

IN THEIR FOOTSTEPS: A NORMANDY BEACHES JOURNEY

PARIS ~ NORMANDY ~ VERSAILLES

TRAVEL DATES **May 17- May 27**

MAY TRAVEL TO PARIS

17

Flight:

Depart the USA

MAY ARRIVE IN PARIS

18

Arrival:

Arrive at Charles de Gaulle Int'l Airport

Transfer:

Transfer from Paris Airport to Hotel

Hotel la Bourdonnais 3 Nights

A 4 STARS BOUTIQUE-HOTEL IN PARIS

Begin your Parisian escapade by settling into La Bourdonnais boutique-hotel. Just a short stroll from the Eiffel Tower, the hotel invites you to discover and to be amazed.

The 53 rooms and suites of La Bourdonnais make the ideal stopovers for your trip to the City of Light. With their mellow hues, delicate fabrics, bespoke features and peaceful ambiance, they invite you on a journey of the senses that will take pride of place in your travel journal descriptions.

Amenities:

- Breakfast
- VAT
- Portage
- City Taxi

Accommodation: Deluxe Room

Eiffel Tower:

Skip the line with Summit Access

Seine River Cruise:

By day or by night, enjoy an hour's cruise on the River Seine to rediscover the full splendor of the river banks and monuments of Paris.

Includes: River cruise tickets only. No transportation or guide included.



Private Ice de la Cité Walking Tour to include Notre Dame and Sainte Chapelle (3 hours)

You've read about the radiant stained glass of Sainte-Chapelle, the soaring vaults of the Conciergerie, and the flying buttresses of Notre Dame—and now, at last, you're ready to see them in person. These aren't just bucket-list sites; they are masterpieces of French Gothic architecture, made all the more poignant now that Notre Dame has reopened following its devastating 2019 fire. You want to experience them the right way—with depth, context, and a sense of wonder—while creating lasting memories with your travel companion.

This three-hour walking tour, led by an architecture specialist, traces the evolution of Gothic design—its innovations, symbolism, and enduring influence—through three of its finest expressions on the Ile de la Cité: the luminous Sainte-Chapelle, the solemn Conciergerie, and the newly restored Notre Dame, a triumph of resilience and craftsmanship.

Whether you're returning to Paris or encountering these monuments for the first time, your expert will reveal stories and insights that go far beyond the guidebooks—placing each site in its full historical, artistic, and spiritual context.

Includes: Private one-way transfer from hotel to starting point of the walking tour, Private english speaking guide and entrance tickets Sainte Chapelle, Conciergerie. Transfer back to Hotel is NOT included.

Notes:

- For this walking tour, the group will be split into 3 groups of 4 pax. each
- Inside visit to Notre Dame Cathedral is to be reconfirmed - if that is not possible the visit is still possible on your own at the end of the tour.

Afternoon at leisure



**MAY
20**

A DAY IN PARIS

Paris: Private Louvre Museum Tour (3 hours)

This comprehensive tour is an introduction to the diversity and richness of the Louvre. Together, you and your art historian guide will explore the key highlights of the Louvre's Ancient Near East, Greek and Roman, and Renaissance Italian collections.

Includes: Private one-way transfer from Hotel to Louvre museum, private English-speaking guide, time slot entrance fees. Return transfer back to Hotel NOT included.

Notes:

- For this walking tour, the group will be split into 2 groups.

Afternoon at leisure to explore Paris



TRAVEL TO NORMANDY

Private Transfer to Bayeux with a stop at **Pegasus Bridge & Sword Beach** en route

The 6th British Airborne Division, “the Red Berets” accomplished the great mission of taking the bridge from the enemy with great success before dawn on D-Day but with heavy losses. More than 2000 soldiers lie in peace at the Commonwealth War Graves cemetery at Ranville several kilometers from the museum.

Inaugurated on June 4th, 2000 by the Prince of Wales, the Memorial Pegasus is dedicated to the men of 6th Airborne Division and their role during the Battle of Normandy from June to September 1944. The museum enables the visitors to discover the missions of the division. Hundreds of historical objects and photos of the era are presented.

