

# By bike and boat from Maastricht to Paris

15 DAYS / 14 NIGHTS, APPROX. 435 KM  
BOOKING CODE: NL-MMP

DAILY ROUTE LENGTH ●●●●●  
TOPOGRAPHY ●●●●●



## Your tour

From the south of the Netherlands to the capital of France – in 15 days you will travel along various rivers whose courses will take you to historic places and through varied landscapes. Along the way you will encounter impressive castles, fortresses, cathedrals and ship lifts. The small but fine ship MS Miró is your constant companion and serves as a comfortable floating hotel during the trip.

The starting location alternates between Maastricht and Paris.

## Itinerary

<b>Day 1</b>	Individual arrival to Kanne near Maastricht, Maastricht – Liège (boat)
<b>Day 2</b>	Lüttich – Neuville (boat), Neuville – Huy – Namur, approx. 40 km
<b>Day 3</b>	Namur – Floreffe (boat), Floreffe – Roselies, approx. 45 km, Roselies – Grosselies (boat)
<b>Day 4</b>	Namur – Floreffe (boat), Floreffe – Roselies, approx. 45 km, Roselies – Grosselies (boat)
<b>Day 5</b>	Grosselies – Strépy-Thieu (boat), Strépy-Thieu – Mons, approx. 45 km
<b>Day 6</b>	Mons – Antoing, approx. 40 km
<b>Day 7</b>	Antoing – Valenciennes, approx. 40 km
<b>Day 8</b>	Valenciennes – Bouchain, approx. 25 km
<b>Day 9</b>	Bouchain – Ruyaulcourt, approx. 40 km, Ruyaulcourt – Noyon (boat)
<b>Day 10</b>	Noyon – Pierrefonds – Compiègne, approx. 45 km
<b>Day 11</b>	Compiègne – Creil, approx. 40 km
<b>Day 12</b>	Creil – Beaumont-sur-Oise, approx. 30 km, Beaumont-sur-Oise – Conflans-Sainte-Honorine (boat)
<b>Day 13</b>	Conflans-Sainte-Honorine – Bougival – Paris, approx. 45 km
<b>Day 14</b>	Stay in Paris
<b>Day 15</b>	Individual departure

## Services

- 14 nights on board with shower / WC
- Excursions and guided tours in Liège and other cities
- Visit to Café Chantant Les Ollivette
- Bed linen and towels (no bath towels)
- Champagne reception
- Electric bike (8-speed unisex with coaster brake)
- Guided bike tours according to programme
- Coffee and tea in the afternoon
- Maps for the bike tours on loan on board
- Helmets for rent
- Fruit and snacks
- Service-Hotline (7 days, 08.00 a.m. – 08.00 p.m.)
- Sport massage device in each cabin
- Daily cabin cleaning
- Daily cycling tour briefing, on-board tour guide
- Full board (14 x breakfast, 14 x packed lunch, 12 x dinner)
- Pre-trip documents (1 x per cabin)
- Laundry service on board

## Not included services

- Dinner (2x)
- Admission fees and excursions
- Drinks on board and tips for tour guide and crew

## Travel time

<b>Season A</b>	21.09.	11.10.
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## Basic price per person

Double cabin	2499,-
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## Additional services per person

Electric bike / pedelec (8-speed unisex with coaster)	incl.
Passenger fee (payable on site)	275,-

## Child reduction on basic price

No child discount is offered on this trip.

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### Languages Travel documents

→ German, English, Dutch

### Additional note

- 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 Miró
- Maastricht – Paris (NL-NHSHH-08G): 21.09.
- Paris – Maastricht (FR-MPMM15G): 11.10.
- Minimum number of participants to be reached up to 21 days before the start of the trip: 8 people
- Bringing your own bike is possible to a limited extent and without discount.
- Surcharge double cabin for single use: on request

### Equipment of our rental bikes

- Comfortable saddle
  - Helmet (please state your head size upon booking)
  - Bike lock
  - Breakdown kit (1 x per booking)
  - Safety vest and rain poncho
  - Unflat Schwalbe Marathon Plus tyres or comparable
  - Waterproof pannier
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## Stages description

### Day 1: Individual arrival to Kanne near Maastricht, Maastricht – Liège (boat)

Welcome to your journey by bike and ship from Maastricht to Paris! After embarkation on the MS Miró at around 12:00, you are already on your way. Almost imperceptibly you will cross the Dutch-Belgian border with the ship and reach Liège. After an evening dinner, you will have the opportunity to get to know the city better on a guided tour.

