

## Bicycle Tours in Slovakia: Cycling Krakow to Slovakia

### OVERVIEW

Bicycle between Krakow, Poland to Poprad, Slovakia. Part of our route follows the ancient "Amber Route" that connected the Baltic Sea with the Adriatic. This historic trade route is perfect for cyclists who love undiscovered regions and pedaling through beautiful landscapes.

Continue on through Hungary and end in Budapest with our [Cycling Krakow to Slovakia Plus! Budapest](#) tour which extends this itinerary by 5 days.

### HIGHLIGHTS

Krakow, Medieval Levoca and its wooden altar, Riding the hills of Central Slovakia, UNESCO World Heritage sites in Slovakia , Historic Poprad

### TOUR FACTS

<b>Tour Style</b>	■ Classic: Learn more about our Classic tours at <a href="https://www.experienceplus.com/choosing-the-best-tour/styles/classic">https://www.experienceplus.com/choosing-the-best-tour/styles/classic</a>
<b>Includes</b>	8 days, 7 nights accommodation; meals as noted in itinerary
<b>Countries</b>	Poland, Slovakia
<b>Begin/End</b>	Krakow, Poland/ Poprad, Slovakia
<b>Arrive/Depart</b>	Krakow, Poland/ Poprad, Slovakia
<b>Total Distance</b>	351 km (217 miles)
<b>Avg. Daily Distance</b>	59 km (36 miles) per riding day
<b>Tour Level</b>	▶▶▶▶▶
<b>Keep in Mind</b>	We work hard to maintain consistency across all of our tours, but some trips have unique differences. Here are some things to keep in mind about this tour.  It is rare to find air-conditioning at hotels in this part of the world.

**Please Note:** We may have small itinerary changes to this trip after you download this PDF document. If you have booked this trip and there are major changes, including changes to towns or activities, we'll email you directly. However, you should always be sure to refer to the ■ [online itinerary](#) for the most up-to-date trip information including arrival and departure tips before you depart for your trip:

<https://www.experienceplus.com/bike-tours/slovakia/bicycling-poland-to-slovakia>

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### DATES & PRICES

Dates	Price	Single Supplement*
Jun 14, 2024	USD\$3995	USD\$550
Jun 13, 2025	USD\$4195	USD\$550

### DAILY RIDE SUMMARY

Day	Distance/Gain	Terrain	Day Level	Notes
1	Test ride			
2	45km / 393m (28mi / 1289ft)	Rolling hills	▶▶▶▶▶	
3	78km / 1028m (49mi / 3372ft)	Hilly	▶▶▶▶▶	
4	56km / 624m (35mi / 2047ft)	Hilly	▶▶▶▶▶	
5	82km / 1160m (51mi / 3805ft)	Mountainous	▶▶▶▶▶	
6	40km / 690m (25mi / 2263ft)	Hilly	▶▶▶▶▶	
7	50km / 617m (31mi / 2024ft)	Hilly	▶▶▶▶▶	
8	0km / 0m (0mi / 0ft)			

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### ARRIVAL INFO

**Meeting time 2 p.m. - on Day 1, meet your fellow cyclists and Tour Leaders at the Day 1 Hotel specified on the itinerary.**

**Note:**

As you are planning, remember that the hotels listed in our itineraries are our primary hotels and are - in rare cases - subject to change. Before you make arrangements, [check with us](#) if your tour departure is guaranteed. If your tour departure is out further than 6 months, please also check with us as there might be slight changes to the itinerary.

The below information will help you plan your arrival. For more tips or other routes, you might like [Rome2Rio](#). The fare and timing information listed below is approximate.

**We recommend flying into the Krakow Airport (KRK):**

- \*Taxi from the airport to the Day 1 Hotel (30 min/PLN 70)

**\*Note:** We strongly recommend that you use the official airport taxi company, RADIO TAXI 9191, found at the airport taxi stand outside of the airport. If there are no cars at the stand, use the phone at the station to call them directly (they do speak English). You can also call +48 800 19 19 19 from a public phone, or from a mobile phone dial: +48 12 19191. Stick with the official taxi even if you are approached by a driver from another company. The fare estimate above should be the maximum, including tip (taxis use a meter).

