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Luxury all-inclusive hotel barges cruising the beautiful waterways of Europe **A truly unique experience**

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, Arzviller 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

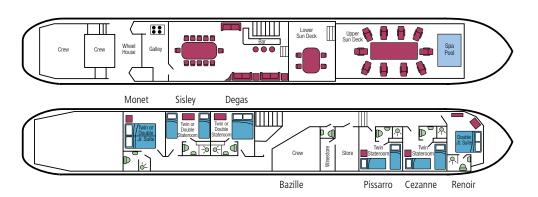
Every hotel barge cruise in our collection includes daily excursions to some fascinating local places of interest imposing citadels or elegant châteaux, colourful markets or renowned wine cellars, medieval hilltop villages or magnificent palaces and cathedrals. Typical excursions:

- Tour the amazing food markets of Dijon and Narbonne ۲
- 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 Arzviller 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



Ireland

Typical Deck Plan



Holland England LOND Belgium Germany & Luxembourg Picardy FRANKFUR Champagne PARP Alsace & Burgundy Lorraine Loire Valley LYON MILAN Bordeaux Italy Gascony Canal du Midi

Scotland

Air-Conditioned

- 128 Feet Long
 - 12 Passengers

 - - (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)
 - Centrally Heated • 12 Touring Bikes 6 Crew DVD Player / TV
 - 2 Junior Suites

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.



A Small Selection of the Wines Served Aboard

- Domaine Michelot, Meursault
- Domaine Laroche, Chablis Premier Cru
- Domaine de Barribiou, 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 Baeckeoffe 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





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

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.

On your hotel barge moored beneath the stars, dinner is a gastronomic Dinner by Candlelight adventure and the finale to your day's journey of discovery and intrigue. You may be served Chevre Chaud en Portefeuille or Marinated Langoustines, followed by Filet d'Agneau au Basilic, Truite à la Chablisienne, 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.







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GT Experiences

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