Normandy

NO SINGLE SUPPLEMENT for Solo Travelers



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UHCL ALUMNI Association

100

University of Houston 🖬 Clear Lake

University of Houston - Clear Lake Alumni Association June 14-22, 2025 Other dates available upon request

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Dear Alumni and Friends,

Journey with us to beautiful Normandy, a northern region of France that has played a significant role in the political, religious, cultural and gastronomic development of Western civilization. From your base in the scenic port town of Honfleur, you'll explore historic D-Day sites, admire remarkable gems like majestic Mont-Saint-Michel and the exquisite Bayeux Tapestry, see art from masters such as Monet, Degas and Renoir. Along the way, you'll also indulge in some of Normandy's most tantalizing culinary specialties and sample its renowned Calvados apple brandy.

Your itinerary has been carefully crafted to include enriching cultural excursions, preferred access to popular attractions and an engaging educational component. Expert guides and lecturers will provide meaningful context for what you encounter during your travels. You'll also delight in the fellowship of traveling with a small group, plus forge your own path during ample free time.

There's much to experience together in this alluring region! Make plans to be a part of the adventure by reserving your space today.

Sincerely,

HAlakangon

Kendra Hakanson Director of Alumni Relations University of Houston - Clear Lake Alumni Association

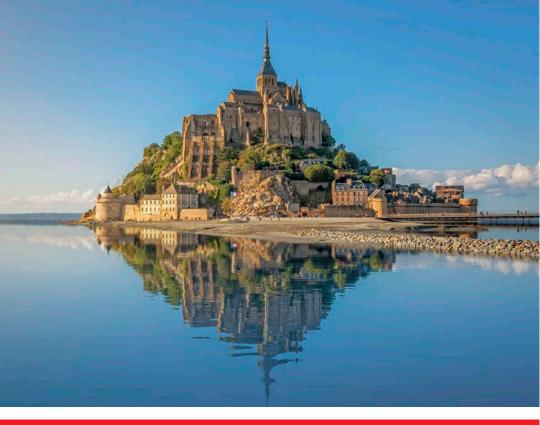
UNESCO World Heritage

Mont-Saint-Michel and its Bay



Cloister, Mont-Saint-Michel





A World of Discovery



Set your sights on an adventure in Normandy that reveals proud traditions, dramatic history, enchanting scenery and culinary delicacies! Embark on poignant visits to the beaches, memorials and landmarks of the historic and monumental D-Day operation. Plus, from the magnificent grandeur of Mont-Saint-Michel to the finely stitched threads of the Bayeux Tapestry and art by Monet, Degas and Renoir, you'll be awestruck by some of France's greatest treasures.

Top: Mont-Saint-Michel | Above: Calvados tasting Cover: "Spirit of the American Youth Rising from the Waves," Normandy American Cemetery | Mail panel: Honfleur

Inspiring Moments

- Contemplate the extraordinary bravery of the Allied landing forces as you walk along the **beaches of Normandy.**
- Explore the impact of World War II at the Caen Memorial Museum.
- Delight in the local color and tasty cuisine along Honfleur's picturesque harbor.
- Savor a wonderful wine tasting and lunch at a stately, **10th-century castle.**
- Visit MuMa to revel in impressionist art by Monet, Degas, Renoir and others.
- Follow the epic story embroidered into the acclaimed **Bayeux Tapestry.**
- Sip **Calvados,** Normandy's celebrated cider brandy, on an estate.
- Marvel at the stunning, UNESCO World Heritage site of Mont-Saint-Michel.

ALUMNI CAMPUS ABROAD®

ANTIQUITY | ARCHITECTURE | ART | CULTURE | CUISINE | HISTORY | NATURAL BEAUTY



Day 1| In Transit

Depart your gateway city for Paris, France.

Day 2 | Paris, France | Honfleur

Upon arrival, transfer **3** to the Mercure Honfleur Hotel. After settling in, gather for tonight's Welcome Reception and Dinner.

