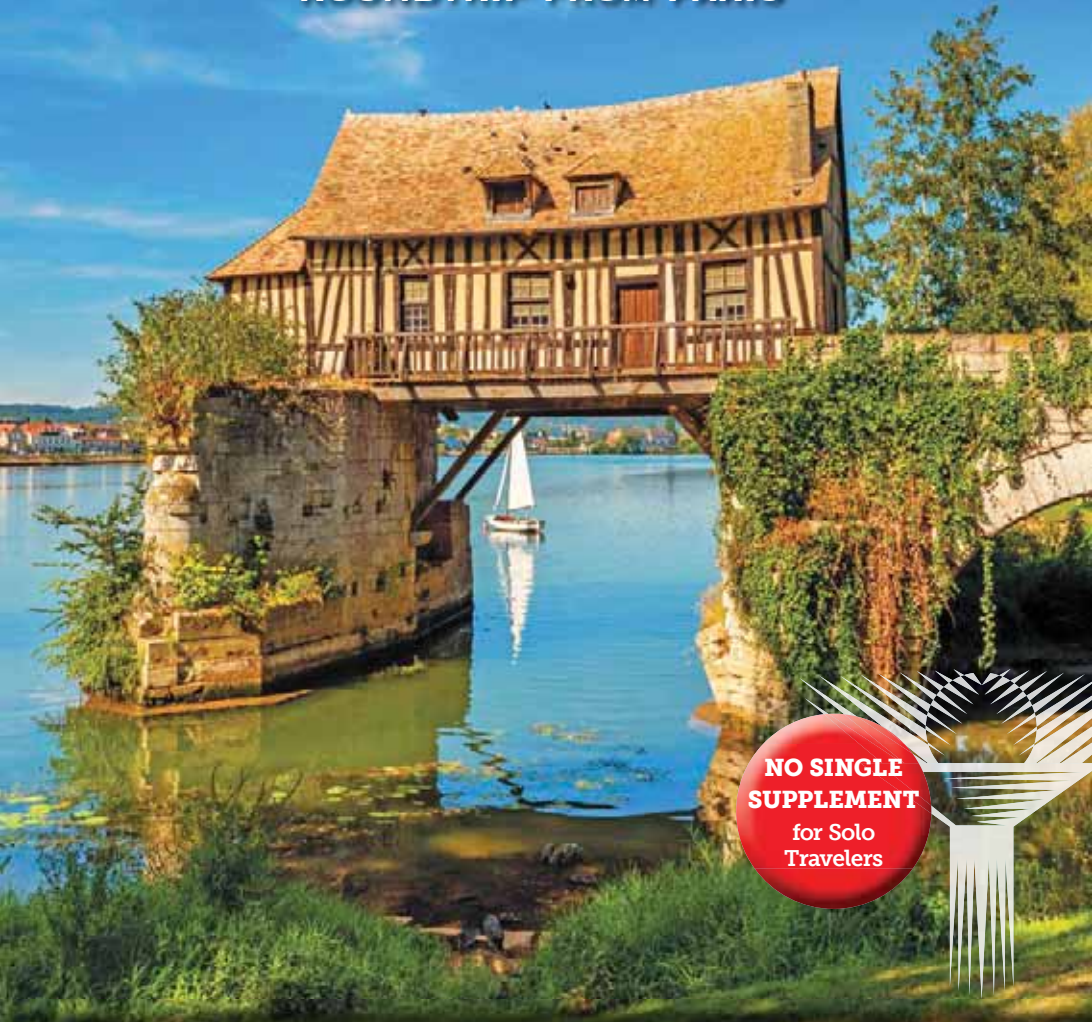


GRAND

Seine River & Normandy Passage

ROUNTRIP FROM PARIS



**NO SINGLE
SUPPLEMENT**
for Solo
Travelers

SPONSORED BY

University of Illinois Alumni Association



ALUMNI

May 6-14, 2026

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Dear EXPLORERS and Friends,

Join us for a cultural journey along the storied Seine River! Set sail from Paris on an unforgettable round-trip cruise that showcases this special corner of France.

