OUTDOOR TRAVEL
THE ACTIVE HOLIDAY COMPANY

BIKE & BARGE HOLIDAYS IN EUROPE

2026-2027

BOUTIQUE CRUISING THE RIVERS OF CENTRAL EUROPE *Early bookings essential*

From 7 day to 11 day, easy to moderate *PREMIUM PLUS* GUIDED cycling cruises various routes

One of our favourite barges spends her season meandering through some of the most picturesque landscapes of central Europe. It is an absolute joy to join her for one, two or more weeks of boutique Bike & Barge cruising as she plies the romantic waterways of Holland, Germany, Austria and Hungary. This is perhaps the most comfortable of the Premium Plus barges in our fleet, offering a number of very popular routes, so **early booking is essential**.

Recently renovated with meticulous attention to detail, the barge accommodates up to 24 guests in 12 elegantly appointed cabins, each with comfortable high-quality mattresses, individual climate-control, sleek en-suite bathroom with amenity kit, and in-room Nespresso. The upper deck features an expansive lounge and restaurant with picture windows and skylights, a large shaded sundeck at the front of the boat, and a cosy aft terrace.

Holland, Germany, Poland, Austria and Hungary have so much to offer: history and culture, beer, wine, beautiful countryside, and thriving cosmopolitan cities. These cycle cruises follow varied waterways including the River Rhine, the Main, the Saar and the Moselle and the Mittelland (Midland) Canal, which links western and eastern Germany's waterways. Visit Berlin, Cologne, Mainz, Saarburg and the old Hanseatic city of Bremen in the former East Germany. Explore the cities and cycle or cruise through many towns and small villages in between. **New for 2026** the barge has added Bike & Barge cruising from Vienna to Budapest along the Danube River, lending a small-ship personal touch that the larger ships on the Danube can't match.

This barge is an ideal option for charter for a group, providing exclusive use of the barge and its facilities – a wonderful way to celebrate an anniversary, milestone birthday or other special occasion – ask for more details.

2026 cost per person (twin share) from:
- **$5115** (7 day tour)
- **$5595** (8 day tour)
- **$6410** (9 day tour)

2027 cost per person (twin share) from:
- **$5495** (7 day tour)
- **$6055** (8 day tour)
- **$6930** (9 day tour)

Single cabin supplement on request

2026/27 Mid/High season supplements from: $560 - $1120 per person on selected departures (ask for details)

See overleaf for 2026 and 2027 cruising routes, durations and start dates.

Includes: Twin/double cabin accommodation with private bathroom; buffet breakfasts, packed lunches, dinners (except on one or two nights); drinking water; tea, coffee and hot chocolate; welcome drink; house wines and beers during bar hours, multi-gear hybrid bicycle hire (panniers, helmet, water bottle, repair kit and lock); tour guide, support vehicle on some days, route information; ferry fares; entry or excursion fees as per itinerary.

Not included: Meals not mentioned, other drinks; optional entry fees not described; travel insurance, gratuities, laundry service aboard (paid aboard), and personal expenses. A limited number of E-Bikes are available at extra cost (must be reserved and pre-paid early, with your booking).

