



## **ALEGRIA**

*4 Passengers / Canal du Midi*

*Constructed in 1937 as a freight barge  
Converted into a hotel barge in 1999  
Measures 100 ft. long by 16.5 ft. wide  
Two (2) onboard cabin accommodations  
Central Heat & Air Conditioning*

The French Canal du Midi welcomes you to a luxurious and exclusive river cruise on board one of the most beautiful hotel barges, **Alegria**.

## **PERSONNEL**

Five (5) crew members consisting of Tour Guide, Chef, Hostess, Matelot, and Captain. This crew speaks both English and French.

## **PUBLIC ROOMS**

- **Salon/Dining Room**
- **Sun Deck (2)**

## **ONBOARD LEISURE AND ENTERTAINMENT**

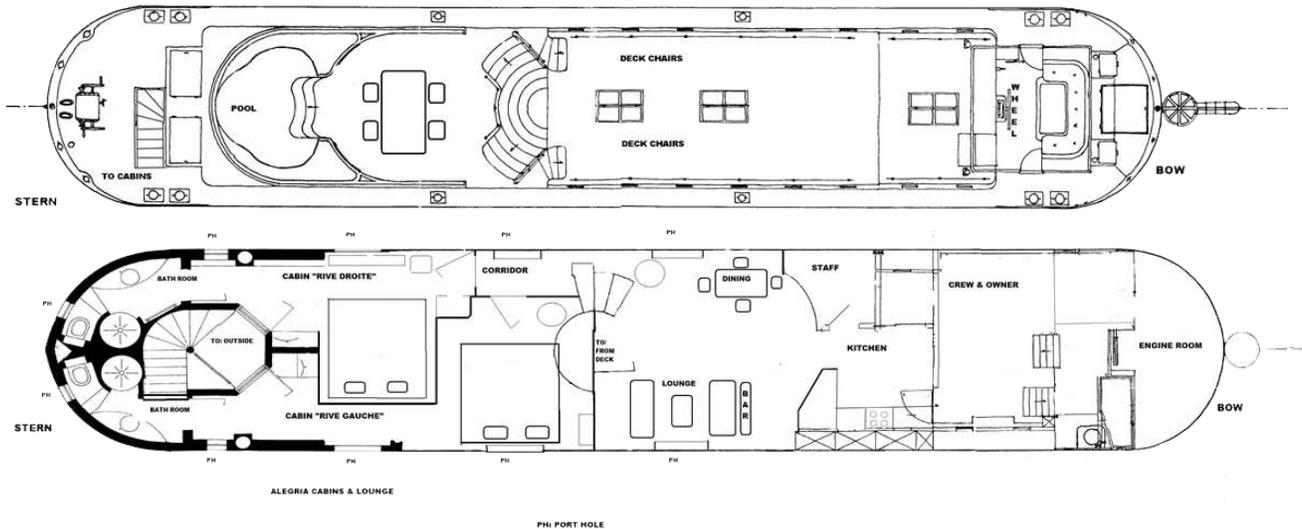
Sunken plunge pool • Satellite TV • DVD Player • CD Player • Books & parlor games • Laptop internet access • Four (4) mountain bikes

## **MOBILITY RESTRICTIONS**

Please note that **Alegria** has **no wheelchair access**. There is a boarding ramp from the bank of the river to the deck, then approximately eleven (11) steps down to the Main Deck. The cabins are on the Main Deck with three (3) steps that lead down to them.

## **DECK PLAN**

The well-planned accommodation of the Alegria offers a choice of two air-conditioned twin/king staterooms with full en-suite facilities.



## CABINS

There are two (2) cabins on board **Alegria**, named **Rive Gauche** and **Rive Droite**. Located on the sides of the vessel's stern, each cabin has two access points: one leading directly outside to the front of the barge near the pool, and the other opening inside to the lounge. This allows for both intimacy and independence. Daily housekeeping is provided, as well as laundry service, free of charge, but guests are required to pay additional fees for iron pressing or dry cleaning. The rooms also have large portholes which offer panoramic views of the Canal du Midi.

