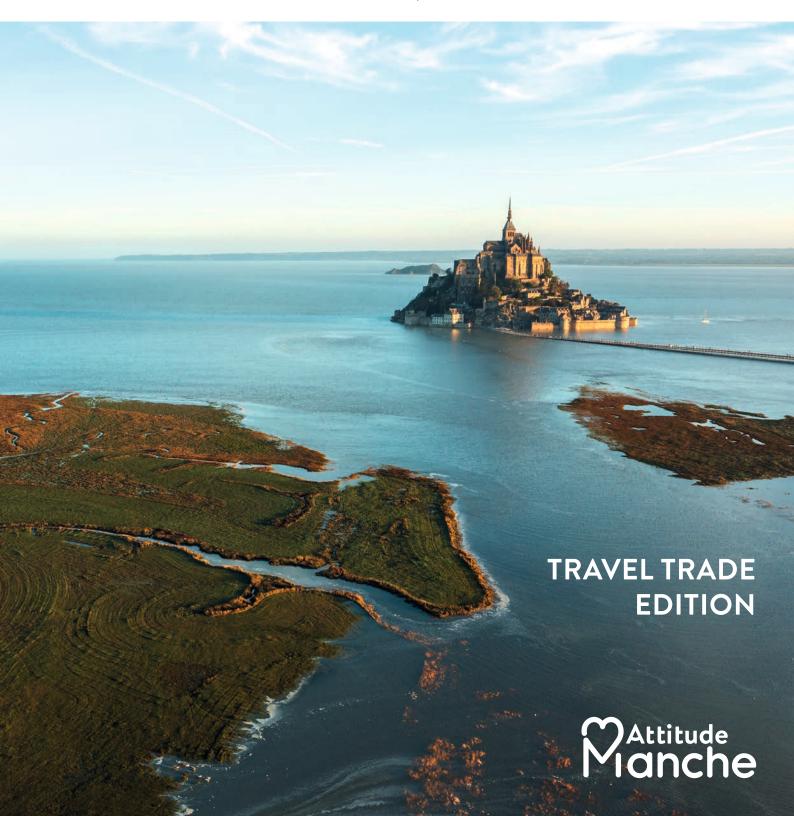
# DISCOVER LA MANCHE

The Normandy Peninsula



# welcome FROM MONT SAINT-MICHEL to the tip of Cotentin...

Of the 5 Normandy departements, la Manche is the most westerly and is easily accessible for a stay combining discovery and disconnection.

Attitude Manche is at your disposal to provide you with useful information about tourist sites and attractions. We will help you find and contact tourism professionnals locally.

# By train

- PARIS-CHERBOURG line, Saint-Lazare station with TER - SNCF Normandie
- PARIS-GRANVILLE line, Montparnasse-Vaugirard station with TER - SNCF Normandie
- PARIS RENNES (TGV) line, with a bus connection Rennes - Mont Saint-Michel with Keolis Emeraude

### By road \*\*\*

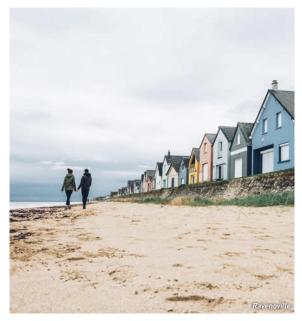


Situated in western Normandy, La Manche is served by two motorways:

- the A13 from Paris
- the A84 that serves the whole of western France











# Head off to explore the many gems to be found from the Bay of Mont Saint-Michel to the Cotentin Peninsula!

### **OUR VALUES**

La Manche is committed to **sustainable development** in order to collectively prepare for the tourism of tomorrow.

La Manche is **bold** and **unique**, with a history affirming **a way of life**, and also inviting each visitor **to forge links** with it in their own way.

Here and nowhere helse: discover our rich and varied universes:

Mont Saint-Michel and the Bay, History and Heritage, Seaside and Outdoors, Lifestyle and Sports...

