

Season

March to middle of November.

We recommend you to book this tour 3 or 4 months before the departure date if you plan to walk it in summer time. Great demand and few rooms!

Difficulty: grade 2

this tour presents no major difficulty. You walk along the coastal path and there are no prolonged ascents and descents and no steep gradients. One day-walk is 26 km long but is flat.



Itinerary

8-day and 7-night self-guided walking holidays

Day 1: Arrival at GRANVILLE. Visit of the old city, a military fortress built on a rocky promontory which ends at the Roc headland. Numerous granite houses and the austere church of Notre Dame are inside ramparts. Lodging and breakfast in a 2-star hotel

Day 2: GRANVILLE – ST. JEAN LE THOMAS (20 km). You will leave Granville by the Herel sailing resort and the Gautier cape. You will follow the coast, crossing the beaches of St. Pair-sur-Mer, Kairou, Jullouville, and Carolles. You will continue along the Champeaux cliffs, the only points of height which dominate the bay and offer splendid views of Mont Saint Michel. You will then descend to St. Jean le Thomas, a very popular seaside resort in summer. Half-board accommodation in a guesthouse in the centre of the village

Day 3: ST. JEAN LE THOMAS – AVRANCHES (18 km). Following the coastal line, you will cross vast beaches and sand dunes, punctuated by sparse vegetation, until – drawing nearer to Mont Saint Michel – you reach Bec d'Andaine. For a pleasant detour, head to the small village of Genêts, where you'll find a beautiful 12th-14th century church, and to the headland of Groin du Sud. You will walk up the mouth of the Sée, which cuts a path through the vegetation. This stretch of grassy land, where sheep graze at low tide, will be covered entirely by the sea at high tide. Half-board accommodation in a family-run hotel

Day 4 : AVRANCHES – LE MONT ST. MICHEL (26 km). You walk down to the mouth of the Selune river and continue along the bank up. You will begin your hike by walking across the bridge of the Sélune, the same bridge that played a strategic role in the advancement of American troops many years ago. You will follow the coast across vast prairies toward the Pointe de Roche Torin. From here, you will see Mont Saint Michel in all its splendor. Once beyond the Pointe de Roche Torin, continue along the seawall which protects the polders and their culture. Here, you will be fascinated by the obsessive beauty, unable to bring your eyes from it. Half-board accommodation in a 2-star hotel on the Dyke

Day 5 : LE MONT ST MICHEL – ROZ SUR COUESNON (16 km). The day begins with a tour of Mont Saint Michel and the abbey. The abbey stands as an architectural masterpiece. Technical daring, finesse and elegance combine and make it worthy of its title of "The Wonder of the Western World". The visit of the city holds its own charm with high ramparts, narrow and twisting streets, hidden corners and a small church. Then you leave the Mont St Michel pushed outside by the daily people stream coming to discover the Mount. You'll cross over the Couesnon River, limit between Brittany and Normandy and will walk to Roz sur Couesnon along the dyke. Half-board accommodation in a two-star hotel

Day 6: ROZ SUR COUESNON – ST BENOIT DES ONDES (20 km). From the village you will walk through the fields conquered over the sea to the Chapelle Sainte Anne, which sits beside the long Dyke de la Duchesse Anne. The seawall dates to the beginning of the 11th century and has been reinforced many times over to protect the nearby villages and to transform the once-marshy land into a vast zone of fertile soil. A few windmills remain, leaving evidence of their vital role in draining the waters from the surrounding earth. You continue on or along the dyke to Le Vivier sur Mer - Half-board accommodation in a family-run hotel at the seaside

Day 7: ST BENOIT DES ONDES – CANCALE (18 km). Today you will enjoy a hike full of contrasts. You will start out along long, fine-sand beaches and pass through small villages that specialize in the raising of muscles and oysters, villages such as Hirel, Vildé la Marine. Beyond the cape of Château-Richeux, the landscape changes, granite boulders appear, the coastline becomes more jagged, and the coastal path rises and descends all the way to the port of La Houle and Cancale. Lodging and breakfast in a two-star hotel

Day 8 : CANCALE. Tour ends after breakfast.

Access to and from

Outward journey from Paris

By train: Direct trains from Paris Montparnasse rail station to Granville in a little less than 4 hours.

By car: follow the Paris-Caen highway (A13) from Paris. In Caen continue the ring and along the N175 road to Avranches.

Where to park: free and unguarded car park in Avranches

Inward journey to Paris

By train : taxi or bus from Cancale to the St Malo train station, where you'll take a train to Paris Montparnasse (with a change in Rennes for TGV).

Getting back your car : Taxi from Cancale to Avranches or train from St Malo to Avranches (2 changes)

From and to UK

It's easy to cross the channel by ferry or train and reach Cherbourg or St Malo from Portsmouth and Poole

Accommodation

2 overnight stops, lodging and breakfast basis, in 2 star hotel in Granville and Cancale. On these nights an evening meal can be obtained close by.

5 overnight stops in 1or 2 star hotel or guesthouse on a half-board accommodation.

Accommodation is normally in large bed or twin-bedded rooms, with en-suite facilities (at least shower, washbasin and toilet) when available, which is 95% of the time. However, you can stay in remote spots or small villages where there is little or no choice of accommodations and where facilities may be limited. In this case, you will share a bathroom or shower room and toilets with some other people on the same storey. Picnic lunches are not included in the tour but are available from the hotel on request the previous evening, alternatively picnic materials can be bought at the stop village or at each of the towns and villages along the route. We indicate in the route notes where there are suitable restaurants or cafés for lunch stops. We recommend you to carry food and drinks if there are none convenient to the trail.

Included

- Twin share accommodation with private facilities
- Baggage transfer between hotels (except for STD option)
- Route notes and maps
- 5 dinners as indicated in the itinerary
- Emergency phone number (8:00am to 7:00pm every day)

Not included

- Visa fees, transportation fees to and from the walk area
- Insurance (strongly recommended on all trips)
- Transfers except those mentioned above
- Drinks
- Additional meals
- Spending of personal nature e.g. laundry, souvenirs, phone calls...



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