

Day 0, Thursday, August 31, 2023

To prepare for the time change of my trip, I had been staying up all night and sleeping in the morning. I went to sleep about 5:00 AM on and woke up around 10:00 AM on Tuesday. I went to sleep around 7:00 AM on and woke up about noon on Wednesday. I went to sleep at about 3:00 PM (12:00 AM Sweden time) on Thursday and woke up around 11:00 PM (8:00 AM Sweden time). I stayed up until I was on the plane the next day. By doing this when I arrived in Sweden, I felt like I was on their time.

Day 1, Friday, September 01, 2023

Helen came over around 9:00 AM and gave me a ride to the Portland International Airport (PDX). I meant to have her pick me up at 10:00 AM, but I texted her as I will see you at 9:00 AM. Oops I made a mistake. Once at the airport I checked in for my flight to Amsterdam, Netherlands and boarded the plane on time. My PC plastic bag broke and my laptop fell to the ground. It still worked, yea. The airplane had an empty seat between me and the other guy, he fell asleep with his head on the extra seat, still great for me having the extra room. There were only a few empty seats on the plane. What luck. (Daily bike miles 0 miles; Total trip bike miles 0 miles)

Day 2, Saturday, September 02, 2023

I wanted to sleep on the flight to Amsterdam, I slept fair for about 4 hours out of a 9.5-hour flight. On the airplane I got extra fruit with breakfast, but I missed the chips they handed out as a late-night snack. I had over a 5 hours layover at the Amsterdam airport. I walked all the branches in the Amsterdam airport except I never found the A branch in the Amsterdam airport. I pretty much continually walked for 5 hours, but I had to wait in a 30-minutes line to go through customs at Amsterdam. Good thing I went through customs at the Amsterdam airport, if I would have gone through customs in Stockholm, I would have missed my train out of Stockholm central train station. My airplane for Amsterdam left a few minutes late and I arrived at about the right time in Stockholm. I quickly got my bags and went to the Arlanda express train station. I was not sure how to buy a train ticket, but luckily, I figured out how to buy a quick ticket from the self-service train ticket booth. I was able to get on the train to Stockholm central station immediately after getting my ticket. Once at Stockholm central train station I found my train to Norrköping about 15 minutes before it departed Stockholm. I took the train to Norrköping and quickly found my hotel. I was checked into the hotel at about 7:00 PM. They wanted me to use my cell phone to reserve breakfast, but I do not have cheap data, so I had them put in my breakfast request for 7:30 AM. My hotel room was clean, but small and only had one towel. I walked around the town of Norrköping, there were 100s of Ferraris cars near the church. The funny thing almost no one was keeping an eye on their Ferraris, just people walking around looking at them. Then I got groceries, they did not have bottles water at the grocery store. That evening I assembled my bike and trailer. Then I used my PC to look at Facebook and work on my trip journal. I also got ready for the next day's bike ride. (Daily bike miles 0 miles; Total trip bike miles 0 miles)

Day 3, Sunday, September 03, 2023

I woke up around 7:07 AM after a great night's sleep. I had my 7:30 AM hotel included breakfast. The hotel had an excellent breakfast buffet. But a flea was flying around and I got a bug bite that quickly got swollen (after a couple of hours the swelling was gone). Then I packed up and

left the hotel before 9:00 AM. I quickly checked out the town of Norrköping. At first, I had trouble figuring out where to start my GPS Google track, I had downloaded the biking route from my PC to my Garmen GPS before leaving Portland. Once I figured out where to start the trip, following the GPS bike route was great. There were lots of bike trail. Some roads had shoulders and some did not. Traffic was heavy at times, but not too bad. Once I made it to 60 miles, I started looking for a motel. No luck using my GPS to find a hotel (Like I was hoping) it looked like the town of Ödeshög had 3 hotels. Well, none of the hotels existed in an open state (I found Motell Nattviol and it was all boarded up). A guy from outside the ICA store in Ödeshög (where my GPS indicated there was a hotel) tried helping me find a place. He suggested a place another 6 miles, but it was in the opposite direction that I wanted to travel. I decided to continue south and found a great place to camp not far from the road. There was lots of farm land, then there was a forest area with a dirt road and that was where I camped. There were lots of Mosquitoes where I camped. Luckily, I had brought mosquito repellent with deet and that was keeping the mosquitoes from biting me. I went to sleep at about 9:30 PM. (Daily bike miles 75.4 miles; Total trip bike miles 75.4 miles)

Day 4, Monday, September 04, 2023

It was a cold night and my shoulder was hurting (from my injury last February. I thought it was getting better.). I slept, but not great. I woke up around 6:15 AM, took down my tent, packed my gear and started cycling by 7:00 AM. I cycled and found a place with a rest room and RVs parked for the night. I could have camped there. It would have been a better place with the restroom and no mosquitoes. This is one of the first restroom I remember that did not cost to use. It turned out there were lots of free restrooms, I just remember in the past almost always needing to pay for the restrooms in Europe. I found a circle K in the town of Granna and got a hot dog for breakfast. Nice ride day with great trails and mostly good roads. A couple of times my Google bike ride wanted me on dirt trails, I deviated from the route in those areas. I was worried about finding a hotel, I did not want to camp out again. I found a hotel in Skillingaryd. It appeared to be closed, they had a sign about picking up the phone if the door was not open. I think I just tried opening the wrong door. The lady came out to let me in and said the other door was open. I am used to pull open doors and they had a push to open door. I think that was my problem with opening the door. The funny thing is that the other door did not have a handle. The hotel only took credit cards and my American Express card was declined, my visa worked. I ended out getting a room for the night. I laid down and went to sleep at about 9:00 PM. (Daily bike miles 71.99 miles; Total trip bike miles 147.39 miles)

Day 5, Tuesday, September 05, 2023

I woke up around 5:15 AM after a great night of sleep. I did not work on email or Facebook the previous night. I did my exercises and went to breakfast. During breakfast I sent an email to Mia and posted photos on Facebook. I planned to start riding around 7:00 AM, but did not get going until 7:30 AM. Great day of riding, mostly flat. I had a section that looked like dirt and went to the main road, looking at my map I decided to head back to the dirt to shorten the distance and get away from the traffic. My route took me to a very good dirt bike/hike trail. After about 6 miles it turned to a rough pavement, then another 6 miles and it was smooth pavement. The whole trail was about 30 miles of flat riding away from all the cars. It was a great route. Then I went to the paved roads and then my google bike route took me back to a dirt road. The road ended up dead ending in someone's front yard so I back tracked and took dirt roads until I got back on route again. At about 4:00 PM I realized there was no Hotel or camping close in the direction I was headed (per my Garman POI). I continued after about 10 miles it showed a hotel in a

town, but I did not find it. The GPS indicated another 8 miles to a campground. I made it to the campground by a little after 6:00 PM and got a small cabin for the night. It was like an oven (hot) when I first went into the cabin. I opened the windows and worked on stuff outside. The campground was on a nice lake area. (Daily bike miles 72.48 miles; Total trip bike miles 219.87 miles)