### DEPARTURE INFO

We recommend flying out of the Krakow Airport (KRK)

**Your trip ends on the final day with a complimentary shuttle drop-off at Krakow Airport at 12:30 p.m.**

**Reservations are required. Please make your shuttle reservation by [emailing us](#) no later than 30 days prior to your tour start date.**

## Bicycle Tours in Slovakia: Cycling Krakow to Slovakia

### Tour begins in Krakow

**Highlights** Medieval Krakow, Krakow market square, Royal Wawel Castle, Vistula River

Krakow is one of Europe's most beautiful cities and has been on UNESCO's list of World Heritage sites since 1978. It was spared from devastation during World War II and retains a multitude of architectural and urban planning examples from the 12th century. The city is dominated by the Royal Wawel Castle sitting on a rise above the Vistula River. Below the castle lies the Medieval city, home to one of the largest market squares in Europe. You'll want to spend at least one extra day, if not two, in Krakow before our tour begins. We fit bicycles this afternoon and will enjoy an inaugural dinner together this evening.

### Krakow Loop

**Highlights** Wieliczka, Salt Mines

An invigorating loop out of Krakow takes us to the historic town of Wieliczka this morning. Wieliczka is famous for its salt mine, which operated continuously from the 13th century until 2007. Almost 300 kilometers of passageways spread under the town, and the mine boasts an underground lake, and four chapels carved from the salt by the miners. We'll return to Krakow this afternoon to see more of this stunning city.

### Bicycle from Krakow to Mszana Dolna

**Highlights** Open air skansen (museum village) in Dobczyce

We bicycle southeast out of Krakow passing through Dobczyce. This town shares a reservoir of the same name that boasts the remains of a 13th century castle and an open air village of 18th and 19th century traditional architecture. Stop for coffee and lunch supplies before continuing on to Mszana Dolna where we spend the night.

### DAY 1: Fri, Jun 17th

**Meals** Dinner

**Lodging**  Hotel Wielopole

### DAY 2: Sat, Jun 18th

**Distance** 45 km (28 mi)

**Gain** 393 m (1289 ft)

**Terrain** Rolling hills

**Level** 

**Meals** Breakfast

**Lodging**  Hotel Wielopole

### DAY 3: Sun, Jun 19th

**Distance** 78 km (49 mi)

**Gain** 1028 m (3372 ft)

**Terrain** Hilly

**Level** 

**Meals** Breakfast, Dinner

**Lodging**  Folwark Stara Winiarnia

## Bicycle Tours in Slovakia: Cycling Krakow to Slovakia

### Mszana Dolna to Lesnica

**Highlights** Rolling hills, Pieniny National Park Poland & Slovakia

Today's ride takes us to the border between Poland and Slovakia and into the heart of the Pieniny National Park. The Pieniny Mountains are one of many small mountain ranges that make up the larger Carpathian Mountain chain and we will pass right through them as we enter Slovakia on a bike and pedestrian-only path along a scenic gorge. This is a rare opportunity and one of the only no-car border crossings we encounter.

### DAY 4: Mon, Jun 20th

**Distance** 56 km (35 mi)  
**Gain** 624 m (2047 ft)  
**Terrain** Hilly  
**Level**   
**Meals** Breakfast, Dinner  
**Lodging**  Chata Pieniny

### Lesnica to Levoča

**Highlights** Kežmarok, Levoča

Today's ride heads to the heart of the Spis region, a territory rich in northern Slovakian history. Once known for its wealthy traders, craftsmen, and miners, it's no wonder that two of Slovakia's six UNESCO World Heritage sites are located here. We'll continue pedaling through valleys of narrow fields, where grass is still hand-cut by scythes and carried in horse-drawn wagons. The medieval village of Kežmarok will complete your sense of traveling through another time. We'll have two nights in the ancient town of Levoča. Once an important town for commerce. Today, Levočais probably best known as the home of the medieval sculptor Master Paul of Levoča. Be on your best behavior today so as to not end up in the 17th century "Cage of Shame" in front of the town hall.

### DAY 5: Tue, Jun 21st

**Distance** 82 km (51 mi)  
**Gain** 1160 m (3805 ft)  
**Terrain** Mountainous  
**Level**   
**Meals** Breakfast, Dinner  
**Lodging**  Hotel U Leva

### Bicycle Levoča Loop

**Highlights** UNESCO Castle in Spis, Historic square of Spisska Nova Ves

Our loop ride today takes us to breathtaking Spišský hrad, one of the largest castles in Central Europe and a UNESCO site. With the silhouette of the Spiš castle behind us, we encounter Spiš Chapter, sometimes referred to as the "Slovak Vatican" and its towering St. Martin's Cathedral. Before returning to Levoča, stop at Spišský salaš, a traditional shepherd's cottage style restaurant where you can indulge in traditional Slovak dishes like halušky or pirohy.

