



of 94 km, I managed to get separated from others for the last 45 km. Although, I found my way back on a much better cycling track and reached Gyor around the same time as the others. The next day, the first 50 km up to Gonyu was smooth, but then we lost our way. We avoided the direct highway and ended up travelling in circles landing in a village called Tata. As it was already late, we settled to stay in a hotel, Hotel Kiss.

The next morning, we started for Budapest, took a wrong turn and wasted almost 2 hours. That was when we decided to change strategies and agreed to break up our target into small doses. We had issues with communication with the native population. So instead of aiming straight for Budapest, we decided to go to Tatabanya followed by Penny. Along the way, showers caught us but we reached Penny 25 km short of Budapest. Here, my colleagues tried for the hotel but had no success.

Only one hour of evening ride remained and we had to hurry along to the next place, Budecsoxi. There was a large musical band banging away, making us feel like we were in a musical. Two kind souls directed us to Margaritas Pazzio. With a little bit of help from Google maps, we reached it and were relieved to get the roof overhead. This turned out to be the outlying village of Budapest. The next morning, while driving through some prime jungle for 6 km we reached Budapest, crossing Danube found a hotel in a central area near Hungary's parliament building.

That very same day, we returned our cycles as promised and celebrated our success with Champagne. It would be ungrateful on my part if I don't mention the lady owners of Passau who kindly agreed to keep our excess luggage with her till we returned and offered us some English language brochures for guidance.

The trip was difficult to get started but we persevered because of some luck and lots of hard work. Although the route was well defined, communication was a hurdle, I strongly recommend familiarising yourself with the maps and prepare yourself with translation software. There are a variety of options for hotel stay offered at competitive rates and there is always scope for bargaining. We would endorse trying out the local cuisine and soak in the culture.

This type of adventure riding trip can be planned in different parts of our own country, India as well. There are plenty of places in India offering access to adventure lovers. And we will be back soon with another adventure activity.

