

Elisabeth

CRUISING THE BURGUNDY REGION OF FRANCE

The Barge Connection
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08/14/08



T H E B A R G E

C O N N E C T I O N

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

Elisabeth

SPECIFICATIONS

Size:	100"X16'6"
Capacity:	6
Crew:	4
Cabins:	3
Accommodations:	3 King-Bedded Cabins (convertible to twins)
Heat & Air:	Central Heating & Air Conditioning
Cruising Region:	Burgundy Region (Bourgogne & Nivernais Canals)
Length of Cruise:	6 Nights
Departure Day:	Saturday
Meals:	All Included
Beverages:	All Included
Entrance Fees:	All Included
Laundry Facilities:	Not available
Transportation:	Transfers to and from Paris or Auxerre & Private Motorcoach for excursions
Pick-Up Location:	Rail Station or Hotel in Paris or Auxerre
Pick-Up Time:	2:00 PM
Recreational Items:	Soundsystem with CD, 6 Bikes, Fully Stocked Bar, Library of books, games TV/DVD in Salon and internet service
Theme Cruises:	Family, Walking, Photography, Cooking, History, Adventure,
New Cruise 2008:	Chocolate & Wine Cruise (April, May & October)
Nivernais Cruise:	June, July, August & September
Cruising Season:	April until November

BOAT DIAGRAM



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SAMPLE ITINERARY

Elisabeth

AUXERRE TO CLAMECY
NIVERNAIS CANAL

Saturday

Auxerre

Afternoon rendezvous at prearranged transfer location, minivan ride to the Elisabeth, moored in the center of the town. Welcome aboard!

Sunday

Auxerre to Vincelles

Morning tour of medieval Auxerre, the Abbaye Saint-Germain, the Tour de l'Horloge and the city's cobbled streets. Lunch whilst we start on a leisurely afternoon cruise to the village of Vincelles where we moor overnight. Time for a stroll through the village or a walk along the towpath.

Monday

Vincelles to Vermenton

Morning cruise to the small town of Vermenton on the River Cure. Afternoon visit to the picturesque wine villages of St Bris, Chablis and perhaps Irancy for a 'degustation' of their wines (villages that your cabins are named after).

Tuesday

Vermenton to Mailly le Chateau

This morning a visit to the Grottes d'Arcy, second oldest caves in the world. Today's cruise is back to the River Yonne and on to Mailly le Chateau.

Wednesday

Mailly le Chateau to Lucy sur Yonne

Morning cruise to Chatel Censoir. (Weather permitting, we prepare a picnic lunch) Tour to Vézelay, a UNESCO heritage site, then back to Elisabeth to continue our voyage to Lucy sur Yonne.

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AUXERRE TO CLAMECY
NIVERNAIS CANAL

Thursday

Lucy sur Yonne to Clamecy

A beautiful, long morning's cruise to Clamecy. Final excursion of the week to twelfth century Chateau Bazoche. Back to the boat for the Captain's dinner.

Friday

Clamecy

After breakfast return to Laroche-Migennes by minivan or other pre-arranged destination.

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BOURGOGNE CANAL - CHOCOLATE & WINE CRUISE

Saturday

We transfer you from Paris at 2:00 PM. Enjoy a relaxing and scenic drive to the delightful chateau village of Tanlay where the Elisabeth is moored. Settle in after a Champagne reception and then take a stroll around the village. We start our chocolate extravaganza with tonight's glorious dessert.

Sunday

This morning we will cruise to Ancy le Franc where we will visit a chateau, beautifully restored and a real to delight to explore. Back on board we have wine tasting of the local tonneroise wines.

Monday

Today we cruise is to Ravierres and here we will depart for a pleasant drive through the villages of Chablis for a wine tasting and tour of a chocolaterie to hear the history of and more importantly taste the chocolate Pillars of Chablis. Return to the Elisabeth via medieval Noyer, one of the top five picturesque villages of France.

Tuesday

Today starts with a leisurely cruise to Montbard. From here we will go to Eppoisse for a cheese visit and a wine tasting. For those that are interested we can arrange a cooking demonstration today. Back to the Elisabeth for dinner and our second enchanting dessert.

Wednesday

This morning we will start to notice the climb up the valley to Veneray les Laumes. The cruising just gets more lovely as we go. Our visit this afternoon is to The Abbey de Fontenay, a Unesco world heritage site. This wonderful abbey is the last complete cistercian monastery left in France. Tranquility and beauty describe it perfectly. When we return to the Elisabeth our talented chef will give a demonstration on the preparation of tiny chocolate petit fours.

Thursday

Our last cruise takes us to Pouillenay, a climb up the fabulous views over the countryside. We finish our week with a lunch and walking tour of the village Flavigny (where 'chocolat' the movie was made) and candies have been produced since the 9th Century. From here we will

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BOURGOGNE CANAL - CHOCOLATE & WINE CRUISE

drive the short distance to Alesia to see the site of the last great battle between the Romans and the Gaules. The Roman ruins and amphitheater date back to 345 B.C. Returning to Elisabeth in time for relaxatiny before Captains dinner and our last chocolate feast.

Friday

This morning we return to Paris after breakfast for your onward journey.

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SAMPLE ITINERARY

Elisabeth

SAMPLE FAMILY ADVENTURE
DIARY

Saturday

An early departure this morning for an airport pickup .We left home at 06.30 to collect the Fiori family at 10 o'clock at Charles de Gaulle air port. We arrived a little late due to road blocks within the airport. The family of five grandchildren and their grandfather were waiting and even though they were tired, they were also excited. A stop in Fontainebleau for lunch, a walk around the chateau grounds and we were off again towards Auxerre and the Elisabeth. We reached the barge about 4pm and after a glass of champagne (non alcoholic for the younger members of the party) and some serious unpacking the group left for a walk in town. Dinner was served and enjoyed by all even with being tired. A walk around town followed by an early night was definitely in order. A very nice family both respectful and loving with their grandfather.

