

**To Book:**

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# NORMANDY

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> - Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2012



£399 per person



Price Incl: 4 night's Dinner, Bed & Breakfast Accommodation at the 3 star Grand Hotel de l'Esperance, Lisieux, Normandy, France, with return ferry crossings between Dover and Calais and excursions as detailed.  
Not Incl: Single Room Supplement £120

**FRIDAY** – We leave Bretonside at 6am and make our way to Dover for our ferry crossing. From Calais we make our way to our hotel in Lisieux, arriving early evening. There will be comfort stops along the way.

**SATURDAY** - This morning we visit Bayeux. Listed as a "Memory of the World" by UNESCO, the Bayeux Tapestry (Calvados) is a piece of embroidery, 70 metres long, made in the 11th century. Celebrating the conquest of England by William, Duke of Normandy, this linen canvas was probably embroidered by monks in the south of England after the Battle of Hastings on October 14<sup>th</sup>, 1066. This afternoon we call into the British War Cemetery, the largest British cemetery of the Second World War in France with 4,648 graves. On our journey home we stop briefly at Beuvron en Auge, classified as one of the 'most beautiful villages of France'. Almost every house is built in the gorgeous half-timbered style for which Normandy is famous.

**SUNDAY** – Today we travel along the scenic beach road passing Pegasus Bridge where a glider squadron famously landed gliders packed with troops behind enemy lines. We pass the Sword, Gold and Juno beaches which were key beach heads during the allied landings. We will stop at Arromanches, a small town where we visit the Musee du Debarquement explaining how this incredible harbour was built and utilised as a key part of the allied supply routes. We also visit the 170-acre American Military Cemetery; one of over 20 Allied cemeteries that can be visited. Its rows of gravestones stretch out as far as the eye can see. This moving landscape gives a palpable sense of the heroism and sacrifices of D-Day.

**MONDAY** - This morning we visit Pont L'Eveque, both old and new and full of charm, it is lined up with picturesque timbered houses which make it feel as if you are stepping back in time. This is where the famous cheese "Le Pont L'Eveque" was originally produced and the town is still famous for its production of Calvados Brandy. The town has plenty of restaurants, cafes, shops and leisure activities. The afternoon is spent in Lisieux best known for the Roman Catholic basilica dedicated to Saint Therese of Lisieux. It is one of the biggest churches to have been built in the 20<sup>th</sup> century and is the second largest pilgrimage site in France, after Lourdes.

**TUESDAY** – After an early breakfast, we begin our journey home. We travel to Calais for our return ferry crossing. On arrival in Dover we continue our journey back to the South West, arriving in Plymouth approx. 10pm. There will be comfort stops along the way.