

STRASBOURG 1. - 4. OCTOBER 2019

We found out that we wanted to go to Strasbourg. It is a city in France founded by the Romans as a military outpost. They named the city Argentoratum. In the 400s, [Alemanni](#), [Huns](#) and [Franks](#) settled here. In 1262 it became part of [the Holy Roman Empire](#) and it became an important commercial center in the Middle Ages. The cathedral was completed in 1439. In the 1520s, [Martin Luther](#) was active in Strasbourg and his followers established a university. Goethe studied here in the 1770s.

Strasbourg was annexed by France in September 1681. The city again became part of [Prussia](#) in 1871 when they won [the Franco-Prussian war](#), but in 1919 returned to France. It was annexed German territory from 1940 and French again from 1945, after the end of the Second World War.



Localization



Flag



Coat of arms

We drove from Kongsvinger to [Dalen Parkering](#), where we had booked a space for the car. Dalen Parkering runs buses back and forth from the [airport](#), and there is usually a short waiting time. We only had hand luggage on this trip, so it took a short time to check in at the check-in machines at the airport. We therefore had a plenty of time after we got through the security check.



Jeg har kjøpt den tradisjonelle «reisepilsen».



Vi satt på dette stedet.



We travelled with [Lufthansa](#). They went according to the route plan. Departure from Gardermoen at 13.00.



We landed at [Frankfurt Airport](#) at 15.00 o'clock, after a two-hour flight.



The railway station seen from above.



Inside the station.

We had planned to travel from Frankfurt Airport to Strasbourg by train. There is a [train station](#) at the airport, so we walked in the direction that the signs showed us. When we got to the station, we saw a ticket office and we bought tickets there. The ticket office is at the local train station, but we were going with long-distance trains. It was therefore some distance to walk. When we got there, it was only minutes to wait, then the train arrived. The train left for Offenburg in Germany at 15.52. It arrived at 17.29. In Offenburg a train went on to Strasbourg at 17.35. This train was ready on the track next to where we arrived. We just had to go down stairs and up stairs to get to the platform.



The long distance trains (ICE) look often like this.



The short-distance train between Offenburg and Strasbourg looked like this.



This is [the railway station in Strasbourg](#). The main building was built in the years 1878-1883. It was classified as a historical monument in 1984. In 2006-2007, a large glass roof was built over the facade of the building.



The facade with the glass roof above and in front.

Lufthansa did not serve food on the plane, only a chocolate and a drink. This was included in the ticket price and we did not pay anything extra for it. That was nothing to be saturated with. Then there was so little time from plane to train that we didn't find time to eat along the way. When we got to Strasbourg we therefore had to have something to eat there.



We walked a bit from the station and found this restaurant.

Image taken from Google Maps. They advertised with African specialties. The facade is not much to brag about. It's called [Le Relais Mangatama](#).



This is the counter. The kitchen is behind it.

The interior is nothing to brag about either, but the service was nice. The food was good.



There were many African motifs around the walls. The dresses that hang on the wall are also typically African style.



I'm waiting for the food. The wine came quickly.



A signboard on the wall.



Another signboard.



Anne Berit ordered a dish of [cassava](#) and meat. It looked like this. It won't be her Favorite dish.



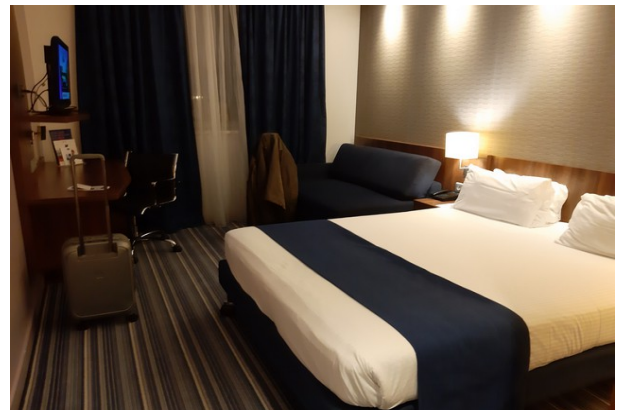
I ordered meat in the sauce. I don't know what the sauce was made from, but it was very good.



