

The Association of Former Students



Sept. 10-18, 2022



# A World of Discovery

Your next adventure begins along the historic banks of the Seine River! Discover the cultural significance of Paris, admire Rouen's exquisite architecture, and bear witness to Normandy's legendary D-Day beaches, a symbol of the heroism of World War II. This once-in-a-lifetime travel story is packed with these exceptional journeys and more!

What sets this travel adventure apart from others is AHI's unwavering commitment to connecting you to the world's people, places and cultures. By weaving together discovery, education and authentic local experiences, we deliver new insights and fresh perspectives to enrich your life.

The incomparable value of our journeys is rooted in the personalized care you receive from AHI's Travel Directors. These outstanding professionals create a welcoming atmosphere and handle every last detail so you can focus on the wonder of the world before you. We also partner with the most knowledgeable guides and lecturers, whose regional expertise shines.

We invite you to turn the page on a remarkable new chapter with this AHI Journey for the curious traveler!

- Pay tribute to the sacrifice and valor of the Allied
   Forces while visiting significant D-Day
   beaches.
- ➤ Discover the impact of World War II at the Caen Memorial Museum.
- ▶ Learn about rural life in Normandy at Château de Martainville's museum.
- ➤ Witness Paris illuminated at night during an evening cruise on the Seine.
- ➤ Step into the life of worldrenowned painter Claude Monet while exploring his home and gardens in **Giverny.**
- ➤ Delight in the wonderful views along **Honfleur's** picturesque harbor.
- ► Experience two UNESCO World Heritage sites.



# Howdy, Ags!

Join us for a cultural journey along the Seine River! Together, we'll uncover the essence of Paris and Normandy while discovering the region's remarkable past and pivotal role in history.

Begin in Paris where we'll witness famed landmarks, tour the Latin Quarter and relish the romantic ambience of this remarkable city. Explore the life of Claude Monet at his Giverny home where the artist painted his most famous works, and discover Rouen, the cultural heart of Normandy. Spend a day immersed in World War II history at Omaha Beach, the Caen Memorial, the American Cemetery and other poignant sites. Stroll through the ruins of ancient abbeys and medieval châteaux before capping off this magical adventure amid the inviting harbor of Honfleur, a charming fishing port. Plus, personalize your journey by choosing to visit Versailles or Palais Garnier in Paris!

Your itinerary has been carefully crafted by travel experts to include enriching cultural excursions, preferred access to popular attractions and an engaging educational component. These fascinating lectures by expert speakers provide meaningful context for what you will encounter during your travels.

Delight in the camaraderie of traveling with a group, plus enjoy ample free time to make your own discoveries. Space is limited and will sell out quickly, so make plans today!

Gig 'em!

Marisa Liles

Marisa Liles

Manager of Traveling Aggies

The Association of Former Students

800-633-7514

AggieNetwork.com/Travel



# Architecture | Art | Culture | Cuisine | History | Natural Beauty



#### Day 1 | In Transit

Depart your gateway city for Paris, France.

#### Day 2 | Paris, France

Upon arrival in Paris, transfer 3 to the MS Renoir.

**Free Time:** Settle in your cabin and get acquainted with the ship's amenities.

Gather with your fellow travelers for a Welcome Reception and Dinner on board the ship.

# Day 3 | Paris

**Enrichment:** *History of Paris.* Learn about the pivotal events and people that shaped Paris.

**Discovery:** The Latin Quarter. Start your walking tour on the Île de la Cité, the historic heart of Paris. See the restoration work at Notre-Dame, Paris' most iconic cathedral; then cross the Pont de l'Achevêché, the Archbishop's Bridge, for an in-depth look at the Left Bank's charming Latin Quarter, the intellectual hub of Paris for centuries. Along the way, learn about the quarter's history, architecture and famous residents.

Return to the ship for a lunch of regional favorites.



