



Paris to Normandy ~ Monet to Notre Dame

Seven Nights Cruising the River Seine on the AmaLegro,
Two Full Days in Paris ~ The City of Lights, Beaches of Normandy
An 10 Day - 8 Night Cruise/Tour

Three things sum up Normandy – Camembert, cider and cows! Normandy is where the green, pleasant French countryside smacks into the rolling waves of La Manche - The Channel. This is a magical place where you'll find churned butter and soft runny cheese, broad fields and dry-stone farmhouses perched on the edge of chalk-white cliffs, and the salty tang of the sea in the air.

Sail the Seine River from Paris on the AmaLegro through Normandy, an enticing blend of old and new. Here, fishing boats jostle with designer yachts in the harbor of Honfleur and contemporary restaurants and chic boutiques sit alongside half-timbered houses and Gothic churches in Rouen. Whether you're browsing the Normandy fish markets or strolling the D-Day beaches, this is one part of France that will stay with you long after you leave for home.

Your cruise ends with two full days in Paris, The City of Light! Start with an included city tour where you'll see her iconic sights and then enjoy a day to explore the Paris of your dreams! Whether it's lunch in a decidedly French Bistro, strolling the Champs-Élysées or exploring her charming neighborhoods, enjoy Paris as you wish!

Day 1

Today you board your overnight flight bound for Paris, The City of Light!

Day 2: Paris - The River Seine

On your arrival in **Paris**, you'll be assisted with your transfer to the **AmaLegro**. After time to unpack and settle in, enjoy a Welcome Dinner onboard as you begin your journey along The River Seine. (D)

Day 3: Honfleur * The Routes of the Abbeys

After a scenic morning cruising the Seine, arrive in the old fishing village of Caudebec with a **choice of two included excursions**. The first is a trip to **Honfleur**, one of the most visited towns in France with picturesque streets and timber-framed house fronts. This town of painters and impressionism possesses that something extra that makes it irresistible. The changing light on the Seine estuary inspired Courbet, Monet, Boudin and many others. You might instead choose the "**Routes des Abbayes**" excursion which spotlights Normandy's famous abbeys. You will visit the ruined abbey in Jumièges which Victor Hugo called "the most beautiful ruin in France." Dating from 1067, it was consecrated in the presence of William the Conqueror. You'll also visit St. Wandrille founded - as legend has it - by a seventh-century count who, with his wife, renounced all earthly pleasures on the day of their wedding! It remains an active monastery, home to fifty Benedictine monks who in addition to their spiritual duties, turn their hands to money-making tasks such as candle-making. Return to Caudebec on the right bank of the River Seine after your excursion. (B/L/D)

Day 4: Normandy Beaches

Today, you have the choice of three excursions. "**D-Day Remembered**" is a full day excursion to the US sector. Your first stop will be the village of Arromanches, a priority target for the Allies during WWII. A floating harbor was set up here to supply weapons and ammunitions to invasion troops and today jagged remains are strewn over the beaches which played such an important role in the liberation of Europe. You'll have time on your own to see museums and have lunch on your own before visiting the **US Cemetery and Omaha Beach**. The future of France and Europe was at stake here on the 6th of June, 1944 when US troops landed with little going as planned. Ultimately 3,000 Troops lost their lives that day. At the top of the bluff, the American Cemetery and Memorial honor the 9,387 US Soldiers buried here. Next, you'll see the **Ranger Monument** where "Rudder's Rangers" performed one of the war's greatest feats, scaling Pointe du Hoc's 90-foot-cliff under intense German gunfire and securing the site as part of the famous Allied victory. An alternate excursion is available to tour the British and Canadian sectors including the Pegasus Monument and the Canadian cemetery. A third excursion to rural Normandy is available which includes a visit to the Pays d'Auge and the Cider Road. All excursions return to Rouen where you will remain overnight. (B/L/D)

