

Sample Itinerary

Biking along the Moselle River (7 days)

Trier – Neumagen-Dhron – Zeltingen-Rachtig – Beilstein – Koblenz



DAY 1 **USA – Frankfurt**

Departure from the USA (overnight flight)

DAY 2 **Frankfurt – Trier**

Arrival in Frankfurt

Transfer to Trier – 136 miles (by car, coach, or 1-stop train connection)

Hotel check-in

Guided city tour

Trier Tourist Office

An der Porta Nigra

54290 Trier

Tel: +49 (651) 978 080

Fax: +49 (651) 978 0876

E-Mail: info@trier-info.de

www.trier.de

**DAY 2
Cont'd**

Frankfurt – Trier

Places of interest:

- Cathedral of St. Peter
- Church of Our Lady
- Roman Monuments, e.g. Gate Porta Nigra, Amphitheater, Imperial Baths, Bridge
- Basilica
- Cathedral City district behind the Cathedral
- Electoral Palace
- St. Martin Abbey
- Frankenturm Tower
- Main Market Square
- House of the Three Magi
- Jew's Alley
- Karl Marx's Birth House & Museum
- Monaise Palace
- Quint Palace
- Simeonstift College & Municipal Museum
- St. Mary's Column

Trier – The town's story begins around 16 B.C. when the Romans called it *Augusta Treverorum*, and it is proud of its two thousand year old heritage. It became one of the capitals of the Tetrarchy at the end of the 3rd century, when it was known as the 'second Rome'. Roman emperors, bishops, electors and prominent citizens all left their mark on the town by the Moselle river, as can be seen in Trier's magnificent art treasures and unique architectural monuments. The best known is the Porta Nigra, the massive Roman town gate. The Roman monuments, outstanding testimony to Roman civilization, as well as the Cathedral of St. Peter and the Church of Our Lady have been designated UNESCO World Heritage sites in 1986.



Porta Nigra



Cathedral and Church of Our Lady

Dinner

Overnight in Trier

DAY 3 **Trier – Neumagen-Dhron**

Breakfast at the hotel and check-out

Bike to Neumagen – 24 miles by bike

Optional stop: Schweich (~9.5 miles)

Schweich Tourist Office / Tourist Office Roman Wine Road

Brückenstrasse 46

54338 Schweich

Tel: +49 (6502) 933 811

Fax: +49 (6502) 933 815

E-Mail: mosel@touristinfo-schweich.de

www.schweich.de

Schweich – The Middle Moselle begins in the small town of Schweich, situated at the end of the Trierer Talau valley, where steep vineyards follow one after another in quick succession. Schweich welcomes cyclists to take a break and enjoy the promenade and the little marina. Other sights are the St. Martin church and the Niederprümer Hof building.



Schweich's harbor with ferry tower

Optional stop: Mehring (~12 miles)

Mehring Tourist Office

Bachstrasse 47

54346 Mehring

Tel: +49 (6502) 1413

Fax: +49 (6502) 1253

E-Mail: info@mehring-mosel.de

www.mehring-mosel.de

Mehring – In the middle of the Moselle valley travelers will find the town of Mehring. Its history goes back to Roman times; the 'Villa Rustica', a typical Roman country house, can still be seen. Mehring also invites to see the Heritage museum, the Parish Church St. Medardus, and the lovely Moselle promenade, and enjoy the atmosphere in this traditional wine-making town.



Villa Rustica

DAY 3
Cont'd **Trier – Neumagen-Dhron**

Optional stop: Schleich (~16.5 miles)

Schleich Tourist Office
Moselweinstrasse 26
54340 Schleich
Tel: +49 (6507) 702 780
Fax: +49 (6507) 702 781
E-Mail: josef.schu@t-online.de

Schleich – This little town with long wine-growing tradition is located by a Moselle barrage and one of the bigger Moselle islands. Walk through the town and discover the old court house, the Old Church and the old Chapel of the Holy House from the 9th century. Visitors who are interested learning more about wine-growing are welcome to follow the wine study trail



View on Schleich, the barrage and the vineyards

Optional stop: Köwerich (~20.5 miles)

Köwerich Tourist Office
Gemeindeverwaltung Köwerich
54340 Köwerich
Tel: +49 (6507) 802 514
Fax: +49 (6507) 802 512
www.koewerich.com

Köwerich – Visitors to 1300-years-old Köwerich will not only enjoy the view over the sunny 'Laurentiuslay' vineyards on the opposite side of the Moselle. Worth mentioning are also the Beethoven House, originally the house of Beethoven great-grandmother, and the two stone altars in the Parish Church St. Kunibert from around 1620.