### DAY 6: Wed, Jun 22nd

**Distance** 40 km (25 mi)  
**Gain** 690 m (2263 ft)  
**Terrain** Hilly  
**Level**   
**Meals** Breakfast  
**Lodging**  Hotel U Leva



## Bicycle Tours in Slovakia: Cycling Krakow to Slovakia

### Levoča - Poprad

**Highlights** Poprad, Slovak Paradise National Park

As you ride today you'll have the forests that make up part of the Slovak Paradise national park on one side and the High Tatra mountains on the other side. Country roads and bike trails passing through small towns will lead us to the city of Poprad. Poprad is the largest city in the region (50,000) and the gateway to the High Tatras. We will have two nights in the calm historical district called Spisska Sobota.

### DAY 7: Thu, Jun 23rd

**Distance** 50 km (31 mi)

**Gain** 617 m (2024 ft)

**Terrain** Hilly

**Level** 

**Meals** Breakfast, Dinner

**Lodging**  Hotel DOMA

### Tour ends today in Poprad, Slovakia.

**Highlights** Extraordinary views of the High Tatra Mountains

Our trip ends after the complimentary shuttle drop-off at the Krakow Airport today. Enjoy your further travels!

### DAY 8: Fri, Jun 24th

**Meals** Breakfast

**INCLUDED****WHAT'S INCLUDED**

When you book a tour with ExperiencePlus! our goal is to ensure your only focus each day is to hop on your bike and explore scenic cycling routes in new destinations. Inclusions may differ depending on which tour style you pick but all ExperiencePlus! tours include what we believe are the most important aspects of a bike tour.

- On all our guided tours, you can expect superb tour leaders who are fun and multilingual, bi-cultural experts, and cycling enthusiasts. They will support you and help you navigate confidently on and off the road.
- High quality bikes selected for the terrain you are cycling on and correct bike fitting to ensure comfortable cycling.
- Thoughtfully designed itineraries and routes that take advantage of stunning cycling destinations and the freedom of bicycle travel. Plus, all the logistics are taken care of.

**PRE-TRIP SUPPORT**

- Bicycle training programs designed specifically for your tour and fitness level.
- Planning tips on what to pack, hotel recommendations and other helpful details from our Travel Planning Pages: <https://www.experienceplus.com/travel-planning/>
- A gift of your choice (cycling jerseys, socks, or a t-shirt) as our way of saying thanks for choosing EP!
- \*Traveler services including assistance booking extra nights at the tour starting and ending hotels. (\*Explorer and Self-guided tour styles excluded)
- See "What's Included" for tour-specific inclusions and be sure to check the "Keep in mind" section under "Tour Summary" online.

**BICYCLES**

For a full list of what's included with your bike see: <https://www.experienceplus.com/what-to-expect/our-bikes/>. If you would like to bring your own pedals and shoes we recommend doing so. On Explorer and Self-guided tours we include a GPS device on all bikes.

**NAVIGATING, DAYSHEETS AND VAN SUPPORT:**

On a guided tour, each day you'll receive a daily briefing with a highlighted route map. On a self-guided tour you'll receive a comprehensive orientation and bike fit on the first or second morning of your trip. About 14 days prior to your tour, we will provide you with access to

RideWithGPS Experiences, our platform to distribute information on each tour day's activities, meals and ride, as well as GPS-routes.

Daily information on the RWGPS Experience includes important phone numbers, hotel information and interesting historical and cultural information. On Classic, Bike and Boat and Expedition tours we also navigate using our signature chalk dust arrows. Our arrows make navigating very easy—you may never need to look at the map. On Explorer tours the terrain and destinations are not always conducive to using chalk arrows so we'll ride as a group or you can navigate on your own with the GPS tracks.

On a guided tour you will have a support van providing water and snack resupply, mechanical assistance, a lift for tired cyclists, and luggage transfers. On some itineraries the van will not be able to follow sections of the route that stray from the road for example onto cycling paths. On a self-guided tour you will have luggage transfers that will transport your bags from one hotel to the other.

**Need More Miles?** On many days it is possible to add miles to the day, just talk to your tour leader about your options or ask when you are planning your self-guided trip.

**Need Fewer Miles?** On a guided tour, the support van is available to offer snacks, encouragement, a lift over the next hill, or to the next hotel. On a self-guided tour we recommend you review the tour level to make sure you can ride the full distance.

