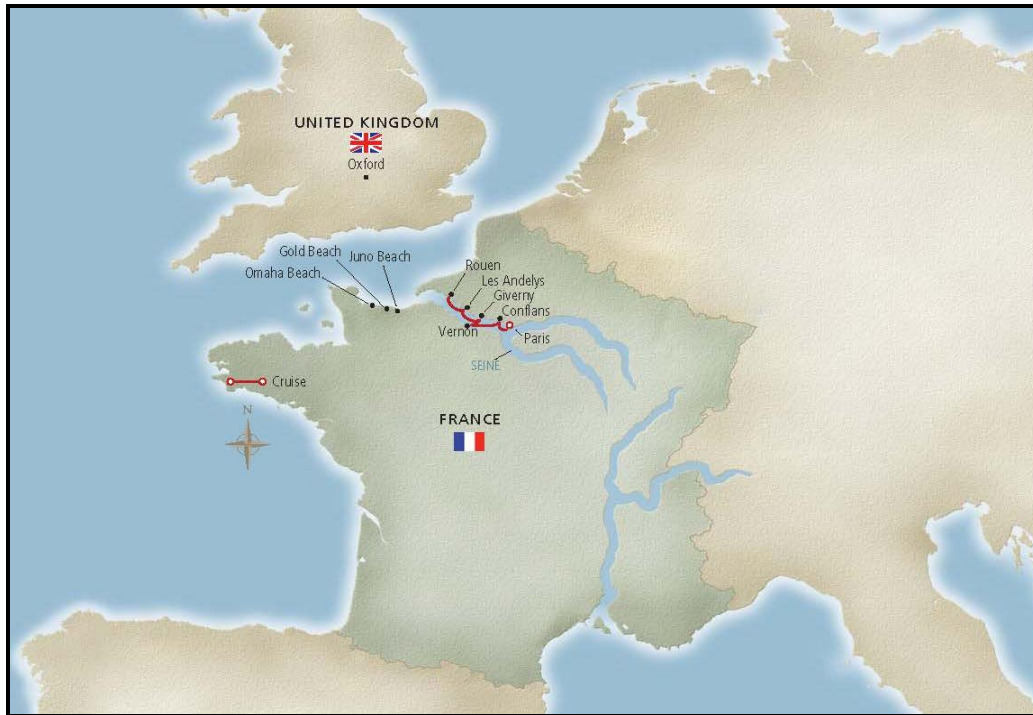




VIKING
CRUISES

Exploring the World in Comfort®

Paris & the Heart of Normandy **2014 At-A-Glance**



Combine the magic of Paris with the beauty of France's Norman countryside and *voilà!* Experience history firsthand at the Normandy beaches, site of the famous Allied invasion on D-Day in 1944. Delight in the Gothic architecture of Rouen, and see where Joan of Arc was tried and executed. Lose yourself in the exquisite gardens of Giverny, whose rich palette inspired Impressionist Claude Monet for many years. Walk the cobblestone streets of provincial Vernon and share the splendor of Paris, the world's most romantic city, with your companion. This fascinating 8-day journey has something for everyone.

Sail dates available from March to December 2014

Paris to Rouen to Paris (roundtrip)

Ships sailing this itinerary: Viking Spirit, Viking Pride, or Viking Neptune

Paris & the Heart of Normandy **Journey Highlights**

Included Features

- 8-day cruise with river-view stateroom
- 6 guided tours with audio headset
- All meals: 7 breakfasts, 6 lunches, 7 dinners, featuring regional specialties and including Welcome Cocktail Reception & Dinner and Captain's Farewell Dinner
- Visit 1 UNESCO World Heritage Sites
- Culture CurriculumSM: French cheese tasting, folkloric performance, French language lesson, Joan of Arc, France: The Painter's Muse

Normandy's Historic Beaches

See World War II landmarks such as Omaha Beach. Spend time at the Arromanches Debarkment Museum and pay your respects at the American Military Cemetery. On the way back to your ship, pass Gold Beach, Courseulles sur Mer and Juno Beach.

Monet's Famous Garden

French impressionist Claude Monet lived and worked in a stone farmhouse at Giverny from 1883 until his death in 1926. Art aficionados have seen the place, with its picturesque flowers, pond and bridge, many times in his paintings. Tour the house and spend time in the water garden, with its Japanese bridge, water lilies, wisteria and azaleas, that inspired so many priceless masterpieces.

