

## TRIP START DATES

2023	2024
APR   01, 08, 15, 22, 29	MAR   30
MAY   06, 13, 20, 27	APR   06, 13, 20, 27
JUN   03, 10, 17, 24	MAY   04, 11, 18, 25
JUL   01, 08, 15, 22, 29	JUN   01, 08, 15, 22, 29
AUG   05, 12, 19, 26	JUL   06, 13, 20, 27
SEP   02, 09, 16, 23, 30	AUG   03, 10, 17, 24, 31
OCT   07, 14	SEP   07, 14, 21, 28
	OCT   05, 12

For full dates and prices, and to choose your group size, visit [insightvacations.com/normandy](https://insightvacations.com/normandy)

Why not combine this trip with Country Roads of France to fully experience France?

### ∧ COUNTRY ROADS

ACTIVITY LEVEL: BALANCED

8 DAYS

1 COUNTRY

10 MEALS

11 INCLUDED EXPERIENCES

**feefo** 4.7 /5

GUEST REVIEW ★★★★★

### MAKE TRAVEL MATTER

**Loire Valley:** Discover the sustainable gardens of Château de Villandry. In the scenic Loire Valley, explore France's finest formal gardens. Now a hub for sustainability preserving the estate's biological diversity, learn how the organically grown herbs help to re-generate the local ecosystem.

### INSIGHT CHOICE

**Deauville:** Choose to visit the D-Day Museum in Arromanches and see the remnants of the artificial port in the bay. Alternatively, visit the Bayeux Tapestry Museum and learn about the epic story of William, Duke of Normandy becoming the King of England.

### AUTHENTIC DINING

**Château de Rochecotte:** Enjoy a delicious farm-to-table Celebration Dinner, prepared with fresh, locally sourced ingredients.

Welcome Dinner in Paris.

Taste wine in the Loire Valley.

### TOP RATED HIGHLIGHTS

Visit Mont Saint-Michel and Château d'Azay Le Rideau, both with Local Experts.

City tours of St. Malo and Normandy Landing Beaches, both with Local Experts.

# NORMANDY, BRITTANY & THE LOIRE VALLEY

"Guests are enlightened by Anne, our Local Expert in Normandy, who brings the landing operation to life with various anecdotes shared by her grandparents, who experienced World War II."  
– Emmanuelle, Travel Director



MONT-SAINT-MICHEL, NORMANDY



CHÂTEAU D'AZAY-LE-RIDEAU, LOIRE VALLEY



OMAHA BEACH, NORMANDY



**DAY 1 WELCOME TO PARIS**

On arrival at Charles de Gaulle Airport, transfers leave for the hotel at 09:00, 11:30 and 14:00. After checking in, the capital's grand boulevards and world-famous landmarks are yours to explore. At 17:30, meet your Travel Director and fellow guests at the hotel before enjoying a Welcome Dinner at a local restaurant with cuisine inspired by fresh home-made recipes. (DW)

Le Méridien Etoile, Paris.

**DAY 2 ROUEN, HONFLEUR AND DEAUVILLE**

Follow the River Seine to Rouen, capital of Normandy, to admire its ancient cathedral - a masterpiece of Gothic style and the subject of a series of paintings by Claude Monet. Wander through the narrow streets beneath the Great Clock to the Old Market Square. Here, a superb modern church commemorates the burning of Joan of Arc on this very spot in 1431. Continue to the charming fishing town of Honfleur and to your luxurious hotel, located in the chic seaside resort of Deauville. (B)

Hotel Barrière L'Hôtel du Golf, Deauville.

**DAY 3 NORMANDY BEACHES AND D-DAY LANDINGS**

Follow the route of the Rangers and visit the bunkers and the Rangers Memorial at Pointe du Hoc.

With a Local Expert, spend a few reflective moments at the American Military Cemetery of Saint-Laurent, near Omaha Beach.

Explore Normandy with Insight Choice. Choose to visit the D-Day Museum in Arromanches and see the remnants of the artificial port in the bay. Alternatively, visit the Bayeux Tapestry Museum and learn about the epic story of William, Duke of Normandy becoming the King of England.

This evening, you are treated to a delightful dinner, which promises creative cuisine, seasonal ingredients and delicious wines. (B) (DW)

**DAY 4 MONT SAINT-MICHEL AND SAINT-MALO**

Journey through Bocage country and explore the hilltop abbey of Mont Saint-Michel with your Local Expert. Situated on an island, the abbey is reached by a bridge across the shining sands.

