

# *La Chouette*

CRUISING THE BURGUNDY REGION OF FRANCE

The Barge Connection  
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THE BARGE

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## TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

# La Chouette

### SPECIFICATIONS

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Size:	100"X16'6"
Capacity:	6
Crew:	4
Cabins:	3
Accommodations:	3 Twin/Doubles
Heat & Air:	Central Heating & Air-Conditioning
Cruising Region:	River Seine & River Yonne which leads us to Burgundy
Cruising Routes:	Belgium, Burgundy, Champagne & Normandy
Length of Cruise:	6 Nights
Departure Day:	Thursday
Engine:	Gardner 6L3B
Electricity:	220 volts AC
Meals:	All Included
Beverages:	All Included
Entrance Fees:	All Included
Hairdryers:	Supplied
Laundry Facilities:	Not available
Transportation:	Transfers from a Paris hotel or closest rail station & Private motorcoach for excursions
Pick-Up Location:	Paris hotel of your choice or closest rail station
Pick-Up Time:	2:00 PM
Recreational Items:	6 Bikes, Library of books & games, fax & email
Cruising Season:	May 15 & 22 / Belgium Cruise May 29 to June 26 / France (Burgundy, Champagne or Normandy) August 28 to September 25 / France (Burgundy, Champagne or Normandy)
Special Note:	Short 3 & 4 Night B&B Cruises Available Upon Request (Charter Only)

### BOAT DIAGRAM

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## SAMPLE ITINERARY

# La Chouette

## BURGUNDY A TASTE OF BURGUNDY CRUISE

From Paris, the City of Light we cruise upstream on the River Seine then turn onto the River Yonne which leads us to Burgundy and the famed vineyards of Chablis, Irancy and Côte St. Jacques. On the way we may take in a chateau and visit the hometown of a famous Impressionist artist. The following is a suggested itinerary only. Alternative excursions may be made according to guests' wishes and availability.

### Thursday

Your captain will meet you at your Paris hôtel and escort you directly to La Chouette waiting in the shadow of the Eiffel Tower. Soon you will be cruising through the city of Paris, sipping champagne as you pass under those renowned bridges and on past the Louvre, the Musée d'Orsay and the magnificent Notre Dame Cathedral. As we leave the city the surroundings change to the smart country houses of suburbia. Barbecue supper on board.

### Friday

The day starts when you feel like it. You are on holiday, after all. Breakfast can be taken before we leave or while we're cruising to Melun from where we can take an excursion to Chateau de Vaux-le-Vicomte. This is the first of the great houses to be built in the seventeenth century combining impressive architecture with beautifully designed gardens. Further up river, we moor at Bois le Roi (King's Wood) where we can try our luck at a game of pétanque on the boules park nearby. Dinner is taken in the delightful Restaurant de la Marine just a short walk away. "

### Saturday

This morning our mini-bus can take us on a trip through the Fontainebleau Forest to Barbizon, the charming village where the pre-Impressionist painters congregated and where in the Auberge Ganne we can see examples of their work. After lunch on board we cruise to Moret-sur-Loing where Impressionist painter Alfred Sisley lived and take a guided tour of this fascinating medieval town steeped in history.

### Sunday

An early morning visit to the street market in St Mammés. This is one of the "barge capitals" of France and where you will see many commercial barges tied up. The market is on the quay alongside these barges. We then cruise to our Sunday lunchtime stop at the Restaurant La Gaule on the river Yonne. Sunday lunch in France is special and needs to be savoured slowly. On through several of the Yonne's characteristic locks with sloping sides to our stop for the night near Champfleury. Supper on board

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## SAMPLE ITINERARY

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BURGUNDY

A TASTE OF BURGUNDY CRUISE

### Monday

Our first cruise stop today is Sens where we can visit the magnificent cathedral and museum containing a unique collection of ancient fabrics and priest's vestments. Lunch on board. An afternoon cruise to Villeneuve sur Yonne takes us through some of the most beautiful Yonne valley countryside. We moor right outside our restaurant for this evening's dinner. But before that we visit the vineyards of the Côte St. Jacques and enjoy a *dégustation*, or tasting, of the local wine. We may also be able to see a winepress, which has been used since the 14<sup>th</sup> century. Dinner at La Lucarne Aux Chouettes, a riverside restaurant owned by Leslie Caron.

### Tuesday

This morning we take a leisurely cruise to Joigny where, after a walk around the old town we take lunch on board. This afternoon's visit takes in Auxerre with its monumental architecture, Irancy for a tasting of its excellent red and rosé wines and Chablis and the villages around where we taste that world famous dry white wine. Dinner at Le Moulin

### Wednesday

After breakfast we will escort you to the rail station for your return journey to Paris.

PLEASE NOTE: On alternate weeks the cruise will be in the opposite direction.

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## SAMPLE ITINERARY

# La Chouette

SHORT CRUISE OPTIONS

### The 'Waterways of Paris'

#### **B&B Weekend in Paris 3 Nights**

**Day 1:** Guests are collected from their Paris location - e.g. hotel, rail station, airport—and are transferred to La Chouette moored in central Paris. Guests are welcomed on board with a Champagne cocktail and introduced to the crew and to their accommodation.

Guests are free to visit places of interest in Paris with any help and suggestions we can give.

**Day 2:** Breakfast is served on board La Chouette at a time to suit our guests after which they are free to continue their Paris sightseeing.

**Day 3:** After breakfast on board, and at a time to suit, the guests are escorted to their Paris place of choice.

**N.B.:** On one of the days, to suit the party, La Chouette will cruise "Under the Bridges of Paris" to show the city in an unforgettable way. Cruise lasts approximately two hours.

