

In 1984 we were invited to join Nick and Regina Hauert for a month-long trip to England and Switzerland. It was "Stay Alive Til '85" from then on. We agreed on August of '85 for the trip.

{ See our logbook of the trip titled "DRAGGIN' ALONG BE'IND" in our bookshelf. It is based on letters that I sent home to Mother and gives details the entire month of August, 1985. }

We flew TWA to London's Heathrow Airport on August 1st. We stayed at the old Charing Cross near Trafalger Square and fanned out from there. We took Frames excursion trips to Plymouth, Land's End in Cornwall, St. Ives, Stonehenge, and Windsor Castle. One special day, while Nick and Regina went to Blackpool, Ruth and I sailed down the Thames to see the famous tea clipper Cutty Sark in her permanent dry-dock near the Greenwich National Maritime Museum. We enjoyed a bracing "coop-o-tay and a crumpet whilst sailing back up the Thames to our hotel. Once again, we went to Garfunkels for dinner. Altogether, it was a great day. The next day we took a train ride to Swansea, Wales to see Ruth's cousin, Alice and Derick Parkin.

We stayed 9 days in and around London, then flew over to Amsterdam where we were quickly bussed to Nijmegen where the KD Rhine River Lines boat VIENNA awaited our arrival. We are to sail for 5 days to Basel, Switzerland, over 600 miles. We were amazed to see the shorelines of this river was paved with huge granite blocks...the work of centuries.

On the way to Basel we made stops at Cologne (Germany) to see the largest cathedral in Europe, It was declared "off limits" to allied bombers during WW2, to Heidelberg (Germany) to have dinner at the old castle by the river Neckar. Finally, a stop at Strasbourg (France) to walk around the unique village and cathedral in the old town that is circled by the river D'Ill.

Ruth had caught a severe cold in London (a sneeze over her shoulder did it) so she spent 3 or 4 days in our tiny cabin. How tiny was it, you ask? Well if you sat on the toilet, your feet were in the shower. That's how tiny. She missed many of the castles along the way. Sorry, Ruth.

Nick's brother Max, in Basel, had loaned us his car, so off we go with our personal guide and chauffeur. First to Berne to see the Ludlows and the Temple, then to Zermatt for the Matterhorn and "Heidi's Hill", to Grindelwald for a scary ride on the longest chair lift in Switzerland, to Lago Maggiore for an all-day boat excursion to visit the Boromeo Islands, to St. Moritz, to Lichtenstein, lastly to Zurich. A short flight to Frankfort, then a TWA return flight to Salt Lake.