

Seine River Cruise

By

Hank Schrader

Overview

- Starting at Paris, you will sail the historic Seine River. You will visit Giverny, Monet's garden & home, where he created many of his most famous paintings and Honfleur, the charming harbor town, also scene of many impressionists
- Also you will visit Rouen, a great medieval city, where Joan of Arc was burned at the stake.
- The highlight is an all day excursion to the Normandy Beaches.

AmaLyra 110 meters

Photo Anne Schrader www.dreamdestinations.com



Ship Features

- Custom-Designed Ships
- Premium Experience—first class all the way
- 360 degree Riverside Views
- Award winning Dining
- Massage & Beauty Salon
- Complimentary Bicycles
- Innovative French Balconies
- Complimentary Internet & Infotainment System
- Fitness room

French Balcony Cabin AmaLyra

Photo Anne Schrader
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Infotainment System

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Main Lounge

Photo Anne Schrader
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Whirlpool 2009 Cruise



Photo Anne Schrader www.dreamdestinations.com

Main Lounge



The Dining Experience

- Only river cruise line inducted into La Chaine des Rotisseurs—one of the world's most prestigious culinary organizations
- Meals are great—champagne breakfast, tasty lunches, multi-course dinner accompanied by free flowing wine, beer or soft drinks.

Restaurant



Complementary Wine with Dinner



The Chef's Table Aft Dining Area



Aft Specialty Dining Room



Photo Anne Schrader www.dreamdestinations.com

Aft Specialty Dining Room Food



Photo Anne Schrader
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Trip Map



Small group excursions led by expert local guides

- **Daily tours & excursions**—most included with cruise at no extra cost—with professional guides & a personal headset included
- **Walking excursions are grouped**—fast walkers, normal walkers, gentle walkers & late starter groups.
- They always provide maps & info if you want to go off on your own or on state-of-the-art bikes included at no extra cost.

Day 1

- Arrive in Paris, one of Europe's most romantic cities, and board your luxurious ship.
- Meet your fellow travelers at the Welcome Dinner. (D) meal

Day 2

- Your start by cruising to the provincial town of Vernon on the scenic Seine River.
- You can visit Giverny and the enchanting home and gardens of Impressionist master Claude Monet, & his Impressionist Museum.
- Alternatively, you can visit the palace and lush gardens of Château de Bizy.
- The ship moors overnight in Vernon. (B,L,D meals)

