



## Mobility Services and Information along the EuroVelo 6 cycling route



The Danube region is one of Europe’s most promising tourism destinations. However, most of the trips in that region are still carried out by car, negatively affecting the environment and inhabitants. The EU project Transdanube.Pearls wants to address these challenges by developing socially fair, economically viable, environmentally-friendly and health-promoting mobility services for the visitors of the Danube region. Cycling plays an important role in this context. It is an excellent means of sustainable mobility that meets all these challenges. EuroVelo 6 – Atlantic - Black Sea is a long-distance cycle route connecting Nantes in the west of France with the Black Sea. Together with the European Cyclists’ Federation (ECF), partners from the project worked on improving mobility services and mobility information for cycle tourists along the Danube and the EuroVelo 6 route.

### EuroVelo 6 Route Assessment

In the context of the Transdanube.Pearls project the ECF has assessed the EuroVelo 6 route from the source of the Danube (Germany) to the Danube Delta (Romania), covering 8 countries. A total of 4.636 km, divided into 97 daily sections (à 50-60 km per day) have been surveyed between July and September 2018.



The ECF collected data on infrastructure (traffic, surface, gradients), attractiveness (signing, public transport), services (accommodation, food, bike repair) and promotion. The surveyed parts of EuroVelo 6 offer amazing nature, cultural highlights, plenty of



accommodation in all price range, excellent food, good signing and panels as well as the opportunity to meet many other cyclists. Besides, the Danube section of EuroVelo 6 leads through very attractive areas and has therefore high potential for cycle tourism. Attractions on the route include eight UNESCO sites directly located on or close to the Danube river and 16 protected natural areas. Further results from the assessment indicate, for instance, that

- only 95 km of the route don’t meet the minimum quality requirements for surface
- recurring critical issues are high or very high traffic on busy roads
- the route only includes all daily sections can easily be reached by train



### EuroVelo 6 Website

EuroVelo.com is an important cycling tourism website in Europe providing the latest information on exploring the continent by bike. In 2018, the page received 5.3 million page views, mostly young people interested in cycling visited the page. Among other routes from EuroVelo, this website also includes a dedicated EuroVelo 6 sub-site that covers the Danube Cycle Route.

**GOAL:** Create a new interface that integrates relevant mobility hubs and mobility service information points into the new EuroVelo 6 sub-site

In the course of the project Transdanube.Pearls, Baranya County appointed the ECF to undertake an update of the existing EuroVelo 6 sub-site. Together with the Danube Competence Center and other project partner information about 130 major public transport hubs and mobility information points along the itinerary of the Danube Cycle route were collected. This information will be also integrated into the updated EuroVelo 6 app (see below). These sites will be shown on the interactive maps on the sub-site on the Danube Cycle route. Besides, a dedicated section of the website under "Services" will provide an overview of the current situation in each country together with the links to the public transport hubs and mobility information points.

**Benefits for users and tourists:**

- Planning of cycling all or some parts of the Danube Cycle route will be easier for tourists
- Main public transport gateways to the route can be quickly identified
- The website provides accessible links to detailed information about hubs including timetables, ticketing, information and possibilities of bike carriage
- Providing broad information about train and bus hubs along the route will encourage visitors to combine cycling and public transport when travelling along the Danube Cycle Route

Exemplary screenshots from the updated sub-site of the Danube Cycle route:

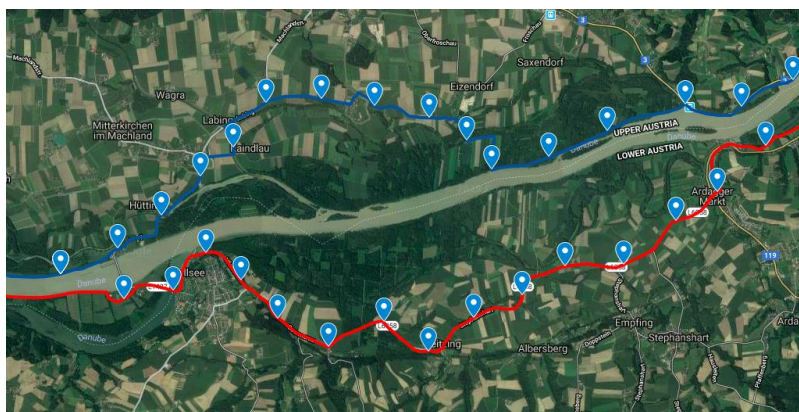


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## Eurovelo 6 APP

Until now, the existing EuroVelo 6 app (created in a cooperative project by the Danube Competence Center and the ECF in 2016) was downloaded by more than 5.000 users and turned out to satisfy a great demand by cycling tourists. Following the reviews and comments of the users, it became clear that there is a need for the update of the application, in order to enable the cyclists to travel even more safely and sustainably along the most attractive EuroVelo cycling route in Europe. Compared to the previous version, the



**GOAL:** To enable cycling tourists to travel safely along the EuroVelo 6 route and to inform about major bus and train station as well as mobility information centers en route

new application offers some major changes, thus providing more concrete experience for its users. The latest information about the status of the route on both sides of the river will be included, while in all major stops along the route users will be able to get information about the main bus and train stations. In the Danube.Pearls destinations the cyclists will also receive the information where the mobility info centers are located.

Besides, train stations, bus stations and 10 mobility information centers established in the course of the project Transdanube.Pearls are listed in the app. Users will indicate those mobility services and information centers based on the following three pictograms that will be also used on the EuroVelo 6 sub-site:



### DOWNLOAD THE APP!



Download for IOS systems:

[apple.co/2X4OxBM](https://apple.co/2X4OxBM)

Download for Android devices:

[bit.ly/2HMTJUI](https://bit.ly/2HMTJUI)

### Benefits for users and tourists:

- Broader information en route on bus or train stations and mobility information centers
- Overall knowledge about the upcoming sections of the road and increased feeling of safety
- Broad access to further Information about the route, especially in regions without route signposts
- Further space for extensions of the app such as information about local tourism organisations