Day 6, Wednesday, September 06, 2023

I woke up around 5:10 AM, did my shoulder stretches, walked around, used the bathroom, made lunch and repacked some. I started cycling for the day at around 6:40 AM. After leaving camp my route took me on a dirt bike trail (seemed like a rails to trails – long, flat and straightish) I cycled the trail part time and the road part time. After about 20 miles of the trail, it went onto a road in the middle of Woodlands Country Club golf course. There was a sign that I think (I need to guess what signs mean) may have indicated no bikes and some golfers gave me a funny look as I biked onto that dirt road. But since my google map took me that way, I cycled that way. Mostly I could not see the golf course. When I exited the golf course on the dirt road, I came to what looked like a gate to an electric fence. I opened the gate, went through the fence, closed the gate and then started biking the trail, it turned into a path. I ended up taking a hiking trail back to my GPS route towards a secondary highway. The trail went through someone back yard and by a historic church ruin (Rya kyrkoruin (from the 1100s)). There was a group tour of the church ruins that showed up when I was there. Then I had to follow a dirt road to reach a secondary highway. I was off my GPS path and cycled secondary highways for about 10 miles before I rejoined my GPS route near a small town. The route followed a dirt trail and I took the trail some and the highway some. I had trouble figuring out how to pay for the ferry to Denmark. At first, I went to where the trucks boarded and they told me to leave the gate and go around. Once outside the gate I asked someone and he told me I need to go back into the gated area and he specified the building I need to go to get my tickets. Once in the building I was told where to get into line to buy my ticket (it was the car entrance near the truck entrance in the gated area). I think the first person was trying to give me instruction for ferry walk on, not bicycles. I finally found the way to pay and quickly paid. I was able to get on the ferry immediately and took the boat to Denmark. I was in Denmark within 30 minutes of when I arrived near the ferry. Lots of people cycling in Denmark. I found bike trail and at that point way more people were biking on the road than the trail. I found a Porsche car show on the way to Copenhagen, Denmark. I had a lot of trouble finding a hotel in Copenhagen, first hotel was full, next few no receptionists and not sure how to get in to pay with my bike. I should have broken down and used my cell phone with Orbitz to find a hotel. I finally found a hotel with a single available room, so I took it. I wanted to stay for two nights in Copenhagen. My hotel for that night did not have rooms available for the next night and the receptionist suggested asking again in the morning. Once in my hotel room, I decided to check Orbitz to see about getting a different hotel for the next night, I found one that was less than half the price of the current room. I decided to reserve the room at that Orbitz hotel for the next night. Also, that hotel would get me out of city center for the following day. I worked on stuff and went to sleep at about 10:00 PM. (Daily bike miles 86.82 miles; Total trip bike miles 306.69 miles)

Day 7, Thursday, September 07, 2023

I woke up around 5:30 AM and got ready for the day. I started cycling a little before 7:00 AM. I wanted to see all the main sights in Copenhagen. At first, I could not figure out how to start. I cycled around randomly and saw a lot of cool buildings. At one point I found the Stromma Canal Tours and marked the location on my GPS. I had to check out of the hotel by 11:00 AM. So, I returned to the hotel by a little before 10:00 AM. I checked out of the hotel by 10:30 AM, stored my gear at the hotel and cycled to the Stromma Canal Tours. I took the canal

tour and found a map of the Hop-on Hop-off bus. After the canal tour I cycled the route on my Hop-On Hop-Off bus on my bike. The map was not perfect (lacks details – like all the road names) and was hard to follow in places. However, it was a great way to go. I took photos of all the sites in Copenhagen I could find. Then I cycled back to the hotel and got my suitcase. I connected the suitcase to my bike and cycled to my second Copenhagen night's hotel. The hotel room was better than the first night's hotel, but was away from the historic area. I figured I was done with the historic part of Copenhagen, so it was a better location for departing town the next morning. (Daily bike miles 31.61 miles; Total trip bike miles 338.3 miles)

Day 8, Friday, September 08, 2023

I woke up around 5:30 AM, did my shoulder stretches, send Mia an email and added a Facebook posting. I left my hotel around 7:15 AM. Not far from the hotel I was on dirt bike trails, it was very good packed clay type dirt, almost as good as pavement. After a few miles of the dirt trail, I was on pavement for the rest of the day. It was a nice ride through canal areas with lots of ducks. My route was more than half the time on bike trails and the rest was on the highway. I went by Camp Adventure (near Ronnede, Demark), when I did my pre-trip planning, I thought I might want to go there. Camp Adventure has a neat tower to walk up, but it seems more like a place to go with a group of people. I decided to skip camp Adventure and continued cycling. Most of the highway miles before Germany had descent shoulders for cycling. I found a campground, but did not see any cabins at the campground so I biked to see if I could find a hotel. The first hotel was there, but the guy said he had no rooms available. The guy told me about another place to check, he said I could look it up on my phone, but I am not using my phone. Then I went to get my GPS so I could see if we could find the hotel he suggested on the GPS. Meanwhile the guy was able to come up with a room for me. I took the room and walked around town for a while. The guy told me the following day breakfast would start being served at 8:00 AM. The breakfast was included, but the room was expensive. I wanted a place to stay, my preference is not to camp, so I took the room. I went to sleep around 10:00 PM. (Daily bike miles 73.15 miles; Total trip bike miles 411.45 miles)

Day 9, Saturday, September 09, 2023

I woke up around 5:30 AM and reserved a room for my last night in Munich. I did my shoulder stretched and had my hotel included breakfast at 8:00 AM. I got to the breakfast room a little before 8:00 AM and the breakfast was already available. I guess I could have gotten my breakfast earlier and started cycling sooner. I left the hotel around 9:15 AM. By far my latest start yet. The ride went smooth, once in Gedser I found that I just missed the ferry and had to wait two hours for the next ferry. I had trouble figuring out how to find the place to load people on ferry, not the same as car. Once I found the ticket place, there was no one attending the ticket spot. They only had self-serve ticket machines to purchase a ferry ticket. You had to figure it out, it was easy but I made mistakes. First, I could not see how to pay for a bike. I then figured out I needed to select an extra check box. Then it looked like it did not take American Express so I used my Visa card. I lifter the corner of an instruction sheet after paying and it showed American Express, but the machines main menu only showed Visa, Master card and some European cards. Also, after paying I noticed the machine might have taken cash, it had a sign saying no coins, but it looked like there was a spot to put bills. Once I paid for my tickets I biked around for a while, I came to the southernmost point in Denmark. They had a building with the degrees minutes seconds displayed (54° 33' 32"). I cycled back to town. Then I bought groceries and then I went to get on the ferry. Loading the ferry went smooth and was easy. While on the Ferry I did some journaling. When I left the ferry in Germany on my bike, I had trouble getting back on my

GPS route. I thought I missed a turn and backtracked towards the Ferry terminal. It was close to impossible to get where my route wanted me, so I returned to my first route and continued until I came to my desired GPS route. It was after 6:00 PM and I continued cycling, I looked at my GPS and it showed no place to stay anywhere near me. In fact, it showed nothing. Prior to Germany the GPS was showing hotels, once in Germany I often came to places where the GPS had no hotel in its Point Of Interest (POI) database for my current locations. Then I saw a hotel and it had no rooms available. The lady told me about another place to check down the road and they had a room left. They told me the price in Euros, but I had no idea what the conversion was to USD. Since it was less than an hour before sunset, I took the room without understanding the price I was paying. When I determined the conversion, it was not too bad of a price. Once checked into the hotel I walked around the town of Rostock, there were some cool buildings. Then I returned to the hotel and did some journaling. I went to sleep after 10:00 PM. (Daily bike miles 49.88 miles; Total trip bike miles 461.33 miles)

