



# Genuine Normandy

*[www.lef-learn-french.com](http://www.lef-learn-french.com)*



**JUNE 8 - JUNE 18, 2026**

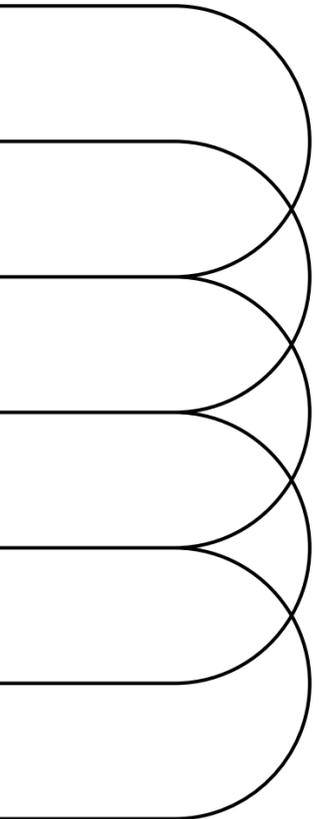
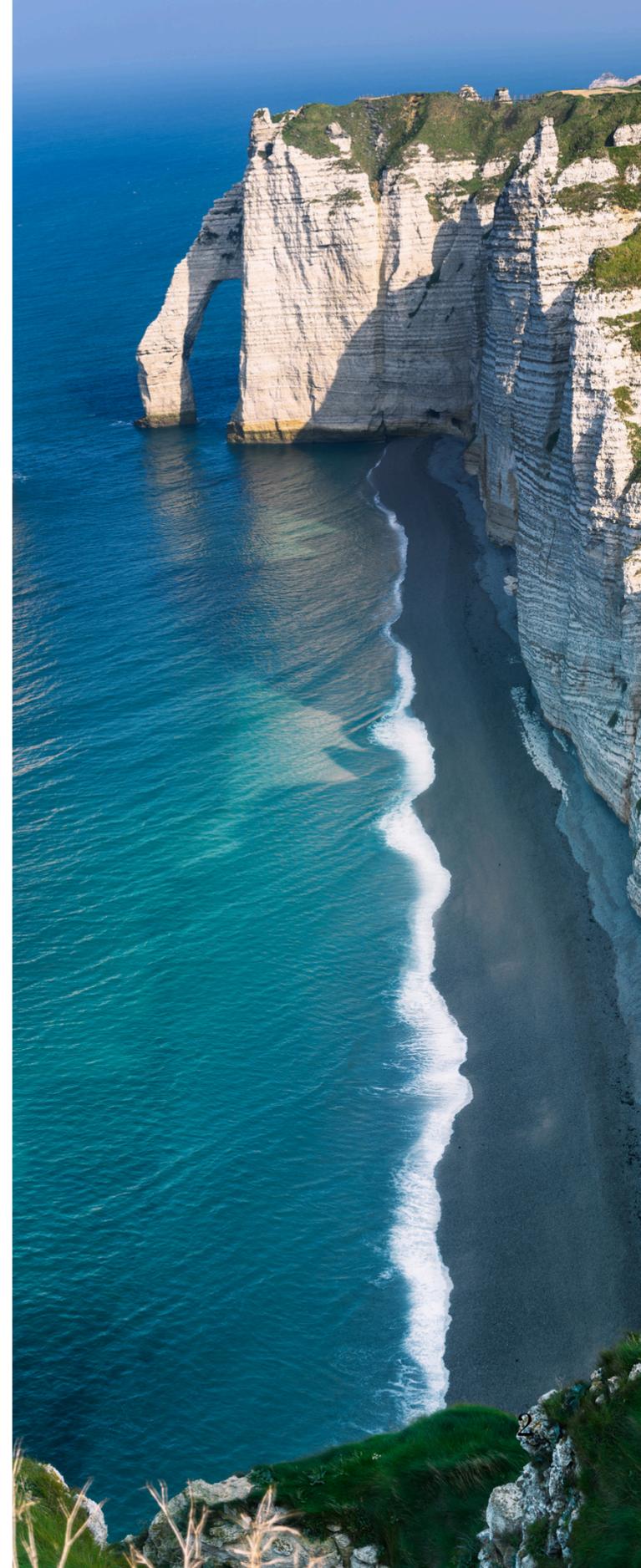
**6 to 10 participants  
(starting at \$3200)\***