**ON A GUIDED TOUR: TIPPING YOUR TOUR LEADERS**

If you feel your tour leader team has demonstrated great expertise and service, common practice within the travel industry is to tip. Tipping is voluntary and greatly appreciated, and gratuity amounts vary widely. Should you decide to leave a tip, as a guideline, we suggest 5-8% of the tour cost per traveler — this is for the entire tour leader team, not each tour leader. You can give the tip to any member of the tour leader team, as they share it evenly. In order to avoid social tensions, we encourage you to tip as individuals and not as a group. If you feel your tour leaders did not quite meet your expectations, please let us know.

\*Tips are included in Expedition pricing and not expected on self-guided tours.

**PHOTOS:**

By reserving space on tour, you agree that ExperiencePlus! may use, re-use and reproduce any images, photos or videos sent to us, or that are taken by our guides or other travelers, in any medium, including but not limited to print, electronic media, or Internet, free of charge and without your right to inspection. If you do not want us to use any images of you, you must inform us or your tour leader in writing at the start of the tour.

## STYLES

### OUR TOUR STYLES

We realize that one size does not fit all and there are as many ways to travel by bike as there are different types of cyclists and travelers.

**Classic Tours:** Dream of traveling through a region by bike? Our unique chalk arrows lead the way as you explore small villages and world-class cities while traveling at your own pace.

- Tour Length: 7-15 days
- Hotels: 3-4 stars.
- Road Type: Pavement, bike paths.
- Multi-night Stays: Occasionally
- Navigation and support: 2-3 tour leaders, van support and chalk arrows
- Price: \$\$\$
- Tour Levels: 1-4.5

**Explorer Tours:** Travel further off the beaten path - we let the destination dictate where we ride, not the road surface.

- Tour Length: 7-8 days
- Hotels: 2-3 stars
- Road Type: 30-50% gravel or hard-packed dirt, the rest pavement.
- Multi-night Stays: Occasionally
- Navigation and support: 2 tour leaders, GPS and van support
- Price: \$\$
- Tour Levels: 1-4

**Bike and Boat Tours:** Spend days cycling and your evenings relaxing on a private boat as you cruise to your next port.

- Tour Length: 7-8 days, some itineraries have land-based extensions available.
- Barge/Boat: 3-4 star, same cabin for the entire boat trip except for land extension.
- Road Type: Pavement
- Navigation and support: 2 tour leaders, van Support and chalk arrows
- Price: \$\$\$
- Tour Levels: 1-4

**Expedition Tours:** Multi-week tours where you spend long days on the bike with the added satisfaction of pedaling across multiple countries.

- Tour Length: 15-40 days
- Hotels: 2-4 stars
- Road Type: Pavement with occasional hard-packed dirt or gravel.
- Multi-night Stays: On rest days
- Navigation and support: 2-3 tour leaders, van Support and chalk arrows
- Price: \$\$\$
- Tour Levels: 4-5

**Self-guided Tours:** perfect for those who have an independent spirit, want the flexibility to choose their own dates, and don't need van support or tour leaders during their trip. Every departure is a private tour!

- Tour Length: 6-8-days
- Hotels: 3-4 stars
- Road Type: Pavement with occasional hard-packed dirt or gravel on bike paths.
- Multi-night Stays: Occasionally
- Navigation and support: GPS routes and luggage transfers
- Price: \$
- Tour Levels: 1-4

**LEVELS**

We know that travelers have different cycling abilities and preferences for the number of miles, elevation gain, and type of terrain they want on a bicycle tour. We have rated each day of our tours on a scale of 1-5. Our Tour Level's are an average of the day rating on tour. We recommend looking at the daily summary on the PDF and Website Itinerary to see details about each day's ride.

**LEVEL 1 - 1.5**

Level 1 - 1.5 days will be mostly flat and the distance will rarely exceed 50 km. Level 1 - 1.5 tours are suitable for beginner cyclists, those traveling by bicycle for the first time, or multi-generational groups with a desire for a nice and easy bike tour with plenty of opportunities to stop and enjoy the scenery.

- **Average daily mileage:** 20 - 50 km. (12-30 miles) Be sure to check the day by day itinerary description for the tour you are considering for specific mileages.
- **Gain:** 0-400 M (0-1200 ft)
- **Terrain:** Mostly flat with occasional gentle climbs at a grade of less than 3%, that are sustained for a maximum of 3km. There might be a steeper but short climb.

