

Saint Louis

CRUISING THE BORDEAUX REGION OF FRANCE

The Barge Connection
2036 Nevada City Highway #311
Grass Valley, CA 95945
Phone 888.550.8580
Phone 530.274.0764
Fax 530.748.0101
www.bargeconnection.com
Email info@bargeconnection.com

09/12/08



T H E B A R G E

C O N N E C T I O N

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

Saint Louis

SPECIFICATIONS

Size:	96"X16'5"
Capacity:	6
Crew:	4
Cabins:	3
Accommodations:	3 Double/Twins
Heat & Air:	Individual Heating and Air-Conditioning in Each Cabin
Cruising Region:	Bordeaux Region
Length of Cruise:	6 Nights
Departure Day:	Saturday
Electricity:	Electric Power 24 Hours A Day
Meals:	All Included
Beverages:	All Included
Entrance Fees:	All Included
Hairdryers:	Supplied
Laundry Facilities:	Not available
Transportation:	Transfers to and from Dijon & Private Motorcoach for excursions
Pick-Up Location:	Hotel, Rail Station or Airport in Dijon
Pick-Up Time:	3:00 PM
Recreational Items:	Bicycles, Soundsystem with CD, library of books and games
Theme Cruises:	Golf
Cruising Season:	April until November

BOAT DIAGRAM



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SAMPLE ITINERARY

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MONTAUBAN TO AGEN

Saturday

Meet around 3 pm, normally in Toulouse. Travel by car to the Saint Louis. Champagne reception on board. Options for the evening include a visit to the local Artisan Distillerie, or a stroll around Montech town, or a game of petanque beside the boat.

Sunday

After breakfast, we take the car for a short excursion around Montauban, City of Art and Culture. We visit the central Italian square, and the Pont Vieux over the River Tarn. We return to the Saint Louis, and pass through one lock before joining the main Canal Lateral a la Garonne. We pass down the extraordinary Montech Water Slope, an impressive experience for everyone. We cruise through the canal to Castelsarrasin, where we moor for the night.

Monday

After exploring the town in the morning, we cruise to Moissac, City of Roman Art, crossing on the way the brick aquaduct over the River Tarn. In the afternoon, we visit a famous goat cheese farm at Gensac, and the lovely historic town of Auvillar.

Tuesday

We start the day with a visit to the Abbey and 11th century Cloisters at Moissac, reputed to be the finest cloisters in Europe. After lunch, we cruise to Pommevic where we moor at a small halte under a deep canopy of trees. In Pommevic there is an 11th century church to visit, or we can take an excursion up to the lovely mediaeval town of Lauzerte. We are likely to see pilgrims walking the Santiago di Compostella, the ancient pilgrimage route which has been important since the 6th century.

Wednesday

After breakfast, we cruise first to Valence, where we stop for lunch. We visit the three Romanesque wash houses in the town, and admire the unusual pigeon houses and half-timbered buildings. We then cruise to Golfech, where we moor at a quiet Halte.

Thursday

Today we make an early start to cruise to the city of Agen, (famous for fruit especially melons and prunes) taking breakfast under way. On arrival, we take an excursion by car to the amazing mediaeval city of Nerac, where we see the Chateau of King Henry 4th, and the Gothic Pont Vieux.

Friday

After a leisurely breakfast, we leave the Saint Louis and travel by car back to Toulouse.

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SAMPLE ITINERARY

Saint Louis

AGEN TO CASTETS

Saturday

Meet around 3pm, normally in Toulouse (or Bordeaux). Travel by car to the Saint Louis. Champagne reception on board. Evening stroll around the city, or perhaps a game of petanque beside the boat.

Sunday

After breakfast we cruise out of Agen, and immediately cross the amazing stone aquaduct over the River Garonne, followed by four landscaped locks. We moor for the night at the quiet port of Serignac sur Garonne, and in the evening we can wander around the quaint village, with its half-timbered houses and its unusual church.

Monday

In the morning, we take an excursion by car to the amazing mediaeval city of Nerac, where we see the Chateau of King Henry 4th, and the Gothic Pont Vieux. On the return journey to the boat we see a beautiful Romanesque bridge at Lavardac, and we visit the walled bastide town of Vianne, perhaps visiting one of its glass blowing workshops. We then cruise as far as Buzet-sur-Baise, where we moor for the night under some shady trees.

Tuesday

After breakfast, we can either visit a local traditional barrel-making works, or we can take a small boat down a pair of locks and into the River Baise, perhaps taking a picnic with us. In the afternoon, we cruise as far as Mas d'Argenais, where we moor for the night.

Wednesday

In the morning we take a walk up into the small market town, where there is a Romanesque church where there is a painting of the crucifixion painted by Rembrandt. From here we cruise as far as Meilhan.

Thursday

In the morning we take an excursion by car to the nearby town of La Reole, where we visit an interesting Town Hall in what was originally a 10th century Benedictine monastery. We also can visit a car museum, before returning to the boat and cruising to our final port at Castets. On arrival, we take our final excursion, this time to Fontet where there is a matchstick building museum, including models of the Palace of Versailles and of the cathedral of Reims.

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MENU TYPES

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Sample Menu

Brick de foie gras, julienne de legumes sauce cèpes

Roti de porc aux pruneaux riz pilaf, légumes de saison

Plateau de fromage

Tartes aux framboises

OR

Salade de chèvre chaud

Eventail de magret de canard au miel, légumes de saison

Plateau de fromage

Crème dessert rhum et caramel

Wines Aboard:

The wines on board will be excellent quality wines selected largely from local vineyards, including some wonderful examples from Gaillac and Fronton, and of course a selection of wines from the Bordeaux region. Local liqueurs will be well represented in the bar also, with a range of Armagnacs and Flocs de Gascogne. The bar will also stock a number of distinctive high quality malt whiskies from Scotland.

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2009 PRICES

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Per Person:
\$4,994 p/p
Single Supplement
\$2,500 p/p
Whole Boat Charter
\$23,200 For 4 guests
\$26,160 For 6 guests

RESERVATIONS:

25% Deposit due upon booking
75% of the balance payable 90 days prior to departure
Full payment due within 90 days prior to departure

Transfers are made in our very comfortable support vehicle. We normally transfer from Toulouse. Normally the airport or from a hotel Suggested Hotel

One suggested hotel in Toulouse is Hotel Golf de Seilh, just 15 minutes from the airport, and which has an airport courtesy car and a wide range of facilities - 2 x 18 hole golf courses, swimming pool, tennis, fitness centre, sauna, etc.

Other designated meeting places can always be managed by special arrangement. With this in mind, Montauban has good rail connections with Paris, and Agen has flights three times a day from Paris.

Your cruise price includes:

Toulouse transfers to and from the The Saint Louis
Accommodation for six nights All meals taken on board and whatever meals taken with us ashore (please note that with the

Casual Cruise, one meal a day ashore is at guest's expense)
All coffees, teas, cold drinks, drinks from the bar and drinks with meals
All excursions and visits

Use of all on-board equipment
Full-time crew of 4 (occasionally 3)

Your cruise price does not include:

Airfares to France, travel within France to our designated meeting place
Cancellation and travel insurance (strongly recommended)

Health/accident insurance (strongly recommended)

Any drinks, snacks or sweets bought by you ashore

Sundry purchases and personal items

Green fees, club hire, etc. in the case of golf being played

Optional crew gratuity - normally in the region of 5%, handled via the Captain in one sum (no credit cards)

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