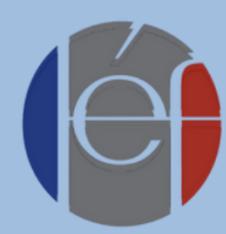
***Registration deadline: March 30, 2026***



# Summary

Presentation of the trip	1
Accommodation	2
Catering and Gastronomy	3
Excursions and Activities	4
Preparatory course for the trip	5
Day by day - detailed schedule	6
Activities and Leisures	7
Our Team	8
Price, contract, and terms of sale	9





# 1. Presentation of the trip

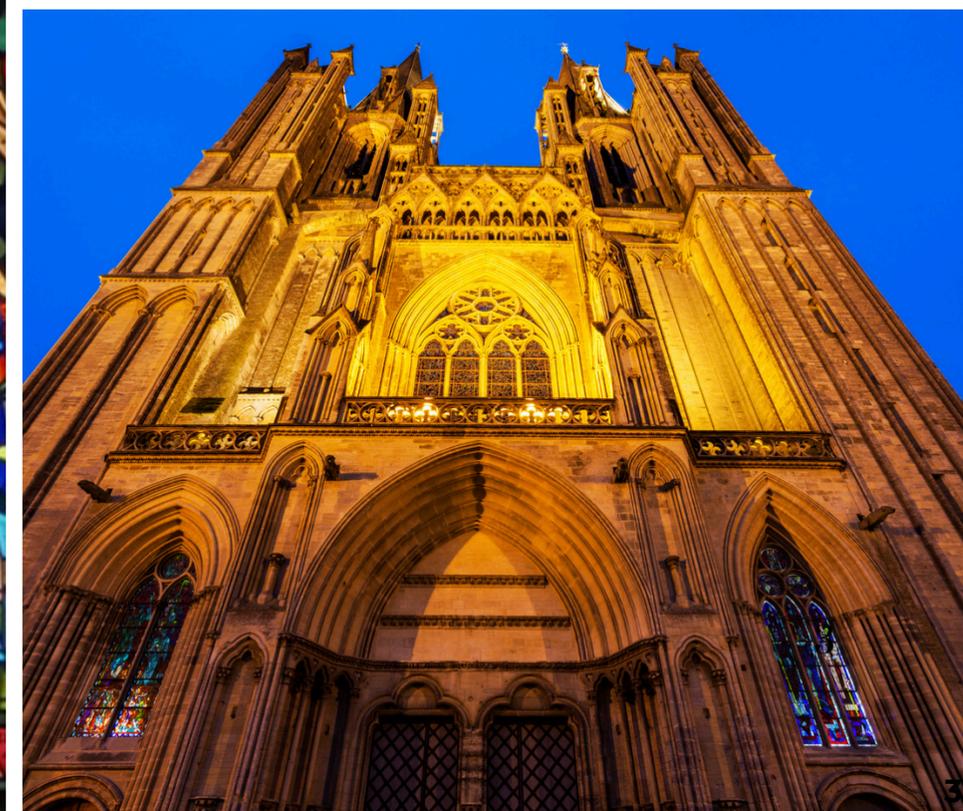
After more than 15 years of operation, L'École Française Chicago is finally offering its students and members an immersive trip to France.

Here are options we selected for you:

- Normandy, particularly the Cotentin peninsula, is an exceptional region celebrated for its cultural richness and authenticity, featuring architectural treasures and gastronomic traditions that are classified or registered as UNESCO World Heritage sites.
- a small group of 10 participants to allow us to assist you in the best conditions,
- a trip that alternates between excursions and free days, allowing moments of rest or personal exploration and activities.
- Accommodation in an exceptional 200 m<sup>2</sup> villa designed to provide a home atmosphere, located in the heart of a seaside resort with comprehensive amenities.

Known for Mont-Saint-Michel and the D-Day landing beaches, Normandy is characterized by its dual connection to both the sea and the land. This birthplace of seaside tourism continues to captivate enthusiasts of nature and history alike. Its picturesque hedgerows, delectable cuisine, and rich historical heritage are truly irresistible.

