

## Saar & Mosel



### Tour information 2020



Go back in time and visit the Roman villas and public baths,

You can download the photos of this tour and of the barges on our Flickrpage [https://www.flickr.com/photos/cycletours\\_holidays](https://www.flickr.com/photos/cycletours_holidays)



**This tour along the Saar and Mosel combines the best of the German 'Bundesländer' Saarland and Rheinland Pfalz. While cycling from Mettlach to Cochem you'll discover the legacy of the Roman Empire, Saarschleife, Castles; go beyond your limits and meet the 'Queen of grapes'.**

Go back in time and visit the Roman villas and public baths along the two rivers. In Trier you can visit the Porta Nigra. This ancient gateway is one of the best known monuments from the Roman era. While cycling through one of Germany's greater wine-growing areas this is an excellent occasion to taste a lot of different wines and see where they grow and how they are made. Get acquainted with the excellent but uncomplicated wines from the Saar and the so called 'Spitzenweinen' along the Mosel like the 'Zeller Schwarze Katz'. The main ingredient for those wines is the Riesling, a white grape variety which dates back to the 15th century and is crowned the 'Queen of grapes'.



**The route from day to day from Mettlach to Cochem + km**

<b>Sunday</b>	Mettlach, embarkation at 3 PM. Short cycling route
Monday	Saarschleife - Saarburg, 35
Tuesday	Saarburg - nearby Trier, 35
Wednesday	Nearby Trier - Bernkastel Kues, 50
Thursday	Bernkastel Kues , Moselle-Maare cycling trail, 55
Friday	Bernkastel Kues – Zell, 40
Saturday	Zell- Cochem, 45
<b>Sunday</b>	Cochem, debarkation before 10 AM.

1 km = 0.62 miles / All distances are approximate. The above planned itinerary is subject to change due to changing wind and weather conditions and other unforeseen circumstances having to do with mooring requirements, etc.



**Day 1 Sunday: Mettlach, embarkation between 2 PM and 3 PM**

Your tour starts in the beautiful Saarland town of Mettlach, home of Villeroy & Boch and with a lot of shops and terraces. At 4 PM we will make a short trip along the Saar River to a beautiful mooring-place near the Saarschleife (Saar loop).

**Day 2 Monday: Saarschleife – Saarburg, 35 km**

After breakfast we bike to the Saar-Canyon. Here we have the opportunity to hike to an outlook site on top of the Saar-Canyon where we have a magnificent panorama over the faraway surroundings. The hike is not steep and takes 1 hour uphill and half an hour downhill. At lunchtime we will arrive back in the town of Mettlach where we will have lunch and can visit the town with its outlet-shops. Of course we won't forget to visit the biggest attraction of the town: The Villeroy & Boch porcelain museum including a cup of coffee in the beautiful Museum-Café. We will end this day-trip in the very scenic town of Saarburg with its huge waterfall in the middle of town.



**Saarburg**



**Saarschleife**

### **Day 3 Tuesday: Saarburg – Nearby Trier, 35 /45 km**

During today's tour you switch rivers, leave the Saar behind and follow the Mosel. One thing's for sure, you're not the first tourist in the area: it was around the year 365 A.D. that the river inspired the Roman teacher Magnus Ausonius to write his hymn Mosella: 'Greetings, river, framed by perfumed vineyard-covered hills, Framed by grass; river of greenest shores. Your strong waters carry ships, flowing in easy waves. Along the stream, and a glittering lake your depths emulate.' We can take a detour and cross the border into the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg. In the afternoon we ride on to Trier where you'll stay for around 3 hours. This city is known for its Roman legacies like the Porta Nigra, the Basilica of Constantine the Great and the amphitheatre. After visiting there is one hour cycling to the mooring-place of the barge.



**Roman Villa, Mehring**

### **Day 4 Wednesday: Nearby Trier, sailing to Schweig; cycling to Bernkastel-Kues, 50 km**

Just like yesterday the Romans are still present today. Along the route you'll find a lot of old Roman villas, public baths and other relics of ancient civilizations. All the historical buildings are placed on the slopes along the winding river. Especially the town of Neumagen-Dhron is interesting for its Roman remains. This used to be a Roman fortress and the place where the famous Roman wine ship was found. The end point of today is the medieval town of Bernkastel-Kues with its romantic narrow streets, remarkable half-timbered houses and picturesque nooks and crannies. There's the opportunity for a wine-tasting-excursion in a winery.



