



Rouen and Normandy

Rouen, capital of Upper Normandy, is well known for its museums, Gothic cathedrals, half-timbered houses, church spires and the famous Saint, Joan of Arc. Rouen has a wealth of fine shops, a splendid cathedral and a maze of pretty pedestrianised streets with some great monuments. The main square, Place Vieux Marche is surrounded by half timbered houses and the Gros Horloge, a colourful one handed clock. Honfleur is home to one of the best-preserved old ports of Normandy, the old town and harbour have the cosy atmosphere of a fishing village and the slate fronted houses make it one of the prettiest spots in Normandy. The D Day landing beaches are often still referred to by their wartime codenames; Sword, Juno, Gold, Omaha and Utah. Bayeux is world famous for its tapestry, which tells the story of the events leading up to and including the Battle of Hastings.

IBIS ROUEN HOTEL, RIVE DROITE ★★

The Ibis Rouen, Rive Droite is located ten minutes walk from the historic city centre of Rouen, close to the place du Vieux Marche, shopping streets and the Prefecture. The Hotel also features a restaurant serving local produce, a friendly bar, 24 hour snack service, and a terrace for warmer days. The Hotel Has a Lift and All Air-Conditioned Bedrooms have Private Facilities, Telephone and Satellite Television.



5 DAYS

30th October - 2nd November £ 297.00
Single Supplement £56.00 Insurance £22.00

ITINERARY

Friday

Leaving early morning we travel to Dover and our ferry to France. We follow the coast past Boulogne and Amiens to arrive at our destination late in the afternoon and enjoy a relaxing drink on the outdoor terrace or panoramic restaurant.

Saturday

Today we travel to Lisieux, important cathedral town and place of pilgrimage (Second only to Lourdes), time to look around the popular market or visit the Basilica. In the afternoon we will visit the local town of Honfleur with its quaint harbour and multi-coloured houses.

Sunday

Today we will visit the Bayeux Tapestry(P/I), this piece of history tells the story of William the Conqueror and the Battle of Hastings. After the spectacular sight of the tapestry, we will head to the beaches of the Normandy Landings which are only a few minutes away.

Monday

Leaving Rouen we head back to Calais, on the way back we will visit La Coupole(P/I), a remembrance centre that evokes events that form part of the historical heritage common to all Europeans. Later we will travel to catch our ferry, returning to Shropshire during the evening.

Look What's Included!

- Welcome Drink and Portage.
- Entrance to La Coupole Museum.
- Entrance to Bayeux Tapestry.
- 3 Nights Bed, Buffet Breakfast and Evening Meal.
- Excursions to Lisieux, Honfleur, Bayeux and Normandy Beaches.
- Return Channel crossing.



Namur and the Binche Carnival

The Carnival of Binche is an event that takes place each year in the Belgian town of Binche, during the Sunday, Monday and Tuesday before Ash Wednesday. The Carnival has been World Heritage listed and its history dates back to the 14th century. Street performances and public displays traditionally occur on the Sundays approaching Ash Wednesday. The centre-piece of the Carnival's proceedings are clown-like performers known as Gilles. Appearing, for the most part on "Shrove" Tuesday, the Gilles are characterised by their vibrant dress, wax masks and wooden footwear. They number up to 1,000 at any given time and the honour of being a Gille at the Carnival is something that is to be aspired to by local men. Finally on the Carnival's final day, Gilles appear in the centre of Binche, to dance to the sound of drums and ward evil spirits away with sticks.

LEONARDO HOTEL, NAMUR ★★★

Nestling between the river Maas and its green surroundings is the Leonardo Hotel Namur. It features a heated indoor swimming pool and terrace and there are nearby walks along the banks of the river Meuse. The Hotel is known for its menu of savoury dishes while you may wish to relax before dinner with a cocktail in the modern Bar. The Hotel Has a Lift and All Bedrooms have Private Facilities, Satellite Television, Telephone and Hairdryer.



3 DAYS

15th - 17th February £ 215.00
Single Supplement £45.00 Insurance £14.00

ITINERARY

Monday

After a morning departure we travel to Dover and our channel crossing. We drive past Lille, then through Belgium to Namur, arriving at our Hotel early evening.

Tuesday

Today we travel the one hour's journey to the medieval town of Binche. Here we can enjoy the celebrations and build up of the Gilles, in their traditional costumes, culminating in the procession that sees as many as 1000 townspeople joining in the

parade. At the end of the parade we will make our way back to Namur in time for our evening Meal.

Wednesday

Leaving our Hotel we drive through Belgium past Brussels to Bruges, Venice of the North. We shall have some time to explore before heading to Calais and our ferry to England. After clearing Dover port we head back to Shropshire, arriving home during the late evening.

Look What's Included!

- Welcome Drink and Portage.
- Free Use of Swimming Pool.
- 2 Nights Bed, Buffet Breakfast and Evening Meal.
- Excursion to Binche Carnival and Bruges.
- Return Channel Crossing.