

Savour the moment like Monet

In 2026, Normandy and the Paris Region are marking the centenary of Claude Monet's passing. Experience the moments that inspired the master of Impressionism.

Claude Monet, Le Déjeuner sur l'herbe, musée d'Orsay



100 YEARS
Monet
impressionist
adventures



Claude Monet, Le bassin aux Nymphéas, harmonie verte, musée d'Orsay



The Impressionist Destination: a trip through Paris, its surrounding region and Normandy.

Artists' homes, exceptional museums and unspoilt landscapes: a comprehensive artistic itinerary to look forward to in 2026, the centenary of Claude Monet's death.

This guide presents a **ready-made itinerary** centred on the Impressionist Destination, which connects Paris, its surrounding region, and Normandy, following in the footsteps of the great painters of the 19th Century. Impressionism, a universally acclaimed and beloved artistic movement, was born and flourished in these two regions. From Claude Monet to Berthe Morisot, Renoir, Caillebotte, Degas, Pissarro and Sisley, these artists found an inexhaustible source of inspiration in these areas.

The Impressionist Destination represents a significant advantage: offering a distinctive product that combines **culture, outdoor activities, and the French art de vivre.**

Designed for individual customers or guided groups, this tour can be adapted into short (weekend) or long (6- to 8-day) itineraries.

During this trip, visitors will explore **unspoilt landscapes** such as Étretat, Honfleur, Rouen, Giverny, Paris, Moret-sur-Loing, Auvers-sur-Oise and Chatou. These are all places that inspired the masterpieces of Impressionism and today allow visitors to experience the emotions of the painters, bathed in the light of Normandy or along the banks of the Seine.

The Impressionist Destination also boasts a **network of 15 exceptional museums showcasing the largest permanent collection of Impressionist masterpieces.**

Artists' homes complement the experience, not to mention original outdoor activities such as painting workshops, river cruises and bike rides along the banks of the Seine.

2026 marks the centenary of Claude Monet's death. This anniversary is being celebrated with a unique programme of events across the key locations of his life and work. This is an opportunity not to be missed for designing highly rewarding cultural trips for art lovers from around the world.



In Paris, the Paris Region and Normandy...

an exclusive Impressionist tour





Claude Monet, Coquelicots, musée d'Orsay

Paris Region, *from Yerres to Auvers-sur-Oise*



Day 1

**Yerres, Moret-sur-Loing and Barbizon:
Impressionism and its precursors south of Paris**

Day 2

**Paris and Montmartre:
discover the Impressionist masterpieces
and relive the excitement of the period**

Day 3

**Auvers-sur-Oise:
following the footsteps of Vincent van Gogh**

Day 4

**From Paris to Chatou and its surroundings:
enjoy the delights of the banks of the Seine
on the doorstep of Paris**

Yerres, Moret-sur-Loing and Barbizon: Impressionism and its precursors south of Paris

Not far from Paris, between Yerres and Barbizon, a vast area bears the imprint of the Impressionists and the painters who came before them: artists' houses, museums, busy art galleries... Follow in their footsteps and discover forests, charming villages and waterways.

Morning

Day 1

Transfer from Paris to Maison Caillebotte. Journey: 40 min (24 km).

- 1** Visit the Maison Caillebotte and its magnificent park.
A close friend and supporter of Claude Monet, Caillebotte played a key role in the history of Impressionism. Restored and furnished as it was in the painter's time, the family estate inspired nearly 90 works.
Visit time: 3h to a full day with visit to the Vegetable Garden, the ice store and option to rent a boat. Groups of 30 people.

Lunch at Restaurant Pika Pika in Yerres town centre.

- option: picnic in the park.

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Transfer from Yerres to Moret-sur-Loing. Journey: 50 min (54 km).

- 2** Visit the medieval town in the footsteps of Sisley, following the reproductions of his paintings.
Visit time: 1h30.
- option: visit the Barley Sugar Museum to learn everything about the production of this speciality of the town. Tasting.
 - option: sailing along the Loing in a canoe.

Transfer from Moret-sur-Loing to Barbizon. Journey: 20 min (20 km).

- 3** On the edge of the Forest of Fontainebleau, arrive at Barbizon in the footsteps of the landscape painters (Millet and Rousseau) from the "Barbizon School". This area also inspired Claude Monet; here, in 1865, he painted his famed canvas *Le Déjeuner sur l'herbe* (Luncheon of the boating party).