Time on own for lunch on Sword Beach.

After the visit, transfer to Bayeux and drop-off.

Includes: Private transportation, Tickets to Pegasus Memorial included. Lunch NOT included.

Afternoon at leisure to discover Bayeux on your own

Bayeux, a small town in France, is the centerpiece for two famous trans-Channel invasions: The Conquest of England by William the Conqueror in 1066 and the D-Day Invasions in 1944.

Although Bayeux is only a short distance from the D-Day invasion beaches, it was spared bombardment during the historic invasion which struck the beaches north of this town on June 6th, 1944. Bayeux was the first French town liberated from Nazi occupation during World War II.

• BAYEUX'S CATHEDRAL (Mass 10:30 AM)

Gem of the Normand architecture, situated in the heart of the conservation area, the Bayeux Cathedral was consecrated on 14th July 1077, by Bishop Odo of Conteville, in the presence of his illustrious half-brother, William the Conqueror, Duke of Normandy and King of England. It is believed that Odo commissioned the Bayeux Tapestry. The masterpiece from the Middle Ages was intended to be hung in the cathedral nave.

On Sundays clothing shops will be closed however, food shops and the small visitor shops will be open...as well as the Bayeux Tapestry and Cathedral and Arts Museum



Hotel Belle Normandy_ 4 Nights

Ideally located in the heart of the medieval city of Bayeux, come and discover our unique charming hotel.

Occupying a former school of the XXth century, the Hotel Belle Normandy is now a place full of charm in the heart of the medieval city of Bayeux. Enjoy a haven of peace nestled in the center of the city of William the Conqueror.

This former school has now become an hotel, renovated with taste and elegance. The restoration of each building combines the charm of the old with the comfort of the new. The three buildings of character will make your stay a true haven of peace.

Amenities:

- Breakfast
- VAT
- Porterage
- City tax

Accommodation: Deluxe Room

Group Dinner (included)

THE D-DAY EXPERIENCE (MAY 22-MAY 23)

Over the next two days, you will be studying in depth and following the footsteps of the Allied forces in a chronological order.

Day 1: The Airborne Operations in the Utah Beach Sector and Hedgerows Area of the Cotentin Peninsula which equates to the operations at the Aube of June 6, 1944.

Day 2: The Omaha Beach Operations which took place throughout the morning and through evening on June 6th, 1944.

Should you have a D-Day veteran in your family, please tell us!
We are happy to include this in the presentation.

Throughout the day, the historian will invite you to discuss many aspects of the war and to contemplate on the events leading to the invasion and following June 6th, 1944. He will incorporate the main D-Day sites and the lesser known sites along the way as well.

All the historians have spent years “keeping the memory of our soldiers alive” through presentations and private visit for families of veterans, military officials and discerning travelers.



D-Day Experience following the Footsteps of the Allied Forces Airborne & Utah Beach Sector (8 hours)

ST MERE EGLISE: The first town to be liberated in the early hours of D Day, June 6th 1944. The town was defended and fought over by the 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment of the 82nd Airborne Division. It was the first to be liberated by the US paratroopers and was consequently made famous by the epic movie The Longest Day (1962.) Red Buttons portrayed John Steele, the soldier whose parachute was snagged on the church steeple, and who dangled there and watched his friends fight and die in the town square.

UTAH BEACH: This was one of the first beach landings on the morning of the June 6th 1944 (D Day). Prior to the invasion, this beach was where heavy casualties were anticipated. Learn how leadership and the soldiers' initiative would overcome the problems and make it one of the most successful beach landings.

ST MARIE DU MONT: Situated several miles behind Utah Beach, and next to Drop Zone C for 506th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 101st Airborne Division. This beautiful village became the headquarters of the 101st Airborne Division and experienced some heavy fighting in and around the village. Learn of the men's personal accounts.

