

POINTS TO REMEMBER



START & FINISH DAYS

Locaboat Holidays offers flexibility over days and durations.

Several start days are possible, Saturday, Monday and Friday, as well as, for Ireland only, Wednesday. Take over between 2pm and 6pm.

Paperwork and instruction are done during this period. **Return is also on Saturdays, Mondays, Wednesdays or Fridays between 8am and 9am**

(example: 1 week = 7 nights from Monday 3pm to Monday 9am).

Hire duration is usually for one week or for two weeks but you can also go for periods of 10/11 days, 4 days mini weeks, or week-ends.



NAVIGATION

The cruises suggested have been calculated on the basis of a speed of 8kph on canals, 10kph on rivers. Above this speed you may damage the banks. Times allow for going through locks (15-20 minutes) and bridges, but not any waiting time, whether foreseeable or not. You may stop where you like when you like. The mooring spikes on board give you total freedom. You can also stop at developed marinas or public wharves.

You should follow any special instructions given to you by the staff at the base concerning local particularities.

The crossing of the River Garonne from the canal across to the lower Lot is undertaken by a professional pilot who steers your boat. You and your passengers are transferred between St Leger and Nicole by bus. There is a charge for this service. The crossing is only possible at normal water levels in the Baise, Garonne and Lot.



NAVIGATION DUES

All government dues and taxes are included in the hire charge.



INSURANCE

The hire price includes insurance of the boat in case of accident and of the hirer's liability to a third party arising out of the use of the boat. Insurance of the hirer, his personal effects and any other liability to a third party is not included.:



PASSING THROUGH LOCKS

Going through locks is a highpoint of any cruise. You can chat to the lockkeeper, often you can buy local produce, make use of the time to drink in the local atmosphere, or perhaps meet up with other boaters and pick up useful snippets of information. Locks are open for example from 9AM to 7PM with a one hour break for lunch in France, from 8AM to 8PM without break in Germany. More information in the Captains Handbook and your river map.

For these locks you will need a crew of at least two active members.



OPENING & CLOSING TIMES OF LOCKS

In France, there is no charge for locks. They are closed on some public holidays, such as the 1st May, the 14th July and the 1st November. **There are some exceptions;**

- **No lock closures:** Anjou, Somme, Camargue, Charente, Lot, Baise, La Seille, Canal de Roanne à Digoin.

- **14th July:** locks are open: Canal du Midi, Alsace, Lorraine, Vosges, Ardennes and the Saone between Corre and Soing.

Locks are generally worked by a lockkeeper. On the Lot and the Charente, locks must be operated by the boat's crew. As a result you can cruise all the daylight hours with no worry over opening hours or public holidays. On other waterways, there are occasional locks to be operated by the boat's crew, whilst others are automatic, with easy-to-follow instructions. You will receive full details at the base on departure.

In Ireland and in Germany and in Poland, the locks are open every day.

In Holland, the locks and bridges are in full service between 15/4 and 15/10.

In Italy, navigation is possible every day on the lagoons; On the Sile and the Brenta there are certain closures. They are shown in the Captains Handbook.



MAINTENANCE WORK

Many waterways have "stoppages" when they are closed for maintenance.

Mostly these are scheduled for the winter months but occasionally they occur during the hire season.

Dates are announced in early March. Please check with our reservation staff.



OPEN WATER

The Bassin de Thau in Southern France as well as the Murtitz and the Plauer see in Germany or the lakes in Ireland should not be attempted in winds stronger than Force 3. Our staff at the base will tell you the position and give instructions.



FLOODS

On rivers (but not canals) there can be floods in springtime or occasionally in autumn. In this case we may have to restrict your cruise to canals only, or possibly to switch departure base, but it should not be necessary to cancel your cruise. The Rivers Lot and Baise are the most prone to flooding.

You should check on river levels before starting out for your holiday.



ONE WAY CRUISE

You will find in the Locaboat Manual full details about methods for getting back to your car. We must draw your attention to the fact that one way cruising is an optional feature which can never be totally guaranteed owing to the possibility of cancellations or other difficulties.

Therefore the availability of a one way cruise and its direction can only be confirmed one week before departure.



BICYCLES

Bicycles are placed in the HIRER's care under his entire responsibility. They are hired out in good working order, are clean and fitted with an antitheft device. A puncture repair kit is to be found on board the boat. The HIRER must check the condition and working order of the bicycles when he takes charge of them. Helmets are not provided, except for child's bikes. The cost of the hire, including theft insurance, which is displayed at each base, is payable in advance.

- In the event of theft, the HIRER undertakes to provide LOCABOAT with the original of the theft declaration made at the Gendarmerie (H.Q. of the state police) or at the Police Station corresponding to the place of the theft.

- In the event of loss or damage, LOCABOAT will invoice the hirer, according to the tariff currently in force displayed at the return base, the expenses of making good, repairing or replacing the bicycle. LOCABOAT disclaims all liability for any accident which occurs with a bicycle that has been hired or provided, due to misuse or carelessness by the user.



HIRING WITHOUT LICENCE

In France, Locaboat Holidays has been authorised to offer boat hire WITHOUT need for a captain's permit. After you have been given instruction in handling your craft and navigation rules you will be given a permit for the duration of your cruise.

In Holland, in Ireland and in Italy, no licence is required.

For **Germany**, see text page 46.

For **Poland**, see text page 49.