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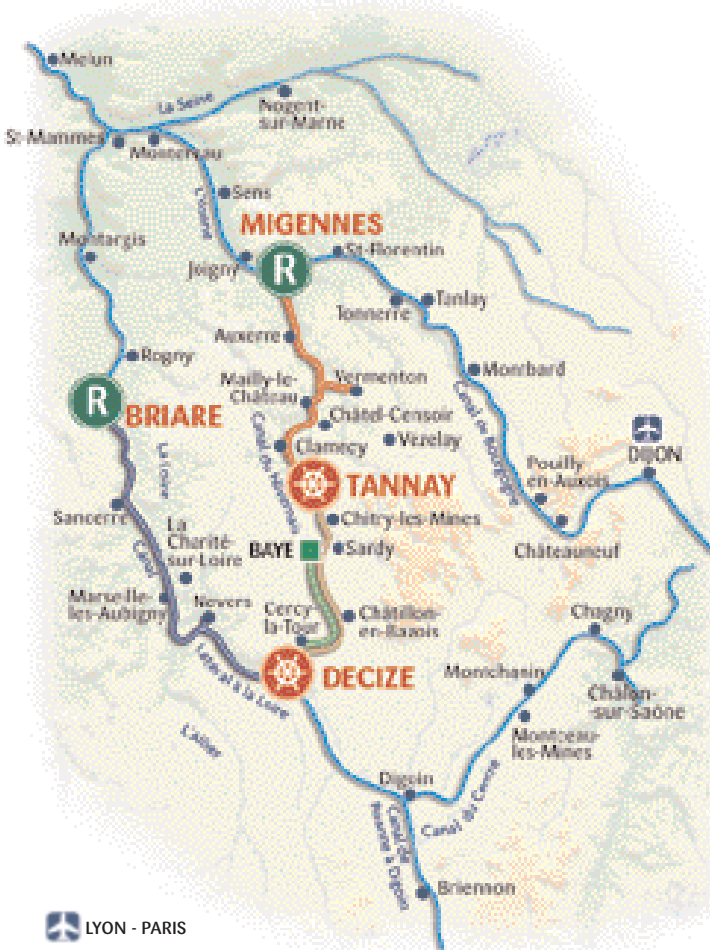
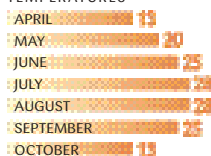
Burgundy

Nivernais • Loire

The heart of France

The Nivernais-Loire is situated at the very heart of France and is renowned for its superb gastronomy. Wine enthusiasts and culinary connoisseurs are sure to delight in this region with world class restaurants, famous recipes and rich ingredients, such as Charolais beef and escargots all waiting to be savoured. Also known as the French land of castles, you can spend mornings discovering turrets and tapestries and afternoons relaxing with picnics in charming gardens and parks. Castles at Châtillon-en-Bazois, Pannecot and Chitry-les-Mines are highly recommended. These landscapes are also ideal for cycling, with stunning architecture and captivating villages just waiting to be discovered.

TEMPERATURES*



LYON - PARIS

CROWN BLUE LINE BASE

RELAY BASE (see page 6)

1 Clamecy 2 Rock of the Saussois 3 Aquaduct at Briare

Cruising suggestions

1 WEEK - ONE WAY TRIP

Decize/Briare OR VICE-VERSA

Canal Latéral à la Loire

Visit the oldest china factory in France at **Nevers** and take a look round the exhibition room to see items produced over the past 350 years. Get on your bike and visit **Sancerre** for a splendid view of the valley. A collection of paintings by Messermin and Rameau are kept in the restored convent at **Cosne-Cours-sur-Loire**.

▶ 133 km • 26 locks

▶ 27 hr one way cruising time

Decize/Tannay OR VICE-VERSA

Canal du Nivernais

Take time out ashore at **Pannecot** and admire the gardens of Anizy chateau, situated close to the port. Home and resting place of famous author, Jules Renard, **Chitry-les-Mines** is a pretty town with a fabulous castle that overlooks the water. Surrounded by vineyards, **Tannay** overlooks the Yonne.

▶ 99 km • 72 locks

▶ 35 hr one way cruising time

Tannay/Migennes OR VICE-VERSA

Canal du Nivernais - Yonne

Completely surrounded by water, **Clamecy** has a delightful old town to explore with narrow winding streets leading you to the centre. Take part in one of the informative town walks at **Chatel-Censoir**. The trout and salmon hatchery at **Pregilbert** has rods for hire, giving you the chance to catch your own dinner!