**Bernkastel Kues**



## **Day 5 Thursday: Bernkastel-Kues – Moselle-Maare cycling trail, 55 km**

In the morning the cycle bus takes you to Daun, to the start of the Moselle-Maare cycling trail, possibly the most famous cycling trail of the central Moselle. The track is built on an old railway line. There is no simpler way to cycle to the Moselle valley than on the former railway line through the Volcanic Eifel! The road runs through the landscape of volcanoes and crater lakes, along magnificent viaducts and past old railway stations. Light as a feather, it continues to roll on the Moselle bike path to Bernkastel-Kues.



**Moselle-Maare Trail**



### **Day 6 Friday: Bernkastel-Kues – Zell, 40 km**

As if it had imbibed a drink or two, the Mosel makes its way through a green and fascinating landscape with vineyards and forests. Along the way you'll find some beautiful towns and villages like the so-called 'Winzerdorf' Wolf and even further around the next curve you'll be surprised by the beautiful double city in Jugendstil, Traben Trarbach. Just before Zell you will bike to the "Marienburg" where you will be awarded by a splendid view over the Mosel Meander. The ship waits for you in the city of the black cat, Zell. The story goes that when some wine merchants from Aachen had to choose which wine barrel they should buy a black cat jumped upon one of the barrels to defend it. Of course this made it clear for them which barrel they should buy.



**Traben-Trarbach**



### **Day 7 Saturday: Zell – Cochem, 35 km**

The day starts with a ride to the almost vertical vineyards of Calmont near Bremm. Here you can take a hike up the slopes and see yet another wonderful bend in the Mosel river. After lunch we ride on to the beautiful village of Beilstein, décor of many movies. After the visit we cycle the last part of the trip along the Mosel to Cochem, the final destination of this cycling week. Cochem is famous for its wines and dominated by the old Reichsburg.



**Zell am Mosel**



**Beilstein**

### **Day 8 Sunday: Cochem, end of the tour**

Disembarkation after breakfast, before 10 AM.

## **Zwaan – Category ComfortPlus**

Capacity: 14/15 persons

Length/width: 34 x 6,2 m

Electricity: 220 V

Wifi on board: Yes, limited available in lounge and on deck

Windows can open? Yes

Air conditioning: Yes



### **Cabins**

**7 cabins with private hot shower/toilet and air-conditioning:**

- 2x Luxury double cabin (separate seating)
- 1x Twin cabin (beds can be placed together; small desk between the beds)
- 2x Twin cabin (beds fixed to the floor; small desk between the beds)
- 1x Triple cabin (bunk bed+single bed, beds fixed to the floor; can be booked as twin)
- 1x Front double cabin, smaller cabin in the front of the barge (small double bed; can also be booked as single use); accessible with steep stairs; entrance on deck)

Hairdryers are available on board.

Weather permitting dinners can be served on the sundeck.

Our motorised passenger vessels, about 35 - 45 metres in length, are former river vessels especially converted for this kind of holiday. The barges all comply with the strict safety regulations laid down by the Dutch Shipping Inspection Authorities. On board you find a cosy dining room, a sun deck/a deck for the bicycles. All cabins are provided with running water (hot and cold), private shower and toilet, 220 voltage and central heating. There is limited storage space in the cabin. We recommend 1 suitcase per person. You can slide the suitcase under the bed.

Do not expect a cruise ship with its passive luxury. The Bike & Barge Holidays are for people who really enjoy the physical activity of cycling and who value sociability more than wholesale luxury.



## Bicycle

After arrival on board you will be allocated a cycle suitable to your height. This cycle (a so-called Hybrid), is at your disposal during your trip until Friday at 4 PM. Your bike has 24 speeds, hand brakes, pannier bags, bike helmet, a good lock, water bottle and you can get a repair-kit. Before you make your first tour, the guide will give you instructions about the bike. We draw your attention to the fact that you will be held responsible for damage to or theft of the bike, as long as the bike is not on board. (the bike has a value of more than € 600,-). Never leave it unattended. Always lock it and fasten it to a fixed object.

You can insure this bike with Cycletours for € 20,- per bicycle! If you didn't arrange cycle insurance when booking you can do this on board (the first day). Payment in cash is required. Should you use your own bike, please bring a good lock with you!



