

EUROPE 2023

4 months | 6 countries | 8 house swaps | 10 journey legs



All rugged up

Between Two Rivers

Our in-house travel agent decided we needed to get some fresh air today and experience some mountain scenery (again). But we needed to rug up as the temperature was 6c when we left the house. Our destination was the back roads of the area dividing the Steyr and the Krems rivers.

The day began with mist in the mountains giving the area a most ethereal feeling but ended with a sunny, but very crisp day. We drove through a number of little villages on our route, ambled around and stopped often to admire awe inspiring vistas across valleys. Very early on we came across a farm field full of harvested pumpkins - looked rather weird. Our main stop was alongside the Steyr River at Steinbach an der Steyr to enjoy a stroll through the narrow extremely steep streets. Beautiful.



A local was feeding stale bread to the fish from the bridge over the river. The water was very quickly alive with jumping trout. We watched in fascination. Then it was a climb up to the top of the town to the imposing church overlooking the river and valley. Heather kept telling me she does not like hills! Like most large villages in Austria (and elsewhere I guess) the highest peak is where the church is located - always closer to God it seems. Unfortunately the Water Museum was closed - but we will be back one day before we leave Austria.

We returned to our warm car, found a local supermarket and traveled on to a beautiful outlook near Molln where we sat and admired the mountain view while consuming our bread stick, humus and fresh cheese. Who said traveling is boring?.

It was then on to Micheldorf and then Kirchdorf townships - more modern and considerably busier. Time to get off the beaten track again - turning inland and driving slowly across the dividing range back to Steyr. Such an invigorating day and such glorious scenery.





