Brittany's beautiful inland areas are steeped in Celtic charm and magic. Ancient customs are enforced and traditional dresses are worn proudly. The canal Nantes à Brest is rich in historical treasures and spectacular landscapes. Fairytale castles like the one in Josselin are reflected in the water while the boat is gliding by. Dock the boat in Malestroit with lovely houses from the 15th century - or in La Gacilly, home to many skilled artisans. Redon is just like a little Venice - and was already established in the year 832 A.D.

The river Vilaine takes us to the Breton capital of Rennes and on to Dinan's winding streets. On the river Erdre, your trip aboard one of our riverboats will be a journey with marvelous castles along the route from Nantes. A pleasant climate with mild summer days make this region a perfect sailing area.

Cruising advice

- Sail from more than 5 bases - return or one-way voyage.
- More than 600 kilometers of waterways for nature lovers.
- The regions waterways are reserved for sailing-holidays.
The highlights in Brittany

Brittany’s network of flower-filled channels from the Napoleonic era winds through a peaceful landscape of woods and pastures and "spotted" by medieval towns and fairytale castles.

- The beautiful medieval town of Josselin with its wooden houses, terraces and impressive castle from the 12th century,
- Redon - the "Flower City" and famous for its botanical gardens and Yves Rocher perfume factory
- Chateau Blain from the 12th century and its park
- Impressive castles from the 18-19. century along the river Erdre in the direction of Nantes
- The beautiful St-Pierre-Saint-Paul cathedral and castle at Nantes
- Rennes - Capital of Brittany and the home of the great Thabor gardens and impressive residence from the 18th century.
- Walk in the medieval streets of the walled city of Dinan located high up in the cliffs overlooking the harbor
- Sweet crepes, buckwheat "galettes", oysters and seafood - from the typical delicious Breton cuisine
Inspiration for sailing in Brittany

Brittany is perfect for beginners in boating and the region’s network of old castles and waterways is a pleasure to sail or enjoy on bikeride. A sailing holiday in Brittany offers colorful and proud traditions, rich in historical treasures and distinctive landscapes. A boat vacation offers historical and picturesque experiences of awe-inspiring châteaux’s and cathedrals to the beautiful medieval towns and ancient churches and half-timbered houses and Brittany's unique culture and history. In addition, the locks are mostly staffed with a lock master. Here you get picture perfect sailing in warm climates; folklore, festivals and traditions. Brittany’s beautiful network of flower-adorned canals and locks from the Napoleonic era meanders through a quiet countryside with forests and meadows and medieval towns and fairytale castles scattered liberally along the routes. Brittany is a very charming region of riverboat sailing, and with more than 600 kilometers of waterways and throughout the surrounding countryside, just waiting to be discovered and you can be sure of a perfect riverboat holiday where you are sailing. You can eat great seafood menus or region's delicacy "crepes" - pancakes with a cup of local cider will also be appreciated. The landscape is home to a unique variety of rare plants, birds and other wildlife and the many bike trails are perfect to go exploring in the region behind the waterways. Enjoy a picnic in a beautiful park or stroll in the old towns cobbled streets and colorful ports.

Transport to Brittany: you can fly to Paris and from there take the TGV - train to Nantes (20 km from the base in Sucé) or Redon (12 km from the base of Glenac). Chooser to drive all the way is there from Paris about 380 km to Nantes and Paris to Redon about immediately.

Waterway Guide - Brittany

Remember to order a waterway guide!
Attractions

Dinan

Lehon
Evran

Rennes

Evran

Rennes
La Gacilly

Image not found or type unknown

La Gacilly

Malestroit

Image not found or type unknown

Malestroit
Wind and Weather
## Brittany

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About River Holidays

Boating Holidays and Canal trips in France - Tips

Wonderful scenery, charming small towns, tempting markets and local specialties. Enjoy a delicious dinner on board - or visit the city's best restaurant. Stop where it suits you - amidst nature or by an idyllic village.

Distances

The rivers are the distances marked with PK (points km)- ie that is 1 mile between each PK. The channels are marked distances along the canal in the number m between two points (eg. 3,300 = 3 km and 300 m)

Locks

There are several different types of locks in France. On the Lot and Charente you’ll find manual locks that are unmanned, so the crew must themselves operate the locks by hand. In other areas are also unmanned - but electronic, which lock the doors either activated from the boat with a 'remote-control' - or by pulling down on a 'rope' which is hanging by a wire across the canal - or at a control console on the banks of the lock.

Finally, there locks operated by a lock master. Sluice Taxes are included in the rental price. Some choose to give a little tip - others buy a bit of lock master's home-grown products such as vegetables, eggs, honey or wine.

Be aware that it is the lock master's responsibility to operate the locks - NOT to assist you with boat and ropes!

The gates are normally closed between 12:00 to 13:00. In addition, the locks will be closed on fixed holidays such as Easter Sunday, Pentecost Sunday and the 1st May and the French National Day 14 July. See also special section on the opening hours of the channel map book - and ask at the base.

"Barages" (= dams)

Along the way, the river card could see the so-called "barages" damming (the French word), and in English "weirs". This is an artificial small waterfall or further damming of the river on one side - often associated with a lock. They are marked on the map with a heavy black line, designed either partially into the river / canal, or
where the river / canal running along with a side river. Keep clear of these, since the water flow here may be somewhat stronger - follow the fairway. Keep some speed on the boat so it does not drift with the current. Should the engine put out so quickly throw an anchor out.
accommodation

Many small towns have a small jetty with room for a few boats. Here is one good and free. If you want to stay in an actual port or marina, paid approximately € 10-20 per. night - depending on boat size.

On the rivers may require a little more patience to find a good place - as there may be too shallow or vegetated along the banks.

Think about when the boat is moored in the open, the rope is not tied to a tree or otherwise going to bother cyclists and walkers on the paths along the canals. There must be a clear path for everyone - including the service and emergency assistance can arrive.

Shopping

BOULANGERIE (baker)
BOUCHERIE (butcher) and
Epicerie (grocery store) or
SUPERMARCHE

In addition, several cities have the "Le Cave or" Caveaux ", which is a small wine shop where you can buy wine from the barrel. Our bottles can be filled up with a "vin d'table" (mainly one surprised good 'common drink') - and always at a very reasonable price !!

Shops are often open on Saturdays
days to 19.00 and on Sundays at 12.00. Many have closed Mondays. Generally, there is dinner closure between the hours. 12 to 14.30. Ask a precaution at the base upon arrival.

Most cities - even small ones - has a weekly market, which can be a veritable wonderland for the ship's cook! Fresh vegetables, delicious cheeses, fish, meat and wine can be purchased from local producers.

Toilet

River water is used to pump the toilet. The system and the environment is sensitive and it is recommended to have a plastic bag for paper and other waste standing at the toilet to avoid clogging.