Welcome to Normandy!

Whether you are a tour operator, a group travel organiser, a coach company, an incoming agency, an association or a school, we look forward to welcoming you soon to Normandy, this incomparably beautiful region of France.

Normandy is easily accessible by plane, ferry, train or by road. The region is just a two-hour drive from Paris and its airports, Roissy-Charles de Gaulle and Orly, or from the port of Calais. If you take the train from Paris, you will arrive in Normandy’s main cities in just over an hour. With four local cross-Channel ports, there are also regular sailings from Britain and Ireland. Whether you plan on a dedicated trip or are looking to include the region as part of a wider tour, Normandy remains the ideal destination with a mixture of France’s best countryside, heritage, culture, food and entertainment.

Our 2019 guide is full of practical information and inspirational ideas to help you plan your next trip to Normandy.

Please note that the Tourist Board’s Clubs have brochures available for professionals on the following dedicated themes: Parks and Gardens, Golf, Cycling, Outstanding Hotels & Restaurants, Medieval Normandy, Impressionism, Horse-Riding and Remembrance Tourism. There is also now a dedicated M.I.C.E team within the Tourist Board who will be happy to assist you with your corporate events.

A très bientôt en Normandie!
Normandy is a true gourmet’s treasure trove with its emblematic cheeses: Camembert, Livarot, Neufchâtel, Pont-L’Evêque and apple-based drinks such as calvados, cider and pommeau. Seafood is plentiful, however if you prefer meat dishes, roasted lamb from the salt meadows around the Mont-Saint-Michel is a must.

As the spiritual birthplace of Impressionism, Normandy has inspired many great artists to create images which live on in the collective consciousness today. With its unique lighting, magical seascapes, dramatic monuments and dreamy countryside, Normandy offered the perfect backdrop for Impressionist painters.
Just a short distance from Paris, this quaint artists’ retreat on the banks of the River Seine became the home of Claude Monet, father of the Impressionist movement who lived in Giverny from 1883 until his death in 1926. His world-famous house and gardens plus the Musée des Impressionismes can be visited today.

With its white cliffs and picturesque villages, the meandering River Seine offers beautiful scenery, notably from the vantage point at Château Gaillard, impressive medieval fortress built by Richard the Lionheart, which stands over 100 metres high on the cliff above the town of Les Andelys.

A veritable Museum-City on the banks of the Seine, Rouen guarantees to make an impact with its medieval half-timbered houses, its paved streets, its gothic churches and Notre-Dame cathedral. Artists flocked to this port city where Joan of Arc was burned at the stake.

Etretat is a romantic seaside village on the Côte d’Albâtre overlooking the Channel. It is a constant source of inspiration to artists and writers with its dramatic white cliffs and chalk needle. The seaside resorts of Fécamp, with its famous Palais Bénédictine, and Dieppe, with its marina, are well worth a visit too.

This major European port combines the attractions of a modern, vibrant city with the charm of a seaside resort. Rebuilt in modernist postwar style by Auguste Perret, the concrete poet, Le Havre is recognised by UNESCO as a World Heritage Site.

Lisieux, the second most visited site of pilgrimage in France after Lourdes, is dedicated to Sainte-Thérèse. The Basilica was built in her honour and remains the largest church built in France during the 20th century.

Camembert is an enchanting Norman village as well as home to the famous cheese. With its timber-frame farms built on lush green slopes, the village presents an idyllic image of the typical Normandy countryside.
The Mont-Saint-Michel remains an international place of pilgrimage to this day and with its Bay is included on the UNESCO list of World Cultural and Natural Heritage sites. This medieval architectural wonder dominates the surrounding landscape, rising out of the bay, which provides the natural show of the greatest tidal ranges in Europe. At high tide, the Mont-Saint-Michel becomes an island – a visual spectacular!