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START DATE 2026	DURATION (days / nights)	CRUISING FROM/TO	CRUISING NOTES
8 May	9 / 8	Amsterdam to Cologne	Holland & Germany
17 May	9 / 8	Cologne to Saarburg	Rhine, Moselle & Saar Rivers in Germany
1 June	9 / 8	Saarburg to Mainz	
10 June	8 / 7	Frankfurt to Bamberg	Bavarian Main River in Germany
18 June	8 / 7	Bamberg to Passau	Bavarian Danube in Germany
26 June	8 / 7	Passau to Vienna	Danube in Germany & Austria
4 July	7 / 6	Vienna to Budapest	Danube in Austria, Hungary & Slovakia
17 July	7 / 6	Budapest to Vienna	
25 July	7 / 6	Vienna to Budapest	
1 August	8 / 7	Budapest to Vienna	
9 August	8 / 7	Vienna to Passau	Danube in Germany & Austria
17 August	9 / 8	Passau to Bamberg	Bavarian Danube in Germany
1 September	9 / 8	Bamberg to Frankfurt	Bavarian Main River in Germany
10 September	9 / 8	Frankfurt to Ludwigsberg	Rhine & Neckar River in Germany
19 September	8 / 7	Ludwigsberg to Mainz	
27 September	9 / 8	Mainz to Merzig	Rhine, Moselle & Saar Rivers in Germany
6 October	9 / 8	Merzig to Mainz	
15 October	8 / 7	Mainz to Merzig	
23 October	8 / 7	Merzig to Cologne	
START DATE 2027			
16 April	7 / 6	Dordrecht to Schagen	Holland, Tulip Tour
23 April	7 / 6	Schagen to Dordrecht	
30 April	7 / 6	Dordrecht to Schagen	
23 May	11 / 10	Amsterdam to Bruges	Holland & Belgium
3 June	11 / 10	Bruges to Amsterdam	
14 June	9 / 8	Amsterdam to Bremen	Holland & Germany
23 June	8 / 7	Bremen to Wolfsburg	Germany's Midland Canal & Weser-Hills
1 July	8 / 7	Wolfsburg to Berlin	Germany, East & West
25 July	8 / 7	Berlin to Malchin	Old Prussia, Germany & Poland
2 August	8 / 7	Malchin to Berlin	
10 August	8 / 7	Berlin to Wolfsburg	Germany, East & West
20 September	9 / 8	Mainz to Stuttgart	Rhine & Neckar River in Germany
29 September	8 / 7	Stuttgart to Mainz	
7 October	9 / 8	Mainz to Merzig	Rhine, Moselle & Saar Rivers in Germany
16 October	8 / 7	Merzig to Nancy	Moselle River Germany, France & Luxembourg
24 October	8 / 7	Nancy to Koblenz	

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Here is a sample of just one of the delightful itineraries operated on this boutique barge - Mainz to Merzig – Rhine, Moselle & Saar Rivers Tour

Suggested itinerary: *This may change based on nautical or operational conditions at the captain / guide's discretion. Cycling distances / mooring points may vary accordingly. Itinerary may operate in reverse direction.*

Day 1: Mainz – Rüdesheim
Plan to arrive by 3:30pm, ready for a 4.30pm departure. Settle in to your cabin, have a welcome drink, meet the crew and other guests, and receive a briefing on the program for the week and on boating safety before the barge departs to Rüdesheim, where we stay overnight.

Day 2: Rüdesheim – Oberwesel – Koblenz **cycling @ 40km**
A real highlight today as we cruise the 'Romantic Rhine', with its abundance of legends and castles. The day starts with a cruising breakfast to St. Goar and then the first bike tour to Koblenz. Pass the mighty 'Lorelei', a mountain named after a mermaid with golden hair; you might even hear her siren call as we pass by on our way to stay overnight in Koblenz, at the confluence of the Rivers Rhine and Moselle.

Day 3: Koblenz – Alken – Cochem **cycling @ 40km**
During breakfast, we sail to Alken and pass the first two locks on the Moselle river. Here, we start biking into the Eltztal, where we park the bikes and put our walking shoes on for a short hike up to the beautiful Castle Eltz. Romantically situated atop a cliff, the castle is one of only a few that has never suffered destruction throughout its long history. Afterwards, we cycle to Cochem, where the barge awaits. In Cochem, there is leisure time to visit the famous Reichsburg, or stroll through the cosy streets of this romantic city.

Day 4: Cochem – Zell – Traben Trarbach **cycling @ 35km or 55km**
After breakfast we ride from Cochem to the small village of Beilstein. It's well worth a visit – enjoy a stroll through this medieval village, which is still completely intact. We then head along the meandering Moselle River to Zell, which is famous for its 'Zeller Schwarze Katz' (black cat) vineyard. From Zell we have two options, either board the barge and cruise to Traben Trarbach, or extend our ride by around 20km and cycle onto Traben Trarbach. Dinner is served on board followed by a wine-tasting session at the Winery of Storck, a 3rd generation family-run vineyard situated on the Moselle where together with nature they create fine passionate one-offs, playful and buoyant wines.

Day 5: Traben Trarbach – Trier **cycling @ 40km or 50km**
We begin the day with a ride alongside the Moselle, with a first stop in Bernkastel-Kues. Here we can walk through the town and visit Germany's oldest marketplace, before cycling on to Neumagen. Here again you can choose to either cruise or cycle along the Moselle to Mehring. Mehring is the spot where the Romans first set foot, travelling from the Rhine to the Moselle river. The Romans fell in love with this landscape more than 2000 years ago, and built splendid rural villas here. In Mehring, we board the barge again and all cruise towards Trier.

