

Lone Star

CRUISING THE ALSACE REGION OF FRANCE

The Barge Connection
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09/12/08



T H E B A R G E

C O N N E C T I O N

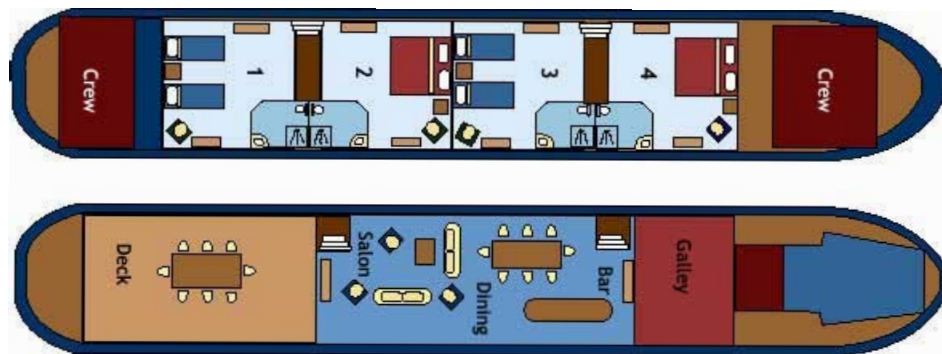
TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

Lone Star

SPECIFICATIONS

Size:	128"X16'5"
Capacity:	8
Crew:	5
Cabins:	4
Accommodations:	3 Queen/Twins
Heat & Air:	Individual Heating and Air-Conditioning in Each Cabin
Cruising Region:	Alsace Region
Length of Cruise:	6 Nights
Departure Day:	Sunday
Meals:	All Included
Beverages:	All Included
Entrance Fees:	All Included
Hairdryers:	Supplied
Laundry Facilities:	Not available
Transportation:	Transfers to and from Stransbourg or Nancy
Pick-Up Location:	Hotel or Rail Station
Pick-Up Time:	3:00 PM
Recreational Items:	Bicycles, Soundsystem with CD, library of books and games
Cruising Season:	April until November

Boat Diagram



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SAMPLE ITINERARY

Lone Star

Saverne to Nancy

Sunday - Strasbourg to Lone Star moored in Saverne.

Your party will be met in Strasbourg at 3:00pm, either in your hotel lobby or in front of the train station. It is a short drive to Saverne. Saverne is a typical Alsatian town full of half-timbered houses and dominated by Cardinal Rohan's summer palace, a grand Renaissance masterpiece complete with formal gardens. The Canal de la Marne au Rhin weaves its way through town, providing a magical backdrop for your first night on board! After the traditional champagne welcome and introduction of crew, there's time to explore a bit in Saverne — before the first of many gourmet dinners on Lone Star.

Monday - Sightseeing in Strasbourg. Cruise to Lutzelbourg.

After an unhurried breakfast buffet, which includes just-baked village pastries, cruise into the Zorn River Valley. Ruined castles cling to the hilltops (Alsace has Europe's highest concentration of medieval castles), while closer in, there's walking and bicycling. Your mooring tonight is Lutzelbourg, one of the most beautiful and colorful canalside villages in Alsace. After lunch, it's back to Strasbourg, a city that sits on the border of France and Germany. Street signs are in both languages! Stroll the picturesque Petite France neighborhood. With its half-timbered houses accented by colorful flower boxes, Petite France looks like something out of a fairy tale. Then visit the Cathedral of Notre Dame, one of Europe's great Gothic structures, and take a few minutes to browse the shops and patisseries around the Cathedral. There is much to enjoy in Strasbourg, but by late afternoon it is time to return to Lone Star. (If your party has already spent time in Strasbourg, we'll propose an alternate excursion. For instance, in nearby Sarrelbourg there is the 13th century Chapel of the Cordeliers, smartly brought up to date with a massive stained glass window designed by Marc Chagall.) Enjoy dinner on shore at the Michelin 2 star restaurant Le Cerf in nearby Marlenheim.