Dinner in Barbizon and overnight in Paris.

Afternoon



Paris Region, from Yerres to Paris



1



2

3

Paris and Montmartre:

discover the Impressionist masterpieces and relive the excitement of the period

Paris is an essential stop on your journey. In 1859, Claude Monet arrived in the capital, which he dubbed "the dizzying Paris": the countless cafés-concerts, balls, circuses, operas. Monet, Degas, Renoir, Pissarro and Caillebotte were all equally fascinated by the city and its pulsating life. A little west along the Seine from Paris, the riverside landscapes of Argenteuil, where Monet lived between 1871 and 1878, greatly inspired him.

Morning

Day 2

Paris invites you to discover the masterpieces of Impressionism and its iconic sites.

Visit the Musée d'Orsay, the world's leading Impressionist collection.

1

- option: cross the Léopold Sédar Senghor footbridge to go to the Musée de l'Orangerie and explore Claude Monet's water lilies. Stroll through the Tuileries Gardens and on to the Opera. Stroll along the Grands Boulevards.
- option: visit the Opéra Garnier (Degas' dancers).

Lunch at Café Capucines, near the former studio of the photographer Nadar where the 1st Impressionist exhibition was held in 1874.

2

Head to Montmartre. The squares are steeped in history, cafés and nightlife still buzz with the joie de vivre and effervescence of the Impressionist era.

Visit the Montmartre museum and vineyards. *Visit time: 1h30.*

- option: a gourmet stop at Café Renoir in the museum gardens, with a view over the rooftops of Paris.
- option: guided tour of Montmartre in the footsteps of the painters, by Normandy Melody.

OR

3

Head to Argenteuil where Claude Monet spent several years, painting almost 260 canvases there, largely inspired by the Seine River and the surrounding landscapes.

Visit the Maison impressionniste Argenteuil, the famous pink house with its green shutters in which Monet lived. *Visit time: 1h30.*

Festive evening at La Bonne Franquette, frequented by the Impressionist painters and immortalised by Van Gogh in *La Guinguette à Montmartre*.

- option: dinner at the Moulin de la Galette.

Overnight in Paris.

Afternoon

Auvers-sur-Oise: following the footsteps of Vincent van Gogh

Van Gogh moved to Auvers-sur-Oise in the spring of 1890: "Auvers is gravely beautiful", he wrote to his brother Theo. He spent the last 70 days of his life there, painting more than 80 canvases, including the famous church. Auvers-sur-Oise is also home to the landscape painters and precursors of Impressionism, Charles François Daubigny and Corot, and later the Impressionists Pissarro and Cézanne.

Morning

Day 3

Transfer from Paris to Auvers-sur-Oise. Journey: 40 min (32 km).

- 1 Guided tour in the footsteps of Van Gogh: the old street ("painter's path"), the tombs of the Van Gogh brothers, the church and the wheat fields.
Visit time: 1h30 to 2h.

Lunch at Auberge Ravoux, known as Van Gogh's house.

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- 2 Visit the bedroom of Van Gogh.
Visit time: 45 min.

Visit and absinthe tasting at the Absinthe Museum.
Visit time: 1h30.

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- option: New exhibition: *Van Gogh influenceur, héritages en mouvement* at the Château d'Auvers-sur-Oise. Visit time: 1h to 1h30.
 - option: Daubigny's house and studio. Visit time: 1h30.
 - option: trip along the River Oise aboard the barge and studio of the painter Daubigny who would inspire Claude Monet to create his own floating studio.
Duration: 2h.
 - option: *Van Gogh's Tree Roots*. The precise spot where Vincent van Gogh painted his last-ever canvas, today accessible to the public.
Duration: 30 minutes.

Transfer back to Paris.

Dinner and overnight in Paris.

Afternoon



Paris Region, from Auvers-sur-Oise to Chatou



1



2

From Paris to Chatou and its surroundings: enjoy the delights of the banks of the Seine on the doorstep of Paris

Head to the heart of the meandering Seine, to Chatou and Bougival, to experience the joie de vivre immortalised by the Impressionists, with Monet's "La Grenouillère" and Renoir's "Déjeuner des Canotiers" that capture this period so well. Guinguette, dancing, siesta under the boats, boat ride, lunch on the grass...

Morning

Day 4

- 1 Visit the Musée Marmottan Monet, the world's leading collection of works by Claude Monet and Berthe Morisot.
Visit time: 1h30.

