

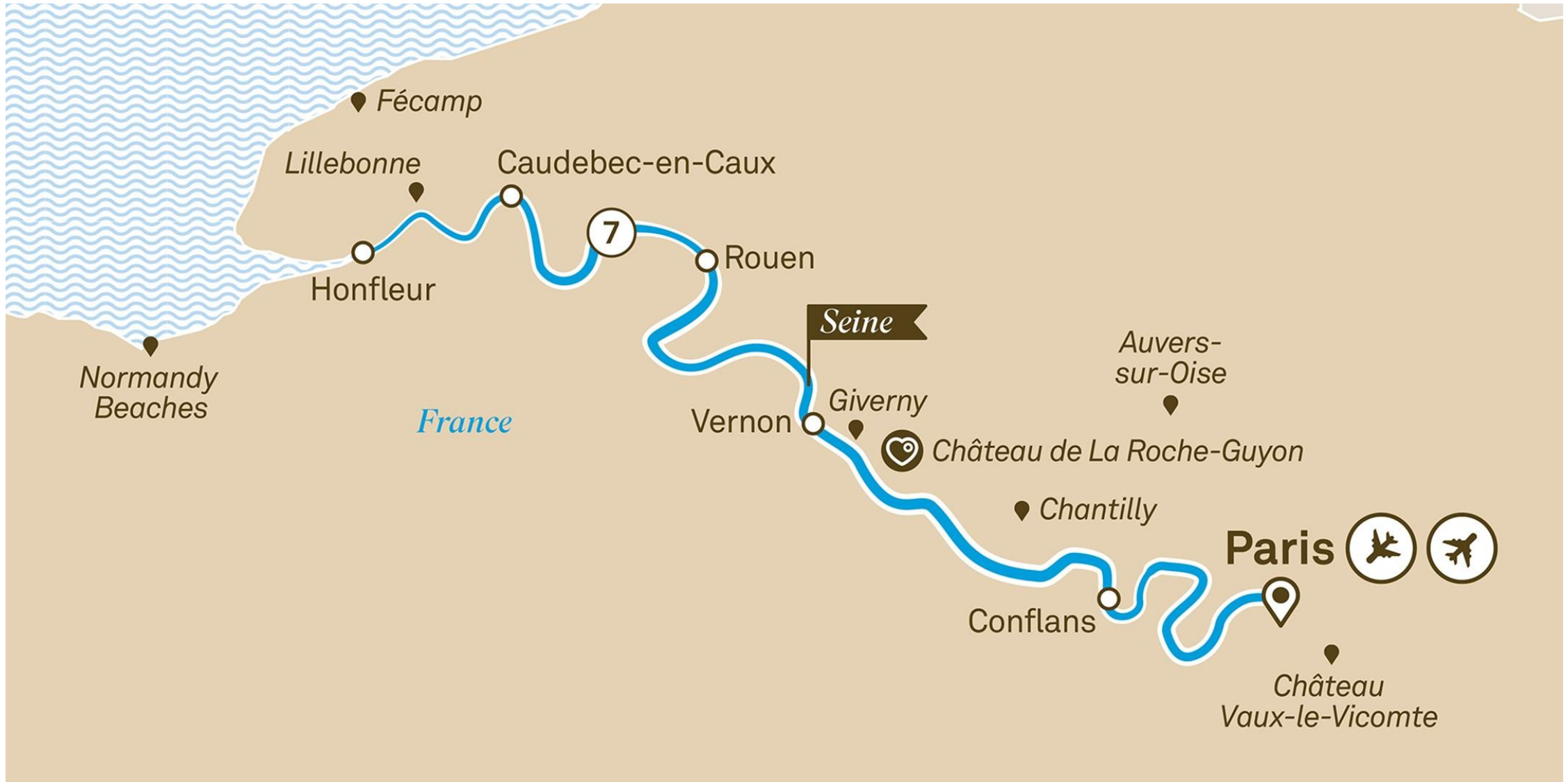
Highlights of Normandy & the Seine Scenic River Cruises

By

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Europe River Cruise Expert

Route Map Scenic River Cruises



Day 1

- Welcome to Paris.
- Enjoy a welcome dinner before cruising out of Paris with the beautiful city as a backdrop.

