



Experience Impressionism's dawn from Le Havre to Paris
on the 150th anniversary of Claude Monet's *Impression, Sunrise*



NORMANDY
TOURISM



Press kit *To the heart* *of Impressionism*

2022



impressionistadventures.com

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Experience Impressionism's dawn from Le Havre to Paris on the 150th anniversary of Claude Monet's *Impression, Sunrise*

In 2022, on the anniversary of *Impression, Sunrise (Impression, soleil levant)*, the Normandy and Paris Regions propose that visitors seeking an invigorating cultural adventure experience the dawn of Impressionism by going from place to place to the spots that shaped the young Claude Monet's palette.

It was 150 years ago, in November 1872, that Monet depicted the port of Le Havre awakening at first dawn, the sun emerging through the mist. Employing evocative brushstrokes, Monet, in a few hours, rendered the industrial port's luminous atmosphere at daybreak. Showing boats' silhouettes, the lapping sea and the sun's reflections colouring sky and water... through *Impression, Sunrise*, Monet succeeded, in a masterpiece, in capturing on canvas all these shifting effects, helping change the course of art history. His iconic piece went on to give its name to Impressionism, opening the way to surely the most popular art movement in the world.

This painting, on display at the Musée Marmottan Monet in Paris*, is closely associated with the Normandy and Paris Regions that witnessed the birth and blossoming of Impressionism. Impressionist artists were most active in Paris's vibrant modern quarters, along the banks of the Seine and down Normandy's coast. Today, these two regions combined offer exclusive Impressionist adventures: to contemplate so many masterpieces by these artists gathered together in prestigious museums; to learn so much about their everyday lives by visiting their homes, gardens and studios; and to experience the emotions that inspired them in so many breathtaking landscapes.

Enjoy inspiring moments in evocative landscapes, cycling outings on the trail of Impressionist artists, discovering new places to visit closely linked to the Impressionists, an exhibition-cum-event at the Musée Marmottan Monet, the *Nuits Normandie Impressionniste* festival and more. From Paris to Le Havre, Honfleur to Trouville and Chatou to Vétheuil, it's a whole destination at the heart of Impressionism that is celebrating, 150 years after such a seminal creation, the emergence of all this artistic effervescence.

Find all the relevant information on impressionistadventures.com

*Currently abroad, the painting will return to the museum's collections in early July 2022

*To the Heart of
Impressionism
in 7 key points*

To the Heart of Impressionism in 7 key points

1 - *THE IMPRESSIONIST DESTINATION PAR EXCELLENCE*

Normandy and the Paris Region witnessed the birth and blossoming of Impressionism, that art movement that revolutionised the history of art. Its painters, discovering new freedoms, set up their easels in the open (en plein air), beside the Seine, in the heart of Paris's vibrant modern quarters and along Normandy's coasts. Today, our destination provides visitors with exclusive Impressionist experiences, enabling you to contemplate masterpieces gathered together in our prestigious museums and to experience the emotions that inspired these artists.

2 - *THE FINEST IMPRESSIONIST COLLECTIONS IN THE WORLD*

Our great Paris museums (Orsay, Marmottan Monet, l'Orangerie), plus those in Normandy (Giverny, Rouen, Le Havre, Dieppe, Honfleur), together constitute the largest permanent Impressionist exhibition in the world! You'll find many works by the likes of Monet, Renoir, Degas, Morisot, Pissarro, Caillebotte and Sisley on display, along with pieces by their precursors (Boudin, Daubigny, Corot) and heirs (Van Gogh, Luce, Seurat, Signac). What a visual feast awaits you!

3 - *A JOURNEY THROUGH SETTINGS RESEMBLING IMPRESSIONIST PAINTINGS*

More than simply a journey back into the history of art, our Impressionist adventures transport you from paintings to feelings, immersing you in living pictures that will awaken all your senses. You can still clearly feel Impressionism in the air across our 9 highlighted areas around Normandy and the Paris Region! The country and urban landscapes immortalised by the Impressionists, whether grandiose or bucolic, have in large part remained intact, providing you with contemplative moments transporting you back in time in quite unique fashion.





