

La Normandie vous attend !



FOUR DAYS TO DISCOVER SOME OF NORMANDY'S MOST SPECTACULAR ARCHITECTURAL AND CULTURAL HERITAGE.



Normandy in the north-west of France is a region best known for its fertile pastures and orchards, its production of cider and butter, its medieval castles, churches and half-timbered houses and its connections with the Impressionist painters.



WAKE EACH MORNING TO THE MAGICAL SOUND OF THE BELLS OF ROUEN, WHICH VICTOR HUGO DESCRIBED AS “LA VILLE AUX CENT CLOCHERS CARILLONANT DANS L’AIR”



FRIDAY 1ST JULY DAY 1

ARRIVAL IN ROUEN

3.15PM

Arrival at Beauvais airport

From Manchester, a Ryanair flight departs at 12:55. Rouen is one hour's drive from Beauvais Airport; transport throughout the trip will be in a comfortable 9-seater air-conditioned vehicle.

5.00PM

Arrival at your hotel in Rouen

6.00PM


GUIDED EVENING STROLL THROUGH ROUEN

Rouen, on the banks of the Seine, is a vibrant city, Normandy's cultural, historic and gastronomic capital. Monet's canvasses of the cathedral have made it one of the most famous buildings in the town, but the city has many other attractions on offer, such as the church and square dedicated to Joan of Arc, the Gros Horloge astronomical clock, the winding streets of the medieval centre, and the castle.

8.30PM

Dinner in Rouen

On our first evening, we will dine at "Maître Corbeau", a Rouen institution with a playful cow-themed interior, which specialises in cheese-based cuisine: galettes, fondues and tartiflettes are among the dishes on offer.

A reproduction of Claude Monet's painting 'Water Lilies' (Nymphéas). The painting depicts a pond with several large, green lily pads floating on a dark blue surface. Two white lily flowers with yellow centers are in bloom, surrounded by more lily pads. The brushwork is visible, giving the scene a soft, impressionistic quality.

CLAUDE MONET'S WATER LILIES, A SERIES WHICH HE DESCRIBED AS A «MONUMENT TO PEACE», WERE PAINTED AT GIVERNY

VISIT OF THE SEINE VALLEY

9.30AM

Tour of Les Andelys and Giverny

After breakfast at the hotel, we will travel to Les Andelys, a charming town on the Seine with half-timbered houses, overlooked by the imposing Château Gaillard, which we will visit. Following this, we will drive to Giverny to visit Claude Monet's gardens..

1.30PM

Lunch in Vernon

Vernon also lies on the banks of the river Seine and has a charming medieval centre, whose winding streets are lined with cafés and restaurants, from which we can take our choice.

3.30PM

Visit of the Lisieux Basilica

The Basilica of St. Thérèse of Lisieux (French: Basilique Sainte-Thérèse de Lisieux) is a Roman Catholic church and minor basilica dedicated to Saint Thérèse of Lisieux. With over two million visitors a year, it is the second largest pilgrimage site in France after Lourdes.