Day 6: Trier **cycling @ 60km**
Today is different from the usual bike and barge day. The barge will stay docked in Trier for a full day and there are several choices today. Cyclists can take a bus up to the rail trail and enjoy cycling through the mountains, mostly downhill. Or, walk into Trier to enjoy everything this city has to offer, a rich history including a Roman amphitheatre, good shopping and plenty of terraces on which to relax. Our guide will be happy to help you with your plans for the day. Tonight's dinner is at your own arrangements in one of the many restaurants.

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Day 7: Trier – Saarburg **cycling @ 25km or 55km**

This morning we can explore Trier some more as we arrange a local guide to teach you all about the city. Trier was the capital of the Western Roman Empire, a Roman government seat, and is well known for its enormous city gateway, Porta Nigra. In the afternoon we cycle to Saarburg, a city characterised by narrow alleys, half-timbered houses, and Baroque structures, as well as colourful fishing cottages and seafarers' houses. The master architect of Berlin, Karl Friedrich Schinkel, named the collection of romantic houses and small bridges on the Buttermarkt 'Little Venice' in the 19th century. Tonight you can enjoy the local German cuisine, while eating dinner out in one of the many restaurants.

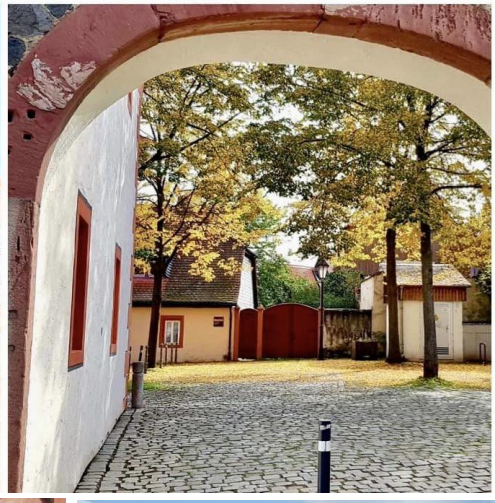
Day 8: Saarburg – Merzig **cycling @ 35km**

After a tour through Saarburg and a splendid view over the city and the Saar valley, we cycle on for about 15 km to the Saar-loop near Orscholz, the renowned river bend of the Saar. More than any other region, it symbolizes the "rendezvous in Saarland": a junction of water and land. An excellent viewpoint over the landscape and the Saar loop is provided by the "Cloef" above, inviting you to stay for a brief spell. Depending on the group's cycling ability, you can either bike or hike up to the viewpoint. On the way to today's destination, there is an optional excursion to the village of Villeroy & Boch: Mettlach. In Merzig, you embark the barge for the last time. We have a farewell dinner on board and maybe a short after-dinner walk to the city.

Day 9: Depart Merzig

The tour ends after breakfast.

"Just wanted to thank you very much for organising such a splendid holiday for me. The entire tour was a great success with no hiccups or hitches whatsoever, thanks to your efficiency. The barge exceeded my expectations in every way. The Captain, crew and guides were very professional and at the same time ensured we all had a fun trip. All in all it was a holiday to remember. Thank you again, Dai."



Outdoor Travel offers Bike & Barge or Bike & Boat cruises to many areas of Europe including the Loire Valley, Burgundy or Provence in **France**, in **Germany** along the Rivers Saar, Moselle and Rhine, in **Italy** on the Venice Lagoon, Sicily or Amalfi Coast, the popular River Danube in **Austria** or **Romania**, island hopping in **Greece, Turkey** or on the Dalmatian coast of **Croatia**. We also offer inn-to-inn guided or self-guided cycling holidays in many destinations in Europe & across the world including **South Africa, New Zealand, Vietnam** and **Japan**.

Contact Outdoor Travel direct for more details and reservations:

- Call: (03) 5750 1441
- Email: **info@outdoortravel.com.au**
- Web: **http://www.outdoortravel.com.au**
- Mail: Outdoor Travel Pty Ltd, PO Box 286, Bright VIC 3741, Australia

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