## CABIN SIZE

Both cabins are equally comfortable and luxurious, and measure between 190 sq. ft. and 210 sq. ft.

## BEDDING CONFIGURATION & SIZE

Each cabin comes fitted with a king size bed which can be separated into two (2) single beds upon request.

## BATHROOMS

Both cabins have private bath facilities, complete with shower, toilet, and basin. They are stocked with towels, bath robes, and "L'Occitane en Provence" bath products. The bathrooms are also fitted with heated towel rails for the cooler months.



## AMENITIES

Central Heat & Air Conditioning • Hairdryer • Bathrobes • Storage Space • Open Minibar • Bottle of Champagne Upon Arrival • Laundry Service • Coffee & Tea Tray • Electricity (220V)

## SALON/DINING ROOM

The large **Salon/Dining Room** has two big portholes offering direct views of the Canal and its inhabitants: ducks and geese. A home theatre with a selection of CDs provides added pleasure, as well as a selection of books and parlor games. There is also laptop internet access through the connection of a 3G+ USB key. The **Salon/Dining Room** provides a comfortable 255 sq. ft. and features:

- 2 sofas
- Coffee table
- Fully-stocked bar and refrigerator
- Coffee/tea maker
- Dining table with seating for up to four (4) people
- Safe deposit box

The kitchen is either open onto the lounge or closed, depending on whether the chef will allow viewers to watch him prepare his secret dishes. Don't despair, he sometimes does share his secrets with guests.



## ON DECK

The **Sun Deck** is a modest 91 sq. ft. open-air gathering area that boasts a sunken pool. There is an "al fresco" dining table which allows passengers to take advantage of gorgeous weather and enjoy food and drinks outside. The beautiful teak deck furniture consists of a table with seating for four (4) people. There is also a second **Sun Deck** which measures at 320 sq. ft. and features several reclining lounge chairs available for guests who wish to lay out in the warm French sunlight.

## OFF BOAT

Passengers are welcome to walk or cycle using the onboard bicycles as often as they like. Most People choose to disembark the barge at a lock to visit local villages, then return to the canal and

meet the barge further along (the barge travels slowly; therefore, this is not a problem). An air-conditioned Peugeot 807 Pullman is also available for excursions by vehicle.

## ITINERARY

As you drift along the magnificent **Canal du Midi** you will step back into the time of Louis XIV- the "Sun King" or "**Roi Soleil**" - who commissioned this prodigious engineering feat; thus finally achieving the dream of linking the Mediterranean Sea with the Atlantic Ocean.

### Itinerary Highlights:

Visit the **Oppidum of Enserune**

Explore the charming village of **Le Sommail**

Tour the fortified village of **Minerve**

See the **Palace of the Archbishop** in the largely Roman influenced city of **Narbonne**

Travel the narrow streets of the great medieval city, **Carcassonne**

## FOOD & WINE

You will taste some typical French local dishes as well as the best French gastronomy. Every meal will be accompanied by different wines and we mainly serve the excellent local ones from Languedoc and Rousillon (the St-Chinian, Minerve, Corbières are becoming more and more renowned) straight from our Wine Fridge on board. You will never be offered the same wine twice during the week (unless you insist on drinking one that you particularly loved again!). For your added pleasure, we set your table with different services for breakfast, lunch and dinner: from the festive through the ethnic to the classic. When weather permits you can have your meal outside on the deck. Our Chef will cater specifically to you and might even share some cooking tips as dishes are prepared. We will also offer you two (2) meals - a lunch and a dinner with drinks - off the barge in excellent restaurants! During the week you can count on at least two meals on land; however, we will discuss all these possibilities while you are holding a glass of Champagne on board. For breakfast, you will be served a selection of pastries and breads, cereals, yogurts, fruits, fresh fruit juice, cheeses, cold meats, smoked salmon, eggs cooked to order, a selection of teas, coffee, and much more. Lunch is an ever-changing buffet with a choice of salads and starters, a main course (quiches or local dishes), a selection of cheese and a dessert.