

RIDING TRIPS

FRANCE'S NORMANDY AND MONT ST. MICHEL RIDE





his is one of our most epic horseback rides - the history is incredibly rich. It's not just about the lovely, lush and peaceful landscapes of Normandy, it's about the deep, poignant and historic events that occurred here and all along the D-Day beaches.

> As a wonderful treat, you end the week with the amazing ride on the beach and to visit Mont Saint Michel. An incredible week of riding, to be sure!

If possible, prior to your trip try to be consistently riding a horse 3 or 4 times per week to condition your muscles for some of the longer days on horseback. Also, be familiar with basic horsemanship (tying quick release knot, grooming, tacking up and adjusting the tack, etc.) During the ride: Pay attention to the given instructions, respect the schedule and keep a reasonable distance from other riders - if you have any questions please ask!



7 DAYS



MEMBERS



FRANCE





HOTEL









Suggested ITINERARY

Day 1-Arrival

Free arrival in Chateau de Bellefontaine in Bayeux. Briefing, gourmet diner and night in Chateau de Bellefontaine.

Day 2 Colleville -Ohama Beach

AM - about 2h riding

We start our first ride by the cliff according to the tide to reach famous Ohama beach by the Normand countryside. Great canter on the beach if possible. Lunch in local restaurant.

PM - about 1 h30 riding

Second ride with great view on the sea and canter on the beach if possible, before the visit of the American Cemetery of WW2. New gourmet diner and night in Chateau de Bellefontaine.

Day 3

Ohama beach -Arromanches

AM - about 2h riding

Begining of the ride by the cliff and the countryside in Colleville and Ohama beach. Great paces on the beach if possible according to the tide. Lunch in local restaurant near Ohama beach.

PM- about 2h riding

Ride on the cliff with an amazing view on the sea and arrival in Arromanches where you can enjoy the view on the famous WW2 Mulberry port. Diner and night in La Marine in Arromanches.

Day 4

Arromanches - Ryes - Creully

AM - about 2h riding

Departure from the beach according to the tide and then in the lovely Normand hilly countryside. Visit of lovely Xllth century church followed by the lunch in local restaurant in Ryes.

PM - about 2h riding

New ride in the countryside and arrival in Creully old town. Visit of the gorgeous Medieval castle of Creully from where the BBC aired the news during WW2. New night and dinner in La Marine in Arromanches.





Suggested ITINERARY

Day 5 Bayeux - Saint Lô

AM - walking tour

We start our day by visiting the beautiful cathedrale of Bayeux and its worldwide renowned tapestry listed as UNECSO inheritance. Transfer by car to Saint Lô followed by lunch in local restaurant.

PM - about 1 h30 riding

Ride in Saint-Lô ountryside followed by the visit of Haras de Saint Lô, heart of Selle Francais breeding. Transfer in car to Manoir de Brion in Mont Saint Michel bay. Dinner and night in this amazing gothic Manoir de Brion where the french kings stayed during their pilgrimage in Mont Saint Michel. Gourmet dinner and night in Manoir de Brion.

Day 6 Mont Saint Michel bay

AM- about 4h riding

We start our last day in Normandy on the cliff, according to the tide, and we are led by our private guide in Mont Saint Michel bay to admire its spectacular view on the monument and the sea. Lunch in local creperie.

PM- walking tour

Free time in Mont Saint Michel where you will have time to visit the monument or to shop. Last dinner and night in Manoir de Brion.

Day 7-Departure

Breakfast in Manoir de Brion. Transfer (not included) to Avranches or Rennes train station.







HORSES:

The horses are mixed breed horses, trained for the trail riding: Selle Francais, French Trotter and Anglo Arab cross. The horses are quiet and generous. Your specific horse is chosen for you according to your level, height and weight.

RIDING LEVEL:

Confidence at the walk, trot and canter on the trail.

TERRAIN:

Open fields, trails, groves, forests and hills. The trail may be adjusted from the written itinerary if needed.

Accommodation & MEALS

Accomodations are located close to our itinerary and combine charm with comfort. Hoteld e Charme, historical Manors or private chateaux... You will enjoy the magic of old-stoned dwellings, of hundred-year-old trees, and amazing sea views when available.

- Comfortable and refined Twin rooms with private bathroom are waiting for you.
- Single rooms are available on request according to availability.

We offer you a taste of genuine gastronomy from Heart of France: refined picnics with foie gras, traditional local food, gourmet dinners...You will taste and experience the french « Art de vivre ».



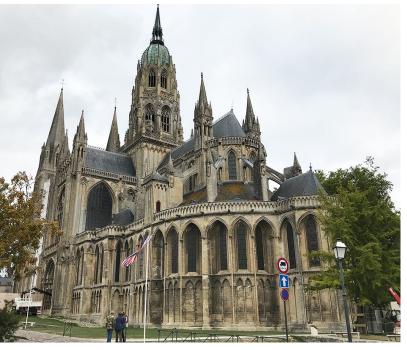




Rider REVIEWS



Am Still on Cloud 9!!! What a Fantabulous, Spectacular, Jam-Packed Equestrian Adventure in Normandy, France!!! I'd do it all over again in a heartbeat!!! Thank You!!! Thank You!!! Thank You to Stacey Adams/Active Riding Trips our US Coordinator/Hostess, to Anne-France our Fabulous French Equestrian Guide & Hostess, to Jen-Michel & His Cavy of Horses as we Enjoyed Clip-Clopping our way through the French Countryside, Villages & Cantering on Omaha Beach!!! Visiting the American Cemetery & getting to glimpse the Rich History, The Cathedral at Bayeux & the William the Conqueror Tapestry at the Museum, The French Hospitality, The Chateaus for Lodging, The Meals & Wine, Were All Exquisite!!! Riding the beach of Mont St Michel Bay was a treat of its own!!!



Perhaps I would make the National Stud farm an afternoon by taxi because of the busy traffic and include the stay at Mont St Michel as part of the package somehow...but other than that, it was completely dreamy!!!!

And I really enjoyed the beach rides (my 1st ever) **Cindy B.**





Additional INFORMATION



INCLUDED:

6 nights accommodation
 (double room)
5 days of guided trail riding
 Horse and all tack
 Guiding services
 All luggage and personal
 transfers on the itinerary
 All meals
Wine with meals (2 glasses each)
Visits listed in the itinerary
 for both of you
 All local taxes
Gratuities for all hotel
 and restaurant staff

NOT INCLUDED:

Airfare
Travel insurance
Drinks outside of meals
or beyond the allotment
Gratuities for the riding staff
Transfers to/from the meeting
and departure points
Visits or tips not outlined
in the itinerary

NOTE: The itinerary may be changed slightly according to the tide, season and weather conditions.