Day 3 | Honfleur

Historic Honfleur Walking Tour. Stroll with your guide through this captivating port town that has inspired artists for centuries. From the 16th to the 18th centuries, Honfleur was an important trading seaport and a launching point for exploration. Soak up the maritime charm of the 17th-century harbor, and admire landmarks on its narrow side streets, such as the wooden Church of Sainte Catherine, crafted by 15th-century shipbuilders.

Free Time: Explore more of Honfleur this afternoon and find a cafe for lunch at leisure. Be sure to sample Normandy's enticingly fresh cheeses, including the world-class Neufchâtel, Livarot and Camembert de Normandie!

Savor regional specialties at dinner in Honfleur.

Day 4 | Arromanches | Omaha Beach | Colleville-sur-Mer | Point du Hoc

Enrichment: *D-Day & Battle of Normandy.* Discuss the critical role that Normandy played during this crucial period of the Allied war effort.

D-Day & the Battle of Normandy. Journey along the coast and stop at Pegasus Bridge,

captured by the Allies on D-Day. Then, tour the Arromanches Landing Museum and see the remains of the artificial, offshore Mulberry Harbour, a feat of engineering built by the Allies to facilitate the rapid unloading of resources, including troops and supplies, into France.

Break for lunch and travel to Omaha Beach. See the memorial and contemplate the extraordinary bravery of the Allied landing forces, who valiantly advanced under devastating fire across the heavily fortified shoreline to overcome German troops.

Then, in Colleville-sur-Mer, pay a poignant visit to the Normandy American Cemetery. Set on a beautiful bluff overlooking Omaha Beach, the cemetery contains 9,385 graves of Americans who died in the invasion and subsequent battles, as well as a tranquil memorial garden honoring those missing in action.

Finally, visit Point du Hoc, where U.S. Rangers scaled 100-foot cliffs to destroy German artillery. Understand the treacherous mission and see a German defensive displacement here. Relax over dinner on your own this evening.

Day 5 | Château du Bec | Le Havre | Musée Malraux of Modern Art

Free Time: Enjoy time at leisure this morning. (Château du Bec & MuMa.)

Cross the elegant, cable-stayed Pont de Normandie over the Seine River and make your way to Château du Bec, a 10th-century,



privately owned castle. Meet one of the owners and walk through the beautiful, wooded grounds. Then, try some of the region's flavorful beers and wines and indulge in a buffet lunch. Continue to Le Havre to visit the Musée Malraux of Modern Art (MuMa), holding one of France's largest collections of Impressionist paintings. Admire works by Monet, Degas, Renoir, Pissarro, Boudin and other masters in its bright, airy galleries. Set out to indulge in dinner at leisure tonight.

Day 6 | Mont-Saint-Michel

With one glimpse of Mont-Saint-Michel's striking silhouette rising above the surrounding flat sands, you'll quickly understand why this UNESCO World Heritage site is considered



Church of Sainte Catherine, Honfleur



a wonder of the Western world. Take a guided tour of this intriguing tidal island and step inside the tranquil abbey and church that have drawn pilgrims for centuries. *(Active)* **Free Time:** If you'd like, walk on the ramparts to look out over the expansive coastline. Relax over dinner on your own this evening.

Day 7 | Caen | Bayeux

Le Mémorial de Caen. At this award-winning museum, gain an international perspective of World War II, the D-Day landings, the Battle of Normandy and the Cold War through artifacts, photographs and video footage—with a focus on the war's global impact and the importance of remembrance, reconciliation and peace.

Calvados. Normandy's apple cider brandy is among the world's finest brandies. Visit an estate that distills Calvados



Normandy American Cemetery



from the apples grown on its orchards. Learn about the process, and then relish a buffet lunch and a glass of smooth Calvados.

Bayeux. View the renowned Bayeux Tapestry, an embroidered masterpiece nearly 230 feet long with more than 50 scenes related to the 11th-century Norman conquest of England. Later, admire the lovely Gothic details of Bayeux's Notre Dame Cathedral.

Choose another wonderful Normandy restaurant for dinner this evening.