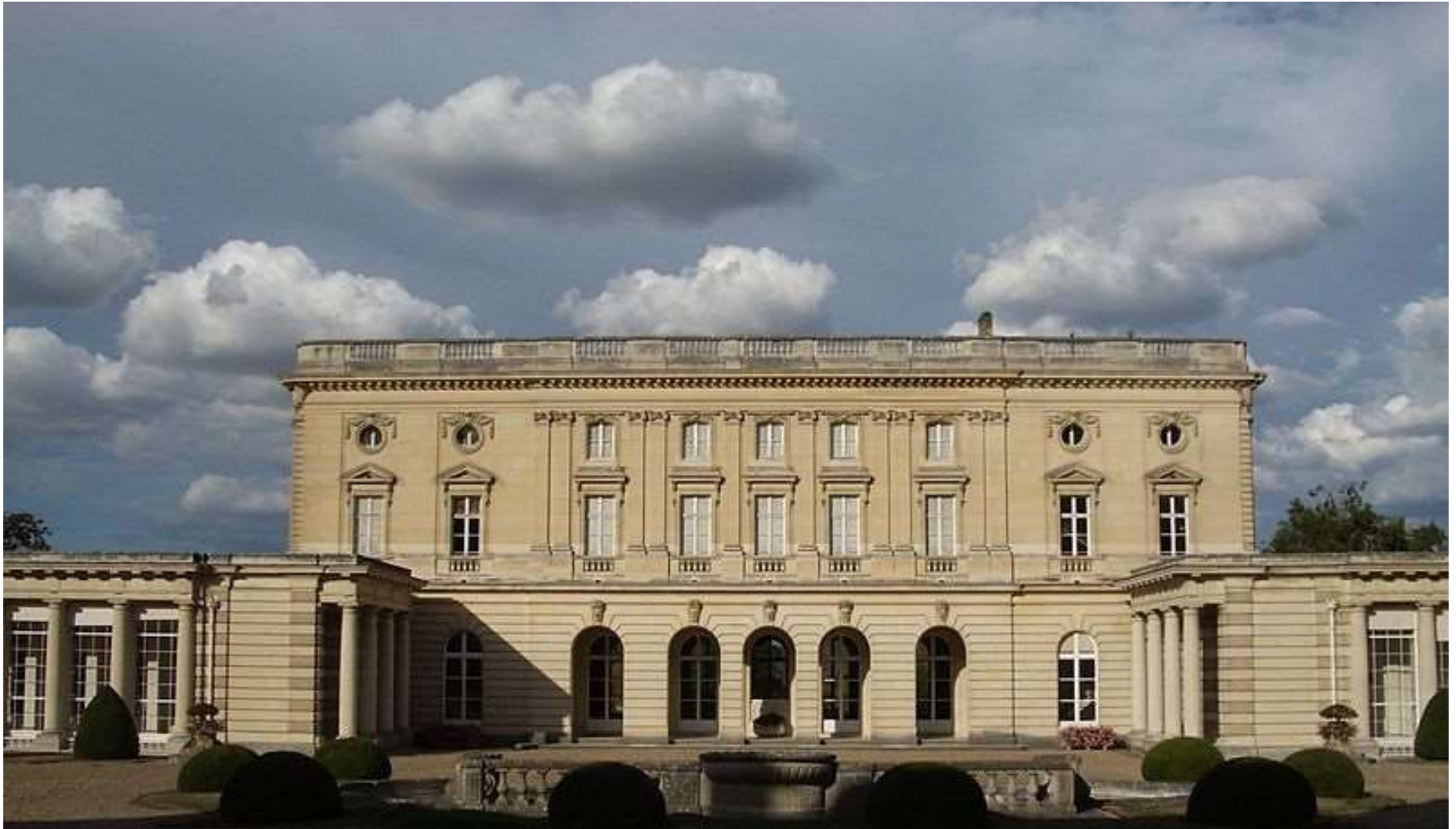
Giverny

Photo Wikipedia Creative Commons Attribution



Palace & Gardens of Château de Bizy

Photo Wikipedia Creative Commons Attribution



Day 3

- After a scenic morning cruise, arrive in the old fishing village of Caudebec-en-Caux. There are 2 tour options.
- First, you can visit Honfleur, a historic & picturesque port with pastel-colored houses that was a favorite subject of artists such as Courbet, Boudin and Monet.
- Or choose the "Routes des Abbayes" excursion spotlighting Normandy's famous abbeys, more than 100 of which once covered this region.
- (B, L ,D) meals.

Honfleur

Photo Wikipedia by Pir6mon - Own work, Creative Commons



Routes des Abbayes—Valmont Abbey

Photo Wikipedia by Velvet - Own work, Creative Commons



Day 4

- There are 3 different tours today. First, "D-Day Remembered" is a full day excursion to the US sector, where you will visit the cemetery at Coleville-sur-Mer, Omaha Beach, the artillery battery at Longues-sur-Mer and the village of Arromanches, where the remains of the floating harbor used during the WWII landings can be seen.



Photo Hank Schrader www.dreamdestinations.com

Omaha Beach



Photo Anne Schrader
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Omaha Beach



Photo Anne Schrader www.dreamdestinations.com

American Cemetery

Photo Anne Schrader
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Day 4 (con't)

- Or, Gold & Juno beaches in the British and Canadian sectors, where you will visit Ranville Cemetery, Pegasus Bridge, the Canadian cemetery at Beny-sur-Mer, the WWII museum in Courselle, Juno and Gold Beaches, and finally Arromanches.

Day 4 (con't)

- A third option is an excursion to rural Normandy, which includes a visit to the Pays d'Auge and "Routes du Cidre" (the Cider Road). You will visit beautiful Norman towns and villages, such as Beuvron-en-Auge, and Cambremer, the Chateau St. Germaine de Livet and a Calvados distillery where you may sample apple cider and apple brandy. (B,L,D) meals

A small calvados producer around Cambremer along the cider route.

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Day 5

- Enjoy a morning walk through the medieval city of Rouen & visit the imposing Notre Dame Cathedral, painted numerous times by Monet, and see the square where Joan of Arc was martyred, as well as the Medieval Quarter and Great Clock.
- Afterwards, you will have free time to explore Rouen on your own or join a guided bike tour along the banks of the Seine. (B,L,D) meals

Rouen

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Day 6

- Depart Rouen this morning and enjoy scenic cruising on the Seine to Les Andelys.
- A mid-day stroll along the river in Les Andelys offers beautiful views of the Seine Valley's dramatic white cliffs, centuries-old half-timbered houses, & the hilltop ruins of Château Gaillard. You can visit this former stronghold of Richard the Lionheart, which changed hands a number of times during the Hundred Years' War, on a standard tour or on a hike.
- You may also opt instead for a guided bike tour through the village of Les Andelys.
- The ship arrives tonight in Conflans. (B,L,D

Les Andelys

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Château Gaillard

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Day 7

- There are 2 options today.
- The first option is to visit Château Malmaison, former home of Emperor Napoleon Bonaparte and his wife Josephine. Your tour includes the Château's interior, gardens and museum.
- Or travel to Auvers-sur-Oise, a town famous for the Impressionist painters, such as Paul Cézanne and Camille Pissarro. Your "Artists' Walk" tour will include many sites associated with their work, including the Auberge Ravoux, former home of Vincent van Gogh.
- The ship departs this afternoon for Paris, arriving in the evening. (B,L,D) meals

Château Malmaison

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Château Malmaison

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Auvers-sur-Oise Auberge Ravoux, former home of Vincent van Gogh

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- Certified Destination Specialist Western Europe
- '86 U of Houston grad in hotel & restaurant management
- Earned over 20 specialty designations from individual travel vendors



Hank Schrader

- West Point '71, MS U. of Washington, MBA Long Island University
- Accredited Cruise Counselor (ACC)
- Certified Destination Specialist Western Europe
- AmaWaterways River Cruise Specialist
- Visited 81 countries—Europe at least 15 times
- Retired HS World Geography & AP Human Geography Teacher

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