

PRESS PACK 2023

RU
EN

TOURISME

Summary

Rouen Capital of Normandy	4
An awe-inspiring destination 1 hour away from Paris	6
New in 2023	
Effective information and communication	8
Time for adventure and festive discoveries	9
Coming up in Rouen!	15
10 Reasons to visit Rouen and the Seine Valley	16
Follow us on a journey of discovery...	24
A monumental heritage	26
A land of inspiration	30
The majestic River Seine	32
A legacy of innovation	34
Rouen, a food culture awarded by UNESCO	36
Calendar of Events 2023	40
Contacts – Follow us – Press Office Contact	44

Rouen


Capital of Normandy

With 3,000 years of history, the capital of Normandy is one of France's finest and most beautiful historic cities. A land of inspiration for many artists, a heaven of greenery and natural wonders, a culinary capital showcasing the best of Normandy's cuisine, a rich mercantile and industrial heritage... Rouen has it all! Welcome to a city of wonder.

Ready for a time travel experience in Rouen? From its Viking origins to its glorious medieval past and beyond, the former capital of the duchy of Normandy is an open-air museum offering an eclectic mix of culture and history - with hidden gems and heritage at every turn: the Cathedral, Saint-Ouen Abbey, Aître Saint-Maclou or the Maison Sublime, the oldest Jewish monument in France. The legacy of Joan of Arc lingers on around the city and her life is celebrated at the Historial Jeanne d'Arc.

Renaissance jewels such as the Parliament of Normandy or the Hôtel de Bourgtheroulde are among the most alluring manifestations of an age that experienced the widening of horizons in architecture. For a glimpse of Rouen's industrial heritage, the Cailly and Elbeuf valleys feature perfectly preserved mills and a fascinating cloth-manufacturing town. A setting of endless inspiration for many artists and homegrown talents makes Rouen and its greater metropolitan area a beacon of culture and the capital of Impressionism. Monet, Pissarro and Sisley set up their easels in Rouen to paint cityscapes or along the weaving Seine Valley to seek idyllic countryside landscapes and subjects in the natural world. Their masterpieces are at the Musée des Beaux-Arts, which displays the second largest Impressionist collection in France. Good to know: most museums in Rouen offer a free access to their permanent collections all the year round! Other arts and crafts are celebrated through the city: stained-glass and ceramics, but also literature as Rouen, nicknamed the "city of a hundred steeples", is the birthplace of Corneille and Flaubert.





The Seine Valley is a natural wonder that provides a magical connection with the meandering river and offers lush landscapes and breathtaking panoramic views. It can be explored by boat, on foot or on two wheels following “La Seine à Vélo” long-distance cycling route over a safe 100 km long section. Nature connects the beauty of luxuriant landscapes with majestic cliffs, marshes and forests (some of which are listed) to create an abundant world of wonder and adventure. Soak up the ambience of rural life on the Normandy Fruit Trail as you discover colourful fruit orchards and farms in their plenty.

Recognised as a “UNESCO Creative city of Gastronomy”, Rouen is the place to relish the distinctive flavours of authentic and organic food, made with passion by local artisans and producers. Some traditional dishes and regional delicacies are steeped in centuries of tradition and history, such as the apple sugar candy, the Elbeuf douillon or the famous Rouen-style duckling. From hearty homemade meals to fine dining experiences, passionate chefs glorify local produce such as cider, cheese or scallops and share their passion for cooking across 135 restaurants.

This tradition of excellence is reflected in skills of true craftsmanship too. Official supplier of the Élysée Palace, Maison Christoffle has a world-renowned reputation for high-quality tableware using handmade manufacturing.

Ideally located between Paris and the Channel, Rouen and its port have played a significant role in commercial and maritime exchange since the Middle Ages with goods such as textile, pottery. It remains today one of Europe’s leading ports, especially in cereal export.

With textiles the driving force, Rouen emerged as one of France’s leading manufacturing city and has been a core innovation hub ever since. Workshops, factories and industrial heritage sites or towns such as Elbeuf are dotted around the Seine Valley waiting to be discovered. The Industrial Museum of the Vallois rope factory and la Fabrique des Savoirs offer a great insight into this industrial textile era.

Always in tune with the times, the capital of Normandy is a city with its own unique and inspiring “art de vivre”!



6,278 square km



71 Cities, towns and villages

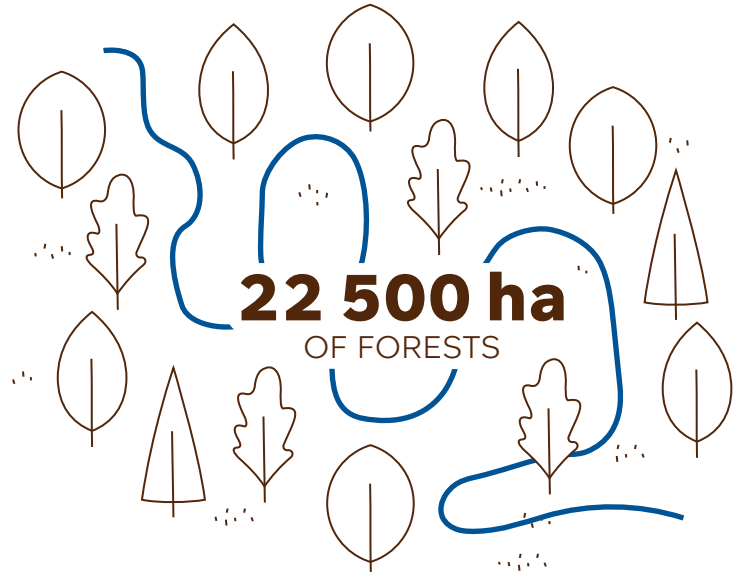


A population of **500,000** inhabitants in Rouen Metropolitan area



Candidate City for **European Capital of culture 2028**,

A MYTHICAL RIVER, STUNNING FORESTS AND BREATHTAKING PANORAMAS



500 km

of walking trails



100 km

section of the cycling route "La Seine à Vélo" which runs from Paris to the Channel

3 woodlands labeled "Forêts d'exception"

3 "maisons des forêts" to learn about nature and forests

13 listed tree specimen labeled "Arbres remarquables"

12 breathtaking panoramas of the Seine river

A LAND OF INSPIRATION

12

free museums

1st

Impressionist collection outside the Musée d'Orsay in Paris

1 circus theater building in Elbeuf

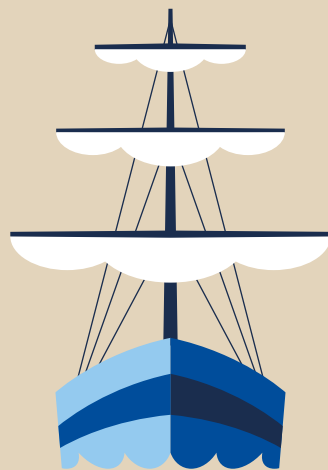
1 Zenith

1 Center National Dramatic from Normandy

1 opera house « Théâtre lyrique d'intérêt national »

1 modern music hall

A THRIVING INDUSTRIAL PAST AND PRESENT



The **Armada** the biggest tall ship gathering ans maritime event in the world

1st export port for cereals in western Europe

5th most important port of France

7 ferry crossing points over the Seine

1 electro-solar powered river shuttle

143 years since the opening of the Vallois rope factory. Its machines are still operating today

AN OPEN-AIR MUSEUM

A territory recognized for its heritage and art, listed as **Villes et Pays d'art et d'histoire**

A one-of-a-kind ossuary and burial ground in Europe: **l'Aître Saint-Maclou**

The oldest **Jewish monument** in France

8,50 m

That's the diameter of the rose window inside the gothic **l'abbaye de Saint-Ouen**. Its restoration is supported by a major fundraising campaign