With its narrow cobbled streets and cathedral at its heart, Bayeux is the perfect example of a medieval Norman town. It is also home to the world-famous Bayeux Tapestry, a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

A thriving modern city that is rich in history, Caen boasts outstanding historical sites from William the Conqueror’s Ducal Castle, the Abbaye aux Hommes and Abbaye aux Dames, to the Mémorial de Caen – a Peace Museum which takes an in-depth look at 20th century history.

With its narrow cobbled streets and cathedral at its heart, Bayeux is the perfect example of a medieval Norman town. It is also home to the world-famous Bayeux Tapestry, a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

A thriving modern city that is rich in history, Caen boasts outstanding historical sites from William the Conqueror’s Ducal Castle, the Abbaye aux Hommes and Abbaye aux Dames, to the Mémorial de Caen – a Peace Museum which takes an in-depth look at 20th century history.

Normandy’s Channel coast is world-famous for the part it played on 6th June 1944, when Allied troops broke through Nazi defences to change the course of World War II. The Allies launched simultaneous landings of U.S., British, Canadian and French forces on five separate beaches codenamed Sword, Juno, Gold, Omaha and Utah.

A thriving modern city that is rich in history, Caen boasts outstanding historical sites from William the Conqueror’s Ducal Castle, the Abbaye aux Hommes and Abbaye aux Dames, to the Mémorial de Caen – a Peace Museum which takes an in-depth look at 20th century history.
**Forthcoming major events**

...In 2019

**75th Anniversary of D-Day and the Battle of Normandy**

The memory lives on! 6th June 2019 marks the start of the 75th anniversary of the D-Day Landings and the Battle of Normandy and with it, a momentous occasion to celebrate peace, liberty and reconciliation. During the whole of the summer, a rich and unprecedented programme of events will be put together to bring the memory of this period of world history to life, all while emphasizing the spirit of hope. The anniversary will be commemorated with military parades, firework displays, airdrops, giant picnics, concerts and military camp re-enactments.

www.normandy-dday.com

**Women’s World Football Cup**

**Le Havre**

**June 2019**

The excitement is building for the next major event in the international football calendar. From 7 June until 7 July 2019, twenty-four national teams, including France as the host nation, will compete to win the Women’s World Football Cup in 52 matches across nine host cities, including Le Havre in Normandy. The city’s brilliantly bright blue Stade Océane will be hosting seven games, including a Quarter final on Thursday 27 June.


**Set sail for the Armada - Rouen**

6-16 June 2019

Your groups can come and marvel at the world’s finest Tall Ships during this festival on the banks of the River Seine in the host city of Rouen. Celebrating its 30th anniversary, this key event in the international sailing calendar will bring together visitors from near and far with thousands of French and foreign sailors from 6 to 16 June. Fifty magnificent tall ships, along with military boats and submarines from all over the world, will line Rouen’s quaysides for ten days of celebrations, finishing with the parade along the River Seine.

www.armada.org/en/

...In 2020

**Normandy Impressionist Festival**

**April – September 2020**

The Festival Normandie Impressionniste is now an established event in the Normandy calendar. All over the region, this next edition will bring to the fore an eclectic programme of events across the arts including exhibitions, concerts, films, modern art, literature, sound & light shows, picnics like Manet’s Luncheon on the Grass and traditional “guinguettes”.

www.normandie-impressionniste.eu
**New!**

**Museums, sites and visits**

**The Ocean of the future – Cité de la Mer, Cherbourg – Spring 2019**
Experience La Cité de la Mer's new epic adventure: The Ocean of the Future. Immersed in spectacular multimedia spaces, you'll enjoy a dazzling underwater adventure. Unique features will enable visitors to travel inside a drop of water back to the origins of life or go down a 15-metre high water column surrounded by a magical ballet of beautiful sea creatures.
www.citedelamer.com/en/

**New immersive cinema and Norman Rockwell exhibition - Caen Memorial – June 2019**
Explore the impact of war in Europe through a new 17-minute long panoramic film, screened in an ultra-modern 360-degree theatre. From June to September, the Memorial will also host an exhibition of 70 paintings and illustrations by Norman Rockwell, some of which will cross the Atlantic Ocean for the very first time!
www.normandy.memorial-caen.com/

