

# The Black Forest Tour (Intermediate)

This is the sequel to our very successful Vosges Tour – if you are one of the many customers who have already enjoyed our Vosges Tour then the Black Forest Tour is for you. More fabulous roads, stunning scenery, great hotels and a few beers at night. It is a simple formula but we know it works.

We will be running this tour three times in 2013, all over long weekends. (We will take you into France, Belgium, Luxembourg and Germany).

## Tour Highlights

- explore the beautiful Ardennes region of Belgium spend a night in historic Bastogne (famous for the Battle of the Bulge)
- Friday night in lively K-town – lots of bars, etc.
- Visit the world famous Nurburgring (and ride the track if it is open)
- ride the famous B500 from Baden Baden through the heart of the Black Forest
- take the 'Routes de Cretes' over the Grand Ballon – one of our favourite roads
- spend a night in a lovely hotel, north of Mulhouse (great restaurant, indoor pool, spa, steam rooms)
- spend a night in Epernay (centre of the champagne region)
- explore the vineyards of the Champagne region.

## **Day 1- Calais – Bastogne (210 miles approx.)**

The usual ferry crossing from Dover – Calais, short briefing and then 90 miles of motorway before a short break for coffee and food. Then its across country heading into Belgium and the wooded hills of the Ardennes. For our first night we will be staying in the historic town of Bastogne – a lovely historic Belgium town made famous by the Battle of the Bulge

## **Day 2 – Bastogne – Kaiserslautern (175 miles approx.)**

In the morning we will take a nice relaxed ride through the middle of Luxembourg. Our route will take us through the beautiful Upper Sûre National Park before heading into Germany. We will visit the famous Nurburgring (if it is open to the public you can purchase a ticket and ride the ring) - PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS IS ENTIRELY AT YOUR OWN RISK. Our evenings destination will be the German side of the northern Vosges. Kaiserslautern is a "city in the woods" in the midst of the Palatinate Forest, one of Germany's largest forest areas. K-town as it is frequently know, is a lively place – there is plenty to do in the evening!

## **Day 3 – Kaiserslautern - Mulhouse (180 miles approx.)**

There is a good chance that some of you may have hangovers, Kaiserslautern is a lively city in the evening! For today's ride we will be heading South through the northern part of the Vosges and into Baden Baden. From there we will take the famous B500 through the Black Forest. The B500 is a superb road especially if you are on a sports bike – great road surface, sweeping corners, good visibility – I am sure you get the idea! We will be heading towards the Feldberg which at 4,900ft is the highest mountain in the area. From the Feldberg we will use some really small

twisty roads over the Rhine and back into France for our overnight stay at one of our signature hotels – a swim, beer and a lovely evening meal.

#### **Day 4 – Mulhouse - Epernay (220 miles approx.)**

Twisty roads, stunning scenery, more twisty roads. In the morning we will ride one of our favourite roads to the top of Le Grand Ballon (4,600ft). From there we will follow the 'Routes de Cretes' to the Col de la Schucht ski station. Time for a coffee and then its out of the mountains and into the Champagne region and our hotel in the heart of the champagne region. Another good night awaits!

#### **Day 5 - Epernay - Calais (200 miles approx.)**

Our final day – rather than jump on the motorway straight back to Calais, we prefer to take you cross country through the vineyards of this famous area of France. We will follow the 'Champagne Tourist Route' through the heart of the vineyards and small villages which have remained unchanged for hundreds of years. Heading north we will eventually join the motorway for the short ride to the port and home.