The highest spire in France

151 m

Cathédrale Notre-Dame

2,000

timber-framed houses

228

listed buildings

67

stars in the Michelin guide

ROUEN, UNESCO CREATIVE CITY OF GASTRONOMY



A UNESCO Label for its Food culture

+ 3,000
Hotels rooms



650
restaurants



196
bars

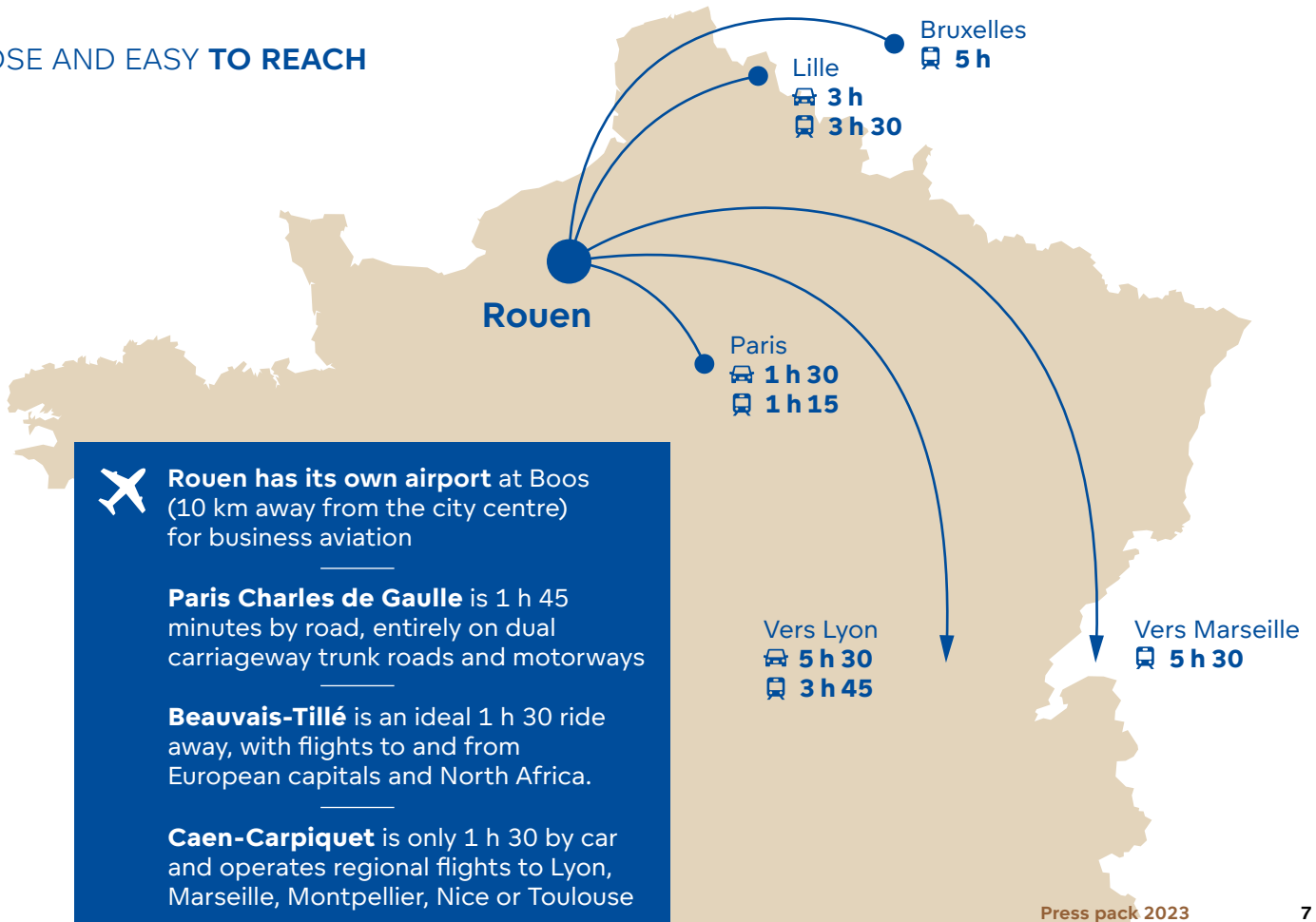
3rd

place in the national ranking of the number of bars per inhabitant ratio

Réception and seminar venues:

from **10** to **6,000** seats

CLOSE AND EASY TO REACH



✈ Rouen has its own airport at Boos (10 km away from the city centre) for business aviation

Paris Charles de Gaulle is 1 h 45 minutes by road, entirely on dual carriageway trunk roads and motorways

Beauvais-Tillé is an ideal 1 h 30 ride away, with flights to and from European capitals and North Africa.

Caen-Carpiquet is only 1 h 30 by car and operates regional flights to Lyon, Marseille, Montpellier, Nice or Toulouse

New in 2023

Effective information and communication

A BRAND-NEW WEBSITE & MAGAZINE MARCH

Rouen Tourisme is continuously reimagining its visitor economy. In 2023, the new website visiterouen.com presents a set of Rouen's highlights by themes (historical, artistic, natural, industrial and gastronomic) and integrates, among other new technologies, the Cirkwi walking database, the Régiondo marketing centre and interactive maps of the region.

Rouen Tourisme is also publishing a new magazine edited twice a year, focusing on the need to communicate on Rouen's tourism hotspots, hidden gems and unique experiences for locals and travellers. The innovative and creative content of the publication aims at promoting heritage and sustainable cultural tourism to the city and beyond.

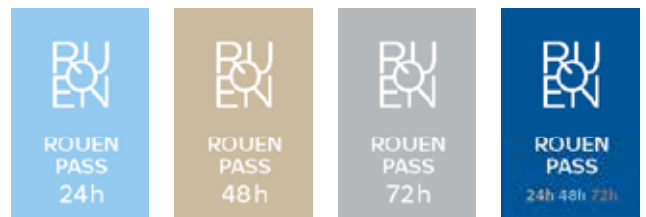


CHATBOT TO INTERACT WITH US JUNE

To facilitate communication with the Tourist Office teams and get information in a matter of seconds, we are setting up a chatbot on the visiterouen.com website. Potential visitors to Rouen will be able to engage online 24/7 to plan their next trip to Normandy. This extra service is due to be launched in June to support the attendees of the Armada event.

EXPLORING ROUEN WITH THE CITY PASS! MARCH

The creation of Rouen City Pass will offer visitors and sightseeing lovers discounted rates to discover Rouen's attractions for 24, 48 or 72 hours, in which public transport, the tourist train, sites and monuments, guided tours, cruises, accommodation, restaurants and more are included. An easy and convenient City Pass to enhance the visitor experience, offer a great-value price and facilitate the use of soft mobility in Rouen for longer and more sustainable stays.



A SHAZAM FOR BUILDINGS JUNE

Inspired by the Shazam app for music, visitors can identify buildings of interest simply by taking a photo of the structure with their phone and simultaneously obtain historical information. Capture the "Aître Saint-Maclou" on the spot for example and get the full story behind this medieval burial ground and ossuary with detailed explanations. Rouen Tourism has teamed up with SMA76 to set up the leading architectural mobile application Whatizis to cover more than 30 monuments in Rouen and its greater area. The app will be available on IOS and Android.

Time for adventure and festive discoveries

JOAN OF ARC FESTIVITIES

On the **18th, 19th and 20th** of May, Rouen will celebrate France's most internationally famous historical character: Joan of Arc, nicknamed La Pucelle d'Orléans (the Maid of Orléans), burnt at stake for heresy in 1431. Rouen is the perfect setting for truly magical celebrations where history comes to life with a medieval fair, entertainment, parades, falconry and performances. Soak up the medieval atmosphere by wandering the picturesque ancient streets, by exploring historical sites and vestiges, or by joining a Joan of Arc guided tour for a great insight into Rouen's past as well as into the symbolism of Joan of Arc in traditions, history and interpretations in France's modern society.

THE ARMADA, GATHERING OF THE WORLD'S MOST BEAUTIFUL TALL SHIPS

The colours of the world are set to take over the city of Rouen from the **8th to the 18th of June** for the largest tall ships gathering in the world. More than 50 iconic ships will be berthed along the quays of the Seine for 10 joyful days of maritime festivities. Expected to be attended by 6 million visitors, this event will be executed with a particular focus on sustainability. On the agenda: the traditional crew parade, a sparkling firework display, jogging with sailors, boat tours, concerts, entertainment... The highlight of the event will be the magnificent parade of these incredible vessels making their way up the river Seine before sailing for le Havre.





EXHIBITION “NORMANDS. MIGRANTS, CONQUÉRANTS, INNOVATEURS”

This international exhibition will explore the fascinating world of the Normans as migrants, warriors, conquerors and innovators from the 7th to the 13th centuries. It will use an immersive and global approach bringing an amazing collection of 350 exceptional artefacts (illuminated calligraphy on ivory, weapons, daily life and trade items...) at the Rouen Museum of Antiquities and the Fine Arts Museum. Listed as a monument of historical interest, the precious chest The Chrismale de Mortain will be one of the centerpieces as well as the Lambeth Bible, which will be leaving London for the first time.

From 14 April to 13 August, at the Museums of Antiquities and Fine Arts in Rouen.

EXHIBITION “DE SUCRE, DE SUEUR ET DE SANG”

Opening on 10 May, this commemorative exhibition links “Sugar, Sweat and Blood” directly to the history of transatlantic slavery in the 18th and 19th centuries. Through this joint project, the towns of Honfleur, Le Havre and the Rouen metropolitan area hope to shed light on a history which has often been hidden or neglected: Normandy’s involvement in the transatlantic slave trade.

The cities of Bordeaux, Nantes and La Rochelle have gone through similar approaches and great deal of research, comparing objects from their collections with testimonies, and have now fully recognized their role in the global slave trade. Honouring the duty of remembrance, a variety of cultural or commemorative events are organised.

An exhibition to discover at the Corderie Vallois until 25 September.

NEW HISTORICAL SCENARIO AT THE DONJON TOWER ESCAPE GAME

Rouen under the Occupation, from April 2023.

Escape in time and immerse in the history of the Second World War in Rouen’s historical donjon tower, the medieval castle of King Philippe Auguste of France where Joan of Arc stayed. It was turned into a bunker by the Germans during the Occupation. Set in the 1940s, this entertaining game to play with mysteries to solve will leave you unforgettable memories of Rouen. Since 2017, the Donjon has been pioneering the creation of immersive escape games set in historical places.

Rouen sous l’Occupation, from April 2023.

EXPLORE GAME AT THE CHÂTEAU OF ROBERT LE DIABLE

Overlooking the Seine from the heights of Moulineaux near Rouen, the castle of Robert le Diable has reopened its doors to the public. Discover its legends through an interactive augmented reality game. Meet the great Norman figures and ghosts of the past with a tablet in hand: Maud of Flanders, Rollon the Viking and, of course, Robert Le Diable. Explore every corner of the castle to find clues and solve enigmas as you progress. An adventure to share with family and friends!

From 3 June to 17 September 2023.

CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF THE CLUB DES TOQUES

For the “Toques Rouennaises” 20th birthday, the culinary club is celebrating the power of human collaboration, creativity and passion with a sense of pride and commitment to the future. This club brings together 15 of Rouen’s leading chefs and food artisans dedicated to promoting healthy eating and local gastronomy, sharing their know-how and the flavours of Norman cuisine, by hosting fun-filled workshops all year round: gourmet rallies, snacks for children in hospitals and cookery dinners for associations. These industry professionals promote the ethical values of organic farming, short circuits, local products and sustainable food production, always remembering that it’s their duty to pass on their knowledge and culinary skills to the next generations, with common paths to reach: ecological transition, social inclusion, circular economy and culinary tourism as an element of attraction for the destination.

SUMMER WHITE NIGHT

Inspired by the Parisian “White Night”, this all-night arts and culture festival will take place in Rouen for its second edition on 3 June. On the agenda, expect a dawn to dusk extravaganza with an arty party atmosphere, free art exhibitions and different activities taking place all over Rouen and its metropolitan area. Thematically focusing on the Seine this year, the festival spreads to Le Havre and all around the river for a festive night to be remembered!