Day 10, Sunday, September 10, 2023

I woke up around 5:30 AM and did computer stuff. I wanted to leave at sunrise, about 6:30 AM. Not sure why but I did not leave the hotel until 9:15 AM. From my google maps I knew there are some restricted roads on my route, so I wanted to avoid them. At one point the google route wanted me to go down a dirt road, at first, I decided to try a different route, then I thought I should follow the route so I went back and started cycling the dirt road. Not easy to ride and I could hear dogs barking at me. Too much gravel and sand to ride. So, I turned back and tried again on the other route. I could see from my map it was possible, but a little more distance to avoid that dirt road. I decided to make my own route, it seemed like a good choice. It was paved roads, some traffic and a little more distance. There was a place my route turned and I went on a bridge between two lakes, then the road turned to road construction. I ended up having to push my bike for a little over 2 miles and then came to a paved road again. Then I had a lot of good bike trail, I got to a point with a brick road that turned to another dirt road. It was bikeable but slow. I followed this dirt road near Drewitz for 2 to 5 miles. The dirt road was not too bad (I create a wave point for the end point on this dirt road). When I got to the paved road, there was a lot of cyclists on that road. That was the way I should have gone, maybe the lady that passed me before I got on the dirt road when that way. Once I got to the hotel, St. Oberholz Woldzegarten Retreat, far from anything, it looked expensive and I decided to go to the next hotel, a few miles away. Once I got to the other hotel the gate was locked with a sign I could not understand. I then biked back to the hotel in Oberholz and they said I would need to stay for two nights. I then biked a little south and camped not far from the road slightly south of Oberholz. I could hear owls and birds in the woods that night. (Daily bike miles 73.23 miles; Total trip bike miles 534.56 miles)

Day 11, Monday, September 11, 2023

I woke up around 6:00 AM, packed up camp and was cycling by about 7:00 AM. It was a neat foggy morning. I went really strong with great riding conditions until I got to Alt Daber. Then I stopped to check out a field where they had a model all the buildings in a town (maybe Wittstock). I also check out the outside of the Daberturm building in Alt Daber. Next stop was Wittstock, it was a neat town and I spent about an hour there looking at the building and taking photos. As I was leaving town, I went to get groceries and tried using my USAA pre-paid credit card, the store rejected that Visa card. I was able to use my Chase prepaid Visa credit card without any problem. I cycled away on great trails not near a car road, then I got to a dirt trail and instead of taking the dirt road, I took the paved highway to Kyritz. Good choice I found the other

end of the road and it was still a dirt road. I saw lots of farm field, corn, lavender and even a hemp field. The bike trails were great on this day. When I got to Rathenow there were no hotels with respect my GPS in the area. My cell phone would not connect to Orbitz. I asked people and they told me where to find hotels. At one hotel there was a sign that required a cell phone. I man called the number for me and found out they do not have rooms. I think the hotel was closed for the season. Then I continued looking, people told me where to go but I could not find a hotel. So, I started cycling. Lots of farms not as good for camping as previous. I found a place near the road and a farm field to camp. I was feeling very itchy and needed a shower. There were a lot of bugs in the woods, especially a lot of spiders. I really wanted to stay in a hotel that night!!! Every night starts out hot and muggy, I slept on top of my fleece blanket until about midnight and then I got into my fleece sleeping bag. At about midnight it got a little cooler, but just about right. (Daily bike miles 76.77 miles; Total trip bike miles 611.33 miles)

Day 12, Tuesday, September 12, 2023

I woke up around 6:15 AM, packed up camp. I noticed I had a flat on my trailer tire. I had brought an extra wheel/ tire that was already to go. So, I changed out the tire/ rim and was cycling by 7:00 AM. I had been camping for the past 2 night and not filling up my water jugs. Normally I was carrying too much water, this time I had about 1.5 liters. I wanted to get more water, it was getting hot and dry. I went through about 10 small towns that had no stores. Then I found a place that looked like it may have stuff, the guy only had small water. I asked about larger ones and he told me there was a grocery store in that town. I went to the town and at first, I could not find the grocery store, then I found it and got supplies. Mostly the roads and trails were good. A couple of spots I decided against the dirt road and took the highway. The highway had a lot of traffic and no shoulder. I went back to the dirt trail and it turned to pavement after a couple of miles of dirt. When I came to the town of Genthin I had to go over a bridge with stairs. In order to get over the bridge I had to disconnect my trailer and take it up the stairs. Then I took my bike up the stairs. Then I crossed to the other side of the bridge. Then I needed to take the bike and trailer down the stairs in separate trips. Lots of neat towns with historic building and churches. In the town of Mützel there was a cool windmill. Some good bike routes and even a great smelling lavender field. When I came to the town of Zerbst I decided to make it a short day and stay there. I did not easily find a hotel and I felt I saw all the sights of the town. Also, it was only 4:00 PM and the sun was setting at about 7:30 PM. I decided to continue to the town of Dessau. Once near Dessau I was trying to figure out how to the get to a hotel, I deiced to ask at Euro rental cars. The lady was not busy and spent time helping me find a hotel. She recommended the DorMero hotel, so I went there and it was my best hotel so far this trip. The price was also very reasonable. By about 6:00 PM I decided to walk around town, I easily got money from the ATM and groceries. Great little town. Then I worked on journaling and shoulder stretches (I was 2 days behind on my stretched due to camping). I went to fill up the trailer tire tube that went flat and found out that my bike pump had come apart. I was missing the parts, so I took all the stuff out of my trailer. I had gone through everything and did not find the missing parts. When I was repacking my stuff, I found the missing parts when I was repacking the last few items. Then I fixed the pump and pumped up the flat trailer tire rim. It seemed to be holding air. For then, it was a spare tire that I would need to repair when I had time. That night I was too tired and it is very hard to fix the small tires. (Daily bike miles 66.06 miles; Total trip bike miles 677.39 miles)

