



Toronto Bicycle Club Tour Germany- Mosel & Sarr by Bike and Boat

8 Days/ 7 Nights Group Guided



This tour along the Mosel and Saar combines the best of the German 'Bundesländer' Rheinland Pfalz and Saarland. While cycling from Mettlach to Cochem you'll discover the legacy of the Roman Empire, 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. On day three you go literally beyond your limits when we take a trip to the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg in the village of Wasserbillig. While cycling through one of Germany's major 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'.

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.Day by Day – Mettlach- Cochem direction

Day 1 Saturday Mettlach, bike ride to Saarschleife, 15 km

The barge is moored in the Saar river in or opposite the city center of Mettlach. You are expected to arrive at our barge between 2 PM and 3 PM. When you arrive on board, you can settle in and enjoy a cup of coffee or tea. It is also a good moment to become acquainted with the tour leader, skipper and crew and of course your fellow passengers. Your tour starts in the beautiful Saarland town of Mettlach, home of Villeroy & Boch and with a lot of shops and terraces. In the afternoon the tour guide will take you on your first kilometers on the bike with a short ride along the Saar River to a beautiful mooring-place near the Saarschleife (Saar loop). During dinner aboard the ship, the program for the next day and the global planning of the week are discussed. Instructions on cycling and safely procedures will also be given.

Day 2 Sunday 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.



Day 3 Monday Saarburg – near Trier, 35 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

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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.

Day 4 Tuesday Near Trier—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 Romna whineship 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.



Day 5 Wednesday Bernkastel-Kues, Mosel-Maare cycling trail, 55 km.

In the morning the cycle bus takes you to Daun, to the start of the Mosel-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

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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.

Day 6 Thursday 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 needed to buy.

Day 7 Friday 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.



Day 8 Saturday Cochem, end of the tour after breakfast. Disembarkation before 10 AM

Route



Cycling level: Relatively Easy- average of 43 km per day mostly flat.

Barge Allure



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The MS ALLURE is a modern, converted inland waterway vessel. The ship offers a comfortable lounge/restaurant, a small bar and a sun deck. In the evenings it is possible to come together in the sitting area (air-conditioned). There is limited WiFi on board. The total of ten 2-bed outside cabins with ground-level beds are around 8 square meters in size.



Cabin plan:

- 9 Twin cabins, with two low beds
- 1 Double cabin (with double bed)

All cabins are provided with:

- air conditioning,
- private bathroom,
- central heating,
- 220 voltage,
- soap/shower gel/shampoo
- hair dryer,
- windows that open



Bikes

All our bikes come equipped with:

- 24 speeds (touring bike); 7 speeds (e-bike)
- hand brakes
- pannier bag
- a good (fixed) lock
- water bottle
- bike helmet

After arrival on board you will be allocated a bicycle suitable to your height. This bicycle is at your disposal during the total duration of your trip. Before you make your first tour, the guide will give you instructions about the bicycle. We draw your attention to the fact that you will be held responsible for damage to or theft of the bicycle, as long as the bicycle is not on board. Never leave it unattended and always lock it.

In 2025 bike insurance is included in bike rental.

This is a Partner Tour

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