

2024



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

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-RHSMS-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 specialities. You cannot miss a short detour along the Neckar River and to Heidelberg, a marvellous 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	Port	Arr	Dep
1	Mainz – Embarkation 4:00 p.m.		
2	Mainz		10:00
2	Nierstein	12:00	14:00
2	Worms	17:30	
3	Worms		10:00
3	Mannheim	12:00	
4	Mannheim		
5	Mannheim		10:00
5	Speyer	13:00	
6	Speyer		10:00
6	Germersheim	11:30	15:00
6	Gambsheim	22:00	
7	Gambsheim		12:00
7	Strasbourg	14:00	
8	Strasbourg – Disembarkation 9:00 a.m.		

Day 1: Arrival to Mainz

Individual arrival to Mainz. Embarkation at 4:00 p.m. There may be time to explore the capital of Rhineland-Palatinate with its lovingly restored half-timbered houses and the Romanesque Cathedral of Saint Martin.

Day 2: Mainz - Nierstein, Cycle Tour approx. 17 - 26 km / Boat Tour Nierstein - Worms

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

Day 3: Worms - Mannheim, Cycle Tour approx. 26 km

In the Imperial city of Worms, set off for today's cycle leg. Enjoy riding through vast fields and meadows. The beautiful cycle trail across the Friesenheim Island offers a high contrast to the opposite Rhine bank dominated by the BASF plant. A few kilometres further on, you will reach the confluence of the rivers Rhine and Neckar in Mannheim, where your ship will already be waiting for you. Make the most of the afternoon, and take a stroll through Mannheim, the City of Squares, up to the Baroque castle.

Day 4: 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 5: Mannheim – Speyer; Cycle Tour approx. 27 km

Alongside the numerous oxbow lakes of the Old Rhine leads the way to today's destination – the cathedral city of Speyer. Enjoy the short bike ride through unspoilt nature, areas that are designated Natural Nature Reserves and natural flood plains. The Speyer Cathedral was added to the UNESCO World Heritage List in 1981.

Day 6: Speyer – Germersheim, Cycle Tour approx. 22 km / Boat tour Germersheim – Lock Gambsheim

Along the old Rhine ox-bow lakes cycle through the unspoilt nature of the Palatinate region. Look forward to visiting the old fortified city of Germersheim with its numerous quaint lanes, corners and squares. Enjoy the boat tour to Gambsheim while having a fine glass of wine on deck or in the saloon, replaying the events of the day.

Day 7: Lock Gambsheim – Strasbourg, Cycle Tour approx. 18 km

On your last bike tour stretch, cycle in an easy pace directly alongside the river through the gentle Rhine plain until you reach the capital of the Alsace, the city of Strasbourg with its countless channels. Stroll to the Strasbourg Minster, the landmark of the city, through the picturesque Tanners' Quarter with its small historic half-timbered houses and enjoy a piece of French joie de vivre while your journey slowly comes to an end.

Day 8: Departure from Strasbourg

After breakfast disembarkation until 9:00 a.m. Individual journey home.

Travel Dates | Prices | Services

Travel Dates 2024

8th June – 15th June 2024 | 06th July – 13th 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	Single 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 Park at the central station (unguarded, cannot be booked in advance) in Mainz. Parking fee approx. € 55,- per week.



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.