Day 13, Wednesday, September 13, 2023

I woke up around 6:15 AM, caught up with my shoulder stretches, had breakfast (cost \$10 extra for buffet in room). There was lightning and

thunder that night. First rain since start of trip. Looks OK in the morning, chance of rain for that day was 42%. I did not leave the hotel until slightly after 8:00 AM. I was in a lazy mood and did not want to do too many miles. I was way ahead of schedule. I cycled not too fast until I got near Werbeliner See Lake. At the parking lot map the route to Leipzig, Germany looked easy. Well, I did not exactly follow my google route to avoid dirt roads. The first spot where I took the paved road was only slightly longer but much quicker than the dirt trail would have been. I did this a second time and got turned around and ended up going around to the wrong side of the lake. I think I added about 6 miles to my route. I did get some light rain on that day. I did not use my rain gear. My pants got slight wet and dried on their own. Once in Leipzig, the first hotel I went to was all booked for the night. The next hotel only had a room with 4 bunk beds. I decided to take the 4-bunkbed room. I figured I wanted to make sure I found a room for the night. My GPS showed no hotels in the area (it had been doing that a lot in Germany – I don't think it did that in Sweden or Denmark.) I walked around for a long time, there were lots of neat buildings. As I was walking, I noticed there were lots of hotels in the area, I probably could have found a better deal on a hotel. However, my room was nice, but not as nice as the previous night. I had been trying to use my cell phone to look for hotel rooms, but it was not working. That evening I figured out that I had a setting that turned off roaming in my phone, I turned it on and was able to get the phone to work internationally. The next time I tried using my cell phone to find a room it worked. It rained a little more that evening. I fixed the flat trailer tire rim by replacing the tube that night and it was not as hard as I remembered to change the tube. I worked on my computer stuff until late that night. (Daily bike miles 44.71 miles; Total trip bike miles 722.1 miles)

Day 14, Thursday, September 14, 2023

I woke up around 5:15 AM, I was sound asleep and my alarm went off. I thought I had it set for 6:00 AM. Once I figured out the mistake, I was too awake to go back to sleep. I had my hotel included breakfast at about 6:20 AM. I got packed, checked out of the hotel and started cycling around 7:15 AM. The ride started out on good paved bike trails, then I came to a spot where the trail was flooded. There was a walking trail to get around the flooded area, it went for about a quarter of a mile. I hiked with my bike pulling the trailer on the thin trail. The bike trail was good again after the flooded section I pulled my trailer through. So, I returned to the pavement and continued cycling. That day had more uphill than usual. I also had a lot of great bike trails to ride. I had been noticing there was a lot of Stinging Nettles along the trails and in the woods. I guess it is a natural protection to keep people on the trails. No hotels on my GPS again, I just wanted 62 miles (100 KM). So, I found a place to camp at about 5:30 PM, not a great spot, but it worked. I am very tired. (Daily bike miles 62.91 miles; Total trip bike miles 785.01 miles)

Day 15, Friday, September 15, 2023

I woke up around 5:15 AM due to my alarm accidentally going off. I thought my alarm was not turned on this time. I was sound asleep again when the alarm went off. I had not been sleeping that good previously that night. I tried to go back to sleep, but just laid there, it was still dark. I got out of my tent around 6:20 AM and got packed to go. I left camp by 7:13 AM. From camp I had to walk up a grass road 300 vertical feet and ended up in front of a farm on a road that led to Hohenleuben. Once on the highway there was no shoulder and a lot of traffic. After about 2 miles my route led me onto a dirt trail that quickly became a nice paved path away from the highway. I took it to get off the busy highway. After a few miles it turned into a dirt road for about 10 miles. I had crossed the busy paved road and could have gone back, but decided to deal with the dirt instead of the traffic. After being on the dirt road with vertical gain I came to a better road. I took the road which did not have

much traffic to a tee in the road. The direction that I wanted to go indicated road construction ahead about 3 kilometers, the sign seemed to indicate that it might be impassible, but since I do not understand German, I figured I would go and see what happened. Once I got to the road construction I was not allowed to continue on the road. They wanted me out of the road and since I do not know German, I had no idea how they wanted me to go. I noticed motorcycle going down a road so I went that way. After I got a few miles from my route I used a new technique, I created a new wave point to my original route about 10 miles away. Then I used the where to function of my GPS to navigate to the new wave point. My GPS drew a straight line to my new wave point. Then I went in that direction, stayed on the paved roads and each time I came to an intersection I would check my GPS to see which way was best to get to my new wave point. After about 11 miles I was back on my original route. I am not sure if the new route was any worse than the original route. Overall, it worked very well, the new route was on roads that had low traffic, were all paved roads and were headed in the right direction. In one town I came to a hotel, it was early for me to call it a night, but I did not want to camp for another night. I checked to see if I could get into the hotel, but the door was locked and there was a phone number to call. That did not work last time so I continued. I ended out on another dirt road with lots of good places to camp. However, there was a man walking the road in my direction and it was still a little early to quit cycling for the day. So, I continued, I got to a town that indicated a hotel on my GPS. I went to look for it, but could not find it. I noticed campers across the street from where my map indicated a hotel, so I went to check it out and they had giant wine barrel shaped cabins for rent. I rented a cabin and joined the BBQ with the campers that night. The cost for the BBQ was a donation, I had Schaschlik (Shiskaobob with liver, pork and onion), Steak vom oinkoink (potato like) and Bratwurst (two thin Bratwursts on a roll. The lady at the campground told me in that part of Germany they put 2 thin Bratwursts on a roll, in other parts of Germany they have one fat Bratwurst in a roll.) I was not planning on drinking alcohol, so I got water instead of beer. I probably should have gotten a beer, but in general my rule is not to drink alone on my trips. Seems like a safer choice to me. Then they started taking shots, so I figured why not. I had 6 or 7 shots of liquor. They had shots of Krumme (Sweet with less alcohol. I liked that one, but the man said that was for women) and Killepitsch (A stronger shot for men). The camp manager lady (a man and a lady ran (probably owned) the camp) was also providing shots of Obstwasser. I did not see any one donating to the BBQ. Everyone was talking in German and enjoying the evening. Since I do not understand German, I was not following the conversation. After a while I decided to go back to my cabin. I gave the camp manager man a 20 Euros donation for the BBQ and he took the money into another room. I guess that was where the donations jar was located. I went to sleep around 10:00 PM. It was a hard day of cycling, lots of elevation gain and loss. Also, I had a lot of dirt roads and trails to cycle that day. I could hear the other campers laughing and socializing until late that night, they were not keeping me awake. The campground had no Wi-Fi, but was a nice spot. I did notice a couple of the RVs had satellite dishes. (Daily bike miles 52.71 miles; Total trip bike miles 837.72 miles)

Day 16, Saturday, September 16, 2023

I woke up around 6:10 AM, packed up and left the campground by 7:15 AM. I went through a few nice towns, the highways had too much traffic. I came to a dirt trail away from the highway with a lot of elevation gain. At the highest point I was at 2350 ft above sea level (Gasthof-Pension Silberhaus). This was my highest elevation for this trip. I was expecting to get to about 2900 ft in elevation. Then I went down about 1000 vertical feet of elevation, I kept thing I would need to go back up to 2900 feet of elevation. The day was hilly but not too bad. Most of the day I was at about 1400 feet of elevation. More nice towns and scenic nature area with lakes. I went on one road that dead ended at Baumann Sand and Gravel Works (My GPS route showed this as a straight through route). I found a trail to the lake (Sandgrube Fischereiverein Hahnbach)

