

NORMANDY WALKS – D-DAY BEACHES

Rouen, Honfleur, Arromanches, Saint Malo and Mont-Saint-Michel

Day 1: ARRIVAL DAY

Rouen, the capital of Normandy is our meeting point. Famous for the spot where the French martyr, Joan of Arc was killed on the pyre in 1431, it is also an ancient city with cobble-stone streets, amazing gothic architecture and a thriving university scene. Called the 'city of a hundred spires' by Victor Hugo, Rouen does not disappoint. Welcome dinner and evening on the town.



Hotel in Rouen

Dinner included

Day 2: ROUEN

Today is dedicated to visiting this medieval jewel, its cathedral, the Norman market and various other points of interests including the astronomical clock, "Gros Horloge" and the massive churches of St Ouen and Saint Maclou. An afternoon hike is planned in the forest high above the city. Dinner in a typical Norman restaurant.



Hotel in Rouen

Breakfast / Dinner included

City-Walk, 2-3km, 2 hours. Afternoon hike 7km (4.5m), 3 hours, up / down 50m (150ft)

Day 3: ETRETA

Étretat is a pretty fishing village on the English Channel made famous by the children's book Arsène Lupin, the gentleman burglar and by its stunning white chalk cliffs. It still has a small fishing harbour where a few locals still ply their trade. Our walk along the Côte d'Albâtre allows us to hike back to Étretat starting in Fécamp and stopping for lunch in the tiny summer resort of Yport. With its harbour, deep bay and many small shops, it has been a favourite of artists and tourists alike since the 19th century. This easy coastal walk meanders along the white chalk cliffs and will give us ample opportunity to enjoy the lush Norman countryside, its small farms, numerous churches and little-known culinary gems. A visit of the Benedictine Distillery is also planned later in the afternoon.



Hotel in Étretat



Breakfast / Dinner included



Luggage delivered



Distance: 16km (10m), 5 hours up 310m (1023ft)

Day 4: HONFLEUR

From Étretat, we leave the coast and head south to the town of Pont L'Évêque, renowned for its cheese of the same name. Time-permitting, we will have a tour of one of several cheese factories in the area. An afternoon hike is planned in the countryside taking in the rich Norman 'Terroire' before heading back to the coast and the ancient harbour town of Honfleur, on the River Seine estuary. With its minuscule fortified port, small fleet of fishing boats and chic restaurants, Honfleur is one of the most-visited destinations in France. Our 16th century hotel combines modern amenities with charm only the French can offer.



Hotel in Honfleur



Breakfast / Dinner included



Luggage delivered



Distance: 10 km (6.25m), 3 hours

Day 5: ARROMANCHES-LES-BAINS

The day begins with a guided visit of Honfleur. We'll make our way to Caen and the Peace Museum dedicated in part to the D-Day landings after a seafood meal along the harbour. A self-guided visit of the museum is planned before driving to the summer resort and fishing village of Arromanches-Les-Bains, the epicentre of the D-Day landings.



Hotel in Arromanches



Breakfast / Dinner included



Luggage delivered



Transfer to Caen 1hour, in the afternoon transfer to Arromanches (40 minutes)

Day 6: SAINT MALO

Arromanches-Les-Bains will forever be linked to the liberation of western Europe by the Allied Forces and its massive Mulberry Harbour made of huge concrete blocks. We will also visit some of the most famous landing beaches, such as Utah, Sword and Juno in Courseulles-sur-Mer and the Juno Beach Centre entirely funded by Canadian and British veterans.

Our morning will be taken up by a guided visit of Allied troop landings and German defensive positions with a planned visit to the very moving American War Cemetery at Colleville-sur-Mer. After lunch, a 3-hour drive will bring us to the fortified city of St Malo, and the nearby Mont-Saint-Michel, a UNESCO site. Lunch en route to St. Malo.



Hotel in Saint Malo



Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner included



Luggage delivered



D-Day Beaches, casual walking, 1-3 hours



Arromanches – Courseulles-sur-Mer, 20 minutes, transfer to Colleville-sur-Mer, 30 minutes. Afternoon Transfer to Saint Malo, 2hours 15 min

Day 7: MONT SAINT MICHEL

A guided visit of Mont-Saint-Michel, a Benedictine abbey, originally built in the 11th century, will be followed by a guided hike across the glistening bay, taking in the spectacular natural beauty of this magical place joining the thousands of pilgrims who make this journey each year. Overnight in St. Malo



Hotel in Saint Malo



Breakfast / Dinner included



Distance: 3km (1.8m), 5 hours

Day 8: DEPARTURE

All guests will depart from Saint Malo at their own leisure



Breakfast included
