

# Kat's Great Adventures

**Germany – Along the Hansa Route from Berlin to Stralsund Bicycle and Boat Tour 2024**  
**Self-Guided Tour**  
**8 Days / 7 Nights**



From the metropolis of Berlin with its vast forests in the north, you will first sail to Schwedt on the Oder-Havel Canal, passing through Oranienburg and Eberswalde. The peaceful, unique beauty of the Oder landscape will accompany you to the Polish city of Szczecin with its magnificent castle. The river will then take you along the unique Bodden coast through Usedom to Germany's largest island, Rügen, with its famous chalk cliffs. The old Hanseatic city of Stralsund is the trip's destination. What could be more wonderful than sitting on the sun deck and enjoying the splendid views of the landscape slowly passing by and finding out all sorts of interesting things about the country, people, culture and nature on lovely bike tours? Discover the varied flora and fauna of these unique fluvial landscapes, baroque castles, brick gothic and northern German seaside resort architecture.

## Itinerary Day to Day

### **Day 1: Arrival in Berlin**

Individual arrival in Berlin. Embarkation at 4:00 pm. Berlin is always worth a trip. Maybe you'll have some time and a notion to take a stroll on the Kurfürstendamm, take a walk through the Nicolai Quarter on Spree Island or take a glance at the Brandenburg Gate. The possibilities of Berlin are almost endless.



### **Day 2: Berlin – Oranienburg – Eberswalde 38 km**

The well-marked bike route meanders northward through the Ruppiner See area to Oranienburg. Sightseeing tip: the Baroque castle with its park, museum and orangery. This is your embarkation point, afterwards you will sail to Eberswalde. In the heart of the city, in the Finow Canal, is the oldest working lock in Germany, which has been a technical monument since 1978.

### **Day 3: Eberswalde – Hohensaaten – Schwedt 32 - 64 km**

First you will bike through the splendid landscape on the Treidel bike route along the Finow Canal, passing by forests, glades and small hills in the direction of Niederfinow (boat lift – a tour is always an option) to Hohensaaten. There you will get back on board and sail to Schwedt or if you still like to cycle you go by bike (add 32 km).

### **Day 4: Schwedt – Mescherin – Szczecin 30 km**

Today you will cycle through a part of a unique, cross-border nature reserve, the "Lower Oder Valley National Park", then on to Gartz and Mescherin, where you will get back on the boat. Then you will sail to Szczecin, the green city on the mouth of the Oder and one of the largest ports on the Baltic Sea. The reconstructed castle of the dukes of Pomerania situated in the city's historic center is worth seeing.



### **Day 5: Szczecin– Wolgast day of rest on board**

Today you will spend all day on board. After one last narrow passage, the boat will arrive in the expansive waters of the Bay of Szczecin (Oder Lagoon). After the crossing, you will reach Wolgast, the "Gateway to Usedom Island". The Medieval historic center with its town hall and the Church of St. Petri are interesting sights in any case.

### **Day 6: Wolgast – Peenemünde – Lauterbach 15 km**

In the morning you will bike through Zecherin and Karlshagen Harbour to Peenemünde (tip: historical/technical museum in the former power plant). If the weather is fine, you may feel like cycling the "beach route" via Trassenheide and Zinnowitz alternatively. In Peenemünde you will get back on board and at about 6 p.m. you sail to Lauterbach in the southeast of Rügen Island (arrival around 9 p.m.).



## Day 7: Lauterbach – Stralsund 48 km

Today you should not miss a visit to the nearby city of Putbus (about 2 km) with its well-known circus. Classical buildings line this circular “square”, where all the streets converge.

Your bike tour on this day will take you through Putbus, Garz, Groß Schoritz, the birthplace of Ernst Moritz Arndt, Poseritz and Gustow with its well-known village church over the Rügen Dam to Stralsund, where the boat will meet you. As a city with an important past, a stroll through the historic centre, which is situated on an island, will take you past numerous exceptional sights.

## Day 8: Departure from Stralsund

After breakfast, disembarkation until 9:00 a.m. and individual trip home



## Route



### Technical Characteristics:

**Tour Profile:** Medium. You will mostly be biking on car free paths, rural country roads with little traffic and asphalted bike lanes but also on dusty field paths and dirt roads, with a few short sections on federal highways. "Pleasure-biking" - The routes are mostly flat with some hilly parts, although there will be a few steep inclines and downgrades.

**Distance:** 163 - 195 km

**Travel Season:** Saturday departures from Berlin: May 18; June 1; June 15; June 29; July 13; July 27; August 10; August 24 and September 7, 2024

Saturday departures from Stralsund: May 11; May 25; June 8; June 22; July 6; July 20; August 3; August 17 and August 31, 2024



**Prices per Person:**

3 Bed Cabin on Main Deck	€ 799.00
2 Bed Cabin on Main Deck Astern*	€ 1049.00
2 Bed Cabin on Main Deck	€ 1199.00
2 Bed Cabin on Upper Deck	€ 1449.00
2 Bed Cabin on Main Deck for Single Use	€ 1499.00
Hybrid Bike Rental 7 speed unisex bicycle, with hand and pedal break or hand brakes only	€ 89.00
E-Bike Rental 8 gear with hand and pedal break or hand brakes only	€ 199.00

\*\*Cabins at the front and rear of the ship; perceive engine and generator noise (when ship is in motion and in locks)

**Included:**

- 7 nights' accommodation in an outside cabin with private facilities in the booked cabin category
- Program according to the itinerary
- Welcome drink
- Daily cabin cleaning, bedding and towel changes as needed
- Full board: 7x breakfast, 6x lunch snack on board (non-cyclists) or packed lunch for cyclists, 6x coffee and tea in the afternoon, 7x three course dinner
- All charges for harbours, bridges and locks
- Daily bike tour meeting
- Tour guide on board (does not ride with group)
- GPS tracks
- Printed instructions and maps for daily individual bike tours (1 per cabin)

**Not Included:**

- Transfers
- Bike rentals
- Entrance and sightseeing fees
- City maps
- Travel Insurance
- Gratuities and personal expenses

## Cruise Ship MS Princess



The MS Princess, due to its size, is the ideal boat for cruises on the Oder River. It offers a restaurant with a homelike salon. Altogether the MS Princess has 49 cabins; 42 twin bed cabins on the main deck, four of them can be used as three bed cabins (third bed carrying maximum 70 kg) and seven twin beds on the upper deck. All cabins are about 10.5 square meters and are equipped with a shower/toilet, hairdryer, telephone, TV, safe (for a fee) and air conditioning (windows cannot be opened). One of the two beds is a sofa during the day. All decks, also sun deck are reachable via stairs and a lift. The stairs are very steep (chair lift on passenger and sun deck, carrying maximum 100 kg).



## Bikes

### Hybrid Bike



The bikes are fitted with comfortable Selle Royal saddles. They also come with coaster brakes or a freewheel hub – all hub gears come from Shimano – and you can pick whichever one you prefer.

We offer three frame sizes: 45cm, 50 cm and 55 cm

All bikes are additionally equipped with tire pumps, repair kits with tools and spare inner tubes. For extra storage room, most bikes are fitted with panniers and/or handlebar bags.

### Electric Bike



All the Pedelecs are equipped with Bosch mid-drive motors that come with fully integrated 500 watt Bosch rechargeable batteries. The innovative way of construction allows the batteries to become almost invisible. That way, cyclists gain the advantage of a well-balanced bike that is easily operated. It is perfect support and a high level of comfort even on long tours.