Tour through the vineyards
with view on Köwenich

Arrival in Neumagen-Dhron

DAY 3
Cont'd **Trier – Neumagen-Dhron**

Hotel check-in

Walk through the town

Neumagen-Dhron Tourist Office

Folzerweg 28

54347 Neumagen-Dhron

Tel: +49 (6507) 6555

Tel: +49 (6507) 6550

E-Mail: info@neumagen-dhron.de

www.neumagen-dhron.de

Neumagen-Dhron – The discovery of archaeological Roman findings started as early as 1878 in the town of Neumagen-Dhron. One exquisite piece is the 'Roman wine boat' engraved on the tombstone of a rich wine merchant. More findings from Roman times are exhibited in the small heritage museum. To learn a bit more, visitors can follow the archaeological loop path. Right by the water one can find not only a popular little marina, but also the 'Stella Noviomagi', a replica of the famous Neumagen wine boat.



A vintner's House

Dinner

Overnight in Neumagen-Dhron

DAY 4 **Neumagen-Dhron – Zeltingen-Rachtig**

Breakfast at the hotel and check-out

Bike to Zeltingen-Rachtig – 20 miles by bike

Optional stop: Piesport & Niederemmel (~ 2.5 miles)

Piesport Tourist Office

Heinrich-Schmitt-Platz 1

54498 Piesport

Tel: +49 (6507) 2027

Tel: +49 (6507) 2026

E-Mail: info@piesport.de

www.piesport.de

DAY 4
Cont'd **Neumagen-Dhron – Zeltingen-Rachtig**

Piesport & Niederemmel – The town of Piesport home to some lovely olds vineyards and wine maker estates, and it is well-known for its ‚Piesporter Goldtröpfchen‘ wine. Once a year residents and visitors gather for the locale wine festival, which also includes Roman wine-making demonstration on the oldest Roman winepress North of the Alps. Piesport’s St. Michael Church is located right by the water and looks over to Niederemmel, another little town that became a part of Piesport over time. Apart from St. Martin Parish Church, as many Moselle churches built on Roman temple foundation, and the old Roman milestone (dated 213), visitors can view the old wine makers’ houses and the famous ‘Moselloreley’ tavern, which gets its name from the close-by massive loreley-like rock.



Inside St. Michael Church

Optional stop: Wintrich (~ 8 miles)

Wintrich Tourist Office

Bergstrass 3
54487 Wintrich
Tel: +49 (6534) 8628
Fax: +49 (6534) 1512
E-Mail: gemeinde-wintrich@t-online.de
www.wintrich-mosel.de

Wintrich – Wintrich has been a wine-growing village since Roman times. It is still home to some charming wine-maker estates and half-timbered houses. The town is located at another Moselle barrage, where the river was raised about 20 feet. The surroundings are less dominated by the characteristic Moselle V-shaped valleys, but mildly shaped by more level hills which provide excellent agricultural conditions. Visitors should make a stop at the ‘Grosser Herrgott’ (‘Great God’) vineyard, visit its huge crucifix and enjoy the gorgeous view over the Moselle valley.



Traditional half-timbered houses

DAY 4
Cont'd **Neumagen-Dhron – Zeltingen-Rachtig**

Optional stop: Filzen (~ 9 miles)

Filzen Tourist Information at Brauneberg Tourist Office

Moselweinstrasse 101
54472 Brauneberg
Tel.: +49 (6534) 933333
Fax: +49 (6534) 933334
Email: info@brauneberg.de
www.brauneberg.de

Filzen – In 1970 the town of Filzen became a district of neighboring Brauneberg, although its historical development was quite different. It was and still is mainly catholic. Visitors to Filzen are invited to stop by the former Franciscan Monastery, the buildings and the early Romanesque tower of which are still dominating the peaceful little town.



