

Colibri

CRUISING THE CANAL DU MIDI IN SOUTHERN FRANCE

The Barge Connection
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08/08/08



T H E B A R G E

C O N N E C T I O N

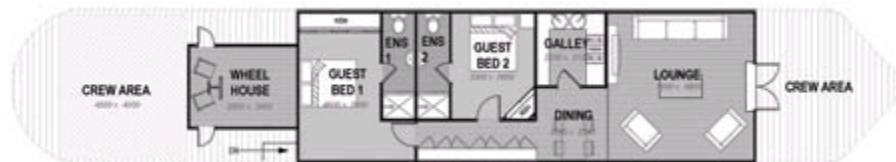
TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

Colibri

SPECIFICATIONS

Size:	87" X 16"
Capacity:	4
Crew:	2-3
Cabins:	2
Accommodations:	2 King or Twins
Cabin Dimensions:	Stern 13.5 Ft by 8.6 Ft & Bow 10 ft by 9.2 Ft
Renovated:	Complete Renovation in 2004
Heat & Air:	Heating and Air-Conditioning
Cruising Region:	Languedoc & Canal du Midi
Length of Cruise:	6 Nights
Departure Day:	Sunday
Electricity:	220 Volt
Engine:	DAF 575M
Water:	300 Litres
Meals:	All meals on board and two meals ashore included in price
Half-Board Option:	First dinner and all breakfast and lunches on board, remaining meals ashore at passengers expense (charter cost reduction for half-board)
Beverages:	All Included
Entrance Fees:	All Included
Hairdryers:	Supplied
Laundry Facilities:	Not available
Transportation:	Transfers to and from Beziers, Carcassonne, Toulouse or Montpellier (depending on the cruising route)
Pick-Up Time:	4:00 PM
Recreational Items:	CD player, Ipod, speakers on deck and in salon, TV, DVD player with collection of DVD's, Library of books, various games and 4 bicycles
Cruising Season:	April until October
Theme Cruises:	Available Upon Request

BOAT DIAGRAM



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SAMPLE ITINERARY

Colibri

BEZIERS TO CARCASSONNE

STANDARD CRUISE

Sunday

Guests are meet by the Captain, Earl. Between 4 and 5 PM at the arrange meeting point. Warm welcome on board with aperitifs, and cruise slowly through the vineyards stopping near Colombiers, to wet your appetites for dinner and the days to come.

Monday

Morning visit to the Enserune Oppidum, a site inhabited by man since 800BC. We then pass through one of the oldest tunnels on the French canals at Malpas and on to Capestang. A small town dominated by a huge church and a good place to stretch the legs. A short journey will bring us to a restaurant for this evening's gastronomic feast.

Tuesday

The bustling markets or the historic sites of Narbonne are on offer for today's excursion, in the afternoon we cruise to Le Somail, a small and delightful village for a stroll, and on to Ventenac. Here we visit their Chateau for wine tasting, There is the chance for a game of Boule, and should you desire Earl would be thrilled at the chance to show his Australian flair with the BBQ.

Wednesday

The Abbey de Fontfroide is a beautiful tranquil setting and with its garden of 3000 rosebushes a wonderful place to visit. We cruise to Homps, another forgotten town, steeped in history, and with a fine winery to visit. We may cruise on to La Redorte, for a sensational dinner aboard.

Thursday

Visit to the Cathar fort and hill top village of Minerve, a stunning location with a museum that tells of its history. We cruise just beyond Puicheric this afternoon, a great place to sit under the trees and relax. Tonight you dine ashore, at a beautiful Chateau, offering surroundings that will take you back to the days of old. A chance to view the Cite of Carcassonne by night to fire your imaginations of fairy tale castles.

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SAMPLE ITINERARY

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BEZIERS TO CARCASSONNE

STANDARD CRUISE

Friday

Tour of the Cite of Carcassonne, to take in the fascinating medieval city, a wonderful journey into history. In the afternoon we cruise through Trebes to a quiet location for the Captains à bientot dinner aboard.

Saturday

Leisurely breakfast, and transfer between 10 and 11am to nominated drop of point.

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SAMPLE ITINERARY

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CARCASSONNE TO CASTELNAUDARY

Sunday

Guests are meet by the Captain, Earl. Between 4 and 5 PM at the arrange meeting point. Warm welcome on board with aperitifs in Trebes, and cruise slowly through the 'heights' of Carcassonne, to whet your appetites for dinner and the days to come.

Monday

Tour of the Cite of Carcassonne, to take in the fascinating medieval city, a wonderful journey into history. In the afternoon we cruise to Villesquelande a pretty and relaxing cruise to a quiet location for the dinner aboard.