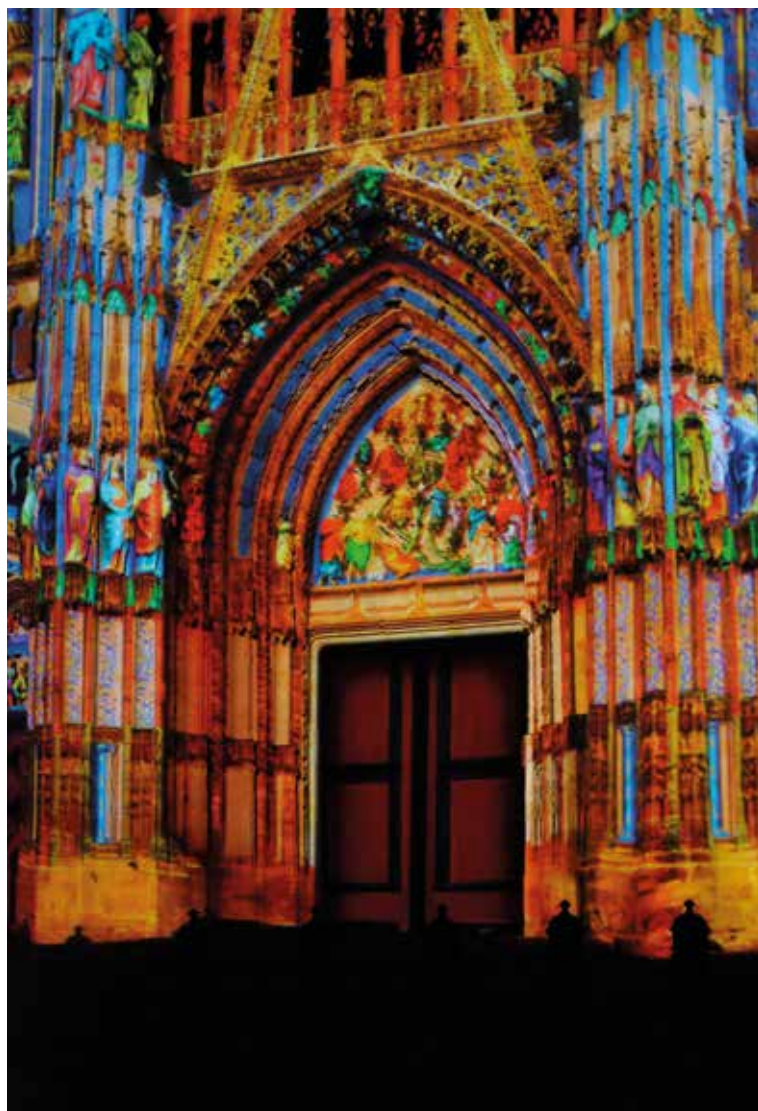
INVESTIGATION GAME INSPIRED BY MAURICE LEBLANC

The author of the famous Gentleman Burglar novel is originally from Rouen and was strongly inspired by Normandy to create the adventures of his mischievous hero. The “Lupin box” traces his footsteps by following a trail of mysteries to solve through the city. An online Independent game platform will provide information about the author and his work.

CATHEDRAL OF LIGHT

Every summer, between June and September, a free Cathedral Light Show takes place in Rouen with dazzling illuminations projected on the building’s magnificent gothic façade. As the night falls, this immersive light show takes spectators on a journey of light and sound makes them experience the highest cathedral in France like never before. One after the other, the two original shows are free of charge: “New Worlds” is dedicated to maritime conquests, and “Rendez vous with the Light”, explores the dimensions of light and features fantastic interactive moments with the public.

From June to September 2023.







**Armada
From 8 to 18 June
2023**



Coming up in Rouen!

RENDEZ-VOUS IN 2024

Throughout Rouen and its greater metropolitan area, the festival **Normandy Impressionist** will be celebrating 150 years of Impressionist art. A wealth of exhibitions and events to honour creativity will be on the agenda!

The **Monumental Forest** project will be back, offering an exuberant artistic journey through XXL sized contemporary works of art displayed in the forest of Roumare on the west side of Rouen. Its successful previous edition attracted over 400,000 visitors.

Finally, Rouen takes pride in being a host city for the Paris 2024 **Olympic and Paralympic Games**. Sixteen of the city's facilities and sports venues will be welcoming sports delegations and international Olympic and Paralympic teams in their training and preparation for the Games.

Save the date: June 2024 meet History to celebrate the **80th anniversary of D-Day**.

ROUEN, EUROPEAN CAPITAL OF CULTURE 2028?

Rouen is candidate city for the title of European Capital of Culture! The application was submitted to the European Commission on January 2nd 2023. A culminating point after 4 years of work with the ambition of transforming the city and its surrounding by strengthening its connection with the river Seine and Rouen's industrial heritage. To support this application, Rouen Seine Normande 2028 association brought along many great ambassadors including Thomas Pesquet, Karin Viard, Wax Taylor, Rilès, Michel Bussi and Philippe Torreton. Annually, two cities, in two different countries, are awarded the title of European Capital of Culture.



Claude Monet, *La Cathédrale de Rouen. Le portail et la tour d'Albane. Temps gris*, 1893-94. Rouen, Fine Arts museum

10 Reasons to visit Rouen and the Seine Valley



Saint Maclou church

1 HERITAGE TO TREASURE AROUND EVERY CORNER!

Rouen is the city with the most listed buildings per inhabitant in France. It boasts a variety of architectural styles from different chronological eras in history. Of course, Rouen is an old-world gothic city showcased by its famous gothic cathedral, the abbey church of Saint Ouen and the elegant church Saint Maclou. Gems of Renaissance architecture include the Parliament of Normandy and historical landmarks such as the Gros Horloge or the Maison Sublime, the oldest Jewish monument in France.

2 RETRACE THE HISTORY & THE FINAL HOURS OF JOAN OF ARC'S LIFE

The spirit of the iconic Joan of Arc lives on in Rouen and her legacy can still be seen through key landmarks: Joan of Arc Tower, the former dungeon where she was locked up during her trial, the archbishop's palace, the Place du Vieux-Marché where she was burned at the stake for heresy on 30th May. Follow in her footsteps exploring the city centre and visit the Historial Jeanne d'Arc, her trial site turned into an immersive and interactive museum to learn about her heroic life and how a young girl changed the destiny of a whole country.



Historial Jeanne d'Arc



Alfred Sisley, *Le sentier au bord de l'eau à Sahurs le soir*, 1894. Rouen, Fine Arts museum

3 IMMERSE IN IMPRESSIONIST ART

Comparable to a giant outdoor art studio, painting masters such as Monet, Pissaro, Gauguin or Sisley have been drawn to Rouen by the clear light and endlessly changing landscapes, setting up their easels to capture its heritage buildings, its vibrant harbour, its narrow alleys and the eerie beauty of the Seine Valley with vast skies, rural landscapes and the meandering river. To delve deep into this fascinating art movement, explore the real-life landscapes that inspired them in the city, then visit the Fine Arts Museum to admire famous masterpieces in the largest collection of Impressionist art in France outside of Paris. Admission is free!



The Pierre Corneille museum

4 FOLLOW THE FOOTSTEPS OF FRENCH LITERARY LEGENDS

Gustave Flaubert, Pierre Corneille, Simone de Beauvoir, Maurice Leblanc, Michel Bussi... The city of Rouen has inspired some of France's most prolific literary legends and you can trace the footsteps of these celebrated authors by visiting their former homes, landmarks and museums, or by romping across the real-life landscapes that inspired their novels on literary guided tours of the city.

5 FOOD CULTURE RECOGNISED BY UNESCO

Normandy's undisputed foodie capital is the first city in France to be named "UNESCO City of Gastronomy" for its culinary heritage talent and innovation in gastronomy. From the farms and orchards of the Seine Valley to the city's markets and restaurants, visitors soak up the unique way of life of the region, reflecting the history, quality and natural specialities of the local food producers.



Restaurant L'Odas



Ceramics museum

6 FREE ADMISSION TO 12 MUSEUMS OF THE ROUEN METROPOLITAN AREA

Enjoy the best of Rouen's culture completely free! Plenty of the world-class museums and galleries in the city offer a free access to their permanent collections: the Fine Arts Museum, the Ceramics Museum, the Natural History Museum, the Antiquities Museum, the "corderie Vallois" Rope Factory, the Secq-des-Tournelles Museum, the Flaubert and Medicine Museum, the Flaubert Pavilion, Corneille's Birthplace, the Pierre Corneille Museum, the Munaé Museum and the Fabrique des savoirs. A great way to learn about a variety of topics!



Panorama of the Sainte Catherine's hill, Rouen



Elbeuf, the "city of a hundred chimneys"

7 NATURAL WONDERS JUST OUTSIDE THE CITY

Immerse yourself in the powerful landscapes of the Natural Regional Park des Boucles de la Seine Normande as you follow the course of the river. Nature has carved her own gallery of towering cliffs, scenic pastures and verdant orchards. Hiking trails and la Seine à Vélo cycling route present the opportunity to enjoy assorted landscapes, abundant wildlife and rich culture. In the network of woodlands and green spaces spread across Rouen metropolitan area, three forests were awarded the national label "Forêt d'Exception" by the National Forestry Office.

8 A GLIMPSE INTO THE CITY'S INDUSTRIAL PAST

In the nineteenthth century, Rouen was a busy clothing manufacturing hub. The textile industry shaped the landscapes and its continuing legacy can be seen today at the Corderie Vallois Museum, where an intact working mill helps to fully immerse visitors into the textile industry. Take a trip to Elbeuf, known as the "city of a hundred chimneys" for a wider view of industrial heritage in the area.