### **GOOD REASONS TO COME TO "LA MANCHE"**

There are plenty of must-see places in La Manche, some of which are internationally renowned, while others are more hidden away.

The historical buildings, parks, museums, islands and unspoilt natural areas of La Manche all contribute to its **unique character**.

### LA MANCHE IN SHORT



**138 km** from north to south and **59 km** from east to west Surface area: 5,951 km<sup>2</sup>



4,000 hectares of land listed as sensitive **nature areas** 2 regional nature parks, 6 nature reserves



Over 7,000 km of signposted hikings trails



**15-metre tidal range** (the difference in water level between high and low tides) in Mont Saint Michel Bay; the highest tides in Europe



2 sites are listed as **UNESCO** World Heritage Sites, 1 of the « Most Beautiful Villages in France »...



This medieval architectural wonder dominates the surrounding landscape, rising out of the bay, which provides the natural show of the greatest tidal ranges in Europe.

At high tide, the Mont-Saint-Michel becomes an island once more.

### THE SPRING TIDES AT MONT SAINT-MICHEL

The setting for the highest tides in Europe, with an impressive range of 15 metres during spring tides, the Bay of Mont Saint-Michel is an ecosystem in constant motion.

Subtle colours, contrasting landscapes, and views that change with the tide all make for a spectacular panorama!



With very high tidal coefficients, the sea goes out 15 km and comes back in very quickly, racing across the sands.

This is when you can admire the "mascaret", a tidal bore that forms with the incoming tide. It's also naturally possible to visit the village and the abbey; walking around the ramparts protecting the village to enjoy a spectacular view across the surrounding bay. You'll pass seven towers as you follow the walls to the Abbey, the "Merveille" (marvel) of the Western world. A stay in the bay also means a chance to take the time to see it differently, on cycling or hiking trails, or by crossing the edge of the shingle beaches with a guide!

A whole host of other experiences await you nearby: a trip to see Avranches and the Scriptorial, a taste of salt-marsh lamb, a visit to the bay's ecological museum or a shopping trip to buy some SAINT-JAMES pullovers.

And a wide range of accommodation and restaurants are on offer!

Find out more on: www.manche-tourism.com/travel-to-lamanche/mont-saint-michel



# LA MANCHE HAS AN EXCEPTIONNAL CULTURAL HERITAGE

Discover the « Towns and Regions of Art and History » of Coutances and Valognes.

These towns and regions have a rich history and the heritage which has witnessed this is everywhere; Coutances Cathedral, the abbeys of Hambye and Lessay, the private mansion houses of Valognes, the chateaux of Pirou, Saint-Sauveur le Vicomte and Bricquebec.

Don't miss as well Villedieu-les-Poêles, a town labelled « City and the Applied Arts » for its great tradition of copper craftsmmanship which dates back to the Middle Ages, and Saint-Lô, capital of horses.

Facing out to the sea, Cherbourg-En-Cotentin and Granville are unmissable towns.

Protected by the biggest harbour in the world, Cherbourg today is an international marina. A maritime town, Cherbourg is home to the Cite de la Mer, which offers the chance to discover great underwater worlds.

Granville, a privateer city, retains traces of an eventful past. The image of the fashion designer Christian Dior holds an important place in the heart of this town, where he was born.

Find out more on:

www.manche-tourism.com/travel-to-la-manche/heritage

### LA MANCHE, LAND OF FREEDOM

On June 6<sup>th</sup> 1944, La Manche became world-famous for the part it played in D-Day when Allied troops broke through Nazi defences to liberate occupied France in WWII.

Today, La Manche has many sites, museums, monuments and events which commemorate and celebrate this key period in modern history.