Located in southwestern Normandy, the Cotentin Peninsula emerges as a distinctive natural sanctuary. This peninsula is a haven of greenery, largely unspoiled by mass tourism, teeming with numerous treasures. With its "end-of-the-world" ambiance, it represents a truly unique region. Here, the sea and the land harmoniously converge, providing both temporary and permanent residents with an extraordinary quality of life.





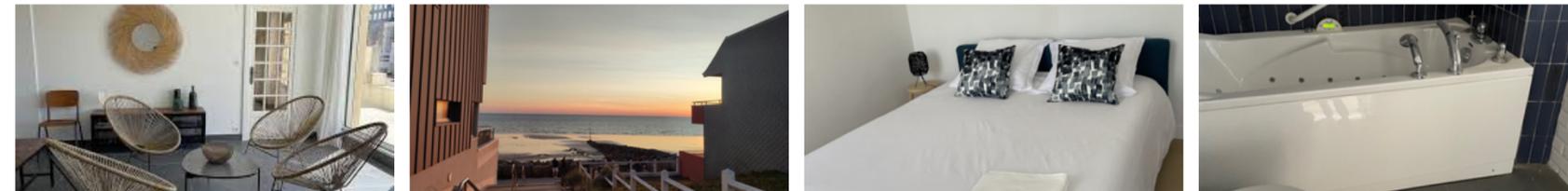
## 2. Accommodation

### Villa des chaumes

Located in the heart of the coastal resort of **Agon-Coutainville** and steps from the sea, this 2000 sq ft villa offers a spacious open living area that provides direct access to a private courtyard with a terrace.

Nearby:

- Beach - 250 m distant (800 ft)
- A variety of shops and restaurants - 5-minute walk.
- Coutainville Casino - 7-minute walk - 500 m
- Coutainville Golf Course - 8-minute walk - 700 m



#### Bamboo Room (2 guests)

2nd floor, seaside  
1 king-size bed,  
en-suite bathroom,  
toilet, shower

#### Palm Room (2 guests)

2nd floor, seaside  
1 king-size bed,  
private bathroom,  
bathtub, bidet, and  
toilet

#### Straw Room (2 guests)

1st floor, courtyard-  
side  
Two single beds,  
private bathroom,  
toilet, shower.

#### Morning Dew Room (2 guests)

1st floor, seaside  
1 double bed,  
private bathroom,  
toilet, shower

#### Sunroom (2 guests)

seaside  
1 king-sized bed, en-suite bathroom,  
lavatory, whirlpool bathtub





### 3. Catering and Gastronomy

**BREAKFAST:** a selection of fresh, local, sweet, and savory products will be offered **every morning** at the villa.

**MAISON LOMBARDIE**, an artisan caterer, has been enchanting customers since 1900 with its high-quality, entirely homemade offerings.

**(cocktail reception : Monday, June 8)**



**KALAMANSI**, a bistronomic restaurant, invites you to experience a delightful and contemporary ambiance. Chef Frédéric Michel's culinary creations present a journey of unexpected flavors, made of locally sourced ingredients. **(Lunch: Wednesday, June 10)**



**LES PIPELETES:** tea room, cider cellar, organic and artisanal confections, as well as a home decor boutique!

**(tasting: Wednesday, June 10)**

**LA MAISON DU BISCUIT**, operated by the Burnouf family for five generations, is a haven for food enthusiasts.

**(tasting: Friday, June 12)**

Ideally situated at the port since 1901, with a view of one of France's most picturesque villages, **LE CAFE DE FRANCE** invites you to savor their specialty dish, the mussels from Barfleur.

**(lunch: Friday, June 12)**





**COOKING WORKSHOP:** Become an authentic Norman chef! From selecting ingredients at the weekly market to savoring the final dish, we will collaboratively prepare a traditional Norman meal.

**(lunch: Saturday, June 13)**

**L'ÉPHÉMÈRE,** a distinctive restaurant located in a blend of historic and contemporary surroundings. **(lunch: Sunday, June 14)**

**LE PÈRE LA FRITE,** with its wood-fired grills, sets the standard for fast yet high-quality cuisine.

**(dinner: Sunday, June 14)**

At the renowned **AUBERGE DE LA MÈRE POULARD,** you can savor Anette's omelet, a favorite of illustrious figures such as Coco Chanel, Ernest Hemingway, François Mitterrand, and Pablo Picasso. This dish, a genuine institution of Mont Saint-Michel, has been offered since 1888.