Port of Rouen

9 A WORKING PORT BOAT TOUR

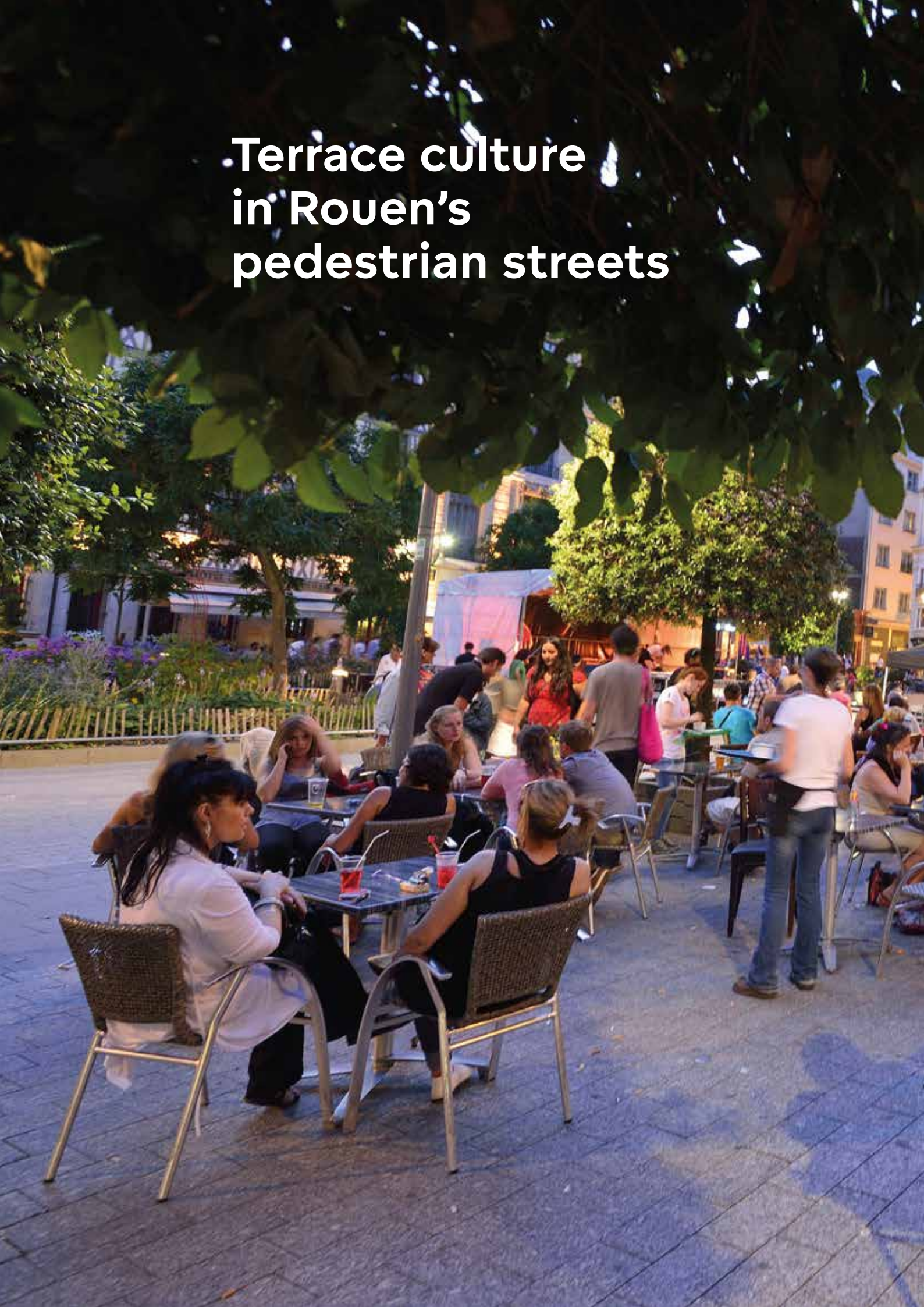
Maritime commerce is known to have been important in Rouen's history for almost two thousand years! Nowadays, the port of Rouen is the leading cereal exporting port in Europe with a storage capacity of more than a million tons. To get a close look at the harbour's key infrastructures and learn about the maritime trade and activity, visitors can embark on a boat for a fascinating guided tour of the port.

10 A THRIVING AND VIBRANT CITY CENTRE

With a pedestrian shopping area comprising of more than 3,000 stores, Rouen is a shopper's paradise. The first street to become car-free in France in 1971, Rue du Gros-Horloge offers the biggest names in high street retail and many independent shops. Saint-Maclou district plays host to delightful second-hand boutiques and antique dealers, while the covered market of the Halles Agrivin is home to local craft shops, galleries and creative outlets. The bustling markets of the Place Saint-Marc and the Vieux-Marché are a definite must-visit for food lovers in Rouen, and perfect stops to refuel whilst exploring the area.



Terrace culture in Rouen's pedestrian streets





Follow us on a journey of discovery...

DAY 1 EXPLORE THE SEINE VALLEY

Meet at 9am at Rouen Tourist Office. Departure for Jumièges, the “Gem of the Seine Valley” located in the heart of the Regional Natural Park des Boucles de la Seine Normande.

GUIDED TOUR OF JUMIÈGES ABBEY AND ITS GARDENS

The Abbaye de Jumièges is one of Normandy’s most evocative medieval relics. With its two towers rising towards the sky and its open-air nave, the majestic Notre-Dame church is a fine example of Norman Romanesque architecture. Referred to as “the most beautiful ruins in France” by Victor Hugo, the remains are surrounded by a 15-hectare English-style park impregnated with romanticism.

LUNCH AT L'AUBERGE DES RUINES AND FRUIT PICKING

Chef Christophe Maudit, a culinary reference in wild plant-based cuisine shares his best-kept cooking secrets over lunch and takes visitors on a fruit picking walk around the estate.

ELECTRIC BIKE TOUR ON THE FRUIT ROUTE

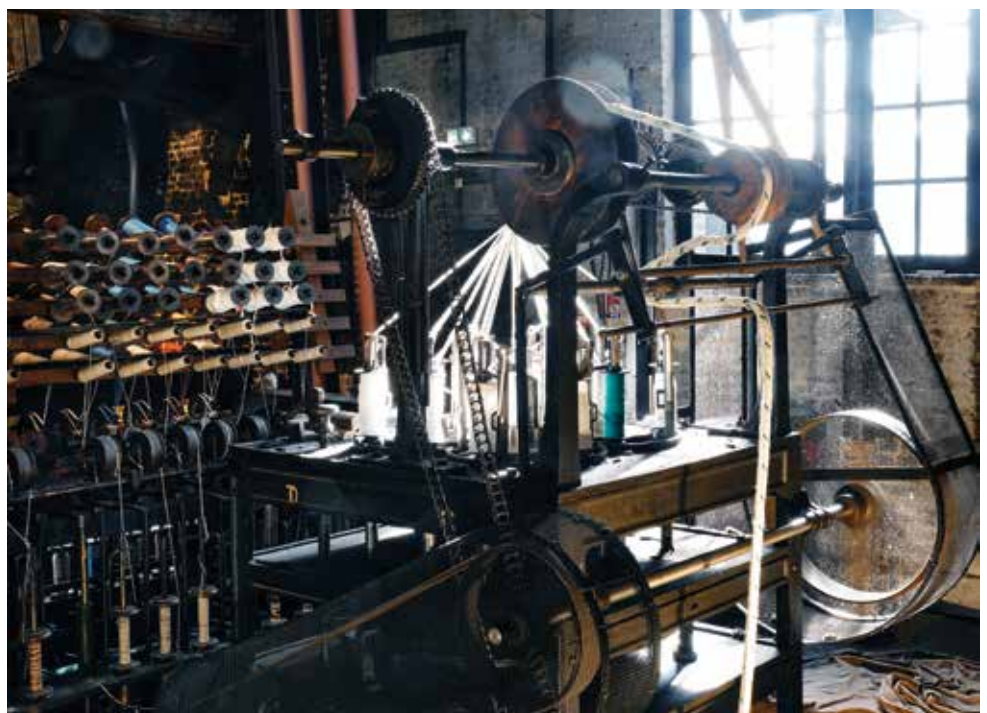
The scenic “Route des Fruits” winds through 60 km of picturesque orchards showcasing the abundance of fruit farms benefiting from a favorable microclimate, the presence of the river, low rain and the shelter from cold winds provided by the surrounding white chalk cliffs.

DELVE INTO ROUEN INDUSTRIAL PAST

Travel back to the 19th century with a visit to the Corderie Vallois in the Cailly valley, a rope factory featuring an original hydraulic spinning mill and machinery still operating today. This museum is a treat for all senses! A few steps away, pop into the workshop and boutique of “Les Confiseurs” located in a former industrial site to discover how the famous local candy “apple sugar” is made! The town of Elbeuf also witnessed the prosperity spun by the textile factories of the Industrial Revolution and reveals fascinating industrial heritage.

MARVEL AT THE “CATHEDRAL OF LIGHT” SHOW

Throughout summer, at dusk, illuminations are projected onto the stunning architectural features of Rouen’s Notre-Dame Cathedral in a mesmerizing sound and light show, offering visitors a fantastical experience of the cathedral in a magnificent way of blending art and heritage.



Corderie Vallois museum



Maison Sublime

DAY 2 HERITAGE TO TREASURE IN ROUEN

Meet at 9am at Rouen Tourist Office for a full day in Rouen accompanied by a professional guide.

A TOUR OF THE HISTORIC CENTRE AT YOUR OWN PACE

Soak up the vibrant atmosphere of the city centre and learn more about the history of Rouen on a walking tour to discover iconic landmarks: half-timbered houses, the gothic Cathedral, the Old Market Square where Joan of Arc was burnt at stake, the famous Gros-Horloge, the abbey church of Saint-Ouen and more.

STROLL THROUGH THE GALLERIES OF THE FINE ARTS MUSEUM

Calling all art enthusiasts! Head to the Fine Arts Museum to admire some of France's best, most awe-inspiring works of art from the 16th to the 20th century including masterpieces from iconic artists such as Caravaggio, Vélasquez, Poussin, Rubens, Delacroix, Géricault, Modigliani or Duchamp among other paintings, drawings, sculptures and decorative objects. This museum houses the largest collection of Impressionist paintings in France outside of Paris, displaying some of the most impressive artwork by Monet, Pissarro, Renoir, Sisley...

THE INCREDIBLE DESTINY OF "MAISON SUBLIME"

Open to the public for visits, the oldest Jewish monument in Western Europe was discovered by pure chance beneath the courtyard of the Palace of Justice in 1976 during construction work.

