

le boat

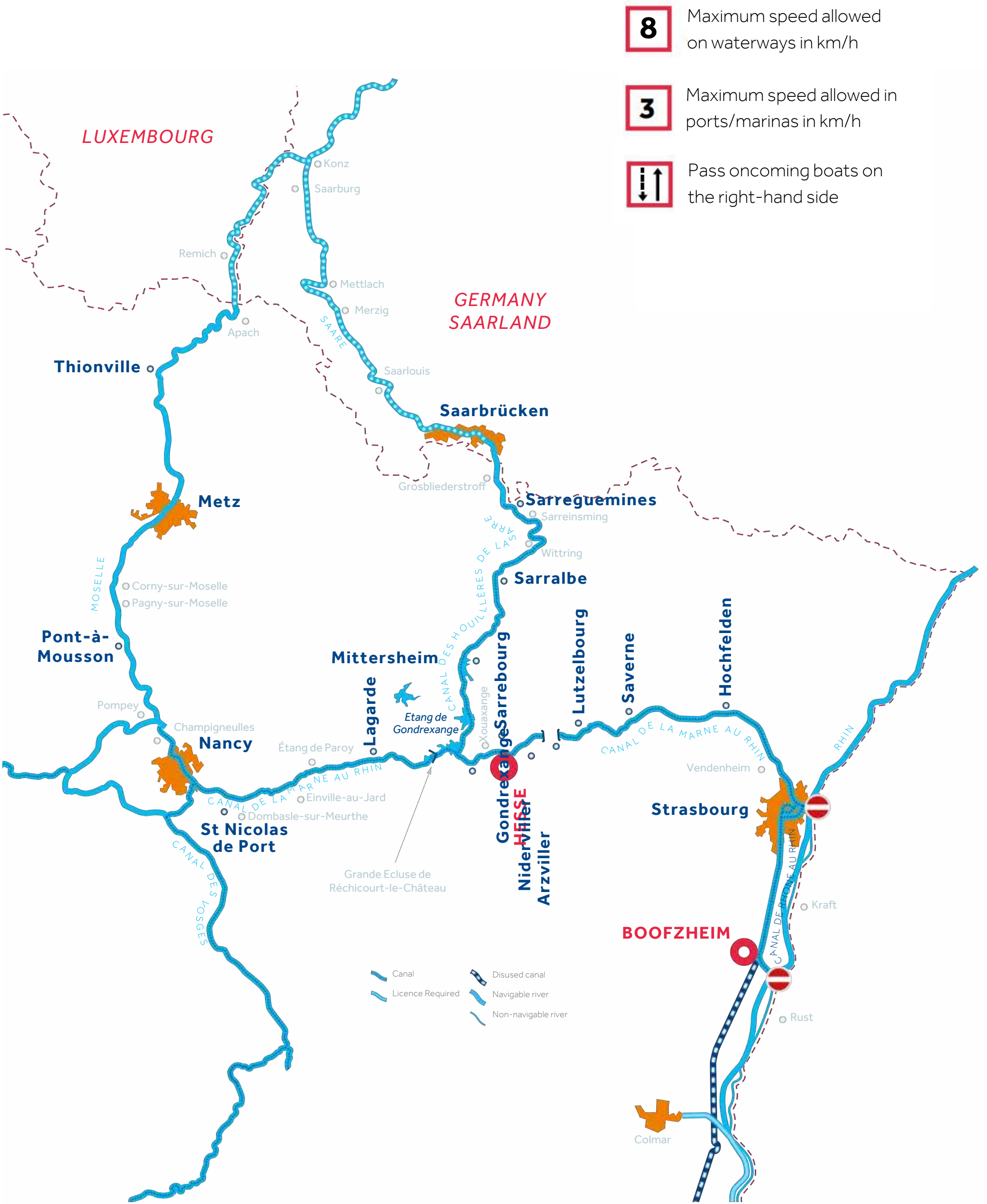
ALSACE

Region Guide



		Approx time		No. of locks	
Boofzheim (Le Boat)		20 min	6 hr	0	10
	Obenheim	1 hr 50 min		4	
	Krafft	55 min		1	
	Plobsheim	2 hr 55 min		5	
	Strasbourg	2 hr 45 min	14 hr 30 min	3	34
	Vendenheim	3 hr 30 min		7	
	Hochfelden	4 hr 15 min		10	
	Saverne	3 hr 15 min		10	
	Lutzelbourg	1 hr 15 min		4	
St Louis Inclined Plane (Arzviller Boat Lift) Time for ascent/descent + waiting		30 min to 1hr 30 min	30 min to 1hr 30 min	-	-
	Niderviller	1 hr 15 min	2 hr	0	0
		45 min		0	
Hesse (Le Boat)		30 min	1 hr 15 min	0	0
	Xouaxange	45 min		0	
Gondrexange		4 hr	12 hr 30 min	7	25
	Lagarde	1 hr 45 min		3	
	Étang de Paroy	1 hr 30 min		2	
	Einville-au-Jard	2 hr 30 min		5	
	Dombasle-sur-Meurthe	45 min		4	
	St Nicholas de Port	2 hr		4	
	Nancy	1 hr	9hr 45 min	0	6
	Champigneulles	1 hr		2	
	Pompey	3 hr		2	
	Pont-à-Mousson	1 hr 15 min		0	
	Pagny-sur-Moselle	1 hr 15 min		1	
	Corny-sur-Moselle	2 hr 15 min		1	
	Metz	5 hr	8 hr 45 min	4	5
	Thionville	3 hr 45 min		1	
	Apach	1 hr 30 min	19 hr 15 min	1	8
	Remich	4 hr 45 min		2	
	Konz	2 hr		0	
	Saarburg	2 hr 45 min		1	
	Mettlach	2 hr		1	
	Merzig Saarlouis	2 hr 30 min		1	
	Saarbrücken	3 hr 45 min	17 hr 30 min	2	31
	Grosbliedestroff	1 hr 45 min		2	
	Sarreguemines	1 hr 15 min		3	
	Sarreinsming	1 hr 15 min		3	
	Wittring	2 hr		2	
	Sarralbe	3 hr 45 min		6	
	Mittersheim	5 hr 45 min		13	

Times are an approximation only and are calculated on the basis of an average speed of 7.5km/h and an average time of 12 minutes to pass through a lock. Your speed, the flow of the water and the time it takes to go through locks will all affect your progress.



BOOFZHEIM



Situated in the heart of the “Ried” (vast wetlands), and 1.4km away from the Le Boat base, you will find Boofzheim village with its many timbered houses from the 17th and 18th century, as well as the 13th century St-Etienne church. If you’re looking for white-knuckle adventure however, the famous German Leisure Park “Europapark” is only 13km away (ask the Le Boat base team how to get there). Cycle ways lead all the way from Boofzheim to Strasbourg or to Germany via the Rhinau Ferry.