Camembert and Calvados

Camembert—a soft, creamy cheese, traditionally aged for at least three weeks—was first made in Normandy in the late 18th century. When in northern France, sample this buttery delight at room temperature with a slice of French bread and a few grapes or apple slices. And speaking of delicious, try some calvados—a brandy made from the plentiful local apples, which also produce a wide variety of ciders.

Eiffel Tower

Visible from most points in Paris, the Eiffel Tower was built and used for the 1889 Paris Exposition. Ten years later it was nearly torn down, but was saved because of its useful radio antenna. Now it is the most recognizable symbol of Paris. Ride the elevator to the top to catch remarkable views of the city.

Included Tours:

Paris city tour
Giverny or Auvers-sur-Oise tour
Rouen city tour
Normandy beaches tour
Tour of Château Gaillard
Conflans city tour

Optional Tours:

Louvre tour
Painting class
Palace of Versailles tour

Optional tours are purchased on board ship and are subject to availability & minimum participation

Paris & the Heart of Normandy **Paris to Rouen to Paris Itinerary**

Day 1 Paris, France

- Paris airport transfer*
- Embark ship
- Free day to explore Paris

Included Meal: Dinner

Day 2 Paris, France

- Paris city tour including landmarks along the Seine, a UNESCO Site
- Free time to explore Paris
- Optional Louvre tour
- Welcome Reception and Dinner

Included Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Day 3 Giverny or Auvers-sur-Oise & Vernon, France

- Monet Foundation excursion touring the home & gardens of Claude Monet **OR** Auvers-sur-Oise tour of city and Van Gogh landmarks (Please note Giverny Garden visit is from April-October and Auvers-sur-Oise visit is from November- March)
- Free time to explore Vernon
- Optional Painting Class

Included Meals:

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 4 Seine River & Rouen, France

- Scenic cruising through Normandy region
- Rouen city tour including Joan of Arc's Market Square
- Free time to explore Rouen

Included Meals:

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 5 Rouen, France

- Tour of Normandy beaches & American Military Cemetery
- Evening free time in Rouen

Included Meals:

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 6 Les Andelys & Conflans, France

- Guided walk to Château Gaillard
- Scenic cruising through Northern France
- Evening free time in Conflans to stroll along the riverside
- Captain's Farewell Dinner

Included Meals:

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 7 Conflans & Paris, France

- Conflans city walk including museum tour
- Optional Palace of Versailles tour
- Evening free time in Paris

Included Meals:

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 8 Paris, France

- Disembark
- Paris airport transfer*

Included Meals: Breakfast

* Airport transfers included when air is purchased from Viking River Cruises. Transfers must be with flights that arrive/depart on ship or included hotel check-in or check-out day only.

See your travel agent or call Viking River Cruises at 1-877-668-4546
www.vikingrivercruises.com

Explore More

More days means more to discover. We offer exciting ways to see even more of the region with extension packages you can add before or after your Viking journey.

Paris Extension

3 nights—From \$699 per person

Start or end your vacation in Paris; experience the romance of France's capital city. Three nights at the **Crowne Plaza Paris République** (or similar), daily breakfasts, guided walking tour and hotel/ship transfer are included, along with the services of a Viking host.

The first class **Crowne Plaza Hotel Paris-République** is a unique building easily accessible and only a few minutes away from all attractions (Grands Boulevards, Montmartre, Eiffel Tower, etc.). Parisian people love going around to the numerous bars, restaurants and shops that surround the Place de la République, which is easily reached by five metro lines. The hotel has a restaurant, café and bar; room service; and a fitness center. Air-conditioned rooms are equipped with telephone and voicemail, television, internet service, safe, minibar and hair dryer.

Oxford & Highclere Castle (The Real *Downton Abbey*)

3 nights— From \$ 1,399 per person

Spend three days in the rolling hills of England's countryside. Visit the historic town of Oxford and Oxford University. Tour Highclere Castle, known to television audiences worldwide as *Downton Abbey*, with privileged access and a champagne welcome for Viking guests. Included tour to Blenheim Palace and the Cotswolds. Three nights at a centrally located deluxe Oxford hotel, daily breakfasts, three tours and a Eurostar "Chunnel" train between Paris and London are included with the services of a Viking host.

