



Normandy

POP 3.4 MILLION

Includes ➔

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Best Places to Eat

- ➔ La Fleur de Sel (p242)
- ➔ L'Espiguette (p216)
- ➔ Marché aux Poissons (p238)
- ➔ Alchimie (p227)

Best Places to Sleep

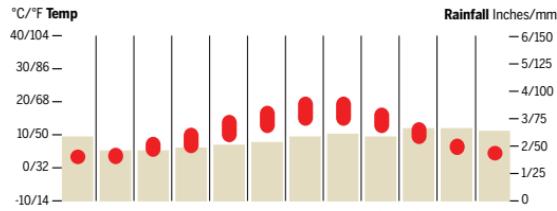
- ➔ Hôtel de la Chaîne d'Or (p225)
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- ➔ La Petite Folie (p241)

Why Go?

From the Norman invasion of England in 1066 to the D-Day landings of 1944, Normandy has long played an outsized role in European history. This rich and often brutal past is brought vividly to life by the spectacular island monastery of Mont St-Michel; the Bayeux Tapestry, world-famous for its cartoon scenes of 11th-century life; and the cemeteries and memorials along the D-Day beaches, places of solemn pilgrimage. Lower-profile charms include a variety of dramatic coastal landscapes, lots of pebbly beaches, some of France's finest museums, quiet pastoral villages and architectural gems ranging from Rouen's medieval old city – home of Monet's favourite cathedral – to the maritime charms of Honfleur to the striking postwar modernism of Le Havre. Camembert, apples, cider, cream-rich cuisine and the very freshest fish and seafood provide further reasons to visit this accessible and beautiful region of France.

When to Go

Rouen



Jun D-Day com-memorations are held on the landing beaches.

Jul Fêtes Médiévales in Bayeux celebrate the city's glorious history with medieval re-enactments.

Sep Deauville's American Film Festival is the accessible cousin of Cannes.

Normandy Highlights

- ❶ **Rouen's old town** (p213)
Stroll among half-timbered houses and Gothic churches.
- ❷ **Bayeux Tapestry** (p225)
Travel back to 1066 with the world's oldest comic strip.
- ❸ **D-Day Beaches** (p228)
Ponder the price of freedom at the landing sites and nearby war cemeteries.
- ❹ **Barfleur**
Alderney
- ❺ **Isigny-sur-Mer**
Carteret
- ❻ **Utah Beach**
Longues-sur-Mer
- ❼ **Omaha Beach**
Arromanches
- ❽ **Juno Beach**
Trouville
- ❾ **Barneville-Carteret**
Deauville
- ❿ **Barneville-Carteret**
Port-Harcourt
- ❾ **Barneville-Carteret**
Coutances
- ❿ **Barneville-Carteret**
Vire
- ❻ **Barneville-Carteret**
Flers
- ❾ **Barneville-Carteret**
Domfront
- ❻ **Barneville-Carteret**
Argentan
- ❾ **Barneville-Carteret**
Orne
- ❻ **Barneville-Carteret**
Calvados
- ❾ **Barneville-Carteret**
Falaise
- ❻ **Barneville-Carteret**
Vire
- ❾ **Barneville-Carteret**
Avranches
- ❻ **Barneville-Carteret**
Mont-Saint-Michel
- ❾ **Barneville-Carteret**
Dinard
- ❻ **Barneville-Carteret**
Dinan
- ❾ **Barneville-Carteret**
Fougères
- ❻ **Barneville-Carteret**
St-Brieuc
- ❾ **Barneville-Carteret**
Paimpol

❶ Mont St-Michel (p244)

Watch the tide rush in from the ramparts and the extraordinary monastery.

❷ La Fleur de Sel (p242)

Feast at some of Normandy's best eateries, such as La Fleur de Sel in charming Honfleur.

❸ Le Havre (p222)

Experience postwar modernism at its most elegant.

❹ Étretat (p222)

Marvel at the famous twin cliffs and free-standing limestone arches.