Day 5: Rouen - The Heart of Normandy

This morning, set out on an included morning walk through **Rouen**, the historic capital of Normandy. It is here that Monet was inspired to paint more than 30 canvases as part of his series of **Notre-Dame**. You also see the Place du Vieux Marché where in 1431 Joan of Arc was convicted and burnt at the stake. After your tour, you'll have free time to explore on your own perhaps wandering through the historic center of this "city of a churches. The **Museum of Fine Arts in Rouen** contains one of the best impressionist collections in France with works by Renoir, Degas and of course Monet. Normandy is a culinary delight, so be sure and stop at one

of Rouen's small confectioners where you can watch local caramels being made or a cheese shop featuring local Camembert. (B/L/D)

Day 6: Les Andelys - Richard the Lionheart

Depart Rouen early this morning and enjoy scenic cruising on the Seine to **Les Andelys**. On arrival, enjoy a mid-day stroll along the river with beautiful views of the Seine Valley's dramatic white cliffs, centuries-old half-timbered houses, and the hilltop ruins of **Château Gaillard**. This former stronghold of **Richard the Lionheart** changed hands a number of times during the Hundred Years' War. The more adventurous might enjoy hiking up to visit the ruins of this historic castle before re-boarding to continue your cruise arriving in Conflans later tonight. (B/L/D)

Day 7: Napoléon or Impressionism

Today, you have a **choice of two excursions**. The first is to visit Château Malmaison, former home of **Emperor Napoléon Bonaparte** and his wife Joséphine. You'll tour the Château and see Napoléon's chamber and the gardens that Joséphine cultivated. You might instead choose to travel to **Auvers-sur-Oise**, a town famous for the Impressionist painters who lived there in the 19th century, such as Paul Cézanne and Camille Pissarro. Your "Artists' Walk" tour includes sites associated with their work, including the Auberge Ravoux, former home of Vincent van Gogh. You'll see the upstairs room where Van Gogh died and which has been meticulously preserved. He and his brother Theo are both buried in the nearby town cemetery. The AmaLegro departs this afternoon for Paris, arriving in the evening. (B/L/D)

Day 8: Paris - The City of Lights!

After disembarkation this morning, enjoy a **panoramic tour of Paris!** You'll see the Eiffel Tower, a global icon of France as well as Notre-Dame Cathedral where Mary, Queen of Scots was married in 1558 and Napoleon's coronation ceremony took place in 1804. You'll also visit the **Musée d'Orsay** with the largest collection of Impressionist and Post-Impressionist masterpieces in the world including works by Monet, Manet, Degas, Renoir, Cézanne, Gauguin and Van Gogh. Later this afternoon you'll transfer to your hotel with the remainder of the day to enjoy Paris as you wish.

Overnight: Paris

(B)

Day 9: Paris - As You Wish!

Today is yours to enjoy the Paris you want to see! From the famed patisseries with lighter-than-air macaroons to the Rue des Martyrs a bustling street full of *fromageries* and *boulangeries* for a taste of authentic Paris you amazing choices! Galleries, boutiques and cafes all await!

Overnight: Paris

(B)



Inclusions

- Roundtrip airport transfers
- Roundtrip International Airfare to Paris (Checked baggage fees are not included)
- 7 nights deluxe accommodations in your choice of cabins onboard the AmaLegro
- 2 nights lodging in Paris post cruise
- Panoramic city tour of Paris
- Life-enriching tours with personal headset included
- All meals while onboard the AmaLegro
- Unlimited red & white wines from France's great wine regions and beer & soft drinks with every lunch and dinner on board
- Cocktail Reception, Welcome Dinner & Captain's Gala Dinner onboard the AmaLegro
- Special highlights onboard include lectures, theme dinners, cooking demonstrations, onboard music performances and afternoon/evening piano music
- Portage of one full size suitcase per person
- TRIPS ticket wallet and luggage tags
- All cruise, port charges, fuel charges and government taxes
- Passports are required for this trip!!

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