



A Biking Adventure in Normandy - August 30 - September 7, 2019

Escorted by Ginny and Rhett

Cost Per person: \$ 4900

30 August - Depart US. Everyone should book their flights to arrive at Charles de Gaulle Airport in Paris.

31 August - Arrive Charles de Gaulle and there will be one arrival transfer provided for the group to Honfleur. The time of the transfer will be based on arrival time of our flights. (try to arrive by 10am if possible.)

Our hotel in Honfleur is the Maison de Lea located in the center of Honfleur and opposite Sainte Catherine Church, this hotel de charme consists of a former salt warehouse and 16th-century houses. The beach is just a mile from the hotel. Rooms are individually decorated and offer a cable TV, a courtesy tray and free WiFi access. All the individually decorated rooms have a private bathroom with bathrobes, slippers and Nuxe free toiletries. Some rooms feature a seating area and a Richard coffee machine. www.lesmaisonsdelea.com/en/

A continental breakfast is prepared every morning in the hotel's restaurant or in the terrace during summer. It includes regional and handmade products such as jam, cakes and freshly squeezed orange juice. And, guests can enjoy the benefits of a spa with massage treatments upon prior reservation.

After we get settled, we will have a walking tour of Honfleur - with our private guide

A visit to Honfleur is a complete history lesson, from the 100 years' war, through the voyages of discovery to the New World during the 17th century and the art of the impressionists. As a defense against invasion by the English the town was walled and "Caen Gate", the last remaining piece of the original fortifications, most of which

were demolished as the town and port were being expanded in the 17th century. In the medieval part of the town, known as the “Quartier de l’Enclos”, you can see the “Rue de la Ville”, the old main commercial and trading street in the town, still showing its medieval architecture and buildings from a bygone era. Honfleur is also a favorite retreat for painters who come to paint the harbor and the colorful 17th century houses surrounding Sainte Catherine’s Quay. It is also a “movie star” haven for those coming to the Film Festival in Deauville as well as European yachtsmen.

Diner and overnight at our hotel

1 September - After breakfast, we will transfer to Fecamp with your bike guide. The cliffs steal the show at Etretat, thanks to their exceptional natural drama and aided by the fact that famous Impressionists painted them so memorably. Erosion has created extraordinary arches in the chalk either side of the resort. There’s also an amazing needle-like structure, known in French as an Aiguille.

There is more to Etretat than the cliff formations and the thick pebble beach, though. The small resort behind is full of charm. Along with some extravagant hotels, the remarkable wooden covered market stands out. Le Clos Lupin, a typical old villa in town, conceals mysteries for visitors, while the churches around Etretat stand out more prominently. Back with the cliffs, you can go for some stunning walks along the cliff tops, where further surprises await, including a breath-taking golf course. We will have a picnic lunch along the way.

Late afternoon we will return to our hotel in Honfleur. Besides the hotel there are many charming locations in the town for dinner.

2 September - After breakfast we will meet our guide and bike directly from the hotel for a full day tour of the Pays D’Auge - countryside. Normandy’s Pays d’Auge has beautiful landscapes and many fine local products such as the region’s producers of unfiltered cider, raw-milk cheese, Calvados, butter and cream. With the city of Lisieux as its center, the Pays d’Auge region straddles two departments: Orne and Calvados. It resembles a five-sided polygon which reaches west to La Côte Fleurie, a well-known tourist destination featuring such towns as Cabourg, Deauville and Honfleur. But one need only head inland a few minutes from the great sand beaches of Blonville to discover a beautifully preserved landscape distinguished by half-timbered cottages and ancient hedgerows. Between Blangy-le-Château, Dives-sur-Mer and Lisieux, the Pays d’Auge there are some exceptional local products and lovely landscapes.



Stop for lunch on route.

You will stop for a visit of the charming village of Beuvron En Auge, the Coupesarte manor house and a cheese farm producer. Beuvron was a former stronghold of the Harcourt family and lies in the heart of Pays d'Auge country on the Cider Route. It is just like a picture postcard with its half-timbered houses, its market and country houses scattered around the countryside.

The romantic Manoir de Coupesarte is a beautiful half-timbered house with two small towers, a private country house surrounded by water on three sides from the late 15th century. The Manoir de Coupesarte is located near the small village Coupesarte in the Pays d'Auge.

Return to your hotel by the end of the day

3 September - Today we will transfer to Bayeux and the **Chateau Bellefontaine**. Located 800 meters from central Bayeux and its cathedral, this 18th-century mansion offers elegant guest rooms and a traditional restaurant open for dinner. The park has a tennis court and a pond and is planted with 200-year-old trees. A minibar, free Wi-Fi and a flat-screen TV feature in the guest rooms. Each stylish room is individually decorated. The en suite bathrooms include a hairdryer, and some have a walk-in shower. Enjoy a buffet breakfast every morning at the Château de Bellefontaine. www.hotel-bellefontaine.com

The Château de Bellefontaine is an integral part of this rich region, marked by the epic history of William the Conqueror, and liberated by the Allied landing during the Second World War. The bicentennial park opens the Domain to the tranquility of the countryside, the Castle moat, its diversity of swans and ducks transports you to the romanticism of a forgotten era. We will go into the village of Bayeux, where Eisenhower had his headquarters during the invasion, see the Bayeux Tapestry and have lunch.

