



# European WATERWAYS

EST. 1974



Luxury all-inclusive hotel barges cruising  
the beautiful waterways of Europe

**A truly unique experience**

France  Leisure™

FOR THE FINEST IN FRENCH TRAVEL

**RESERVATION 1300 302 623**



# The Hotel Barging Experience



*A gentle cruise on a hotel barge is the perfect way to discover the very soul of Europe, exploring its wonderful countryside and historical treasures and meeting its many friendly, diverse people.*

*Far removed from the hustle and bustle of city life, hotel barge voyages allow you to travel in luxury without the strains of packing and unpacking, whilst enjoying a balanced blend of daily excursions and fascinating cruising.*

## The Experience

Each hotel barge cruise is for 6 nights and includes:

- Comfortable accommodation in air-conditioned, en suite staterooms or suites
- Gourmet meals prepared by the onboard chef, fine wines and an open bar
- Daily escorted excursions in air-conditioned minibuses to places of interest and private wine tastings
- Local transfers e.g. to and from Paris
- Bicycles and on most hotel barges, an on-deck spa pool
- Attentive service from an experienced crew - Captain, chef, tour guide, and hosts/hostesses

## What We Offer

There is so much to choose from:

- Cruises in 9 countries on our fleet of 18 hotel barges that accommodate from 6 to 20 passengers
- A wide selection of 'themed' cruises e.g. golf, walking, cycling, WW1 Commemorative, wine appreciation
- Cruises for like-minded travellers on an individual cabin basis, or whole barge charters for families, friends & special interest groups



## HOTEL BARGING COMPARED TO OTHER FORMS OF CRUISING

- Intimate atmosphere with small passenger numbers and a very high level of personal service
- Cruises are generally less than 70 miles in a week, at only 3mph
- Cruises on smaller waterways inaccessible to larger vessels
- Unique cruising experiences such as the Pont Canal de Briare, Arzwiller Boat Elevator and the Malpas Tunnel
- Gentle pace and immersion in the local culture and history
- Cruising a few feet from the towpath, it's easy to moor up and explore on foot or bicycle
- More focus on the wines and cuisine of each region
- Excursions in small groups to "off the beaten track" places
- Relaxed and exclusive house party atmosphere
- Whole barge charter cruises always available



# A Voyage of Discovery - wherever you choose to cruise

Our cruises gently introduce you to some of Europe's finest scenery, fascinating history and local culture – from the picturesque vineyards of Burgundy to the spectacular Scottish Highlands; from the sun-drenched waterways of the South of France to the beautiful Moselle in Germany; from the storybook Alsace region to the serenity of the Loire Valley.

There are so many delightful waterways to be discovered – canals like the Briare, Nivernais, Burgundy and Canal du Midi in France; the Caledonian Canal in Scotland and the Bianco Canal in Italy; majestic rivers such as the Cher, Moselle, Shannon and Thames; and the more open waters of Loch Ness, the Etang de Thau and the Venetian Lagoon.

## Enticing Excursions

*Every hotel barge cruise in our collection includes daily excursions to some fascinating local places of interest - imposing citadels or elegant châteaux, colourful markets or renowned wine cellars, medieval hilltop villages or magnificent palaces and cathedrals. Typical excursions:*

- Tour the amazing food markets of Dijon and Narbonne
- Wine tastings in Sancerre, Chablis and Beaune
- Tour historic Carcassonne – the most complete medieval fortified city in existence
- Cruise across the spectacular aqueduct over the River Loire, built by Gustav Eiffel
- Experience an ascent or descent of the unique Arzwiller boat elevator in Alsace
- Tour Holland's Keukenhof Gardens with the largest display of flowers in the world
- Visit Mantua's magnificent Ducal Palace and cruise the Venetian Lagoon
- Tour Cawdor Castle and gardens in Scotland, home of Shakespeare's Macbeth