As your riverboat glides through Normandy's bucolic countryside, history will come to life. Visit celebrated destinations, including Versailles, Honfleur and Rouen, and explore Claude Monet's blooming gardens in Giverny. Spend a day immersed in World War II history at the Caen Memorial and the poignant beaches that once served as battlegrounds. After discovering the essence of Normandy, return to the heart of Paris to enjoy more time in this romantic city with a Seine River cruise and a tour of the Latin Quarter. Together, we'll turn the pages of this remarkable history book!

This thoughtfully designed journey features enrichment from expert guides and lecturers, along with the security and ease of group travel. Plus, you'll appreciate the camaraderie of other curious travelers and make your own discoveries during free time.

Our Seine River cruise has always proven to be a crowd-pleaser! Guarantee your spot by making your reservation today!

Sincerely,



David Bambrey
President

The EXPLORERS program is open to alumni of the University of Illinois, their families, and friends.

UNESCO World Heritage

1. **Paris**, Banks of the Seine
2. **Palace and Park of Versailles**

Versailles



Notre Dame, Banks of the Seine, Paris



Discovery begins here



Cruise along the legendary Seine River through Normandy, a region shaped by its profound history and rich culture. Walk in the footsteps of royalty at Versailles and feel as if you are gliding through an actual impressionist painting on the picturesque river. Explore ancient abbeys and captivating port towns, and delight in a visit to Claude Monet's Giverny home. Plus, visit pivotal WWII sites and cap off your journey in timeless Paris with a Seine River cruise!

Top: Abbey of Jumièges | Above: Café, Latin Quarter, Paris
Cover: Vernon on the Seine | Mail panel: MS Renoir sailing in Paris | Omaha Beach, Normandy

Inspiring Moments



- Explore the outstanding palace and gardens of **Versailles**, a decadent symbol of royal power.
- Visit medieval abbeys nestled in the **French countryside**.
- See **Rouen's splendid Cathedral**, one of the greatest in all of France.
- Pay tribute to the sacrifice and valor of the Allied Forces at hallowed **D-Day beaches**.
- Discover the impact of World War II at the **Caen Memorial Museum**.
- Uncover the life of Claude Monet while exploring his **Giverny home and gardens**.
- **Cruise through Paris** and behold the glorious sights of this celebrated city.
- Experience two **UNESCO World Heritage sites**.



Honfleur

Day 1 | In Transit

Depart your gateway city for Paris, France. 🚢

Day 2 | Paris, France

Upon arrival, transfer 🚗 and embark your ship. Settle into your comfortable cabin and get acquainted with the ship's modern amenities.

Later, gather with new friends for a Welcome Reception and Dinner, and bid farewell to Paris for now as the ship departs for your cruise.

Day 3 | Conflans-Sainte-Honorine | Versailles

Palace of Versailles. Today you'll visit France's grandest palace, Versailles, the political capital and seat of the royal court from 1682 to 1789. On a guided tour, see the lavish King's Grand Apartment and the dazzling Hall of Mirrors, with its 17 massive mirrors opposite 17 matching windows creating the illusion of infinite space, and where the Treaty of Versailles was signed. Conclude the tour at the Queen's Apartments, where she hosted the Ladies of the Court.

Relish some free time to meander the famous formal French gardens created by Andre Le Notre before returning to the ship for lunch.

Relax on the sun deck while cruising to Rouen and savor a delicious dinner on board tonight.

Day 4 | Jumièges | Rouen

Ancient Abbeys. Venture through the French countryside to visit the ruins of the Benedictine Abbey of Jumièges, one of the most powerful abbeys in medieval France. The remains of the current building are from the 11th century, but the original monastery was founded 300 years

earlier. Walk among the abbey's soaring white towers and discover the cloisters and remains of the Église St Pierre. Continue and stop for a brief visit at Abbey Saint-Wandrille, which still houses a monastic community, and appreciate its Gothic and rococo-style adornments.