Tuesday

We cruise to Bram, a village built on a circular pattern, with a gory Cathar history. In the afternoon we visit the Sieur d'Arques winery in Limoux, with a guided tour of the winery, information on wines from their wine school and not forgetting tasting including the Cremants and Blanquettes of Limoux. Lunch is taken ashore at a working Chateau over looking the vines.

Wednesday

We cruise in the morning through a series of locks, stopping under the trees near St Martin Lalande. Afternoon visit to the Cathar castle of Saissac, the remains of a beautiful castle in a stunning location, perched in the hills of the Montagne Noire. On the way back to Colibri we can visit the Verrerie du Canal with its exhibition of stained and blown glass.

Thursday

In the morning we cruise the Castelnaudary, with it's grand central basin. Castelnaudary is the home of the dish Cassoulet. In the afternoon we can visit the medieval market town of Mirepoix with half-timbered houses and a beautiful square. Dinner may be taken ashore in a hill top village restaurant of great gastronomic flare.

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SAMPLE ITINERARY

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CARCASSONNE TO CASTELNAUDARY

Friday

Cruise on to Naurouze located on the highest stretch of the Canal du Midi, a 190 metres above sea level. This is the watershed between the Mediterranean and the Atlantic. We visit the obelisque to Pierre Paul Riquet, the builder of the canal set in a beautiful park. Farewell dinner aboard.

Saturday

Leisurely breakfast, and transfer between 10 and 11am to nominated drop of point.

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2009 PRICES

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Full board, whole barge charter is

\$19,500 US

Half board, whole barge charter is

\$18,250 US

First evening's meal, others to be taken ashore.

Cruises commence on a Sunday, however variations are possible; to take into account your travelling itinerary, subject to other cruise bookings.

Full board

The cruise aboard Colibri comprises of accommodation for four people, including breakfast, lunch and four-course dinner. Selected wines will be served with the meals, with an open bar and other beverages available for your pleasure. For added variety and a feel for France, two of the meals will be at carefully selected local restaurants.

Half Board

The cruise aboard Colibri comprises of accommodation for four people, including breakfast, and lunch, with a four-course dinner served on the first evening. Selected wines will be served with the meals, with an open bar and other beverages available for your pleasure. The remaining evening meals are to be taken ashore at the client's expense. We will help in the choice of restaurants and should it be possible within the cruising schedule, lunch could be taken ashore instead.

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CREW PROFILE

Colibri

About The Owners of The Colibri Earl and Fiona

We have worked for many years in the luxury yachting industry, cruising the Mediterranean, Caribbean, from Australia to Alaska and have now chosen to make the canals of France our cruising ground. Having married in France and fallen in love with the country, life style, foods and wines, we can think of no better place to cruise.

Fiona,

I ran away to sea on completion of my degree and never made it back to take up 'a proper job'. Having been chief stewardess / head of household on yachts up to 75metres, offering service to very private individuals and high profile 'party' people, it is now time to take up our own challenge and offer Colibri for charter. With a background in catering and luxury service, we hope to delight you with a gastronomic tour of our region and the Mediterranean.

Earl,

who is Australian, was drawn to Europe to search out family ties and has since made it his home. Having cruised widely with many ocean passages as an officer on vessels up to 75meter. Earl is delighted to take command of his own vessel. With the knowledge and experience gained from super yacht chartering and his love of people, to welcome and entertain guests aboard his own boat is one of Earl's dreams. His enthusiasm for life will come across as soon as you meet.

Harry

we should also introduce Harry, our crew member who loves the barging life. He is calm and friendly, less than knee high, and normally found lying in the shade, out of the way. We offer our service to make your holiday a magnificent experience that you will remember for a lifetime. We feel that "everyone deserves to be pampered".

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MENU TYPES

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SAMPLE MENU

Fresh Herb Salad, with Parmesan and Honey Glazed Roast Pumpkin

*Poussins with Crunchy Country Ham
& Sage Butter
Rosemary Potatoes
Sauté Mediterranean vegetables*

*Lemon Ricotta Flan
With Red Berries*

Selection of Local Cheeses and Figs

Stunning wineries can be found in the Languedoc and Roussillon area, growing a variety of grapes and producing very different wines. This enables the visitor to explore the region and its beautiful wines without travelling great distances, whilst ones tastebuds are taken on a gastronomic tour.

The cheeses of the region come in almost as many varieties as the wines, and it is our pleasure to offer you a wide choice of flavours and styles through out your stay. Inspired by thousands of years, French cuisine is truly world-renowned. It will be our pleasure to present some of these dishes to you.

The menus aboard are Mediterranean style, using fresh local produce, bringing an exciting assortment of dishes to your table, complimented by select wines.

11/07/06

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