Enrichment: *The French Resistance.* Delve into the Resistance: its origins, leaders and the heroic efforts of the French patriots who fought to liberate their country.

Day 8 | Honfleur

Free Time: Your final day is yours to plan! Visit nearby museums, such as the Musée Eugène Boudin; visit local markets and stroll along the sea walls; or savor a tasty lunch and take in the local scene from a waterfront cafe.

This evening, share stories of your time in Normandy with your fellow travelers at a Farewell Reception and Dinner.

Day 9 | In Transit

After breakfast, transfer **t** to the Paris airport for the return flight **t** to your gateway city.

Note About Activity Levels

We have designated activity levels for all excursions on this program. For more details, please call or visit our website.

Excursions on this itinerary require:

- walking on cobblestones, unpaved paths and/or uneven surfaces
- getting on and off motor coaches

Included Features

Accommodations {with baggage handling}

7 nights in Honfleur, France, at the first-class Mercure Honfleur Hotel.

Extensive Meal Program

 7 breakfasts, 3 lunches and 3 dinners; including Welcome and Farewell Dinners; tea or coffee with all meals, plus wine with dinner.

Your One-of-a-Kind Journey

- Small group: Sized just right at 28 guests.
- Enrichment by expert speakers enhances your insight into the region.
- Engaging excursions showcase the local culture, heritage and history.
- **(AHI Connects:** Local immersion.
- Welcome and Farewell Receptions to mingle with fellow travelers.
- Free time to pursue your own interests.
- A personal VOX headset to hear your English-speaking guide clearly.
- -Tipping of guides and drivers.
- Complimentary travel mementos.
- AHI Sustainability Promise:
 We strive to make a positive impact wherever we travel.

Les Braves Monument, Omaha Beach







Accommodations



Mercure Honfleur Hotel | Honfleur

Situated in the heart of historic Honfleur, this modern hotel is close to the charming harbor that has been immortalized in paintings by artists such as Monet and Boudin. Its convenient location offers an ideal base for enjoying Normandy's cultural and culinary delights. Walkable dining venues are moments away. After a lively day of sightseeing, relax in the cozy bar with a glass of the local cider, a Calvados-based cocktail or a fine regional vintage. Wi-Fi is complimentary.

O Tripadvisor



Mulberry harbor remnants, Arromanches



Reserve your trip today!

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visit housel.ahitravel.com.

Program Dates

Travel dates +

June 14-22, 2025

★ Travel dates include any overnights required for international travel. These dates may vary depending on air schedules.

Tour dates*

June 15-22, 2025

* Tour dates begin on the scheduled arrival date at your destination and end on the scheduled departure date from your destination.

Land Program

Early Booking Special Price*	\$3,495
Special Savings	\$750
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Our experts are ready to assist you in booking flights. Our personalized air program offers the following advantages:

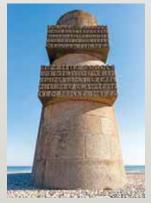
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Normandy & D-Day

More than 80 years ago, one of the largest, most complex invasions in history unfolded along Normandy's coastline. It began on D-Day, June 6, 1944, when more than 160,000 Allied forces arrived by air and sea, landing in territory held by the Germans. Under the command of General Dwight D. Eisenhower, the Allied troops faced fierce resistance and sustained thousands of casualties, but they succeeded in securing the beaches and later advanced inland to liberate Paris. A tactical and psychological blow to Hitler and his troops, D-Day will be remembered forever as the moment of World War II when the tide began to turn against the Nazis.



AHI Travel Expertise

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Before you go:

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Travel Information provides pre-departure details and enrichment about your destination.

Once you arrive:

Your Travel Director, a seasoned, multilingual professional, manages daily logistics so you enjoy a seamless experience.

Handpicked Expert Guides offer fascinating insights and share their passion for their country with you.

Knowledgeable Lecturers deepen your appreciation for the region and its history, culture and current events.



Private John Steele Monument, Sainte-Mère-Église

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Normandy's beauty, history and rich culture await you!

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