Transfer from Paris to Chatou. Journey: 20 min (13 km).

- 2 Visit the Fournaise Hamlet and lunch at the Restaurant Fournaise, immortalised by Renoir in his work *Déjeuner des Canotiers* (Luncheon of the boating party).

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- option: visit the Musée Fournaise, show tour with a hologram of Renoir himself. Visit time: 1h.
- option: visit the boat collection of the Sequana Association and boat trip along the River Seine. Visit time: 1h.
- option: head to Bougival to visit the home of Berthe Morisot. Visit time: 1h.
- option: head to Vétheuil to visit the village and the house in which Monet lived. Visit time: 1h30.

Transfer from Chatou to Rolleboise. Journey: 45 min (50 km).

Dinner and overnight at Domaine de la Corniche.

Afternoon

End of the programme
in the Paris Region

New for 2026

Monet in Vétheuil

The home where Monet lived in Vétheuil between 1878 and 1881 is now opening to the public. Via a permanent exhibition designed to bring Monet's world back to life, explore this place, not only at the centre of his family life but also a source of inspiration, closely linked to a decisive period in his career.



Claude Monet, Le bassin aux Nymphéas, harmonie verte, musée d'Orsay



The Channel

Cherbourg-en-Cotentin

— FROM —
CAEN
— TO THE —
COTENTIN

THE
SEINE
ESTUARY

THE
CÔTE
D'ALBÂTRE

Dieppe

Etretat

Le Havre

ROUEN
& THE BENDS OF THE SEINE

Rouen

Honfleur

Deauville

La Seine

Caen

GIVERNY
& ITS SURROUNDINGS

Giverny

Day 1

Le Havre, Honfleur,
the sources of Claude Monet's art

Day 2

From Etretat to Dieppe,
a fascination for the cliffs
of the Alabaster Coast

Day 3

Rouen and the bends of the River Seine:
the magic of the "Cathedral" series

Day 4

Giverny:
the private life of Claude Monet

Normandy,
from Giverny to Le Havre

Le Havre, Honfleur, the sources of Claude Monet's art

From Le Havre to Honfleur, relive the early days of the Impressionist movement by visiting the spots that sparked Claude Monet's artistic vision at the start of his career. Discover the birthplace of 'Impression, Sunrise' in Le Havre, then continue on to Honfleur, a haven of inspiration for the painter and many other artists who gathered at the Ferme Saint Siméon.

Morning

Day 1

Transfer to Domaine de la Corniche in Le Havre. Journey: 2h (140 km).

1 A stroll through the port of Le Havre - quai de Southampton, where Monet painted *Impression, Sunrise*.

Duration of the walk: 30 min unguided.

2 Visit the Musée d'Art Moderne André Malraux (MuMa), one of the finest collections of impressionist art in France. Visit time: 1h to 1h30.

- option: bike ride along the seafront to Sainte-Adresse, a fashionable seaside resort of the 19th century.
- option: contemplate the changing light of Normandy off the coast of Le Havre with a boat trip.

Transfer from Le Havre to Honfleur. Journey: 35 min (25 km).

Lunch at La Boucane, the restaurant at the Saint Siméon farm.

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Transfer from Le Havre to Honfleur. Journey: 35 min (25 km).

Open-air painting Experience at the Saint Siméon farm, in the trail of the Impressionists. Duration of workshop: 2h.

- option: guided visit of the painters of Honfleur. Duration 1h15 to 1h45.
- option: seafood platter and stroll along the Trouville seafront, immortalised by the young Claude Monet in 1870, followed by a visit to the Franciscaines collection in Deauville.

Duration of the walk: 3h.

Transfer from Honfleur to Le Havre. Journey: 35 to 40 min (25 km).

Dinner and overnight at Le Havre.

Afternoon



Recommendation

To fully immerse yourself in the charm of Honfleur, **it's best to avoid bank-holiday weekends and the summer season.**

Normandy, from Le Havre to Dieppe



From Etretat to Dieppe, a fascination for the cliffs of the Alabaster Coast

Spend the day discovering the Alabaster Coast, with its majestic cliffs, pebble beaches and fishing ports, which Monet explored with particular intensity in the 1880s. Walking from Etretat to Dieppe, you can relive the painter's wonder and fascination with the changing light.

