

## Travel On The River Lot On The First Solar Hotel-Boat

Protecting the environment is a crucial issue for the Protection of waterways and the sustainability of river tourism. Passionate about river navigation, Dominique Renouf, has been carrying out, for twenty years, numerous initiatives and in 2007, put into service the first solar boat-hotel of the world on the Canal du Midi. Leaving no chemical fingerprint and no noise in its wake. The choice of renewable and non-polluting electric motors powered by a photovoltaic generator on board makes its navigation silent, without any disturbance (electric propulsion with zero CO2 emissions), hot water produced by a solar water heater installed on the roof.

From April 2011, the solar boat will offer cruises on the river Lot! Why not book a cruise aboard this extraordinary solar-powered boat, designed exclusively for cruising on the river and find out more about the flora and fauna, the surrounding villages, farms and chateaux of Lot-et-Garonne that line the itinerary.

3 different cruises are offered : Week (6 days/ 5 nights), Mini-weeks (3 days/ 3nights) and Week-ends (2 days/ 2 nights) - All dates and itineraries on the French website http://www.naviratous2.com/pdf/planning2011.pdf

The cruises depart from Villeneuve-sur-Lot and will make stops at Casseneuil, Fongrave, Castelmoron, Granges-sur-Lot, Clairac, Temple-sur-Lot, Penne d'Agenais, and return to Villeneuve-sur-Lot.

Guests are accommodated in 2-berth cabins on board and treated to excellent meals either on board or in canal-side restaurants (taken together, meals are also a way of discovering the local Gastronomy).

Lots of activities on board: introduction manœuvres (seamanship, mooring, pilotage), possibility to rent bicycles to travel along the Lot and in the surrounding villages, many opportunities for swimming (supervised beaches in some places), paradise for anglers: the water from the Lot is fishy (there are pike-perches, pikes, black basses, breams, catfishes etc... – possibility to buy a fishing license for the week  $(30 \in)$  or 1 day  $(10 \in)$ ).

Kevin is a riverboat of 29.50 meters long and 5 wide, built in 2006, steel, propelled by electro-solar energy which can accommodate 14 passengers for the night and 21 during the day, two members of crew. The vessel's design makes it fully accessible to disabled; The main deck is up to the banks and allow the embarkation and disembarkation of persons without altitude. It includes all the services required as part of a cruise of several days: 4 showers, 2 toilets and 6 double cabins

For more information visit the French website: http://www.naviratous2.com

Prices: From €700 per week full board (1/2 price for children, free for under 6) The cruises are operating from April to end of September

For more information about Lot-et-Garonne tourism, visit http://www.tourisme-lotetgaronne.com