



*Meandering
home...
the Moselle...
October, 2023*



It became evident after a couple of year's thwarted planning...lack of water, closed routes and so on, that we were not going to be able to get Otter up to the Moselle...and if we did, it would be a very long trip both up and back along the same route. Instead this presented the perfect opportunity to see the region by car on the way home and it was worth every minute...brilliant sunshine all the way, pleasantly lively, but not too crowded. As we discovered, the charm of it is that you drive right along the water with vineyards right down to the road, criss-crossing from one bank to the other tiny ancient hamlets. This tributary of the Rhine stretches 545 km across NE France and western Germany. The harvest had just begun....





The pictures speak for themselves. From Trier to Bernkastel-Kues, Traben-Trarbach, Zell, Bremm, Beilstein, Ediger-Eller and Cochem.



Perhaps our favourites were **Bernkastel-Kues** (Pearl of the Moselle) with its timbered houses from the 17th C on each side of the river, medieval marketplace, pointed house from 1416, "Square at the Bear's Fountain, tour boats, and many tiny wine cellars and shops. Tiny **Beilstein** (Sleeping Beauty of the Moselle) first settled in 800AD by the Celts, was one of the best-preserved villages with its picturesque side alleys, Carmelite Monastery at the top of the Klostertreppe, castle ruins and, best of all, little shuttle ferry for stunning views. At Cochem, we went on a busman's holiday...in other words, a boat trip! Beautiful views and town, but a touch too touristy.



At one café en route, Lou was treated to a "dog's ice-cream" of frozen quark and liver pate´. A big hit!And finally, time to head for home.