and a grass road to another dirt road. This was the only way I could find to get around the unexpected road closure without turning back. Then the road became paved and I ended up in a very small town (Hammergmünd). If I would have turned back at the sand company, I would have had to travel a long distance back on the dirt road. As I was looking at my map in Hammergmünd, a man watching me said the bike route was in the opposite direction I was headed. I told him I was going south and he agreed I would not want to go in the direction he first told me. I said I was going to Munich and he was not sure which way I should go. He said the way I was going was on a highway and not recommended for cycling. Since I do not speak German, our communication was difficult. I went in the direction I was originally headed and was able to get where I wanted to go. My GPS route and bike trails I found helped me navigate without needing to get on the highway. I kept riding my GPS route, it was good with some highway riding. A couple of times I rerouted myself due to dirt trails. I think when I rerouted myself, I usually ended up on the easier faster routes. Often my GPS routes were on bike trails (Some paved and some dirt). I came to a town with hotels, one hotel door was open, but no one was there. The other hotel had a sign that said to call a number if it was closed. I know how that goes so I continued biking. It was too early to stop anyways and I was OK with camping again. At about 5:00 PM I figured I needed to hurry up and find a place to camp. My first attempt was near a corn field, but too much grass and stinging nettles in the woods. I went back to the highway and continued looking. At about 6:30 PM I found a rest stop with what looked like people sleeping in trucks. So, I set up my tent there. It was the first place I camp (other than campgrounds) where I was in plain sight. I could hear loud music (drums) until a little after 10:00 PM. Someone pulled up at the rest stop and parked near me, there was a lot of room in the parking lot. It seems like he could have parked farther from my tent. He had his car running and was there from about 11:00 PM to 2:00 AM. Overall, that night I did not sleep great, but enough. (Daily bike miles 69.84 miles; Total trip bike miles 907.56 miles)

Day 17, Sunday, September 17, 2023

I woke up around 6:15 AM, packed up and was riding by 7:05 AM. Stinging nettles by camp, I stayed away from them. Not too bad of a ride day. Some hills riding and some flat riding. There was one short steep hill near Illschwang. On some of the trails I took alternate routes when it looked like I could save time (dirt trails or longer distance). When I got to Parsberg, that completed my Europe journey. At that point I had traveled Europe from North to South, cool!!! (See [EUJ BOOK TED - European Journey - Nordkapp, Norway to Ispica, Sicily, Italy - 89 - 08 - 22 - 23 - Go Bike Ride](#)) While in Parsberg, I used orbits to look for hotels, the only reasonable ones were in Regensburg, I decided to book a room there. I did not have a GPS bike route to Regensburg, so I winged it and it worked out fine. I did not think I would get to Regensburg until around sunset, well I got there a little after 5:00 PM and looked around. I went over the bridge that I had been on 34 years ago. I easily found my hotel room. I went to the train station to see about getting train tickets with my bike to Munich, the lady said I would have to buy a ticket and hope I could get the bike on the train. At that point I was not really sure what I would do next on this trip. I still had 10 days to spare, this is the first bike trip that I had this much time to site see after completing my desired ride. I decided to get another night at the Hotel I was staying in on my last night so I could leave luggage there. I got a second night at that hotel near the Munich airport for my next night. I went to sleep around 11:00 PM. (Daily bike miles 70.56 miles; Total trip bike miles 978.12 miles)

Day 18, Monday, September 18, 2023

I woke up around 5:30 AM and could not get back to sleep. I did stuff and left the hotel about 8:00 AM. I went to the train station to see about

getting a train to Munich, my American Express did not work for paying for the tickets (it often does not seem to work in Europe, a Visa card works better in Europe!). I was able to easily get on the train with my bike (the previous day the lady told me people take priority over bikes and I may need to wait to get on a later train). Once at the Munich airport it took me a while to figure out how to get to my hotel. When I still had 2 miles to go my trailer arm broke. I could no longer pull the trailer with my bike. I am glad that it waiting until than to break, it could have been very difficult making my journey if the trailer broke any sooner. I started walking the bike and trailer it was very hard. I tried waiving down a taxi, but none of them would stop. I got to a place with a lot of taxies and they said they could not give me a ride and told me how to walk to my hotel. I dangerously walked along the highway pushing my trailer. A man in a park and ride van stopped me. He told me I was not allowed to walk the highway and gave me a ride to my hotel. I gave him a 5 Euro tip, at first, he said no to the tip, but then took the money. I was too early to check into my hotel room, so I gave them my trailer with stuff I did not need to hold until I returned. I asked the hotel shuttle driver if I could take the shuttle to the airport with my bike and he said no. I than started biking towards Munich, I really did not know what to do with myself at that point. It was supposed to rain that day. I was not looking forward to the predicted rain, so I biked back to the hotel. I took the shuttle to the airport. I was trying to figure out about the shuttle back, the shuttle driver was trying to tell me something in German. He did not seem to like me. He took the ticket I bought at the hotel for the shuttle to the airport. Another person had the same ticket and he let her keep her ticket. Once at the airport, I got a train ticket and went into Munich. I went to the Oktoberfest, not really that much fun since I was by myself. I did enjoy people watching. There were a lot of security people and police at the Oktoberfest. They do not let you take in backpacks, so I had to check my backpack at a trailer before going into the Oktoberfest. There was a line of guys checking your hip bags, purses and anything that looks funny before you could get into the Oktoberfest grounds. Once in the festival they had groups of police all around and more security checking people before entering the beer halls. I left Oktoberfest a little before 5:00 PM and was able to immediately get a train back to the airport. Once at the airport I was not sure if I would be able to take the shuttle back to my hotel. I waited a while and then decided to try to take a taxi. On my way to the taxi area, I noticed the shuttle coming so I went back over to the shuttle. A lot of people were getting on the shuttle and showing the driver their pass. I snuck by and got on the shuttle. He never checked if I had a pass and I was able to get back to the hotel on the shuttle. I was OK with paying for the shuttle, but did not need or know how to pay. Lots of people got off the shuttle at my hotel. I got off the shuttle fast and was able to quickly check into my hotel room. There was a big line of people from the shuttle behind me waiting to check in. I went up to my room and started planning the next step of my adventure. I reserved a weird room in Füssen, I hoped it works out when I got there (it did). I than created a google My Map bike route from the Füssen train station to the hotel I reserved for two nights in Füssen. I also created a google My Map from my Munich hotel to the airport train station. Using the Garmin BaseCamp software, I downloaded the maps I created into my Garmin Etrex 22x GPS. I went to sleep around 11:00 PM. (Daily bike miles 22.17 miles; Total trip bike miles 1000.29 miles)

