



RENAISSANCE

8 Passengers / Upper Loire & Western Burgundy

*Constructed in 1960 as a French cargo carrier
Converted into a hotel barge in 1997
Measures 128 ft. long by 17.5 ft. wide
Four (4) onboard cabin accommodations
Individually Controlled Air Conditioning and
Central Heating*

Renaissance is a luxuriously spacious and stylishly appointed floating hotel for eight guests, and one of the largest craft that can navigate the French canal locks. With a stunning salon and four spacious staterooms comprising most of the lower deck, comfort and complete relaxation are assured aboard

Renaissance. Newest amenities include a new galley, a re-floored forward deck with roof extension for dining al fresco, an expanded, "guest-friendly" wheelhouse, upgraded staterooms, and an additional silent generator.

PERSONNEL

Five (5) crew members consisting of Tour Guide/Deckhand, Chef, Housekeeper, Pilot/Engineer, and Captain. Generally British, this crew speaks both English and French (some may speak other languages, as well).

PUBLIC ROOMS

- **Salon/Dining Room**
- **Sun Deck**

ONBOARD LEISURE AND ENTERTAINMENT

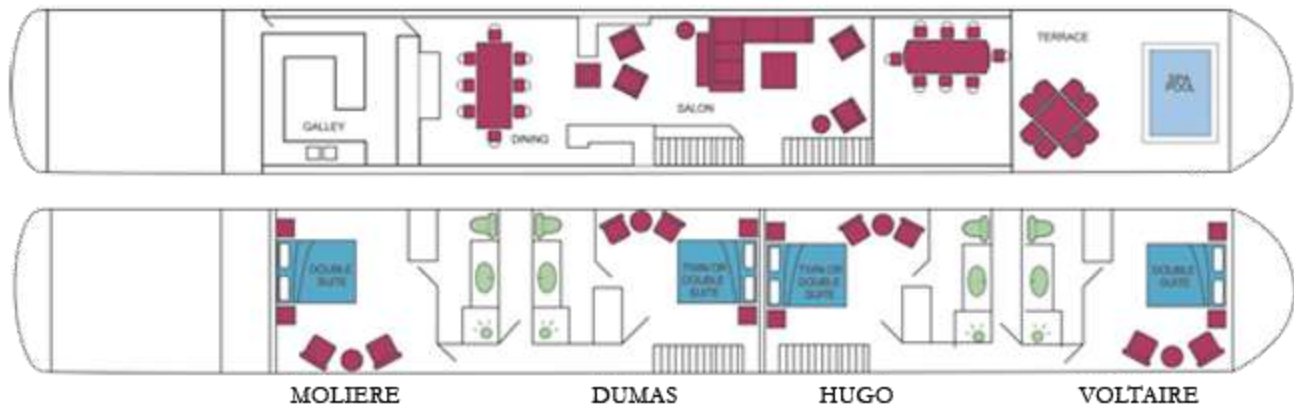
Spa pool for eight (8) people • Bose HI FI system with CD player • Eight (8) mountain bikes • Board games • Small library of books & maps • Binoculars for bird watching

MOBILITY RESTRICTIONS

Renaissance has a gangway to deck level from the bank of the canal with one (1) handrail. There are no steps from the deck to the salon, but there are fourteen (14) steps down to the cabins. **If you would like to hire a wheelchair so that it is available on your arrival**, please specify at the time of booking. The nominal hire charge should be paid directly to the Captain on arrival.

DECK PLAN

The well-planned accommodation of Renaissance offers a choice of four air-conditioned twin/double staterooms with full en-suite facilities.



CABINS

There are four (4) suites on board **Renaissance**, named **Voltaire**, **Hugo**, **Dumas**, and **Moliere**.

CABIN SIZE

All cabins are very similar in size and are equally comfortable. The size listed below for each cabin includes bathroom area.

- **Voltaire** - Approx. 270 sq. ft.
- **Hugo** - Approx. 260 sq. ft.
- **Dumas** - Approx. 260 sq. ft.
- **Moliere** - Approx. 270 sq. ft.

BEDDING CONFIGURATION & SIZE

Hugo and **Dumas** can be configured as a twin or a king while **Voltaire** and **Moliere** can be configured as king only. The bed sizes are:

- Twin - 3 ft. X 6 ft.
- King - 6 ft. X 6 ft.

BATHROOMS

All bathrooms have tiled/teak wood floors and walls, and come with shower, toilet, and wash basin. Each bathroom is stocked with towels, washing gel, hand soap, shampoo, and face cloths.

AMENITIES

Individually Controlled Air Conditioning and Central Heating • Hairdryer • Built-in Closets • Electricity (220V, French two pin plugs)

SALON/DINING ROOM

The **Salon/Dining Room** provides a spacious 714 sq. ft. and features:

- Sofas & coffee table
- Fully-stocked bar
- Oak dining table seating eight (8) people

The **Salon/Dining Room** is dressed in antiqued wood paneling and brass light fittings, all covered by a beamed ceiling. The floor is tiled throughout and the walls of the room are adorned with paintings.

ON DECK

The **Sun Deck** is a spacious 385 sq. ft. open-air gathering area with a relaxing 8-person spa pool. The beautiful deck furniture which consists of:

- 8 reclining chairs
- 1 large table (shaded)





The **Sun Deck** is perfect for sun bathing and enjoying the beautiful scenery as you slowly wind through the canals of France.

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, 9-seater minibus is also available for excursions by vehicle.

ITINERARY

Renaissance's itinerary covers the entire length of the Canal de Loing (a canal built specifically to join the Loire river to the River Seine and Paris) as well as some of the most picturesque parts of the Canal de Briare – one of France's first canals, built in the early

16th. Additionally, the route covers a short section of the River Seine between St Mammes and Samois-sur-Seine, a part of the river, which even today, plays a major part in the thriving river barge transportation system in France. The river section (limited to around 2 hours cruising only per week) passes some of the prettiest villages on the entire River Seine, where wealthy Parisian professionals have made their homes for centuries. At St Mammes (the junction of the river and the Canal de Loing) we see a wide variety of river craft carrying produce towards the capital. Once onto the canal, the countryside changes as we pass open fields, classic French villages and towns and still see the occasional barge loading with grain or aggregate at a loading dock - a testimony to the continuing importance of the canal in this region. As **Renaissance** progress deeper into this little known region (referred to by the French as the "Gatinais" and often called affectionately the "Garden of Paris") we see changing architectural styles reflecting the use of local materials in the buildings and pass some of the oldest villages and towns in the region – many of which owe their heritage to the history of the canal.

Itinerary Highlights:

Guided tour of ancient **Moret-sur-Loing**, home of Impressionist Alfred Sisley

Visit to the magnificent **Chateau de Vaux-le-Vicomte**

Visit to a fascinating traditional glass-blowing factory at **Issey-sur-Ecole**

Explore the hill-top town of **Chateau Landon** by horse and carriage

Private visit to the **Chateau de la Bussière**; a 16th century estate with spectacular kitchen garden

Accompany the chef to the farmers' market at **Ferrières** to buy fresh produce

FOOD & WINE

Cuisine on board **Renaissance** is French. All meals are composed of fresh ingredients and typically feature a different selection of regional cheeses and wines daily. Non-alcoholic beverages, regular or decaffeinated tea & coffee, and whole or low-fat milk are offered with all meals. There are no assigned seats for meals in the dining room and dress is casual. The Captain's Dinner on the last night of the cruise requires slightly formal attire.