**(lunch: Tuesday, June 16)**

**LE PANIER D'ANOUK** provides fresh, locally sourced meal baskets, featuring one that includes salt marsh lamb.

**(dinner: Tuesday, June 16)**

A culinary experience featuring platters of Norman cheeses and Corsican charcuterie, **SI LE FROMAGE M'ÉTAIT COMTÉ.** Fresh bread, wines, and fruit will complement this gastronomic journey.

**(dinner: Wednesday, June 17)**

**LE COMPTOIR DE L'ATELIER GOURMET** will provide a delightful conclusion to our final day. **(lunch: Thursday, June 18)**





## 4. Excursions and Visits

### **Abbey: Mont Saint-Michel, and Hambye**

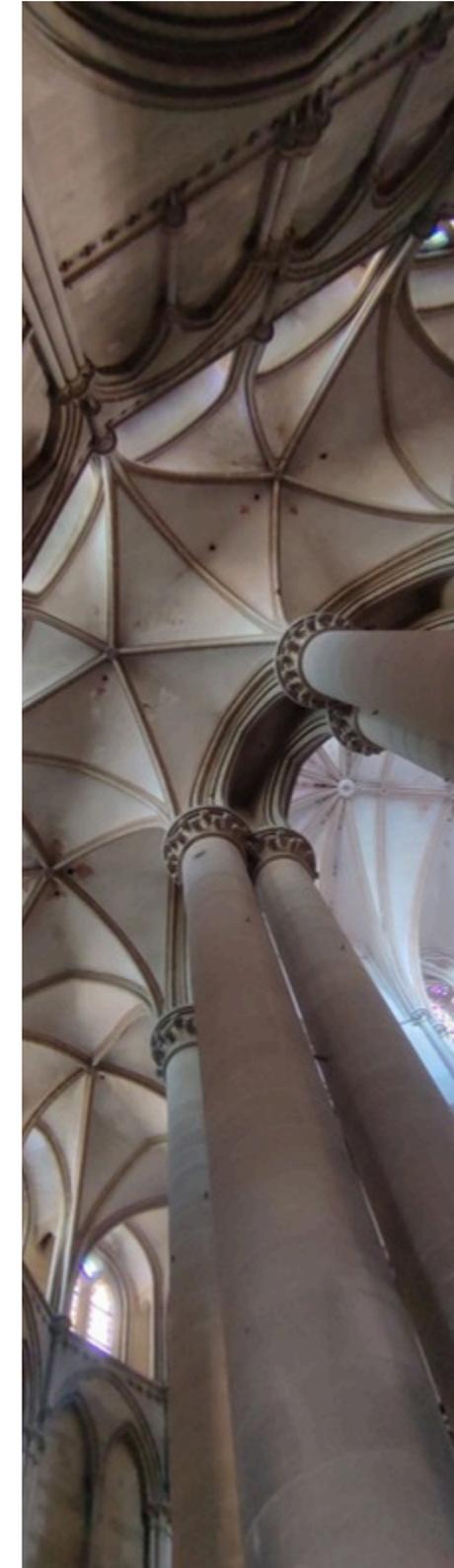
Revered as the "Wonder of the West" and a significant pilgrimage destination since the Middle Ages, Mont-Saint-Michel, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, draws visitors from across the globe. Consecrated to Saint Michael in 708, this site is now the most frequented in France. Rising majestically from the heart of a wild and stunning bay, Mont-Saint-Michel evokes enchantment and awe with its abbey perched atop the rocky islet and its medieval walled town. Experience a unique and breathtaking moment between land and sea by soaring over the island of Mont-Saint-Michel and the largest bay in Europe in a hot air balloon.

Situated in a lush environment, Hambye Abbey enchants with its rustic and pastoral allure.

### **Castle and cathedral**

Dominated by the spires of its cathedral, the City of Art and History of Coutances showcases a profound religious heritage. Constructed in the 13th century, Notre-Dame Cathedral, a designated historical monument, exemplifies the splendor of Norman Gothic architecture. Adjacent to it, the Quesnel-Morinière Museum is situated within an exquisite private mansion. Its garden seamlessly integrates the symmetry of French formal gardens, English-style groves, and Italian-style terraces.

