

## TOUR CONDITIONS

**Tour Deposit and Payment:** Reservations may be made by check or credit card (Visa, MC, or Discover). Tour prices do increase every year and it is possible that increases could occur after the printing of this brochure in advance of your tour's departure.

**Tour Pricing:** This is a package tour in which land tour costs and special group airfares have been combined in the most advantageous way. Should you wish to make any deviation from the package tour by changing your departure and/or return dates, the advantages of the package tour price may be eliminated and additional charges will be assessed.

**Travel Insurance:** Please review the enclosed USI Travel Insurance Services brochure and letter. This insurance is designed to protect you from trip cancellation/interruption penalties and provide medical expense, medical evacuation, baggage and accidental death coverage, as well as emergency assistance. There is an advantage to early enrollment in this travel insurance program. Purchasing coverage within 15 days (Plus Option) or 21 days (Elite Option) of your initial trip deposit can make you eligible for 1) Waiver of the Pre-Existing Condition Exclusion, to cover certain injuries and illnesses that would not otherwise be covered by the policy 2) Protection for Certain Terrorist Acts if you cancel your trip due to a terrorist incident occurring in any city on your trip itinerary, within 30 days before or after our scheduled departure date, 3) Cancel for Any Reason Coverage, if the Elite Option is purchased, and 4) Protection for Financial Default of an airline, cruise line, or tour operator. If you wish to take advantage of the special above provision, you must enroll within 15 days (21 days for the Elite Option) of the date your initial trip deposit is received. **Please Note:** Although purchasing the Travel Insurance is not mandatory for you to travel with our group, if you purchase insurance, it **must** be through USI Travel Insurance Services.

## RESPONSIBILITY

**THE NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION** and/or any travel agency and/or supplier of services pursuant to or in connection with this itinerary shall not be responsible or become liable for any delay incurred by any person in connection with any means of transportation; nor for any loss, damage or injury to person or property by reason of any event beyond the control of any agency or supplier, or occurring without the fault or negligence of such agency or supplier. The right is reserved to substitute the airline to be used; the type of aircraft; and to alter the dates of the tour; the tour routing; or to cancel the trip if a minimum number of bookings is not reached for either the air or land portion of this itinerary. The right is also reserved to substitute hotels for other hotels in available categories. Further, the right is reserved to decline to accept or to retain at any time any person as a participant on any tour or to cancel any tour. No refund will be made for voluntary absence from the tour unless arrangements are made at the time of booking. The schedules contained herein are subject to change without notice. All rates are based on current Tariff and Exchange rates in effect at the time of the printing of this itinerary and are subject to adjustment without prior notification in the event of changes therein or in changes in the number of participants on which the rates are based. The carriers concerned are not to be held responsible for any act, omission or event during the time passengers are not on board their plane or conveyance. The passage contract in use by carrier concerned, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the carrier and the purchaser of this tour.

**For more information contact the  
NIU Alumni Relations Office at 815/753-1512.  
To make your reservation visit  
myniu.com and click on Travel.**

*\$100 of the trip cost is tax-deductible as a charitable donation.*

**Alumni Association  
Barsema Alumni & Visitors Center  
Northern Illinois University  
DeKalb, IL 60115  
815-753-1512**



The Northern Illinois University Alumni Association  
& The Office of Alumni Relations

*Present*

# Normandy History & Paris Culture – C'est Magnifique!

March 5 – 14, 2010

\$ 2,649 Per Person, Double Occupancy from Chicago



*This is an exclusive travel program presented by the  
Northern Illinois University Alumni Association and the Office of Alumni Relations*

## Day by Day Itinerary

### **Friday, March 5 – CHICAGO/EN ROUTE (I)**

We will depart Chicago's O'Hare International Airport in the late afternoon by scheduled service of Air France on the transatlantic flight to Paris, France.

### **Saturday, March 6 – PARIS/HONFLEUR (I,L)**

As the sun begins to rise on the French coast, we will arrive in Paris and meet our Tour Escort who will accompany us on vacation. Leaving the airport, we'll travel along the Valley of the Seine River before stopping to visit the picturesque village of Les Andelys, on a scenic bend of the river where there are beautiful views of half-timbered old houses of the Petit Andely and the Chateau-Gailard ruins. Afterward, we'll be on our way to the town of Honfleur. Still a fishing port, and now a popular yacht harbor, Honfleur has preserved its rich historic and artistic heritage with picturesque streets, traditional buildings, museums, churches and monuments.

### **Sunday, March 7 – HONFLEUR (D-DayBeaches) (B)**

Today we will explore the American landing sector of the D-Day beaches of World War II where in the early hours of June 6, 1944 forces began landing on the shores of Normandy. We'll begin our day with a visit to the village of Arranches, overlooking Omaha Beach where the remains of one of the Mulberry Harbours can still be seen to this day. We'll also tour the Landing Museum, a gallery of working models overlooking this historic site, which brings to life the Normandy Campaign. Then we'll travel to the American Cemetery at Saint-Laurent. One of the fourteen permanent American World War II cemeteries constructed on foreign soil, this 173-acre cemetery marks the final resting place for over 9,000 American soldiers who died during the Battle of Normandy. Afterward, we'll stop and take in the bluffs at Pointe du Hoc, the symbol of the gallantry of the American Soldiers and one of the strong points of the German fortifications. Our last stop of the day will take us to Sainte-Mere-Eglise, to view an exhibition dedicated to the night that American paratroopers dropped from the sky in a hail of gunfire, before our return to Honfleur.