Filzen Monastery

Optional stop: Mülheim (~ 12 miles)

Mülheim Tourist Office

Hauptstrasse 60
54486 Mülheim/ Mosel
Tel: +49 (6534) 948 734
Fax: +49 (6534) 948 735
E-Mail: info@muelheimmosel.de
www.muelheimmosel.de

Mülheim – Beautiful old vintner houses and Patrician buildings remind of Mülheim's rich history. For hundreds of years it was a n important stop on the old European arterial road from Frankfurt to Brussels. Another sight is the Parish Church from 1668 with it old Romanesque tower. If you have the time, take a detour away from the Moselle of about 2.8 miles each way to Thalvendenz, overlooked by a small 1000-year-old castle with great views over the hills and valleys.



Castle Veldenz

DAY 4
Cont'd **Neumagen-Dhron – Zeltingen-Rachtig**

Optional stop: Bernkastel-Kues (~ 15 miles)

Bernkastel-Kues Tourist Office

Gestade 6
54470 Bernkastel-Kues
Tel: +49 (6531) 500 190
Fax: +49 (6531) 500 1919
E-Mail: info@bernkastel.de
www.bernkastel.de

Bernkastel-Kues – The towns of Bernkastel and Kues became twin towns in 1905 and are connected by a bridge over the Moselle. The area seems to have been popular even long before Roman times: Archeological excavations unearthed a Neolithic village dated to 4000-3000 B.C. in Kues. Nowadays visitors to Bernkastel will surely enjoy the charming half-timbered houses around the old market square, and the impressive St. Michael Parish Church by the river. On the opposite bank in Kues you will find the more than 500 years old Cusanus foundation building which to this day is used as a nursing home for the elderly. From Kues, travelers might want to take another short detour to visit the ruins of Castle Landshut.



Market Square

Arrival in Zeltingen-Rachtig

Hotel check-in

Walk through the town

Zeltingen-Rachtig Tourist Office

Uferallee 13
54492 Zeltingen-Rachtig
Tel: +49 (6532) 2404
Fax: +49 (6532) 3847
E-Mail: info@zeltingen-rachtig.de
www.zeltingen-rachtig.de

DAY 4 **Neumagen-Dhron – Zeltingen-Rachtig**
Cont'd

Zeltingen-Rachtig – A beautiful village of half timbered houses, old wine estates and more than 1,800,000 grape vines. Zeltingen welcomes its visitors to explore the town and taste its local wines. Zeltingen is particularly known in the region for its Riesling wines. Take a stroll on the Moselle promenade with beautiful trees and mansions from the previous 300 years, and stop by the St. Stephanus Church, the old sundial, or the ruins of Rosenberg Castle.



St. Stephanus Church

Dinner

Overnight in Zeltingen-Rachtig

DAY 5 **Zeltingen-Rachtig – Beilstein**

Breakfast at the hotel and check-out

Bike to Beilstein – 39 miles by bike

Optional stop: Traben-Trarbach (~ 10 miles)

Traben-Trarbach Tourist Office

Am Bahnhof 5
 56841 Traben-Trarbach
 Tel: +49 (6541) 83980
 Fax: +49 (6541) 839 839
 E-Mail: info@traben-trarbach.de
www.traben-trarbach.de

Traben-Trarbach – The twin town on the left and right banks of the Moselle features some architectural treasures of the Art Nouveau period. Take a walk through the town with its many cozy alleyways, and you will encounter vestiges of history on each corner, like the bridge gate. Overlooking the town are the ruins of the Grevenburg Castle. It was built around 1350, being the ancestral seat of the counts of Sponheim until 1437. In 1734, it was taken and destroyed by the French. There is a cozy castle tavern with a garden in the ruins, which provides excellent views.



