



Tour Information



Monet and the Impressionists in Normandy





Travel

Passports

You may need to renew your British Passport if you are travelling to an EU country. **Please ensure your passport is less than 10 years old (even if it has 3 months or more left on it) and has at least 3 months validity remaining from the date of travel.**

For more information, please visit: [passport checker](#)

Visas

If you're a tourist, you do not need a visa for short trips to France.

For all other passport holders please check the visa requirements with the appropriate embassy.

For further information, please check here: [travel to the EU](#)

French consulate: PO Box 57, 6A Cromwell Place, London SW7 2EW; Tel (020) 7838 2000/1. Information Service: Tel (0891) 887 733

Opening hours: 0900-1130 (and 1600-1630 for visa collection only) Mon-Fri (except British and French national holidays).

Travel Arrangements

The quickest and most convenient way to get to this area of Normandy is by modern, executive coach and Eurotunnel.

Departure from London Victoria will be at approx. 07.30 with a further pick up made at Maidstone Services in good time for a scheduled Eurotunnel departure of 11.50. The final timings will be confirmed to you with your final documentation. The Eurotunnel crossing operates up to 4 times per hour and takes just 35 minutes to Calais. The driving time from Calais to Rouen is approximately 2 hours.

Pick up points

Victoria Coach Station, 164 Buckingham Palace Road SW1W 9TP (please look out for "Travel Eds Normandy" on the display screen for details of the departure bay). Victoria station (on the Victoria, District and Circle lines) is 300m from the coach station or Maidstone Services (meet in front of building entrance).



Special Requests

If you haven't already, please notify Travel Editions of any special requests as soon as possible to allow sufficient time to make the necessary arrangements. Please note that some airlines may charge for use of wheelchairs.

Border Control

At border control, you may need to show a return or onward ticket, show you have enough money for your stay, use separate lanes from EU, EEA and Swiss citizens when queuing.

Taking food into EU countries

You are not able to take meat, milk or any products containing them into EU countries.



Accommodation

Hotel Mercure Rouen Champ de Mars, Rouen

Located a 10-minute walk from the historic city centre and the Cathedral, the Mercure Rouen Champ de Mars hotel offers modern rooms with all the comforts you need with a restaurant, bar, and comfortable bedrooms with private bathroom, TV, telephone and Wi-Fi.

For more information visit the hotel's website:

<https://www.accorhotels.com/gb/hotel-1273-mercure-rouen-champ-de-mars-hotel/index.shtml>



Food

General de Gaulle once asked, with a certain amount of pride, how it was possible to rule a country which produced 365 different kinds of cheese; with one of France's most impressive cheese-boards, Normandy makes an important contribution to this selection, with the excellent Neufchâtel, *Pont-L'Évêque*, *Livarot*, and, of course, *Camembert*.

In addition to being famous for its dairy products, Normandy is also renowned for its apple orchards and seafood. Shellfish, oysters, scallops, mussels, Coquilles St Jacques and cool water fish will feature on most menus, often combined with another regional speciality, such as a *sauce à la crème* or *au Camembert*.

The main dish will generally be meat-based and rich – *Canard à la Rouennaise* (duck), veal or pork in a cream or cider sauce, *Agneau pré sale* (roasted lamb raised on salty marshlands), or another Normandy speciality, *tripe* (*Tripes à la mode de Caen* or tripe stew).

Many of Normandy's sweet dishes are based on apples – the most widely spread being *Tarte aux pommes* (apple tart). Other specialities include *Teurgoule* (milky rice pudding with cinnamon), *pavé normand* (butter biscuits), and *Crêpes à la Bénédicte*.

Calvados with apple ice cream (*trou normand*) is a traditionally taken to clear the palate between courses.

Coffee is served after the meal and will be black, in small cups, unless a *café au lait* (or *crème*) is requested.

Almost all restaurants offer two types of meals: *a la carte* (extensive choice for each course, generally more expensive) and *le menu* (a set meal at a fixed price). The bill (*l'addition*) will not be presented until it is asked for, even if clients sit and talk for half an hour after finishing their meal. Usually, a discretionary service charge is added to your bill in restaurants and bars, and no further tipping is required.