### Day 2: Lüttich – Neuville (boat), Neuville – Huy – Namur, approx. 40 km

Your first cycling leg is coming up! During breakfast the boat will take you to Neuville. On the bike, you will first go to Huy. Visit the citadel there, which once served as a prison and now houses the Museum of the Resistance and Concentration Camps. Below the citadel, the collegiate church of Notre-Dame is also worth a visit. With Namur you will reach your destination for the day. From the ships mooring you have a beautiful view of the citadel opposite, one of the largest fortifications in Europe, which you can hike to see after dinner. Or how about a short tour through the charming alleys of the more than 1300-year-old city?

### Day 3: Namur – Floreffe (boat), Floreffe – Roselies, approx. 45 km, Roselies – Grosselies (boat)

In the morning, the MS Miró will take you to the tranquil Floreffe. The abbey there from the 12th century will inspire you. On the extensive grounds you will find buildings in various architectural styles - from

### Journey to Maastricht / Paris

- Nearest airports: Brussels, Paris
- Train station: Maastricht, Paris

### Parking in Maastricht / Paris

- 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.
- Paris:
- Various public parking garages, prices on request at [www.interparking-france.com](http://www.interparking-france.com).
- No reservation possible through Radweg-Reisen.

### 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.

the Middle Ages to Classicism. Enjoy a hearty meal of locally produced cheese and try the monastery's own beer before you set off on your bike to Roselies. There, or nearby, you'll board the ship again. The ship sails in the direction of Charleroi. You will spend the night in Grosselies. Since the 3rd and 4th day depends on the conditions on the rivers, the course may vary for both days.

### Day 4: Namur – Floreffe (boat), Floreffe – Roselies, approx. 45 km, Roselies – Grosselies (boat)

In the morning, the MS Miró will take you to the tranquil Floreffe. The abbey there from the 12th century will inspire you. On the extensive grounds you will find buildings in various architectural styles - from the Middle Ages to Classicism. Enjoy a hearty meal of locally produced cheese and try the monastery's own beer before you set off on your bike to Roselies. There, or nearby, you'll board the ship again. The ship sails in the direction of Charleroi. You will spend the night in Grosselies. Since the 3rd and 4th day depends on the conditions on the rivers, the course may vary for both days.

### Day 5: Grosselies – Strépy-Thieu (boat), Strépy-Thieu – Mons, approx. 45 km

At breakfast time, the MS Miró will first take you to the ship lift at Strépy-Thieu. It is one of the largest ship lifts in the world and overcomes a height of over 70 meters. Visit the impressive structure before cycling to the Canal Historique du Centre. The boat lifts there are true masterpieces of Belgian construction engineering. With the

town of Mons, you will reach your destination for the day. Visit the sublime collegiate church of Sainte-Waudru and enjoy a beautiful view of the city from Le Beffroi, Mons landmark.

**Day 6: Mons – Antoing, approx. 40 km**

Today you will cycle through idyllic landscapes and beautiful villages on your tour by bike and boat from Maastricht to Paris along the Canal du Centre, which was opened over 100 years ago. Along the way, you have the option of reboarding the ship at each lock to shorten the cycling leg. Once in Antoing, you can take a walk through the beautiful town or directly along the river Scheldt.

**Day 7: Antoing – Valenciennes, approx. 40 km**

Today's stage of your tour by bike and boat from Maastricht to Paris takes you from Belgium to France. You will cycle through picturesque villages, beautiful landscapes and forested areas. With Valenciennes you will reach your destination today. In the afternoon, tea and coffee awaits you on the MS Miró. Afterwards, a visit to the Musée des Beaux-Arts, which shows works by French and Flemish painters, among others, is rewarding.

**Day 8: Valenciennes – Bouchain, approx. 25 km**

Once again, explore the ornate streets of Valenciennes and visit the market before getting back on your bike. Your tour by bike and boat from Maastricht to Paris takes you to Bouchain. The first documented mention of the small town on the Scheldt Canal took place around the year 900. Since then, Bouchain looks back on an eventful history, which is reflected in numerous buildings.