Ruins of the Grevenburg Castle

DAY 5 **Zeltingen-Rachtig – Beilstein**
Cont'd

Optional stop: Enkirch (~ 15 miles)

Enkirch Tourist Office

Brunnenplatz 2
56850 Enkirch
Tel: +49 (6541) 9265
Fax: +49 (6541) 5269
E-Mail: info@enkirch.de
www.enkirch.de

Enkirch – This charming little town was mentioned first around 733, but there have as well been Roman and even Celtic trails, confirming the popularity of this spot. In 1557 Enkirch became a Protestant town, as the big but rather simple Parish Church shows. However, particularly beautiful is the church's court yard with a Linden tree that was planted 1883 for Luther's 400th birthday. Enkirch features some old half timbered house, like the little Heritage Museum. Wine enthusiasts might want to visit at the Ratsweinschänke winery and try one of their 20 year old wines.



Heritage Museum

Optional stop: Pünderich (~ 17.5 miles)

Pünderich Tourist Office

Raiffeisenstrasse 3
56862 Pünderich
Tel: +49 (6542) 900 021
Fax: +49 (6542) 900 022
E-Mail: touristik-information@puenderich.de
www.puenderich.de

Pünderich – During the 16th and 17th century, Pünderich was known as one of the wealthier Moselle towns, but excavations showed that Roman and even Celts were living here before. Unlike other Moselle towns, Pünderich is not separated from the river by the main road, thus its gorgeous half timbered house are located literally next to the water. A small ferry connects Pünderich with the opposite bank, allowing its visitors to easily include a short hike to the Marienburg Castle, a former monastery, and a culinary break at its restaurant into their program.



A ferry leaving Pünderich

DAY 5 **Zeltingen-Rachtig – Beilstein**
Cont'd

Optional stop: Zell (~ 23.5 miles)

Zell Tourist Office
Balduinstrasse 44 (Rathaus)
56856 Zell
Tel: +49 (6542) 96220
Fax: +49 (6542) 962 229
E-Mail: info@zellerland.de
www.zellerland.de

Zell – The town of Zell is located on a beautiful Moselle curve with rather steep vineyards, above which the Hunsrück mountains begin. It was founded by the Romans; Zell's name can be derived from the Roman 'cellae', for a sentinel to guard the passage over the river. The late Gothic Zell Castle still is one of the most interesting buildings in town. Today, it hosts a castle hotel. Other sights include the Parish Church Peter & Paul and the town's fortification towers.



Zell Castle Hotel

Optional stop: Alf (~ 26.5 miles)

Alf Tourist Office
56859 Alf/Mosel
Tel: +49 (6542) 2619
Fax: +49 (6542) 900 195
www.alf-mosel.de

Alf – Located where the Alfbach creek leaves its bosky valley and flows into the Moselle, Alf charms visitors with half timbered houses and the Gothic Basilica St. Remigius. Above the town there are two more attractions to discover: Enjoy magnificent vistas from the viewpoint tower on Prinzenkopf mountain, or hike up to Castle Arras, which also features a restaurant.



The town of Alf

DAY 5 **Zeltingen-Rachtig – Beilstein**
Cont'd

Optional stop: Neef (~ 28 miles)

Neef Tourist Office

56858 Neef/Mosel

Tel: +49 (6542) 21575

Tel: +49 (6542) 21575

E-Mail: info@verkehrsverein-neef.de

www.verkehrsverein-neef.de

Neef – From the Petersberg hill visitors enjoy an enchanting panorama vista over the Bremm Moselle loop until the Prinzenkopf viewpoint. Down by the river, the little town of Neef awaits with nicely restored half-timbered houses and the Wasserburg Castle, a small, formerly moated castle. A bit more downstream, opposing the town of Bremm and surrounded by grape vines, lie the picturesque ruins of the former Stuben Augustinian monastery, built in the 12th century. The parts that can still be seen belonged to the monastery church's nave.