Generally speaking, mealtimes in France are strictly observed. Lunch is as a rule served from noon to 1330, dinner usually from 2000-2130, but the larger the city, the later the dining hour.



Drink

The abundance of apples also influences the region's beverage production, which includes cider (*brut* or *doux*), *pommeau* (sweet, light and refreshing as an *apéritif*), *Calvados* (brandy distilled from apple cider), and of course, apple juice.

Beer is also popular in the region; local favourites are *Lugus Ale*, *Loup Garou brune*, *Viking Wolf* and *Cervoise Guedelon*.

Bénédictine, with ice before a meal, or on its own as a digestive, is another popular liqueur of the region.

Meals included in the price of the holiday are:

Breakfast – daily

Dinner – two dinners with wine at the hotel



Destination

Impressionism has long been associated to Paris, but there are many links and connections with the nearby region of Normandy, thanks largely to Monet's involvement in and love of the area. Having spent much of his childhood in Le Havre and the last 40 years of his life in Giverny, many of Monet's most famous paintings are of Norman landscapes. Indeed, his painting *Impression, Sunrise* of the Normandy coast gave rise to the term *Impressionism*.

On this wonderful short lecture tour, based in Rouen, you will track the Impressionist heritage throughout the region, in the incomparable company of Dr Scott Anderson or Prof. Anne Anderson whose knowledge and enthusiasm will enlighten and entertain.

Details of places of interest included in your tour:

Giverny

The village which Monet fell in love with, and lived in, from 1883 until his death in 1926, Giverny is a lovely place.

Monet's House and Studio

Claude Monet lived in his home at Giverny for forty-three years. During this very long time, he laid out the house to his own tastes, adapting it to the needs of his family and professional life. At the beginning, the house called House of the Cider-Press (an apple-press located on the little square nearby gave its name to the quarter) was much smaller. Monet enlarged it on both sides. The house is now 40 meter long per 5 meters deep only. The barn next to the house became his first studio, thanks to the addition of a wooden floor and of stairs leading to the main house. Monet, who mostly painted in the open air, needed a place where to store and finish his canvases. Above the studio, Monet had his own apartment, a large bedroom and a bathroom. The left side of the house was his side, where he could work and sleep. A visit to the house also includes the chance to stroll around the magnificent gardens and lily pond that Monet created and captured in some of his most famous paintings.

For more information on Monet's House and Studio, please visit:

<https://giverny.org/monet/home/>

Musée des Impressionismes

The Musée des Impressionismes Giverny succeeded the American Art Museum, established in 1992 by Daniel J. Terra (1911-1996), founder of the Terra Foundation for American Art. This first museum aimed to present a private collection, in a building created for the purpose on the hillside where Claude Monet stayed to paint his famous "Haystacks" in the 1890s. The museum you see today opened in 2009 and is home to a series of exhibitions dedicated to Impressionism.

For more information about the Musée des Impressionismes, please visit:

<http://www.mdig.fr/en>

Rouen & the Musée des Beaux Arts

Located on the Seine, Rouen is a beautiful cathedral city with a wealth of sights, particularly its *Cathédrale Notre-Dame*, which was repeatedly painted by Monet, the 15th century *Palais de Justice* and the *Place du Vieux-Marché*, where Joan of Arc was burned at the stake in 1431.

For more information about Rouen, please visit:

<http://www.rouentourisme.com/>

Musee des Beaux Arts Rouen

Rouen's fabulous *Musée des Beaux Arts* houses a wonderful collection including masterpieces by Delacroix, Corot, Gustave Moreau, Degas and Monet (his *Rouen Cathedral*), establishing Rouen as the home of one of France's biggest Impressionist collections outside Paris.

For more information about the Musée des Beaux Arts, please visit:

<http://mbarouen.fr/en>

Musée d'Art Moderne André Malraux (MuMa)

Enjoying a coastal setting in Le Havre, the MuMa was the first major museum built after the Second World War and is a masterpiece of modern architecture, renowned for its light, transparent look and feel. It contains the second largest collection of Impressionist paintings in France (after the Musée d'Orsay).

