EuroVelo

Web Guidance







Introduction

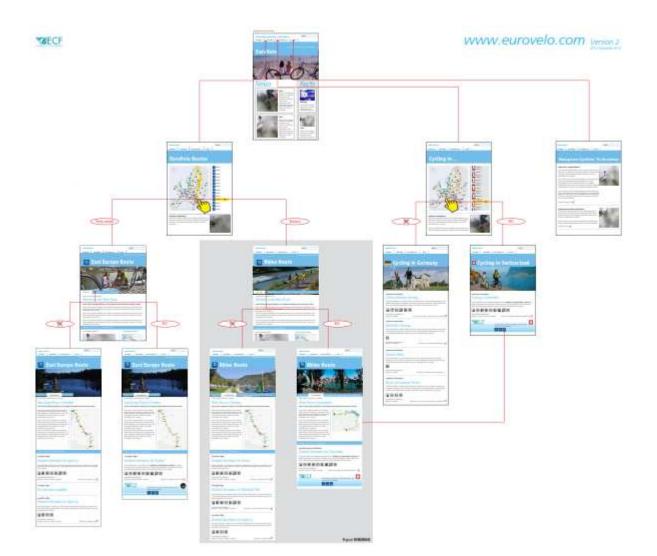
The aim of EuroVelo is to connect all European countries by a network of long distance cycle routes. EuroVelo is coordinated on the European level by the European Cyclists' Federation (ECF), who also own the registered copyrights.

The internet is an increasingly important tool for communicating information, promotion and marketing, and interacting with other people. It is therefore essential that the EuroVelo network is well represented online with professional, attractive, up-to-date and informative websites.

The purpose of this document therefore is to introduce the ECF's EuroVelo web strategy, provide an overview of the aims and content of the ECF's EuroVelo websites (EuroVelo.com and EuroVelo.org) and give guidance on the type of information that should be made available on the websites of National EuroVelo Coordination Centres and Coordinators (NECC/Cs) and their partners.

With a network covering the whole of Europe and many thousands of kilometers of cycle routes, it is inevitable that information related to cycling the EuroVelo routes will be provided on numerous websites.

Whilst the design of these websites should reflect national and regional character; it is nevertheless important for the end user that they recognize certain visual elements and content, to help them find the information that they need.



EuroVelo Web Strategy

The ECF have developed a strategy for EuroVelo-related websites, which is based on the principle of subsidiarity by providing information at the most appropriate level. With a network of over 70,000 km stretching across the entire continent it would be difficult for the ECF to keep on top of all the developments being made on the network at a local level. The European strategy therefore is to provide an overview at a European level of the entire EuroVelo network and each route and then provide links to the sources of more detailed information at a national or regional level.

For the user, the preference would be for all the information at a national level to be available from one website and there are existing examples of this (e.g. the Netherlands, Switzerland). However, it is appreciated that this may take some time (and resources) to achieve, so as an interim measure, links can be made via EuroVelo.com to various websites at a national or regional level.

Whilst the use of interactive online elements, such as social media, forums, interactive mapping platforms etc., is encouraged on all EuroVelo-related websites, care should be taken to ensure that the user is always aware of the official EuroVelo routes.



EuroVelo.com – Aim and Contents

The ECF has developed EuroVelo.com for people wanting an overview of cycling in Europe. The website provides overview information relating to each of the EuroVelo routes, including summaries of the sections through each country and maps showing the current status of each section. It also provides practical information for cycling in every country in Europe.

As explained in the previous section, there are direct links to the best sources of detailed information at a national or regional level in each country related to each route.

The website will be continuously updated and news stories added to ensure that it remains a relevant tool and the first point of entry for people wishing to cycle in Europe.



National EuroVelo Web Sites – Aim and content

Whilst EuroVelo.com will provide overview information about the EuroVelo network and the individual routes at a European level, users will be directed to national websites for detailed information about cycling the routes. For the end user, it would be preferable if all the related information is available from one national website but this may not always be possible, at least initially.

<u>Content</u>

Although the content of national EuroVelo websites will inevitably vary, indeed many of the NECC/Cs already have well-established websites, it would be helpful if they covered certain key items that are particularly useful for people wishing to cycle the routes. These are set out below (see pages 5 and 6 for more detailed descriptions):

- 1. Route description and information about the signing of the route (obligatory)
- 2. Electronic maps / GPS tracks
- 3. Printed material
- 4. Public transport connections (obligatory)
- 5. (Cycle friendly) services (accommodation, cafes, restaurants etc.) (obligatory)
- 6. Bike rental facilities
- 7. Bookable offers
- 8. Points of interest / attractions etc.
- 9. Cycle Events
- 10. Pedelec information

Again, for the end user it would be preferable if the detailed information about these items is available from the same website (integrated) but, where that is not yet possible, direct links to exactly where it can be found (a deep link to the right url) should be provided instead.

