



The Remembrance Trail

NORMANDY

On this historical **horseback trail** discover the secret Normandy of the Vikings, medieval abbeys and the deeply moving landing beaches and cemeteries of the Second World War. Follow horseback trails through the heart of the Selle français region whilst staying in luxury accommodation.

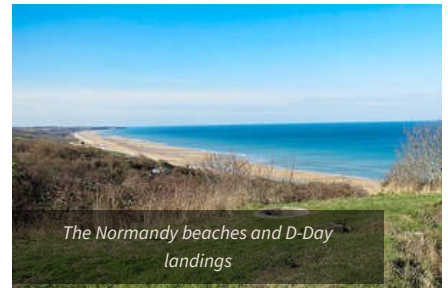
Trail Riding	 7 days/ 5 days riding	 From £2,380	
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On horseback in Normandy



Remembrance trail in Normandy



The Normandy beaches and D-Day landings

ITINERARY

Highlights

- Visit the landing beaches in Arromanches and Omaha
- Experience the wonder of Mont Saint Michel
- Trail riding with luxurious accommodation and fine dining en-route
- Stay in a chateau, manor house and a hotel on the coast
- A spectacular ride with an experienced and knowledgeable guide

Day 1 — 1: London - Bayeux

Arrive at Château de Bellefontaine near Bayeux, in the afternoon. The nearest train station is Bayeux. A taxi will be pre-booked to collect you from the station and take you to Château de Bellefontaine (payable locally).

Alternatively you may prefer to self-drive, in which case check in starts at 4.00 pm.

This evening you will have dinner and a briefing with your guide to discuss the plan for the week ahead.

Day 2 — 2: Bayeux-Creully - 4 hours

After breakfast you will ride for approximately two hours through the hilly landscape of Normandy before arriving at the old city of Creully. Visit the medieval Château de Creully, from here the BBC were sending news of the battle in 1944.

Then you visit the XIII Century Church St Martin, before having lunch. In the afternoon you will explore more of the Normandy countryside on horseback before arriving back in Bayeux and returning to the Château de Bellefontaine.

Day 3 — 3: Bayeux - Arromanches - 2 hours

This morning, give your horses a rest and enjoy a visit to Bayeux cathedral and the famous 11th Century Bayeux tapestry.

After lunch ride to Arromanches, where you should have great views of the famous Mulberry Port on a clear day. Depending on the tide, there may be the chance to canter along the beach. Ride on to the Hotel La Marine in Arromanches.

Day 4 — 4: Arromanches - Omaha beach - 4h30 hours riding

After breakfast, ride alongside the cliffs and see the famous sights from the Second World War as you travel through the beautiful countryside surrounding Arromanches. Stop for lunch in the very quaint seaside town of Port en Bessin. This afternoon ride along the cliffs overlooking Omaha beach.

After riding, there is the chance to visit the memorial or the military cemetery.

You will then be transferred by car to Chateau de la Roque near Saint-Lô.

Day 5 — 5: Agneaux - Saint Lo - 4 hours riding

This morning ride along the River La Vire to 'Haras de Saint Lo', the home of the famous Selle Français breed. Visit the stud and there may be a clinic with a french show jumping rider. In the afternoon ride along the river and through the countryside to Agneaux.

You will then be transferred by car to Manor du Brion, a historic manor house in Mont Saint Michel Bay.

Day 6 — 6: Mont Saint Michel - 4 hours

Today you will ride in Mont Saint Michel Bay or to Mont Saint Michel itself depending on the tide. Either a picnic lunch will be taken en route or lunch will be in an local creperie.

Overnight in Brion manor.

Day 7 — 7: Mont Saint Michel-London

After breakfast, you are free to visit Le Mont-Saint-Michel.

You will be transferred to the train station at Avranches (payable locally), where you can catch your train to Paris.

DATES & PRICES

DEPARTURE	RETURN	PRICE WITHOUT FLIGHTS	PRICE INCLUDING FLIGHTS	STATUS
29/08/2021	04/09/2021	£2,380		Open
05/09/2021	11/09/2021	£2,380		Open

Price details

- Flights or transportation to your destination (international/domestic) are not included, but can be booked on request - please contact us for rates.

- Rates are per person, based on two riders sharing a twin or double room during the ride.