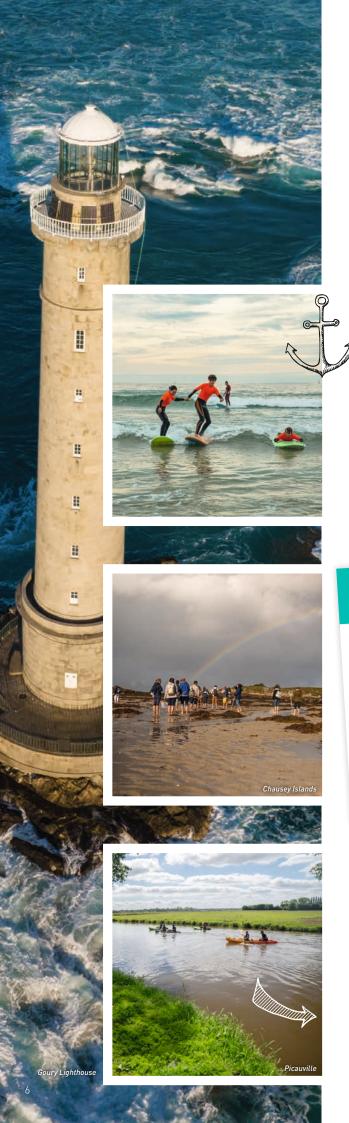
Landing beaches, sites and places of remembrance in la Manche: powerful stories, they are a tribute to the soldiers who liberated Normandy;

- **Visit Sainte-Mère-Eglise**, the first French town to be liberated by the American paratroopers of the 82<sup>nd</sup> and 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Divisions.
- Walk on Utah Beach, one of the five landing beaches, along with Omaha, Gold, Juno and Sword.
- Follow the Voie de la Liberté (Liberty Road), the 1 145 km route travelled by the liberators from Normandy to Bastogne in Belgium.
- Explore the Azeville and Crisbecq batteries, which were key parts of the Atlantic Wall, the defence system built during the German occupation.

In 2024, La Manche celebrate the **80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of D-Day** and the **Battle of Normandy**.

Find out more on:

www.manche-tourism.com/travel-to-la-manche/dday-normandy



### MANCHE EXPERIENCES

The last few years have seen major changes in our consumption patterns, our leisure time and the way we travel. More and more people are rethinking their holidays, looking for authenticity and ways to reconnect with nature. With its wide open spaces, La Manche is perfectly suited to this demand.

### LA MANCHE

### Between sea and islands!

Dotted with long dune strips, a string of eight harbours and some impressive cliffs, the 674 km of coastline are home to a number of charming, family-friendly seaside resorts.

With their elegant villas, Saint-Pair-sur-Mer, Granville, Agon-Coutainville and Barneville-Carteret prospered thanks to the sea bathing trend that began in the late 19th century.

Saint-Vaast-la-Houque was voted "the French people's favourite village" in 2019 and is known for its Vauban towers, part of UNESCO's World Heritage.

Whether the tide is high or low, you're guaranteed a break from the routine with a wide range of activities to choose from: Surfing, Sand Yachting, Paddleboarding, kayaking, sailing, canoeing, windfoiling, coasteering, birdwaching, shellfish gathering...: lots of experiences for you to try!

# FOCUS ON... THE BEAUTIFUL ISLANDS IN THE SEA

Not far from Mont Saint-Michel, Chausey can boast of a superb postcard frame with 52 islands at high tide and 365 at low tide.

In the northeast; the unexpected island of Tatihou! You may experience an unusual crossing on board an amphibious boat that can both sail and drive on sand at low tide. In addition to being a sanctuary for birds and a air museum,

it has fortifications and a tower designed by Vauban.

And for a very British atmosphere: you can start from several different ports of the Channel for Jersey, Guernsey, Sark and Alderney...

Find out more on: www.manche-tourism.com/seaside-holidays

### THE MARAIS DU COTENTIN ET DU BESSIN: **REGIONAL NATURE PARK**

These marshes change with the seasons and the tides, providing unique experiences for anyone that loves nature, flora and fauna. Cycling, boat trips, horse-riding, bird and seal watching, hiking, and much more. Different activities are on offer to help visitors to understand this unspoilt natural area and the need to protect it.

