

## Moselle Castles & Vineyards-GMTK5 Trier to Koblenz

5 Days 4 Nights  
122 miles 199 kms

A best-of-both-sides, super-flexible Moselle Cycle Path tour like no other. Discover a carefully crafted approach to this cycle route classic that is set to deliver an optimum cycling experience and where you can add extra nights along the way, or at either end of your stay to get the most from your Moselle cycling discover tour. Path sections combine cycling comfort with the best panoramic views of the different stages of the super-scenic Moselle Valley as it narrows from wide flood plains and gentle vineyard slopes to the steepest valley sides set with tiny vine-filled terraces. Bookended by the Roman city of Trier and the mighty trading town of Koblenz where the Moselle river meets the Rhine at the Deutsches Eck, highlights include Cochem and its Reichsburg castle, Bernkastel-Kues, the famous Goldtröpfchen vineyards, mighty Zeller Hamm river meander and the 'Sleeping Beauty' medieval village of Beilstein.



## Itinerary

### **DAY 1: Arrive and explore Trier**

Arrive in ancient Trier and there are already tempting Moselle vineyards beckoning on the horizon. But this is Germany's riverside city of superlatives that's home to 9 UNESCO World Heritage Sites, so maybe take to the terrace café to acquaint yourself with the fresh local Riesling and plan your attack!

When the Romans invaded this neck of the Eifel-Hunsrück woods, their powerful Emperor founded Germany's first city. Augusta Treverorum was a super-showcase of might, with all the home comforts left behind in Italy. So many of these feats of engineering still survive in the heart of Trier of today – so you don't have to go on a route-march to visit them all.

Pick off the 'Pochta' (Porta Nigra gateway AD 170), Emperor Constantine's Dom St Petri (Germany's oldest cathedral) or his breath-taking pillar-less Aula Palatina hall that's now a church. Check out the amphitheatre, the Römerbrücke (Germany's oldest bridge, with basalt pillars from AD 144) and the ruins of two sets of über-impressive thermal baths, the largest thermal bath complex outside of Rome. Or if early medieval is more your thing, make for the stunning Liebfrauenkirche (Church of our Lady - AD 1230 ) or the illuminated early Ada Gospel in the Scientific Library of the City of Trier. All have UNESCO World Heritage status.

Overnight in **Trier**. Extra nights can be booked in Trier to allow more time to explore.



## DAY 2: Trier to Bernkastel-Kues - Ancient treasures & drops of gold

37/43 miles 60/70 kms

On leaving **Trier**, you won't be leaving the Ancients behind. It was the Romans who introduced vines to the region around 2,000 years ago and their legacies are very much in evidence as you push your pedals towards Piesport, its 'Goldtropfchen' (little drop of gold) vineyards and on towards Mittelmosel favourite, Bernkastel-Kues .

Choose to swing by Mehring for a helping of mosaics at the Villa Rustica, a reconstruction of a Roman country residence, or park up in Trittenheim for a wine-trail-and-panoramas wander through the vineyards to the restored Laurentiuskapelle (chapel). There are more Roman connections in **Neumagen-Dhon**, Germany's oldest wine-producing village. Look out for the ship carving on a Roman wine merchant's grave by the Peterskapelle – and the replica vessel on the river! **Piesport**, has a Roman something to boast about too – the largest Roman wine cellar north of the Alps. Who can refuse that invitation to sit and sip a while?

The 'Mittelmosel' is home to some of the Valley's best-loved vineyard towns and villages, with market places lined with 'Fachwerkhäuser' (half-timbered houses) and hilltop castles above. Keep your eyes peeled for mermaids (or listen out for sirens) as you pedal off past the Loreley of the Moselle – the massive rocky outcrop rising up from the river bank, where mythical creatures may have lured bewitched sailors onto the rocks. If it's romantic fairytales you're after in this land of orchards, vineyards and super-scenic cycling, then **Bernkastel-Kues** surely won't disappoint. With its iconic Landshut castle looking down towards cobbled streets and half-timbered houses with ornate signs, it's one of the Moselle's most popular spots. Understandably, you'll find it brimful of characterful taverns and Weinkellern, but the town also serves up everything you ever wanted to know about Riesling at the Moselle Wine Museum (Vinothek), located in the vaulted cellars of St Niklaus-Hospital (15th century poor hospital).

The typical Moselle villages and their 'Lokale' (riverside refreshment stops) are plentiful in this timeless landscape, but look up and out for the historic vineyard sundials on the steepening slopes near Zeltingen and opposite, the sundial-laden village of Wehlen.

**Zeltingen-Rachtig** has a gentler charm, combining half-timbered buildings with touches of Baroque splendour. There's the tempting Kloster Machern (Cistercian monastery) to visit too which has both a brewery and wine cellar, as well as gardens and museums.

Overnight in **Bernkastel-Kues/ Zeltingen**.



## DAY 3: Bernkastel-Kues to Cochem - Medieval villages,super-steep vineyards &cragtop castles

43/49 miles 70/80 kms

Spin along the meandering Moselle to **Traben-Trarbach** - a satisfying Mittlemosel mini-showcase, complete with must-visit underground vaults, the imposing Brücke Tor, the ruins of Gravenburg castle and the fascinating Mittlemosel Museum. There's so much to exuberance here to enjoy from curly shop signs and pleasing architectural swirls to the town's famous Art Nouveau and Belle Epoque influences and masterpieces.

But it's not long until the valley sides get even steeper... Enter into the world of the 'Terrassenmosel', where the narrowing river valley sees its vines clinging to ever-steeper slopes, with valley sides engineered into precarious terraces supported by dry stone walls. It's a mighty spectacle that will take your breath away, as you spin gently along the easy-going, river-hugging Moselle Cycle Path.

