

Cycling Europe

FRANCE 2020

BIKE & BARGE IN THE LOIRE VALLEY

COURS-LES-BARRES-ROGNY OR v.v.

Guided cycling 7 nights / 8 days from Paris

The area of the Valley of the Loire between the cities of Nevers and Montargis in France is a very suitable region for a relaxing bike & barge holiday.

This area, approximately 100 kilometres in length, offers a landscape with slightly rolling hills and a mild climate. During the summer it is dry but never too warm. The Loire Valley region is also known for its rich history and culture. The many impressive castles and small villages make this cycling holiday a unique experience.



ITINERARY

Day 1: Saturday: Paris to Cours-les-Barres

Depart Paris from Gare du Nord station by coach around 3pm to Cours-les-Barres. You arrive at your barge in the early evening, where you will join your tour leader and crew for dinner.

Day 2: Sunday Cours-les-Barres-Nevers-Cours-les-Barres

From Cours-les-Barres cycle to the town of Aprémont. You may visit the 12th century Chateau and its fabulous gardens. Then continue on to the beautiful town of Nevers, before returning to the barge in Cours-les-Barres for the night.

Cycling: 50 km/ Moderate terrain



Day 3: Monday Cours-les-Barres -Menétréol

After a morning cruise to Beffes, you cycle to La Charité-sur-Loire, an ancient Roman town. Crossing the 16th century stone bridge to the centre, you will have a fabulous view over the town and its Notre Dame church. In the afternoon you cycle through the vineyards of the Pouilly Fumé wines to Ménétréol. In Ménétréol, situated below the Sancerre vineyards, you will be given the opportunity to try some wine.

Cycling: 55 km/ some hills

Day 4: Tuesday Menétréol-Beaulieu

Today you will visit Sancerre and then take a picturesque route right through the vineyards of the Sancerre region. Your cycle ride continues past many villages in this beautiful wine growing region. The ride ends in Beaulieu where you stop for the night.

Cycling: 50 km/ some hills



Day 5: Wednesday Beaulieu-Chateau St Brisson -Briare

Cycle past the historic locks of Châtillon-sur-Loire, and the aqueduct that will take you over the River Loire, and cycle on to the Chateau of St. Brisson. On your way back to the barge your will ride through the fresh forest air in the Forêt de St. Brisson. In the evening you cross the River Loire through the magnificent aqueduct and stop for the night in Briare.

Cycling: 40 km/ moderate terrain



Day 6: Thursday Briare-Chateau Pont Chevron-Rogny-les-Sept-Ecluses

First you have some time to explore Briare. The cycle trip leads to the Chateau Pont Chevron, which is picturesquely situated at a small lake. You will travel via Ouzouer-sur-Trézée across an area with lakes to the 16th century chateau near Bléneau. Your trip ends in the village Rogny-les-Sept-Écluses, known for its seven historical locks.

Cycling: 45 km/moderate terrain

Day 7: Friday: Rogny-les-Sept-Ecluses circuit ride

The barge will stay in Rogny. Today you will cycle to the market in Châtillon-Coligny. Continuing on to the Chateau La Bussière before returning to the barge via Escrignelles. The tour ends back in Rogny.

Cycling: 50 km/moderate terrain

Day 8: Saturday, Rogny-les-Sept-Ecluses to Paris

In the morning you may wish to go for a stroll. Around 11am your guide and crew will say good-bye, and you will return by coach back to Paris Gare du Nord, arriving in Paris around 3 pm.



Chateau La Bussière

BARGE ACCOMMODATION: ANNA MARIA 1V

Length 38m, this vessel has been built to sail the narrow waterways of France. During the season the ANNA MARIA IV sails the Loire region. The relaxed atmosphere aboard makes you feel at home. All 9 cabins have ensuite. The 8 twin cabins are equipped with 2 split level beds i.e. L-shaped above each other. There is one single cabin. The cabins have a sliding window and electric fan. Wi Fi is available. From the large sundeck enjoy views of the surrounding waterways, countryside and villages. The French chef provides excellent French and international cuisines. Maximum 17 passengers.





2020 SCHEDULE

Rogny-les-Sept-Ecluses – Cours-les-Barres

23 May, 06 June, 20 June, 12 September, 26 September

Cours-les-Barres – Rogny-les-Sept-Ecluses

30 May, 13 June, 05 September, 19 September, 03 October

2020 TOUR COST (PER PERSON IN EUROS)

Twin Share cabin May, June, October	€1055
Twin Share cabin September	€1155
Single Supplement	€ 230

Bike 27 Gear: €60 with optional insurance €30

Electric Bikes: €195 – limited numbers available, includes insurance

2020 COST INCLUDES

- o Accommodation in twin cabin on barge (8 days/ 7 nights)
- o Full board (breakfast, packed lunch, 3-course dinner)
- o Tour leader for cycle tours and city walks; multilingual; English, German and Dutch
- o Return bus transfer from Paris Gare du Nord station to barge at Cours-les-Barres and Rogny-les-Sept-Écluses.
- o Information booklet

Special diet catering has a surcharge from €50 (eg gluten free, dairy free, vegan, etc). If you are a "lacto-ovo" vegetarian (eats dairy & eggs) or require a diabetic or low sodium diet there is no extra charge.



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