Day 2 **Conflans**

- This morning we arrive at the charming medieval town of Conflans, with its distinctive barge houses docked within easy reach of the quaint main square.
- **Freechoice**
- Discover the charms of Auvers-sur-Oise and see Vincent van Gogh's room,
- or step inside the magnificent Chantilly Castle for a guided tour of this remarkable château, set amid beautiful parklands.

Day 3 Rouen

- **Freechoice**

- Enjoy a walking tour of Rouen, the capital of the Normandy region. Take in the famous sites of Joan of Arc and the historic Rouen Cathedral.
- Walk the winding medieval laneways and admire the city's half-timbered houses.
- Alternatively, join a guided cycling tour along the Seine River to the beautiful 19th century botanical gardens that boast a number of exotic and rare plants.
- This afternoon we set sail to the picturesque coastal village of Honfleur.

Day 4 Honfleur

- **Freechoice**

- Visit the historic Normandy beaches, the site of the D-Day landings that took place in June 1944.
- Here you have three equally fascinating options to choose from.
- Explore the involvement of the British forces as you visit the Bayeux War Cemetery, Museum of the Battle of Normandy and the Landing Museum in Arromanches, finishing at the British Normandy memorial,
- or learn about the US contribution to the battle at Utah Beach and Memorial before a visit to the Normandy American cemetery and visitor center
- or view the battle through the eyes of Canadian forces as you visit Juno Beach Centre, a museum that focuses on the Canadian war effort as well as the Bény-sur-Mer Canadian cemetery and Pegasus Bridge & Museum.
- Alternatively, take the opportunity to explore Honfleur, with its quaint architecture, relaxed coastal atmosphere and colorful fishing boats bobbing up and down on its waters.

American Cemetery Normandy

Photo Anne Schrader www.dreamdestinations.com



American
Cemetery
Normandy



American Cemetery Normandy



Day 5 **Honfleur > Caudebec-en-Caux**

- **Freechoice**

- Visit Fécamp and its mighty palace. Situated in spectacular surrounds, the city's natural setting contrasts perfectly with its architectural centerpiece, the Benedictine Palace.
- Alternatively, travel through picturesque landscapes that were once dotted with over 100 abbeys, and along the way, visit some of the incredible abbeys still in operation,
- or learn about the Roman past of the town of Lillebonne.
- Interestingly it is said that William the Conqueror was in his castle at Lillebonne in 1066 when he decided to invade England.
- Back on board your Cruise Director will organize a special treat for you, with a tasting of Calvados, a locally produced Apple Brandy.

Day 6 **Vernon**

- **Freechoice**

- Visit Giverny and Monet's former residence and gardens. Admire the beauty of the landscape as you walk the paths exploding with colour and life.
- Or, if you're feeling more adventurous, you can explore by bike, with a self-guided cycling tour to Giverny.

- **Enrich**

- Built into a steep rock face overlooking the mighty Seine River and the small village bearing the same name, Château de La Roche-Guyon is a sight to behold. The château dates back to medieval times and you'll experience the opulence and grandeur of yesteryear as you enjoy a live classical concert.

Day 7 Paris

- **Freechoice**

- Shop with a Chef when you visit one of Paris' local food markets and enjoy exquisite tastings (not available all departures, will be replaced with visit to Montmartre),
- or walk through the trendy Marais district with a resident expert and hear tales that only the locals know.
- Alternatively, explore beyond Paris and tour the 17th century estate of Château Vaux-le-Vicomte, Louis XIV's inspiration for the Palace of Versailles.
- With remarkable attractions at every turn, you'll have a chance to explore Paris at leisure this afternoon.

Day 8 Paris

- Your trip concludes this morning after breakfast, as you disembark and transfer to Paris airport.
- Make sure you remember to pack up all those wonderful memories before you leave.
- This itinerary is a guide only and may be amended for operational reasons such as high and low water. As such, the cruise may operate altered from that stated above. Please refer to our terms and conditions.

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