Burg , Pünderich, Briedel... a string of half-timbered villages with sharp-steeped churches provide the eye-candy as a meaty meander appears on the Moselle menu. The famous **Zeller Hamm** is an ox-bow lake in the making, best viewed from the Marienburg, on the tiny neck of the meander. Surrounded by vineyards including the Zeller Schwartze Katze (black cat) , it's no surprise that this hugely picturesque part of cycle path is lined with opportunities to get a taste of the place. Even if you stop off for 'Kaffee und Kuchen' (coffee and cake), there's sure to be an irresistible local something to tempt your tastebuds.

Past **Bullay's** double decker bridge, the Moselle Valley slopes get seriously steep with **The Calmont** vineyards beyond Bremm reaching the lofty heights of Europe's steepest vineyard. Look up to see brave souls tackling the rocky ridges of the Calmont 'Kletterstieg'. Park up and join them if you dare, or why not conquer another couple of meanders and cross to the fairytale village of **Beilstein** - 'Moselle's Sleeping Beauty'?

A day packed with Moselle show-stoppers can only end with castle-topped **Cochem**. The imposing dark fortifications of the Neo-Gothic Reichsburg surrounded by woodland lord it over the riverscape, whilst the heart of the old town is all Baroque flourishes in pastel shades, ornate marketplace fountains and decorative gables. With such dramatic scenery, it's a great place to take to the water on a boat trip, or spend a lazy evening along the riverside promenade enjoying its views and cafés.

Overnight in **Cochem**.



## DAY 4: Cochem to Koblenz - Counting the castles to Koblenz

30 miles 49 kms

Just when you think you've seen more Moselle castles than you've packed picnics in your panniers, the river valley with its vineyard terraces pulls out the final stops!

Leaving the Moselle Valley's largest castle behind you in Cochem, tight meanders swap out for straighter stretches of river and deliver different sorts of panoramas from the cycle path. Look out for the three towers of the collegiate church (Moseldom) at Treis-Karden and Burg Eltz, a massive turreted castle straight out of a fairy story. The short detour up the steep wooded valley side to visit this well-preserved, dramatic, yet whimsical castle simply has to be worth it!

Pedal onwards to find round-towered Burg Bishofstein sitting almost right on the river bank. In contrast, 12th century crag-top Ehrenburg Castle peeps out from the woodland horizon, but you'll want to stop off at riverside Alken, for a closer look at its sprawling double castle, Burg Thurant, perched above the village and its vineyards. If you find that you've fallen in love with the Moselle's fairytale 'Fachwerkhäuser' (half-timbered houses), then Alken is sure to please, so too the medieval marketplace with its dragon fountain in Kobern-Gondorf, reputedly home to Germany's oldest half-timbered property (1320).

For one last 'Fachwerkhaus' fix before big Wine City Koblenz, hold onto those handlebars for a pedal across the cobbles around the picturesque wine village of Winningen to whet your whistle with a glass of 'Winninger Uhlen' at the Weingut.

Finally, accompany the Moselle on the last stage of its river journey to Koblenz, home to the 'Deutsches Eck' - the point where it meets the River Rhine. For the very best monuments-and-river views, the cable car trip across the Rhine to the 16th century Ehrenbreitstein fortress is an absolute must (included in tour price). A river trip is also a great way to see the bigger picture - but don't miss the finer detail too, like the turreted Alte Burg (castle), historic squares and 'Kunstgässchen' (decorated little alleyways) near the Liebfrauenkirche (church) in old town Koblenz.

Overnight in Koblenz.

## DAY5

### Depart after breakfast

Take a final wander around Koblenz or dive into one of its many museums – from sparkling wine and fine art to railways, fishing, military hardware, carnival traditions, the River Rhine and even Beethoven's mother(!), Koblenz has a fascinating museum treat for everyone. Sample somewhere, or maybe plan to stay another day to two to top up your Moselle river experiences with a chance to get to know the River Rhine?

**Extra nights can be booked in Koblenz to allow more time to explore.**



## **Accommodation**

- Ensuite accommodation in selected 3 star hotels or especially selected, comfortable village or vineyard properties ('Pensionen')
- Buffet/continental breakfast
- Extra nights and hotel upgrades available on request.

We are happy to discuss hotel options on request

## **Availability**

Tours starting on Saturday, Sunday, Monday and Tuesday  
April to October

## **Prices**

[please see pricing document on website on Tour GMTK6](#)

[https://www.cyclebreaks.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/12/GMTK6\\_Prices26.pdf](https://www.cyclebreaks.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/12/GMTK6_Prices26.pdf)

## **Included in the price**

- Ensuite accommodation in selected 3 star hotels or especially selected, comfortable village or vineyard properties ('Pensionen') with buffet/continental breakfast – prices based on two adults sharing
- Hire of hybrid bicycle and ancillary equipment, collected from partner depot (single pannier and handlebar bag, odometer, pump, repair equipment)
- Luggage transfer between hotels (No bag limit, Max weight 20kg per bag)
- Local assistance on call (although puncture repair is excluded)
- Information & Digital Travel Pack sent out approximately 2 weeks before departure, so you can plan ahead and look forward to your cycling adventure. Includes GPS data files for detailed route notes, detailed joining instructions and daily route overviews.
- Cable car ride and admission to the Ehrenbreitstein fortress in Koblenz.

## **Price does not include**

- Local visitor taxes in Germany (payable locally – average €2 per person per night )
- Costs of getting to and from the tour area.

