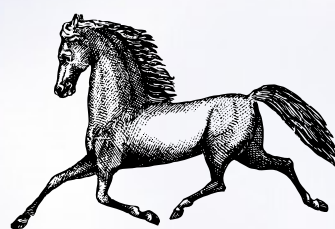


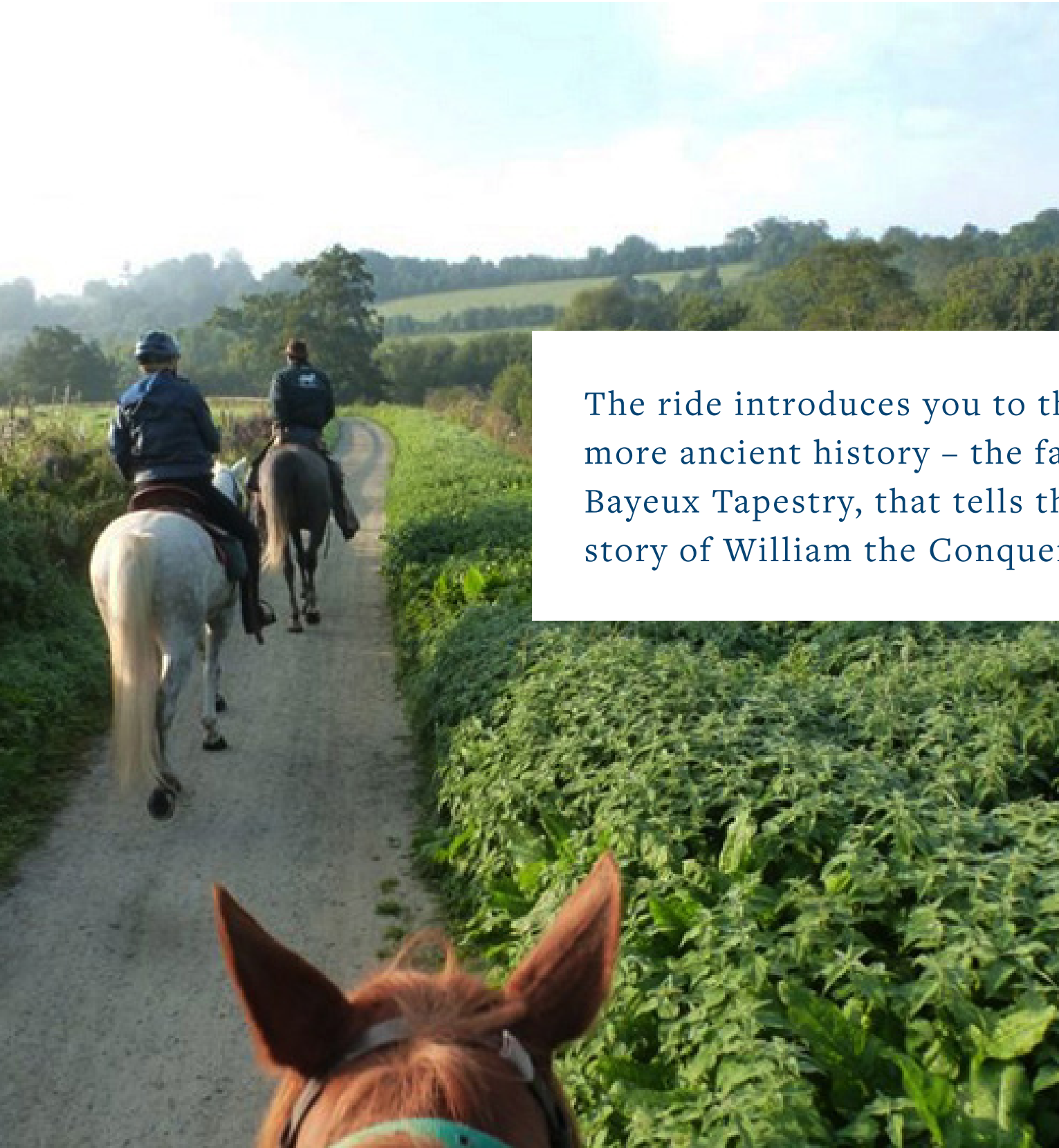
ACTIVE



RIDING TRIPS

FRANCE'S  
NORMANDY AND MONT  
ST. MICHEL RIDE





The ride introduces you to the more ancient history – the famed Bayeux Tapestry, that tells the story of William the Conqueror.

