

Cruise & Walk the River Seine

Trip style: Cruise & Walks

Destination: 📍 France

Trip code: PAR07-LBL09

Trip Walking Grade: 1/2



Holiday Overview

Experience the romance of the Seine on a small-ship river cruise through northwest France and the historic region of Normandy aboard MS Amadeus Diamond. Stay in a spacious cabin and enjoy all the comforts of a boutique cruise, combined with a guided walk and sightseeing every day. Journey from Paris to the Atlantic coast and back again, stepping ashore to stroll Rouen's medieval streets, walk the dramatic cliffs of Étretat, and tour the house and gardens at Giverny that inspired the works of Claude Monet. On board, expect attentive service, generous breakfasts, and freshly prepared evening meals paired with local wines to make your trip even more memorable.

WHAT YOU'LL LOVE

- Smaller, intimate experience and relaxed feel on board
- Daily small-group guided walks and sightseeing with expert local leaders, exclusively for HF guests
- Fully escorted from the UK by an HF Tour Manager
- Guided walking tours of Conflans Ste Honorine, Rouen and Le Havre
- A guided walk to the cliffs of Étretat
- A visit to Monet's house and garden at Giverny with a guided tour
- A guided walking tour of Paris
- Tastings of local produce

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Return rail from the UK and transfers
- Fully escorted from the UK by an HF Holiday Tour Manager
- 7-night river cruise with accommodation in an en-suite river view cabin
- Full board dining featuring breakfast, multi-course lunch and dinner with menu choices, afternoon tea and late-night snack
- Wine, beer and soft drinks served with lunch and dinner
- 24-hour complimentary tea and coffee available in the Amadeus Club
- Welcome cocktail reception and dinner and gala dinner
- Guided walking excursions as described in the itinerary
- Onboard entertainment as described in the itinerary

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Day 1 Arrival Day

Meet your HF Holidays Tour Manager and fellow travellers at London St Pancras International. After check-in, baggage checks, and passport control, relax in the departure lounge before boarding the Eurostar to Paris. On arrival, a private transfer takes us to the Amadeus Diamond. Embark, unpack, and enjoy a welcome cocktail followed by a special dinner as the ship sets sail along the Seine.

Day 2 Conflans-Ste-Honorine

Distance: 6.7 miles (10.73km)

Total ascent: 387ft (118m)

Total descent: 410ft (125m)

Wake up in Conflans-Ste-Honorine, where colourful houseboats and barges line the river. Join a guided walk through the medieval streets and along the riverbank, including a visit to a houseboat in the floating village. Sample local apple juice before returning to the ship for lunch. The afternoon is at leisure before we depart for Rouen.

Day 3 Rouen – City of 100 Spires

Distance: 5.6miles (8.95km)

Total ascent: 485ft (148m)

Total descent: 462ft (141m)

Arrive in Rouen during breakfast. Follow in the footsteps of Joan of Arc on a guided walk through the medieval centre and Place du Marché. See the Gros Horloge astronomical clock and enjoy a tasting of Norman cider and cheese. Lunch onboard, with the afternoon free before sailing to Le Havre.

Day 4 Le Havre – Modern Architecture

Distance: 6.9miles (11.20km)

Total ascent: 282ft (86m)

Total descent: 282ft (86m)

Wake up in Le Havre and explore its mid-20th-century Brutalist architecture on a guided walk, including City Hall, St Joseph's Church, and the marketplace. The city centre is a UNESCO World Heritage site. Lunch onboard, with the rest of the day free to explore. This evening, enjoy onboard entertainment from local chanson singers.

Day 5 Etretat and the Normandy Coast

Distance: 5.3miles (8.58km)

Total ascent: 597ft (182m)

Total descent: 577ft (176m)

Travel by coach to the Alabaster Coast and the town of Etretat, known for dramatic white cliffs and natural rock formations. Walk through the countryside to the cliffs, learning about the geology. Enjoy a picnic lunch before returning to the ship at Caudebec-en-Caux. The ship departs after dinner.

Day 6 Monet's Giverny

Distance: 5.3miles (8.67km)

Total ascent: 173ft (53m)

Total descent: 606ft (185m)

During breakfast, the ship stops at Les Andelys. Take a coach to Giverny, home of Claude Monet. Visit the house and gardens, learning about Monet and the Impressionist Movement. Walk along the Seine to the ship in Vernon. Lunch onboard, then relax as the ship continues its journey, stopping briefly in Mantes-La-Jolie before heading to Paris.