The Château de Gratot is a remarkable and enchanting architectural site constructed between the 13th and 18th centuries, recognized as a historical monument.





## The most picturesque coastal villages

- Situated on the west coast of the Cotentin, opposite the island of Jersey, Barneville-Carteret is a designated seaside resort celebrated for its cape, dune massif, church, and port.

- Regarded as one of the treasures of the Cotentin peninsula, Barfleur captivates visitors with its authenticity and scenic harbor. This fishing village, recognized as one of the most beautiful in France, features grey granite houses and narrow streets, creating a distinctive maritime ambiance. Barfleur is also renowned for its mussel farming, producing small, fine, delicate, and nearly golden mussels.

- Saint-Vaast-la-Hougue is renowned for its Vauban towers, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and its marina. The local oyster market and tranquil beaches render it a must-visit destination. Additionally, Saint-Vaast-la-Hougue serves as an excellent launching point for exploring Tatihou Island, a small, untamed, and secluded paradise. This island treasure boasts a wealth of history alongside stunning landscapes. Aboard the unusual amphibious boat, prepare to dock !





### **The beaches of the D-Day landings**

The beaches of Normandy are interspersed with the remnants of the Allied landings on the historic day of June 6, 1944, aimed at liberating France and Europe from occupation. Among the myriad sites, museums, and memorials, we have curated a selection of the most significant places of remembrance where the emotion remains palpable: the essential Pointe du Hoc, a strategic location on the Atlantic Wall; the beaches where American forces landed, Utah Beach and Omaha Beach; the American Cemetery at Colleville-sur-Mer, where 9,387 white tombstones overlook the shore; and Sainte-Mère-Église, notable for its church steeple from which the renowned paratrooper John Steele was suspended for several hours.

The Christian Dior Museum is located in the childhood residence of the renowned couturier, who was born in Granville in 1905. This elegant villa, once owned by a ship owner, is enveloped by a breathtaking cliffside garden. Each year, exquisite creations by Christian Dior and his successors are showcased according to a designated theme.





## 5. Preparatory course for the stay: 15hrs of instruction , 8 classes of 1h40 each (Spring session 2026 : March30 - May30 )



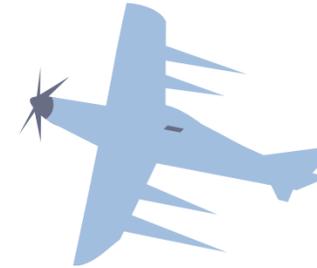
Session 1: Overview/Introduction/ Presentation



Session 5: The Middle Ages and Modern History in Normandy



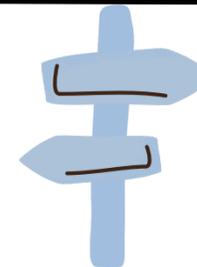
Session 2: Destination Normandy



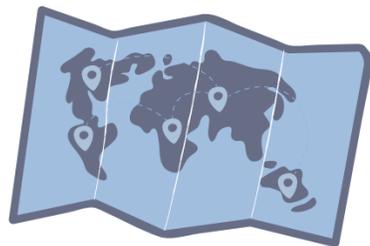
Session 6: The Contemporary History in Normandy



Session 3: Culinary Workshop Preparation - Significant Historical Eras in France



Session 7: Suggested activities / Extra Leisures (free time)



Session 4: Geography and Geology Prehistory and Antiquity in Normandy



Session 8: Ready for the trip! (tips/information)



## 6. Day by day - Comprehensive schedule



### Monday, June 8

#### Welcome! Arrival at Granville Railway Station.

Meeting at Granville train station at 5:00 PM  
Transfer via minibus to the villa  
Check-in  
Welcome cocktail reception  
Petit fours from Maison Lombardie



### Thursday, June 11 - Free time

Based on your preferences, we will provide recommendations for sports, leisure activities, hiking, shopping, and relaxation.  
*(More information can be found on page 13)*



### Tuesday, June 9 - Free Time

After a long trip and a 7-hour jet-lag, time to rest and adjust to local life! Whether you prefer a day at the beach or start your explorations and adventures in the area, the decision is yours!



