# Bike and boat along the Meuse

8 DAYS / 7 NIGHTS, APPROX. 265 KM BOOKING CODE: NL-MAS

# DAILY ROUTE LENGTH



# Your tour

By bike and boat along the Meuse from Maastricht, the southernmost city in the Netherlands, to Amsterdam, the city of canals and museums. Discover the landscapes of the Netherlands formed by the rivers Meuse, Vecht, Waal, Linge and Lower Rhine. Inexperienced and passionate cyclists will have their real pleasure on this trip by bike and boat along the Meuse. Well-maintained cycle paths are the order of the day, and you will look in vain for difficult climbs. There is the possibility to do the stages with a local guide or individually, just as you like.

The starting point alternates between Maastricht and Amsterdam. Please note that the accommodation locations of the two routes differ slightly.

#### Itinerary

Individual arrival in Maastricht
Maastricht – Born (boat), Born – Roermond, approx. 40 km
Roermond – Arcen, approx. 50 km
Arcen – Cuijk, approx. 55 km
Cuijk – Oss, approx. 40 km, Oss – Heusden (boat)
Heusden – Gorinchem (boat), Gorinchem – Vianen, approx. 40 km
Vianen-Breukelen (boat), Breukelen-Amsterdam, approx. 35/45 km
Individual departure from Amsterdam

### Travel time

Season A	04.05.	
Season B	11.05 31.08.	

Arrival Saturday 04.05. – 31.08.2024 The season is dictated by the arrival date.

# Services

- → 7 nights on board in double cabins with shower / WC
- → Welcome drink
- $\rightarrow$  Bed linen and towels (no bath towels)
- → Entrance museum Ceuclum in Cuijk
- → Ferry fees
- → Guided bike tours according to programme
- $\rightarrow$  Coffee and tea in the afternoon
- → Travel documents (1 x per cabin), Maps on board
- → Service-Hotline (7 days, 08.00 a.m. 08.00 p.m.)
- → Daily cabin cleaning
- → Full board (7 x breakfast, 6 x packed lunch, 6 x dinner)

# Not included services

- → Dinner (1x)
- → Admission fees and excursions
- → Drinks on board and tips for tour guide and crew
- → Transfers

#### Basic price per person

Double cabin, season A	1229,-
Double cabin, season B	1329,-

### Additional services per person

E-bike / Pedelec	199,-
Amsterdam canal cruise	16,-
Rental bike (7- / 24-gear, Freewheel)	59,—

# Languages Travel documents

→ German, English, Dutch

#### Additional note

- → All departures are guaranteed, there is no minimum number of participants.
- → All bookings are on request.
- → Changes: Changes are possible on boat trips due to weather, water level or technical conditions and remain reserved.
- → Arrival dates MS Flora
- → Maastricht Amsterdam (BE-MASMF-08G): 01.06.
- → Amsterdam Maastricht: (NL-MASAF-08G): 25.05.
- → Arrival dates MS Gandalf
- → Maastricht Amsterdam (BE-MASMG-08G): 22.06. / 06.07.
- → Amsterdam Maastricht (NL-MASAG-08G): 15.06. / 29.06.
- → Arrival dates MS Sarah
- → Maastricht Amsterdam (BE-MASMS-08G): 11.05. / 20.07. / 31.08.
- → Amsterdam Maastricht (NL-MASAS-08G): 04.05. / 13.07. / 24.08.
- → Supplement double cabin for single use: 50 % of the basic cruise price

#### Equipment of our rental bikes

- → Comfortable saddle
- → Bike lock
- → Waterproof pannier

### Journey to Maastricht / Amsterdam

- → Nearest airports: Brussels, Düsseldorf, Amsterdam
- → Train station: Maastricht, Amsterdam

# Parking in Maastricht / Amsterdam

- → Maastricht:
- → Not far from the pier on the Maas River are parking garages, cost about 25 € for 24 hours. Somewhat cheaper parking can be found outside the center.
- → Amsterdam:
- → Oosterdok parking garage at Central Station, about 15 € for 24 hours. Travel to the pier from Central Station by cab about 20 € (about 4 km away) or by bus in about 10 minutes (about 3 €).
- → Valet Parking: Your car will be picked up at the ship on the day of arrival, parked under cover and guarded and brought back to the ship on the day of departure, cost approx. 175 € / week. A bicycle rack costs another 35 €.
- → Please always go first to the ship and drop off your luggage and then to the parking lot. No reservation by Radweg-Reisen is possible.

#### **Travel documents**

- → 1 set (per booked cabin) consists of: Voucher, travel information with description of the daily stages
- → Dispatch up to four weeks before arrival. For bookings at short notice, handover on site, voucher and arrival information in advance by e-mail.

### **Stages description**

# Day 1: Individual arrival in Maastricht

After embarkation around 2:00 pm, you will have plenty of time to explore the nearby center of Maastricht. Pay a visit to the Basilica of St. Servatius and stroll through the Bonnefantenmuseum with artworks from different eras. After dinner on board, grab your bike and visit the banks of the Meuse River. Enjoy the view of the city from one of the Meuse bridges. A side trip is worthwhile to the caves of St. Pieter, located under one of the highest mountains in the Netherlands.

#### Day 2: Maastricht - Born (boat), Born - Roermond, approx. 40 km

During breakfast, your ship will take you to Born: your journey by bike and ship on the Meuse begins! From the Born lock you get on your bike and after a few kilometers you reach the Belgian town of Maaseik. In the birthplace of the famous Flemish painter Jan van Eyck, you can take a first breather at the Grote Markt. The route continues to the Belgian-Dutch border to Thorn. In het witte stadje - the white city - it is worth visiting the Abdijkerk, an abbey reflecting several architectural epochs. In the midst of the Maasplassen lake district lies your stage destination today, Roermond.