Top: Luxembourg Palace in the Latin Quarter, Paris Above: Charming shop, Honfleur

**Free Time:** The afternoon is free to explore Paris on your own. You may wish to watch the rhythm of local life at a café or visit a popular museum.

**Discovery:** Seine at Night. Enjoy a special encounter with the City of Light during an evening illumination cruise on the Seine. Admire Paris' many landmarks, and float under the graceful arches of centuries-old bridges, including Pont Neuf. Constructed between 1578 and 1607, this marvelous structure is decorated with approximately 381 sculptures of mascarons.

# Your Individual Experience

Free time means something different to every traveler. You may like to linger in a cozy café or stay on the go. That's why we design itineraries that allow you to craft an individual travel experience.



Choose from a variety of excursions in selected locales based on your interests.

**Elective Experiences** | At an additional cost
Further your experience by immersing yourself in specially designed activities.

Check out our itinerary for more details. We've done the legwork. Now the choice is yours.



# Day 4 | Paris | La Roche-Guyon

# PYJ | Choose one of these excursions:

- Versailles. Journey to France's grandest palace and the seat of the royal court from 1682-1789. Walk through the palace's opulent rooms, grand gardens and the Hall of Mirrors.
- •Palais Garnier. Step into the home of the Paris National Opera and the Paris Opera Ballet School, and witness the extravagant Grand Staircase and auditorium featuring a ceiling painted by Marc Chagall. The theater inspired many of Edgar Degas' paintings of ballerinas.

Enjoy lunch on board and bid farewell to Paris as the ship sets sail for La Roche-Guyon.

# Day 5 | La Roche-Guyon | Giverny | Les Andelys | Martainville-Épreville

# **Discovery:** Monet, His Life in Giverny.

Delve into Claude Monet's life at his home in Giverny. Raised in Normandy, Monet lived in this

pink-washed house from 1883 to 1926. Admire the tranquil Japanese garden and pond filled with floating lilies, settings that inspired many of his paintings. See the green footbridge captured in his artistry, and visit the studio where Monet created his "Water Lilies" series. Inside the house, view rooms as they were in Monet's time, including the iconic blue kitchen and cheerful yellow dining room. Settle in for lunch on board your ship.

# Discovery: Châteaux of Normandy.

Uncover a fascinating timeline of Norman history and culture at two of France's elaborate estates. Begin at the Château de Martainville, a castle built by the shipowner and merchant Jacques Le Pelletier. The castle is one of the first French fortifications built in the Renaissance style. Today, the site is a museum with collections and exhibits of furniture, housewares and farm implements that offer insight into rural life in Normandy between the 16th and 19th centuries. Highlights of the museum include a collection of





wedding armoires and a display of typical fashion from the 1700s. Continue to see the ruins of the once-grand Château Gaillard, set along a scenic bend above the river. Some 3,000 stonemasons, quarry workers, carpenters and other tradesmen built this castle at the end of the 12th-century.

Return to the ship for dinner and sail to Rouen.

# Day 6 | Rouen | Jumièges

Discovery: Ancient Abbeys. Venture into the French countryside to visit the Abbey Saint-Wandrille, recognized as one of Normandy's first Benedictine abbeys. The buildings, which flaunt rococo-style and Gothic decorations, still house a monastic community. Next, witness the ruins



Gros-Horloge, Rouen

of the Benedictine Abbey of Jumièges, one of the most powerful abbeys in medieval France. Known for its charity toward the poor, it was one of several monasteries built along the River Seine. The ruins of the current building are from the 11th century, but the original monastery was built 300 years earlier. See the abbey's cloisters and the remains of the Église St Pierre.

Take a break during lunch back on board.

Discovery: Rouen. Set off on a walking tour of Rouen's historic city center. The medieval quarter is filled with ornate Gothic churches and half-timbered houses and was once described in a Victor Hugo poem as "the city with a hundred bell towers chiming in the air." Witness Notre-Dame de Rouen, the city's grand cathedral captured so brilliantly in paintings by Claude Monet, and listen to tales of Joan of Arc.