5.30PM

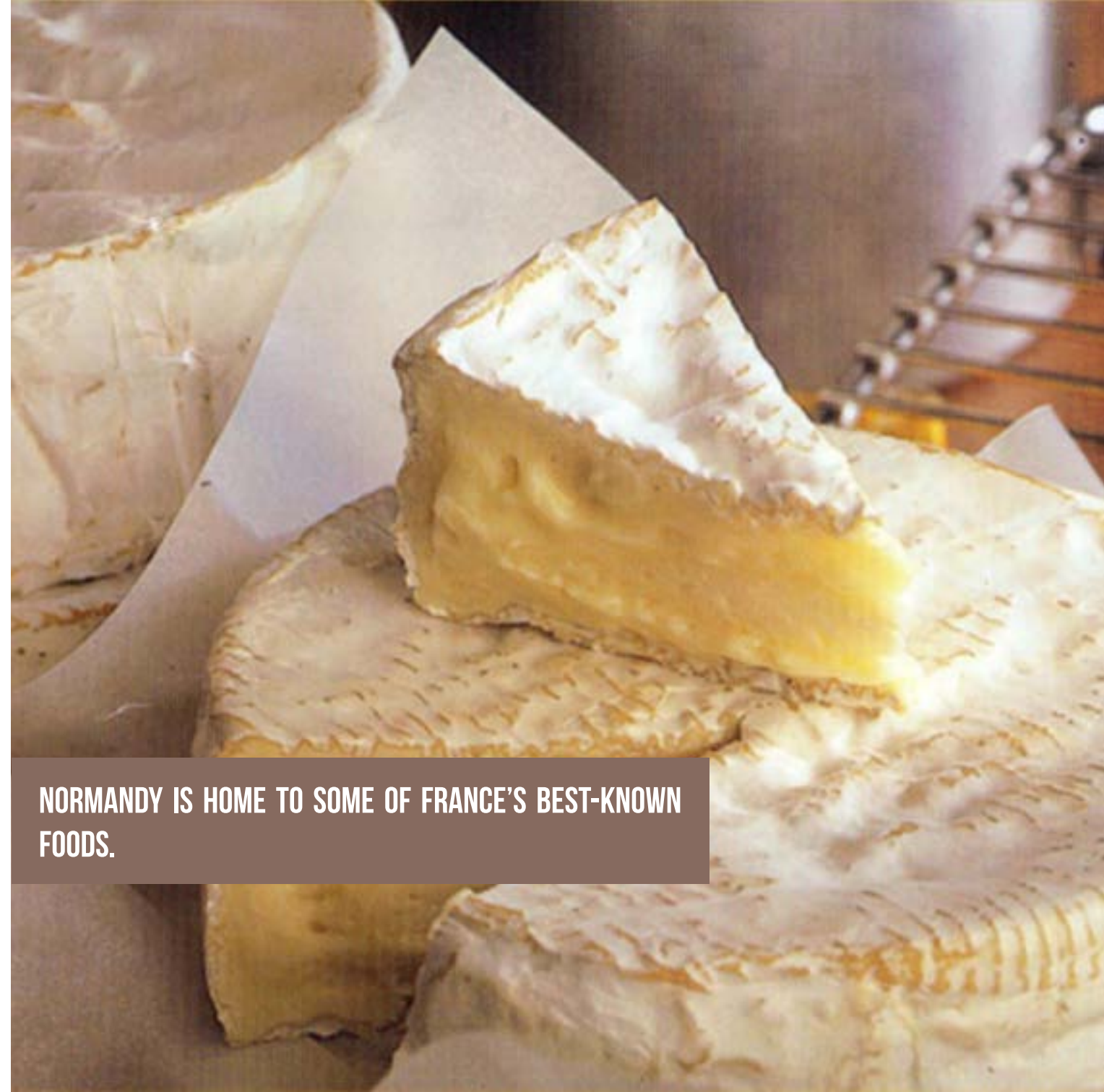
Tasting of local products in Honfleur

Normandy is justly renowned for its rich range of dairy and apple-based products. We will sample some of these, including pommeau, cider, calvados and local cheeses.

7.30PM

Dinner in Honfleur

Honfleur, on the Seine estuary, with its picturesque port, offers many options for dining. Participants will be free to make their own choice.



NORMANDY IS HOME TO SOME OF FRANCE'S BEST-KNOWN FOODS.

OUI CHEF !

10.00AM

Cookery class.

We will be invited into the kitchen of a Norman chef who will teach us how to cook a typical meal with local products. Following the class, we will sit down to eat and enjoy the foods we have prepared.

3.00PM

The cliffs of Étretat

Étretat's white chalk cliffs form three natural arches and a pointed "needle" and they were much loved and painted by Impressionist artists Eugène Boudin, Gustave Coubet and Claude Monet.

4.00PM

The Bénédictine palace in Fécamp

This immense, imposing building, built in neo-Gothic and neo-Renaissance styles for Alexandre Le Grand, contains a distillery museum for the liqueur Bénédictine.

8.30PM

Dinner back in Rouen

A choice of dining options will be available, depending on the mood of the group.



THE CHÂTEAU DE GISORS HAS BEEN RECOGNISED AS A MONUMENT OF SPECIAL HISTORIC IMPORTANCE BY THE FRENCH MINISTRY SINCE 1862.

MONDAY 4TH JULY DAY 4

MANCHESTER VIA GISORS

9.30AM Check-out from the hotel

10.00AM Visit of the gardens and the castle of Gisors.
Gisors was a significant fortification in the defence of the Anglo-Norman Vexin territory from the King of France during the 11th and 12th centuries, and was also a key site in the Hundred Years' War. The lower bailey within the castle enclosure has been transformed into a public park.

1.00PM Lunch in Beauvais.
Beauvais, the capital of the Oise department, is best known for its stunning Gothic cathedral, which has the highest chancel in the world. The group will be free to choose where we have lunch.

3.40PM Departure to Manchester
The Ryanair flight departing 3:40 is scheduled to arrive in Manchester at 4pm.

PRICE/PERSON

£399 (double room) - £469 (single room)

THE STAY INCLUDES

A teacher from the AF de Manchester who will help you to practise French for the duration of the stay.
Transport within France (fuel and toll charges included).
3 nights of accommodation in a hotel (breakfast included).

THE STAY DOES NOT INCLUDE

Return tickets to and from Beauvais Airport.
Any midday and evening meals except Friday dinner and Sunday lunch.
All other activities not mentioned in the programme.

CONDITIONS

- Registration deadline is 2 April 2016
- There must be a minimum of 6 participants for the trip to take place;
- The maximum number of participants is 8;
- Fees must be paid on registration to secure the place;
- Fees will be refunded if the minimum number of participants has not been reached by the registration deadline;
- Fees are not refundable under any circumstances once the trip has been confirmed;
- Flights should only be reserved once the trip has been confirmed. The AF de Manchester is not responsible for the flight arrangements of participants;
- Each participant should ensure that his/her passport is valid and up to date;
- If a participant books any other flight than those mentioned in the programme, it will be his/her responsibility to arrange transport to join the group;
- Participants must be covered by their own insurance. The AF de Manchester will not be responsible for any incident or loss that occurs before and during the trip;
- Please be aware that this trip is not open to anyone below the age of 18 due to the alcohol tasting activities.