Day 7 Paris – Secret Passages

Distance: 8.2miles (13.20km)

Total ascent: 98ft (30m)

Total descent: 114ft (35m)

Wake up in Paris. Discover iconic monuments on a guided walk through the city's secret passages and pastry shops, with a pastry tasting and tea included. Lunch onboard, then the afternoon is yours to explore. A gala dinner rounds off your cruise.

Day 8 Departure Day

Say farewell to the crew and transfer to Gare du Nord for your Eurostar journey back to London.

Daily Walk Options



Easier Walks

Good paths but walks are a bit longer. Some walks, particularly in mountain areas, may have sections over rough or steeper terrain.

Accommodation

MS Amadeus Diamond

Cabin Facilities

Each cabin features a spacious bathroom with a walk-in shower, luxurious Rituals bath products, and a hairdryer, along with a fixed panoramic window or French windows that fill the space with natural light. Thoughtful touches like a comfortable bed, ample wardrobe, secure in-room safe, flat-screen TV, individual climate control and direct dial telephone ensure a restful and well-equipped stay.

Ship facilities

- Restaurant
- Panorama lounge bar
- Massage room
- Fitness room
- Lift between the Haydn and Mozart decks (sun deck not accessible by lift)
- Shop
- Amadeus Club with 24 hour tea and coffee station
- Putting green, chess board, shuffleboard and loungers on sun deck

Ship Technical Details

- Construction: 2009
- Renovation: 2019

- Flag: Germany
- Length x Width 110m x 11.4m
- Draft: 1.3m
- Decks: 4
- Cabins/Suites: 62/12
- Max.passenger: 146
- Crew members: approx. 40
- Speed: 25 km/h

Trip Information

Before booking, you should check with your doctor to see whether any health precautions are needed for your trip. Health advice and requirements can change, so we recommend doing this in good time before travel.

As a general rule, travellers should ensure they are up to date with routine UK vaccinations and boosters, including, for example, MMR and diphtheria, tetanus and polio. Some countries may require you to have specific vaccinations such as Malaria, Rabies and Yellow Fever. Please check with your GP if you are unsure.

Please note that the use or possession of some common prescription or over-the-counter medicines is restricted or banned in certain countries. If you will be carrying medication, you should check with the relevant embassy or consulate before travelling. As an extra precaution, we recommend keeping medication in its original packaging, carrying a copy of your prescription, and, where possible, asking your pharmacist to provide the medication name in the language of the country you are visiting.

For further country-specific health advice, visit www.fitfortravel.nhs.uk or www.traveldoctor.co.uk. If you are travelling from outside the UK, please consult your own doctor and check local entry requirements.

This information is for those travelling with a full 'British Citizen' passport; for all other nationalities or passport holders, please check with your local consulate for advice.

Passport Requirements

This information applies to travellers holding a full British Citizen passport. Entry requirements vary by destination and can change at short notice. For most EU and worldwide destinations, passports must be valid for the entire duration of your stay. Some countries also require a minimum period of validity remaining on your passport (often up to 6 months beyond your return date), even if you are not staying that long.

We strongly recommend ensuring your passport has at least six months' validity remaining at the time of travel to avoid any issues.

If you hold a different type of British passport or a passport issued by another country, you must check the requirements with the relevant embassy, consulate, or official government website.

Visa Requirements

Visa rules depend on your nationality, destination, length of stay, and purpose of travel, and they can change frequently. It is your responsibility to check whether you require a visa before travelling.

British passport holders should check the latest entry, passport validity and visa requirements for their destination on the UK government's Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO) website:

<https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice>

Tripnote validity

TRIP NOTE VALIDITY These Trip Notes are valid based on the date printed at the bottom of the page. They will occasionally be updated post booking and pre-departure. We will send you the latest trip notes prior to departure through a link in your pre departure documents or we can send you a copy in the post if preferred. In booking this trip you should be confident in your ability to participate in all activities described in these Trip Notes. If you have any doubt about your suitability you should call HF Holidays and ask to speak to one of the team about this itinerary. The information in these Trip Notes is given in good faith. Where differences exist between the Trip Notes and our current brochure, the Trip Notes supersede the brochure. All holidays can be subject to unexpected changes; so please be prepared to be flexible where necessary. At times, it may not be possible to follow the itinerary as planned due to weather conditions, political, physical or other factors. In these circumstances we will make the best possible alternative arrangements to maintain the integrity of the original itinerary.

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