

## CLASSIC HOUSEBOATS ON THE CANAL DU MIDI OR IN BURGUNDY

8-day / 7-nights – choice of routes with a selection of fully equipped traditional styled boats for hire

The prettiest canals in France are the Canal du Midi in Languedoc near to Carcassonne in the South and Burgundy's Nivernais or Canal du Bourgogne just a couple of hours by train from Paris. Take an opportunity to explore these waterways aboard the best-designed, most comfortable self-skipped houseboats.



Cruising on the canals of France is a magnificent and relaxing way to have a holiday. Self-skipping a quality motor cruiser gives you both freedom and flexibility. Life along the canals and in the many towns and villages along our cruising routes is colourful and often breathtaking. There are towns and villages to explore, restaurants to enjoy and special events such as spring festivals, summer fetes or "vendange" the wine harvest in autumn in many of the numerous vineyards on the Canal du Midi and in Burgundy. Hire a self-contained **Classic Houseboat** for a week and the adventure begins.....

**Departures:** Every Friday, Saturday and Monday from late April to early October

**From:** **Canal du Midi** - Capestang and Castelnaudary. Capestang has railway stations at Beziers or Narbonne (20 minutes by taxi). Castelnaudary has a railway station, access via Toulouse.

**Burgundy** - Vermenton and Tonnerre, on the Canal du Bourgogne. Vermenton has a railway station, as does Tonnerre with direct links to Paris (approximate travel time 2-hours)

We offer one-way cruising in Burgundy, from Vermenton and Tonnerre (or vice-versa).

We offer one-way cruising on the Midi, from Capestang and Castelnaudary (or vice-versa).

The one-way supplement is €150 irrespective of the boat

One-way cruise directions are only confirmed two weeks before departure.

**Prices:** All prices shown in Euros (€) – contact us for the Australian dollar rate

**Hire period:** A week is 7-nights – extra nights can be booked. Hire times: 3.00pm pick-up & 9.00am drop-off

2020 Boat Hire (per week):		Season A	Season B	Season C	Season D
		before 17 Apr & after 3 Oct	18 Apr-24 Apr 26 Sep-2 Oct	25 Apr-29 May 19 Sep-25 Sep	30 May- 18 Sep
Classic 129	(2 people in a 4-berth)	€1530	€1755	€2025	€2250
Classic 129	(4-berth)	€1700	€1950	€2250	€2500
Classic 135 Grand Luxe	(2 people in a 4-berth)	€1710	€1980	€2250	€2430
Classic 135 Grand Luxe	(4-berth)	€1900	€2200	€2500	€2700
Classic 139 Grand Cru	(4-berth)	€2100	€2400	€2700	€3000
Classic 139	(6-berth)	€2100	€2500	€2750	€3100
Classic 149	(8-berth)	€2800	€3100	€3400	€3700
Linssen 34.9	(4-berth)	€2000	€2350	€2650	€2900
Linssen 40.9	(8-berth)	€2500	€3000	€3500	€3800

Plus compulsory fuel costs (calculated on engine hours), one-way fee if required, any extras or provisioning.

**CALL OUTDOOR TRAVEL FOR ITINERARY DETAILS & RESERVATIONS**



Bikes are available for hire with all boats at all bases at €40 per bike per week. On the collection of your boat, you will also need to pay a security deposit (€1000 - €1500) and cleaning deposit (€100 - €150) - these are refundable if your boat is returned clean, undamaged and on time to the appropriate base. If preferred you can pay a non-refundable Collision Damage Waiver instead of the security deposit: usually 10 – 20% of the boat deposit, depending on hire duration, please ask for more details. The Linssen 40.9 requires double these deposits. You also pay a Navigation charge for fuel, gas and other consumables, which is calculated according to the current tariff and boat, usually between €8 - €10 per engine hour run, when you return the boat. Other costs are optional (eg barbecue hire, extra bikes, secure car parking etc) and paid locally.

The Classic House Boat or new Linssen range is the most comfortable in all France and follows a simple effective philosophy:

- *Everybody sleeps on a proper bed - there are no sofa conversions.*
- *Only a maximum of two people per cabin - there are no dormitory cabins.*
- *Each cabin has its own bathroom with shower, basin and toilet.*
- *Every boat has a generator for domestic 220v electricity on demand (generator + inverter for Linssens).*
- *Every boat listed here has air-conditioning.*
- *Every Classic House Boat has two helm positions and a very spacious sundeck with deck furniture.*
- *The interior of every boat is comfortably furnished and beautifully finished in wood panelling.*

## CLASSIC HOUSE BOATS



Classic 129



Classic 149



Classic 139



Classic 139 Grand Cru

**CONTACT OUTDOOR TRAVEL FOR RESERVATIONS ON 1800 331 582**





**THE LINSSEN RANGE OF QUALITY 2, 4 or 8-BERTH HOUSEBOATS**



**THE CANAL DU MIDI** - The Midi is the best known of the French waterways. Built in the 17<sup>th</sup> Century, the entire Canal du Midi is a UNESCO World Heritage site. This means that a cruise along the Midi is a journey back in time, through a region – including the city of Carcassonne – steeped in history and places of interest.





The base at Capestang is 20km from Beziers. Capestang is on the “Grand Bief” - the longest lock-free stretch of Canal in France. This 54km-long pound effectively allows you 108km of cruising, without passing a lock, as the canal twists and turns following the same contour line under the shade of the magnificent plane trees.

Castelnaudary was once the largest port on this stretch of the Midi and still has excellent port facilities. The railway station is on the Toulouse-Narbonne line and is less than a kilometre from the port.

The one-way cruise between Castelnaudary and Capestang (one week, about 28 hours of cruising) includes the medieval city of Carcassonne, the pretty port of Le Somail, the villages of Homps, Bram, Puichenic, Marseillette and Trebes, and the chance to cruise the “Grand Bief”.



**THE CANAL DU NIVERNAIS** flows through rolling Burgundian countryside just 2 hours south of Paris. The canal du Nivernais is the canalised River Yonne and, therefore, one of the many charms is the change from river cruising to canal cruising along the prettiest stretch of waterway between Auxerre and Clamecy. The base at Vermenton allows you a relaxed cruise between Auxerre and Clamecy, both delightful towns, stopping at the numerous charming villages to sample the fine cuisine and wine famous in Burgundy.

Tonnerre on the Burgundy Canal gives a wide range of cruising opportunities in the Burgundy region especially as a one-way destination from Vermenton. The port provides access to a good selection of shops and restaurants and Tonnerre is a charming little town with a medieval center with highlights including the Fosse Dionne, Hôtel-Dieu, Cathedrale St-Pierre and surrounding vineyards. It is an ideal location both at the beginning and at the end of the cruise and allows us to offer cruises both on the Nivernais and the Burgundy canals and also opens the possibility of cruising on the River Yonne. The one way cruise between Vermenton and Tonnerre is ideal for a one week trip with 26-28 hours of cruising.

**Outdoor Travel** has specialised in boating holidays in France for over 20-years. Our experienced staff have personally cruised on many of the wonderful waterways across the many unique regions of France. They can help you choose from a wide variety of self-skipped motor cruisers OR luxurious crewed Hotel Barges.

We can also help with route planning, what to take, what to wear and a comprehensive range of travel services to help you get the best enjoyment and value from your boating holiday in Europe.

**Contact Outdoor Travel for more details and reservations:**

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