- Groups are composed of a minimum of 5 riders and a maximum of 10 international riders, plus guides. Please note: the ride will also confirm for fewer riders on payment of a supplement. Once the group has reached 5 people, we will remove this supplement from your invoice and refund you if you have already paid it.

If 4 people in the group: approx. €150/£135 per person

If 3 people in the group: approx. €300/£275 per person

If 2 people in the group: approx. €700/£640 per person

- Transfer from/to Saumur train station is not included (around €20 by car each way)

- If you sign up to the ride as a solo rider and there are no other riders likely to share your room, you will be charged a single room supplement of approx. €698/£630. You will then be reimbursed if a sharer is found for you at a later date.

- Rider weight limit: 95 kg / 210 lbs / 14.9 st.

Please Note

The itinerary may be modified at anytime for security reasons, meteorological or events beyond our control such as blocked roads, rivers in flood, drought, strikes and local holidays. Equus Journeys, our local partners and their local guides will always strive to find the best solution and will alter the itinerary as needed.

The names of the hotels and accommodation are given for information only and depending on availability, they may be modified without notice and replaced by another of a similar standard.

Price includes

SUPPORT TEAM

Coaching by certificated staff, all visits and shows

LOGISTICS

1 horse equipped with saddle and bridle per rider

INLAND TRANSPORT

All inland transfers for horses and riders described in the itinerary

ACCOMMODATION

All nights in a double room in a château B&B

MEALS

Full board from dinner on day 1 to breakfast on the final day. All dinners are gourmet and accompanied by wine

Price doesn't include

MEALS

Beverages and personal extras

TRANSPORT

International transportation

Train station transfers

EXTRAS

Tips to the local team

Small group supplement. See above for price details

INSURANCE

Cancellation and travel insurance are not included. Please note that insurance is mandatory. We recommend taking out an insurance policy as soon as your trip is booked in case of cancellation.

Optional

ACCOMMODATION

Single room supplement

EQUESTRIAN INFO

Horses

Ride forward going, well mannered and reliable horses that are good in traffic. They are various breeds but many are Selle Francais crosses. fine, sure footed and used to the terrain. Weight limit 15 stones 9lbs - 100kgs.

They are ridden in English tack and all have saddlebags to keep your sun tan cream, glasses etc.

Minimum riding ability

MINIMUM RIDING ABILITY

You should be a confident rider, in control of a horse at walk, trot and canter in the open. There are long hours in the saddle.

PACE

There are some long canters along the beach if the tide allows. There will be trotting and cantering along the way whenever the terrain allows.

TACKING ABILITY AND PARTICIPATION

You will tack and untack your horse and also feed and water it.

TRIP CONDITIONS AND REQUESTED EXPERIENCE

There are some long hours in the saddle so you must be riding fit.

A previous riding holiday over several days is a plus, but not a requirement.

EQUESTRIAN EQUIPMENT

English tack.

We recommend our riders to wear a helmet to the correct standard and you should bring your own to ensure a proper fit

TRAVEL INFO

COMFORT

You will overnight in wonderful châteaux, a grand manor house and a coastal hotel. All have a combination of great charm and comfort. Enjoy gourmet picnics of local delicacies and fine dining each evening.

MEALS

All gourmet meals with wine

CLIMATE

Due to the proximity of the Atlantic Ocean and the northern latitude, the climate in Normandy is usually mild and temperate. The summer until September are pleasant with mild temperatures.

Rainfall can be significant all year round, including in the summer.

GUIDE AND LOCAL TEAM

Your guide is Anne-France, a very professional guides who has been running trail rides in France for a long time!

TIPS

Tips are not compulsory and remain at your own discretion.

PACKING LIST

Head

- Equus Journeys strongly recommend that you wear a riding helmet and that you take your own to ensure a correct fit.
- Sunhat for when not riding
- Sunglasses - with a cord attached so they don't fly off when riding
- Buff or bandana for protecting your neck and face from the sun and dust

Upper body

- Thermals in case of cold weather
- Long sleeved shirts to provide protection from the sun
- T-shirts
- Lightweight fleece or jumper
- Warm polar fleece or equivalent
- Waterproof jacket - rain can be difficult to predict and it's better to be prepared.