Recommended restaurant: Auberge de la Treille – you can be picked up from the Le Boat base by calling +33 (0) 3 88 74 60 44.



Amenities: Plenty of shops, bakeries and restaurants in the village – 1.4km from the Le Boat base.



Waterside services: The Le Boat base has water and electricity, as well as showers/toilets when the base is open.

STRASBOURG



Strasbourg 'Petite France'
Philippe de Rexel

There are so many things to see in the Alsatian Capital, with its streets and timbered-houses bursting with flowers! There's the palace, lots of museums, the 'Petite France' quartier, the European Parliament, many bars and cafés and, of course, the Notre-Dame gothic Cathedral and its planetary astronomic clock from 16th century – famous for the little mechanic characters moving every hour. The legend says the Magistrat of the time, being afraid that the builder would copy this master-piece somewhere else, blinded him. We recommend a visit to the Tourist Office, opposite the Cathedral, to discover the many different ways to explore the city: choose from a 2CV and guide, bicycle, a river boat in the 'Petite France' quarter, the little touristic train or segway tours.



Recommended restaurant: Maison Kammerzell, near the Cathedral.



Amenities: All kind of shops, bars, cafés, restaurants and cinemas.



Market: Wed & Fri (am) – Place Kléber.

Waterside services: A 15 to 20 minute walk from city-centre, the only port is situated at "Quai des Belges" (water and electricity). Tram nearby to get to the city center.

HOCHFELDEN



This small village is the headquarters of the Météor Brewery, which was created in 1640 and produces 320 hectolitres of fine beer each day. Family run since conception, it is the largest independent, own-brand brewer in France and opens its doors to visitors from Wednesday to Sunday for tour, make sure to book in

advance. The museum of the 'Pays de la Zorn' is housed in the ancient synagogue and documents daily life within the region spanning the past 7,500 years.