### The 'Waterways of Paris' Cruise

#### **B&B 4 Nights in Paris**

**Day 1:** Guests are collected from their Paris location—e.g. hotel, rail station, airport—and are transferred in our air-conditioned mini-bus to La Chouette moored in the countryside an hour's ride from Paris. Guests are welcomed on board with a Champagne cocktail and introduced to the crew and to their accommodation.

We cruise on the beautiful river Marne to the magnificent city of Meaux dominated by its impressive cathedral and famous for Brie de Meaux cheese.

After an aperitif on board guests are escorted to one of Meaux's top restaurants for dinner.

**Day 2:** We cruise into Paris stopping on the way to explore Lagny a riverside town with a twice-weekly market and where we have lunch on board. Our entry to Paris "Under the Bridges of Paris" will thrill all sitting out on our deck and has never failed to impress.

Dinner at the restaurant Altitude 95 part way up the Eiffel Tower with the sun setting over the city skyline.

**Day 3:** Our morning's cruise takes us deeper into the Town of Paris along the Canal St. Martin with its double locks and outstanding iron swing bridges. Passing through the Basin de la Villette we head for the giant lock which will take us onto the Canal St. Denis. Passing the

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T H E B A R G E C O N N E C T I O N

## SAMPLE ITINERARY

# La Chouette

### SHORT CRUISE OPTIONS

space age-like sports stadium, the Stade de France, we head down to rejoin the river Seine then head downstream for Chatou.

Chatou is where Monet and Renoir, among many other Impressionist painters, congregated and painted life on the river. We will dine tonight at the very restaurant they frequented, Maison Fournaise, and feel their very presence on the balcony where Renoir painted his famous “Le Déjeuner des Canotiers”, the luncheon party of the boatmen.

**Day 4:** Cruising further downstream on the Seine we reach Conflans Ste. Honorine where we find hundreds of barges moored up to seven deep. This is one of France’s barge capitals. This is also where we turn off the river Seine and onto the river Oise. This takes us to a charming little town called Auvers-sur-Oise where Van Gogh lived the last few weeks of his short life and where in that time he painted sixty pictures. We dine at the very inn where he lived and choose from a menu with many of the dishes of his time. There is an interesting exhibition at the inn as well as a comprehensive audio-visual exhibition on Impressionism at the nearby Chateau d’Auvers.

**Day 5:** After breakfast on board we will transfer guests to the Paris location of their choice.

*These are just sample itineraries that can be offered. We would adjust to each groups interests to customize the cruise.*

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2008 PRICES

# *La Chouette*

## 6 Night Cruises:

Thursday Departures

Charter for 4 guests     \$17,700

Charter for 6 guests     \$21,000

Shorter Cruises Available upon requests

Guests enjoy one meal per day in specially selected restaurants  
(included in the charter price).

Cruise Departures

May 15 & 22 / Belgium Cruise

May 29 to June 26 / France (Burgundy, Champagne or Normandy)

August 28 to September 25 / France (Burgundy, Champagne or Normandy)

**Prices for the Waterways of Paris Short Cruises - Available Upon Request**

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## CRUISE OPTIONS

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### 'Mainly Monet' highlights:

- Champagne cruise through Paris
- Visit to the Marmottan museum to see more than 100 Monet paintings
- Impressionist multimedia spectacular at Château d'Auvers sur Oise
- Monet's home and gardens at Giverny
- Richard the Lionheart's 12th Century fortress at Les Andelys
- Rouen Cathedral

### 'Champagne Experience' highlights:

- Champagne cruise through Paris
- Private tasting of the famous Brie de Meaux cheese with Givry red wine
- Hautvillers, home of Dom Perignon, fabled creator of champagne
- Visit to Moët & Chandon's sister champagne caves of Mercier, including tasting
- Traditional French dinner at the table of a private champagne house
- Reims Cathedral

### 'A Taste of burgundy' highlights:

- Champagne Cruise through Paris.
- Barbizon, famed village of the Pre-Impressionist in the Fontainebleau Forest.
- Medieval town of Moret-sur-Loing.
- Private wine tasting at Cote St Jacques and visit to 12th century wine press.
- Magnificent spired city of Auxerre.
- Irancy, a picturesque village which produces superb red wine.
- More wine tasting. This time the world renowned dry white Chablis.

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## MENU TYPES

# *La Chouette*

Roasted Red Peppers with Olive Tapenade and Tomato

Leg of Lamb with a red Wine Sauce Minted New Potatoes Seasonal Vegetables

Selection of French Cheeses

Baked Peaches with Vanilla Ice Cream

Coffee and Chocolates

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T H E B A R G E

C O N N E C T I O N

## TERMS & CONDITIONS

# La Chouette

### INDIVIDUAL & CHARTER BOOKINGS:

- 30% deposit due upon booking to confirm booking
- Balance due 90 days prior to departure

### CANCELLATIONS:

- Both deposits and final payments are non-refundable, unless space is resold
- In that case, 90% of the monies deposited would be refunded

La Chouette reserves the right to cancel any cruise prior to or during the cruise if in their reasonable opinion they consider the cruise may constitute a danger due to unforeseen events such as flooding, drought, riots, war and the like or events which make it impracticable or impossible to continue the cruise, including but not limited to any illness, health or personal matters. In such cases any sums received from the client will be refunded based on the cost of the unfinished portion of the cruise and the guests will forfeit any further claim on La Chouette cruises for any reason whatsoever.

All cancellations must be made in writing and sent to the Barge Connection  
Cancellation Insurance is highly recommended

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