At 3 pm we will meet our bike guide and depart for a 03h bike tour to Arromanches. This tour takes you to the amazing artificial harbor vestiges in Arromanches. After leaving Bayeux on a very nice road, you will cross different villages and make a first stop in Longues sur Mer, to see several well-preserved German bunkers. Then, you will ride on a new cycle path to the top of Arromanches cliffs, from which you can see how the landing was such an extraordinary operation. There, the view on the artificial harbor is fantastic! After some spare time in the village, you'll ride back to Bayeux with a great view on the Cathedral.

4 September - Today with our bike and guide, we depart for a full day tour of the



Normandy landing beaches.

This tour is perfect for exploring Omaha Beach and enjoying genuine Normandy countryside. All along the way, you will be able to admire different landscapes until you reach the famous American cemetery where you can spend some free time.

During the day, we'll remind you the important historical points about D-Day, with a special halt on the top of a cliff to enjoy a wonderful sea view from a German bunker.

The landing on Omaha Beach of the 1st Infantry division (The Big Red one) and the 29th Infantry division on D Day proved to be the costliest of all the landings in Operation Overlord. This was due to the natural defensive terrain and the fact that none of the German defensive positions had been knocked out by either the aerial

or naval bombardments. Today you can visit the Memorial museum at St Laurent sur Mer, which is located just behind Omaha Beach. The museum shows an informative collection of uniforms, weapons & vehicles and through photographs and film, guides you through the D Day landings



We will enjoy a picnic lunch.

The US Cemetery

Overlooking the eastern end of Omaha Beach, the American cemetery holds the bodies of 9,387 soldiers who came from the other side of the Atlantic Ocean to liberate Western Europe from the Germans. This immense place of memory and reflection will impress you with its calm and serenity. You can see the graves of some of the 307 unknown soldiers or visit the resting places of the more famous, such as the Niland brothers, the family who inspired the film “Saving Private Ryan” as well as the three Medal of Honor winners, one of whom is General Theodore Roosevelt Jr.

Diner included tonight at the very special Château d’Audrieu.

5 September - Our guide will meet us for a memorable last day in Normandy with a stop in Brittany too!

We start the bike tour heading to Mount St. Michele, "the Marvel of the West". The Mont counts among Europe’s most stunning sites! You will ride through typical Normandy countryside, before reaching this fascinating place.

We promise you will have a very special experience getting there by bike. It's better and more delightful on two wheels! Then you'll have about 2 hours of free time to visit the Mont-Saint Michel island or its medieval Abbey. To sum up, it's an unforgettable full day to experience one of the most famous places in the world!

Another special stop awaits us in Cancale. Barely in Brittany is the « oyster capital » of the world! Our driver will take us to Cancale for an alfresco lunch of oysters and champagne! (I am sure Dover Sole, better known as Brittany Sole in France, can be found for non-oyster lovers!)

6 September - Sadly we depart Normandy and go back to Paris. We will overnight at the Sheraton Charles de Gaulle Airport. We will check in the hotel and then for those who want to go into Paris for the day can do that and meet for dinner at a great Paris Bistro and enjoy the lights of the Eiffel Tower, before returning to the airport for overnight.

7 September - We depart for home.

Details:

A Registration Form is required and can be obtained by emailing: weezieglascock@gmail.com, or ginnymabry@gmail.com and it will be emailed back to you. Waiver forms are required by the Bike Operator and will be signed before departure attesting to good mobility and no health issues which would prevent you from biking.

Deposit of \$750 per person will reserve your space. **NON-REFUNDABLE** and travel insurance highly recommended. www.allianztravelinsurance.com

Final payment due: \$4150 due May 31, 2019. **NON- REFUNDABLE** and travel insurance highly recommended. www.allianztravelinsurance.com.

Personal checks are preferred payment method and use of Credit Cards will require a 4% service fee added.

Limited to 14 participants.

Average August and early September temperature in Normandy is 70 degrees high and 56 degrees the low. Our hotels are not air-conditioned which is the standard for most hotels “with charm” in coastal areas. But the cool temps and breezes off the English Channel should keep us comfortable!

See Below:

Price Includes:

1. Roundtrip transfers from CDG Airport in Paris to Normandy
2. 6 nights hotel double occupancy in Honfleur/Bayeux and Airport
3. E-bikes, bike guides and van assistance
4. Taxes and Service
5. Porterage
6. Breakfast Daily, 5 lunches and 2 dinners
7. Escorts/Hosts

Not Included:

1. Airfare
2. Travel Insurance
3. Bike guide gratuities