Legs

- Lightweight, comfortable riding trousers or jodhpurs - we recommend riding in them at home before taking them on holiday to ensure they don't rub
- Waterproof over trousers
- Casual clothes for the evenings (jeans or walking trousers)

Hands and Feet

- Comfortable riding boots. We recommend short boots with half chaps but you may wish to take long chaps or long boots.
- Lightweight shoes for the evenings
- Several pairs of socks
- Gloves - your hands are particularly exposed to the sun, wind or rain whilst riding

Nightwear

- Pyjamas etc

Our Recommendations

- Backpacks cannot be worn whilst riding. We recommend a small bumbag or a waistcoat with pockets so that you can carry small items with you during the day (camera, sunscreen, lipbalm etc)
- We recommend travelling in your riding boots and carrying your hat and some riding clothes in your hand luggage - then if your luggage goes astray you are still able to ride!

Other useful items

- Swimsuit - there may be possible occasions to swim
- Small backpack for accessing items required during the day (carried by support crew)
- Camera and high capacity memory card. Spare battery
- Bumbag for carrying your camera and small items whilst riding
- Water bottle (2 litres or 2 x 1 litre)
- Ear plugs (for light sleepers)

In your luggage

- Any liquids, such as shampoo, moisturiser, deodorant unless they are less than 100ml and all bottles can fit in a small, clear, plastic ziplock bag.
- Swiss army knife or equivalent

In your hand luggage

- Any valuables, such as your camera, ipod, ipad etc.
- Your riding hat

Medical kit

- Sunscreen and lip balm - should be high factor
- Insect repellent
- Any medication you regularly take
- Blister plasters in case of any rubs
- Antiseptic cream, plasters, aspirin, anti-histamine, insect-bite salve etc...
- Spare prescription glasses/contact lenses
- Eye drops
- Imodium or similar anti-diarrhoea medication
- Re-hydration sachets
- Antiseptic wipes
- Handwash gel

General information

- We recommend taking any valuables, such as your camera, iPod, iPad, medicines and glasses etc. in your hand luggage. Travelling in your riding boots and carrying your hat and some riding clothes is highly recommended - then if your luggage goes astray you are still able to ride!
- We recommend taking a copy of your passport and insurance documents with you in case you lose your originals

VISA & HEALTH

Formalities

UK citizens - other nationalities please contact us:

Visas

If you hold a British Citizen passport, you don't need a visa to enter France. The rules on travel will stay the same until 31 December 2020.

Visas from 1 January 2021

The rules for travelling or working in Europe will change from 1 January 2021:

- you will be able to travel to countries in the Schengen area for up to 90 days in any 180-day period without a visa as a tourist, to visit family or friends, to attend business meetings, cultural or sports events, or for short-term studies or training
- if you are travelling to France and other Schengen countries without a visa, make sure your whole visit is within the limit. Visits to Schengen countries within the previous 180 days before you travel would count towards the 90-day limit
- the 90-day limit for visa-free travel will begin on 1 January 2021. Any days you stay in France or other Schengen countries before 1 January 2021 will not count towards the 90-day limit.

At border control for France, you may need to:

- show a return or onward ticket
- show you have enough money for your stay, and
- use separate lanes from EU, EEA and Swiss citizens when queueing
- Your passport may be stamped on entry and exit.

Passport validity

The rules on travel will stay the same until 31 December 2020.

Your passport should be valid for the proposed duration of your stay; you don't need any additional period of validity on your passport beyond this.

Passport validity from 1 January 2021

From 1 January 2021, you must have at least 6 months left on an adult or child passport to travel to most countries in Europe (not including Ireland).

If you renewed your current passport before the previous one expired, extra months may have been added to its expiry date. Any extra months on your passport over 10 years may not count towards the 6 months needed.

Check your passport is valid for travel before you book your trip. You will need to renew your passport before travelling if you do not have enough time left on your passport.

For up-to-date information please visit: <https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice/france/entry-requirements>

Insurance

It is a condition of your booking with Equus Journeys that you have travel insurance which covers you for the riding activities to be undertaken. Your travel insurance should cover you for medical expenses and repatriation. Your guides will require your travel insurance details before they allow you to ride and may refuse to let you ride if you cannot provide them. You should take your insurance documents with you.