For more information about the MuMa, please visit:

<http://muma-lehavre.fr/en>

Honfleur

The pretty port of Honfleur, with its picturesque backstreets and old houses, has long held a strong appeal to artists. The changing light on the Seine estuary has inspired many Impressionists including Courbet, Monet and Boudin.

For more information about Honfleur, please visit:
<http://www.ot-honfleur.fr/>

Etretat

The cliffs and rock formations steal the show in Etretat, thanks to their exceptional natural beauty and the fact that famous Impressionists painted them so memorably. Erosion has created extraordinary arches in the chalk either side of the town. There's also an amazing needle-like structure, known in French as the Aiguille. Monet visited frequently, producing over 90 works here.

For more information about Etretat, please visit:
<https://en.normandie-tourisme.fr/unmissable-sites/etretat/>



Your lecturer / guide

Dr Scott Anderson MA, PhD, FNAVA, ASFAV (Associate of the Society of Fine Art Auctioneers)

Scott is a University Senior Lecturer in the History of Art and Design and is an Honorary Fellow of the National Association of Valuers and Auctioneers. He is a specialist in Victorian and Edwardian art, architecture and antiques and is a consultant expert for the BBC2 'Flog It!' programme. Scott is an Accredited Lecturer of The Arts Society and has lectured extensively to various societies, special interest groups and educational groups throughout Britain. He has extensive tour guiding experience in Britain, European locations such as Paris, Berlin, Vienna and New York.

Enjoy two lectures during your tour:

'Monet at Giverny'

'Impressionism or painting quickly out of doors'

Tour Manager

Your tour manager will be on hand throughout the tour to ensure that everything operated according to plan. If you have any problems or questions, please see him or her immediately – it is often possible to resolve complaints or problems very quickly on the spot and do everything to help you enjoy your holiday.

Grading

This tour has been graded as **Moderate**: Walking between sites, lots of standing for viewing.



The Basics

Climate – The weather in Normandy at this time of year is likely to be similar to the UK in spring – unpredictable and the chance of the odd shower. Our best advice is to come prepared.

Time – GMT +2 hours (Summer time Apr-Oct); GMT + 1 (Standard time Nov-Mar).

Language – French.

Religion – Roman Catholic.

National holidays – New Year's day (01 Jan); Easter Monday; Labour day (01 May); Victory in Europe day (08 May); Ascension day; Whit Sunday; Whit Monday; National day (14 Jul); Assumption of Mary (15 Aug); All Saints' day (01 Nov); Armistice day (11 Nov); Christmas day (25 Dec).

Currency – Euro. €1 = 100 cents. Notes are in denominations of €500, 200, 100, 50, 20, 10 and 5. Coins are in denominations of €2 and 1, and 50, 20, 10, 5, 2 and 1 cents.

Banks – Cashpoints compatible with international banking networks are located in all towns and cities, as well as airports, major train stations and other spots. They usually offer an attractive exchange rate. Those banks that still exchange foreign currencies into local money will always charge a transaction fee, so withdrawing money from an ATM usually represents the most logical means of obtaining euros.

Credit cards – American Express, Diners Club, MasterCard and Visa are widely accepted across the country. If you're eating at a restaurant, check prior to the meal that your card will be an acceptable form of payment. Even in cities, it's advisable to carry a supply of cash with you at all times. Varying amounts of commission can be charged.

Electricity – 220 volt, two-pin continental plug.

Drinking water – Tap water is safe to drink. (Although you'll find a huge amount of bottled water for sale too)

Shops and museums – Department stores are open 0900-1830 Monday to Saturday. Most shops are closed between 1200-1430. Some food shops (particularly bakers) are open Sunday mornings, in

which case they will probably close Monday. Many shops close all day or half-day Monday. Please note that most museums are closed on Mondays.