Recommended restaurant: Le Stammtisch Météor.



Amenities: A bakery and a butcher.
Market: Tue (am).



Waterside services: Water only (at PK 286). You will find electricity and water in Waltenheim sur Zorn, not far from Hochfelden.

SAVERNE



Château des Rohan, Saverne

Its strategic position in the Vosges Mountains, between the Lorraine Plateau and the Alsace Plain, makes Saverne an exceptional site. The approach to Saverne by boat is superb as you moor in front of the 'Château des Rohans' Castle. It is a typical Alsatian town with fine cuisine and beautiful shops and has kept many traces of its past, such as fortifications, a roman church, cloisters, and the pedestrian street has lovely half-timbered houses. The Rose Garden, created in 1898 (with approx. 8500 roses) is also a 'must-see' – especially in June for its rose festival.



Recommended restaurant: Taverne Katz, in the pedestrian street.



Amenities: A bakery, cafés, beautiful local shops and many good restaurants.

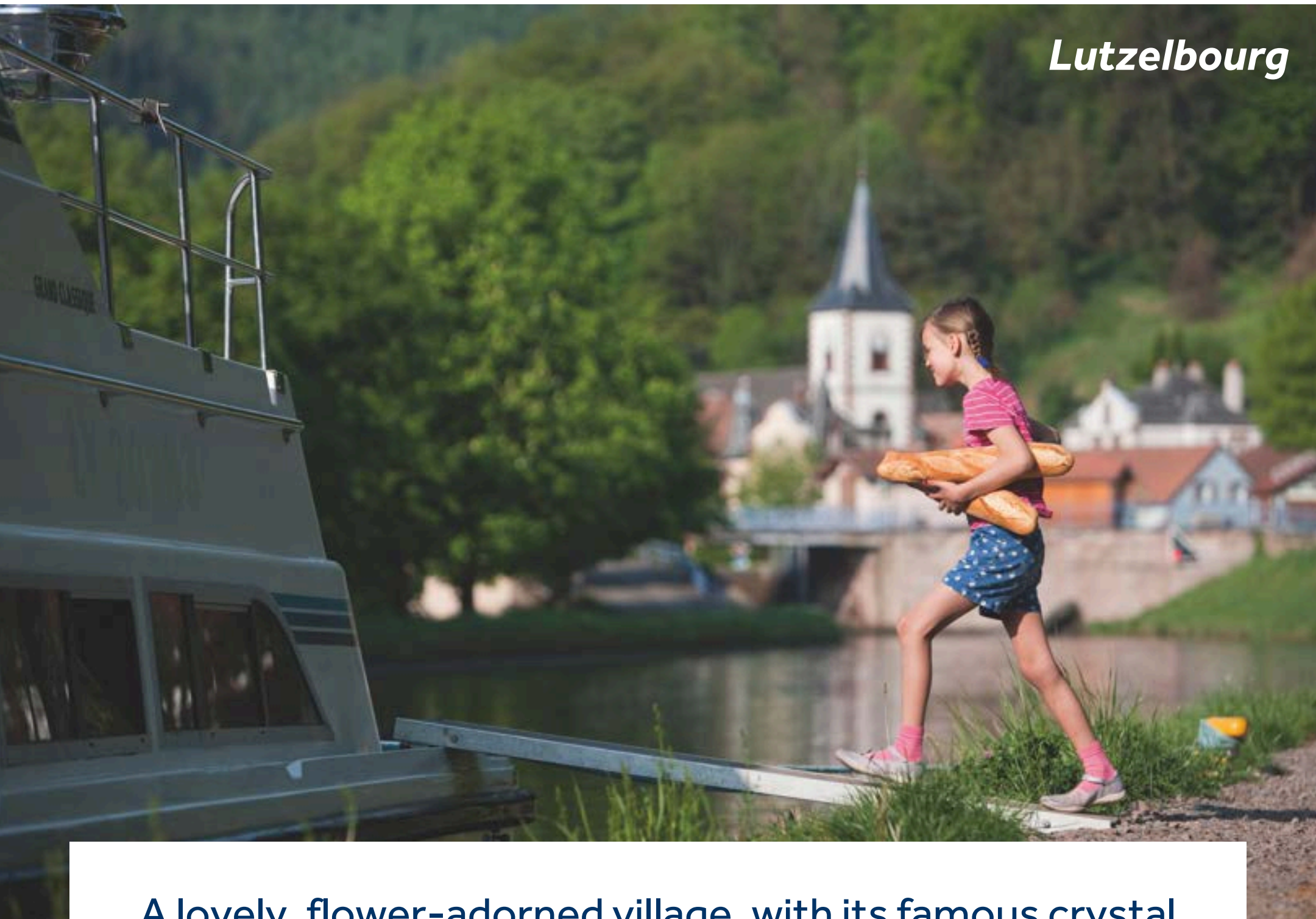
Market: Thu (am) - town centre.