### Wednesday, June 10

#### Coutances: City of Art and History

Exploring the Gratot Castle  
Lunch at the Kalamansi restaurant (Michelin Bib)  
Guided tour of Coutances Cathedral  
Gourmet snack at Les Pipelettes  
Tour in the Quesnel Morinière Museum in Coutances  
Wandering through the splendid botanical garden



### Friday, June 12: The most picturesque villages along the coast

Guided walk in Barneville-Carteret  
Gourmet interlude at La Maison du Biscuit  
Guided tour in Barfleur  
Dining at Café de France to savor the mussels of Barfleur  
Observatory of the Pernelle  
Visit to the island of Tatihou, Vauban tower, recognized as a UNESCO World Heritage site, maritime museum, and gardens  
*Promenade* in Saint-Vaast-la-Hougue



### Saturday, June 13: Normandy culinary workshop and free afternoon

Individuals interested in participating may join the cooking workshop to prepare a traditional Norman meal, encompassing everything from purchasing ingredients at the market to savoring the final dish.



### Tuesday, June 16 The Marvel: Le Mont Saint-Michel

Lunch at La Mère Poulard inn  
Guided tour of Le Mont Saint-Michel abbey  
Exploration of the village  
Picnic at the Avranches botanical garden  
Hot air balloon ride over the bay of Mont Saint Michel at sunset



### Sunday, June 14 The beaches of the D-Day landings

Pointe du Hoc Observatory  
Visit to Omaha Beach  
Lunch at L'Éphémère  
Contemplation at the American Cemetery in Colleville-sur-Mer  
Visit to Utah Beach and Sainte-Mère-Église  
Dinner at the villa: barbecue/ grills by "Père la Frite"



### Wednesday, June 17 Abbey of Hambye

Free morning (time to pack and get ready for departure)  
  
Visit to Hambye Abbey  
Dinner: a savory tasting of Norman cheeses, Corsican charcuterie, and wines



### Monday, June 15 - Day off

Based on your preferences, we will provide recommendations for sports, leisure activities, hiking, shopping, and relaxation.

*(More information can be found on page 13)*



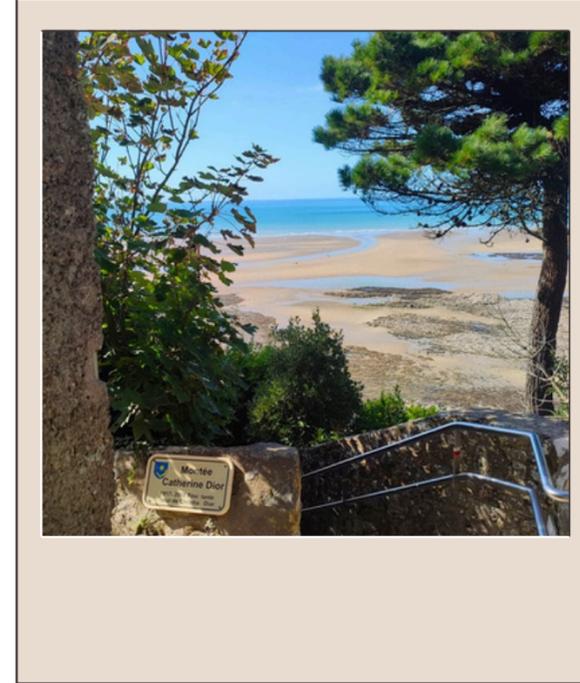
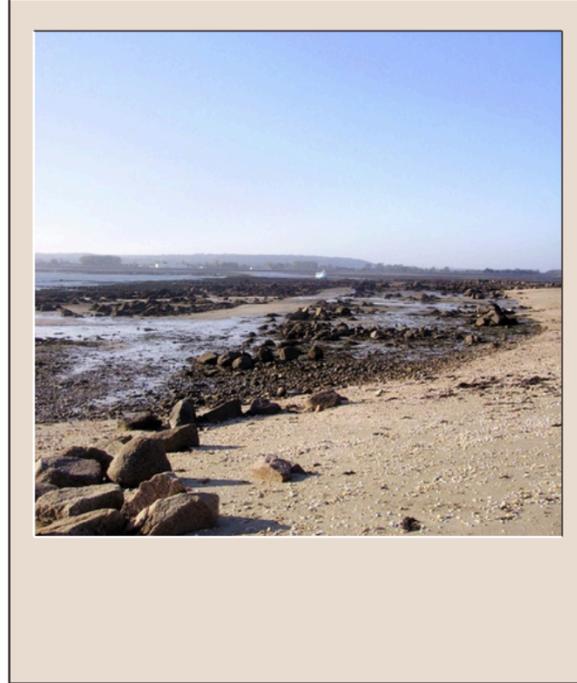
### Thursday, June 18th, Christian Dior Museum/departure from Granville railway station