**New interactive exhibition area at Juno Beach Centre – Spring 2019**
From March 2019, a renovated exhibition area aimed at young visitors will open in Canada's Second World War museum with interactive modules focusing on the history of the Canadian troops during D-Day.
www.junobeach.org/

**British Normandy Memorial – Ver-sur-Mer – June 2019**
Designed by Liam O’Connor, the award-winning architect behind London’s Bomber Command Memorial, this new memorial will honour the 22,000 soldiers, sailors, marines and airmen who died fighting under British command during D-Day and the Battle of Normandy. It will stand on a commanding site overlooking Gold Beach, near the town of Ver-sur-Mer.
www.normandymemorialtrust.org/the-memorial/

**‘The Chronicles of the Mont-Saint-Michel’ Sound & Light Show – 2018-2020**
During the summer months, Normandy’s most iconic landmark comes alive at night with a new sound & light show put on through the entire Abbey, adding an extra bit magic to an evening visit. The architecture takes on a poetic look thanks to visuals and audio effects with a mythic storyline that echoes in each corner of the monument. The story is in three parts, meaning visitors can come back to discover a new show in 2019 and 2020.
www.leschroniquesdumont.fr/en

**Marcel Proust Museum – Cabourg – Spring 2020**
Cabourg is famous for being Marcel Proust’s favourite retreat and is the inspiration for Balbec, the seaside resort in Proust’s novel In Search of Lost Time. When it opens its doors in the heart of Cabourg, this new immersive museum will showcase the spirit of the Belle Epoque and explore the history of the Flowered Coast through the eyes of the famous author. It will come complete with a contemporary art room and a re-creation of a 19th-century garden.
www.cabourg-tourisme.fr/en

**Hotels**

**1872 Stadium Hotel – Le Havre**
Unique in France! 20 luxury rooms have just been added to Le Havre’s football stadium, located at the entrance of the city. The perfect retreat to relax and enjoy great views of the Women's World Football Cup games in June (see Major Events page).
www.lehavretourisme.com/en

**Radisson Blu Hotel – Rouen – June 2019**
Opening of a 93 room, 4-star hotel with conference rooms, a restaurant and a fitness centre in a prime location close to Rouen station.
www.radissonblu.com/en

**Holiday Inn Express – Rouen – Spring 2019**
Easily accessible from the A13 motorway to Paris, this new 3-star hotel boasts 85 new-generation rooms.

**Share & Cheers – Rouen – March 2019**
Conveniently located adjacent to Rouen’s Panorama XXL, close to the city centre and the busy quaysides, this new hostel offers 18 dormitories complete with a bar and even a rooftop terrace.
www.shareandcheers.com/

**La Tour aux Crables – Dieppe - Summer 2019**
Overlooking Dieppe Marina and just a few steps away from the seafront, this boutique hotel will boast 49 rooms, a gastronomic restaurant and a spa.
http://uk.dieppetourisme.com/

**Km127 – Bottereaux (Eure) - September 2019**
Normandy’s first off-grid, luxury and eco-friendly resort! Named after the number of kilometres that separate it from the French capital, Km127 will be made of of eight five-room lodges, a restaurant and a permaculture vegetable garden on a 45-hectare estate in Bottereaux. It will be distinguished by its low carbon footprint and off-grid water and electricity supplies.
www.km127.com/

**Hilton Garden Inn – Le Havre – Autumn 2020**
Opening of a new 4-star Hilton hotel within the city’s White Pearl complex, located opposite the Marina, on the seafront. It will offer 106 rooms, a fitness centre, conference facilities and a café-restaurant: Babette.
www.naoshotelgroupe.com/projects/hotel-garden-inn-white-pearl/

(Subject to alteration)
www.normandy-travel-trade.com
Set sail for the ARMADA
6 - 16 June 2019
Rouen