ANGOUVILLE AU PLAN: A quiet village, next to Drop Zone D of the 101st Airborne Division. You will visit the church in the centre of the village to learn the story of the two medics, Robert Wright and Kenneth Moore. We explore a bit of humanity where these two paratrooper medics cared for American, German, and French civilian wounded.

LA CAMBE – GERMAN CEMETERY: This is one of six German cemeteries in Normandy. It is spread over 17 acres. There are 21,222 German soldiers laid to rest here, and their ages range from 16 - 72 years old. The site is managed and maintained by the German War Graves Commission.

THE AIRBORNE MUSEUM is located right where the American paratroopers were involved in fierce battles during the night of June 5 to 6th and the following days. The museum holds an important collection of uniforms, weaponry and other war memorabilia.

The American Paratroopers and their role in the Landing in Normandy are the focus of this museum. The collection features the famous troop transportation plane Douglas C-47 (also known as 'Skytrain') as well as a Waco glider which cannot be seen anywhere in France other than in Sainte Mere Eglise.

Included: Fast pass tickets to Airborne Museum



MAY
22

D-DAY EXPERIENCE

D-Day Experience continues Omaha Beach, Pointe du Hoc and the Normandy American Cemetery (8 hours)

POINTE DU HOC: Deemed to be one of the toughest assaults during the second world war. Hear the story of how the 2nd Ranger Battalion lead by Cornel James Rudder, who managed to lead his men up the 100ft cliffs against all odds, knockout the German defenses, and hold off German counter attack until his reinforcements arrived. Visit the bunkers and look at the devastation caused by the allied bombs and shells.

OMAHA BEACH: Learn about how the 1st Infantry Division and the 29th Infantry Division came ashore on this beach, how they fell into the brutal hands of the Germans, overcame the problems before them, against all odds, and after many hours of battle, they managed to get a foot hold on this beach.

THE NORMANDY AMERICAN CEMETERY: This amazing site is spread over 172 acres and is the final resting place of 9,387 fallen heroes.

OVERLORD MUSEUM (entrances included): This museum chronicles the period of the Allied landing until the liberation of Paris. The founder of the collections Michel Leloup was both a witness to the conflict and involved in the reconstruction of Normandy. Personal items from individual soldiers and armored fighting vehicles from the 6 armies in Normandy are presented as a series of reconstructions showing over 35 vehicles, tanks and guns.

EASTERN OMAHA BEACH: Site of some of the worst casualties of D-Day and many done by one German gunner.

Included: Entrance fees to Overlord museum.



The Mont Saint Michel with Cider Tasting (9 hours)

Your guide will greet you in the lobby of your hotel and accompany you to the Mont Saint Michel. This is a 90 min transfer. The presentation will begin as soon as you take the road to the Mont.

A PRESTIGIOUS SITE SINCE THE MIDDLE AGES

The long history of Mont-Saint-Michel began in 708, when Bishop Aubert erected a first sanctuary on Mont Tombe in honor of the Archangel.

In 966, Benedictine monks settled there on request from the Duke of Normandy, Richard I. These monks, under the authority of the Abbot, followed the Order of Saint Benedict, and were responsible for the growth of the new monastery. The Abbey very quickly became a major place of pilgrimage in the Christian West, but also one of the centers of medieval culture where a large number of manuscripts were produced and stored. Mont-Saint-Michel was given the nickname "City of the Books". At a political and intellectual crossroads, the Abbey was visited by a large number of pilgrims over the centuries, including several Kings of France and England.

The Merveille building is often cited as the jewel in the crown of the Abbey's architecture. This masterpiece of Norman Gothic art bears witness to the architectural expertise of the 13th century builders.

You will be provided with skip the line tickets to the summit Abbey. Please note it is extremely steep, there are more than 350 steps to climb to reach the Abbey.

On our return back to Bayeux, we'll make a fun stop for Cider tasting and a private visit of the Domaine

The American soldiers discovered and enjoyed Normandy's Cider. Your guide will take you to visit a small 'mom and pop' owned and operated Cider Farm along the way back to Bayeux.