Built around 1100, just after the First Crusade, it is considered by some experts the last surviving example of a medieval yeshiva or rabbinical school in the world. Others argue that it could have been a private residence. History will tell...

SPOOKY ATMOSPHERE AT "AÎTRE SAINT-MACLOU"

Discover this 16th century ossuary which has been restored for more than two years. It is one of the last remaining gallery cemeteries in France, and its fantastic decorations are the best preserved examples of their kind in Europe. Listed as a historical monument in 1862, this unique heritage site has retained all of its charm and mysterious atmosphere.

AN IMMERSIVE JOURNEY AT THE HISTORIAL JEANNE D'ARC

More than a museum, this interactive experience takes visitors on a historical journey through the life of the national heroine and martyr Joan of Arc. Travel back to the 15th century, to the places where her trial took place, to the Old Market Square where she was burnt at stake with the help of authentic extracts from the records of her trial, testimonies, models and brilliant audiovisual effects!



Explore Rouen on
a tailor-made press trip
with our Press Officer:

Yannick Bugeon
y.bugeon@rouentourisme.com
Tel: + 33 (0)2 32 08 36 57
Port: + 33 (0)6 03 34 41 32

A monumental heritage

ROUEN, AN OPEN-AIR MUSEUM

A stroll through the narrow streets of the capital of Normandy is all it takes to grasp the sheer number of heritage buildings and the magnificent architecture. You'll find a gem around every corner and will be awe-struck every step of the way.

Gothic architecture is everywhere on display: the abbey church of Saint-Ouen and its extraordinary dimensions, the church of Saint-Maclou and the stunning Cathedral, an iconic landmark which inspired Monet's famous painting series.

Throughout the narrow streets of the city and the Antique district, Rouen boasts almost two thousand half-timbered houses, of which the oldest one dates back to the 14th century. Precious architectural jewel from the Middle-Ages! Other fascinating historical curiosities include the Gros-Horloge, one of France's oldest clocks (visitors can climb up to take a close look at the clock's mechanism), the Maison Sublime, the oldest Jewish monument in France, which was discovered by chance under the Palais de Justice, or the Aître Saint-Maclou, a former medieval ossuary decorated with unique mortuary art, turned into a creative space for art and community.

AN UNUSUAL INSIGHT - Sensory and participative tours of the Cathedral

What if you were asked to grab a mirror and a piece of chalk to visit the Cathedral?

Different tours allow various approaches of the Cathedral: "Mesures et démesures" tour is a treat to all senses. It explores the building's dizzying dimensions, makes you feel the resonance of its acoustics and grasp the essence Gothic architecture. Candlelit tours at night offer a unique atmosphere inside the cathedral. Musical tours allow visitors to climb up to the largest carillon in France, which features 64 bells!

IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF JOAN OF ARC

The spirit of Joan of Arc lives on throughout Rouen's historic centre: from the Donjon's Tower to the Abbey of Saint Ouen, from the Archbishop's Palace where her trial took place, to the Old Market Square where she was burnt at stake on the 30th May 1431 and where a magnificent church has been erected in her name. Follow an audio-guided tour on the footsteps of this French heroic character. The Historial Jeanne d'Arc plunges visitors in an immersive journey through the young shepherdess's life. The interactive content re-enacts her trial in which you can take part! This museum is the largest memorial dedicated to the incredible destiny of Joan of Arc.

EXPERIENCE - 10 days of medieval festivities

From the 18th to 27th of May, the historic centre of Rouen will be turned into a giant medieval fair to celebrate the Joan of Arc Festival. Walking tours, falconry, a farmer's market, a medieval camp, stalls of medieval crafts, exhibitions, a life-size investigation game, shows... This festive historical event in the memory of Joan of Arc is entirely free for all!



Sainte Jeanne d'Arc church



Abbey of Jumièges

THE SACRED AND SCENIC “ROUTE DES ABBAYES”

Take a scenic drive along the Abbey Route crisscrossing the Natural Regional Park des Boucles de la Seine, just outside the city! Evocative of Normandy’s rich monastic heritage and fine examples of Norman Romanesque architecture, highlights along the route include the abbey of Jumièges, known as “the most beautiful ruins in France” as well as the abbey of Saint-Martin de Boscherville which boasts incredible gardens in lush settings. During the visit, a 3D application allows visitors to visualize Jumièges Abbey in its original state before it was destroyed. The setting is so picturesque, surrounded by orchards along the curves of the Seine, landscapes ooze spirituality.

Another magnificent religious building to visit is the Saint-Ouen abbey which used to be the wealthiest monastery in the Duchy of Normandy. Its imposing dimensions (137m long, 33m high and a cross culminating at 80m high) make it an exceptional example of grandiose Gothic architecture.

EXPERIENCE – Visit and Fruit Pick with a Chef in Jumièges!

Following a tasty lunch at Auberge des Ruines, follow a guided tour of Jumièges abbey, then meet the chef Christophe Mauduit, expert in wild-plant based cuisine, in the estate’s park for a fruit picking walk.

RESTORING SAINT-OUEN ABBEY

Right at the heart of the centre, Saint Ouen Abbey is a true masterpiece of the flamboyant Gothic style and expresses all the audacity of architecture between the 15th and 16th centuries. Since the fire of Notre-Dame de Paris in April 2019, its wooden roof structure is the last ancient «forest» of its kind in France. 80 exceptional stained-glass windows compose the richest collection of 14th and 15th century stained glass. The huge organ was built by Cavallé-Coll and is the organ the most used to record music across the globe.

Nevertheless, this unique heritage is in serious danger and is in urgent need of restoration in order to pass it on to future generations. A major fundraising campaign is underway and donations can be made directly online on Restaurons-SaintOuen.fr.





**Restoring
Saint-Ouen Abbey**

A land of inspiration

BIRTHPLACE OF IMPRESSIONISM

Undeniably, Rouen was made world-famous by Claude Monet's series of paintings of the magnificent façade of Notre Dame Cathedral under different lights, created between 1892 and 1894. But Rouen's blossoming industry, beautiful architectural heritage, its unique light, mystery and spectacular setting were also depicted by other masters such as Pissarro, Sisley or Gauguin who set up their easels in the city and its surroundings. From the panoramic Côte Sainte-Catherine, to the Rue de L'Épicerie or the Boieldieu bridge, Rouen became a giant open-air studio with an infinite source of inspiration for impressionist painters. The countryside around the city and nearby villages along the Seine, like La Bouille or Duclair, vibrantly reflected in the waters, provided even more landscapes and atmospheres to inspire their artistic creativity. Walking through these stunning landscapes is still a voyage of the senses for visitors today.

EXPERIENCE - France's largest Impressionist collection outside of Paris.

A real treat for Arts lovers, the Fine Arts Museum of Rouen houses an outstanding public collections of impressionist art which includes masterpieces by Monet (La Cathédrale de Rouen), Pissarro (Pont Boieldieu à Rouen, soleil couchant, temps brumeux) by Caillebotte and Sisley. Besides the François Depeaux gallery (named after the art collector and patron), a whole section is devoted to showcasing the work of painters of the Rouen Art School such as Lebourg, Angrand and Delattre for whom the banks of the Seine were a treasured subject to paint. Admission is free!

AN INSPIRING LITERARY DESTINATION

Rouen has inspired countless thinkers, artists and writers. Trace the footsteps of celebrated French authors with deep connections to Rouen on a literary pilgrimage across the real-life landscapes that inspired their novels. Discover the birthplace of French novelist Gustave Flaubert, visit the house where Pierre Corneille was born, follow the adventures of Maurice Leblanc, discover the places where Simone de Beauvoir and Jean-Paul Sartre used to meet, explore hidden spots of the city which inspired the detective stories of Michel Bussi, one of the top 3 best-selling authors in France. Tucked away in a curve of the undulating Seine River, you'll find the picturesque village of La Bouille, where Hector Malot, author of Sans Famille, spent his childhood. As for Gustave Flaubert, one of the world's greatest novelists, you can get an insight into his former home, now open to the public as the Flaubert and History of Medicine Museum (in honour of his father, a famous surgeon at the Rouen hospital). Discover the Croisnet Pavilion where he wrote his masterpieces or walk up to the cemetery for a glimpse of the monumental grave in which he is buried alongside other illustrious figures.

AN UNUSUAL INSIGHT - A bit of sleight of hand with Arsène Lupin

During an out-of-the-ordinary walking tour, follow in the footsteps of French writer Maurice Leblanc who grew up and found inspiration in Rouen to write the famous novel Arsène Lupin, a fictional gentleman burglar. Told against the back drop of the city, the story of both the author and the legendary local Robin-hood specializing in the art of disguise takes visitors around key sites of interest. Quirky surprises await you on this adventure!



Musée des Beaux-Arts



Le Secq des Tournelles museum

AN EMPIRE OF IRON AND GLASS

Fans of wrought iron, silverware and craftsmanship are in for a treat! Rouen is home to exceptional collections. Head for the Musée Le Secq des Tournelles, which boasts the largest collection of ancient ironwork in the world, featuring over 16,000 pieces dating from the Gallo-Roman era to the nineteenth century. The legacy of Ferdinand Marrou, the famous ironworker who embellished the region, is unmissable in Rouen. Art lovers can visit creators and artists' workshops throughout the old town and specifically in the Antiques Quarter. The Galerie des Arts du Feu is also a creative space worth a visit, set inside the fabulous aître Saint-Maclou. Wonderful stained-glass displays are to be found in the abbey churches of Saint-Ouen and Sainte-Jeanne d'Arc.

AN UNUSUAL INSIGHT – Create with local artists!

Be inspired by the beauty of stained glass at the Galerie des Arts du Feu, a friendly glass studio located at the heart of the Aître Saint Maclou, one of Rouen's finest architectural and cultural treasure! Art lovers can immerse in a stained glass and copper foil workshop and explore the depths of design, colour and use of light in creating their own piece to take home. After an introduction to stained glass, the idea is to pick one of the 10 templates designed by the artist and learn the essential skills: to create a pattern and template, to cut coloured glass, to apply and burnish copper foil, to assemble and to solder the pieces together!