This 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!



duration:  
7 DAYS



2-10  
MEMBERS



country  
FRANCE



airport  
BAYEUX



accommodation  
HOTEL



all meals  
INCLUDED



# Suggested ITINERARY

## Day 1

Arrival in the afternoon after 2PM to the chateau de Bellefontaine in Bayeux. Transfers can be arranged for a fee.

Briefing, dinner and night at chateau de Bellefontaine in Bayeux.

## Day 2

Bayeux - Creuilly.

In the morning your ride will be a fun 2 hours with mixed pace so you may get acquainted with your horse. The choice of these wonderful horses has been motivated above all, by the strong desire to make you enjoy your trip in total safety. You will start the ride in the hilly landscape of Normandy and explore the countryside before you arrive on horseback in Creuilly - the old city. You'll have a nice visit of the medieval Creuilly chateau, from where the BBC diffused news of Normandy battle in 1944. You'll also visit the 13th century Saint Martin church.

Lunch is taken in Creully. In the afternoon you'll ride another 2 hours in the lush Normandy countryside, marveling at how peaceful and lovely it is - a contrast to the events of its history. You arrive to Bayeux, the medieval 13th century city.

Dinner and night at chateau de Bellefontaine in Bayeux

## Day 3

Bayeux - Arromanches.

The morning begins with a visit to the Bayeux cathedral, a medieval and 18th century center and home of the famous Bayeux Tapestry that chronicles the bravery of William the Conqueror, originally made in the 11th century, and listed as a "Memory of the World" by UNESCO.

After lunch you'll mount up and ride for 2+ hours through the hills and landscapes of the area before a spectacular arrival with a panoramic view on Arromanches and its famous Mulberry Port. You'll enjoy the chance to canter on the beach if possible (determined by the tide).

Dinner and night at hotel La Marine, with a wonderful view on the sea.

## Day 4

Arromanches - Omaha Beach.

A memorable ride this morning as you begin riding atop the coastal and Cliff paths overlooking the Channel. The ride on the cliff is elevated but not at the very edge, so no worry to any with height concerns - the view will take your breath away. You'll marvel even today to see the remains of the WWII battery, eerily serene given the lives lost here.

You'll stop for lunch in Port en Bessin before mounting up for the continuation of your ride. As you continue to follow the coast and Cliff paths you'll emerge onto the area of Omaha Beach with the now gentle lapping of waves. A visit to the American Cemetery or Overlord Museum is available to you.

Afterward, transfer by car to Chateau de la Roque, near Saint Lo for your evening meal and night in chateau.



# Suggested ITINERARY

## Day 5

Herbecrevon - Saint Lo.

You begin the ride this morning along the La Rive River to Haras de Saint Lo, the heart of famous Selle Français breed. You'll have a chance to see the history of this versatile breed and maybe see special classes given by a show jumping French rider.

Afterward the ride continues along the river and countryside to the village of Herbecrevon where you leave your horse and transfer by car to Manoir du Brion in Mont Saint Michel Bay .

Dinner in a typical local restaurant.  
Night in Manoir de Brion.

## Day 6

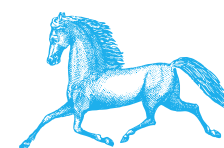
Mont Saint Michel.

Today's ride is based on tidal charts and gives you an incredible experience. You'll enjoy the long canters in the Bay of Mont Saint Michel as you approach the city the only way possible – through the Sandy bay when the tide is out. This famous city is remarkable in its own right, but the fact that it is completely cut off from the mainland makes it a unique and much visited and loved town.

Lunch in a local and typical creperie.  
Gourmet dinner. Night in manoir de Brion.

## Day 7

Breakfast and departure. This is a perfect day to visit the town of Mont Saint Michel if you want to explore and walk the streets (or stairs, for that matter). Independent transfer (not included) to Avranches or TGV Rennes station.



TACK:  
English trail

HORSES:  
The horses are mixed breed horses, trained for the trail riding: Selle Français, 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.



# Rider REVIEWS



**I** 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.