## Electric bike

It is also possible to book an electric bike. Your bike has 24 gears, a detachable lithium-Ion battery, hand brakes, pannier bags, bike helmet, a good lock, water bottle and you can get a repair kit. We draw your attention to the fact that you will be held responsible for damage to or theft of the bike, as long as the bike is not on board. (the E-bike has a value of more than € 2000,-). Never leave it unattended. Always lock it and fasten it to a fixed object, and don't forget to remove the information panel from your steering wheel. You can insure this bike with Cycletours for € 40,- per bicycle! If you didn't arrange cycle insurance when booking you can do this on board (the first day). Payment in cash is required.

### Arrival between 2 PM and 3 PM

You are expected on our barge on **Sunday at 3 PM**. You can recognise the barge by the banner with 'Cycletours' written on it. The name of your barge 'Zwaan' is printed on the voucher, which you will receive separately. After arrival there's coffee and tea on board. Other drinks are also available on cash payment. If you want you can bring your luggage in advance, from 12 Noon onwards.

**The mooring place of the barge in Mettlach is along the Saar at the level of Mettlach Train station: Von Boch-Lebigstrasse, Mettlach, Germany (10 minute walk from the train station)**



## Train

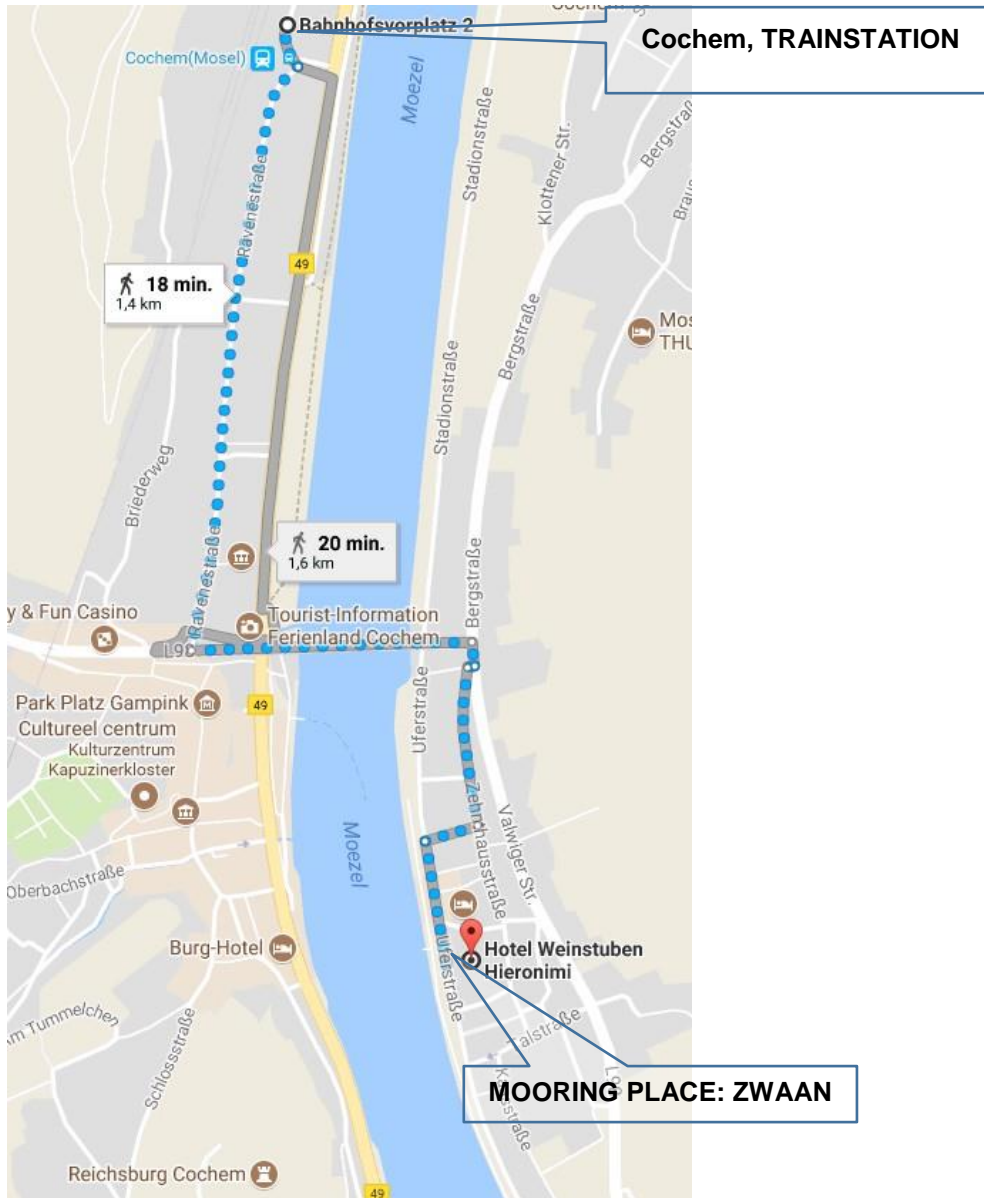
From Frankfurt am Main Airport (FRA) there is a direct train connection to Mettlach. The train leaves at least every hour and it takes at least 2,5 hrs. to Mettlach. The price for a train ticket from Frankfurt am Main to Mettlach is about € 35,- per person for a single journey. For the exact departure times and prices check [www.db.de](http://www.db.de) . From the train station it's about 500 m. walking (around the park) to the barge, see the blue dotted line on the map above.