Galerie des Arts du Feu

The majestic River Seine

LET THE RIVER RUN

The River Seine has always played an important role as a life artery for the people of Rouen and its valley. With boat connections, it links the city centre of Rouen to the villages of La Bouille and Duclair. To explore this fascinating area by boat, the Tourist Office offers a variety of cruises. Rouen also boasts a marina and a port for winter storage which can accommodate around a hundred boats. Cycling is another great way to discover the cliff-hugging curves of the river. The long-distance cycle route "La Seine à Vélo" covers no less than 100 km of towpaths, with options of crossing the river aboard a local ferry to extend the fun. For vantage points and panoramas, the Seine can be seen in its full meandering majesty from so many places, winding between wooded slopes and limestone cliffs. Côte Saint-Auct, Robert le Diable castle, Barneville, Duclair... Mother Nature reveals herself at every turn.

EXPERIENCE - La Bouille's own gallery

Nestled between the river and the towering limestone cliffs of the Seine Valley, the quaint and picturesque village of La Bouille has inspired Impressionist artists such as Monet, Sisley and Lebourg and has long drawn holidaymakers from Rouen. It is the perfect place to take a stroll along the river front and through its narrow streets to find beautiful timber-framed houses and delightful art galleries, or to stop in a café for a coffee break in a charming décor. Embark on the ferry that goes back and forth to Sahurs on the other side of the river. To admire La Bouille from the river and other small villages along the river, boat cruises from Rouen offer the opportunity to explore the Boucles de la Seine. La Bouille is also accessible from Rouen by bike, on the secured "Seine à Vélo" cycle route where the towpaths run through a variety of natural landscapes (chalk cliffs and lush Norman pastures) as well as offering industrial panoramas such as the port of Rouen.

MAJESTIC FORESTS AWAIT

With 25,000 hectares of green spaces, Rouen is the most wooded urban area in France with forests covering over a third of the greater metropolis area. Three of its forests have been awarded the national distinction of "Forêt d'Exception", a recognition of their collective value and conservation efforts to protect the green lungs of the capital of Normandy. No matter where you are in Rouen, the forest is never very far. Follow educational walking trails, discover the arboretum or the wildlife park where deers, roe deers and wild boars can be spotted. For sports fans and art lovers, the international land art event "La Forêt Monumentale" brings XXL sculptures to the heart of the Roumare forest in Canteleu, near Rouen. Guided walks are organised to learn about the history and legends of these oases of greenery. Three wonderful woodlands -the Forêt Verte in the north of Rouen, the Roumare forest to the west and the Londe-Rouvray forest in the south - make for great escapes from the city and will bring you back to nature.

AN UNUSUAL INSIGHT - Catch a sight of the roaring stags or embark on a journey through the sounds of the trees

Les Maisons des forêts offer an exciting range of activities to get people walking in the woods with eyes and ears wide open. Are you ready for a Zen walk through the woods, or a sound journey with singing bowls under the trees? Feel like joining a nocturnal expedition to listen to the stags roar in season? Want to make your own herbarium or discover the power of plants with an expert guide? Exploring nature's wilderness is a sensory experience in Rouen!



La Roche Fouet panorama, Orival

NATURALS WONDERS

Ever heard of the famous “Normandy Fruit Trail”? Popular with locals, this route is a culinary adventure through the lush green pastures and colourful orchards of the Boucles de la Seine Normande Regional Nature Park to meet local growers and passionate apples, pears, plums and cherries producers who welcome visitors to savour, sample and purchase their bounty directly from their farms. Sharing generations of gourmet wisdom is no legend in Normandy! Here, nature lovers explore the stunning natural beauty of forests, rivers, lakes and marshes on the territory of the Greater Rouen area, which provide some biodiverse habitats for wildlife and are a true adventure playground to practice outdoor activities such as mountain biking, hiking and canoeing. On top of this, Rouen boasts two leisure centres which offer a wide range of sports and leisure activities.



Fruit Trail

A legacy of innovation

THE GREAT TEXTILE ADVENTURE

Rouen was a pioneer city of the French industrial revolution in the nineteenth century. Towering mills, bustling workshops and factories shaped its urban landscape. The “Corderie Vallois” rope museum bears witness to this intense former industrial activity. The machines of this former hydraulic spinning mill remain today in their original location, with the paddle wheel still turning to the rhythm of the flowing Cailly river. Everything is designed to provide a deep insight into how the city’s heritage is interwoven with the cotton, flax, and wool industry, once the leading industrial activity in Normandy. At the Moulin Saint-Gilles, visitors discover the workers’ technical know-how through the machines that were used in the region, restored by the Expotec 103 association. In Elbeuf, spinning mills and weaving sheds brought with them unprecedented urban growth, shaping the town we see today. Part of this heritage is to be found at La Fabrique des savoirs, a former spinning mill converted into a beautiful museum showcasing the fascinating industrial past of the region.

AN UNUSUAL INSIGHT - Explore the “Route of the Mills”

There’s lots to discover to feed curious minds of all ages. On the eastside of Rouen, a walk along the banks of the Aubette and Robec rivers brings this industrial past to life, on the exact locations of former mills used in the textile industry, particularly for the dyeing and tanning process. Remarkable buildings include the former Auvray dyeing plant and the Lucien Fromage factory, which produced braces, elastics and garters. It houses today the Normandy School of Architecture.

THE PORT OF ROUEN, EUROPE’S LEADING CEREAL EXPORTING PORT

The port of Rouen has a long history dating back to more than 2000 years and has always played a major role in the development of the city as a great maritime centre of activity and trade. Did you know that the first submarine was built in Rouen? That Napoleon’s ashes from St. Helena passed through Rouen? That the Statue of Liberty was loaded on a frigate in Rouen? Or that the port boasted the highest lift bridge in Europe? To submerge yourself in Rouen’s historic seafaring past, head to the Maritime, River and Port Museum and discover the city’s pivotal role as the gateway to the world. Today, it is Europe’s leading cereal exporting port with almost 3,000 ships and 6,000 river convoys berthing in Rouen every year. Favoured by its strategic position connected to Paris and le Havre by the Seine, this sea and river port is France’s leading port in the agro-industry as well as for the petrochemical industry and oil products.

EXPERIENCE - An immersive visit onboard

Jump aboard the Escapade or the Lutèce for a guided tour through the maritime port of Rouen and its history for a better understanding of the men and women who work there. With the chimneys, the huge silos and the ships loading and unloading in the background, your guide will provide all the information for an understanding of this commercial hub



Corderie Vallois museum



Port of Rouen

ROUEN ARMADA, TALL SHIPS GATHERING

A truly memorable event! Every four to five years, Rouen play host to some of the world's most beautiful and evocative Tall ships and War ships sailing the seas and it attracts millions of visitors to its quays alongside 6000 sailors and crew members attending the event. With a jam-packed schedule of family fun and entertainment, festive celebrations include concerts, parades, fireworks and opportunities to jump onboard and get a close look at the great ships. The highlight of the festival is the parade which sees participants from all over the world come together to take over the streets. Tall Ships making their way down the Seine River offers a majestic show with sailors singing and waving to local residents and visitors. Every edition strengthens the historical bonds between Rouen's and the maritime world. It is also a perfect occasion to celebrate weddings between local residents of Rouen and their other half returning from sailing the seas of the world!

EXPERIENCE – Sail up the Seine on a mythical ship!

Jump onboard and explore one of the majestic ships on a guided tour organised by the Tourist Office which gives visitors the rare opportunity to “come on-board” for a closer look at these incredible vessels, meet a crew and exchange on their sailing experience. A professional guide reveals all the secrets and adventures of the ship. A magical experience to be remembered!

EXCELLENCE IN CRAFTSMANSHIP AND INDUSTRIES OF THE FUTURE

Looking for traditional products 100% hand made in Normandy by talented crafts people, artists and designers? Head to the Christoffe silverware factory, near Duclair to delve into the art of French goldsmithing and tableware. In Bourgtheroulde, discover the legacy and the excellence of Maison Berger, famous for producing refined lamps and scented items for over a century. Normandy is also the world's leading region for the production of flax for fibre, a natural, ecological fibre widely cultivated around Rouen and transformed into fashion items, clothes and household linen.

On the innovative side, mobility of the future is a key focus of Rouen's industrial sector with Renault being based in nearby Cléon for the past 70 years, nowadays the production centre for Renault's electric vehicles. What is driving this local creative excellence, you may ask? The best answers are to be found at the festival of Norman excellence which takes place in October!

AN UNUSUAL INSIGHT – Christoffe silverware at the Élysée Palace

Welcome to the workshops of the Christoffe factory, which has been at the forefront of French tableware tradition since 1971. This prestigious factory is the official supplier of the Élysée Palace and of many embassies all over the world. The King of Morocco himself comes here to buy luxury cutlery and tableware. Open to the public, the factory's workshops showcase talented chisellers, lathe operators and engravers working with impressive precision on metal and silver to create unique pieces. The factory shop is a shopper's dream of individual pieces that are perfect as gifts or as a treat for yourself!

Rouen, a food culture awarded by UNESCO

UNESCO CREATIVE CITY OF GASTRONOMY

Recognised for its outstanding cuisine, Rouen prides itself on being the first French city to join UNESCO's 'Creative Cities Network' in the field of gastronomy in 2021. This UNESCO distinction was awarded to the city for promoting its gastronomic excellence and traditions while focusing on sustainability, organic farming and a healthy eating culture. The creativity of Normandy's capital city is now globally renowned for its culinary good practices, respectful of the environment and people. Come and discover Normandy's wide range of regional produce, visit orchards, meet local farmers. Indulge in the finest cuisine and enjoy traditional high-quality dishes revisited by Rouen's talented chefs with a delightful contemporary twist. The Club des Toques brings together fifteen of the greatest chefs and producers of Rouen tantalising taste buds while the young apprentices of the new Fauchon School in Rouen ensure the bright future of culinary art in Normandy!

