



TOUR 110 - NORMANDY - Beaches & Northern France

5th - 9th May 2010 (* Limited availability tour)



The Normandy Landings were the first operations of the Allied invasion of Normandy, also known as Operation Neptune and Operation Overlord, during World War II.

The operation was the largest single-day amphibious invasion of all time, with 160,000 troops, 195,700 allied naval and merchant navy personnel and over 5,000 ships involved. The landings took place along a 50-mile stretch of the Normandy coast divided into five sectors: **Utah, Omaha, Gold, Juno and Sword**.

On our way down to our first overnight stay in **Bayeux** we will visit **Pegasus Bridge** and the Airbourne Museum which houses many artefacts, uniforms, weapons and vehicles connected with the fighting.

Day two and following our visit to the unique 360 degree cinema at **Arromanches** we continue along the coast to visit the Operation Overlord beaches of **Sword, Juno, Gold, Omaha and Utah** and experience the **American Cemetery** overlooking Omaha Beach, the intense fighting that took place here was graphically illustrated in the film '**Saving Private Ryan**'.

Continuing on to **Pointe du Hoc** and the monument which was built in memory of the Rangers Battalion who using rope ladder and under intense German fire from above assaulted and captured the gun battery.

We stop at the town of **Sainte Mère Église** made famous by the paratrooper John Steel and by the film "**The Longest Day**". John Steel managed to land on the church and his chute caught on the steeple. An effigy of John Steel is usually to be seen hanging from the church.

Following our visits to the beaches and memorials we head south for a further two nights and stay at a 19th century country home set in 5½ acres of beautiful gardens and farmland. With home cooked evening meals, full English breakfast if required and great hospitality this really is quite a unique experience. The next days ride-out sees us visit the island monastery of **Mont Saint Michel** before taking to the rural back roads to explore more of this fabulous area of France.

With still more great riding ahead and using quiet country roads we ride to **Honfleur** which is one of the best preserved ports of Normandy and has changed very little over the years. We will have time to explore the town before crossing the famous **Pont de Normandie** road bridge that spans the River Seine. Our hotel for the evening is a lovely Normandy building situated close to the River Seine.

En-route to our afternoon tunnel crossing we ride to the **Somme** battle fields and to the **Thiepval Memorial** which bears the names of more than 72,000 officers and men who died in WW1 and have no known grave.



Due to the unique nature of the accommodation we use on this tour we have limited spaces available.

If you are interested in joining us please call as soon as possible to secure your place.

Daily Mileage: 125 - 245

INCLUDED IN TOUR PRICE

Euro Tunnel outbound & return
Four nights B&B + Four Evening Meals
Route Plans and Maps
Full day by day itinerary
GPS coordinates (Garmin)
Fully supported by Tour Guide
Fully edited DVD of your tour

TOUR PRICE

One Person	One Bike	Shared Room	£365
One Person	One Bike	Single Room	£455
Two Persons	One Bike	Shared Room	£660