Waterside services: In front of the "Château des Rohans" (near town centre) with water and electricity.

LUTZELBOURG

Lutzelbourg



A lovely, flower-adorned village, with its famous crystal workshop (Maison Wurm) – displaying intricately cut masterpieces. Take a walk to the ruins of the ancient castle built in the 11th Century, and situated 320m high on a rocky cliff, offering magnificent views over the village, canal and beyond. The cycle path along the canal is beautiful and extends past Saverne, all the way to Strasbourg.



Recommended restaurant: Restaurant des Vosges.



Amenities: Tobacco shop (sells groceries), two restaurants and a pharmacy.



Waterside services: Village Port with water and electricity and a private Locaboat Port with electricity, water and toilets (works with 2€ coins only).



DABO ROCK AND MOSELLE TOUR

From Lutzelbourg, why not pick up a half-day tour away from the river to discover more of the surrounding area? Accompanied by an expert guide, visit Dabo Rock, the site of a beautiful chapel which stand 664 metres atop a rocky hill, affording stunning views of the Moselle-Vosges mountains. The tour also takes in Lutzelbourg Castle, a walk into the forest to see the troglodytes' houses (cave dwellings) and a visit to a local chocolate or jam factory. Yum! (For details and to book: +33 7 50 24 39 01 | contact@stephontour.com).



ARZVILLER BOAT LIFT

More accurately known as the 'Inclined Plane of St. Louis', there is nothing else like it in Europe. It came into service in 1969 and replaced a chain of 17 locks, which took an entire day to pass through. Nowadays, the ascent of 44.5m is traversed in just four minutes. Guided tours are possible, which include the machine-room, led by qualified guides who provide a full explanation of how the lift works. A little train can also take you upstream to explore the beautiful "Valley of the Lock-keepers" to experience the early days of navigation. On the road from the top to the bottom of the lift, kids (and big kids) can whoosh through the trees on the 500m luge track. And at the bottom of the road, Cristal Lehrer is an amazing shop offering hand-made and mouth-blown crystal glasses, vases, decorations, jewels and more - a beautiful souvenir from the 'Crystal Valley' to bring home for your family or friends!



The Inclined Plane of St. Louis, Arzviller



Recommended restaurant: Brasserie des Éclusiers - 10 minutes cruising from the bottom of the Boat Lift, right on the canal bank.



Amenities: There is a small snack bar serving refreshments, and a pizza truck serving lunch during the summer holidays.



Waterside services: The only moorings are at the bottom of the Boat Lift – no services.

NIDERVILLER

In the 18th Century, Niderviller became famous for its Faïencerie, producing beautiful porcelain which, today, is on display in numerous museums in France (including Le Louvre in Paris) and all over the world. An outlet-shop near the ancient ovens sells a whole range of porcelain items, from the very prestigious plate to the simple mug, with a room exhibiting former collections.



Recommended restaurant: Auberge du Tannenheim, rue de Lorraine.



Amenities: A bakery and a restaurant.



Waterside services: First harbor, managed by Kuhle Tours, has water, electricity, showers and toilets. Second harbor (also managed by Kuhnle Tolurs) is situated just before the tunnels with water and electricity – you will be charged before the amenities are activated.

HESSE & SARREBOURG

The Le Boat base is situated in the sleepy Lorraine village of Hesse, with an old Benedictine abbey serving as the village church. There's more 'going on' in neighbouring Sarrebourg (4.5km north – a cycle path runs all the way there) where there are plenty of shops. In 1976, Marc Chagall, the famous painter, offered magnificent 12m high stained-glass window called 'La Paix', which you can admire in the Chapelle des Cordeliers. And if you just want to relax, have a walk around Sarrebourg's Lévêque Lake with a beach, playground for children and mini-golf... plus there's a nearby indoor swimming pool in case of inclement weather!