▶ 100 km • 50 locks

▶ 28 hr one way cruising time

1 WEEK - RETURN TRIP

Decize/Baye

Canal du Nivernais

Climb the little streets in **Cercy-la-Tour** to the terrace and enjoy an unrivalled view over the village and valley. Explore the imposing castle at **Châtillon-en-Bazois** and unwind with a picnic in the gardens. Relax beside the lake at **Baye** or get active with tennis, horse riding and sailing are all on offer nearby!

▶ 144 km • 72 locks

▶ 30 hr round trip cruising time





Burgundy

Franche-Comté • Vosges

One of France's richest regions

Food and wine enthusiasts are sure to find themselves in paradise when visiting Burgundy! This peaceful, rural region at the heart of France is renowned as the home of fine wine and classic cuisine. Dijon was home to the Dukes of Burgundy and has inherited a wealth of architecture, fine paintings and objects d'art from their time as the most powerful family in Western Europe. Wine estates are everywhere on the landscapes that surround the waterways and stops can be made at villages with recognisable names such as Pommard, Nuits St. Georges and Chagny. Delight your palate and head ashore to take part in tasting some of the world's finest vintages.

TEMPERATURES*

APRIL	14
MAY	18
JUNE	21
JULY	23
AUGUST	23
SEPTEMBER	19
OCTOBER	15



CROWN BLUE LINE BASE

1 Ray-sur-Saône 2 Dijon

1 WEEK - ONE WAY TRIP

Fontenoy-le-Château / St. Jean-de-Losne OR VICE-VERSA

Canal de l'Est-Saône

The ornamental fountains at **Jussey** are lovely to relax beside and watch. The Gallo-Roman town of **Port-sur-Saône** is a great stop for history lovers. Visit the church of St. Etienne, which dates back to the 18th century or moor at the foot of **Auxonne's** fortifications and explore the town's picturesque cobbled streets.

- ▶ 160 km • 33 locks
- ▶ 32 hr one way trip cruising time

Cruising suggestions

1 WEEK - RETURN TRIP

Fontenoy-le-Château/Gray

Canal de l'Est - Saône

Cruise as described above as far as **Gray**, then return to **Fontenoy-le-Château**.

- ▶ 200 km • 30 locks
- ▶ 35 hr round trip cruising time

Fontenoy-le-Château/Charmes

Canal de l'Est

From the pretty town of **Fontenoy**, cruise through beautiful wooded countryside. **Epinal**, the capital of Vosges, is known as the city of flowers, and is especially stunning in the spring and summer. Relax in a pavement café and take in the sights and smells of the blooms.

- ▶ 130 km • 130 locks
- ▶ 43 hr round trip cruising time

St. Jean-de-Losne/Chagny

Saône - Canal du Centre

Sample Pochouse bouillabaisse in **Verdun-sur-le-Doubs**. Birthplace of Nicephore Niepce, who invented photography, **Châlon-sur-Saône** has a fabulous museum of cameras. As well as excellent wines, **Chagny** is home to the Lameloise, renowned as one of the best restaurants in France. Make sure you book a table!

- ▶ 175 km • 28 locks
- ▶ 35 hr round trip cruising time

St. Jean-de-Losne/Pont d'Ouche

Saône - Canal de Bourgogne

Cycle to **Brazey en Plaine** and pick up warm croissants from the excellent bakeries or saddle up at the horse-riding club. Head straight to the crescent in **Dijon** and discover buildings of the Grand Duke's Palace, which open up onto the town square.

- ▶ 140 km • 110 locks
- ▶ 45 hr round trip cruising time

St. Jean-de-Losne/Louhans

Saône et Saône

Don't miss the Saône Environmental Museum at **Seurre**, and make sure you explore the town's hidden streets. Climb the narrow, picturesque steps to reach the abbey of St-Philibert de Tournus in **Tournus**. Stroll through the high street of **Louhans** and admire the arcades and shops.

- ▶ 293 km • 16 locks
- ▶ 38 hr round trip cruising time

St. Jean-de-Losne/Besançon

Doubs - Canal du Rhône au Rhin

The town of **Dole** spreads out across a hill. Explore the lanes and visit Pasteur's old home. The scenery en route to **Osselle** is stunning where cliffs and green forests are sure to tempt you ashore. Discover the ancient citadel of **Besançon**.

- ▶ 150 km • 48 locks
- ▶ 32 hr round trip cruising time