Taxi

A taxi from the Mettlach (Saar) train station to the barge takes about 10 minutes and costs about € 10,-.

## End of the tour

The tour ends one week later on Sunday morning after breakfast before 10 AM. You'll spend the night from Saturday on board in Cochem.



## Train

Depending on the time of departure you can travel from Cochem train station to Frankfurt am Main Airport (FRA) by train in about 2,5 hrs. The train leaves every hours and a ticket costs about € 30,- per person. For the exact departure times and prices check [www.db.de](http://www.db.de).

## Taxi

A taxi from the barge to Cochem station takes about 5 minutes.



## Travel dates 2020

2020	Barge Zwaan
August	
	30/8/2020
September	
	13/9/2020
	27/9/2020
October	11/10/2020

## Prices per person in 2020 (US prices approx. 14% higher)

### Barge Zwaan (ComfortPlus)

	All season
Luxury double cabin	€ 1500,-
Twin cabin	€ 1340,-
Triple cabin	€ 1300,-
Smaller double front cabin	€ 1159,-
Smaller front cabin for single use	€ 1705,-

### Reduction children:

0-2 \*: free of charge

3-11\*: 30%

\*If child is travelling together with at least 1 one full-paying person

Please note that the tour prices are based on the current fuel price.

Should the fuel price increase more than 5% (reference date Oct. 2018), then we need to ask a supplement. Even for reservations that already have been made.

## Included

- All nights on board (incl. bedding, towels, soap)
- Breakfast and dinner on board
- Lunch packages when on the road
- Coffee and tea on board
- Tour guide, cycles with the group
- Min. 3 city walks with tour guide
- Free WiFi (limited available in lounge and on deck)
- Route information, 1x per cabin
- Ferry fares on the route
- GPS tracks (on request)

## Not included

- Bicycle rent (see below)
- Bicycle insurance Hybrid bike (optional) € 20,- per bicycle
- Bicycle insurance E-bike (optional) € 40,- per bicycle
- Entrance fees to museums; approx. € 15,- per tour
- Personal insurance

## Extra

- Rental bike incl. bike helmet: € 92,50  
(Hybrid bike with 24 gears, pannier bags, lock, water bottle)
- Rental E-bike incl. bike helmet: € 175,- (with 21 gears)
- Child's bike: € 60,- (incl. helmet; with 21 gears; for children from approx. 9 years and older)
- Bike seat: € 15,- (incl. helmet; suitable for children from approx. 11 months until 5 years; max. weight 25 kg)
- Trailer bike: € 55,- (incl. helmet; bike attached to adult's bike; suitable for children from approx. 5 until 9 years; max. weight 35 kg)
- Bike trailer: € 90,- (suitable for babies who can not sit by themselves; a car seat/baby seat not included)

## Special details

Please take good notice of our [Terms & Conditions](#) on our web site.

If you have special meal requirements (vegetarian meals, or if you are on a diet), we ask you to mention this when booking.

In case of **gluten free/Celiac/vegan diet** there is an additional charge of **€ 50,-** per week.

Cycletours Holidays reserves the right to cancel tours with fewer than 12 participants up to 21 days prior to the date of departure.

## Contact us for booking and more information