Ruins of Stuben Monastery

Arrival in Beilstein

Hotel check-in

Beilstein Tourist Office

Hauptstrasse 19

71717 Beilstein

Tel: +49 (7062) 2630

Fax: +49 (7062) 26320

E-Mail: stadt@beilstein.de

www.beilstein.de

Beilstein – This unspoiled medieval wine town on the east bank of the Mosel River has an unusual marketplace hewn right into the rocky hillside. Around it lie the former St. Christophs Church, with Spanish 'black Madonna' statue, and the Metternich Court, built in 1727, today a hotel. Above the town stand the ruins of the 12th century Metternich Castle.



An alley in the town of Beilstein

DAY 5 **Zeltingen-Rachtig – Beilstein**
Cont'd

Dinner

Overnight in Beilstein

DAY 6 **Beilstein – Koblenz**

Breakfast at the hotel and check-out

Bike to Koblenz – 37 miles by bike

Optional stop: Cochem (~ 7 miles)

Cochem Tourist Office

Endertplatz 1

56812 Cochem

Tel: +49 (2671) 60040

Fax: +49 (2671) 600 444

Email: info@ferienland-cochem.de

www.cochem.de

Cochem – In the most romantic part of the Moselle Valley, where the river curves between two hiking paradises - Eifel and Hunsrück - lies the old town of Cochem. The magnificent Reichsburg, the big castle, situated on a precipitous rock high above the town, dominates the landscape. The many delicate pointed towers, battlements and oriels give the impression of a typical fairy tale castle, particularly as it is one of the few castles in Germany, which was rebuilt in its original style after its complete destruction. As impressive as the castle itself is the view of the Moselle Valley with its beautiful forests, meadows, and vineyards. The town of Cochem itself is a sight worth seeing, not only because of its narrow streets and twisty alleys, and the lovingly restored half timbered houses with the typical slate roofs, but also because of its medieval town gates, churches and walls.



Castle Reichsburg by the Moselle

DAY 6
Cont'd **Beilstein – Koblenz**

Places of interest:

- Castle Reichenburg
- Castle Winneburg ruins
- Historic town wall with towers and gates
- Baroque Town Hall
- Market Square
- Former Capuchin Monastery

Optional stop: Treis-Karden (~ 13 miles)

Treis-Karden Tourist Office

Hauptstrasse 27
56253 Treis-Karden
Tel: +49 (2672) 6137
Fax: +49 (2672) 6153
E-Mail: tourist@treis-karden.de
www.treis-karden.de

Treis-Karden – This twin town invites visitors on both banks of the Moselle. On one side, Karden features several interesting historical buildings, like the former provost residence, the Burghaus and the St. Kastor Cathedral. On the opposite bank lies Treis at the foot of the Zillesberg mountain. Although Treis was massively destroyed during WWII, it still has some fine half timbered houses as well as its Parish Church, built in 1824. Looking down on Treis from the surrounding hills lie the ruins of Wildburg Castle, and the privately occupied Fortress Treis.



Karden with its Cathedral

Optional stop: Moselkern (~ 15.5 miles)

Moselkern Tourist Office

Elztal 76 1
56254 Moselkern
Tel: +49 (2672) 7670
www.moselkern.de

Castle Eltz

56294 Münstermaifeld
Tel: +49 (2672) 950 500
Fax: +49 (2672) 950 5050
E-Mail: burg@eltz.org
www.burg-eltz.de

DAY 6
Cont'd **Beilstein – Koblenz**

Moselkern – This spot right by the Eltzbach creek has been populated since Celtic times. An interesting finding of religious history was made here too: A Merovingian crucifix from the 7th century which probably is the earliest depiction of the crucified Christ North of the Alps. Walk along the Eltzbach creek and take a tour through the impressive Castle Eltz to experience a cross section of eight hundred years of history reflected in the layout and architecture of the rooms. The Rübenach Lower Hall with its impressive 15th century wooden ceiling, the painted dressing room with its Gothic ornaments and figures, the Rübenach Bedroom with its filigree frescos from 1470, the splendid Knights Hall, the elegant vaulted arch of the Banner Hall, the Countesses' Room and the still intact late Middle-Ages Rodendorf kitchen are all examples of the typical architecture and construction of the castle.