Clothes & shoes – You may like to bring a warm sweater for cool evenings. Light rain wear for the occasional storm and good grip/flat walking shoes are recommended.

Camera – bring plenty of memory cards/film and any spare camera batteries as these are not always available. Please check with your guide before photographing people.

Bath plugs – The hotel has plugs for basins, but it is useful to carry a 'universal' one with you.

Telephones/mobiles – The guarantee of free mobile phone roaming throughout the EU, Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway has ended. Check with your phone operator to find out about any roaming charges that might be applied after 1st January 2021. A new law means that you are protected from getting mobile data charges above £45 without you knowing. Once you reach £45, you need to opt in to spend more so that you can continue using the internet while you are abroad. Your phone operator will tell how you can do this.

Tipping – To keep our tours affordable, we do not increase the tour price by adding in tips. However, in the tourism industry, there is a certain level of expectation that when receiving a good service, one awards with a tip. Tour Managers, Representatives, Guides and Drivers appreciate a tip at the end of their involvement with the tour, but this is entirely at your discretion. We believe in allowing you to tip according to your level of satisfaction with their services, but for your guidance about £2-3 per person per day for the tour manager is the norm. We would like to reiterate that tipping is an entirely optional payment and this information is given purely to answer any questions you may have about it.



Health

Doctor/Dentist/Chemist

Please talk to your tour manager if you are feeling unwell and they will organise for you to see a doctor.

Keep receipts for insurance claims.



Hospital

Your tour manager/hotel reception will arrange hospital transport.

Keep receipts for insurance claims.

General Health Advice

We suggest you take a good supply of your own individual medicines with you and always keep some in your hand luggage in case you get delayed or your luggage goes astray. General-purpose supplies for bites, stings, or scratches, and your usual medication for headaches, or stomach upsets are always recommended. Oral re-hydration sachets are excellent for topping up salt and glucose levels.

Visit the NHS Fit For Travel website for more generally information specific to the country you are visiting – www.fitfortravel.nhs.uk

Sun Protection

Always ensure you take sufficient sun protection and moisturiser. A sun hat and sunglasses are also advisable.

Inoculations

You should check with your own doctor and take their advice as to which inoculations are required for the country you are visiting, as only they know your medical history and recommendations are liable to change at short notice.



Insurance

To be covered under your Travel Insurance Policy, if you become ill, it is essential that you contact a local doctor and also telephone the emergency number of your insurance company. You will **NOT** be covered for any claim unless this procedure is carried out. Your insurance company will then decide on the best course of medical attention.

Global Health Insurance Card (GHIC)

Before you travel, make sure you've got a valid UK Global Health Insurance Card (GHIC) or travel insurance with health cover.

You may not have access to free emergency medical treatment and could be charged for your healthcare if you do not have an EHIC or GHIC when visiting an EU country, or travel insurance with full healthcare cover when visiting Switzerland, Norway, Iceland or Liechtenstein. If you have an EHIC it will still be valid while it remains in date. Your European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) or Global Health Insurance Card (GHIC) will be valid if you're travelling to an EU country.

We strongly recommend that you take out an appropriate travel insurance policy when you travel abroad.

For further information about the GHIC please visit:

<https://www.nhs.uk/using-the-nhs/healthcare-abroad/apply-for-a-free-uk-global-health-insurance-card-ghic/>



Emergencies

Should an emergency arise, please call our offices on:

00 44 20 7251 0045 (Mon-Fri 09.00-17.00)

Outside office hours (Mon-Fri 0900-1700), telephone our emergency staff on:

00 44 7841 023807 or 00 44 7831 133079

PLEASE USE THESE NUMBERS ONLY IN THE EVENT OF A GENUINE EMERGENCY.

If you find that you are in need of consular assistance during your holiday:

Consular services Paris

16 rue d'Anjou

75008 Paris

France

Tel: +33 (0)1 44 51 31 00

Fax: +33 (0)1 44 51 31 27

Open Mon-Fri 0930-1230. Outside these hours a consular Emergency Service is in operation and can be contacted on +33 (0)1 44 51 31 00.

Travel Editions

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