# Day 3: Roermond – Arcen, approx. 50 km

Today you will reach the city of Venlo around noon. The center of the old fortified city on the Meuse River was largely destroyed during World War II, but today presents itself with a mixture of modern and historic buildings. Venlo is particularly popular as a shopping city. A few kilometers further on, you will reach your destination for the day, Arcen, a charming little town in the middle of the Maasduinen. Pay a

visit to the magnificent castle complex with various gardens from all over the world or let the Hertog Jan Brouwerij tell you about the art of brewing beer.

#### Day 4: Arcen – Cuijk, approx. 55 km

First, today's journey by bike and boat along the Meuse River to Well. The castle surrounded by a moat is considered one of the most beautiful in the Netherlands. Further you cycle through the national park De Maasduinen. Around noon you will reach Afferden. In your stage town Cuijk, visit the tower located in the center of town. It houses an archaeological museum with finds from the Roman period. In the neo-Gothic St. Martin's Church you can marvel at one of the oldest organs in the Netherlands.

# Day 5: Cuijk - Oss, approx. 40 km, Oss - Heusden (boat)

Along the Meuse today you will pass through the fortified towns of Grave and Ravenstein. In Ravenstein, it's worth stopping at the small Wilskracht Stadsbrouwerij, a brewery that can be spotted from afar by an imposing mill. Before you rejoin the ship in Maasbommel, you'll cycle past the first amphibian houses built in the Netherlands. By boat you continue to Heusden. The bastion town looks like an open-air museum because of its restored houses and windmills.

# Day 6: Heusden – Gorinchem (boat), Gorinchem – Vianen, approx. 40 km

In the morning, take a boat to idyllic Gorinchem. With the Woudrichem fortress on the opposite bank, the town is one of the best preserved fortified towns in the Netherlands. Through a typical Dutch landscape, you will take a detour to the glass city of Leerdam on the Linge River.

The city is also famous for Leerdam cheese. Situated on the river Lek, Vianen is your stop today on the tour by bike and boat along the Meuse.

# Day 7: Vianen – Breukelen (boat), Breukelen – Amsterdam, approx. 35 / 45 km

Before you reach the destination of your bike and boat trip from Bruges to Amsterdam, your boat will take you to Breukelen. Along the river Vecht you cycle through the canal-strewn countryside, dotted with stately homes and parks. Via Muiden you will reach Amsterdam. Historic canals, world-class art museums and hundreds of must-see buildings await you in this multicultural and exciting city.

# Day 8: Individual departure from Amsterdam

After breakfast, your journey by ship and bike through Holland on MS Flora, MS Gandalf or MS Sarah is unfortunately already over. Disembarkation by 9:30 a.m. and your journey home.

# Boat descriptions



# **MS** Flora

A cozy, familiar ship - that is the MS Flora. The well-coordinated on-board crew takes care of its guests and can tell many an anecdote. The ship has an atmosphere of absolute well-being and the cabins are comfortably furnished. Small towns can be explored from central piers. If you don't want to cycle one day, you can also cover the distance on the ship.

# Facts about the ship:

- → Outside cabins: approx. 8 m<sup>2</sup>
- → Ground level beds
- $\rightarrow$  Shower / WC, central heating, storage space under the bed
- $\rightarrow$  Small opening windows in each cabin
- → Year of construction: 1929
- → Renovation: 2007
- → 1 passenger deck | 10 outside cabins
- → Maximum occupancy: 22 passengers
- → Length: 40 m
- → Width: 6 m
- → Amenities: salon, bar, sundeck, WLAN
- → Board languages: English, German, Dutch

# Boat descriptions



# **MS Gandalf**

On the river ship MS Gandalf you will be welcomed by your skipper in a family atmosphere. The manageable number of guests makes it easy to get into conversation with each other. Two sun decks offer plenty of space. Solar collectors have been installed on the double roof to store sunlight during the day. So at night the generator does not have to run and you enjoy a quiet, restful sleep.

# Facts about the ship:

- → 10 outside cabins, approx. 8 m<sup>2</sup>
- → Equipment: WC / shower, individually adjustable air conditioner, central heating
- → Cabin deck: opening windows
- → Double cabins: 2 single beds at ground level
- → 1 passenger deck
- → 10 outside cabins
- → Maximum occupancy: 22 passengers
- → Length: 45 m
- → Width: 6,2 m
- → Equipment: 2 sun decks, spacious salon, storage for bicycles, double roof with solar panels
- → Board language: German, English, Dutch

# Boat descriptions



# **MS Sarah**

Small but mighty! With plenty of space and freedom of movement you travel on the river ship MS Sarah. The spacious salon doubles as a restaurant. Enjoy the passing landscapes when you are served delicious meals on the large sun deck in good weather. If you don't want to cycle a leg of the journey, you can relax and take the boat. We recommend a cherry beer to go with it!

# Facts about the ship:

- → 10 two-bed cabins (approx. 10 m<sup>2</sup>)
- → beds at ground level
- → shower / WC, central heating, opening windows
- $\rightarrow$  additional bed: limited possible in bunk bed
- $\rightarrow$  2002 conversion to passenger ship
- → 1 passenger deck
- → 10 outside cabins
- → Maximum occupancy: 20 passengers
- → Length: 45 m
- → Width: 6,60 m
- → Equipment: salon with restaurant, sundeck with seats
- → Board language: German, English, Dutch