

## Points of Interest:

- **Bodman:** Reach after countryside cycling through forests and small lakes. Reconnects you to the lakeshore.
- Church of Birnau: Stunning baroque church on a vineyard-covered hill. Perfect photo spot with a majestic view.
- Überlingen: Vibrant lakeside town with a beautiful medieval old town.

  Great for a long walk and exploring the waterfront.

  Optional stop before heading to Meersburg.

## Day 3:



You will not be following the lakeshore at the beginning of the day, but rather head north through the German countryside to meet up with the lakeshore again in the town of Bodman. So, be prepared for some countryside with lots of forests and a few small lakes.

Attention, you also have your most significant climb on the trip today, which comes at around 5 km into your itinerary. It's perhaps just 100 meters total, but it does get steep at the end and there is no shame in getting off your bike and walking if your legs don't feel up to it.

Once at Bodman, you'll follow the lakeshore once again. And of course, the shores are beautiful and the swimming holes are inviting, but I would encourage you to keep cycling until you arrive in Überlingen. The small city is amazing—not only its medieval old town, but also the shores that give visitors a wide view over the water. The town and lakeshore definitely deserve a long walkabout.

That said, you also have an amazing pilgrimage site in the Church of Birnau just outside of town. You'll spot this majestic baroque church and its monastery at around kilometre 18 of today's itinerary. Its prominence on the hill, rose exterior, and surrounding vineyards make it an especially idyllic place for pictures.

But as wonderful as Überlingen is, the town of Meersburg, your final destination, is even more so. This part of the lake has some steep banks, and Meersburg's dream-like old town sits at the top. There you will find Meersburg Castle, offering a commanding view of the town below. This historic fortress is a proud part of the country's history, as it has been continuously inhabited since the 7th century!

However, reaching that part of town will require walking up almost 200 steps through the surrounding vineyards, so perhaps it's best to first take a moment to appreciate the "Lower Old Town." Here, you'll see the large rose-colored "Gredhaus" directly on the harbor. The building dates from 1505 and has served the city as a department store, a trading hub, and a storage place for all kinds of goods. You can park yourself there to enjoy a drink or simply continue walking along the promenade until you find your own perfect spot.

Of course, you've noticed the vineyards, so you may want to try a glass or two of the local variety this evening. There are lots of excellent places to eat in town, from simple to fancy. If you can't decide, then Restaurant See Sicht, with a view of the lake, is what I suggest. It's an excellent fish restaurant with a good selection of local wines.