

GERMANY – KOBLENZ TO SAARBURG ON RIVERS MOSELLE & SAAR

8-days / 7-night easy to moderate **PREMIUM** Bike and Barge **SELF-GUIDED** cycling cruise



Sail and ride along two of Germany's most scenic and romantic rivers, the Saar and Moselle. Enjoy a relaxed, mainly flat cycling route, between beautiful wooded hills in an area known and loved for its splendid white wines. See small towns and villages of great charm and character and some astounding Roman history. Bike & Barge cruises offer the opportunity to explore beautiful countryside and historic cities sampling beers, wine and local produce. There is an English-speaking tour coordinator who provides a daily route briefing and who is available by mobile phone during the day, while you ride the daily cycling routes as a self-guided tour, using the route information and maps which are provided.

These cycling cruises combine easy to moderate cycling with river or canal cruising. They allow partners of different abilities and interests to holiday together (trips are just as interesting for leisure cyclists OR enthusiasts). You unpack once and come 'home' each night to a wonderful meal and a comfortable cabin with your own bathroom. These cruises are rapidly becoming the thing to do in Europe appealing to the more active mature traveller. They are ideal for those trying a cycling holiday for the first time, families or a group of friends.

Well-maintained multi-gear touring bikes are provided (passengers can bring their own if they prefer) with cycling along well defined mostly sealed pathways. Occasionally there is the option to break into hillier country to visit areas of interest, for wine tasting, to see a castle or for a coffee stop. If you wish to make the cycling easier, a limited number of **E-Bikes are available** (at extra cost) – ask for details when you make your booking.

Cost from: Lower deck cabin **\$2040** per person twin share
Upper deck cabin **\$2300** per person twin share
Season supplements \$265 per person on selected departures
Single Cabin supplements \$260 - \$865 per person (limited availability)

Departs: Selected Saturdays from May to October (subject to minimum numbers)

Koblenz – Saarburg: 4, 18 May; 10, 24 August; 7, 21 September; 5 October 2024

Saarburg – Koblenz: 11, 25 May; 17, 31 August; 14, 28 September 2024

Included: 7 nights' accommodation in twin cabin with lower beds and private bathroom; 7 buffet breakfasts, 6 packed lunches, 7 three-course dinners; afternoon tea / coffee; welcome drink; hire of multi-gear hybrid bicycle with pannier and bike insurance; detailed route notes and maps (1 set per cabin); services of a tour coordinator aboard who provides daily route briefings, port fees.

Not included: Drinks and personal expenses, crew gratuities, entrance fees and excursions, transfers to/from the barge, ferry fees, travel insurance, bike helmets. Special dietary requests can be catered for with a supplement.

Call OUTDOOR TRAVEL on 1800 331 582 for details or reservations



The large, well-equipped barge has been extensively re-modelled to suit Bike & Barge touring. It has 49 air-conditioned cabins: 22 upper-deck cabins with windows that open and 21 cabins (closed windows) on the lower deck. The barge has a saloon with bar and large windows at the front of the upper deck and a separate restaurant on the lower deck. The partially covered sun deck has tables and chairs, perfect for those days when you might like to take a break from cycling and relax while the barge cruises.

Suggested itinerary: *

Day 1 Saturday: Arrive in Koblenz

Plan to arrive at the barge moored in Koblenz, from 4.00pm onwards. The barge stays overnight in Koblenz.

Day 2 Sunday: Koblenz – Alken | Alken – Moselkern – Cochem

cycling @ 30km

Cruise to Alken over breakfast. From here we cycle to Moselkern, and on to Cochem. Cochem is a lovely town with historical half-timbered houses and a picturesque old centre.

Day 3 Monday: Cochem – Zell on the Moselle

cycling @ 40km

Our first stop today is Beilstein, with some free time to explore. We then cycle past some of Europe's steepest vineyard at Bremmer Calmont. We moor overnight near the wine-growing village of Zell on the River Moselle.

Day 4 Tuesday: Zell on the Moselle – Bernkastel-Kues

cycling @ 45km

Cycling from Zell, ride to romantic Traben-Trarbach, the city of Jugendstil (the artistic movement 'Youth Style'), and via Kröv, famous for its wine, to Bernkastel where traditional half-timbered houses surround the marketplace as they have since the Middle Ages. There is time to take a tour through the town or to go shopping before making your way to the barge.

Day 5 Wednesday: Bernkastel-Kues – Piesport – Mehring

cycling @ 50km

First, we ride to Piesport, where we can take a tour to explore the Roman cellars, then on to Neumagen-Dhron, one of the oldest wine growing centres in Germany. After lunch continue to Mehring, the largest winegrowing community in the Moselle-Saar-Ruwer region.

Day 6 Thursday: Mehring – Trier

cycling @ 25 to 35km

Today we cycle from Mehring via Pfalzel to Trier, one of the oldest cities of Germany. Trier's Roman heritage is on show with impressive buildings such as the Porta Nigra, the Konstantin Basilica and the Amphitheatre.

Day 7 Friday: Trier – Wasserbillig – Saarburg

cycling @ 40km

We cycle alongside the river from Trier and cross the border to Wasserbillig in Luxembourg. After lunch, back in Germany again, we continue to Saarburg, with its narrow streets, half-timbered houses, cafés lining the canal and riversides, and a 20-metre waterfall cascading down between Baroque buildings – the result of a 13th Century engineering project re-directing the Leuk River through the city centre.

Day 8 Saturday: Saarburg. Tour ends after breakfast.

** The cruise operates in reverse direction on alternate weeks. The day-to-day itinerary is subject to change at the discretion of the captain / cycling coordinator (where necessary). Cycling distances shown are approximate.*

Bike and Barge cruises are available from **Outdoor Travel** in France, Germany, Belgium, Italy, Croatia, Greece and Turkey and in Vietnam. Guided or self-guided cycling tours are available throughout Europe and the UK.

Contact Outdoor Travel for more details and reservations:

- Call Toll free 1800 331 582 or (03) 57551743 or Fax (03) 57501020
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