

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





Freistadt

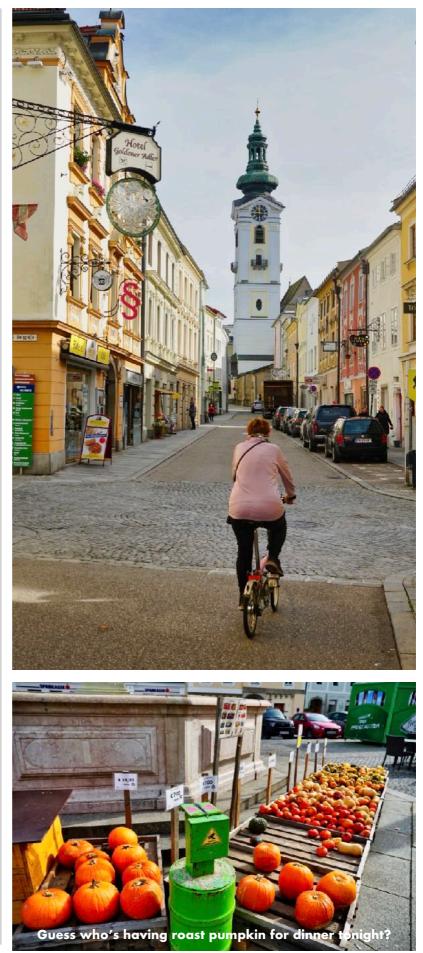
Freistadt was our destination today after reading a good review about its ambience and its history. We enjoyed the ambling drive - lots of beautiful vistas with rolling hills, dark foreboding forests and massive farmhouses/barns located in the earthy browns of recently plowed fields. We decided against visiting the infamous Nazi concentration camp at Mauthausen, which was along the way, as we have already been to two such places. Freistadt's old town had a a number of interesting turrets and towers but was empty of people and ambience. Maybe it was the very cold weather. With today's chilly 6c temperature (but bright sunshine) we spent minimal time riding the streets. One interesting fact about the place is that all the householders within the old town have a share in the town brewery. They get paid cash now instead of beer. With a pumpkin in hand from the central square, we sought the warmth of the car. 1

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We are very impressed with the colossal size of the integrated farm houses/barns throughout this part of Austria.