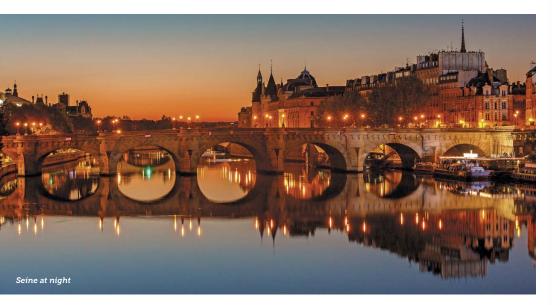
# Day 7 | Caen | D-Day Beaches | Honfleur

After breakfast, disembark the ship for a day of exploring Normandy's historic D-Day sites.

Discovery: Normandy and D-Day. Begin a memorable journey into World War II history at the Caen Memorial Museum, a premier World War II museum. The site features engrossing exhibits and videos that explore the impact of the



Abbey Saint-Wandrille



# **UNESCO** World Heritage

- 1. Paris, Banks of the Seine
- 2. Palace and Park of Versailles

war. Following lunch, step foot on Omaha Beach, where U.S. forces valiantly advanced across the heavily fortified shoreline under devastating fire to overcome German troops. Throughout your excursion, your guide shares details about this treacherous mission. Continue to Colleville-sur-Mer to pay a poignant visit to the Normandy American Cemetery. The cemetery overlooking Omaha Beach contains 9,385 graves of Americans who died in the invasion and subsequent battles, as well as a memorial garden honoring those missing in action. Cap off your visit at Pointe du Hoc, where U.S. Rangers courageously scaled 100-foot cliffs to destroy German artillery that posed a threat to troops coming ashore.

Rejoin the ship in Honfleur and gather for dinner.

# Day 8 | **Honfleur**

**Discovery:** Honfleur. Explore the Vieux Bassin, the historic harbor in Honfleur's town center. From the 16th to the 18th centuries, Honfleur was a lucrative fishing and trading port, and wealthy ship owners built the tall townhomes that surround the harbor. Stroll through the inviting harbor and along the narrow side streets, passing Honfleur's landmarks. The wooden Church of Sainte-Cathérine, crafted by 15th-century shipbuilders, is a special standout with ceilings over its two naves that resemble upturned hulls.

**Free Time:** Spend the rest of the day exploring Honfleur on your own. You may want to venture along the Vieux Bassin or visit a Calvados cellar.



Tonight, gather with your fellow travelers for a festive Farewell Reception and Dinner.

#### Day 9 | In Transit

Following breakfast, transfer to the Paris airport for the return flight to your gateway city.

Note: Itinerary may change due to local conditions.

**♦** Flights and **♦** transfers included for AHI FlexAir participants.

# A Note About Activity Levels

We want you to have a comfortable and enjoyable experience. That's why we have rated all of our excursions with activity levels to help you assess this program's physical expectations. Depending on the excursion, more leisurely alternatives may be available. Please call or visit our website to review the itinerary for full details about our activity levels.

# **Excursions on this program require:**

- ► walking on cobblestones, unpaved paths or uneven surfaces
- ➤ getting on/off motor coaches, boats and/or trains

# **MS** Renoir



Enjoy European elegance, gracious service and a comfortable cabin when cruising aboard the first-class MS Renoir. Relax and share a cocktail with fellow travelers in the ship's lounge, watch the beauty of the Seine unfold from the spacious Sun Deck, or join in a variety of onboard activities and entertainment. Each morning, enjoy a sumptuous assortment of fresh pastries, eggs, meats, fruits and yogurt, and delight in three-course lunches and dinners with menus featuring French cuisine and local ingredients. At the end of each day, return to the comforts of your cabin, appointed in bright, modern décor. Complimentary Wi-Fi is available.







