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# THE EXPERT FOR SELF-GUIDED HIKING TOURS

#### **NORMANDY - BRITTANY**

Pilgrimage Routes - Le Mont Saint Michel

Self-Guided and Crossing Hike



rom Coutances and its prestigious 13th-century cathedral to Mont St Michel, the jewel of the West, this route alternates between villages and hedgerows, coastal paths, and fishing ports. It is not very challenging and offers cozy accommodations every evening, leading up to a guided crossing and an overnight stay close to Mont St Michel, in the heart of a magnificent bay between Normandy and Brittany!

PROGRAM FL095

7 days - 6 nights - 5 days of hiking

Or 6 days - 5 nights - 4 days of hiking (if you prefer just one night in Granville).

**DAY 1: COUTANCES** 

Arrival in Coutances. Dinner not included.

Visit the majestic Coutances Cathedral (13th century, a gem of Gothic architecture in Normandy) and enjoy a possible stroll in the botanical garden.

DAY 2: COUTANCES - HAUTEVILLE

18 km 5h APPROX + 120m / - 190m

First stage between Pont de la Roque and Hauteville, following the Saint-Michel trail through small hiking paths in the bocage. (Transfer to Bréhal for the night).

DAY 3: HAUTEVILLE - GRANVILLE

23 km 6h APPROX + 70m / - 80m

(Transfer in the morning to resume the trail). Walk through salt marshes, sandy areas cultivated with algae and seaweed. Following the coastline, arrive in Granville with its ramparts, commercial harbor, and marina.

**DAY 4 : GRANVILLE** 

A free day in Granville to explore a stunning site: the Chausey Islands. Half-board stay in Granville.

DAY 5 : GRANVILLE - SAINT-JEAN-LE-THOMAS

20 km 6h APPROX + 190m / - 190m

Recommended stop in the village of Carolles to enjoy its rich heritage and beautiful trails.

DAY 6: SAINT-JEAN-LE-THOMAS - GENETS - MONT ST MICHEL

13 km 3h APPROX + 20m / - 30m

A seaside path through dunes leads to a guided crossing of the bay (timed with low tide; meeting point on the parking lot if starting from Bec d'Andaine). Collect your

luggage at Mont Saint Michel's parking lot. Overnight near Mont St Michel or on the Mont itself, depending on your chosen package.

**JOUR 7 :** End of the stay after breakfast.



- The region's incredible diversity
- Stunning landscapes
- Mont Saint Michel, a UNESCO World Heritage Site

## > DATES

From April 1 to All Saints' Day, on dates of your convenience and depending on hotel availability.

Please indicate on the reservation form the other dates that would also suit you (e.g. possibility of postponing the hike one or two days before or after, etc.); this in case one or more accommodations are not available on the chosen dates.

We also ask that you book as early as possible. We do not have reserved places in accommodation and some of them are full, sometimes several months in advance.

## > PRICE COVERS

- Half board (except the dinner in Coutance)
- The transfer of luggage between each step of the journey
- The provision of the topo-guide (1 topo-guide per reserved room.)
- The tourist tax
- The crossing of the bay with a guide (one-way)

## PRICE DOES NOT COVER

- Dinners in Coutances
- Taxi to reach the starting point of the bay crossing, if necessary
- Transport from Mont Saint Michel to the hotel if staying outside the Mont
- Drinks and personal expenses
- Transfers from your home to the meeting point and departure location
- Boat crossing to the Chausey Islands (approx. €33 per person)
- Registration fees



- International mailing fees
- Priority processing fees for registration 15 days before departure
- Insurance.

### > ARRIVAL / DEPARTURE

The reception takes place at the first accommodation, the day before your first day of walking.

Your stay ends on the last day of your hike, after the breakfast.

## > LEVEL

On average, 5 hours of walking per day on trails, tracks, or gently rolling paths with a total elevation gain not exceeding 600 meters. Limited elevation and well-marked trails. The bay crossing with a guide differs from the rest of the hike, as this stunning walk is done barefoot on wet sand.

### > ACCOMMODATION

Accommodation is on a half-board basis in 2\* and 3\* hotels or bed and breakfasts. Rooms with shower and toilet.

## > MEALS

Evening meal based on the board menu. Traditional or buffet breakfasts.

### > LUNCH

The lunch boxes are not included in our prices. You will find shops along the way.

## > LUGGAGE TRANSPORT

Your luggage will be transported by our luggage carrier between each stage in the late morning or later in the afternoon. Delivery by 6 pm



#### **WARNING:**

We ask you to leave your luggage in the lobby of each accommodation in the morning at 8 am and to <u>provide IMPERATIVELY ONLY 1 LUGGAGE PER PERSON NOT EXCEEDING 13KG</u>; beyond this number (1 bag) and this weight (13 kg), the carrier may charge you, at the end of the hike, a supplement or categorically refuse to carry your luggage if it is too bulky.

Hard case not allowed-we decline any responsibility for damage to this type of luggage.

We invite you to bring a small backpack to carry your personal belongings of the day. If you are part of a group, we ask you to indicate on your luggage tags the NAME of the person responsible for this group (person who booked the hike).

### > ACCESS



#### **OUTWARD JOURNEY:**

Coutances is located 30 km from St Lô, above Avranches, direction Cherbourg.

### **OUTWARD JOURNEY (Train):**



SNCF station in Coutances.

#### **RETURN JOURNEY:**



Taxi or bus from Mont St Michel to Pontorson

Manéo Bus: (information to be checked online: site of the General Council of Manche)

#### DOSSIER DE VOYAGE

To make this hike, we will send you, on payment of the balance, a travel file including the list of accommodations and the topo guide (1 topo-guide per room booked). If you want an additional travel file, you will be charged + € 20/ file.

### > TAKEOUT LIST

- a small backpack for the picnic - lunch and business of the day



- a small individual pharmacy (plaster, double skin, eosin, alcohol....)
- a pair of "Mid Mountain" walking shoes (watch for new shoes)
- sunglasses, cream and sun hat
- rainwear
- light shoes for the evening
- a gourd: it is important to drink 1.5 to 2L of water per day
- a knife
- flashlight (not required)
- a pair of binoculars (optional)
- Handkerchiefs
- a needle, a little thread and one or two safety pins.

For the bay crossing, please bring a plastic bag to put your shoes in, a windbreaker, a fleece, shorts, a cap, and sunglasses.

#### MORE DETAILS AT THE SUBSCRIPTION