EUROVELO - THE EUROPEAN NETWORK OF 15 LONG DISTANCE CYCLE ROUTES

EuroVelo is the network of 15 long distance cycle routes connecting and uniting the whole European continent. The routes can be used by cycle tourists as well as by local people making daily journeys.

EuroVelo incorporates existing and planned national and regional cycle routes into a single European network. The international status of the routes helps gathering funds and political support for their continuous construction.



It currently consists of more than 45,000 km of bike paths. Thousands of kilometers more are planned and it is envisaged that the network will be substantially complete by 2020, covering 70,000 Km.

EuroVelo signposting can now be found in Austria, France, Germany, Hungary, Serbia, Slovakia, Switzerland and the UK. Today, the most complete route for a long-distance tour, with full signposting between France and Serbia, and with detailed mapping available throughout is the EuroVelo 6 - from the Atlantic to the Black Sea. Passing across 10 countries for a length of more than 4,448 km, the route follows three of the major European rivers, the Loire, the Rhine and the Danube.

A detailed Information on the 15 routes can be found on the cycling tourism portal <u>eurovelo.com</u>. From the <u>general map of the Network</u> it is possible to find information on all roads and routes already in operation.

The European cycle route network is managed by the <u>European Cyclists' Federation (ECF)</u> in cooperation with its partners. The development and operation of the EuroVelo routes is carried out by national, regional and local governments, commercial service providers and NGOs.

The idea of creating a network of international cycle route network connecting Europe started back in 1995 and the EuroVelo project was officially launched by ECF in Logrono, Spain, in November 1997. EuroVelo is co-financed by the European Union under the preparatory action on *Sustainable Tourism*.

The objectives of the ECF for the EuroVelo initiative are:

 To ensure the implementation of very high quality cycle routes in all countries of Europe, carrying the best European practice across borders and harmonizing standards;







- To promote the network of these routes to decision makers and potential users, in order to market their use and provide a port of call for information about cycling in Europe;
- To encourage large numbers of European citizens to give cycling a try, thus promoting a shift to healthy and sustainable travel for daily trips and as well as cycling tourism.

ECF is working to establish a <u>National EuroVelo Coordination Centre</u> in every country where EuroVelo routes pass. In particular, the national partners of the initiative ensure that local transport services allow cyclists to reach the starting points of the EuroVelo routes with their bicycles. Even the strategies adopted in some countries to use the old disused railway lines to transform them into bicycle lanes makes it possible to extend this fantastic network, reducing construction costs and revitalizing the old associated infrastructures (bridges, tunnels, stations, shops and squares, etc.).

The <u>European Cyclists' Federation (ECF)</u> is an umbrella federation for national cycling organizations which promote bikes for urban mobility and cycle tourism for a sustainable economic development throughout Europe. Founded in 1983 by 12 bicycle user associations it now has 67 member organizations representing over half a million individual European citizens in nearly 40 countries.

ECF is looking for an European city or region interested to host the next EuroVelo and Cycle-tourism Conference in Autumn 2018. The event aims to become the world's leading cycle tourism conference attracting all those involved in the tourism sector: tourist boards, public authorities, accommodation providers, public transport companies, tour operators, universities, cycle tourism world and user groups. The 3 previous cycle tourism conference editions co-organized by ECF had over 340 registered delegates from 38 different countries.

The ECF owns the trademark for EuroVelo and coordinates its development at the European level. Through this initiative and its wonderful long-distance cycle routes, ECF helps to strengthen and bring together rural areas by highlighting their great natural and cultural resources.

To know more

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EuroVelo countries

European Cyclists' Federation (ECF)

European Cyclists' Federation en Facebook

EU funds for cycling in ECF website















EuroVelo in EU website

EU Tourism Manifesto for growth & Jobs

EuroVelo Conference 2018

EuroVelo in Wikipedia