AN UNUSUAL INSIGHT - A Foodie Heritage Walk

Combine your love of cultural heritage with delectable cuisine on this incredible foodie walk through the city. Take in spectacular sights and hidden gems as you explore Rouen's culinary history and treasures, while sampling an array of delicious food and drink along the way. This off-the-eaten track culinary tour is called "Visite Rouen gourmande".

ROUEN'S CULINARY HERITAGE: A DELIGHT FOR THE BELLY AND THE SOUL!

Cheese galore, fresh cream, scallops, cider, Calvados, Pommeau... These delicious local produce provide a sense of place. Other dishes synonymous with the fabulous local cuisine include the famous traditional "Rouen Style-duckling" which comes from the specific way of cooking the duck mastered by local chefs. Rouen is also home to some of Normandy's sweetest treats: the Elbeuf douillon, the mirliton, the apple sugar (a kind of traditional barley sugar made in Rouen) and the signature chocolates called The Tears of Joan of Arc. Each year in October, Rouen hosts the Fête du Ventre (Feast of the belly) in the city's historic centre around the Old Market district. An invitation to discover or rediscover Normandy's gastronomic heritage during a whole weekend and meet regional producers and artisans showcasing plenty of delicious products in a festive atmosphere. If you wish to delve deeper into Rouen's foodie scene, explore Rouen's buzzing MIN "Marché d'Intérêt National de la Métropole" which is the largest integrated wholesale markets in the north-west of France.

EXPERIENCE - Discover Saint-Marc Market

No trip to Rouen would be complete without visiting the iconic Saint -Marc market, one of the largest in the area. This place is an attraction in itself for a glimpse into local life. Fresh fruits, vegetables, meat, flowers and even antiques await! This authentic market is where the locals meet on Sunday morning to buy their favorite foods and sit with friends and family at one of the many cafés and restaurants around the market square. A special place that has retained all its charm and character since Medieval times.



Restaurant Rest'Authentique



Saint-Marc Market

A SHOPPING DESTINATION LIKE NO OTHER IN NORMANDY!

An hour away from Paris, Rouen and the Seine Valley are brimming with some of the best shopping in France, with more than 3000 shops and boutiques. One of the city's best-known historical streets, rue du Gros-Horloge, is packed with an eclectic mix of quaint independents shops, luxury outlets and big department stores. The Docks 76 shopping centre on the right bank of the Seine River and Saint-Sever, on the left bank, complete this fantastic retail offer for shopaholics!

Rouen's bustling antiques market scene makes the city centre a haven for bargain hunters to explore. From jewellery and handmade unique pieces, to old furniture and art, antique lovers are sure to find treasures in the countless dealers shops selling an array of collectables. As a centre of faience and earthenware pottery since the Middle Ages, Rouen remains a must-visit destination for lovers of pottery and ceramic art. Throughout its picturesque streets, plenty of workshops and artists' galleries offer an entertaining insight into the history and tradition of this time-honoured craft.

EXPERIENCE - Eat local, like a local at the Halles Agrivin

A cool, brand new, 100% local Food Hall! With Rouen's exciting food scene on the rise, there was no surprise when 23 food artisans from across the region came together in November 2022 to launch this eating concept space and showcase the best of Normandy's culinary delights. This great spot for foodies is located on the esplanade of Docks 76 (around 5 minutes walk from the centre of Rouen) and offers year-round entertainment.

ROUEN'S HOTELSCAPE RAISES THE BAR HIGH IN 2023!

Rouen's hotel scene is moving from strength to strength with the opening of top-of-the-range properties scheduled in the coming months. The past years have already seen an array of exciting properties openings. Blending historical heritage and modern architecture, the 4* Radisson Blu Hotel opened right by the Donjon Tower in March 2021, at the same time as the 4* Best Western Plus Le Conquérant on the heights of Rouen. 2023 is continuing this momentum with new social hubs and reimagined landmarks on the horizon. Scheduled to open mid-year is the L'École Buissonnière, a project that includes offices, an urban park, a restaurant and a 4* Hyatt Place hotel due to boast a panoramic view of the city centre and the Cathedral. On the left bank quays, Espace 105 designed by architect Marc Mimram will feature restaurants, a high-end hotel designed by the Mess Family company, two restaurants, a bar, outdoor spaces and a spa. The former Palais des Consuls will be housing a 4* Novotel hotel as well as a 3* Adagio Access apartment-hotel and a residence for independent seniors. This opening is planned for 2024.

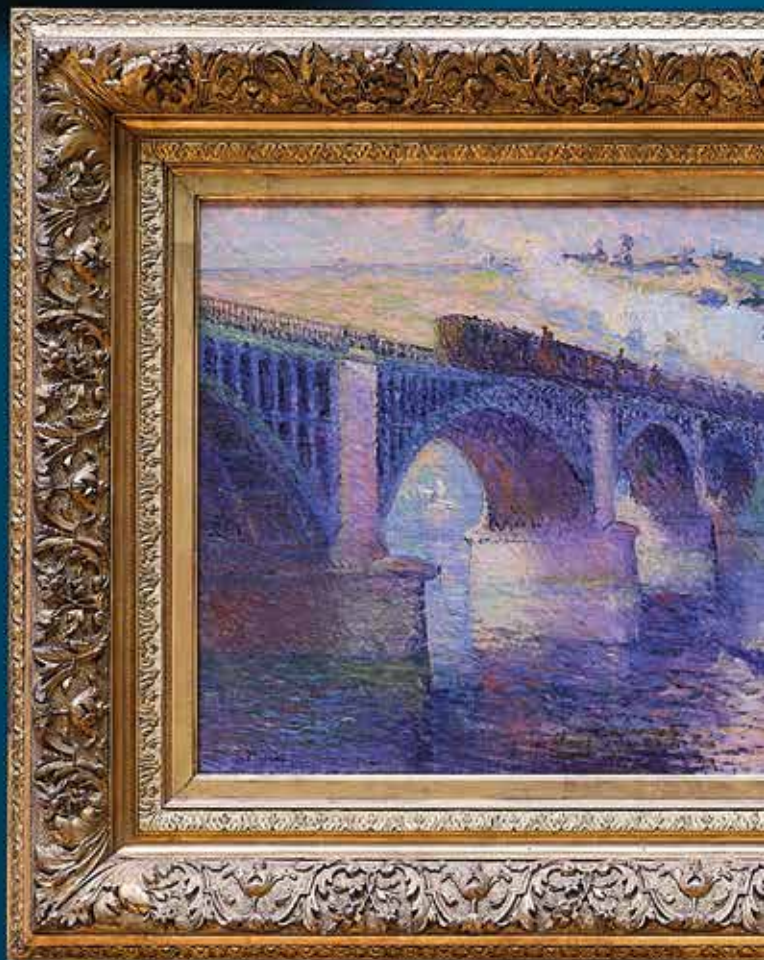
AN UNUSUAL INSIGHT - A themed stay, a night on the river or high up in the trees.

There's something undeniably adventurous about sleeping on the water by the lapping waves, on the characterful barge "Sécurité", on the boat Captain' Go or alternatively, among the treetops at the comfy Cabanes de Fontaine. At the Hôtel Urban Style de l'Europe, themed rooms offer rock'n'roll and comics lovers immersive experiences while the literary-themed Best Western Hôtel Littéraire plagues Flaubert fans in their favorite tales of suspense, whimsy, and adventure.



J.M.W. Turner
Rain, Steam, and Great Railway Bridge
1844

Marcel Duchamp
Fontaine
1917





Edouard Manet
Portrait of a Young Man
1868
Oil on canvas
100 x 80 cm
Musée d'Orsay, Paris

Jean-François Millet
The Peasants of Normandy
1850-55
Oil on canvas
100 x 80 cm
Musée d'Orsay, Paris



The largest Impressionist collection outside Paris

Calendar of Events 2023

DATE	EVENT	PLACE
13 – 15 January	Puces Rouennaises d’hiver – Winter Flea Market	Parc des expositions, Rouen
3 – 4 February	French Cup	Patinoire Guy Boissière, Rouen
10 February – 18 September	Exhibition Martin Barré/ Collections of the Grandur Arts Foundation	Musée des Beaux-Arts, Rouen
11 – 12 February	4 Seasons at the Parc des Bruyères, Winter edition	Parc du Champ des Bruyères, Rouen
11 – 12 February	Normannia	Parc des expositions, Rouen
14 March – 14 April	Courant d’art	Rouen
9 March – 16 April	Festival Spring	Normandy
11 March	Perche Elite Tour	Kindarena, Rouen
16 – 18 March	Festival Les Pluriels	Rouen, Mont Saint-Aignan
24 March – 2 April	Foire Internationale de Rouen	Parc des expositions, Rouen
7 – 10 April	Festival Tango et moi	Halle aux toiles, Rouen
8 – 9 April	4 Seasons at the Parc des Bruyères, Spring edition	Parc du Champ des Bruyères, Rouen
14 April – 13 August	Exhibition Normands. Migrants, conquérants, innovateurs	Musée des Beaux-Arts, Rouen
14 April – 13 August	Lumières Nordiques – Nordic Lights	Musée des Beaux-Arts, Rouen
April	Escape game WWII Theme	Donjon de Rouen
3 – 28 May	Curieux printemps	Rouen
6 – 8 May	Commemorations 8 th of May 1945 Château du Taillis	Duclair
7 May	Wings for Life	Rouen
10 May – 25 September	Exhibition: De sucre, de sueur et de sang (Slavery: sugar, sweat and blood)	Corderie Vallois, Notre-Dame-de-Bondeville
18 – 29 May	Nouvelles Fêtes Jeanne d’Arc (Joan of Arc Festivities)	Rouen
20 May – 17 September	La Chambre des Visiteurs, 7 ^e édition: l’exposition à composer soi-même “à table”	Le Secq des Tournelles museum, Rouen
27 – 28 May	Graines de Jardin, les jardins gourmands	Jardin des plantes de Rouen
29 May	Rue du Jazz	Rouen
3 June	Nuit Blanche (White Night)	Rouen
3 – 4 June	Les Fantastiques	Château Robert le Diable
7 – 18 June	Armada 2023	Quais de Rouen
June – September	Cathédrale de Lumière (Cathedral of light)	Rouen, place de la Cathédrale
23 – 25 June	Festival Viva Cité, 34 th edition	Sotteville-lès-Rouen
24 – 25 June	4 Seasons at the Parc des Bruyères, Summer edition	Parc du Champ des Bruyères, Rouen
28 June – 1 July	Festival Archéo-Jazz	Blainville-Crevon
6 – 27 July	Les Terrasses du Jeudi (Thursday Terraces)	Rouen
7 July – 6 August	Un été au jardin des plantes	Jardin des plantes, Rouen
7 July – 6 August	Rouen sur Mer	Quais rive-gauche, Rouen

