



 You're biking through the 3-lakes region.



Day 5:
Murten → Solothurn



Distance:
63 Kilometers



Climbing:
237 Meters

Points of Interest:

- ★ **Town of Buren:** Picturesque terrace with good ice cream
- ★ **Altreau:** Lovely terrace with view of the river and storks in the treetops

Note : Have plenty of water and snacks when leaving Murten as you will not be seeing any shops until the town of Buren. Also, lots of families will be biking on these paths, so be careful of unsteady children.

Best to pick up your picnic supplies this morning and fill up your water bottle in Murten because you won't see much once you get on the road. Later in the day you will meet up with Lake Bienne, a good spot for a picnic.

The German and French-speaking regions of Switzerland meet again at Lake Bienne. This is your fourth lake in four days, and the lake region of Neuchatel, Murten and Bienne is called the *3-lakes region*. The cantons and communes work together to promote tourism in this area. All three lakes are connected by canals, and they are quite popular with cyclists, walkers and tourists taking boat cruises. If it's the weekend and the sun is out, you might see as many as 1,000 cyclists out and about.

This is also the meeting place for two agricultural landscapes - one typified by wine-producers, the other by field crops. The habitats around the three lakes show clear contrasts. In Yverdon you saw the water-rich flood zones on the lake shores, but now the scenery is characterized by the dry karst soils of the Jura chain. Once you get closer to the northern tip of Lake Bienne, you will make out the terraced vineyards on the other side of the lake.



📍 Stop in Buren for an ice cream

There are lots of places for a picnic lunch on lake Bienne and suggestions are made on the RWGPS application. The city center of Buren (town with big wooden bridge) deserves a look and there is also a great terrace for cyclists in the town of Altreau (10k before Solothurn) that is especially popular because it allows you to glimpse the colony of storks that have made their homes on the roofs of local houses. (Look up!)



📍 Storks in Altreau

Solothurn is our prize. This baroque city was built between 1530 and 1792 and shows an architectural combination of Italian, French and Swiss styles. In 1980 Solothurn was awarded the Wakker Prize for the development and preservation of its architectural heritage.

If at Hotel an der Aare, take a free beer from the fridge and enjoy the river view on the terrace. Afterwards, follow the river and cross the bridges. You'll almost certainly discover people of all ages drinking beers and enjoying the night air.