



FRANCE

CYCLING HOLIDAY - WORLD WAR II: NORMANDY (TOUR CODE: 12009)

STARTS AND ENDS

Caen to
Sainte Marie du Mont

TRAVEL PERIODS

01 Apr 2023 - 31 Oct 2023

EXPERIENCE

Battlefields
Cycling

TRAVEL STYLE

Active Holiday Packages

Cycling from Caen, embark on a World War II memorial tour of Normandy, pass along the beaches where the famous landings took place.

Highlights

- **Cycle at your own pace** (Self-guided), stopping when you see something truly remarkable or if you simply want to rest and recharge.
- **The SCOTT SUB SPORT 20 Bike** (or equivalent) features a sporty "trekking" geometry that suits trips of all distances.
- A **detailed Road Book** allows you to travel freely with all the information you need for your trip! It boasts color maps, highlighted routes, touristic information, orientation points to reach hotels, and easy to follow step by step directions!
- Admire the many beautiful buildings in **Caen** that were miraculously spared during the Bombings, such as the Abbaye aux Hommes, the Abbaye aux Dames, or the Hotel d'Ecoville.
- Be fascinated by the **D-Day Landing Museum** in Arromanches. It was the first museum to be built in commemoration of the Normandy Campaign.
- Explore the city of **Bayeux**, with its ancient paved streets, timbered houses and distinctive hotels, Bayeux still retains a 19th century atmosphere.
- Visit **The Omaha Beach Memorial Museum** at Saint-Laurent-sur-Mer which has been created to perpetuate the memory of and respect for all those men who landed on Omaha Beach.

Your cycling holiday starts in Caen where you can visit the World War II Memorial or explore the two Abbeys that were spared during the World War II bombings, Abbaye aux Hommes and Abbaye aux Dames. You will then cycle through the Calvados region to the famous Pegasus Memorial and Museum, which are among the most famous monuments dedicated to World War II. The next part of the tour takes you to Bayeux, famous for

its 11th century tapestry and its cathedral.

On the way to Bayeux, you can stop in Arromanches where you can visit the D-Day Landing museum. Continue cycling along the coast, and you will get the chance to visit Omaha beach with the US Military cemetery, the Pointe du Hoc, Utah beach and other famous historical battle sites. This tour is as beautiful as it is emotional.



- ✓ ENTIRE Cooling-Off Period
- ✓ ENTIRE Change of Mind
- ✓ ENTIRE On Ground Support
- ✓ ENTIRE AUD Prices
- ✓ ENTIRE Industry Accredited
- ✓ ENTIRE Australian Owned