Day 19, Tuesday, September 19, 2023

I woke up around 5:30 AM, could not get back to sleep. I got out of bed around 6:15 AM and packed my gear. Then I found I could not get the bolt out of my suitcase. I went to the hotel lobby to see if they had any tools I could borrow. They said no, I would need to wait until the maintenance man was at the hotel. Another man in lobby asked what I needed and he thought he might be able to help me. He then went to his car, got tools and brought them back. With his tools we were able to get the bolt off my suitcase. I put my extra stuff in my orange suitcase

and had them store it at the hotel until I would return on September 26th. (I was spending my last night of this trip at that same hotel). I had a somewhat heavy backpack and cycling the route I downloaded onto my GPS to get me from my hotel to the train station on a bike. It was about a 5-mile ride. I got to one part of the route and it was a spot with security which was only allowing certified cars into that gate of the airport. That part seemed like workers and delivers for the airport. The lady that was checking cars said there was a train station I could get to nearby. I went the way she said and was not sure where to go. I was looking at a building and a lady entering the building told me how to get to the other train station, she pointed in a direction and said I would need to go through some tube bridge to get to the train station. I went a little distance and could see the tube which was a wakening bridge over the train tracks to the train station. The train station where I caught the train was the Besucherpark station. There were no attendants at this station, a man that was getting a ticket said he needed to figure out how to get his ticket first. Then he helped me buy my train ticket. The man that helped me said he was not sure if I had to pay more for my bike. He thought bikes were not allowed on the train during rush hour which ended at 9:00 AM. It was about 8:40 AM, he said not to worry people are normally polite on the train. I asked him if he was going to work and he told me he had retired 6 weeks ago, I told him I retired in January and showed him photos of my bike pulling the trailer. Once at the Munich central station I had to figure out where to go to get my ticket to Füssen. I was given a time and they asked if I would return today. Since I said no, they figured it might be better for me to buy the ticket at the ticket office, if not they said I could just get a daily pass at a ticket machine. The line to buy a ticket in person was long. They would not let me take my bike into the ticket purchase office, so I locked it free standing outside the office. Someone could have stolen the whole thing, but people barely lock their bikes and it seems like bike theft is low. It took a while to get a ticket, my bike was still there. It took me no time to get on the train and get going. When I got on the train, most of the bike spots were taken. I squeezed my bike in between a couple of the other bikes. One lady that was biking, cleared off her bike gear from the seat next to her and let me sit there. We kind of talked, it was difficult since I do not speak German. She was going on an 8-day bike ride with her friend. Her friend would pick her up in Füssen. Once I was in Füssen, I biked to my hotel, the door was locked and had a note to call a phone number. A man leaving the hotel let me in and I went to the reception desk and they got my information and told me I would not be able to get into my room until 3:00 PM. I was going to leave some stuff in their waiting room. Then they told me my room was ready, so I put my stuff in my room and was cycling by 1:30 PM. I biked into town and then to Neuschwanstein castle. I biked part way around this Forggensee Lake, then it got challenging and looked like it was only intended for hikers. Then I started cycling up to the castle and got to a point that looked like no more bikes allowed, so I locked my bike to a post. There was actually a mountain bike route to near the top. I spent a lot of time around the castle, I was too late to enter the castle. I had been to the castle 34 years earlier and had trouble finding the spot I remembered with the bridge, but I did find it and took some photos, then I made my way back to my hotel and tried to figure out where I would go next. That night I worked on my journal until late. (Daily bike miles 24.48 miles; Total trip bike miles 1024.77 miles)

Day 20, Wednesday, September 20, 2023

I woke up around 6:00 AM and left my hotel about 8:00 AM to see about getting tickets to Neuschwanstein castle. The ticket booth at the train station did not open until 9:00 AM. I started thinking about how the weather was good the next day and rainy the following day. It seemed to make sense for me to stay an extra night in this area and enjoy the biking with the good weather. And take the train on the rainy day. So, I went back to the hotel and reserved a room for the 21st, I wanted to stay in the same hotel but it was booked. I found a cheaper one not too far away. I

went back to the train station and got a 2:05 PM (first available time) ticket to enter the castle. It was only about 10:00 AM, so I cycled around and then out to the castle area and beyond. I went to watch the tram and then made my way back to the castle. I was at the castle area by about 12:30 PM. I cycled a little and then made my way up to the castle. It is a short bike ride and a medium distance uphill hike to the castle. I had time and watched to see what I would need to do to enter the castle. At 2:00 PM I went to castle enter and they let me into the waiting area, when it was 2:05 PM they let my group into the castle. No photo taking was allowed in the castle and we had hearing tools that went off as we enter a relevant room of the castle. We were at the pace of our group, no time to stay in one area. I felt disappointed that I could not take photos and felt we were herded through the castle. However, it was magnificent. The thrown room and king's bedroom were very impressive. Great paintings on the walls and amazing wood work. Very nice tour overall. After the tour I walked to the bridge and then down to get my bike. I cycled around Forggensee Lake, it was a great paved route. Most of the route was on bike trails, some was on very lightly traffic roads. Then I went back to my hotel and scouted out the other hotel, so I would know how to get there. Overall great day. Back at the hotel I used Orbitz to reserve two nights in a hotel in Nuremburg. Next, I needed to get train tickets to Nuremburg. I worked on stuff and went to sleep around 11:00 PM. (Daily bike miles 33.58 miles; Total trip bike miles 1058.35 miles)

Day 21, Thursday, September 21, 2023

I woke up around 7:00 AM and got ready to leave my hotel. I needed to check out by 10:00 AM. I checked out at about 8:30 AM and cycled to the train station. The ticket office was not open until 9:30 AM, so I biked to the second hotel I was staying at in Füssen. I left my stuff there, was able to get suggested bike rides from the hotel receptionist (with a map) and then made my way back to the train station. I wanted to take the 9:15 AM ICE (high speed) train that went through Augsburg, but was told I would not be able to take the bike on the ICR train unless in was packed in luggage. So, I had the train ticket agent try to figure out a way to get me to Nuremburg using local trains. She ended up being able to get me on the ICE (the one through Augsburg that I originally requested) with a reservation for my bike. Then I took off trying to bike the routes suggested by the hotel receptionist, I first tried heading towards Hopfen am See. I thought I knew how to get started but ended up going further along Forggensee Lake. The plan was to turn out of Füssen, but I got to Reiden going in the direction I knew was correct. I started figuring out the signs and was able to make it to Hopfen am See. Then I decided to try going to Weißensee lake. I went the long way passing through Hopferau, Eisenberg, Zell and Pfronten on my way to Weißensee lake. I got turned around in Pfronten and had to use both of my GPS to find the correct route back. Then I went back and checked into my hotel room. Then I cycled to Austria and then got groceries in Füssen. Then I went back to my hotel and worked on stuff. I could not figure out what to do after Nuremburg, I was glad I stayed in Füssen for another day to enjoyed the good weather. The weather for the next days was rain! I wanted to take the train on the rain day. (Daily bike miles 42.11 miles; Total trip bike miles 1100.46 miles)