Sunday

It was decided last night that a market visit would be preferable to the Abbey St Germain. It was simple to drive over to Chablis, for the local Sunday market. Lunch was served on the terrace as we left Auxerre for our afternoon cruise to Vincelles. On returning to the Elisabeth everyone said they had had a wonderful time. Bike riding, relaxing and sun bathing were the afternoon activities. On arrival at Vincelles swimming and exploring the village became important. A late walk after dinner and then a DVD before bed. A great day was had by all.

Monday

We cruised this morning to Accolay. All the younger members slept in (recovering from jetlag) and woke up when ready. We had planned a super afternoon for the family today. After talking with Frank we had decided that the Guerdelon and tree walking would be good this afternoon. Lunch was served early in order to leave the barge for the 45min drive over to St Sauver and Treigny. The Guerdelon is a Chateau being built using the methods of the eleventh century. It is a fantastic visit that has something of interest for all the family members. A twenty five year project that can be seen once or on many occasions. Everyone was interested and enthusiastic. From the Guerdelon we drove just a few kilometres to the Parc D'Aventure to spend the rest of the afternoon tree walking. The Parc is run by a friend of ours, so this way we know that the security is of a high standard. This activity was a great success and enjoyed by all. A few of us stayed on the ground and took photos and videos. Those that climbed, including Peter, enjoyed walking in the trees, aerial slides and obstacle passages. Ranging from 2m to 25m off the ground the aerial walks were progressively harder finishing with a 250m aerial slide.

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SAMPLE FAMILY ADVENTURE
DIARY

By the time we arrived back at Elisabeth we were all tired but very contented. **In teenage talk it was an awesome afternoon.** Dinner followed by a DVD and an early night. We look forward to tomorrow. We were out on visit nearly seven hours today.

Tuesday

We left Accolay at 8.30 this morning heading for Maily le Chateau. Long cruise today followed by a short drive and a visit to the Grottes D'Arcy Sur Cure. They whole family were interested by the caves. They were fun to be with and asked lot's of questions. **They pronounced the paintings and the visit as cool so I guess they enjoyed it.** The idea of paintings dating back 28000 years was quite awe inspiring for everyone. Once we had driven back to Elisabeth those that wanted to went bike riding. A walk up to the Chateau after dinner completed the day followed by monopoly before bed.

Wednesday

This morning we cruised from Maily le Chateau to Lucy. Lunch was once again served on deck. We have been lucky with the weather so far. After lunch Caroline and Peter drove off to Vezelay for a look at the Basilica before going down to St Pere to meet up with the kayaking company. A short van ride and into the Cure river for a two and a half hour cruise back to St Pere. Caroline met everyone halfway at Pierre Pertuit (one of our favourite spots) with drinks and munchies. On returning to Elisabeth every member of the party had had a wonderful time even though they were very tired. Dvd's and monopoly were not played late this evening. This is an active week.

Thursday

Our last cruise day of the week and it rained. Such a shame the weather has not been kinder but at least all the visits have worked out well. Lunch today was indoors for the first time. The Fiori family have certainly enjoyed trying all the different foods that have been served and are looking forward to dinner with the captain. After lunch a visit to the Chateau de Bazoches rounded off the week. All enjoyed the visit especially when the young Vicount came over for a few words. Back in Clamecy a walk around the thevillage and some pre packing organisation prior to dinner. Captains dinner was fabulous with lots of fun and laughter. I hope that all the members of this delightful family have enjoyed the week as much as we have.

Friday After breakfast this morning Caroline drove you all to Your hotel in Paris. We wish you Bon Voyage and thank you for being such great fun.

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2009 PRICES

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6 Night Cruises:

Saturday Departures

Per Person

\$4,300

Single Supplement

\$500

Charter for 4 guests

\$17,200

Charter for 5 guests

\$19,500

Charter for 6 guests

\$21,800

For special Family Departures or other Theme Cruises, please contact us for pricing

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MENU TYPES

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Sample Menu

Fresh Foie Gras on a Tartlette with Sauteed Cabbage and Onions

Scallops and Langoustine Served with Filo Pastry and Light Saffron Sauce

Champagne and Melon Sorbet

Rack of Lamb, Dauphin Potatoes, Broccoli and Carrots with a wine Sauce

Selection of Cheeses

A melted Chocolate Cake (the inside is just divine melted chocolate with a soft sponge interior)

Served with a Creme Anglais and Chocolate Sauce with Fresh Fruit

Coffee and Chocolates

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Sample of Wines Served Onboard

Each evening we will serve you carefully selected wines. To aid you in your understanding of the wines and the vineyards they come from we will present each wine and offer tasting notes. The wines listed below are only a selection of the types that are served on board. The final selection is chosen by age and by Peter and Sheena tasting for quality. We do serve as many regional wines as we can but also enjoy giving you a taste of France with a tour of all the wine and cheese regions. Our wines vary in age from the early 1990's up to 2004. Even the youngest of our wines are chosen for their flavor and quality.

An example of our wines selected :

Whites

- Chablis Vielle vigne
- Melon de Bourgogne
- Chablis – Grand cru
 - Rouy
 - Coulanges
 - Alsace
- Sauvignon de St Bris
 - Sancerre
- Chablis – Premier Cru
- Tokay Pinot Gris Vendange Tardive

Reds

- Epineuil (near Tonnerre)
 - Irancy
 - Pommard
- Pernand Vergelass
 - Coulanges
- Alsace Pinot Noir
- Cotes D'Auxerre
 - Sancerre
 - Santenay
- St Emilion – Grand Cru

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