Return to the ship to relax over lunch on board.

Rouen Discovery. Take a guided walk around Rouen's medieval quarter, passing half-timbered houses and ornate Gothic churches. Marvel at the grand Notre-Dame de Rouen, captured in over 30 paintings by Claude Monet. Be awed by the 14th-century Gros-Horloge astronomical clock, and hear tales of the martyr, Joan of Arc. After an enriching day, return to the ship for a relaxing dinner as the ship cruises for Honfleur.

Day 5 | Honfleur

Honfleur. Continue the day in the French port town that has captivated artists like Monet and Boudin for centuries. Soak up the ambiance of



Gros-Horloge, Rouen



Étretat

its picture-perfect old harbor, located where the Seine River meets the English Channel. Stroll along the rebuilt post-war streets and pass notable sites, including the all-wooden, 15th-century Église Sainte-Catherine.

🌞PYJ | Choose one of these excursions:

- **Étretat Cliff-Top Walk.** Take a walk along the stunning white clifftops of Étretat's coastline, represented in approximately 80 works of art by Monet, and be awed by the views! *(Active)*
- **Calvados Farm Tour.** Head to the country to tour a family-run cider farm and learn about the production of fruit juices and Pommeau de Calvados, followed by a delicious tasting!
- **Museum of Modern Art André Malraux.** Join a tour of MuMa to view its acclaimed collection of European impressionist art, including works by Renoir, Degas, Picasso, Van Gogh, Dufy, Pissarro and Warhol!

Enrichment: Normandy's History & Culture.

French Chanson Performance. Singers will entertain you with lyrical French art songs.

Day 6 | D-Day Beaches | Caen | Caudebec-en-Caux

Normandy & D-Day. Immerse yourself in World War II history on a guided tour. Begin

at Pointe du Hoc to hear the story of the U.S. Rangers who scaled cliffs to destroy German artillery emplacements that threatened troops landing on Omaha and Utah beaches. Next, visit Omaha Beach to contemplate the bravery of the Allied landing forces, who advanced under devastating fire across a heavily fortified shoreline to overcome German troops. Pay tribute at the Normandy American Cemetery, containing 9,385 graves of Americans that died in the invasion and subsequent battles. Head to Caen for lunch, followed by a visit to the moving Mémorial de Caen peace museum. Return to the ship, now docked in Caudebec-en-Caux, for cruising and dinner tonight.

Day 7 | Giverny | Vernon

Monet, His Life in Giverny. Visit the visionary impressionist's Giverny house. See the studio

Monument, Normandy American Cemetery



Calvados





where he created his “Water Lilies” series, and inside his pink stucco home filled with color and personality. Marvel at the Clos Normand flower garden and the water garden’s lily pond and wisteria-covered Japanese bridge. Rejoin the ship in Vernon and enjoy lunch, afternoon cruising and dinner this evening.

Day 8 | Paris

Seine River Cruise & Latin Quarter Walk.

Witness Paris from the water on a delightful cruise on the Seine. View iconic landmarks, including the Louvre, Eiffel Tower and Musée d’Orsay as you glide beneath iconic bridges. Then, take a guided walk on Île de la Cité in Paris’ historic heart. Pass Notre-Dame and cross the Archbishop’s Bridge, while learning about the Latin Quarter’s fascinating history.

Free Time: Relish your final afternoon in Paris to explore more of the City of Light at leisure! Bid au revoir to your fellow travelers and Paris at tonight’s Farewell Reception and Dinner.

Day 9 | In Transit

After breakfast, transfer ➡ to the Paris airport for the return flights ✈ to your gateway city.

Note: Itinerary may change due to local conditions.

✈ Flights and ➡ transfers included for AHI FlexAir participants.

🌟 PYJ experiences are included.

