OUTDOOR TRAVEL
THE ACTIVE HOLIDAY COMPANY

BIKE & BARGE HOLIDAYS IN EUROPE

2026

GERMANY & LUXEMBOURG - CRUISE THE MOSELLE VALLEY

8-days / 7-nights Easy to Moderate *PREMIUM* GUIDED cycling from Cochem to Mettlach or return

Along the fertile banks of the River Moselle, this tour offers beautiful, diverse rural scenery, combined with an easy-to-moderate, mostly flat cycling route and opportunities to sample the wines and local cuisine that make this region famous. Our tour offers an insight into a storied European and also Roman history. The countryside is splendid, the cool wines delicious, the picturesque towns rich in history and the cycling is interesting and varied.

This cycling cruise follows the Moselle Valley and the River Saar, mainly in Germany and bordering Luxembourg. Cycling from Cochem to Mettlach we go back in time and visit Roman villas and public baths along the river and visit the magnificent ancient gateway, the Porta Nigra and other historic buildings in the former Roman capital of Northern Europe, at Trier. Mid-week we take a detour into the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg. As we cycle through one of Germany's great wine regions and learn about the local wine, tasting is on the menu too. Discover the excellent but uncomplicated wines from the Saar and the more famous ones of the Moselle, such as the '*Zeller Schwarze Katz*'. The main ingredient is Riesling, a white grape variety which dates back to the 15th Century and is known as the '*Queen of grapes*'.

Bike & Barge cruising combines two popular ways of exploring Europe (cycling and river cruising), allowing partners of different abilities and interests to holiday together (trips are just as interesting for leisure cyclists OR enthusiasts). You unpack once and come 'home' each night to a wonderful meal and a comfortable cabin with your own bathroom. Well-maintained multi-geared bikes are provided, or you can bring your own if you prefer. The cycling is interesting and varied with free time at each day's destination. Aboard our comfortable barge the Captain and crew have a reputation for their hospitality, keen attention to their guests' needs, and excellent meals. The barge has just 10 air-conditioned, twin/double bed cabins all with ensuite.

Departs: Cochem to Mettlach: 25 July, 8, 22 August, 5, 19 September, 3 October 2026
Mettlach to Cochem: 1, 15, 29 August, 12, 26 September, 10 October 2026

Cost from:

$3115 per person twin share low season	25 July, 1 August, 3, 10 October
$3420 per person twin share regular season	8, 15, 22 August, 26 September
$3715 per person twin share high season	29 August, 5, 12, 19 September

Single cabin supplement on request

Includes: 7 nights in twin or double bed cabin with ensuite, 7 buffet breakfasts, 6 picnic lunches, 7 dinners, coffee and tea whilst on board, multi-geared hybrid bicycle hire (including bike insurance, a pannier, lock, water bottle, repair kit and helmet), daily route information, ferry tickets en-route, English speaking cycling guide.

Not included: Arrival/departure transfers to and from the barge, drinks, items of a personal nature, travel insurance, gratuities for the guide or crew, special diets, entrance fees or other excursions.

E-Bikes: A limited number of **E-Bikes are available** for hire at an additional cost – ask for details.

Call OUTDOOR TRAVEL on *1800 331 582* for details or reservations

Suggested itinerary *(changes may be made to the cruise schedule or cycling itinerary at the discretion of the captain and guide. Cruise is offered in the reverse direction on alternate weeks):*

Day 1: Arrival in Cochem **warm up ride 15km**
Board the barge by 3.00pm. If you arrive early you can leave bags aboard and head off to explore this beautiful city. Cochem is famous for its wines and is dominated by the old Reichsburg. The tour starts with a welcome and introduction to your crew, bikes and cycling guide, and a briefing about what to expect during the week.

Day 2: Cochem – Zell **cycling @ 45km**
Past sweeping bends we meander along with the river to the famous vineyards of Calmont. Here the steep vine-covered slopes offer a sheltered climate. We arrive at Zell, known as the city of the black cat. The story goes that when some wine merchants from Aachen had to choose which wine barrel to purchase, 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.

Day 3: Zell – Bernkastel Kues **cycling @ 40km**
The Moselle winds its way through a green and fascinating landscape of vineyards and forests. We can discover some beautiful towns and villages – Jugendstil, Traben Trarbach and Winzerdorf. Our destination is Bernkastel-Kues, a medieval town of narrow streets, half-timbered houses and picturesque lanes.

Day 4: Bernkastel Kues and the Moselle-Maare cycle trail **cycling @ 55km**
We transfer to Daun to the start of the Moselle-Maare cycling rail trail through a landscape of volcanoes and crater lakes, along viaducts and past old railway stations. We ride on the Moselle bike path to Bernkastel-Kues.

Day 5: Bernkastel Kues – Trier **cycling @ 55km**
We discover Germany's Roman history today, with villas, baths and statues, and relics from ancient civilizations such as the Celts. Trier is the oldest city in Germany and there is time to explore the Porta Nigra, the Basilica of Constantine the Great, the amphitheatre and the birthplace of Karl Marx. Perhaps taste the famous local wine *Piesporter Goldtröpfchen*, before an hour riding to the overnight mooring outside Trier.

Day 6: Trier – Saarburg **cycling @ 35km**
We spend some time touring Trier in the morning, visiting the Roman amphitheatre, the Porta Nigra and the basilica. After lunch we cycle into the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, then, from Wasserbillig, we ride south along the Saar River to the wonderful town of Saarburg. After dinner take a walk through the old town centre with its waterfalls and watermills and climb to the old city castle for a grand view of the town, vineyards and river valley.

Day 7: Saarburg – Mettlach **cycling @ 35km**
We cycle south along the River Saar to the village of Saarhölzbach where we leave Rheinland Pfalz for Saarland. The history of this village goes back to 802 A. D. and the government of Charlemagne, also known as Charles the Great (King of the Franks, of Italy and the first Holy Roman Emperor). We cycle on to Mettlach for lunch and visit the Villeroy & Boch porcelain museum. After lunch we ride out to the beautiful Saarschleife (the scenic Saar loop), where we have the chance to hike to a look-out point. We return to Mettlach for our final night.

Day 8: Departure from Mettlach
Tour ends after breakfast, disembark by 10:00am.

Contact Outdoor Travel for more details and reservations:

- Call Toll free 1800 331 582 or (03) 57551743 or Fax (03) 57501020
- Email: **info@outdoortravel.com.au**
- Web: **http://www.outdoortravel.com.au**
- Mail: Outdoor Travel Pty Ltd, PO Box 286, Bright VIC 3741, Australia

Outdoor Travel offer **Bike & Barge** cruises in France, Holland, Belgium, Italy, Germany, Austria, Romania or Hungary. **Bike & Boat** tours are available in Italy, Croatia, Greece, Turkey and Vietnam. Inn-to-inn guided or self-guided cycling tours, walking holidays or river and canal hotel barge cruises are also available in Europe.

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