

2024



Dome cities and castle romance at Rhine and Neckar with Bike and Barge from Strasbourg to Mainz

MS OLYMPIA

ORIGINALREISE

- Trip length: 8 Days / 7 Nights
- Departure and arrival day: Saturday
- Length of cycle tours: approx. 162 - 171 km
- Character: individual, unguided
- Difficulty: ●○○○
- Profile: Most of the stretches are paved or asphalted, and lead alongside the Rhine dikes without any gradients of note. Nearly all cycle tours can be classified as being easy.
- Language on board: German / English
- Travel documents: German / English
- Booking code: DE-RHSSM-08I



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Tour Details

The Rhine Cycle Route provides fine views over the Rhine, which has often been immortalised in story and song, as well as over untouched riverside forests with rich varied fauna and flora. The cycleway also leads through picturesque towns, villages and winegrowing areas. The region boasts a wealth of popular touristic destinations and cultural sites as well as of culinary specialties. You cannot miss a short detour along the Neckar River and to Heidelberg, a marvelous city steeped in history. Words are useless to describe the beautiful landscape, the unique cultural sites and the regional delicacies: you simply have to experience them yourself!

(All times are subject to change)

Day	Ort	An	Ab
1	Strasbourg - Embarkation 4.00 p.m.		
2	Strasbourg		12:00
2	Gambsheim	14:00	16:00
2	Germersheim	23:00	
3	Germersheim		12:00
3	Speyer	13:30	
4	Speyer		10:00
4	Mannheim	11:30	
5	Mannheim		
6	Mannheim		10:00
6	Worms	11:30	
7	Worms		08:30
7	Nierstein	11:00	12:00
7	Mainz	13:15	
8	Mainz - Disembarkation 9.00 a.m.		

Day 1: Arrival to Strasbourg

Individual arrival in Strasbourg. Embarkation at 4:00 pm. On board, your captain, the crew and the tour manager will welcome you with a welcome drink.

Day 2: Strasbourg – Gambsheim lock, Cycle tour approx. 18 km / Boat Tour Gambsheim lock – Germersheim

After breakfast, you will have the possibility to visit Strasbourg, the capital of the Alsace, with its numerous channels, the Strasbourg Minster and the Tanners` Quarter with its small historic half-timbered houses. Enjoy a piece of French joie de vivre before you begin your first cycle tour. Cycle directly alongside the Rhine River through the gentle Rhine plain until you reach the Gambsheim lock where your ship already awaits you to set sail for Germersheim. While sailing, enjoy a glass of wine on deck or in the saloon recalling the first impressions of your journey.

Day 3: Germersheim – Speyer, Cycle Tour approx. 22 km

Today`s cycle tour leads through unspoilt nature along the old Rhine ox-bow lakes. Before, however, look forward to exploring the ancient fortified city of Germersheim with its numerous quaint lanes, corners and squares. Continue cycling through the Palatinate Region to reach the cathedral city of Speyer. In 1981, Speyer Cathedral was added to the UNESCO-World Heritage List.

Day 4: Speyer – Mannheim, Cycle Tour approx. 28 km

Enjoy a short cycle ride alongside the Old Rhine, past marvelous lakes, through untouched protected areas designated as National Nature Reserves and natural flood plains. You reach Mannheim, also called the “City of Squares” due to its layout in a grid-pattern. In these squares, countless places are well worth visiting as for example the famous Mannheim Baroque Palace – German largest Baroque palace complex and the water tower – the city`s landmark.

Day 5: Mannheim – Heidelberg – Mannheim, Cycle Tour approx. 52 km

Today, follow the course of the marvellous Neckar River up to Heidelberg. The ancient Roman city of Ladenburg with its historic Old Town is worth a short stop-over. Visible already from afar, the ruin of the Heidelberg Palace towers over the Old Town. Stroll across the famous Heidelberg Sandstone Bridge, or through the winding lanes and charming squares of the Old Town. Your way back leads along the Neckar River to Mannheim, where you reach back to the buzzing city life.

Day 6: Mannheim – Worms, Cycle Tour approx. 26 km

Today you leave Mannheim and drive past meadows and fields, following the course of the Rhine to the imperial city of Worms. On your journey through two millenniums of the city`s history, learn about emperors and kings, myths and legends of the Nibelung, Judaism and Martin Luther.

Day 7: Boat Tour Worms – Nierstein, Nierstein – Mainz, Cycle Tour approx. 17 - 20 km

With almost 1,000 Hectare of viticultural area, Nierstein is home to the largest wine-growing community on the Rhine. The historic Old Town with its medieval market square and noble houses is also well worth visiting. A short stretch that leaves plenty of time for one to indulge oneself: cycle on the Rhine Cycle Route on well-paved cycle ways directly alongside the Rhine from Nierstein to Mainz. Guests, who would like to cycle a longer stretch, can also choose to start the cycle tour already in Worms. (cycle tour Worms-Mainz approx. 60 km).

