salzburg provided a couple of modern interpretations of traditional Austrian dress—we considered picking up a couple of outfits but couldn't figure out how to pack the hats without crushing them.



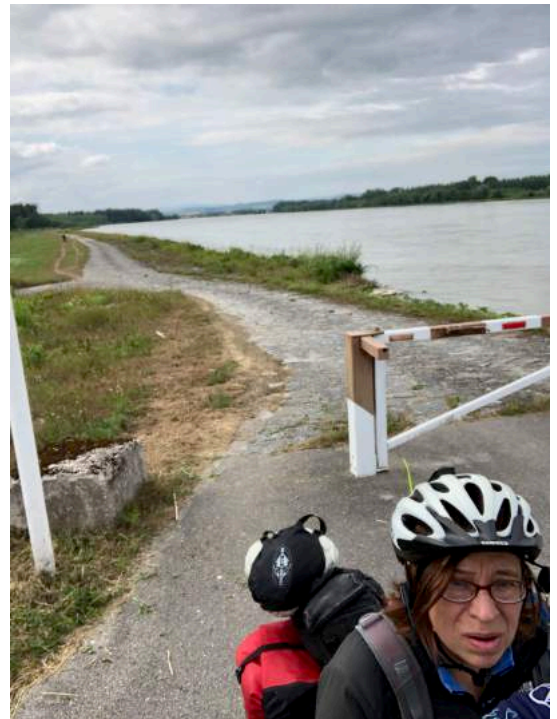


We joined a "Sound of Music" bike tour of Salzburg, where we discovered that we are much more casual in our knowledge of the movie than some of the more fervent fans.





Lunch along the Danube. Most of the path was really smooth and pleasant, but some of the cobblestones literally date to Roman times.

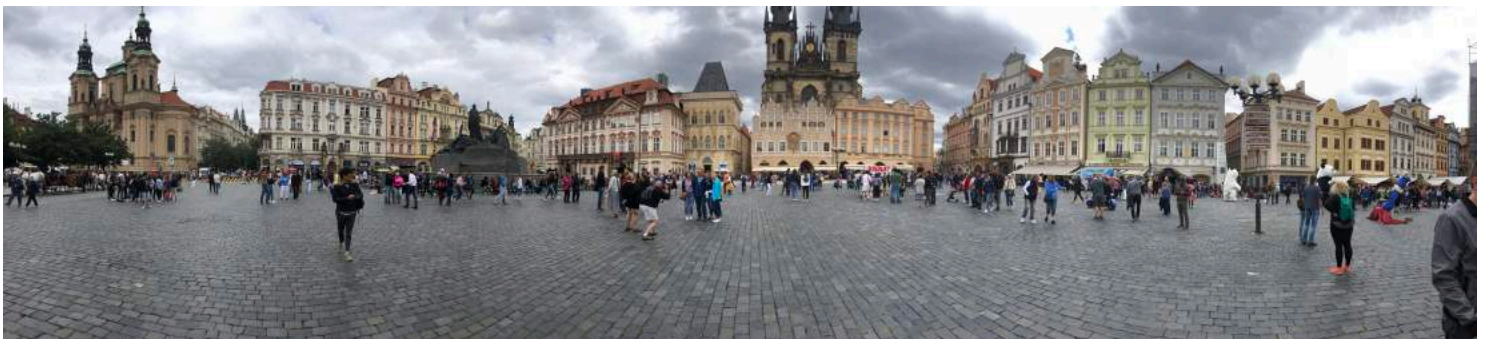
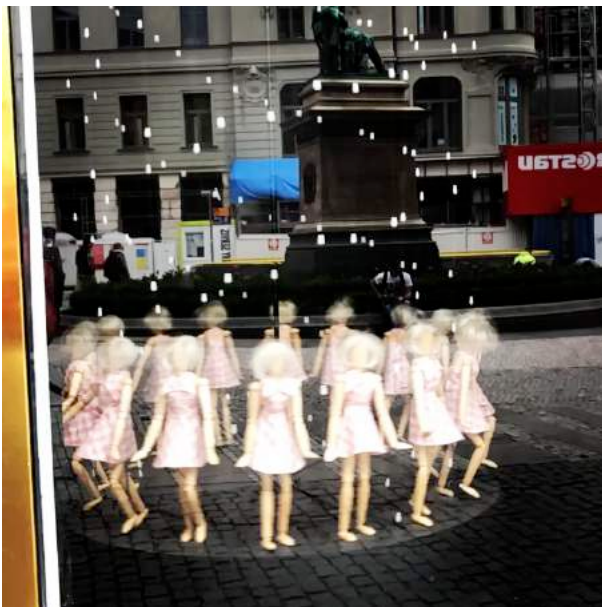


Random sights along the road.





One of our favorite artists was featured in a museum in Vienna: Klimt. We also saw part of the live performance of an opera, but from the outside.





As always, window shopping is a little different in Europe.





Once we entered the Czech Republic, the villages became much quieter (with fewer sights and restaurants) and almost all bicycle road consideration vanished.

On the other hand, the high school sports teams were a little more entertaining.



Mark and Ruby Wooldridge
June, 2018



Some of our "bike paths" became a little more primitive at times.



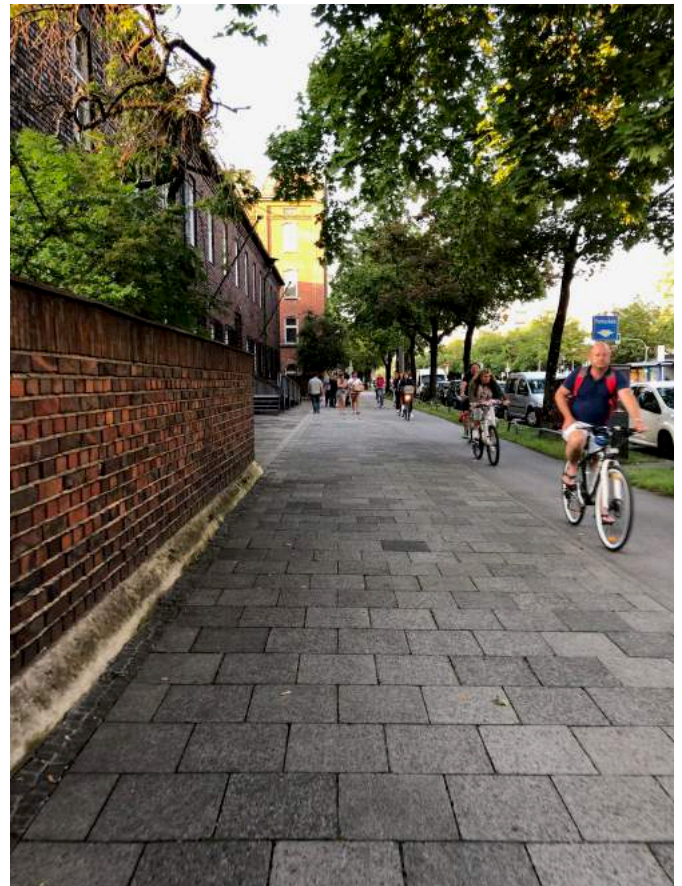
There were many beautiful churches in Prague, but this one came complete with the severed arm of a thief...can't get more historical than that.





European tastes vary a bit, so Ruby doesn't usually buy beauty products while we're there.

Bicycle facilities improved considerably as we re-entered Germany and finished our tour.



Mark and Ruby Wooldridge
June, 2018



Finis