Activity Level

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/off motor coaches and boats

Included Features



Accommodations (with baggage handling)

- **Unpack once** and cruise for **7 nights** aboard the **exclusively chartered**, first-class MS Renoir.

Extensive Meal Program

- 7 breakfasts, 6 lunches and 7 dinners, including Welcome and Farewell Dinners; tea or coffee with all meals, plus wine, beer or soft drinks with lunch and dinner.

Your One-of-a-Kind Journey

- **Enrichment by expert speakers** enhances your insight into the region.
- **Engaging excursions** showcase the local culture, heritage and history.
- **🌟PYJ | Personalize Your Journey |** A choice of excursions in selected locales.
- Free time to pursue your individual interests.
- Welcome and Farewell Receptions to mingle with fellow travelers.
- 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.

Notre-Dame de Rouen





Home and gardens of Monet, Giverny



Sprawling gardens at Versailles

EXTEND YOUR STAY



Opera Garnier

Paris | 2 Nights

{ Elective PRE-Trip Extension at an additional cost }

Spend two additional nights in thrilling Paris! Enjoy a tour of the historic Le Marais neighborhood and spend time at leisure exploring Paris' world-class museums, boutiques and more. This extension includes two nights at the Hilton Paris Opera; Welcome Reception and daily breakfast; guided tour of Le Marais; services of an AHI Travel Director and AHI Hospitality Desk; transfer with baggage handling between the hotel and the ship; and all taxes and service charges.

\$1,095 per person, double occupancy | \$1,590 single occupancy

2026 | Departure Details

Program Dates

Travel dates ✈ **May 6-14, 2026**

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

Tour dates* **May 7-14, 2026**

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

Cruise Program

Category-Deck	Full Price	Special Savings Price*
D-Main Deck (Aft)	\$5,545	\$4,795
C-Main Deck (Forward)	\$5,745	\$4,995
B-Upper Deck (Aft)	\$6,245	\$5,495
A-Upper Deck (Forward)	\$6,445	\$5,695

***This Special Savings Price includes our \$250 Early Booking and \$500 Pay-in-Full discounts and is valid if you book by the date on the address panel and pay in full at booking.**

Deposit amount is \$750 per person.
Final Payment is due at least 120 days prior to departure.
Categories A and B feature a French balcony. Categories C and D feature a window.
Price includes applicable program taxes (such as VAT and port charges).
All prices quoted are in USD, per person, based on double occupancy and do not include air transportation costs (unless otherwise stated).
Special offers, promotions and discounts cannot be combined.
Single supplement waived for solo travelers! This offer is limited, capacity-controlled and tends to sell out quickly.

Please note: Program-specific terms and conditions are available at <https://il.ahitravel.com/destinations/1962A?schoold=69>.

AHI FlexAir

Let us arrange your flights

Our experts are ready to assist you in booking flights. Our personalized air program offers the following advantages:

- **price guarantee** to protect you from fuel surcharge increases after ticket purchase
- arrival and departure **transfers** on group dates
- **flexibility** to change or cancel your reservation before departure on most flights (Fees may apply.)
- **assistance** in the event of schedule changes or delays

AHI Travel Expertise

Travel Consultants assist with the reservation process.

Travel & Air Coordinators offer their personalized assistance with flights, electives and special requests.

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

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

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



MS Renoir

Step aboard the stylish MS Renoir and embark on a cruise where your comfort and enjoyment are the highest priority. From the ship's beautiful decor to gourmet dining experiences and generous, comfortable public spaces, your floating hotel provides a stress-free stay while discovering the Seine River and beyond. Along the way, delight in a variety of shipboard entertainment, live music and cultural programs.



Les Andelys along the banks of the Seine



Book your journey today!

844-414-0369

<https://uiaa.org/explorers/>

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SEINE26 77



Discover Paris, Normandy & more on a Seine River cruise!

Committed to connecting travelers
to the people, places and cultures
of the world for more than 62 years.



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our website for the
most current program
information, discounts
and pricing.**

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