Cruise & Walk the River Seine



Trip style:	Destination:	Walking Grade	Carbon Footprint:
Cruise & Walks	France	3	182kg CO2

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

ITINERARY - ITINERARY

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



Gentle walking grade 3

Slightly longer walks, mostly on well-trodden paths, with some gentle gradients plus stiles and steps possible. Typically, 5-6 miles (8-10km) with around 650ft (200m) of ascent.

ACCOMMODATION

MS Amadeus Diamond

Cabin Facilities

Newy refurbished in 2027, Amadeus Diamond brings new levels of luxury to your river cruise experience. For moments of relaxation, guests can enjoy the sun deck, fitness room, hair salon and massage room. In the restaurant, regional-inspired specialties are served alongside ever-changing river views.

Each cabin features a spacious bathroom with a walk-in shower, luxurious Rituals bath products, and a hairdryer. Fixed panoramic or French windows fill the accommodation with natural light whilst thoughtful touches like a comfortable bed, ample wardrobe space, in-room safe, flat-screen TV, individual climate control and direct dial telephone ensure a restful 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

VACCINATIONS & HEALTH

Vaccinations & health 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.

PASSPORTS & VISAS

Passport & Visa information

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

USEFUL INFORMATION

Travel Insurance

Travel insurance is a condition of booking. Therefore, if you have not already arranged insurance, it is imperative that you do so before you travel.

For more information about healthcare and its costs, please visit: https://www.nhs.uk/using-the-nhs/healthcare-abroad/

Drinking Water

Drinking Water

Standards for drinking water vary widely around the world. In many destinations, tap water may not be safe to drink, brush your teeth with, or use for making ice. Where advised, you should drink only bottled or treated water and ensure that bottle seals are intact before use. If bottled water is unavailable, water should be boiled or filtered.

Staying well hydrated is particularly important in hot climates and during active holidays. Carry water with you and drink regularly.

If you are unsure about local water safety, check official country-specific health advice before travel, or ask your accommodation or local guides for guidance once you arrive.

Useful information

Luggage

To facilitate the transportation of your luggage to/from the ship, we ask you to affix a clearly visible luggage label on the outside.

Wi-Fi

Complimentary wireless internet access is available on board the ship. Please note that the connection during your cruise may be weaker within certain sections of the route and does not meet the standard of a land-based internet connection. In addition, downtimes may occur on board, as international borders are often crossed during the cruise.

Laundry

Washing and pressing services are available onboard at a nominal fee and are handled through your cabin staff. Self-service laundry facilities, iron and ironing boards and dry-cleaning services are not available.

On board currency and payments

The currency on board is the EURO. You can pay on board with cash, debit card and credit card (Visa, Master Card, Diners Club and American Express). There are no ATMs on board and often only a limited number in the smaller towns along the rivers.

Useful information

Dress Code On Board Ship

There is a comfortable and relaxed atmosphere on board. Smart casual clothing is acceptable for all meal times; jackets and ties are not required for meals. The Captain's Dinner is an opportunity to dress up should you wish.

Optional Excursions On Board

A small-group guided excursion is included every day exclusively for HF Holidays guests. In addition the ship offers a range of optional excursions which can be booked and paid for onboard. Details will be provided by your Cruise Director.

Tipping

Gratuities for the Amadeus onboard crew are included in the price of your holiday. You are not required to pay any additional tips for onboard services. Gratuities for local guides and drivers are not included in the price of your holiday. Should you wish to tip them for excellent service, it is customary to tip local guides between €2 and €5 per person and drivers €1 to €2 per person for a 1/2 day tour.

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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