We also got at plate with rice for each.



After we had eaten, we took a taxi to the hotel. We had booked at [Holiday Inn Express Strasbourg – Centre](#).



This is in the hotel room.



The TV-screen was on and wished me welcome.



I am a member of this hotel chain. Therefore, we were offered a drink at half price. We said yes to that. We asked for Gin & Tonic, but we got little gin and lot of tonic.



The next day we saw that we had this view from our window. It is a park called [Parc du Heyritz](#).
The park was opened in 2014.



We can see the tower of the Cathedral in Strasbourg in the background.

When we had finished the breakfast and got ready to go sightseeing, we saw that black clouds were coming. We took our umbrellas with us and took the chance that things would go well, but we didn't get far before it started to rain. It got worse and worse, so we found that it was no good to walk in such a weather, so we went back to the hotel. The rest of the day we dried our clothes that had become wet. Anne Berit used the hairdryer.

After a while we had to have some food. We had seen, when we went back to the hotel when the rain came, that there was a small eatery behind the hotel. We went there and bought fish & chips. It was the only thing they had, because they were about to close when we arrived. We found that out when we left.

When we had eaten we went back to our hotel room. It was still raining, so we just took an afternoon nap. When we woke up, the worst of the rain seemed to stop, so we took a chance on a walk into the old town.



Vi bodde i utkanten av gamlebyen.
The old town of Strasbourg is located on an island, [Grande Île](#), The big island, in the river [Ill](#). The old town came on [UNESCO's World Heritage List](#) in 1988.
We stayed on the outskirts of Old Town.

When we got to the old town, we walked through the gate of this [tower](#). It was built in the years 1200-20 as part of a defensive wall around the city. The gate was opened in the morning and closed in the evening. Later, the top was used for star-gazing.



The tower gate seen from the other side.



Further ahead it looks like this.



Nice houses.



A small square, [Place du Corbeau](#).



This is the bridge [Pont du Corbeau](#).
The bridge has had many names, including the penalty
bridge.
In the Middle Ages public executions took place on this
bridge.



This photo is taken from the bridge down the river Ill.



This picture is also taken from the bridge to the other side of the river Ill. We see a tourist boat which is at the quay further afield.



Here we have crossed the bridge and are looking back.



At the end of the bridge is [the old customs house](#). It has been classified as a historical monument since 1948. It was severely damaged during the bombing at the end of World War II, but it has been restored.



This sign hangs on the corner of the customs house.



[Strasbourg Historical Museum](#) is located at the end of the bridge, opposite the customs house. The museum opened in 1920 in the building of the former Grande boucherie de Strasbourg (Strasbourg's grand slaughterhouse), which was built in the period 1586-1588.



We walked down a narrow side street behind the historic museum. The street is called Place de la Grande Boucherie. It is packed with restaurants. Here we see [Zum Strissel](#). The building is from 1395.



This is [Pfifferbrüder](#).



Pfifferbrüder from another angle.

Here we have turned left and continued along [Place du Marché-aux-Cochons-de-Lait](#). The name comes from the fact that suckling pigs were sold here in this square once.



Looking further ahead on the square.



This restaurant is called [Muensterstüewel](#).



Across the street there is a shop,
[Le Coin d'Alsace](#).



Right next to this is still another restaurant,
[Au Bon Vivant](#).



In the end of the square is this [6 storeys building](#). It has
been declared as a historical building since 1929.



Then we continued in the direction of the cathedral.
The street is called [Rue du Maroquin](#).



[Au Vieux Strasbourg](#).



[Le Gruber](#).



Across the street.



Looking back down Rue du Maroquin towards Place du Marché-aux-Cochons-de-Lait.



Arriving to the cathedral square,
[Place de la Cathédrale](#).