Castle Eltz

Optional stop: Brodenbach (~ 20.5 miles)

Brodenbach Tourist Office

Rhein-Moselstrasse 4

56332 Brodenbach

Tel: +49 (2605) 4723

Fax: +49 (2605) 952 688

E-Mail: tourist-info@brodenbach-mosel.de

www.brodenbach-mosel.de

Brodenbach – Surrounded by bosky Moselle hillsides, charming Brodenbach has, like most Moselle towns, a Roman history. The Ehrenburg castle, the ruins of which can be visited after a short hike up the hill, was built on Roman fortifications. Over many centuries the castle was a dreaded robber-baron fortress. Unfortunately French troops blew it up in the 17th century, but the ruins are still a major attraction in the region. Apart from the castle ruins Brodenbach offers a lovely marina.



View over Brodenbach's marina and the Moselle

DAY 6
Cont'd **Beilstein – Koblenz**

Optional stop: Alken (~ 24 miles)

Alken Tourist Office
Schulstrasse 1
56332 Alken
Tel: +49 (2605) 790
Fax: +49 (2605) 953 261
E-Mail: touristik@alken.de
www.alken.de

Alken – The town is located beautifully between the Mosel banks and vineyards leading up to the fascinating Castle Thurandt. Built in 1197 and partial in ruins it still is a main attraction of that region, and its two towers can be seen from afar. The Roman St. Michael Church lies, like in many Moselle towns, outside of the town center, as most villages grew before Christianity was even introduced to the inhabitants.



Castle Thurandt

Optional stop: Kobern-Gondorf (~ 26 miles)

Kobern-Gondorf Tourist Office
Kirchstrasse 1
56330 Kobern-Gondorf
Tel: +49 (2607) 1055
Fax: +49 (2607) 4045
E-Mail: gemeinde@kobern-gondorf.de
www.kobern-gondorf.com

Kobern-Gondorf – The Goloring above the town is a prehistorical earthwork, dated back to 1200-600 B.C.. It is one of the oldest sanctuaries of the Moselle region. Another interesting historical fact about Kobern-Gondorf: Remains of a Roman fort found here could be related to commander Germanicus, whose son, Caligugla, became Roman emperor later on. Furthermore, Kobern-Gondorf is home to the oldest half-timbered house in Germany,



Half timbered houses on main street

DAY 6
Cont'd **Beilstein – Koblenz**

Arrival in Koblenz

Hotel check-in

Guided city tour

Koblenz Tourist Office

Jesuitenplatz 2

56068 Koblenz

Tel: +49 (261) 130 920

Fax: +49 (261) 130 9211

E-Mail: info@koblenz-touristik.de

www.koblenz-touristik.de

Koblenz – Fortress walls and castle towers, palaces and patrician houses are vivid illustrations of a turbulent past. Founded by the Romans, Koblenz is set at the famous *Deutsches Eck* (German Corner), where the Rhine and Moselle rivers meet. Ehrenbreitstein fortress and Stolzenfels Castle are part of the Upper Middle Rhine Valley UNESCO World Heritage site. The town is set amidst four ranges of hills, and two thirds of the surrounding countryside consists of woods, open green spaces or water. The Romans founded the town over 2,000 years ago, calling it "apud confluentes" or "at the confluence". Today, Koblenz is a "small city" with a lot to offer those interested in art and culture.



Stolzenfels Castle



'Deutsches Eck': Confluence of Moselle and Rhine

Places of interest:

- Deutsches Eck
- Ehrenbreitstein Fortress
- Electoral Palace
- Deutschherrenhaus
- Wine Village
- Empress Augusta Rhine gardens

DAY 6
Cont'd **Beilstein – Koblenz**

Places of Interest (cont'd):

- Building of the former Prussian government
- Balduin Bridge
- Old Fortress
- Fort Asterstein
- Fort Konstantin
- Castle Stolzenfels
- Florins Church
- Church of Our Lady
- St. Kastor Church

Dinner

Overnight in Koblenz

DAY 7 **Koblenz – Frankfurt – USA**

Breakfast at the hotel and check-out

Transfer to Frankfurt Airport – 71 miles (by car, coach, or train)

Departure to the USA