# | ELECTIVE | PRE-TRIP EXTENSION IN PARIS

Spend two additional nights in Paris, the City of Light, allowing you to encounter more of this thrilling city. Explore Le Marais, one of Paris' most historic neighborhoods, with an expert guide. During ample free time, visit world-class museums and linger at Paris' ubiquitous sidewalk cafés. The choice is yours! This extension includes two nights accommodation at the Hilton Paris Opera; Welcome Reception; daily breakfast; guided tour of Le Marais; services of an AHI Travel Director and AHI Hospitality Desk; transfer with baggage handling between the hotel and the ship; and all taxes and service charges.

Price: \$995 per person, double occupancy; \$1,490 single occupancy

# Grand Seine River & Normandy Passage

Trip #:3-26922W

Call our travel experts at to reserve your place! (Preferred registration method.)

Please have the information outlined below available to share with our AHI Travel Experts.

If you prefer, you may also complete this Reservation Request and submit it to our office. Once this request is received in our office, an AHI Travel Expert will contact you within one business day to discuss deposit payment. Your reservation is not confirmed until your deposit is paid and processed.

AHI Travel has assumed all costs for the printing and distribution of this promotion. This program is

Send to The Association of Former Students

Attn: Traveling Aggies, 505 George Bush Drive

College Station, TX 77840-2918

Phone: **979-845-7514** Fax: **979-845-9263** 

Toll Free: 800-633-7514



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Please note: Program-specific terms and conditions are available on our website on the trip page. You can also request a copy from our travel experts. Any payment to AHI Travel constitutes your acceptance of the terms and conditions set out therein, including but not limited to the cancellation terms.

Discover or Amex. Make checks payable to AHI Travel.

# PROGRAM DATES

Air Program dates: Sept. 10-18, 2022 Cruise Program dates: Sept. 11-18, 2022

# **CRUISE PROGRAM**

Category-Deck	Full Price	Special Savings	Special Price*
D-Main (Aft)	\$4,045	\$250	\$3,795
C-Main	\$4,345	\$250	\$4,095
B-Upper (Aft)	\$4,745	\$250	\$4,495
A-Upper	\$4,945	\$250	\$4,695

Categories A and B feature a French balcony. Categories C and D feature a picture window.

\*Special Price valid if booked by the date found on the address panel.

VAT and Port Tax supplement is an additional \$395 per person. All prices quoted are in USD, per person, based on double occupancy and do not include air transportation costs (unless otherwise stated).

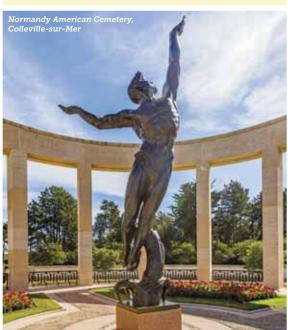
Single supplement waived for solo travelers! This offer is limited, capacity-controlled and tends to sell out quickly.

# Let us arrange your flights! ♦ AHI FlexAir

Our experts are ready to assist you in booking flights. Our personalized air program offers the following advantages:

- ▶ price guarantee to protect you from fuel surcharge increases after ticket purchase.
- arrival and departure transfers on group dates.
- ► flexibility to change or cancel your reservations without penalty up to 60 days before departure on most flights.
- ➤ assistance in the event of schedule changes or delays.

# Travel stress-free with AHI FlexAir.



# TRAVEL WITH CONFIDENCE

For more than half a century, our dedicated team has helped travelers explore the world safely and securely.

