



**Bike and Barge in Germany on the Saar, Moselle and Rhine rivers
from Merzig to Mainz
September 14th - 21st 2019**

Saturday, DAY 1: Arrival in Merzig

The **Merlijn**, your sailing hotel, already awaits you in Merzig. Embarkation starts at 4 pm. The crew will welcome you on board and while you enjoy a welcome drink you will get information about the ship, the tours and the bicycles. After dinner there is time for a stroll through the city that gives you a chance to have a look at structures dating over eight centuries as well as visiting some museums.



Sunday, DAY 2: Merzig - Saarburg (32 km)

Today's tour takes you through the wonderful Saarland region. More than any other region, it symbolizes the "rendezvous in Saarland", a junction of water and land. From Merzig it's about 10 km to the *excellent* viewpoint over the landscape and the Saar loop at the "Cloef" above and invites you to a short stay. Near Orscholz you will pass the Saar-loop, the renowned river bend of the Saar.



From here you will bike further on to Saarburg, passing the village Mettlach, well known for the Villeroy & Boch products. In Saarburg you may complete your trip with a city tour and enjoy a splendid view over the city and the Saar valley. In the charming city itself you'll be impressed by the narrow alleys, framework houses, Baroque constructions as well as colourful fishermen and sailor houses. The master architect of Berlin, Karl Friedrich Schinkel, already named the ensemble of romantic houses and small bridges on the Buttermarkt "Little Venice" in the 19th century.

Monday, DAY 3: Saarburg - Trier (20 km)

After breakfast you will continue your trip by following the river Saar river 'downstream'. At Konz the Saar meets the Moselle river. In the afternoon you will enjoy a guided city tour through this magnificent city.



Trier was the Roman capital of the western part of the Roman Empire, and there are many remainders such as the Porta Nigra, the gigantic city-gate and the Roman Baths. Tonight you will enjoy your dinner at your own expense in one of the many restaurants in Trier.

Tuesday, DAY 4: Trier - Traben Trarbach (45 KM)

While enjoying your breakfast the Merlijn sails from Trier to the holiday resort Mehring. The Roman poet Ausonius already sang of the beautiful landscape. The Romans fell in love with this landscape more than 2000 years ago and built splendid country villas here. After visiting Neumagen-Drohn you will bike further on to Bernkastel-Kues, where magnificent framework houses line the marketplace.



After a visit to this charming city you will board the Merlijn and together we sail to Traben Trarbach. Tonight you will enjoy a wine tasting at the local winery Storck.

Wednesday, DAY 5: Traben Trarbach - Cochem (35 km)

Enjoy your breakfast while cruising from Trarbach to Zell - famous for its vineyard *Zeller Schwarze Katz*. Here your bike tour starts and you will bike along the meandering Moselle and visit many charming villages, such as Alf, Sankt Aldegund - here you can visit a cellar with lots of liquors, wines and Mosel-mustards - Bremm and finally Beilstein.



After exploring this interesting medieval village, that has never been destroyed so far, you will bike to Cochem, where the Merlijn will await you.



Thursday, DAY 6: Cochem - Koblenz (35 km)

Today starts with a relaxing sailing breakfast, cruising up to Moselkern where your tour starts into the Elztal and the castle of Eltz.



Lying romantically on a cliff, the castle is one of the very few that has never been destroyed during its long history. After a visit you will bike to Koblenz, where the Merlijn will be docked close to the *Altstadt* and the German Corner.



Friday, DAY 7: Koblenz - Mainz (30 km)

During your last sailing breakfast this morning - Merlijn takes you in the early morning to Oberwesel. Today is one of the highlights of the trip: sailing by the Loreley, you might even hear her singing.....



In Oberwesel your bike tour will start, at the end crossing the river to the charming, famous city Rudesheim with its *Drossgasse*. Here you will board the Merlijn and we'll

cruise on the Rhine River to Mainz, the capital of Rhineland-Palatinate. Mainz's Old Town, its inner city, is the pride and joy of the city-scene. Broad, roomy squares and places, lovingly-restored half-timbered houses and magnificent Baroque churches give the Old Town its charming, "gemütliches" character.



Saturday, DAY 8 Departure from Mainz
Disembarkation at 9am, after breakfast.

Rate p.p. in a double room: € 1.480

Included:

7 nights accommodation, 7 x breakfast, 6 x dinner, 6 x packed lunch, use of a 24-speed bike, bike-bag, towel, your own personal water bottle, use of a helmet - universal size fits everyone, guided city tour in Trier, wine tasting in Trarbach, entrance to the Castle of Eltz, services of a tour guide.

Not included:

1 dinner, travelling to and from the Merlijn, drinks other than mentioned, excursions and entrance fees other than mentioned.

We reserve to ourselves the right of changing schedule and/or program. If -part of - the route is not navigable the captain is entitled to change the schedule for safety reasons. Changes in schedule and program do not give you the right on free cancellation.

We will be happy to inform you on transfers, city hotel reservations, rental of our tandem or electric bikes (€ 25 each per day)

Payment: 20% of the price at the time of definite reservation
80% 1 month prior to starting cruise date

Cancellation fee:

If the cruise is cancelled
untill 12 months prior to starting cruise date 20%
between 12 and 6 months prior to starting cruise date 50%
between 6 and 1 month prior to starting cruise date 80%
between 1 month and 1 day prior to starting cruise date 90%
at the day of starting cruise date or later 100%