**Day 9: Bouchain – Ruyaulcourt, approx. 40 km, Ruyaulcourt – Noyon (boat)**

Today you will get to know the historic landscape of Picardy. You will first cycle to Ruyaulcourt. There you will board the boat that will take you through the Souterrain de Ruyaulcourt. The 4,350 meter long tunnel runs underground on the Canal du Nord. On the canal, you'll continue relaxed in a convoy of ships - the commercial shipping determines the speed. Stretch your legs in the old town of Noyon before a delicious regional dinner awaits you on the ship.

**Day 10: Noyon – Pierrefonds – Compiègne, approx. 45 km**

After breakfast, you will have ample time to explore Noyon again. Especially the cathedral will catch your eye. It was built in the Gothic style in the 12th century and is one of the oldest church buildings in France. You will then cycle briskly to Pierrefonds. The castle there has already been used several times as a film set and will also inspire you - simply fabulous. Via Saint-Jean-aux-Bois you will reach Compiègne.

The impressive castle once served as the residence of the French kings. Explore the extensive castle grounds and the old town, which is well worth seeing.

**Day 11: Compiègne – Creil, approx. 40 km**

Your tour by bike and boat from Maastricht to Paris takes you today along the Oise to Creil. Through small towns and a charming landscape you will cycle to the cozy small town, where the influence of Paris, which is not far away, is already noticeable. Stroll through the streets of the town, which is located on both sides of the river, or treat yourself to a sparkling wine on the quarterdeck after your time on the bike.

**Day 12: Creil – Beaumont-sur-Oise, approx. 30 km, Beaumont-sur-Oise – Conflans-Sainte-Honorine (boat)**

By bike, we first go to Chantilly. The castle there is an absolute eye-catcher - from the outside and from the inside! In addition to numerous rooms to visit, it houses the Musée Condé, which has an outstanding art collection. On we go! Past the abbey in Royaumont, which is equally worth seeing, you will reach the pretty town of Beaumont-sur-Oise. From there, the ship sails to Conflans-Sainte-Honorine. The town is a center of French inland navigation, which is particularly reflected in the sights: the museum of river navigation and a church on a boat.

**Day 13: Conflans-Sainte-Honorine – Bougival – Paris, approx. 45 km**

On your tour by bike and boat from Maastricht you will go to Paris today! Whether you get on your bike today is entirely up to you. Now on the Seine, you can relax and enjoy the skyline of the approaching capital of France from the ship. In Paris, the MS Miró will take you on a tour of the Seine and through the city's ancient tunnels. From the ship's berth at Porte de la Villette, you have the opportunity to explore Paris on a city stroll.

**Day 14: Stay in Paris**

Eiffel Tower, Champs-Élysées, the Louvre, Sacré-Cœur and Montmartre - Paris will inspire you! Whether you want to explore the city together with your guide or on your own is up to you. Stroll through the city's neighborhoods, observe the hustle and bustle of the streets and squares from a café, and relax into the savoir-vivre. In the evening, dinner awaits you with the captain and ship's crew.

**Day 15: Individual departure**

After breakfast at about 09:30 your journey with bike and ship unfortunately already ends. Disembarkation and individual departure will follow.

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# Boat descriptions

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## **MS Miró – Premium ship**

The salon yacht MS Miró was launched in 1916, converted to a luxury ship in 2005, completely renovated in 2012 and sails under the Dutch flag. The ship is managed by skipper Mart and wife Elly and a small, attentive crew. For a maximum of ten people, the ship offers comfortable cabins, a cozy salon with panoramic windows, open fireplace and house bar. By the way, the Spanish painter and artist Joan Miró was the inspiration for the name.

### **Facts about the ship:**

- 5 comfortable outside cabins with double bed (170 x 200cm)
- All cabins have shower / WC, hairdryer, satellite TV / radio / DVD / W-Lan, air conditioning + fan, central heating and safe
- At least 2 portholes per cabin, which can be opened
- Year of construction 1916
- Conversion to luxury ship 1998 – 2000
- Complete renovation 2011 – 2012
- 1 passenger deck
- Maximum occupancy: 10 persons
- Cabin size: min. 8,5 m<sup>2</sup>
- Length: 26 m
- Width: 4,45 m
- Equipment: sun deck, covered aft deck, salon, open fireplace, house bar
- Board languages: Multilingual tour guide