

MEDITERRANEAN

SIGGY AND HEATHER | TRIP AROUND THE MEDITERRANEAN | SATURDAY, 6 APRIL 2013



Trouble Comes in Threes

Just when we were starting to get into the swing of our journey, some issues arose to cause anguish. When our GPS stopped working a couple of days ago we simply purchased another one. We could only have returned it to the supplier in the Netherlands. Yesterday Heather noticed a small stone chip on our windscreen. As you know chips like this end up cracking the whole screen so we had to do something about it. As we were surfing the internet from our campsite to see if there was a Windscreens O'Brien type of business in Freiburg our


Droam modem stopped working. Blast. We checked with other motor-homers and found a windscreen repairer just down the road who worked on our screen. The small cracks were still visible after his work so the repairer gave us the work for free. We have already had a few instances where we have been treated extremely well in our dealings with the local populous. We are now working on our modem - hopefully we will get it operating again. In the meantime we will get internet access in caravan parks.

Lake Constance

We've ended up seeing Ebnet three times. We camped there overnight and then passed through it on our way out only to return soon after when we realized we needed diesel. Finally we got away from the "Freiburg magnet" and traveled through Black Forest country. Heather thought she had found a quiet back road to travel through but it did not prove so. Getting through this part of the world meant driving on the only major highway that cut into the steep sided valley.

As we got further and further into the forested area the road started to rise, the snow drifts reappeared and the forest got thicker and darker. No wonder they call it the "black forest"! There were chalets and ski runs everywhere.

The aim today was to get to Lake Constance (or the Bodensee as the Germans like to call it). Because of our morning delay fixing the windscreen, our intended journey had to be modified. By late afternoon we had only just reached the start of the lake. We needed to find a camp for the night and found one easily by asking the GPS. We didn't care what it was like. We needed to stop. We wanted to salvage some of the day, so we rugged up and rode along the lake shore.

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HAIR DRYER IN SHOWER ROOM
We have never seen this one before. Really snazzy. The handle pulls down and the little canopy starts blowing hot air while the mirror allows you to comb and preen yourself till its dry. An great bit of technology. Push it up to turn it off.



SEEKING THE SUN We found these sun lounges out in an open grassy paddock. We imagine that the Germans must really go bonkers when the sun comes out or the cows in part of the world sit down to rest.



DOORS DOORS DOORS Strange visitors from Australia. They keep snapping photos of fancy entrance doors. So many to admire but what are we going to do with photos of 100's of doors Heather?

We will never get sick of seeing yet another ancient village with its turreted entrance and imposing castle.

As we were riding through Uberlingen, a nearby town, we realised how close Meersburg (one of our intended targets for the day) was, so off we raced to catch a glimpse before the sun set.

Being so late there were hardly any people left in Meersburg. We had the main street almost to ourselves. The restaurants were empty and the shops were closing their doors. Meersburg was a revelation. Cobbled streets, turreted entrance, ancient buildings, a castle high on the hill, colour and beauty in every shop facade and lots of colourful flower beds. The waterfront was amazing - a beautiful row of very

old gnarled trees. The promenade was lined with outdoor cafes overlooking deep aqua coloured water. Great ambience. How nice would it be with a little ray of sunshine.

The ride home had to be fast as we were running out of light (no lights on our bikes). The chill factor was high and Heather felt the pain. She has had a cold for a couple of days now and had no interest in riding fast. At the end of the 15 km round trip, it was hot showers and a hearty two course dinner cooked by husband. Tomorrow there are more towns like Meersburg to explore along the shores of the Bodensee. We can't wait to see them.



Lunch time stop with a view

PHOTOS



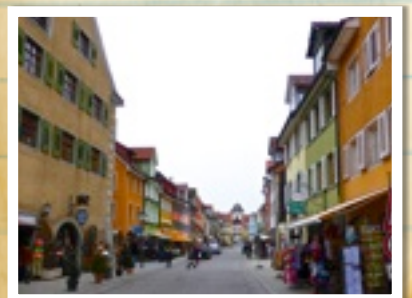
BLACK FOREST SNOW DRIFTS



OVERLOOKING OUR CAMP



UBERLINGEN



MEERSBURG



PHOTOS