INCLUSIONS

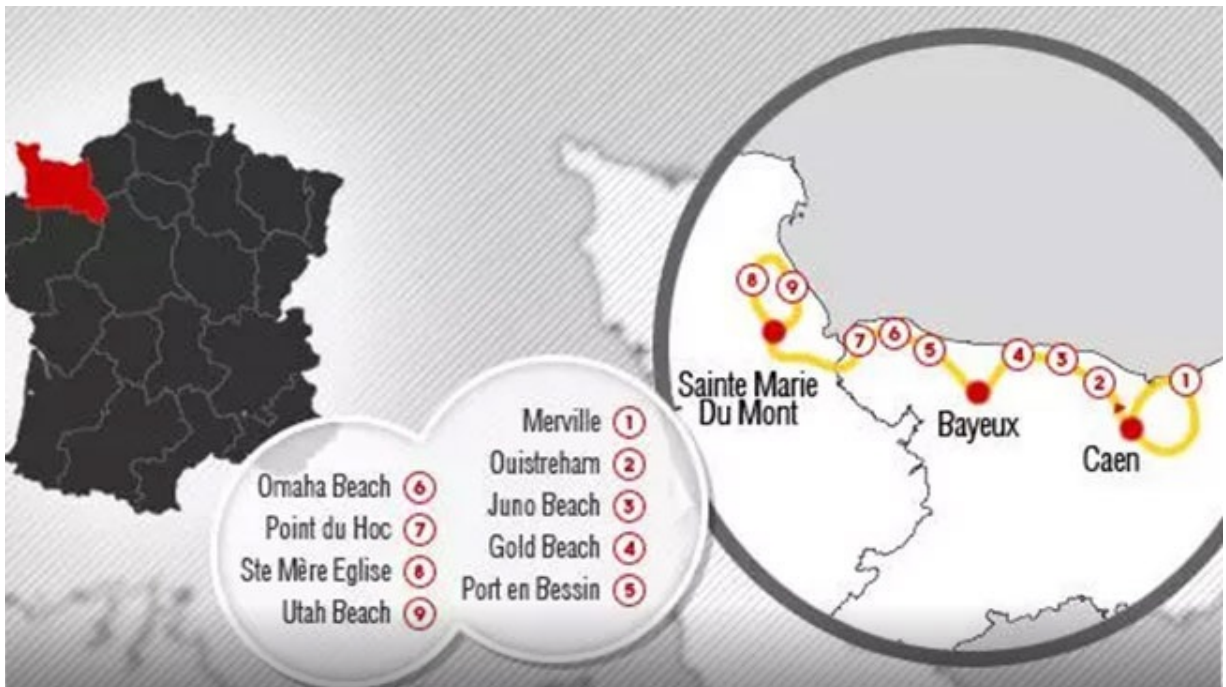
- 2 nights in Caen at Hotel Le Dauphin - 4*
- 1 night in Bayeux at Le Lion D'or - 3*
- 2 nights in Sainte Marie du Mont at Le Grand Hard - 3*
- Hybrid bike rental included
- 9 meals included - 6 breakfast, 3 dinners
- Orientation in person with local guide
- Detailed ROAD BOOK, including details maps, touristic information, step by step itinerary and cue sheets
- 1 GPS for every 1-3 people
- Guidance Application (phone not provided)
- All luggage transfers
- Comprehensive trip literature
- Technical and emergency support available at all times

ITINERARY

Map WWII: Normandy Cycling Tour

Average / Day Distance: 53.40 Km

Elevation gain: 208.60 Meters



Day **1**

Caen

Arrival in **Caen** - the main city of the region and home of the World War II Peace Memorial. Check in to your hotel and then free time of your own choosing.

A museum visit of the **Caen Memorial** is a highly informative and complete start of your tour.

Orientation in the evening with an English speaking guide.

Overnight in Caen at **Hotel Le Dauphin**.



Day **2**

Caen Pegasus Bridge Merville-Franceville-plage Ouistreham-Riva Bella Caen

Option 1: 40 Km - Elevation gain 1: 80 Meters
- Elevation gain 2: 90 Meters

Option 2: 50 Km

Cycle to Merville-Franceville-Plage sur Mer in the Calvados area and visit the **Battery Museum**. Then head on to Pegasus

Bridge, originally named the Benouville Bridge. There, you can visit the Pegasus Memorial and Museum, dedicated to the first liberators who arrived in Normandy on the night of 5th/6th June 1944.

Finally you will arrive in Ouistreham where, on Riva Bella you will have an overview on the landing area of **Sword Beach**. Here you can visit the **Atlantic Wall Museum**, inside the "Big Bunker", a former German headquarters.

Overnight in Caen at **Hotel Le Dauphin**.

Breakfast



Day **3**

Caen Gold beach & America museum Arromanches les Bains Bayeux

Distance 1: 58 Km

Elevation gain 1: 349 Meters

Today you will ride from Caen to Bayeux.

You will reach **Arromanches & Gold Beach**, where you can visit Arromanches 360, a circular theatre where *The Price of Freedom* is shown on nine screens. In the **D-Day Landing Museum** in Arromanches you will learn about the construction and operation of the artificial harbours assembled in front of Arromanches on the days following D-Day. You will finish in Bayeux, where you may take the opportunity to visit one of the many points of interest of this town of art.

