



Itinerary

La Belle Seine featuring Paris and Normandy

Oct 29, 2019 - Nov 6, 2019

Pre Night: Le Meridien Etoile Hotel



Set on the "Rive Droite" ("right bank") of the Seine in Paris, Le Méridien Etoile is nearby to the legendary Champs-Élysées. The hotel features 1,025 guest rooms.

Day 1: Overnight Flight



Depart for Paris, France to start your journey through the Normandy region. Bask in the rich history, art, culture and romance of its celebrated cities and charming towns.

Day 2: Paris, France - Board Ship - Tour Begins



Your journey opens in Paris. Board your ship and unpack once for a relaxing 7-night river cruise. Your beautiful vessel offers the newest technology, panoramic deck, panorama bar, delicious cuisine including regional wines with every dinner, and outstanding service. Tonight, a cocktail is served in the Panorama Bar where you will meet your fellow travelers before a lovely welcome dinner.

Hotel

Paris, France

Culinary

Dinner

Weather

High 56°

Low 38°

Rain 3"

Day 3: Conflans - Auvers-sur-Oise



This morning, arrive in Conflans, situated at the confluence of the Oise and Seine rivers. Visit the town of Auvers-sur-Oise, once home to several 19th-century painters including Paul Cézanne, Charles-François Daubigny, Camille Pissaro, and perhaps most famously, Vincent Van Gogh. Embark on a tour of Auvers-sur-Oise that retraces Van Gogh's time here, including Auberge Ravoux where he rented his room, the idyllic fields that inspired his last masterpiece, and his final resting place. This afternoon, cruise past lovely French countryside scenery as your journey continues.

Hotel

Conflans

Culinary

Breakfast & Lunch

Weather

High 56°

Low 38°

Rain 3"

Day 4: Rouen



Today your ship docks in Rouen, the historical capital of Normandy. Enjoy a guided walking tour of the medieval city, highlighting its many monuments and architectural treasures. Visit the cathedral and the Church of Joan of Arc before viewing the Gros Horloge astronomical clock. Spend time at leisure to continue exploring the city, perhaps with a visit to Place du Vieux Marché, the site where Joan of Arc was burned at the stake in the 15th century. This afternoon, you may take an optional excursion with a local expert along the "Abbey Trail" to the ruins of both St. Wandrille Abbey and Jumièges. Learn about the rich history of the churches, castles and abbeys that once populated this region.

Hotel

Rouen

Culinary

Breakfast & Lunch

Weather

High 45°
Low 29°
Rain 2"

Day 5: Le Havre - Honfleur - Le Havre



This morning we dock in Le Havre, a city located on the English Channel at the mouth of the Seine River. Perhaps you will join an optional morning sightseeing tour to Étretat, a town situated on the Normandy coast with stunning cliff-top views and a charming fishing village where a guided walking tour highlights the various artists who have visited and painted there through the years. This afternoon, enjoy an included excursion to Honfleur, a remarkable maritime city. Explore the narrow streets and the old port with a local guide. View the Lieutenancy, the Old Salt Stores and St. Catherine's Church before enjoying time to shop or explore independently.

Hotel

Le Havre

Culinary

Breakfast & Lunch

Weather

High 45°
Low 29°
Rain 2"

Day 6: Le Havre - Normandy Excursion - Caudebec-en-Caux



A full day of remembrance awaits, as we travel through Normandy to visit some of the significant D-Day Landing sites of World War II. Begin at Pointe du Hoc, a strategic German battery that defended Utah and Omaha beaches from the Allied invasion, where craters from cataclysmic bombings occupy the landscape to this day. View Omaha Beach, one of the U.S. landing zones of the invasion of Normandy. Next, visit the Normandy American Cemetery and visitor's center. Enjoy an included lunch locally before traveling on to Arromanche-les-Bains to view the Mulberry Harbor, one of the greatest engineering feats of WWII and a massive coup for the Allies. This evening, we rejoin the ship in Caudebec-en-Caux.

Hotel

Le Havre

Culinary

Breakfast & Lunch

Weather

High 45°
Low 29°
Rain 2"

Day 7: Les Andelys - Château Gaillard



Begin your morning with a stop in Les Andelys to visit Château Gaillard, constructed in the 12th century by Richard the Lionheart. Admire the striking views of French countryside from the chateau's vantage point on a promontory along the Seine. Next, continue to Vernon's Old Town, where a guided walking tour highlights the old mill, Notre Dame, the Town Hall, the Arches Tower, as well as a visit to Normandy where you receive a tasting of Normandy's delicious cheeses and pastries. Tonight, the captain welcomes you to the elegant Captain's Gala dinner, immediately followed by an evening of dancing.

Hotel

Les Andelys

Culinary

Breakfast & Lunch

Weather

High 45°
Low 29°
Rain 2"

Day 8: Paris



This morning, take a splendid panoramic coach tour that features views of the Eiffel Tower, Notre Dame Cathedral, Les Invalides, the Louvre Museum, the famous Champs-Élysées and the Jardin des Tuileries. Enjoy the afternoon at leisure to continue exploring this great city. Perhaps you will join an optional excursion to King Louis XIV's magnificent Palace of Versailles,* the largest palace in Europe; visit the grand private apartments and the Hall of Mirrors on a guided tour of the palace; stroll the magnificent gardens which are amongst some of the world's most famous and took over 40 years to complete. Or join an optional guided walking tour of the Montmartre district highlighting its narrow winding streets that have drawn artists to them for hundreds of years. Your day concludes with a farewell dinner where you will bid adieu to the illuminated "City of Lights."

Hotel

Paris

Culinary

Breakfast & Lunch

Weather

High 45°
Low 29°
Rain 2"

Day 9: Paris - Disembark Ship - Tour Ends



Your tour comes to a close today, leaving you with many pleasant memories of a wonderful adventure.

Post Night: Le Meridien Etoile Hotel



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