Visit to the gardens and the Christian Dior Museum.  
Lunch at Le Comptoir de l'atelier gourmet  
Drop-off at Granville station at 3:00 PM.



## 7. Leisure / Free time

During your free time, here are several recommendations/suggestions within a 100 km radius. Brochures, information, and guidance will be accessible at your accommodation.



### Hiking and Nature Exploration

Immerse yourself in the surrounding natural beauty through hiking, horseback riding, cycling, or boating. South of Agon-Coutainville, the Pointe d'Agon delineates the Regnéville harbor from the sea. This protected area serves as a genuine sanctuary of tranquility. Discover scenic trails and admire the local flora and fauna. An unforgettable experience for nature enthusiasts!

### Cultural tours and visits

Time allocated for a car journey

- Caen, its fortress, its memorial, and its abbeys (1h30)
- Bayeux, renowned for its cathedral and half-timbered houses (1 hour 20 minutes)
- Cherbourg, the maritime city renowned for its umbrellas and harbor (1 hour 15 minutes)
- Saint-Lô, its haras stud farm, its fortifications, and its museum (45 min)

- The Gouville cabins (10 minutes),
- Pirou Castle (17 minutes)
- Régneville, featuring its lime kilns, castle, and harbor (18 min)
- Lessay Abbey (25 minutes)
- Cersy la Salle Castle (30 minutes)
- The Tancrède Museum in Hauteville (30 minutes)

- The Marsh Park (39 min)
- Villedieu, the Copper City (45 min)
- The Stones of Ham (52 min)
- The Mortain Waterfalls (1h20)
- The Gatteville Lighthouse (1 hour 30 minutes)
- Jobourg's Nose (1 hour 30 minutes)
- The Chausey Islands archipelago (45 minutes by car and 1 hour by boat)



## 8. Our team

---

*A distinctive combination of experience and expertise.*



**Dany Jeanne**

teacher  
guide

Dany graduated in art history & education and later received a complete training as a tour guide, She has been teaching for 30 years now, including 18 years as a cultural mediator at the Museum of Fine Arts and History in Saint-Lô. Hailing from the Cotentin peninsula and deeply passionate about her region, she will facilitate an interactive exploration for you!.



**Daphne Marie-  
Anne**

teacher

As the Director of the Learning Center and instructor at L'École Française for nearly a decade, Daphné will be responsible for welcoming our participants and guiding you throughout your stay.



**Erwan Sorel**

teacher

Erwan, the founder and executive director of L'École Française, has a deep passion for his childhood region: Normandy. He will guide you on your excursions and ensure the seamless execution of your stay.



**Thierry Sorel**

nurse

With nearly 20 years of experience as a nurse, specializing in therapeutic education and possessing a fervent interest in history, current events, and the French language, Thierry is dedicated to ensuring the health and well-being of our participants.



## 9. Terms of Sale / Reservation

---

### 1. Registration and reservation agreement

By signing the reservation contract with the phrase "read and approved," the client explicitly confirms that they have read and accepted these terms.

This brochure is applicable for the duration of stay: from 08/06/2026 to 18/06/2026 (10 days).

### 2. Duration of stay

The duration of the stay is 10 days: from June 8 to June 18, 2026. Arrival at Granville train station is scheduled for 5 PM.

Rooms must be vacated by 9 AM on June 18, 2026.

Drop-off at Granville Station at 3 PM.

### 3. Intended audience

This program is reserved solely for students/members of L'École Française Chicago, along with their relatives aged 16 and older (including all proficiency levels from Basic A1 to Advanced C2).