Continue along the Emerald Coast to stunning Saint-Malo, situated on the Rance Estuary and one of the most charming places in France. A Local Expert will take you on an exploration of the City of the Corsairs. Walk through the maze of streets of Intra Muros, the walled city, home of Jacques Cartier and other celebrated voyagers. (B)

Hôtel Le Nouveau Monde, St Malo.

**DAY 5 VILLANDRY EXPERIENCE**

Head south to follow the valley of the Loire, passing the moated Angers Castle.

Cross the Loire to Saumur, where a local vintner will guide you through tastings of the region's delicious wines.

Head to Château de Villandry, the jewel of the Loire, to visit the glorious sustainable gardens on a MAKE TRAVEL MATTER \* Experience. Ensure you don't miss the water, ornamental and kitchen gardens. This stunning sea of fragrant green herbs, silvery cabbages and purple basil which has been grown organically to regenerate the local ecosystem. Continue to your chateau hotel, where you can relax like royalty in sumptuous surroundings. (B)

Château De Rochecotte, Saint Patrice, Loire Valley/Hotel Anne d'Anjou, Saumur.

**DAY 6 SCENIC DRIVE ALONG THE LOIRE VALLEY**

Journey to the fairy-tale Château d'Azay-le-Rideau, considered one of the best representations of French Renaissance architecture. Having recently undergone extensive restoration, your Local Expert will show you the subtle blend of French tradition and innovative Italian decor within this 16th century icon of the Loire Valley.

Return to your superb chateau for relaxation and free time.

This evening, your Celebration Dinner starts with a glass of local sparkling wine and continues with excellent service and delicious Farm-to-Table dishes in the most wholesome setting, ensuring the memory of your meal will linger long after you've returned home. (B) (DW)

**DAY 7 LA BEUCE AND CHARTRES TO PARIS, CITY OF LIGHT**

Traveling through the vast wheat fields of the the Beauce region, Chartres Cathedral, nicknamed the 'Acropolis of France' by August Rodin, looms large on the horizon. Enjoy a guided tour of this architectural delight.

From here, return to the French capital where your Travel Director introduces you to all the fabulous sights, including the magnificent Notre Dame Cathedral and the immense facades of the Louvre. Behold the vast Place de la Concorde, where the guillotine once stood, then travel down the Champs Élysées to Napoléon's Arc de Triomphe. After dark, the City of Light really lives up to its name, when the monuments, buildings and bridges are lit up in all their glory.

For that special touch of excitement and glamour, don't miss the chance to experience a world-famous cabaret shows. (B)

Pullman Paris Centre Bercy.

**DAY 8 AU REVOIR PARIS**

Your departure transfer will arrive at Charles de Gaulle Airport at 08:00 or 11:00. (B)



MAKE TRAVEL MATTER \* Head to Château de Villandry, the jewel of the Loire. (Photo by @Chantal\_insight, Day 5, Loire Valley)

**KEY**

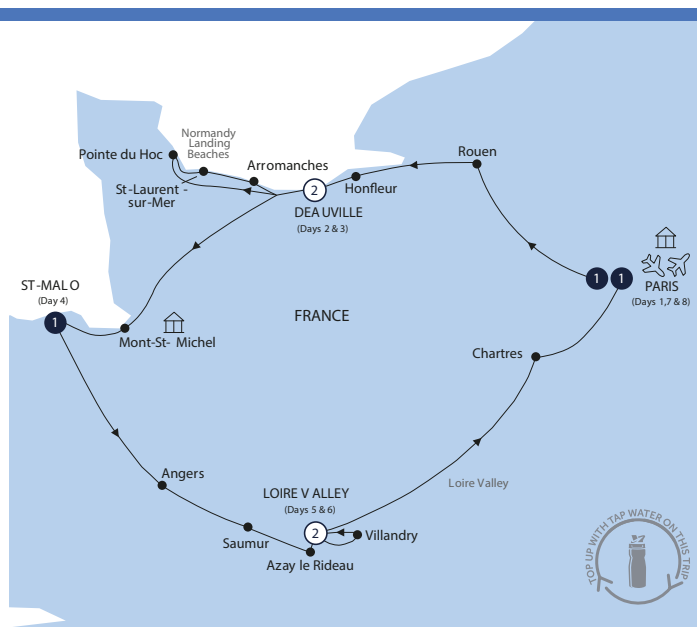
Join/Leave Options

UNESCO Heritage Site

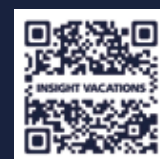
Central Hotels + Nights

Scenic Hotels + Nights

Place Visited

**CHOOSE YOUR GROUP SIZE**

This trip operates both classic and small group departures. You can also book your own private group with as few as 12 travellers.



Use the camera on your smart phone to view the full details of this trip on our website.