LITE ROUTE

To Follow: National route 5 and Fischingen detour

Route 5 Book pages 28,26,24 and Bike Switzerland Fischingen detour map (Day 7, Map 6)

to Fischingen GPS points: 7 - 7.107

Distance: 76 KM (32 with Winterthur shortcut)

Watch out for:

A tricky spot between 7.47 and 7.48

•If you take shortcut to Winterthur, once back on route, make sure you are going in right direction.

•Turn off for Fischingen at 7.105 Lunch: River next to Kysburg Rest Stops: Basserdorf, Turbenthal

Points of Interest:

POI Kyburg: At GPS 7.73 trail to Kyburg

POI Milk: Near GPS 7.93. Farmer has a coin-operated machine outside for

fresh milk

It's a long haul today with some climbing, (Baden is in a hole, so be ready for a climb out of here). Afterwards you'll be cruising through the "happy" and clean suburbs of Zurich before arriving at our lunch stop. It is a long haul to lunch (55 kilometers), so make sure you have a good breakfast and pack some food. We can always stop to replenish, so no worries.

If you're taking the train to Winterthur, you can follow the dark green GPS track to catch the route again (blue GPS track)

We'll be having lunch next to a shaded river under the medieval town of Kyburg. If you have time and energy, you can make your way up to Kyburg and visit the small medieval town and the castle (open Tuesday to Sunday).

Kyburg Castle is perched high up above the river Töss. Kyburg is Eastern Switzerland's most important feudal castle and now home to a lively, newly arranged museum. The internationally awarded museum offers fascinating insights into the daily life long ago. You can take part in a court of justice, look around the cellar, the attic and the torture chamber, sniff at spices of the medieval kitchen.

Kyburg Castle was the home of the counts of Kyburg, one of the greatest noble houses in South Germany. The castle passed into the hands of the Habsburgs in 1264. In 1424 the City of Zurich bought the castle and its seignory. Until 1798 a Landvogt resided in the castle, administering the bailiwick, as a judge and collector of taxes.





If you do the complete day, then you will probably want to have lunch before Kyburg. One possibility is to go north into the town of Basserdorf between 7.47 and 7.49.

From Kyburg you have another 20-25 kilometers. You will be leaving Route #5 at Turbenthaland head south to Fischingen (GPS 7.105). If you're up for more biking, the roads behind the cloister where you are staying are beautiful.

The abbey was founded in 1138 by Ulrich II, Bishop of Constanz as a private Episcopal monastery. It was built on the Jacques de Compostelle trail and so is still a popular stop for hikers.

If all goes as planned, you'll be getting a tour of the monastery around 6pm. We tried this out on the last tour and I was expecting people to tell me "boring". But, in fact, at least three riders came up to me and told me that the guide is amazingly knowledgeable and that the tour was fascinating. So, we're keeping it until I hear otherwise.

The first thing that struck me about Fischingen when I passed through for the first time five years ago is that it has a Russian restaurant. How this restaurant survives is a mystery. I've never seen anyone eating there. Nevertheless, I tried the place the first time that I came through and the food was delicious. I took my (Russian) wife and she agreed: it's authentic, homemade, Russian cuisine. Enjoy.

Ah yes, tomorrow morning.... You are staying at a working abbey which means recorded music may wake you up earlier than you would like.

