

Join the Riverboat Project



GO



transforming lives
and communities

Rivers of Europe:

A PATHWAY FOR THE GOSPEL

From the
North Sea
to the
Black Sea

OM'S RIVERBOAT PROJECT

What natural network connects many of Europe's major cities, as well as hundreds of towns and villages, reaching from the North Sea to the Black Sea? Rivers!

The geographical river network of Europe is a unique and beautiful way to travel through the heart of the continent, and now, we want to see the Gospel message travel these rivers as well.

For a number of years, we have been discussing how we could use the river network to reach out to Europe's 700 million inhabitants. Out of this discussion came the Riverboat Project. We hope to operate a river-going vessel to use this European pathway to share the Gospel and mobilise the Church to see vibrant communities of Jesus followers among the least reached.

In order to achieve this vision, we are preparing to charter a vessel for a 3-month trial period at the beginning of 2018.

100
RIVERS

40
COUNTRIES



A Mission

The Riverboat Project is sponsored by Operation Mobilisation Europe (OM Europe). OM International is a global mission organisation with more than 3000 people working in 110 countries. OM's mission statement is

"To see vibrant communities of Jesus followers among the least reached."



THE LEAST REACHED IN EUROPE

Ministry along the rivers of Europe can play a significant part in sounding the message of Jesus loud and clear across the continent. Within Europe, there are still large numbers of least-reached communities. As well as the multitude of migrant workers and refugees who may not have encountered the Christian faith, there are masses living on the continent who have rejected or failed to understand the message of the Gospel.

It is our desire to create a mobile platform which can support the church as it responds to the massive needs in the world. We hope to share this inspirational space with local churches and groups, motivating them to further the work after our departure.

We also intend this vessel to be a place to introduce people to Jesus. We hope one day to tell the stories of those who met Him and put their faith in Him on board.



THE RIVERBOAT PROJECT

In the first quarter of 2018, we plan to charter a suitable vessel to sail down the Rhine River, visiting various ports in the Netherlands and Germany (and possibly other neighbouring countries) over a 3-month period. We intend to berth the boat in strategic locations close to city centres and invite people to come on board to experience a programme of events. We anticipate visiting each town or city for around two weeks before sailing to the next location.

We also plan to invest in our crew, by offering training on board. As they develop practical ministry skills, our aim is that they will increase their knowledge of God and themselves; as well as gaining a better understanding of the needs of the world.



On a Riverboat



THE VESSEL

The passenger river vessel we hope to secure will have accommodation for around 100 people to live on board, as well the necessary facilities to satisfy technical and safety requirements. We also need carrying capacity to store the materials and equipment we will use in our ministry.

The key purposes of this boat will be to reach out to visitors as well as developing our crewmembers and challenging them for missions. So we plan to have several ministry spaces on board.

ESCAPE ROOMS

Escape rooms are a fast growing and exciting way in which to entertain, encourage and challenge people to escape from the circumstance in which they are in. It is a physical adventure game in which players solve a series of puzzles using clues, hints and strategy to complete the objectives at hand. Players are given a set time limit to unveil the secret plot which is hidden within the rooms. Some may manage to escape, others not, but we want to use this unique concept to reach out to people, and to debrief the experience. We'll ask the question: 'How can we play our part in helping people who are trapped in a world that they need to escape from?'

FACILITIES

To support the Global Village experience, the vessel will contain an onboard conference facility. With a capacity of 100 people, this will provide a training venue for our crew and allow us to host various groups for evangelistic and mission-mobilising events.

There will also be a shop and café on the boat, which will attract the public, offering space to relax and have conversations with our crew. We will have various items on sale to support missions projects around the world, whilst funding our ministry's ongoing operational expenses.

Interested?

Join us for a three-month tour through Europe. You will:

- Experience the unique continent of Europe and build friendships with local people who come on board.
- Live and work in a Christian community.
- Experience personal development and receive discipleship, ministry and practical skills training.
- Help pioneer an innovative and challenging outreach.

We are looking for an international team of 80 people to help with this project from the end of December 2017 to the end of March 2018. We ask for you to be available during the whole tour. If you are interested, please contact your local OM office at **www.om.org/contact**.

The monthly cost per person will include accommodation and food. Please contact your local office for further details. This excludes your travel to the country where you join the vessel. We provide transport from the airport to the vessel. This figure excludes any personal spending money you wish to bring.

We are looking for people aged 18-30. If you are older, you are still welcome to contact your OM office. We will consider applicants on an individual basis. Only a few positions are available for couples; we regret we cannot accommodate families on board.

Participants need to be physically healthy with the necessary medical insurance coverage.

“Go, then, to all peoples
everywhere and make them
my disciples...”

MATTHEW 28:19a (GNT)



global *village*
A MINISTRY OF *om*



www.om.org/riverboats