DATE	EVENT	PLACE
July	Les Fresques Darnétalaises	Darnétal
July – August	Un été au musée	Rouen
Weekends in July and August	Festival Jours de Fêtes	Rouen, Métropole Normandie
21 – 29 August	Festival Vibrations	Jardin des plantes, Rouen
August	Les Musicales de Normandie	Rouen
September	Seine Marathon Rouen	Rouen
September	Auto Moto Rétro	Parc des expositions, Rouen
September	Quai des Livres	Rouen
September	Festival Normandiebulle	Darnétal
September	Créativa	Parc des expositions, Rouen
15 September – 5 March 2024	La Ronde, rendez-vous de culture contemporaine Rouen (Contemporary Culture in Rouen)	Musées de Rouen
16 – 17 September	Journées du Patrimoine (Heritage Open Days)	Métropole de Rouen
23 September	Fête de la gastronomie (Food Festival)	Rouen
23 Septembre – 26 November	Automne Curieux	Rouen
23 – 24 September	Événement de clôture de saison touristique (Summer Season Closing Event)	Rouen
1 – 16 October	Festival Zig Zag	Métropole de Rouen
14 – 15 October	4 Seasons at the Parc des Bruyères, Autumn Edition	Parc du Champ des Bruyères, Rouen
14 – 15 October	Fête du ventre et de la gastronomie (Feast of the Belly & Gastronomy Food Festival)	Rouen
20 – 22 October	Festival de l'excellence normande (Festival of Normand Excellence)	Parc des expositions, Rouen
22 October – 22 November	Foire Saint Romain	Rouen
November	Beerdays	Parc des expositions, Rouen
November	Festival Chants d'elles	Rouen
November	Festival du livre de jeunesse (Festival of Youth Literature)	Halle aux toiles, Rouen
November	Equiseine	Parc des expositions, Rouen
11 – 13 November	Salon Gourmand (Food Festival)	Parc des expositions, Rouen
12 – 20 November	Festival "This is England"	Cinéma Omnia, Rouen
From the 24 th November	Exhibition "Le temps des collections XI" - La Seine vagabonde de la Seine à l'Estuaire	Musées de la Métropole Rouen Normandie
Nov. – Dec.	Rouen Tourisme vous garde au chaud (Rouen keep you warm)	Rouen
December	Salon du disque (Music Fair)	Halle aux Toiles, Rouen
December	Rouen Givré	Rouen

An awe-inspiring destination

1 hour away from Paris

CLOSE AND EASY TO REACH

By car

1 h 30 from Paris – via highway A13
3 h from Lille – via highway A28
5 h 30 from Lyon

By train

Rouen Rive-Droite station has excellent rail connections to France's major cities and to most European destinations.

Rouen – Paris: 1 h 15

Rouen – Lille: 3 h 30 via Paris or Amiens

Rouen – Lyon: 3 h 45 with a direct daily train

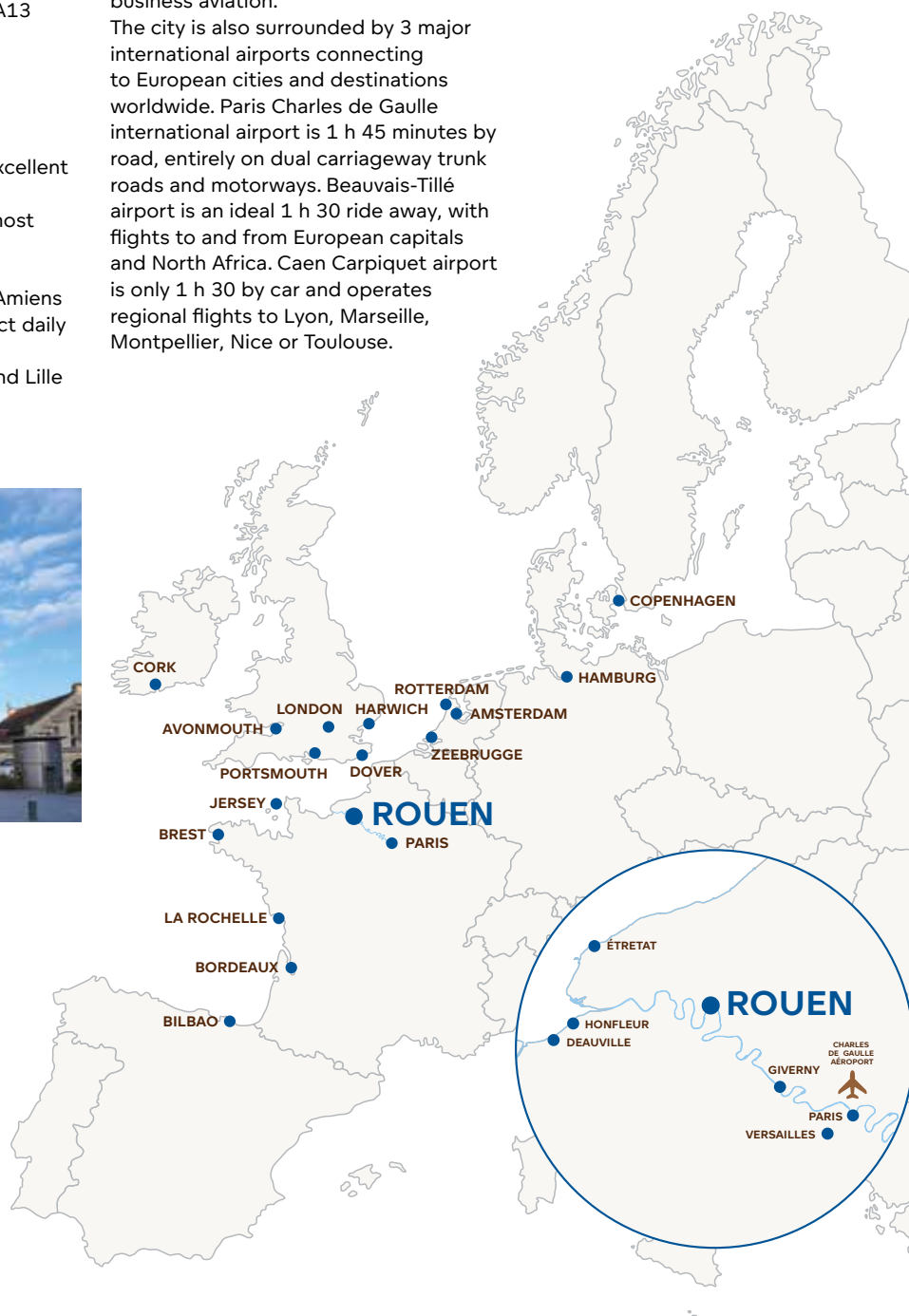
Rouen – Brussels: 5 h via Paris and Lille

Rouen – Marseille: 5 h 30

By plane

Rouen has its own airport at Boos (10 km away from the city centre) for business aviation.

The city is also surrounded by 3 major international airports connecting to European cities and destinations worldwide. Paris Charles de Gaulle international airport is 1 h 45 minutes by road, entirely on dual carriageway trunk roads and motorways. Beauvais-Tillé airport is an ideal 1 h 30 ride away, with flights to and from European capitals and North Africa. Caen Carpiquet airport is only 1 h 30 by car and operates regional flights to Lyon, Marseille, Montpellier, Nice or Toulouse.



Contacts

ROUEN TOURIST OFFICE

Musée des Beaux-Arts
Esplanade Marcel Duchamp
76000 Rouen
Tel. + 33 (0)2 32 08 32 40
accueil@rouentourisme.com
visiterouen.com

OPENING HOURS

October to April: Monday to Saturday from 9.30am to 6.00pm except Tuesday from 10.30am to 6.00pm (except during school holidays, open on Sundays: from 10.00am to 6.00pm).
May to September: Monday to Saturday from 9.30am to 6.30pm (opens at 10.30am on Tuesday). Sunday and bank holidays from 10.00am to 6.00pm.

JUMIÈGES TOURIST OFFICE

Rue Guillaume Le Conquérant
76480 Jumièges
Tel. + 33 (0)2 35 37 28 97
jumieges@rouentourisme.com
visiterouen.com

OPENING HOURS

March, April and October: Tuesday to Saturday, 9.30am to 12.30pm and from 1.30pm to 6pm (opens at 10.30am on Tuesday). Closed Sunday and Monday.
May to September: open daily from 9.30am to 12.30pm and from 1.30pm to 6.00pm (Opens at 10.30am on Tuesday).

ELBEUF TOURIST INFORMATION BUREAU

La Fabrique des savoirs
7, cours Gambetta
76500 Elbeuf
Tel. + 33 (0)2 32 96 30 40

DUCLAIR TOURIST INFORMATION BUREAU

Town Hall
Place de Général de Gaulle
76480 Duclair
Tel. + 33 (0)2 35 05 91 50

Follow us

visiterouen.com



Rouen Tourism is the Destination Management Organisation promoting Rouen and its greater metropolitan area. We welcome visitors from all over the world and provide tourist information to make the most of their stay in Normandy.

Rouen Tourisme was awarded the official Qualité Tourisme™ label delivered by the Ministry of Tourism to top-quality French Tourist Offices for their hospitality and service quality. Our aim is to constantly improve the satisfaction of our visitors and meet the criteria of a Category 1 Tourist Office classification.



Press Office Contact

Yannick Bugeon
y.bugeon@rouentourisme.com
Tel: + 33 (0)2 32 08 36 57
Port: + 33 (0)6 03 34 41 32