Day 22, Friday, September 22, 2023

I woke up around 6:08 AM, worked on document, got packed and went to get my bike. It was locked in the garage and the hotel receptionist was not there yet. Then I went to the breakfast room and asked the lady working in there about getting my bike. She asked if I had already paid and I said yes, then she went to the garage and unlocked it. I then got my bike and left the hotel at about 8:00 AM. It was a rainy day. I got wet on my ride to the train station. I cycled to the train station and was there more than an hour early. I went to the store and got supplies and then

easy caught my train to Nuremberg. It continued to rain while I was on the train. I normally am not sure I am getting on the right train. However, the paper work and times had so far been great. (The trains normally left the stations at the exact scheduled time. Sometimes they arrived early and never left the train station early. Occasionally (but rare) the train showed up a few minutes late.). When I got on the train, I was the only one in the bike area. Then a guy with a backpack sat within a seat of me. There were plenty of empty seats, I still worry about COVID. On a later stop an older lady got in the bike area and she had a bad cough. I just pointed away from her and was not that close to her, good thing that guy took the seat near me. As we traveled a lot of people dressed for the Oktoberfest had gotten on my train, they mostly all got off at the same place to get a connecting train to Munich. It has been nice traveling without my suitcase, the bike is hard, but a lot easier than with the suitcase. When I got to Augsburg, I was confused on which end of the train I needed to board. The original station monitor indicated my train car (I needed to get on car 1 for my bike) would arrive at station section E of the train gate, then the trains change and the monitor looking like car 1 was to arrive at section A. When the train arrived, it looked like I was on the wrong end, I worked my way to the other end of the train and it turned out I was in the right place to begin. The train was quite long, I tired myself out running with my stuff to get to the right end of the train. Once I got on the train it took off, I think I caused a slight delay in the departure of that train. Luckily, they held the train until I got on the right spot. My GPS worked on the first train, but I could not get a signal through the window on the second train. I missed recording part of the second train journey. The second train was the higher speed ICE train with way less stops. I ended up spending time between the train cars so I could record my train journey with my GPS (only place I could get a GPS signal). When I arrived in Nuremberg the rain had stopped, the roads were still wet. I was glad I spent one extra day in Füssen and cycled on a sunny day and took the train on that rainy day. I easily found my hotel in Nuremberg and they let me go to my room immediately. They also did not say anything about my bike, so I put it in my room. I unpacked and got my bike ready to ride. I started by checking out the historic area. Then I cycled to the Justice of Peace palace and then the Nazi Rally Park area. Then I found a grocery store and made my way back to my hotel. I worked on Facebook, journaling and planning the remainder of my trip that night. (Daily bike miles 16.94 miles; Total trip bike miles 1117.4 miles)

Day 23, Saturday, September 23, 2023

I woke up around 6:40 AM and got ready for the day. I made it to the train station and easily caught my 8:05 train to Rothenburg ob der Tauber. I did not feel really certain about what I was doing, but with the time tables and gates were all properly printed up. The train trip went very smoothly. I was tracking my route with my GPS and the GPS would not work on the first train. I think the windows were blocking the signals (must be special windows). On the second and third train I was able to record the trip with my GPS (GPS satellites were found by my Garmin 22x on those trains while sitting with my bike). When I first arrived in Rothenburg ob der Tauber I could not find information on the return trains. In case I wanted to change my return time, the previous day the guy told me I could return at any time and gave me the schedule for the 3:05 PM Train. I went to ask for information in a casino (I did not know that it was a casino, it was connected to the Train Station and looked like it might have been a place to get train tickets.) and the man knew no English. He could not instruct me on how to get to town. At that point, I thought I made a big mistake on picking Rothenburg ob der Tauber to go for the day. I walked down a road and saw signs for other towns, but no signs for the city center. I saw a nice hotel and went in to ask if they had a tourist map of the area. The receptionist gave me a very good map (better than the ones I saw at the town's information center) and instructed me where to go and how to get there. I then easily found the historic area and started by walking the wall (the hotel receptionist told me that was a good thing to do). I really enjoyed the town and spend about 4 hours

walking around. I was worried about getting my bike back to Munich and not sure where I would stay on September 25th. So, I decided to try heading back to Nuremberg a little earlier. I went to the train station and used my cell phone to see when I could return by train. It turned out I could leave one hour earlier (2:05 PM, instead of 3:05 PM) and following all my scheduled times – 1 hour to get back). On my first train back, I somehow got my water opened in my pack. I made a mess of water on the floor. I had to hurry to get off the train, a man said something about my pack leaking. When I got off the train, I took everything out of my pack and dumped out the water. There was not much in my pack, so not much of an issue. Mostly just my rain coat got very wet and water pooled in a pack pocket. I had less than 10 minutes between trains. When I got on the second train, I noticed I was still getting the floor a little wet (the pack was somewhat saturated, no pools of water since I dumped them out at the train station), so I moved to a seat with room to put the pack on the floor, the pack finally stopped dripping. Other than that, I easily made it back to Nuremberg and went to see if the train reservation center was still open. I figured since it was Saturday, they might close the train reservation area early. Well, I got to the Nuremberg train reservation office at 5:00 PM and found they close at 7:00 PM. So, I went back to my hotel and figured out all the times I wanted for all my train rides. I also found out the hotel with reasonable rates in Amberg still had 2 rooms available, so I decided to wait until I got my train ticket to reserve the room in Amberg. I then went back to the train station and was able to get all my train reservations except my reservation to Amberg. Amberg is close and they run trains continuously there, but the tickets are only valid for 2 hours after you buy them. So, I needed to get my ticket to Amberg on the day I left Nuremberg. I then went back to my hotel and reserved a room at the hotel in Amberg. After I reserved that room, I went back and found the last room they had went up in price. Then I went and walked around Nuremberg until about 8:00 PM. Then I went back to my hotel room and got ready for my next day. It felt good that I had my rooms reserved for the remainder of my trip. (Daily bike miles 0 miles; Total trip bike miles 1117.4 miles)

Day 24, Sunday, September 24, 2023

I woke up in the middle of the night and had trouble getting back to sleep. I finally got back to sleep and my alarm woke me at 6:37 AM. I did not want to get up, but did so I could stay on track. I did my morning stretches and got breakfast at the train station. I was on the 8:10 AM train to Bamberg. It was a no transfer train trip. I easily made it to Bamberg by about 8:52 AM. I had no trouble finding the city center. I was there early and it was Sunday, there were almost no people in town. It took me a while to find the information center. There were maps in town, but it took a little to figure out exactly where to go. I also saw interesting things that got me side track. I found the information center at about 10:00 AM. By that time the tour groups were showing up and it got busy in town. I saw all the sights by about 1:30 PM. Then I started biking the river trails. At about 3:45 PM I realized I was getting further from town and thought I was getting closer. My GPS helped me get back on track. I made my way back to the train station about 4:20 PM and went to the gate where my train was to leave at 4:38 PM. There were not very many people waiting for the train. People kept showing up. By the time the train showed up there were lots of people waiting to get on the train. I was afraid I might not be able to get on with my bike. The train door where I was trying to board had way too many people, I went to a different train car and was able to get on the train with my bike. The bike spots were taken, I was able to lean my bike against another bike. The guy with the other bike got off the train at the next stop and then 2 more bikes got on and they made people get off the seats near where bikes are placed. The guy next to me and myself moved and the guy with bikes leaned 2 bikes against mine. Everyone seems very polite and willing to help make things work out for bikes. I was glad I was able to get on the train. Once back in Nuremberg I cycled to the hangman's

bridge and got some great photos there, then I biked up to the castle. There is so much to see in Nuremberg, great city. I then went to get stuff to eat and went back to my hotel to eat and work on stuff. (Daily bike miles 24.93 miles; Total trip bike miles 1142.33 miles)