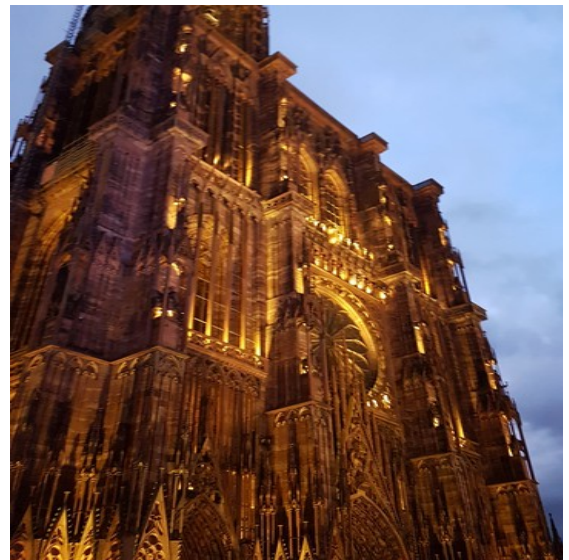
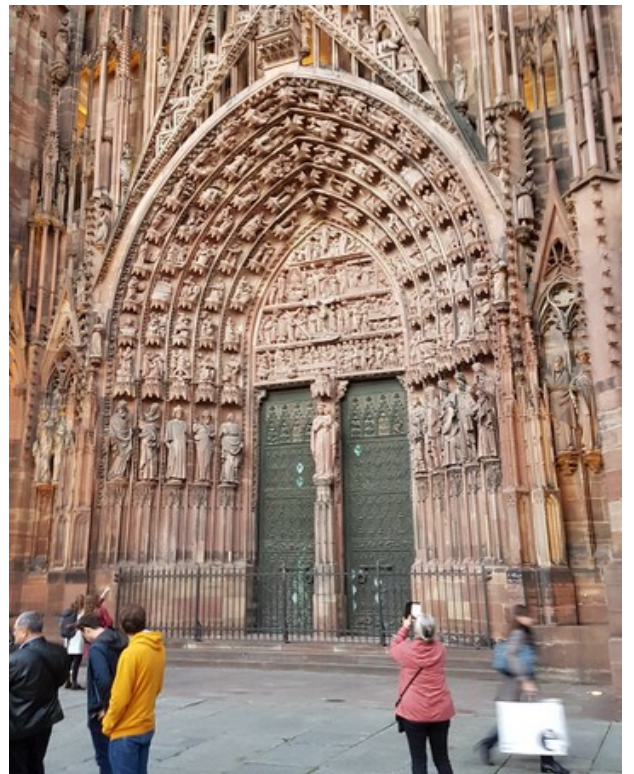
At the eastern edge of the square stands the [Palais Rohan](#). It has been the residence of bishops and cardinals of [the house of Rohan](#). Now there are museums and art galleries here.



[The Notre-Dame Cathedral](#) in Strasbourg. There have been several cathedrals at this place. The first came in 510. This one was finished in 1439.



A few pictures of the cathedral.



It quickly got dark. Then the facade was lighted.



Biscuit cake at a pastry shop.



This is [Maison Kammerzell](#), which is one of the most famous buildings in Strasbourg. It was built in 1427.

It is now a hotel and restaurant. [Link](#)



The street further ahead is also called Place de la Cathédrale



We walked down a side street to Place du Marché Neuf.

Took a picture of this fountain in the square.

From here we went back to the hotel.



The old customs house.



The river in the evening light as we walk across the bridge Pont du Corbeau. When we got that far it started to rain again.



The old customs house to the right.



We walked into this cafe which is right by the bridge. It's called [Raven](#). We were hoping it was just a rain shower this time.



We ordered wine and a hamburger for sharing while we waited for the rain to end.



From the café we look across the bridge towards the historical museum and the cathedral tower in the background.



We also look across the street to Place du Corbeau.



The next day there was good weather and we thought we would join a river cruise around the city. Here we come to one of the boats.



We queued up at the ticket booth, but the queue was so long, and it was so slow that we got tired of standing in line.



Looking down the river.



We went up here and sat down on a bench under this tree.



Flowers by the river.

We knew the company that runs this cruise business is called [Batorama](#). As we sat under the tree, we went to their website and found that we could book directly there without queuing. We found a suitable departure, ordered two tickets, paid, and then we had the tickets on the mobile phone.



We were some of the first to board.
We have settled and watch people coming on board.



Then we go. Here we pass the old customs house.
There was earphones for all the seats, so we were presented with the different sights as we drove by.



