



**Germany- Mosel & Sarr by Bike and Boat (2025)**

**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 Cochem to Mettlach 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 six 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'.

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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'.

#### **Day By Day Cochem - Mettlach direction**

##### **Day 1 Saturday Cochem, 15 km**

The barge is moored in the Mosel river opposite the city center of Cochem and the famous Reichsburg. 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.

In the afternoon or after dinner the tour guide will take you on your first kilometers on the bike with a short ride along the river. During dinner aboard the ship, the program for the next day and the global planning of the week are discussed. Instructions on cycling and safety procedures will also be given.

##### **Day 2 Sunday Cochem – Zell, 44 km**

The tour starts with a nice ride to the beautiful village of Beilstein, décor of many movies. Through five remarkable bends you'll meander along the river to the famous vineyards of Calmont. The steepest slopes have a gradient of 65%, which makes it quite difficult for the farmers to tend their vineyards. Time for lunch on the banks of the river. Endpoint of today is the city of the black cat, Zell. The story goes that when a few 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.



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### **Day 3 Monday Zell – Bernkastel-Kues, 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. Just after leaving Zell you will bike to the “Marienburg” where you will be awarded by a splendid view over the Mosel Meander. Along the way you’ll find some beautiful towns and villages like the beautiful double city in Jugendstil, Traben Trarbach and the so called ‘Winzerdorf’ Wolf. The final destination is Bernkastel-Kues, a medieval town with romantic narrow streets, remarkable half-timbered houses and picturesque nooks and crannies.

### **Day 4 Tuesday Mosel-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.

### **Day 5 Wednesday Bernkastel-Kues — near Trier, 55 km.**

Along today’s route you’ll find a lot of Roman villas and public baths but also relics of other ancient civilizations as the Celts. All those historical buildings are placed on the slopes along the ever winding river. ‘Special by the day’ is the ‘Piesporter Goldtröpfchen’, a lovely local blended white wine that we are going to taste in a local wine-bar. The visit to the town of Neumagen-Dhron is interesting for its many Roman remains. This used to be an old Roman fortress and the place where the famous Roman wine ship was found, a ship carved out of stone. A copy of the Wine Ship can be seen in the village centre. We spend the night at a mooring place near Trier.



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#### **Day 6 Thursday Trier – Saarburg, 35 km**

During today's tour we first take time to pay a visit to Trier, the oldest city of Germany, where you can visit some more Roman legacies like the Porta Nigra, the Basilica of Constantine the Great and the amphitheatre. After lunch we leave the Mosel behind and go South along the Saar. Before you take 'exit Saar' we can take a detour and cross the border into the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg. One thing's for sure, you're not the first tourist in the area: it was around the year 365 A.D. that the Roman teacher and poet Magnus Ausonius wrote 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.' For the night you'll stay in Saarburg. Don't forget to take a walk through the old town centre with the famous waterfalls and pay a visit to the old city castle.

#### **Day 7 Friday Saarburg – Mettlach, 35 km**

From Saarburg you cycle south along the Saar. Around the little village of Saarhölzbach you leave Rheinland Pfalz behind and enter the Saarland. The history of this little village goes back to the year 802 and the government of Charlemagne, also known as Charles the Great, king of Franks, king of Italy and the first Holy Roman Emperor. Today we will have lunch in Mettlach, a little town along the Saar River where you can visit the famous Villeroy & Boch porcelain museum. Today's highlight is the beautiful Saarschleife (Saar loop). You will have the opportunity to hike to a panorama-point where you can have a great view over the whole region. After this interesting hike we double back for a few kilometres to our final destination Mettlach.

#### **Day 8 Saturday Mettlach, end of the tour after breakfast. Disembarkation before 10 AM**

#### **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.

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### **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 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

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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 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.



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**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**



**2025 Travel Dates:**

**Cochem to Mettlach:** August 23- Standard season; September 6 – High Season; September 20- High Season; October 4 – Low Season

**Mettlach to Cochem:** August 30- High Season; September 13- High Season; September 27- Standard Season; October 11-Low season

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### Prices:

All prices are in per person double occupancy in Euros. *All prices are subject to confirmation on booking*

	Low Season	Standard Season	High Season
Twin Cabin	€ 1410	€1570	€1710
Double Cabin	€ 1410	€1570	€1710
Cabin for single use	€ 2070	€2310	€2520
Bike rental	€115		
E-Bike rental	€225		
Special diet	€100- gluten free, lactose, vegan		

### 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
- Mosel & Maare cycling trail
- Free WiFi (limited available in lounge and on deck)
- Road book, 1x per cabin
- Ferry fares on the route
- GPS-tracks (on request)

### Not Included

- Bicycle rent, bike insurance included (see page 4)
- Entrance fees to museums; approx. € 25,-
- Personal insurance

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### **Barge Allure**



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

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## **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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