To offer you added peace of mind, we've fine-tuned all facets of your travel experience:

- ✓ Included AHI Travel Assurance covers travel- and health-related contingencies. Available for U.S. residents only.
- Increased booking flexibility and relaxed cancellation penalties.
- ✓ Home support staff and ground team communicating 24/7 to ensure a seamless and safe journey.
- ✓ Travel Directors specially trained to the highest standard in accordance with AHI's health and safety protocols.
- ✓ A global network of partners rigorously following new procedures and protocols.
- ✓ Enhanced sanitization practices for river ships, hotels, trains and motor coaches.
- Tour operations modified for smaller groups and greater physical distancing.
- ✓ Hand sanitizer available for guest use.



# **INCLUDED FEATURES**

# Accommodations (with baggage handling)

 Unpack once and sail for 7 nights aboard the exclusively chartered, first-class MS Renoir.

# **Extensive Meal Program**

- 7 breakfasts, 6 lunches and 7 dinners, including Welcome and Farewell Dinners; all drinks included on board except special wines and spirits.
- Opportunities to sample authentic cuisine and local flavors.

# Your One-of-a-Kind Journey

- AHI Travel Assurance plan that covers Accident and Sickness Medical Expense, Trip Delay and Emergency Evacuation for U.S. residents.
- Expert-led Enrichment programs enhance your insight into the region.
- Discovery excursions highlight the local culture, heritage and history:
  - Delight in a guided tour of the Latin Quarter.
  - Witness Paris during an evening cruise.
  - Gain insight into Monet's life in Giverny.
  - Follow a historic path while visiting the splendid châteaux of Normandy.
  - Discover Rouen and storied abbeys.
  - Study thought-provoking exhibits at the Caen Memorial Museum.
  - Visit D-Day beaches, battle sites and the Normandy American Cemetery.
  - Explore Honfleur, a colorful harbor city.

# A choice of excursions.

Paris | Versailles | Palais Garnier

# − NAHI Sustainability Promise:

We strive to make a positive, purposeful impact on the destinations we visit.

- Free time to pursue your own interests.
- Welcome and Farewell Receptions to mingle with fellow travelers.
- A personal VOX headset to hear your English-speaking guide clearly.
- Tipping of guides and drivers.
- Complimentary travel mementos.

# **AHI Travel Expertise**

From your reservation to your return home, we're here to ensure you have the adventure of a lifetime.

#### Before you go:

- ➤ **Travel Consultants** | These experts stand ready to answer your questions about activities, meals, accommodations and more as they guide you through the reservation process.
- ▶ Passenger Service Representative

After reserving your spot, enjoy personalized assistance from this specialist, your one point of contact who helps with everything from arranging flights to booking elective activities to fulfilling special requests.

➤ **Travel Information** | Before your journey, our team closely monitors travel conditions, shares pre-departure details and provides information and enrichment about your destination.

# Once you arrive:

Our top-notch, dedicated team takes your adventure to the next level! Share a laugh, learn where to find the best café and enjoy their unique perspectives on the local scene.

- ➤ Travel Director | Our multilingual Travel
  Director manages all the details so that you can
  simply relax and soak up the ambience. In the
  care of this seasoned travel professional who is
  attuned to your personal safety, you'll enjoy a
  seamless, unforgettable travel experience.
- ➤ Expert Guides | Who better to show you around than the people who live there? We've specially selected informed, enthusiastic local guides who understand the needs of our educated and curious travelers. Warm and genuine, they're ready to share their passion for their country with you.
- ➤ Lecturers | Coming from all walks of life, our entertaining local lecturers open your eyes to history, culture and current events. The breadth of their knowledge deepens your appreciation for the region and its heritage.





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A PROGRAM OF
The Association of Former Students

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SEINE22 37





# Explore Paris, cruise the Seine and reflect during an immersive D-Day experience.



AHI Travel's mission is to deliver inspirational educational and cultural travel programs that delight travelers.

# With AHI you can rely on:

- Experienced Travel Directors who attend to every detail of your journey.
  - An exceptional travel value.
- Unique access to local sites.
  - Ollique access to local site
- Safety and customization.
   Safety and security.

Presorted Std. U.S. Postage Paid AHI Travel