

EUROPE 2023

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



A Steyr kind of day

We woke to catch a glimpse of a deer not 5m outside our bedroom window - a great way to start the day. Simply astonishing! Speaking in whispers, so as not to disrupt the deer's leaf chewing breakfast, we felt very privileged to be so up close and personal with Austrian wildlife. Breakfast over, we again headed our different ways - me for a bike ride and Heather for a brisk walk to downtown Steyr. The downtown area is a magnet for Heather. It was full of people today the weather being sunny the many buskers played and created a lovely atmosphere.

Meanwhile, my ride followed a similar track around the hills behind town. Riding Christian's eBike makes life less exhausting but I needed the exercise so I kept the power level on 1 for the whole trip. There is a certain fascination feeling the cool air in your face and watching the fields and houses go zooming by. The slow grind up to the top of Saass is followed by a swift downhill run back to Steyr where I rode around trying to find Heather. No such luck. At one point I stopped on the main bridge to enjoy a local flock of pigeon as they wheeled gracefully multiple times around the top of the town and over the Enns and Steyr Rivers. What an incredible place this is! To think that Steyr was almost bombed into oblivion towards the end of the WWII by the allies and to now see how the place has been so faithfully rebuilt to look like its old medieval self - much like Warsaw. We only have a couple of days left and I wanted to savour the ambience and the beauty of this place one last time.