The Regional Nature Park is increasingly turning towards responsible tourism and informing its visitors about the importance of environmental conservation.

Find out more on: www.manche-tourism.com/ travel-to-la-manche/natural-site/cotentin-bessin-marshes/

### LA MANCHE

### On foot, on bike, to taste!

With its wild and unspoilt landscapes, and its unique coastline, La Manche is the ideal place to go hiking.

It's bursting with breathtaking scenery, varied landscapes and has light that changes with the seasons : everything you need for the perfect hike.



# FOCUS ON... The "Coastal Path"

With the sea as its infinity Horizon, it runs all along the coast of the Channel for a total of 446 kilometres.

From the Cotentin from marshes to the bay of Mont Saint-Michel, he has a lot of surprises in store with a change of scenery guaranteed!

Whether you are a seasoned hiker or just for a walk, you are sure to enjoy a breath of sea air along the way, while admiring nature and preserved natural environment!

Find out more on:

www.manche-tourism.com/outdoor/hiking/gr223-coastal-path/

# CYCLING IN LA MANCHE



La Manche has more than 1 200 km of cycle routes and 230 km of greenways for you to discover the territory differently.

With a road bike, a mountain bike or a gravel bike, you'll find this the perfect place for a ride as you head off the beaten track and pedal the roads and paths of la Manche.

Along the coast or in the bocage countryside, the landscapes are never the same, with lots of opportunities to take your time exploring new places. Major cycle routes, Espace Cyclosport, mountain bike routes and ideas for family bike rides.

Find out more on: www.manche-tourism.com/outdoor/bike

# And finally, one cannot leave La Manche without tasting

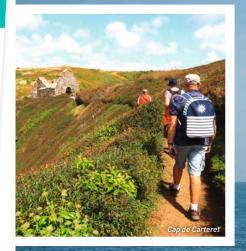
### ALL ITS EXCELLENT LOCAL PRODUCTS!

With oysters, mussels, scallops, dairy products, cider, knitwear, kitchenware, and much more, there are plenty of specialities to choose from in the Manche

Combining authenticity, age-old practices and innovation, the producers of the Manche reveal the treasures of the territory. They transmit their passion and their unique know-how from generation to generation.

Find out more on:

www.manche-tourism.com/lifestyle/products-made-in-normandy









### **HOW TO PLAN YOUR STAY?**

La Manche is composed of 8 communities of partner municipalities, some of which have Central booking services within their tourist offices (Cotentin and Mont Saint Michel-Normandie):

### **Tourism offices**

#### **Cotentin Unique By Nature**

Christelle POTIN > c.potin@ot-cotentin.fr visitcotentin.com

### The Bay of Cotentin, Land of Historical & Natural Wealth

Aurélie RENOU > a.renou@ccbdc.fr

#### **West Coast Center Manche Tourism**

Charlène BODIN > cbodin@cocm.fr tourisme-cocm.fr

### Coutances, Mer et Bocage, Life Size Essentials

Elise DIROU > e.dirou@tourisme-coutances.fr

tourisme-coutances.fr

## ATTITUDE MANCHE

**About us** 

Attitude Manche, Place Marketing Agency, is in charge of marketing La Manche area as well as promoting tourism.



#### Saint-Lô Destination

Nathalie HATEAU > nathalie.hateau@saint-lo-agglo.fr saintlo-tourisme.fr

### **Granville Destination**

Christelle DUDOUIT > c.dudouit@otgtm.fr tourisme-granville-terre-mer.com/en

### **Villedieu, Town of Art Professions**

Sandrine MARTINE > sandrine.martine@villedieuintercom.fr ot-villedieu.fr/index.htm?lang=en

### Mont Saint-Michel and its bay

Mélanie MESNIL > melanie.mesnil@msm-normandie.fr ot-montsaintmichel.com/en/plan-your-stay/

Incoming Agency > routesplurielles.fr