Day 8: Mainz

After breakfast disembarkation until 09:00am. Individual journey home.

Travel Dates | Prices | Services

Travel Dates 2024

15th June – 22nd June 2024 | 13th July – 20th July 2024

Price per Person in EURO

Main Deck		Upper Deck			
2-bed-cabin	2-bed-cabin single use	2-bed-cabin astern*	2-bed-cabin	1-bed-cabin	2-bed-cabin single use
1.199,-	1.559,-	1.349,-	1.399,-	1.449,-	1.819,-

* Cabins at rear of the ship; perceptible engine and generator noise (when ship is in motion and in locks)

Supplements

Rental bike fee 7-gear-Unisex: € 89,-

Rental bike fee 8-gear-E-Bike: € 199,-

Bring your own bike / own E-bike: € 29,- (on request only, limited number)

Bikes:

- 7-gear-Unisex-trekking bikes und 8-gear-E-Bikes (brand: Velo de Ville - special SE-Tours edition)
- With hand brake and pedal brake or hand brakes only (subject to availability, please indicate as a non-binding customer request by the booking)
- Pannier bag and rental bike insurance included.
- E-Bikes on a limited number only
- Please indicate your body height by the booking

Travel safe and secure with SE-Tours: We recommend to wear a bike helmet. Please bring your own bike helmet (no onboard selling)

Services included

- Seven nights in outside cabins with private facilities in the booked cabin category
- Program according to routing
- All charges for harbours, bridges and locks
- Room cleaning every day, changing of towels and bed cloths as necessary
- Welcome-Drink
- Full board consisting of 7x breakfast, 6x lunch package for cycle tours or snack on board (non-cyclists), 6x coffee or tea in the afternoon, 7x 3-course-dinner
- Daily meeting for the cycle tours
- Printed instructions and maps for daily individual bike tours (1 per cabin)
- GPS tracks
- Tour guide on board

Not included

Journey way, shuttles, bike rentals, entrance fees and excursions, city maps, ferry fees, travel insurances, parking fees, tips, drinks on board, personal expenses

Car Park facilities (subject to change, as of May 2023):

Car parking in Strasbourg is part of the City's "sustainable mobility" policy; parking spaces in the city centre are very limited. The rates are higher than average, like in every international large town. Outside the city centre there are several park & ride parking spaces. The parking garage „Gare Wodli“ at the central station costs 20 € per 24 h (www.strassburg.eu)



Ship's description | Remarks

MS OLYMPIA

Built in 1984 | **Cabin refurbishment** 2015/2016 | **Registry** Switzerland | **Length** 88,50 m | **Width** 10,50 m | **Draft** 1,50 m
Number of Crew ca. 21 | **Passengers** max. 96

Comfortable and cosy river ship with family environment. The ship was refurbished in 2015/2016. The panoramic salon with bar in gentlemen club-style and the bright and friendly restaurant are waiting for you to pass relaxing hours here. A spacious, partly shaded sun deck and storage space for bicycles.



Cabins 49 outside cabins, comfortable and cosy with en-suite bathroom, hair dryer, telephone, TV, individual air conditioning/heating, fridge and safe.

Main Deck 21x 2-bed-cabins (approx. 11m²), panoramic window (not opening windows)

Upper Deck 22x 2-bed-cabins (approx. 11m²) + four 2-bed-cabins of bigger size at the stern of the ship (= 2-bed-cabins astern: perceptive engine and generator noise when ship is in motion and in locks, approx. 12m², three of them feature twin beds) as well as two single cabins (approx. 9m²). Panoramic windows to be opened.

Important remarks

Embarkation at 4.00 p.m. | **Disembarkation** from 9.00 a.m.

Minimum number of participants 75 guests (must have been reached within 21 days prior to departure)

To bring your own bike On request only – due to lack of space on sun deck. We exclude any liability for loss, theft and damage - this also applies to damage caused by transportation from shore to ship or vice versa.

Excursions We offer a small excursion program that can be booked directly on board at the cruise director only. You will get a brief description together with your travel documents. Depending on the number of participants some excursions could be carried out in 2 languages (German/English)

Schedule and program changes Basically, we reserve the right to make changes of routing and program. If there is low or high water and a route cannot be shipped, the captain reserves the right to change the route in view of your safety (this cannot be accepted as a reason for free withdrawal). Same applies to previously unbeknownst administrative orders of lock or bridge repairs.

Travel documents EU-citizens (without special situations like dual citizenship, main residence abroad or a limited-validity passport) are required to have a valid passport or ID-card, not expiring within six (6) months of the return of your cruise. We kindly ask non-EU citizens, EU-nationals with multiple citizenship or anybody who has to respect special legal entry requirements for the country to visit, to inform about visa and entry documents at the competent embassy.

This trip is not suitable for guests with reduced mobility.

We recommend that you take out a **travel health insurance** with repatriation coverage as well as baggage, accident and travel cancellation insurances.