Morning

Day 2

Transfer from Le Havre to Etretat. Journey by coach: 40 minutes (28 km).

1 Walk with commentary on the cliffs of Etretat or visit the gardens of Etretat.
Duration: 2h to 2h30.

Transfer: 1h40 (115 km).

Lunch in Dieppe.

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Visit the Château-Museum of Dieppe, which displays the works of Renoir, Boudin, Pissarro or even Eva Gonzales.

Visit time: 1h to 1h30.

- alternative to Dieppe: lunch in Etretat.

Transfer from Etretat to Varengeville-sur-Mer.
Journey: 1h30 to 1h45 (77 to 100 km depending on the route).

Stop-off in Varengeville-sur-Mer: visit the incredible Church of Saint-Valéry, overlooking the sea and depicted by Claude Monet seven times.

Visit the Bois des Moutiers, a natural masterpiece from a different artistic genre of the late 19th century, the Arts & Crafts movement.

Duration: 2h to 2h30.

Transfer from Dieppe or Varengeville-sur-Mer to Rouen. Journey: 1h to 1h10 (65 km).
Train journey from Dieppe: 50 min to 1h by TER direct, arriving at Rouen Rive Droite station.

Dinner and overnight in Rouen.

Afternoon

Recommendation

To make the most of the site, we recommend that you visit Etretat **outside of peak times** or at quieter times of the year.

Rouen and the bends of the River Seine: the magic of the "Cathedral" series

Located at a bend in the River Seine, Rouen fascinated the Impressionists. Obsessed with Rouen Cathedral, Monet painted it several times, giving rise to the famous 'Cathedral' series. One of the paintings is on display at the Musée des Beaux-Arts in Rouen, which has the largest collection of Impressionist works in France outside Paris.

Morning

Day 3

1 Visit the Museum of Fine Arts in Rouen.

Visit time: 1h30 to 2h.

Lunch in Rouen.

Stroll through the centre of Rouen, a veritable open-air studio for the Impressionists. In addition to Monet, the artists Pissarro and Sisley were also fascinated by the historic streets and the magic of the river, which still enchants visitors today.

Duration: 2h.

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- alternative: a stopover at Côte Sainte-Catherine, a photogenic spot famous for its panoramic view over Rouen and its sunset, a favourite with Monet in his day.
 - alternative: cruise along the Seine, from Rouen to La Bouille.
 - alternative: bike trail along the Seine, from Rouen to La Bouille.

Dinner in Rouen.

- ### 3
- Night-time show: *Cathedral of Light*, which illuminates this Gothic monument every summer with a colourful sound and light show.

Overnight in Rouen.

Afternoon



Normandy, from Rouen to Giverny



Giverny: the private life of Claude Monet

To visit Giverny is to be at the heart of the sensations that inspired Claude Monet to create his masterpieces: the "Water Lilies", "The Millstones" and "The Poplars" series. As you stroll through the gardens, you will discover the reflections on the water lily pond, the famous Japanese bridge and the colours of Claude Monet's house and gardens.

Morning

Day 4

1 Early morning tour of Claude Monet's house and gardens.
From 1883 onwards, Monet finally found his personal paradise in Giverny. Initially a simple country house, Giverny gradually became a floral masterpiece, shaped by the artist himself with his famous gardens, water lily pond and Japanese bridge. Reconstructed identical to the original, the house and gardens now offer a unique insight into the painter's private life.
Temps de visite : 2h.

Lunch at La Musardière or le Jardin des Plumes.

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Visit the Musée des impressionnismes Giverny.
Visit time: 1h.

- alternative: experience Giverny by bike. Trail along the banks of the Seine, with commentary from a tour guide, visit the Musée Blanche Hoschedé-Monet in Vernon and return to Paris by train.
Duration of the trail: 2h30 approx.

Transfer from Giverny to Paris. Journey: 1h15 to 1h30 (72 km).

Afternoon

End of the programme
in Normandy

Recommendation

To make the most of this iconic location, it is advisable to visit Giverny **during the week in spring or autumn**. In terms of timing, **late afternoons are generally quieter in the village and also in the gardens**.

Staying overnight in Giverny or the surrounding area allows you to fully enjoy the village at sunrise and sunset.



100 YEARS
Monet

*impressionist
adventures*



Etretat : la plage et la porte d'Amont, Monet, Musée d'Orsay





Contacts

traveltrade@chooseparisregion.org



contact@normandy-tourism.org