Amenities: A woman's food truck in Hesse which sells homemade food on Tuesday evenings. Tue & Fri (am) – Sarrebourg (4.5km north of Hesse). Pizza truck park – Sunday (pm) in the middle of the village (main street).



Waterside services: The Le Boat base has water and electricity, as well as showers/toilets when the base is open.

GONDREXANGE

Created in the middle-ages, the lake is ideal for swimming, water sports and fishing for pike-perch, pike and carp (you'll need to obtain a fishing licence from the Le Boat base). From the moorings, head to "Les Mouettes" campsite, which has access to the beach and from where you can hire windsurf boards and canoes.



Amenities: There is a bakery in the town (L'ami du pain), and in "Les Mouettes" campsite you will find a small grocery store.



Waterside services: Moor at PK 230 – no services.



GRANDE ECLUSE DE RÉCHICOURT LE CHÂTEAU

16km west of Hesse is a single lock of epic proportions. This impressive feat of engineering was built in 1965 to replace 6 locks, and ascends/descends 16m (the deepest lock in France), taking 30 minutes to fill/drain. Allow about 1 hour for the passage through this lock.

LAGARDE

This typical Lorraine village is part of the “Parc Naturel Régional de Lorraine” from where you can hire a vintage car to explore the beautiful surroundings. Be sure to stop by the village church of St-Jean-Baptiste and its roman belfry from the 12th century.



Recommended restaurant: Restaurant PK 209 - next to the marina.



Amenities: A 'boutique' grocery shop is available for a selection of groceries and souvenirs.



Waterside services: A marina with full services.

NANCY



Place Stanislas, Nancy

Lovers of Art Nouveau will adore the Baroque arts and architecture in Nancy, especially the Place Stanislas, long considered one of the most beautiful squares in the world. Classified as a UNESCO World Heritage site, the golden iron grills, grand buildings and the fountain from Jean Lamour exude elegance and style and are especially impressive at night when they are lit up. The “Ecole de Nancy” (Nancy School) was founded here and was the spearhead of Art Nouveau in France. Learn more at the outstanding Musee de l’Ecole de Nancy.

In the historic Old City you will discover an abundance of beautiful buildings, a lively and fun district with many boutique shops and delicious restaurants. You can look around the Duke’s Palace, which houses the Lorraine Museum and the tombs of the Dukes of Lorraine.

Why not discover the city with a “greeter” – a US concept where a resident of Nancy shows you the city like a friend? (nancygreeters.fr) And while here, don’t forget to taste some specialities, like Quiche Lorraine and the sweets ‘Bergamotes’ and the ‘Baba au Rhum’ (Rum Baba).



Recommended restaurant: A la Table du Bon Roi Stanislas, not far from Place Stanislas.



Amenities: All the shops, bars and restaurants you’d expect in a big city.

Market: Tue to Sat – near Place Stanislas.



Waterside services: Moor in the marina at "Bassin St Georges" which has full services.

ST. NICOLAS DE PORT

The gothic-style St. Nicolas Basilica towers impressively over this small village, with two 80m-high towers framing the entrance. It was built during the 15th and 16th centuries in honour of the patron saint of the barge. It was completely restored in 1983 thanks to a generous donation from a US lady, born in St Nicolas. Also in town, the French brewery museum can be visited, as well as the cinema museum.



Recommended restaurant:

L'Epicurien, situated 2km from the moorings.



Amenities: Plenty of shops, restaurants and amenities.

Market: Fri (am)



Waterside services:

Stop at PK 176 – there are no services here and these are the only moorings.

PONT-À-MOUSSON



Pont-à-Mousson

Pont-à-Mousson is an industrial town, exporting steel around the world. However, once home to a Jesuit university, there coexists an incredible architectural heritage, present in the town's two impressive churches – the attractive Renaissance-style Place Duroc, with its central fountain, and The Abbey of Prémontrés, an 18th century listed monument. There are three sets of incredible, architectural staircases inside the Abbey – one set was daringly constructed in a highly structured spiral and appears to be never-ending. Hidden in a nearby beautiful private mansion of the Renaissance period, the Pont-à-Mousson Museum displays a skilfully decorated selection of papier-mâché objects and furniture, made here between 1870 and 1945.