Tuesday - An Amazing Barge Lift! Cruise to Xouaxange.

Begin the day with a drive to the tiny (650 inhabitants) and beautiful village of Mittelbergheim, surrounded by vineyards. Alsatian wine villages are the very definition of "old world charm." On the main street are several producers and we'll enjoy a wine tasting. There will be time to purchase wines, too. Then it's back to Lone Star and your afternoon cruise to Xouaxange. On the way, encounter perhaps the most amazing experience of your trip: The lifting of the barge straight up 138 feet on the Arzviller incline plane. Counter-balanced weights lift an 850-ton trough of water (with the barge in it) sideways up a cliff! Prior to its construction in the 1960s, barges needed 8 to 13 hours to traverse 17 locks.

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SAMPLE ITINERARY

Lone Star

Saverne to Nancy

You are now in Lorraine. The landscape becomes gentle, featuring agricultural landscapes and small villages.

Wednesday - Cruising and Crystal. Cruise to Lagarde.

This morning, relax on board as we float to Lagarde. Today's excursion is to the town of Baccarat, where the world-famous crystal is still made by artisans using 18th century formulas and techniques. Visit the Museum of Glass, housed in an elegant old manor. Here there is a display of crystal stemware made for Czar Nicholas II, President Roosevelt, and Prime Minister Churchill, among other notables. There will be time to shop in the Baccarat showroom before returning to Lone Star to compare purchases and enjoy another gourmet dinner.

Thursday - Lovely and Private Chateau. Cruise to Crevic.

Cruise to the village of Crevic this morning. After lunch, served on deck if weather permits, we'll visit the Chateau de Fleville. Fleville can trace its roots to the Middle Ages, while the present structure was completed in the Renaissance period. The same family has owned the Chateau for 200 years. Fifteen rooms and a romantic garden are open to view. Return to Lone Star for dinner on board.

Friday - Elegance in Nancy.

You'll cruise in the morning to our mooring in the heart of Nancy, an elegant city which is the artistic and intellectual capital of Lorraine. Its centerpiece is the Place Stanislas, a gigantic square surrounded by gloriously classical buildings, gilded wrought-iron gates and extravagant fountains. In the late 19th century, Nancy was the center of the Art Nouveau movement, its influence still seen in the gorgeous mansions of the period and the collection of historic Art Nouveau glasswork in the Musee des Beaux Arts. One can still purchase museum quality Art Nouveau objects or respectable copies at lower cost. Return to Lone Star for the Captain's dinner, which ends your cruise in style.

Saturday - A Sad Farewell

After breakfast, you'll be chauffeured back to either Nancy or Strasbourg. (From Nancy, a mid-morning TGV train departs for Paris. You will arrive back at the Gare de l'Est by noon). All transfers to and from the route are at guest's expense and should be booked separately. Recommended arrival and departure trains from Paris will be provided. We hope to see you on Lone Star again!

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MENU TYPES

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Sample Lunch Menu

Vegetable Quiche

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Endive and Cabbage Salade

~

Poached Salmon wrapped in Asparagus

~

Tabula Salad

~

Figs

wrapped in Parma Ham with
Melted Goat Cheese

~

Chicken Strips
wrapped in bacon

~

Selection of Local Cheeses

Sample Dinner Menu

Elegant Hors d' Oeuvres

~

Scallops in a Roquefort Sauce

Mushrooms stuffed with Cream Cheese and chives

~

Lamb Chops with Chestnut & Port Sauce Spinach Potato Tatin

~

Cheese Platter

Valencay

Petite Munster

Delice de Bourgogne

~

Tarte Tatin

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2009 PRICES

Lone Star

Whole Boat Charter (up to 8 passengers)

\$45,000

Cruising to Champagne

April 5-11; April 12-18

Cruising in the Champagne Region

April 19-August 5

Cruising in the Alsace Region

August 23-October 10

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