

## PCN – 8 – DAY CRUISE

### The inviting Seine Valley

Discover exceptional places before reaching the Normandy Coast

**PARIS, a capital of a thousand colours – VERNON – CAUDEBEC EN CAUX, a lace of stonework – HONFLEUR and its fishing harbour – ROUEN, a refined town – LES ANDELYS – PARIS**

*Between wooded river banks and chalk cliffs through a superb valley whose variations in light have inspired countless painters and poets of all ages.*

#### DAY 1: PARIS

Embarkation takes place between 6:00-7:00 PM in Paris. There will be time to settle comfortably into your cabin before meeting the crew during a welcome cocktail reception in the lounge. Dinner is served on board while the ship sails around Paris on a special cruise tour of the sights of the French capital. Overnight is in Paris.

#### DAY 2: PARIS

Breakfast is served on board. This day will be dedicated to the discovery of Paris with an optional morning **guided panoramic coach tour of the city is offered**. This coach tour will begin with such famous landmarks as the Eiffel Tower, Notre Dame Cathedral, the Arc de Triomphe and the Champs Elysées. **After the tour**, lunch is served on the ship followed by a free afternoon for ship passengers to stroll round **Paris on their own**. Dinner is served on board and the evening is free for individual sightseeing. Another possibility, an optional **cabaret show is offered**. Overnight is in Paris.

#### DAY 3: VERNON

Buffet breakfast is served on board prior to cruising west on the Seine. We reach Vernon around 12.30 PM with lunch served on board. In the afternoon, we invite you to take an optional coach tour to visit the **Claude Monet Foundation in Giverny**. **You will visit Monet's** charming pink house with green shutters which has been patiently restored and reveals details of the painter's daily life. As you wander around the house, you may visit Monet's huge workshop. This room is bathed in the light that he cherished so much. Other highlights include; the blue living room, the yellow dining room, as well as, the famous garden full of flowers and, of course, the Japanese style water garden. We return to the ship in time for dinner on board before cruising off towards **Caudebec en Caux**.

#### DAY 4: CAUDEBEC EN CAUX

An early morning departure is scheduled with breakfast served on board. The ship cruises through magnificent scenery with steep cliffs overlooking charming little villages Lunch is served on board before arriving in **Caudebec en Caux** at around 1:00 PM. After lunch, **an optional guided coach tour is offered** to discover the **Road of Abbeys**. **The tour** begins with the church of Caudebec en Caux which dates back to the 15th century. Then it is on to **Jumièges to view** the ruins of one of the most beautiful abbeys in France. Finally, we arrive at the Church of St Pierre, one of the finest examples of 10<sup>th</sup> century Norman architecture. Return to the ship at around 6:00 PM with dinner served on board before sailing on to **Honfleur**. **Departure time of the ship is** subject to the tides.

#### DAY 5: HONFLEUR

Exact arrival of the ship into Honfleur is also subject to the tides. After breakfast is served on board, an optional coach **excursion** is offered to the "**Cote Fleurie**" (the flowered coast) with stops in the coastal resort towns of Trouville and **Deauville**. **The final** stop along the way is for a tour of a Calvados distillery where apple brandy is produced. After the tour, we return to the ship for lunch. The

afternoon may be spent on an optional **guided city walking tour of Honfleur, or for individual sightseeing on your own.** Lying at the foot of the Côte de Grace, Honfleur will enchant you with its old fishing port, the Church of St Catherine (built entirely out of wood), its picturesque streets and outer harbor dotted with little fishing boats. Return to the ship for dinner on board and a free evening. Overnight is in Honfleur.

#### **DAY 6: HONFLEUR - ROUEN**

An early morning departure from Honfleur is according to the tides. Breakfast is served on board while cruising through a superb valley whose light variations inspired not only the impressionist painters but also many poets. Just outside of Honfleur, we pass under the magnificent Normandy Bridge. Lunch is served on board before arriving in Rouen around 2:00 PM. Upon arrival, an optional **guided city walking tour of Rouen is offered. You will** discover the cathedral (famous for the series of paintings by Monet), its historic quarters and the old market place square where Joan of Arc was burned at the stake. Return to the ship in time for dinner on board and an entertaining evening. Overnight is in Rouen.

#### **DAY 7: ROUEN – LES ANDELYS**

After breakfast is served on board, the ship cruises off towards **Les Andelys**, via the lock at Amfreville. Arrival at the lock is around midday with lunch served on board. The afternoon may be spent on an optional coach tour to **the Chateau of Vascoeuil. This chateau** is a very unique place, according to Jules Michelet, where art, history and nature blend together in perfect harmony. Return on board the ship where a gala dinner and an entertaining evening is planned while the ship continues cruising towards Paris.

#### **DAY 8: PARIS**

Breakfast is served on board before arriving in Paris around 8:00 AM. Disembarkation takes place shortly after arrival into Paris. End of the cruise.