Recommended restaurant: Restaurant Pierre Bonaventure – Place Duroc.



Amenities: Plenty of shops, supermarkets and restaurants.



Covered Market: Sat - Place St. Antoine.
Waterside services: Plenty of moorings, or try the Port de Pont-à-Mousson which has full services.

METZ



*Porte des Allemands
(German's Gate) in Metz*

Metz embodies a mosaic of styles, materials and colours. From the Roman-Gallo findings and thermal baths at La Cour d'Or Museum, the stunning St. Etienne cathedral (with its 6,500 m² of stained-glass windows) or the last remaining castle bridge in France at Port des Allemands, Metz is a city steeped in history and full of unique character. For the best of modern and contemporary art, head to the Centre Pompidou-Metz, a masterpiece of contemporary architecture with its three exhibition spaces covered by an audacious roof inspired by a Chinese hat.



Recommended restaurant: L'Éveil, Rue du Pont des Roches.



Amenities: All the shops, supermarkets and restaurants you'd expect in a big city.



Market: Tue, Thu & Sat (am) – Cathedral forecourt.

Waterside services: Moor in Port Robert-Schuman, which has full services.

THIONVILLE



St Maximin's Church, Thionville

A historic fortified town which, although is now largely industrialised, possesses some interesting sites worth visiting. The immense and sturdy St Maximin's Church contains some very large organs, the cases of which are brimming with decorative detail. Further along the riverside, the 12th/13th century Tower of Puces is a complex fourteen-sided building which now houses the Thionville Regional Museum and charts the history of the area, from the Palaeolithic to the Late Middle Ages, including the countless sieges the town has endured over the centuries. Slightly outside of town, you can visit Guentrange Fort, fortifications built by the German army before WWI when this region was a part of Germany.



Recommended restaurant: Le P'tit Bistro d'Ethan, behind St-Maximin's Church.



Amenities: Plenty of shops, supermarkets, restaurants.

Market: Tue & Sat – Rue du Manège.



Waterside services: Moorings at Nautic'Ham PK 261 Haute Ham – no services.



APACH TO SAARBRÜCKEN

As you go through Apach Lock, you enter Luxembourg and may continue along the Moselle River until it intersects with the Saar in Germany. Here you can head south before crossing back into France, just after Saarbrücken. To navigate these waters, you must hold a boating licence, which you should have obtained prior to your holiday. If you do hold a licence, you can discover the charming Luxembourgish town of Remich where you can explore the picturesque winding streets of the old quarter. In Konz, you can visit one of the biggest museums in Germany which showcases rural culture. The dynamic city of Trier has a remarkable collection of Roman ruins such as the iconic Porta Nigra. The grand headquarters of global ceramics manufacturer, Villeroy & Boch is based in Mettlach (and worth a visit) or you can stroll through Wolf Park in Merzig to view these handsome animals up close.

SAARBRÜCKEN

Saarbrücken Castle



Welcome to Germany! Saarbrücken is a cosmopolitan university city, and the economic and cultural centre of the “Saarland” region. Although 3km from the city centre, we would highly recommend a visit to the ‘German-French Garden’, opened in 1960 to consolidate the friendship between the two countries. Back in the city centre, the history museum is worth a visit. Mainly underground it does a good job of presenting the city’s eventful past. You can visit Saarbrücken Baroque Castle – a walk around its wall provides a stunning panorama of the city or, if you’ve moored in ‘Osthafen’ marina, Saarbrücker Zoo is only 2km away.



Recommended restaurant: Zum Stiefel, in the city centre.



Amenities: Plenty of shops (head to the Europa Galerie which has three floors of retail heaven), cafés, entertainment and restaurants.

Market: Mon, Wed, Fri & Sat – St-Johanner Market in city centre | Thu & Sat – Ludwigsplatz in the ‘old-town’.



Waterside services: Moor in ‘Osthafen’ marina with water and electricity, or in the city centre marina (with no services).

North of Güdingen Lock, you are in Germany and German rules of navigation apply. You must carry a license to navigate the waterways of Germany, although unlicensed boats are allowed between the port of Saabrücken and Güdingen Lock.