The Bayeux Tapestry 70 m long and 50 cm high, completed in the 11th century- is unique in the world. Other visits include the recently re-opened **Musee de la Bataille de Normandy** and **Memorial du General de Gaulle**.

Overnight in Bayeux at **Le Lion D'or**.

Breakfast, Dinner



Day 4

Bayeux Port en Bessin Colleville sur Mer Omaha beach Memorial museum La Pointe du Hoc Sainte Marie du Mont

Distance 1: 70 Km

Elevation gain 1: 336 Meters

A strong ride today from **Bayeux** to discover some of the most famous World War II sites in the area: **Colleville-sur-Mer** and **Omaha beach**. In Colleville take some time to visit the **US Military cemetery**, which is spread over 172.5 acres, the chapel and the memorial dedicated to the youth of America.

There is also a viewpoint which overlooks **Omaha Beach**. After you continue to ride to **La Pointe du Hoc**, immortalized in the movie *The Longest Day* and after on to **Carentan** and **Utah beach**.

Overnight in Sainte Marie du Mont at **Le Grand Hotel**.

Breakfast, Dinner



y

Sainte Marie du Mont Utah beach Crisbeca and Azeville batteries Sainte Mère Église

Sainte Marie du Mont

Distance 1: 49 Km

Elevation gain 1: 188 Meters

A loop tour from your hotel will first take you to the **Utah Beach** landings, then move north toward the point on the coast at **Quineville**. You then head inland to **Sainte Mere Eglise**, an old town dating back to the 12th Century, but it is most famous for its role during the Allied landing. Paratroopers famously landed here and fought some decisive battles that made this town the first one to be liberated. The movie *"The Longest Day"* depicts many events in **Sainte Mere Eglise**.

Next you can visit the famous batteries of **Crisbecq and Azeville** and the village of **Sainte Marie du Mont**, the first village liberated by the landing troops.

Overnight in Sainte Marie du Mont at **Le Grand Hotel**.

Breakfast, Dinner



Sainte Marie du Mont

After breakfast, check out of the hotel. Depart on your own for your next adventure.

Departure station is Carentan with direct trains to Paris in about 2 hrs 40 min. Not Included.

Breakfast

OPTIONAL EXTRAS

Electric assisted bike rental

Upgrade to a Scott Sub Tour Electric-Ride 10 or the Cannondale Mavaro HS City (or similar).

With comfortable geometry, and ePowered by Bosch with a 400wh battery, those bikes are the ideal touring bike and are ready to provide many kilometres with no worries. Your bike rental comes with 2 bags (1 Rear pannier + 1 front pannier) so you can easily carry your stuff during your ride.

Included with your bike rental :

- Helmet
- Lock
- Hand pump
- 2 spare tubes
- Rear pannier
- Toolkit
- Tire levers
- Patch kit
- 1 souvenir water bottle
- Pedals are included, flat by default or toe straps on request

Note: "Please note that any bike change during the trip may incur an extra fee."



Prices are dynamic based on travel dates. Please proceed to [Book Now](#) or [Contact Us](#) for details.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

OFFICIAL LANGUAGE

French

LOCAL CURRENCY

EUR

- Our hotels or B&B provide amenities that are ideal for active vacations, located in easy walking distance to downtowns, restaurants and sightseeing. We prioritise family-owned, authentic accommodations over large chains. If the hotel advertised on our website is full, we will book you in another hotel similar in category
- We do not recommend taking this tour around the anniversary of D-Day, June 6th. Hotels fill up very far in advance, there is more traffic on the roads and some of the routes may be closed.

Blackout dates may apply during festive season.

Excluded

- International airfares and taxes
- Domestic airfares and taxes, unless otherwise specified in our holiday package
- Visa expenses, processing and issuance fees
- Meals other than as specified in our holiday package
- Travel Insurance or expenses of a personal nature (mini-bar, phone call, laundry, etc.),
- Tips or gratuities to guides, drivers, porters, hotel, restaurant or boat staff, etc.
- Or any other travel expense that has not been included in our holiday package