Carcassonne



Renowned Vineyards

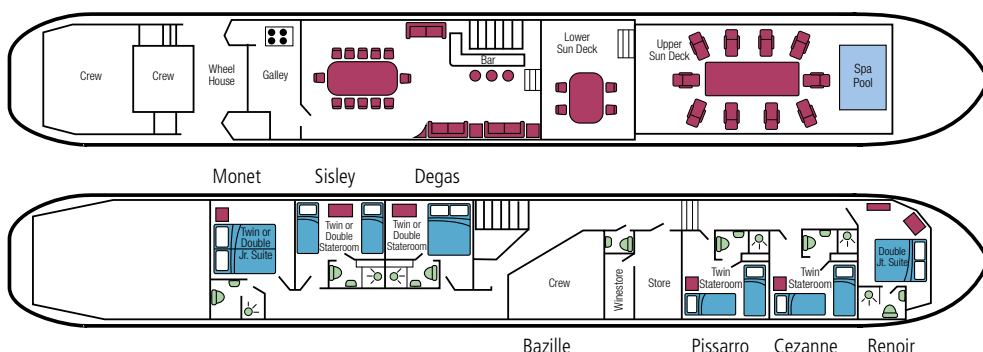


Hôtel Dieu Hospice



Keukenhof Gardens

## Typical Deck Plan



- 128 Feet Long
- 12 Passengers
- 6 Crew
- DVD Player / TV
- 2 Junior Suites (143 - 152 sq ft incl. en suite)
- 4 Staterooms (110 - 127 sq ft incl. en suite)
- Sun Deck & Spa Pool
- Telescope
- 2 Air-Conditioned Minibuses
- Wi-Fi (Subject to Local Reception)
- Air-Conditioned
- Centrally Heated
- 12 Touring Bikes



# A Taste of Europe's Finest Cuisine

On each cruise our guests will enjoy wonderful meals prepared by the talented chef, complemented by fine wines and delicious cheeses.



## Menu

### Breakfast

Awake each morning to the aroma of fresh coffee. Then enjoy a continental breakfast of freshly squeezed juices, crusty fresh bread with delicious preserves and hot croissants and pastries, or a cooked breakfast.

### Luncheon

Luncheon may be a buffet, of imaginative salads, pâtés, quiches, meat or fish platters, or perhaps a delicious homemade soup and entrée, accompanied by a choice of local cheeses and wines – often served al fresco on the sunlit deck overlooking the countryside.

### Dinner by Candlelight

On your hotel barge moored beneath the stars, dinner is a gastronomic adventure and the finale to your day's journey of discovery and intrigue. You may be served Chèvre Chaud en Portfeuille or Marinated Langoustines, followed by Filet d'Agneau au Basilic, Truite à la Chablésienne, or Magret de Canard au Vinaigre de Framboise.

Then a selection of creamy and firm cheeses such as Chaource, Époisses or Morbier, before a delicious dessert, perhaps Ile Flottante, Crème Brulée à la Vanille avec Tuiles aux Amandes, Tarte Tatin avec Caramel au Beurre Salé or Fondant au Chocolat.

And afterwards, of course, relax with coffee and liqueurs in the company of your fellow passengers.

## A Small Selection of the Wines Served Aboard

- Domaine Michelot, Meursault
- Domaine Laroche, Chablis Premier Cru
- Domaine de Barribou, Muscat de Minervois
- Domaine Vacheron, Sancerre
- Château de Chaintres, Saumur Champigny
- Rosé Blanc Brut Sanfeletto



## Typical Cuisine Aboard

### Regional Specialities

Magret de Canard au Ratafia de Bourgogne; Ragout de Calamars à la Provençale; Entrecôte de Bazas à la Bordelaise; Le Baeckeffe d'Alsace; Risotto al Prezzemolo; Fillet of Aberdeen Angus Beef with a Veal Glaze

### Cheese Board

Aisy Cendré; Bouton de Culotte; Époisses; Cathare au Chèvre; Valencay; Tomme Fermier d'Alsace; Maasdam; Mozzarella di Bufala; Strathdon Blue





# What our clients say

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“ *Absolute best way to experience “la France profonde” while being pampered 24 hours a day. It’s the only way we’ll travel in the future.*

*Jan & Charles Baertl, Texas, USA*



“ *A fantastic and exciting journey made possible by an amazing crew on a beautiful barge. We will be back again with European Waterways!*

*Chris and Val Overton, Western Australia*

“ *We really loved the ambience, perfect organization, food and drinks and, on top of that, the fantastic crew! It was the best vacation week in my life!! And I have travelled a lot around the world. All my trip’s companions are sharing the same feeling.*

*Jean Talmon, Paris, France*



“ *Unbelievable. A really wonderful culinary and European adventure, which we will remember and enjoy for the rest of our lives. All of the crew really made it enjoyable and most memorable. The food was absolutely out of this world.*

*Tom Peters & Joy Dittberner, California, USA*



“ *Our first experience of hotel barging. An exceptional culinary and wine experience supported by a great crew, a fantastic hotel barge and facilities, coupled with wonderful tours and cycling the French countryside. I would have no hesitation in recommending European Waterways to others.*

*Peter & Cathie Salier, Australia*



“ *The most wonderful birthday a girl could have. Everyone enjoyed it so much and all wanted to know when the next cruise is! For me it was magical – my favourite barge, some of my most special friends and a fabulous crew who made it so wonderful for all of us.*

*Peter & Anna Bickerton, London, UK*





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[WWW.FRANCEATLEISURE.COM](http://WWW.FRANCEATLEISURE.COM)