Here is [St. Nikolas kirke](#). Both [Jean Calvin](#) and [Albert Schweitzer](#) have been a pastor of this church.



A [protestants house](#) where the history of the protestant is presented.



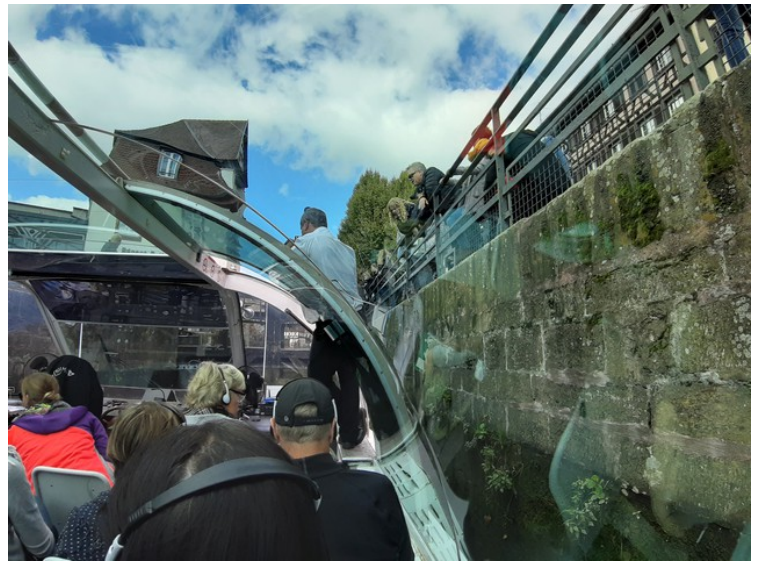
This building houses a protestant foundation,
[Le Stift](#).



[St. Thomas music school](#).



Here we are approaching a lock.



Inside the lock. We are lifted 1.5 m.



These houses lies in an area called [Petite France](#)
In the Middle Ages, Petite France was an area for tanneries and slaughterhouses. It is now a residential and restaurant area.



This is [École nationale d'administration](#). It is a college that educates leaders for the French state administration.



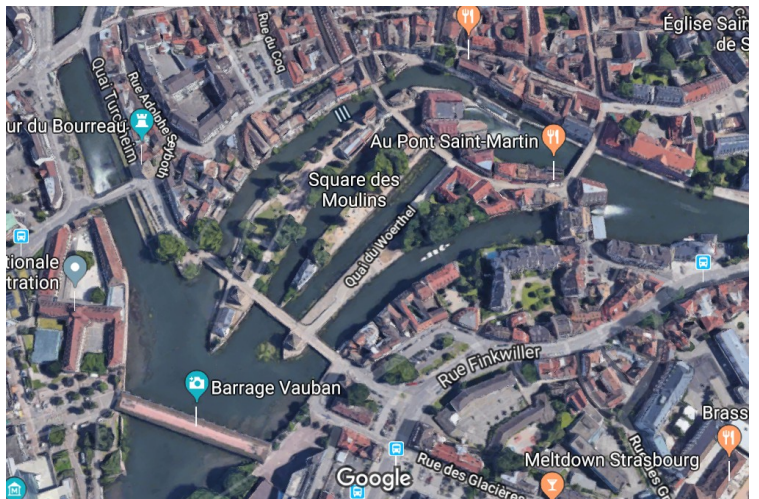
To the left we see some of [Barrage Vauban](#).



Barrage Vauban is a bridge, weir and defense works. It was built in the late 17th century. It should enable to raise the level of the River Ill and thus flood the area south of the city, to make it impassable for an enemy. This was done in 1870, when Strasbourg was besieged by Prussian forces during the Franco-Prussian war, and it resulted in the full flood of the northern part of the suburb of Neudorf.



Two towers, Hans von Altheimturm and Heinrichturm Weith the bridges between.



There are three islands here that are connected by three bridges.



A panoramic view showing the three bridges and the four towers.

The three bridges were opened in 1250 as part of the city's defense works. They were covered so that the defenders were protected. They were therefore called [Ponts Couverts](#). At the end of each bridge a tower was built. When Barrage Vauban was opened in 1690, they lost the importance of defense works and the roof was demolished. Later, they have only been used as bridges. The towers are named from left to right Tour du Bourreau, Hans von Altheimtum, Heinrichsturm and Tour des Français.