**LEVEL 2 - 2.5**

Level 2 - 2.5 days are ideal for riders newer to bicycle touring looking for a bit of a challenge.

- **Average daily mileage:** 30-60 km (18 - 38 miles). Be sure to check the day by day itinerary description for the tour you are considering for specific mileages.
- **Gain:** 400 - 600 m (1200 - 2000 ft)
- **Terrain:** Mostly rolling terrain around 3%. Presents multiple 3% to 4% climbs. May present an occasional steeper climb.

**LEVEL 3 - 3.5**

Level 3 - 3.5 days are great for active individuals (who run, bike, swim etc. on a regular basis).

- **Average daily mileage:** 50-70km (30-45 miles). Be sure to check the day by day itinerary description for the tour you are considering for specific mileages.
- **Gain:** 600 - 900m (2000 - 2800 ft)
- **Terrain:** Multiple Climbs with grades of 4 - 6%.

**LEVEL 4 - 4.5**

Level 4 - 4.5 days are the best riding days for avid cyclists or very active individuals who are excited to challenge themselves on a bike.

- **Average daily mileage:** 70-90km (45-55 miles) Be sure to check the day by day itinerary description for the tour you are considering for specific mileages.
- **Gain:** 900-1000m (2800-3600 ft)
- **Terrain:** Presents multiple steep climbs (6% to 8% grades), 1 to 3km long. Alternatively, 4 — 6% grades for 6 kilometers or more.

**LEVEL 5 (EXPEDITION)**

Our Expedition tours designed for strong riders looking for the challenge of riding across countries or continents. Long daily mileages mean limited van support so we recommend these tours for riders who feel confident that they can ride every mile.

- **Average daily mileage:** 120 km (75 miles). Be sure to check the day by day itinerary description for the tour you are considering for specific mileages.
- **Gain:** 500-2000 m (1600- 6500 ft)
- **Terrain:** Expect and be prepared for any and everything.

**REMEMBER**

A tour level is the average of the days so we recommend you look at the day level on each day of the itinerary to help you better understand what to expect from your tour.

## CHECKLIST

### TO DO ONCE YOU'VE BOOKED!

- Read through your Reservation Confirmation and After you Book Information (link sent to you by e-mail), it has important information to help you plan your trip!
- Check the date on your passport. The expiration date should extend three months past your date of return to your home country.
- Complete the Customer Information Form: <https://www.experienceplus.com/travel-planning/customer-information-form/>
- We recommend you take out travel insurance. Find details at <https://www.experienceplus.com/travel-planning/travel-insurance/>
- Choose a bicycle training program: <https://www.experienceplus.com/travel-planning/bicycle-tour-training/>
- Peruse our country-specific Travel Planning Pages: <https://www.experienceplus.com/travel-planning/>

### 6 TO 3 MONTHS PRIOR TO TOUR START DATE

- Refer to your Tour Packet/Itinerary to see step-by-step arrival and departure information for your tour, meeting place and time, if a reservation on a complimentary ExperiencePlus! Shuttle (if applicable) is required, along with other important information to help you plan your arrival and departure.
- Reserve your flights after you know you have a confirmed tour departure. Please check with our office if you do not know if your trip is confirmed.
- Book your pre and post-tour hotel nights.
- Begin your chosen training program
- Final payment is due 90 days (120 days for Bike & Barge/Boat tours) prior to the tour start. Please refer to your Invoice and the Final Payment Reminder e-mail which we send 10 days prior to the due date for detailed instructions.

### 6 TO 2 WEEKS PRIOR TO TOUR START DATE

- Start reading one of the books or watching one of the movies from our Reading and Movie Lists: <https://www.experienceplus.com/travel-planning/>.
- Plan what you are going to pack and start packing! Refer to the Packing Lists for suggestions, and see luggage limits at <https://www.experienceplus.com/travel-planning/packing/>.
- We'll email you your access code to Digital Daysheets, Hotel Itinerary, Participant Roster, names and contact information of your Tour Leaders, emergency phone numbers, and other important departure information about 2 weeks prior to your tour start date. All this will be provided to you via a feature called Experiences via the RideWithGPS App (tracks available but not necessary for navigation on Classic, Expedition and Bike & Boat tours).

### DAY OF YOUR FLIGHT

Get as much sleep on the plane as you can. Pack one day of cycling gear in your carry-on just in case. See you soon!