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# 2012 DISCOVER FRANCE...

**“Off the beaten path”**  
Brittany, the Loire Valley & Normandy

**13 Days Departing 24 June 2012**

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Tour	Days	Dep. Date	Price (per person twin share)
Land Only	13	24 June 2012	<b>\$4,995</b>

Single supplement: \$950

*We make every effort to twin share single travellers upon request.*

**DAY 1: Sun 24 Jun**

**PARIS**

Today meet your Tour Manager at the hotel at 5.00pm. Enjoy a welcome dinner and meet your fellow travellers. **(D)**

**DAY 2: Mon 25 Jun**

**BAYEUX**

Departing Paris, our first visit is to Monet's house and beautiful gardens in Giverny. We then continue to the coast to spend time in one of Normandy's most captivating and picturesque ports, Honfleur, before continuing on to the medieval city of Bayeux. This evening enjoy dinner at our hotel. **(B, D)**

**DAY 3: Tue 26 Jun**

**BAYEUX**

This morning's sightseeing in Bayeux includes a visit to discover the priceless 11<sup>th</sup> century famous Bayeux tapestry. This afternoon is at leisure to meander along the picturesque streets of Bayeux. **(B)**

**DAY 4: Wed 27 Jun**

**DINAN**

The first visit this morning will be to the beautiful village of Domfront. Later we visit the most splendid of all the abbeys of France, Le Mont-St-Michel, including a guided tour of all three levels of the fortified Abbey along with the opportunity to admire the marvellous views from the lofty ramparts. We visit a local farm on route to Dinan to taste Calvados, the famous apple brandy of the region. **(B)**

**DAY 5: Thu 28 Jun**

**DINAN**

It's market day in Dinan, most of this morning will be spent exploring the market and the medieval heart of this bustling town. After lunch there's a drive to the aristocratic resort of Dinard, the self-proclaimed 'Queen' of the Emerald Coast. Then enjoy a guided tour of St Malo to visit the Château de St-Malo and St Vincent's Cathedral. **(B)**

**Day 6: Fri 29 Jun**

**QUIMPER**

First on today's agenda is a visit to Tréguier, a typically Breton market town with its unusual three-towered Cathedral St-Tugdual. Next a visit to Morlaix will take in its medieval streets, half-timbered houses and the impressive viaduct made of local pink granite. This evening in Quimper enjoy a crêpe and cider dinner Breton-style! **(B, D)**

**Day 7: Sat 30 Jun**

**QUIMPER**

This morning we visit the wealthy old sail-cloth producing town of Locronan to see its elegant ensemble of Renaissance buildings followed by time spent in the fishing port of Douarnenez, before returning to Quimper with an afternoon at leisure to further explore the town and perhaps pick up a bargain in one of the numerous elegant hand-painted pottery shops. **(B)**

**Day 8: Sun 1 Jul**

**RENNES**

Today's journey takes us to Pont-Aven to visit the Chapelle de Trémalo and view Paul Gauguin's Yellow Christ, see Carnac with its 3000 pre-historic menhirs, the medieval town of Vannes and a brief stop on the banks of the River Oust for a photo opportunity at the Château Josselin before arriving in Rennes, the capital of Brittany. **(B)**

**Day 9: Mon 2 Jul**

**RENNES**

This morning we enjoy a guided tour of the small medieval part of the city which survived the great fire of 1720, St Peters Cathedral and the Parliament Palace of Brittany. The afternoon is at leisure to enjoy the bars, cafes, creperies and designer stores which inhabit the streets radiating from the Place des Lices and the Place Saint-Anne. This evening we enjoy dinner at our hotel. **(B, D)**

**Day 10: Tue 3 Jul**

**TOURS**

Our first stop this morning is in the Loire Valley at the Château d'Ussé for a guided tour of the castle which the fairy-tale writer Perrault used as his setting for 'Sleeping Beauty'. This afternoon we will have a guided tour of the 16<sup>th</sup> century gardens of Château Villandry to admire the esplanades, tiered terraces, moats and canals that characterize this unique château, the last great Renaissance château to be built in the Loire Valley. Continue to Tours, the capital of the Touraine and a great place from where to explore the châteaux of the Loire. **(B)**

**Day 11: Wed 4 Jul**

**TOURS**

This morning the first visit is to 'The Château of Six Women' at Chenonceau. Enjoy the natural gardens with their lush vegetation reflected in the languid waters of the Cher River. We will enjoy a guided tour and explore the rooms to learn about the fascinating lives of the female inhabitants who were the heroines of the castle's destiny. Afterwards we visit Amboise, and its historically important Chateau, with time to explore its charming streets and alleys. On the way back to Tours we will visit a local vineyard for an in-depth tasting of the region's excellent wine. A stay in the Loire Valley would be incomplete without a visit to a troglodyte residence (a cave dwelling cut into a cliff face or dug underground) so this evening we'll return to the banks of the Loire to enjoy a special Farewell Dinner in a cave restaurant! **(B, D)**

**Day 12: Thu 5 Jul**

**PARIS**

Today we return to Paris via Château de Chambord the largest and most 'royal' of the châteaux of the Loire and this morning's guided visit will highlight the extravagant

**Inclusions:**

- Escorted by an Australian Tour Manager
- English speaking professional local guide/s
- Mid range central hotels
- Travel in a Deluxe AC coach
- Meals as per itinerary
- Entries to all sites as per itinerary
- Detailed information kit and pre-departure advice
- Made Easy Tours cap, bag and luggage tags

**Exclusions:**

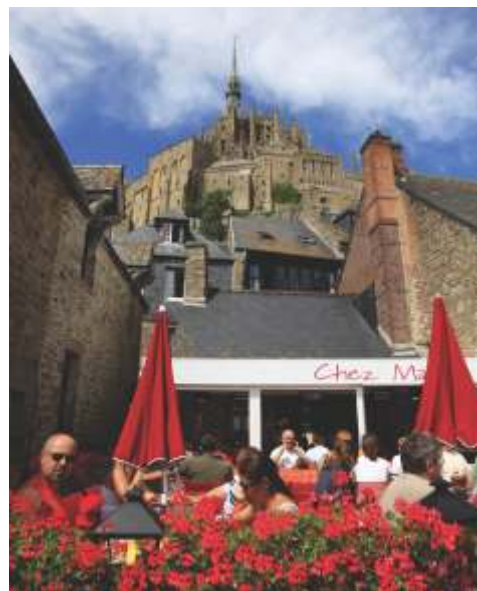
- Travel Insurance
- Tips to porters, drivers and guides
- Meals not listed on itinerary
- Personal Expenses

opulence of the château. We will also visit Chartres and enjoy a guided tour of its Gothic cathedral, the largest in France and world-renowned for its collection of stained glass windows from the 13<sup>th</sup> century. Farewell the Loire Valley before arriving in Paris early this evening. **(B)**

**Day 13: Fri 6 Jul**

**TOUR ENDS**

Tour ends today after breakfast. **(B)**



**HIGHLIGHTS**

- Monet's house and gardens in Giverny
- Famous Bayeux Tapestry
- UNESCO listed Le Mont St Michel
- Stunning Brittany
- Ancient walled city of St-Malo
- Cathedral town of Quimper
- Historic Treguier
- The Coast of Pink Granite
- Medieval Morlaix
- Renaissance Locronan
- Chateau region – Loire Valley
- Enchanting Amboise