



NORMANDY TOUR

OCTOBER 7 - 13, 2018

Expanding on our love of food and table, A'Tavola will be offering two unforgettable trips this year, to experience first hand that which inspires us. Through travel, food, and new friendships, we will explore all that the spirit of Normandy has to offer.

Food is one of the best and most enjoyable ways to understand and appreciate other cultures.

Join us & our small group for an intimate & memorable experience of the French countryside. We will spend a week exploring the culture through food, unforgettable landscapes, cooking classes, Calvados and Camembert tastings and private tours of some of Normandy's most charming villages.

DAY 1 | BAYEUX* & MOSLES

Our group will gather this afternoon and meet at the Bayeux Train Station at 2:30pm. Please exit the train station and we will meet you right outside the main doors. We will depart Bayeux and head to our 19th Century Norman Villa located in the heart of the Calvados region near the town of Mosles. Upon arrival at the villa, guests will have time to settle into their rooms and take a tour of the villa and the beautiful grounds. Chefs will be preparing a traditional and delicious dinner, paired with cider from this region and French wine. We will finish off the meal with some local Apple Brandy, which this area is famous for.

Dinner

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*We recommend guests fly into Paris a day or two in advance in order to recover from jet lag and to take advantage of this amazing city. Bayeux is a quick train ride from Paris, departing frequently each day.

DAY 2 | BAYEUX, AMERICAN CEMETERY, & D-DAY BEACHES

We will enjoy an early breakfast at the villa, as we will be departing for Bayeux around 8:30am for a tour with our local guide, Richard. Bayeux can trace its roots back to the 1st century BC, so there is plenty of history to soak up in this charming town, including the world famous Bayeux Tapestry. Leaving Bayeux, we will head to the American Cemetery, which is on the bluff overlooking Omaha Beach. After receiving an in-depth history lesson from our guide, clients will have plenty of time to explore the cemetery and beaches on their own. We will dine for lunch near the D-Day beaches in order to allow plenty of time for us to take in these powerful sites. After visiting the beaches, we will return to our villa, so that clients have some time to relax before we head out for dinner. Tonight we will be enjoying a superb dinner out in one of the nearby towns.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

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DAY 3 | MARKET DAY, CAMEMBERT & CALVADOS

Today's adventure takes us into the heart of the cider and cheese region in lower Normandy. Our tour today will be primarily culinary focused, as we will have the opportunity to sample Camembert cheese from a local cheese farm, as well as artisanal Apple Brandy (Calvados) and Apple Cider from some of the top local producers. En route to this beautiful countryside, we will stop off in one of the local towns for the Tuesday market. Clients will have time to shop and look at the beautiful produce and goods that are grown in this fertile agricultural region. Tonight we will be using produce from this market and cider and cheese from this region to make an exceptional Norman dinner.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 4 | COOKING CLASS & CAEN

Departing after breakfast, we head towards Caen where we will be cooking and making our lunch! Today's activities include a hands on cooking class with a local chef, which will further our knowledge of the Norman cuisine and techniques. After enjoying lunch and our hard work, we will head to the city of Caen, which was heavily destroyed in the 1944 Battle of Normandy, but was rebuilt in the 50s and 60s. This port city offers visitors a lot of interesting history, including ancient abbeys and excellent museums. Our local guide will take us on afternoon tour of this city, with some free time at the end of guests to walk around on their own. Guests will have some time at the villa to relax before we head out for another memorable meal in one of the local towns nearby.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 5 | VILLEDIEU LE POELES & MONT ST MICHEL

We head south today towards the coastline in order to enjoy a very special day of two unique places. Before we make it to the world famous Mont St Michel for a tour of this remarkable UNESCO World Heritage Site, we will stop off in Villedieu le Poeles to visit a shop that still makes copper cookware following age-old traditional skills and techniques. We will visit the studio to watch them bend and mold copper to make some of the beautiful pots and pans that the finest hotels and restaurants in Paris use. We will continue south along the coastline to Mont St Michel, where we will have an in-depth tour of the stunning 8th century monastery and island. After exploring this exceptional site, we will drive to our lunch destination for some phenomenal seafood. We will drive back to the villa and guests will have time to rest on the way back, as this will be one of our longer drives (1.5 hours). We will be cooking dinner at the villa tonight, so there will be plenty of time to just relax outside with a glass of wine or help in the kitchen if you want to participate in the meal preparation

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

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DAY 6 | DEAUVILLE, TROUVILLE, & HONFLEUR

On our last full day in Normandy, we head east to the Côte Fleurie to visit the upscale seaside resorts of Deauville and Trouville, separated only by a river. White sand beaches, immaculate streets, and Norman villas await our exploration of this vibrant region. We will have lunch near the Côte Fleurie before we make our way to our final stop in Honfleur. The town of Honfleur is an enchanting port town that has a wealth of cultural sights and attractions. We will explore this town on foot, admiring the beauty of the cathedral, buildings, and streets. No wonder this has been a town that constantly attracts artists. Tonight we will be inviting a local chef to come to prepare us a Farewell meal and to toast this past week.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

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DAY 7 | BAYEUX, DEPART

We will say Au Revoir to our group today and take everyone to the Bayeux train station. Guests will be able to catch a train to Paris or continue exploring France from the departure point of Bayeux. Please feel free to ask us any questions if you plan to extend your stay in France after the trip ends.

Breakfast

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TOUR PRICE:

***\$4,295.00 per person / Double Occupancy
Single Supplement \$ 600.00***

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PAYMENT SCHEDULE:

At time of reservation: 50%
90 days prior to departure: 50%

CANCELLATION SCHEDULE:

More than 120 days prior to departure: 25% of trip cost
120-60 days prior to departure: 50% of trip cost
60 days or less: 100% of trip cost

TOUR PRICE INCLUDES:

- * 6 nights double occupancy lodging in a private Normandy Chateau
- * All breakfasts / all dinners & lunches with regional wine or cider
- * Small group travel / maximum of only 14 guests
- * Snacks and Beverages available at the villa
- * Private transportation / Car & Driver for all excursions
- * Local Guides / Private Tours
- * Entrance Tickets
- * Cooking Class
- * Cider/Calvados Tasting
- * Cheese Tasting
- * Wi-Fi at the villa (be aware that Wi-Fi connections are not as fast or as reliable as in the United States)

****NOTE-**

This promises to be a wonderful trip for all; however, flexibility and a spirit of adventure are always appreciated! We will do our very best to stick to the itinerary but we may have to change it due to weather or any unexpected situations.

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TOUR DOES NOT INCLUDE:

- * Air Transportation.
- * *Travel insurance for your trip.*
- * Anything that is not specified to be included
- * Any personal related expenses or travel related expenses outside of the scheduled itineraries.
- * Any wine or other alcoholic beverages or meals that are not presented during scheduled meals.
- * Optional tips to restaurants, tour guides or drivers. These gratuities are given at the sole discretion of each individual traveler.

ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE INFORMATION:

October 7th: We will meet the group outside of the Bayeux train station at 2:30pm. There are trains that depart from Saint Lazare Train station (Paris) every hour and take about 2.5 hours to reach Bayeux.

October 13th: We will drop off our guests at the Bayeux train station in order to catch a mid-morning train to Saint Lazare Train Station. Guests can also depart from Bayeux and continue their trip to other parts of France. Please let us know if you have any questions about arriving, departing, or continuing your trip in France.

Here is the French Train link in order to book tickets in advance. Please note you are able to book tickets once you arrive into Paris, as this train operates frequently

<http://www.sncf.com/en/passengers>