This is a private property which is managed by a very welcoming family who is dedicated to preserve the 150 year old tradition of making cider and calvados (brandy) on the family domain. The owners will share their story and accompany you throughout the distillery for an appreciation of this tradition.

You will be invited to taste their products. The presentation is given a relaxed conversational manner and the property is in its authentic untransformed state. This is an opportunity to see the 'Real Normandy' at its finest.



**MAY
25**

TRAVEL TO VERSAILLES

Private Transfer to Versailles with a stop in Giverny to tour Monet's Home and Gardens (7 hours)

Private transfer to Versailles via Giverny

We'll have a lunch stop before exploring Monet's home and gardens.

Giverny

A little history...

For over 40 years, until his death in 1926, Giverny was Claude Monet's home, his site of creation and his masterpiece. A world of senses, of colors and of memories, the house in which the artist and his family lived notably contains his studio-sitting room and his exceptional collection of Japanese prints. The gardens are composed of the Clos Normand, with its flowerbeds, and the Water Garden, planted with oriental vegetation and weeping willows, its Japanese bridge painted green and its waterlilies. Monet settled in Giverny in 1883. He untiringly transformed an abandoned domaine into a floral masterpiece, to be the inspiration for many of his greatest works of art. Monet was not only a painter of his own garden but also an artist whose painting trips took him away for lengthy periods of time. However, He was never really far from his garden. Through constant correspondence, He kept a close eye on his family and his flowers. Frequent visits from his friends and admirers made Giverny the centre of his existence. Until his death in 1926, the painter, the father, the gardener and the man would never really leave Giverny.



Les Lumieres Hotel 2 Nights

The very soul of a family home with the elegance of a 5-star hotel in Versailles. Nestled in the heart of the Cité Royale of Versailles, at 5 rue Colbert, is Les Lumières, a boutique hotel with the Château de Versailles as its illustrious neighbor.

Created from the 17th century Villacerf and Gramont pavilions, the hotel combined and carefully renovated them to offer you an intimate, enlightening and nourishing getaway.

Amenities:

- Breakfast
- VAT
- Porterage
- City tax

Room Selection: Deluxe Room



MAY
26

VERSAILLES

Private Tour to Versailles (4 hours)

Versailles Palace, famous for being the last 'residence' of Louis XVI and Marie-Antoinette. Built by Louis XIV, in part by jealousy of Nicolas Foucquet's Vaux-le-Vicomte and part to get away from the city and its inhabitants, Versailles Palace has a unique place in French history.

Your experienced guide will be able to paint a picture of what is like during this crucial period of Pre-Revolutionary France. Whether it's the Hall of Mirrors, the Royal Chapel, Royal Opera or the State Apartments, you will be fascinated by this visit. The decoration of this incredible palace stands at the pinnacle of the greatest of French arts, sculptures and paintings, as a symbol of the power of this famous king.

The second part of the visit will be dedicated to the gardens designed by André le Nôtre, France's most renowned Landscape Designer. He created in Versailles what is considered to be the most refined example of French-style gardens, based on rigorous symmetry and geometrical shapes. There, you will also admire some of the most beautiful statues and fountains the king commissioned to his artists

Farwell Dinner

MAY
27

TRAVEL HOME

Flights

Depart Paris Charles de Gaulle to USA

PRICE QUOTE:

Land only package, based on double occupancy and 12 guests: **\$6,895 per person**

Package prices include associated costs relative to product preparation and are not subject to itemization. This quote is valid for 14 days and subject to availability of services at the time of confirmation.

TO CONFIRM THIS BOOKING:

This document is a Proposal only. Nothing has been booked and all services/prices are subject to availability/change at time of booking. A deposit of **\$2,500 per person** is required to guarantee all services/prices. Once deposit has been processed, pricing is secured and guaranteed in USD.

Final payment will be due approximately 60 days prior to travel: **March 17th, 2026**