Language

Each national website should contain the information in at least the relevant national language(s) and English but preferably it should include other main European languages too.



National EuroVelo Web Sites – Content detail

- 1. Route description and information about the signing of the route **(obligatory)**:
 - Show the itinerary on a map clearly indicating the major towns and the route conditions (e.g. surface, presence of motorised traffic, topography etc.); and
 - Description of the itinerary indicating the general route conditions; and
 - Information about relevant signposting systems.
- 2. Electronic maps / GPS tracks:
 - Show the precise itinerary on a detailed interactive map clearly indicating the route conditions (e.g. surface, presence of motorised traffic, topography etc.); and/or
 - Downloadable GPS tracks.
- 3. Printed material:
 - Indicate the best guide books, maps and other sources of information for cycling the route.
- 4. Public transport connections (obligatory):
 - Short description of the major bicycle transportation conditions (e.g. restrictions, prices etc.) on all relevant modes (train, bus, ferry etc.); and
 - The main connections (hubs key destinations) with distances and approximate travel times for different modes of transport and links to further information, including where it is possible to buy tickets.
- 5. Cycle friendly services (accommodation, cafes, restaurants etc.) (obligatory):
 - Indication of whether a cycle friendly label exists in the country or region and, if so, provide more information; and
 - Provide contact details of examples of each type of service per settlement, ideally through an interactive map (see Point 2 Electronic maps / GPS tracks).



- 6. Bike rental facilities:
 - Indicate whether it is possible to hire bikes in each section and provide links to the providers.
- 7. Bookable offers:
 - Provide links to firms offering bookable offers along the route (if they exist).
- 8. Points of interest:
 - Provide information on the major tourist sights and attractions along the route with hyperlinks to further information. Can be combined with Point 1 Route description.
- 9. Cycle events:
 - Provide a calendar of events that would be of interest to cyclists (not necessarily only cycling-related).
- 10. Pedelec information
 - Indicate whether it is feasible to cycle the route by pedelec (e.g. are there regular charging stations).

EuroVelo

Corporate design, guidance for partners



National EuroVelo Web Sites – Visual elements

Websites developed or promoted by NECCs can have their own character and their design can reflect the national culture. However, it is important for the end user that certain EuroVelo visual elements were incorporated.

The main EuroVelo graphic features that are to be considered are:

- Route information panels
- Schematic diagram
- Colours
- EuroVelo logo

More information about their specifications and use can be found in the ECF publication "Corporate design, guidance for partners".



USER NOT Trast d'eau entre Loire, marais et bocage, le canal de la Martinière est votre fil d'Ariane sur cette étape de la véocheside commane avec La Loire à ville. Petites routes tranquilles au milieu d'une ambiance bucoique typeue de l'estuaire de la Loire.

Partners' Web Sites – Aim, content and visual elements

The ECF encourages references being made to EuroVelo on other websites, such as those for tourism bodies, cycling NGOs, online news agencies, travel journals, blogs etc.

Reproduction of the text taken from the ECF's EuroVelo websites (EuroVelo.com and EuroVelo.org) and the official EuroVelo publications is generally authorized, provided the source is acknowledged, except where otherwise stated.

For permission to use the EuroVelo graphic elements please consult the EuroVelo Manual "Corporate design, guidance for partners".

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EuroVelo.org

In addition to EuroVelo.com, which caters for people wishing to cycle the routes, the ECF has also developed EuroVelo.org for professional working on developing the EuroVelo routes. The website is a source of the latest news on the realisation of the network, guidance and advice, as well as best practice from across Europe. The website also contains the Overview Route Database of the EuroVelo routes and provides an online platform for individual route development projects.

The ECF considers the website to be a vital source of information for the National EuroVelo Coordination Centres and Coordinators and other partners, and will endeavour to keep it as up-dodate as possible.

NECC/Cs should update the data included in the Overview Route Database at least once a year.

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This publication is part of the ECF EuroVelo publication series. It should be read in conjunction with the following publications:

- EuroVelo, the European cycle route network
- EuroVelo, the European cycle route network, Development Strategy 2012-2020
- EuroVelo, National Coordination Centres, guidance on application process
- EuroVelo, Signing of EuroVelo cycle routes
- EuroVelo, Corporate design, guidance for partners
- Additional guidelines over time

For more information:

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