SARREGUEMINES

Situated at the French/German border, the town has a turbulent history; passing back and forth between French and German rule throughout the centuries. It finally passed to the French at the end of the Second World War in 1945. The city has had an earthenware tradition since the end of the 17th Century and Sarreguemines pottery, murals and fireplaces were once exported all over the world.

The factory closed in 2007 but amazing pieces are still to be seen in the city-museum. There are many cycle-ways along the Sarre River in the area.



Sarreguemines Vase



Recommended restaurant: La Brasserie du Casino, on Sarre bank.



Amenities: A large variety of shops and restaurants.



Market: Tue & Fri (am).

Waterside services: Full services in the well-equipped "Casino" marina.

SARRALBE

Saint-Martin Church, Sarralbe



Sarralbe is situated at the point where the river Albe flows into the Sarre, which is how its name came about. The canal crosses the river Albe on a bridge built in 1867, which was the first metal bridge of its kind to be constructed in France. The architecture of the village is quite modern as many buildings were destroyed during WWI & WWII. However, Saint-Martin Church, also known as 'Cathedrale of the Sarre', remains and is worth a visit, as are the fortifications and the 'Albe Town Gate' from 14th Century.



Recommended restaurant: La Fleur de Sel.



Amenities: A bakery, butchers, supermarket and a grocery store.



Market: Thu (am).

Waterside services: Moorings available. The nearest harbor with facilities is in Wittring.

MITTERSHEIM

*Swimming in Green Lake,
Mittersheim*



Situated in the heart of the 'Pays des Etangs' (Lake Country), Mittersheim is a traditional Lorraine village with moorings near Green Lake – an ideal spot for swimming, water sports and fishing. You cannot access the lake with your boat but it is only a few meters from the canal side.



Recommended restaurant: L'Escale, near the lake.



Amenities: A bakery and a small shop (Proxi).



Waterside services: Well-equipped port with water, electricity and toilets.

LOCKS

The locks in the direction of Nancy work with a remote control (receive the remote control at the Réchicourt Lock) and Sarrguemines (remote control in your bag). Locks in the direction of Saverne work automatically with chain locks. The locks on the Moselle River are electric and operated by a lock keeper, either permanent or itinerant. It is still a good idea to set a crew member ashore before the lock, so they can help receive lines once inside. Please refer to the onboard Boat and Navigation Manual for more information about how to operate and pass through locks.

OPENING TIMES

Locks are open every day (including Sundays and public holidays) between 9am and 5pm, although most open as early as 7am and close as late as 7pm in peak season. Each waterway is different, so please check pages 12-13 of your onboard Waterways Map for specific times. All locks are closed on 1st May.

The Arzviller Boat Lift is open every day (except 1st May) from 10am-5pm (6pm July & August). It takes about 15 minutes to ascend and descend and you may have to wait at least 30 minutes or even longer (1-2 hours) during particularly busy periods, so plan some flexibility into your schedule.

MOORING

Moorings are plentiful and you are free to moor anywhere where you can safely access the bank. Exceptions are: if there is a sign indicating to the contrary, if you are on a bend or if you are less than 50m from a structure such as a lock or a bridge. Do not moor at waiting pontoons on either side of a lock (unless you are waiting for the lock). Most towns and villages have mooring bollards or rings to tie up to - please refer to your waterways map for exact locations. You also have the option of mooring in a private marina. The charge for those moorings is between €15-€25 per night. Usually they'll have water refill points and electric hook-up facilities (not available on all boats).

WATER

You will need to fill up your water tank once or twice during the course of a week. Water points are available at all Le Boat bases en-route, for free. Otherwise, there are several ports/marinas that will allow you to fill your tank for a charge of €2 - €5. In some marinas, you'll need to purchase tokens from the port office.



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Disclaimer: We have endeavoured to ensure that all the information in this Guide is correct at time of printing. However, opening times and prices are subject to change. Attractions, restaurants, locks and even stretches of the canal can close without notice. Le Boat is happy to recommend all of the attractions and eating establishments featured within this Guide. However, they are not owned or managed by Le Boat and, as such, we cannot guarantee the quality of your experience at any particular time. If anything in this guide is not correct, we'd love to hear from you at guides@leboat.com so that we can revise future editions.

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