

From St. Jean de Loone to Auxonne

10 to 3:00

①



May 26, 1999 Thursday

We awake this am. with the hope that it would be a good day to go. (It has rained for two solid days (Tuesday & Wednesday).

It was dry, but too early to tell if we would have any sun. We straightened up, had our coffee and took off to get Money & ~~Food~~ last minute items at the Super Marche. The guys took off on their mobylettes, and I walked to the market.

By 10:00 we were pulling out of the slip. We are traveling on the Saone River for this first leg of our journey. It is awesome. We are pushing against a very heavy current, but L'Ark moves as though on silk.

The river banks are gorgeous! (I am traveling on the front deck to stay out of Bobbie's way. The ~~engine room~~ pilot house is small & I am only in the way), ergo, I get the chance to relay & take pics. Just this minute a boat passed us. The Benson Kirby - out of Fort Lauderdale. It is a small world. We had a short chat across the water.

I must get a "Birds of Europe" book so that I can identify all of the wonderful birds. At this minute their songs are filling the air.

* Note: We tied up to Ballard secured @
into the stairs.

We arrived at Auyonac at 3:45 P.M. and were secure by
3:00. Against the stairs, ^{not lead} from the water, that
~~led~~ ^{to} young Napoleon Bonapart's fortress.*
Charming! (All afternoon & evening the local
gentlemen fish off of the Quay. It appeared to be
an unstructured competition.

About a half hour later we took off on foot to
get a feel for the town. It is so beautiful that
we decided to stay over ^{overnight} for tomorrow.

Dinner was potato salad and some fresh
grilled Salmon, that I had picked up this A.M.
Needless to say there was also bread & butter. The
bread here is incredible.

We spent the evening watching the locals watching
us, and were in bed by 10:00 P.M.

Note: It is light here until 9:00 P.M.

Friday, May 21, 1999

Auyonac



We had a good night in spite of the fact that
we were concerned that the fullness of the
river (sooooo much rain this spring) might put
us up on the steps.

When the men awoke it was discovered
that the inverter had drawn down the batteries
(or rather that the appliances through the inverter
did it) Needless to say the need for a larger

alternator was apparent, since the engine when running did not fully charge the batteries.
 Much of the day was spent with the mechanic from the Marisa. (A great young man named Phillippe. His ^{live in} wife Enna works for H2O also. A lovely young woman.)

Mart and I went into town to reconnoiter where we could get Propane. We returned after seeing a flea market, a fort, a church and a little woman (very pretty) who told us to bring the tank so she could see the color & direct us to the proper place for purchasing ^{same}. We returned for Bobbie & the tank and once more took off for Auyorne. We got Butagaz (propane) and then walked to a pretty little restaurant for La Plat de four. It was a ~~great~~ Quiche, pork chop cooked in Lima Beans, scrumptious bread, and Coffee Glace. (with little buds of Espresso Cafe) Then we went back to rest. Everything is closed from noon to 2, except the restaurants. Then at 3:00 we went to the Fort of Auyorne, where Napoleon (as a Lieutenant) spent 3 years. We climbed 90 steps to the top visiting all of the chambers. When we returned to the boat we were foot sore, but happy. We had walked 2 1/2 to 3 miles

** Note. We had all power off while sleeping. (10)

we played Rummy tiles until Philippe & Emma arrived with the alternator that he had removed earlier for measurement. While Emma & I spoke, she was able to assist with some of my questions. She is a lovely girl.

It was almost 8:00 P.M. Before we had a cup of soup, some sausage & cheese & of course some rummy bread & butter.

We went to bed about 10:00 knowing we would be returning to St Jean de Loane for installation of the larger alternator. **

Saturday, May 22, 1999 Auronne to St. Jean de Loane.

We were up at 5:00 A.M. to put on the engine, turn on the heat, and put up a pot of coffee. We pulled away from Auronne on the 20th of 7:00 A.M. With the push of the river, we were going downstream, it took only 2 hours to ~~we~~ work our way home to H2O.

While the fellows rested, I went out to the Boulangerie (Bakery) and bought Deux Gâteaux au Lait & Deux Pains de Chocolat. I also brought home the Wall Street Journal. It is now 11:15 and the men are snoozing. They are falling down on the job. I had ^{did} dishes last night, and today they told me to leave them in the sink, ^{for them} knowing I would not be able

(23)

to stand them not being done. They were correct!
This afternoon they will get the bikes down,
we will shower and dress and then they will
take our laundry, towels, etc. to the Laundress.
Tonight we will be eating out.

5/27/99 Thursday - St. Jean de Losne to



Departed at 7:55 A.M.

We have been back in St. Jean ^{until today,} to get a larger
alternator on. [↑] Bobbie was disappointed that our
journey was ~~interrupted~~ interrupted, but we had a
Great week, none the less!

We have been so busy I have not had a minute
for the log.

We shopped, ate, played, experimented with
the bikes, (of course I took a tumble before I
learned how to break the bike without falling off)
We did laundry & sent laundry out. We ate again
at the Auberge de Maria. We have walked & walked
and walked. Even though we are eating up a
storm we are all trimming down. As for me each
walk is easier than the last. Thank the good Lord
my heels are doing the job.

Note: It has been cool to cold in the evenings & nights, and
short sleeve temperatures in the daytime.