Then we drive on. Here we see the Altheimtum.



A church, [Église Saint-Jean de Strasbourg](#).

We are now in a channel that goes from the Ill river on the west side of Grande Île to the river again on the north side of Grande Île. It's called Fossé du Faux-Rempart. It was originally an arm of the River Ill. Along the side facing the city, defense works were built. The canal was opened to traffic in 1840.



Here we see [the high court](#) to the left and the Catholic church, [Église Saint-Pierre-le-Jeune](#) to the right.



[Hotel de Klinglin](#) currently serves as the residence of the prefect of the Ministry of Bas-Rhin. It has been classified as a historical monument since 1970.



[Lycée international des Pontonniers](#) is an international college.



This is the [Middle School Épiscopal Saint-Étienne](#). ([Wikipedia](#)) It is a private Catholic youth school.



Here we are at the northern end of the canal where it joins the river Ill. We see [St William's Church](#) to the right in the picture.

This is [St Pauls Church](#). It was finished in 1897.



These buildings are located opposite the European Parliament buildings.



This is the house of the [European Parliament](#).



The European Parliament.



Then we are at full speed, heading back to the mooring place by the river.



Residential area with small houses.



This building belongs to a TV-station, [Arte](#).



Then we are going past St Paul's Church again.



Right beside the church we pass under [Pont d'Auvergne](#).



A large shopping mall, Carrefour.



Carrefour to the right, and straight ahead is where the channel opens into the river Ill.



A bridge, [Pont Saint-Guillaume](#).



Then the trip was over soon. We come to Palais Rohan. The other side faces the cathedral square.



Palais Rohan.



Palais Rohan.
Just beyond here the boat is moored again.



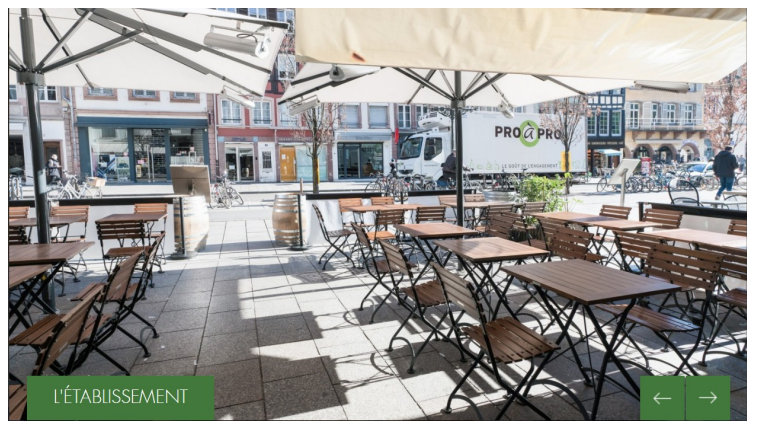
Palais Rohan.



After the boat ride we went to get something to eat,
Along the way we took a picture of this mosaic in the
street, Rue des Tonneliers. (Barrel Maker Street)



Further down the street we passed this “adult” barrel.



We ended up at an Irish pub, [The Dubliners](#).
We shared a hamburger.
This photo was taken from their website. When we were
there, a lot of people sat outside.



There are many cyclists in Strasbourg and bicycle paths are made almost everywhere.

In the evening we crossed to the other side of the freeway to [Aux Magots](#) to eat.



Here we are on the train on the way to the airport.

The next day was to check out of the hotel, take a taxi to the train station and buy train tickets to Frankfurt Airport. We had to change trains in Offenburg and in Mannheim. There was plenty of seats on the train to Offenburg, but from there it was quite crowded.

We traveled with Lufthansa back to Gardermoen as well. Then everyone got a chocolate and something to drink. It seems that Lufthansa thinks it is too short travel to allow passengers to buy food. At least they were punctual on the schedule.

At Gardermoen, Dalen Parkering was waiting with the big bus and drove us to the parking lot.

We were at home at Kongsvinger at 8 in the evening.