### **Monday, March 8 – HONFLEUR (Rouen) (B)**

Today we will travel to Rouen, the capital of Normandy. With 2,000 years of history, it is one of the country's most ancient cities. Despite the severe damage from World War II, the city boasts a wealth of historic sights in its Old Town filled with half-timbered houses and exquisite gothic architecture, the most noteworthy of which is the Cathedral Notre-Dame. This Gothic masterpiece is dominated by the famous west façade painted by Monet, which is framed by two unequal towers. We'll also see the thyme-covered mound in the Place du Vieux-Marche where Joan of Arc burned at the stake in 1431 while the English had control of Rouen. Following our visit to Rouen, we'll return to Honfleur for an afternoon at leisure to explore the picturesque streets of the old maritime district.

### **Tuesday, March 9 – HONFLEUR (Bayeux) (B)**

Today we travel to Bayeux, the first town to be liberated by the Allies and fortunate to escape war damage. We'll begin with a visit to the famous Bayeux Tapestry. This unique masterpiece of wool embroidery on linen is a pictorial account of the events leading up to the military invasion of England and the expedition led by William the Conqueror. Afterward, free time will allow us to explore the rue St. Martin and rue St. Jean, now pedestrian zones lined with shops and cafes, above which rise the spires of Bayeux Cathedral. Before leaving Bayeux, we'll visit the largest British World War II cemetery in France. On our return to Honfleur, we'll also take in the sweeping vistas of the Allied invasion along Gold, Juno and Sword Beaches, and cross the Pegasus Bridge, which derives its name from the shoulder emblem worn by the attacking British Army.

### **Wednesday, March 10 – HONFLEUR/PARIS (B)**

Today we depart Honfleur and the Normandy coast and travel to Versailles, the capital of France in the 17th and 18th centuries, and home to the Palace of Versailles. A visit to the chateau of King Louis XIV will reveal the grandeur of classical French architecture, as we'll see in the State Apartments, the Royal Chapel and the famed Hall of Mirrors that was the scene of the signing of the

1919 Peace Treaty. We'll also have an opportunity to stroll through the formal gardens adorned with marble, bronze and lead statues, and fountains, built for the entertaining of palace guests.

Following our visit to Versailles, we will travel to Paris; France's storied capital that is one of the world's most captivating cities. As you'll soon find out, Paris offers a compact network of neighborhoods where the streets are sprinkled with trendy cafes, bars and restaurants. For all it offers, Paris is relatively small and most major sights and museums are easily reached by metro or on foot.

#### **Thursday, March 11 – PARIS (B)**

We will begin our day by traveling to the Tuileries Quarter where we'll pass the royal Place Vendome before reaching the historic Place de la Concorde, one of Europe's most magnificent squares. From here, we'll travel past the formal Tuileries Gardens to see the 18th century Royal Palace. Then we'll travel along the eastern façade of the Louvre Museum, home to one of the most important art collections in the world, before crossing the Pont Neuf to reach the Ile de la Cite, the island in the Seine River that is the original birthplace of Paris. Here we'll see the Conciergerie and Notre-Dame Cathedral, a superb example of French medieval architecture. Just when you think we've seen it all, we'll travel

along the Seine River to reach the Champs-Elysees, the most famous avenue in the world, and stop at the Palais de Chaillot for a panoramic view of the Eiffel Tower, Paris's best-known monument. Nearby, we'll see the Arc de Triomphe standing proudly on Place de l'Etoile before we journey towards Montmartre, the picturesque district where painters thrive in an atmosphere of prewar Paris, to view the Sacre-Coeur Basilica, dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Christ.

#### **Friday, March 12 & Saturday, March 13 – PARIS (B)**

The following two days are at leisure in Paris allowing you to choose if you want to browse the fashion houses and shops, contemplate art in one of over 90 museums, or relax and people watch at the sidewalk cafes. We invite you to come and experience the romance that is Paris. Whatever you choose to do, Paris has something for everyone!

#### **Sunday, March 14 – PARIS/CHICAGO (B,I)**

After breakfast this morning, we will return to Paris' Charles de Gaulle Airport in preparation for the return journey home.

**\* \* \* Welcome Home \* \* \***

**(I = In-flight meals, B = Breakfast, L = Lunch)**

## **Visit [myniu.com](http://myniu.com) to make your reservation.**

### **The Vacation Price Includes:**

- Economy-class air transportation by scheduled service of Air France (or other scheduled airlines). Meals and light beverages served in-flight according to airline schedules.
- Transportation by deluxe private motor coach with accompanying Tour Escort.
- Accommodations in first-class hotels in twin-bedded rooms with private bath or shower.
- Lunch in Les Andelys on Saturday, March 6 and European-style buffet breakfast each morning at the hotels.
- Sightseeing as shown in the Day by Day Itinerary including applicable entrance fees.
- Luggage handling and portage charges for one suitcase per person at the hotels.
- Taxes for included ground services, **and airline taxes, customs service charges, and fuel surcharges and security fees of \$310 per person.**

**The Vacation Price Does Not Include:** Items of a personal nature such as passport fees; telephone calls; optional tours and excursions; tips to the motor coach driver(s), Tour Escort and local guide(s); luggage handling at airports; personal and baggage insurance; and meals other than those stated above.