Day 25, Monday, September 25, 2023

I woke up around 6:40 AM and started getting ready for the day, my plan was to be at the train station for my train to Amberg by 9:00 AM. I looked at Facebook and I saw a question about if I had taken the Nuremberg castle tour. I normally do not go into museums or inside building. I like the outsides. Since it was recommended and I had time, I decided to do the castle tour before checking out of the hotel. The castle opened at 9:00 AM. I biked from my hotel room to the castle at about 8:30 AM and was at the ticket office before it opened. I then did a quick tour of the castle, went up the castle tower (Simwell Tower) and saw the deep castle water well. The tour was neat, I felt I should have spent more time reading about all the knights in armor displays. However, I wanted to get to Amberg so I could bike and site see a little there. Then I went back to the hotel and checked out of my room. I was going to go through a ticket agent to get my ticket to Amberg. I knew I had missed the 10:43 AM train, so I figured I had plenty of time to get my ticket from a ticket agent. I got my number at the ticket reservation area and it said 20 to 30 minutes wait to see an agent. I decided to try the self-serve machine to buy my train ticket and the train information booth to figure out the train gates. Well, I was able to do all that in about 10 minutes. So, I had time to get breakfast and then catch my train to Amberg. It was easy to get on the train with my bike at that time. I was in Amberg by 12:32 PM and quickly found my hotel. I had made a My Google map for Amberg sites and downloaded the route into my GPS the previous night. I checked out all the sites (mostly what Laura suggested) and did some exploring. The reflections from the Town Spectacle were very good. Then reflections, along with the bridge resembled eye glasses. I also checked out the red house, it may be the world's smallest hotel. It was designed as a honeymoon hotel for poor people in the 13th century. At about 3:30 PM I biked to Sulzbach-Rosenberg and then back to Amberg by about 6:00 PM. I created this route using My google map as a bike route. It was a nice ride. When I got back to the hotel, I locked up my bike outside the hotel and walked around town. Then I went back to my hotel room, ate dinner and worked on Facebook and my journal. Amberg was a great relaxing last stop before going back home. (Daily bike miles 29.49 miles; Total trip bike miles 1171.82 miles)

Day 26, Tuesday, September 26, 2023

I woke up around 6:40 AM and noticed I had Facebook posting requesting to see my prison room. The hotel I stayed in at Amberg was once a prison and had been converted to a hotel. To answer the Facebook question, I took some photos of my room and answer the question with photos on Facebook. I got completely packed and then I biked around for about an hour. I went back to my hotel, checked out of my room and was at the train station by a few minutes after 10:00 AM. I left Amberg on the train at 10:33 AM and was on my way to Munich Airport. I noticed people drinking beer often in Germany. I see people at café' in the morning having a beer, that's a little early to me. I also noticed people drinking in public, at parks and at the train station. I also noticed people taking beer on the train and sometimes evening drinking them on the train. I have a feeling that part of it had to do with the fact Oktoberfest was going on in Munich. When I got on the train in Amberg it was not crowded, a few people got on at stops, but it was never crowded. When I changed trains in Regensburg, I was one of the first ones on. That train was there about 30 minutes early. I had a great seat. By the time the train left more people were on the train, a little more than half full. At one point a lady went into the restroom and you could hear her coughing a lot. Everyone was noticing, even the train conductor. One lady

was waiting to go to the restroom, but she changed her mind. I do not think she wanted to go into the restroom after it was polluted with the other lady's cough. I was also thinking about using the restroom, but decided I did not want to go in there after the other lady left. I am still concerned about COVID! After about 10 minutes she came out of the restroom and was not coughing anymore. She went back to her seat and I never heard her cough again. I think it seemed weird to everyone. At a later stop a bunch of kids, maybe junior high school kids got on the train. The train was very crowded then, so I put on my mask and pointed away from people. I would have hated to get COVID before my flight home. I was monitoring with my GPS where I wanted to get off the train, I was hoping to get off where I got on the day, I left my Munich hotel (Besucherpark station). Well, the train did not stop at Besucherpark station. I could see the stop I wanted to get off (it was on a different track, but very close). It seemed like we were getting further from the airport. I asked if that was the correct train to the Munich airport and people said yet (it also said it on the train sign). Well, the train dropped me off at the airport stop. I bike from there. I do not think it is allowed to bike on the airport area roads. But I had no trouble finding a route to my hotel. I checked into my room and cycled to a store and then back to my hotel. I was in the hotel before 4:00 PM, journaled and repacked my gear. That evening on Facebook I noticed people I knew were at Oktoberfest that day, If I had known sooner, I could have met them there. (Daily bike miles 12.12 miles; Total trip bike miles 1183.94 miles)

Day 27, Wednesday, September 27, 2023

I woke up around 4:42 AM, finished packing, took the shuttle from my hotel to airport. I just missed the 4:30 AM shuttle to the airport and had to take the 5:00 AM shuttle. Supposedly there was no one on the 4:30 AM shuttle, the 5:00 AM shuttle was full. Luckily, I was one of the first ones on the shuttle and was able to put my two bags on the shuttle. I needed to get off at Airport Terminal 1 and I thought I was getting off at Terminal 1. It turned out I got off at Terminal 2, that was the same stop that everyone on the shuttle got off. I was not sure where to check in for my flight and I asked the information guys. They told me I need to go to section D in Terminal 1. That was when I figured out, I got off the shuttle at Terminal 2. I had to huff it to section D, when I got there the check-in line was very long. I checked in and checked my bags. I was hoping to have time to shop in the airport, well I only had time to get to my departure gate. Then I flew to Paris and the signs pointed in a direction for departures, it turned out I only had about 15 minutes to boarding time. I ended up getting in the only line I saw. I needed to go to K52, the long line I was in said L, M and it was very long. I ended out sneaking to the front of the line and then I was told I was in the wrong line. They said gate K was down a different hall, I had passed the hall to K gates without seeing it. I ran to my gate and got on the last bus to board the plane. Paris airport needs some more guidance people. It is a very big airport! The flight to Salt Lake City was very uncomfortable. I thought I was given an aisle seat, there was no way for me to select a seat, even if I paid extra. The delta site for my flight was setup badly. Maybe it was because I bought my tickets less than a month before I departed. Well, I made it to Salt Lake City on time and went through customs. I tried getting my voice mail from my cell phone and forgot my new password, not too long ago they forced me into making a 7-digit password, I only remember the 4-digit password I have used for years. Well, after that when I phone went to sleep my 4-digit password to get into the phone quit working. I actually was just tired and kept using the wrong password, I figured out my error the next morning. Since consumer cellular does not have offices, it is very hard to get help. At that point I could not even turn off my cell phone. I also could not get it into airplane mode. Once in Portland I picked up my luggage and took a taxi home. I tried staying awake until 10:00 PM working on my journal, so I could quickly acclimate to the time change. I stayed mostly awake until about 9:00 PM. Then I went to sleep. I woke up around 1:00 AM

and had trouble getting back to sleep. I was asleep again around 2:30 AM and woke up around 6:00 AM. The following day I was back to my time. (Daily bike miles 0 miles; Total trip bike miles 1183.94 miles)

Day 28, Thursday, September 28, 2023

I woke up around 6:30 AM and tried figuring out my phone again. I kept using the wrong password. Not sure how I could make that mistake, I was doing it right for the entire trip, just started making that mistake when I was at the Salt Lake City airport. (Daily bike miles 0 miles; Total trip bike miles 1183.94 miles)