### 4. Total participants

A minimum of 6 participants to a maximum of 10 is required.





## 5. Pricing / Rates for the entire trip (10 days)

The cost of the stay is **\$3,200**, including tax (check or cash), and **\$3,300**, including tax (credit card). We offer installments. Please contact our office: [info@lef-learn-french.com](mailto:info@lef-learn-french.com)

### **PRICE INCLUDES:**

Transportation: Round-trip transfers from Granville train station to Villa des Chaumes, along with minibus transportation for all excursions/visits

Accommodation: 10 nights in a double room with a private bathroom (2 guests per room)

Meals (Half-board): 10 breakfasts, 6 lunches, and 4 dinners.

Activities/Excursions: 6 excursions (including admission fees, transfers, and guided tours): castle and cathedral, coastal villages, D-Day landing beaches, Mont Saint-Michel (including a visit and hot air balloon flight), Hambye Abbey, and the Dior Museum in Granville, and a cooking workshop

Preparatory Course: 8 online classes, each lasting 1 hour and 40 minutes, conducted via Zoom (totaling 15 hours of instruction – Spring 2026 session: March 30 to May 30)

### **PRICE DOES NOT INCLUDE:**

Air travel, accommodation in Paris and transfers between Paris and Granville

Leisure activities: i.e., three days plus one morning and one afternoon

Leisure meals: i.e., 4 lunches and 6 dinners

Passport fees

Gratuities, and personal expenses,

Insurance (refer to Chapter 10 - Insurance), along with any additional services or benefits not explicitly stated in the brochure description.





## 6. Registration period (from November 15, 2025, to March 30, 2026 – deadline)

Full payment must be received by March 30, 2026 (registration deadline), with the option to pay in two installments at no additional cost. The trip requires a minimum of 6 participants and a maximum of 10 participants.

If the trip cannot proceed due to an inadequate number of participants, we will notify the participants by no later than 30/03/26.

## 7. Amendments or Cancellations

### 7-1. Owing to Lef

The school retains the right to replace a date with another or to substitute accommodations with those of equivalent category. Prices, dates, times, and itineraries outlined in our programs may be adjusted due to circumstances beyond our control (such as weather conditions) or due to force majeure events. The itinerary may be reversed without affecting the overall program. Access to museums, locations, or tourist sites may be temporarily restricted due to exceptional and unavoidable circumstances or by a third party unrelated to the service, without prior notice to the organizer, and without offering a replacement service of the same type or any form of compensation.

Cancellation: The client shall not be entitled to any compensation if the trip is cancelled due to exceptional and unavoidable circumstances. Likewise, the client will not be entitled to any compensation if the trip is cancelled due to insufficient participants as of March 30, 2026.

### 7-2. Client modification conditions:

An interruption of stay does not grant the client any refund for unused services. Any cancellation by the client after March 30, 2026, will result in the total cost of the trip being payable.





## 8. Physical Conditions - Health - Regulations

It is the client's responsibility to assess their physical condition prior to departure and to bring any personal medications or treatments. The client must also inform the French School of Chicago of any medical conditions or specific health treatments that may interfere with the smooth operation of the trip, particularly food allergies. Please be advised: our program is not suitable for individuals with reduced mobility.

## 9. Responsibilities

Passengers are accountable for adhering to the authorities' requirements concerning their nationality to secure the necessary documentation for their unrestricted movement in the countries visited, under their own responsibility (valid passport).

The French School of Chicago shall not be held liable for any improper execution of the contract resulting from exceptional and unavoidable circumstances, or when such issues are attributable to a third party not associated with the services outlined in the contract, or to the client or participants in the trip. Furthermore, the French School of Chicago assumes no responsibility for the execution of services procured locally by the client or participants in the trip that are not encompassed within the special conditions.

## 10. Assurances

Assistance, repatriation, and multi-risk insurance (including cancellation, trip interruption, and baggage) are not factored into our pricing. Each participant is responsible for obtaining suitable insurance coverage.

Upon registration, each participant will receive a **comprehensive information form** concerning dietary and health requirements (including allergies, intolerances, medical conditions, and pharmaceutical treatments), preferences for activities and excursions, as well as other vital information to guarantee well-being during the stay.

