

## FRANCE – A TASTE OF BURGUNDY

8-days / 7-nights of easy to moderate cycling



Travel through a landscape of vineyards, imposing castles, ancient monasteries and attractive towns. Starting in the capital of Burgundy, Dijon, you follow the Canal of Burgundy and the River Saône. The scenery changes from small villages and rolling hills to lively and attractive historical towns like Beaune and Chalon sur Saône.

Bike & Barge cruises combines two popular ways of exploring Europe (cycling and river cruising), they allow partners of different abilities and interests to holiday together (trips are just as interesting for leisure cyclist OR enthusiasts), you unpack once and come 'home' each night to a wonderful meal and a comfortable cabin with your own bathroom.

Combining an easy-to-moderate guided cycling route, this cruise offers a some excellent undulating cycling with comfortable barge accommodation plus the opportunity to explore the beautiful countryside sampling the Burgundian wines and local cheeses that makes this part of France so famous. With new owners for 2011 with considerable experience in these cruises, and a new name of *Summerjazz*, the barge has 9-cabins, allowing between 18 and 20 guests. All cabins have en-suite facilities and are simply furnished with twin bunk beds.

Well-maintained multi-geared bicycles with panniers are provided – comfortable, easy to ride and ideal for this route – and a fascinating and varied guided cycling program with free time to explore each day's destination.

**Cost:** AU\$1625 per person (twin share). Single cabin supplement on request

**Departs:** Every Saturday from 30th April to 1st October 2011

**Starts & Ends:** Dijon

**Includes:** Small, simple twin share cabins with bunk beds and compact ensuite bathrooms for 8 days/7 nights, full board (includes breakfast + packed lunch each day + 3-course dinner each night) and an English speaking cycling guide, bicycle hire (with 21-gears and cycle bag), visits to an abbey, wine tasting and a guided Dijon city walk, transfer by train one way between Tournus and Dijon or v.v.

**Not included:** Airfares to France or transport other than that indicated, excursions, entrance fees (that are not shown in the itinerary), drinks, bike insurance (@ €16.50 per person, paid locally) and personal expenses. We recommend you bring your own bike helmet or buy one locally on this trip.

The program is offered in reverse starting in Tournus - ending in Dijon, on alternate weeks and may be subject to changes due to any unforeseen circumstances. Distances shown are approximate and may change if the cruise schedule so demands.

**Call OUTDOOR TRAVEL on 1800 331 582 for details or reservations**

## Suggested itinerary:

**Day 1: Saturday:** Afternoon arrival in Dijon, the capital of Burgundy. Climb aboard the barge and meet the crew and your tour leader. Time to settle into your cabin and to fit / tune your bicycle to your needs before dinner

**Day 2: Sunday:** ± 20km of cycling. In the morning take a short cycle ride in the northwest Dijon region. Mid afternoon you'll get the chance to discover Dijon on a city walk.

**Day 3: Monday:** ± 45km of cycling. The day starts with a small sailing trip to and through the first two locks in the Burgundy Canal. You walk back to the bicycles and then pedal past the beautiful abbey of Citeaux. Your trip ends in the village of Longecourt en Plaine.

**Day 4: Tuesday:** ± 45km of cycling. Cycling on small roads and through forests, you cycle through some picturesque villages to the pretty town of Auxonne at the river Saône. Later follow the river to St. Jean de Losne, where the Burgundy Canal joins the river Saône. You get a chance to visit the musée de la Batellerie.

**Day 5: Wednesday:** ± 55km of cycling. Today visit the beautiful fortified town of Beaune, also known for its many famous wines (Cote d'Or). Your tour leader will take you on a stroll through the town and you will have time to visit the 'Collegiale Notre-Dame' church or the museum of the Burgundy wines. You then rejoin your barge in the small town of Verdun sur les Doubs.

**Day 6: Thursday:** ± 25km of cycling. In the morning cycle through the Gergy forest and then follow the Canal du Centre to Chalon sur Saône. In this port town, located at the confluence of the Saône river and the Canal du Centre, you have the afternoon off, for window shopping, a museum visit or relax on one of the many terraces.

**Day 7: Friday:** ± 55km of cycling. You leave Chalon and hit an old railway track, now a cycle path. In Buxy you visit a winery in an old tower. The trip continues by descending to the river Saône and then ends in the town of Tournus. Here you find the beautiful St. Philibert church, which is certainly worth a visit. The abbey dating from the 10th century has a beautiful architecture and is one of the oldest in France.

**Day 8: Saturday:** End of your holiday in the morning and transfer by train to Dijon, arriving around midday.



Please note: We offer this as a guided Bike & Boat cycling cruise however, you can decide each day if you want to join the guided ride or ride independently. Cruises need a minimum number of passengers to operate.

Bike & Barge cycling cruises are available from Outdoor Travel on many of the canals and rivers of Europe including the River Seine, Loire Valley or Provence in France and on the 2-week route between Paris and Bruges through the Somme WW1 battlefield and memorial sites in northern France. We also offer several routes in Holland, Belgium and Germany – along the Saar, Moselle and Rhine or in Italy.

Outdoor Travel offers Bike & Boat cruises to many areas of Europe including the Dalmatian coast of Croatia, the islands of Greece and Turkey. We also have similar tours in Vietnam and in Jordan and the Gulf of Aqaba.

## Contact the experienced staff at Outdoor Travel for more details and reservations:

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