* Hotels are subject to change without notice at which time, a comparable alternative will be offered.

See your travel agent or call us at 1-877-668-4546
www.vikingrivercruises.com

The Viking Experience

Quietvox Tour Earphones

With our Quietvox tour earphones, there are no worries about missing any interesting details during your shore excursions. Each guest will receive a lightweight, portable receiver that can be worn around the neck or slipped into a pocket. The comfortable earpiece with individual volume control allows you to hear your guide's comments no matter where you are standing and makes every place on your tour the "best seat in the house."

Onboard Enrichment

Culture CurriculumSM. To help you further appreciate the countries that you will visit, we complement your shore excursion with a broad range of immersive activities, on board and ashore. Your cruise includes a French cheese tasting, folkloric performance and lectures on topics such as Joan of Arc and France: The Painter's Muse and French language lesson. Times and locations will be announced on board.

As part of our Culture Curriculum, we have partnered with the Smithsonian Institution to bring you exclusive onboard lectures. Artists, performers, historical eyewitnesses and professors all contribute to a fascinating and entertaining program that gives you true insight into the places you visit.

Expert Program Directors. Viking River Cruises Program Directors are selected for their comprehensive knowledge of the regions you will be visiting. They have a fine appreciation of each destination's nuances and a genuine passion for travel and are there to help from the first moment to the end of your journey. If you have any questions, would like recommendations or have any concerns during your itinerary, do not hesitate to contact your Program Director.

General Physical Fitness

Our tours and cruises are not physically demanding, however, *because of the nature of many of the sites you will be visiting, this tour may not be appropriate for guests with certain medical conditions and physical restrictions*. Walking tours are often on uneven ground or cobblestones and may include stairs and steep inclines. If you have concerns or questions, please discuss the nature of your itinerary with your Viking River Cruises Travel Consultant.

Complimentary Wine with Onboard Dinner and Lunch Service

Enjoy complimentary bottled wine with onboard dinner and lunch service. We feature two varietals—one white and one red—that pair beautifully with our onboard menu of contemporary and regional specialties.

Before You Go

Visit our website at vikingrivercruises.com (or vrc.com) where you can not only learn more about all the places you might go with Viking, but you can also immerse yourself in the experience from the comfort of your own home. There is information abound and you can watch videos of destinations, take a virtual tour of a cruise ship or get a list of recommended readings.

Passports & Visas

Passports are necessary however no visas are required for U.S. citizens for this itinerary. Non-U.S. citizens, please check your consulate for visa information.

Viking's All-Inclusive Airfare & Transfers

For your convenience, you can purchase roundtrip trans-oceanic air travel directly from Viking in conjunction with your river cruise or cruisetour. Viking's air packages are a great value because they include your transfers between airport and ship or hotel. And, when you reserve your air with Viking and purchase Viking's all-inclusive travel protection policy, your air travel is covered by the policy as part of your Viking itinerary. Select from more than 165 different gateways (additional gateways available) in economy or the upgraded service of Premium Economy or Business Class (trans-oceanic portion); once your reservation has been made, we will confirm your flight schedules 75 days before departure.

E-Check Program

Viking offers special incentives when you pay via e-check (electronic debit to your checking account)—a quick and convenient way to pay for your vacation. Ask for details when making your reservation.

Viking Travel Protection

Viking Travel Protection allows you to cancel your trip for any reason. Enjoy peace of mind knowing that whatever may arise—even a pre-existing medical condition—you retain 100% of your travel value. Premiums are based on trip cost and start at only \$249 per person!

Climate – Average High/Low Temperature (°F)

<u>Destination</u>	<u>Mar</u>	<u>Apr</u>	<u>May</u>	<u>Jun</u>	<u>Jul</u>	<u>Aug</u>	<u>Sep</u>	<u>Oct</u>	<u>Nov</u>	<u>Dec</u>
Paris	51/38	57/42	64/49	70/54	75/58	75/57	69/52	59/46	49/39	45/36
Rouen	51/38	56/40	63/46	68/51	72/55	73/55	67/51	58/46	48/38	43/36

*Information contained in this document is subject to change without notice.

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