4 - THE PLEASURE OF THE MOMENT

Famously painters of the moment and of modernity, the Impressionists depicted joyous daily scenes that made their paintings vibrant with life. In their times, from Paris to Normandy, a joie de vivre blossomed, centred around riverside restaurants and boating, cafés, cabarets and dances, as well as outings to France's earliest seaside resorts. Now, our regions encourage you to experience for yourself those joyous moments that so inspired our artists. Our Impressionist adventures offer you a multitude of such special moments.



5 - ONE HUNDRED IDEAS TO CREATE YOUR PERFECT IMPRESSIONIST ADVENTURE

Visitors can put together their own Impressionist trips, going at their own pace, according to their personal wishes, with no fewer than a hundred relevant places to choose from, scattered across the Normandy and Paris Regions. Whether fans of exhibitions and museums, keen on wide open spaces and art-related trails, or wishing to explore our artists' cities, towns and villages, you'll be spoilt for choice.



6 - SUCH A VERY FRENCH FESTIVE DESTINATION

Impressionism forms part of the DNA of the Normandy and Paris Regions. Every year, exhibitions and conferences as well as new venues and experiences celebrate the likes of Monet, Renoir, Degas and their partners. To enjoy your trip to the full, these areas also encourage you to make the most of a certain French way of life characterised by conviviality and tasty gastronomy.

Enjoy: a coffee with croissant on a café terrace in Montmartre or on a Parisian boulevard; a dinner in a starred restaurant, in a gastro-brasserie, or sampling a seafood platter on the Normandy coast; an improvised lunch beside the Seine at a food truck. Or, in a spot right by the water, recreate the vibrant festive spirit of those guinguettes, or riverside restaurants, so dear to the Impressionists.

7 - A CYCLING AND SLOW TOURISM DESTINATION

It seems only natural to follow in the footsteps of the Impressionists in the great outdoors, travelling by bike to reach the precise spots where they set up their easels! A new cycle route, the Seine à Vélo, crosses the Paris and Normandy Regions, going from Paris to either Le Havre or Deauville. It adds to other Impressionist-related routes dedicated to non-motorised travel, particularly bikes, that are accessible to all: the Avenue Verte London Paris, leading cyclists to Auvers-sur-Oise in the tracks of Vincent van Gogh; the Vélomaritime, enabling you to discover by bike places such as Dieppe, Étretat and Le Havre, so dear to Monet and Renoir and their wives; La Vélo Francette guiding cyclists via Caen; and the Scandibérique, leading you in Caillebotte's footsteps to Yerres and Sisley's den in Moret-sur-Loing.

*An iconic
canvas*

Impression, Sunrise The making of an iconic canvas

by Félicie Faizand de Maupeou
Researcher in art history at the Université Paris Nanterre

When Monet painted *Impression, Sunrise* on Le Havre's quays in 1872, he chose a subject with which he was very familiar, as he had grown up in the town. To be sure, it wasn't the first time he had represented the place, but on this occasion he transferred his attention to the outer harbour and its industrial activities, undergoing major expansion at the time. While he may have chosen a modern theme, as would be quite typical for the Impressionists, the subject matter was eclipsed by the desire to depict the light and its reflections on the water's surface. Far removed from any story-telling or picturesque representation, the true subject was the misty atmosphere that blurred the contours of the scene and gave the canvas, built up through rapid brushstrokes, the quality of a sketch.

In 1874, Monet presented the work at the first exhibition of the Société anonyme coopérative, later known as the Impressionist group. Over 20 years later, Monet explained the choice of title: "I had sent a piece I had made in Le Havre, from my window, the sun in the mist, with a few ships' masts sticking out in the foreground [...] I was asked to provide a title for the catalogue and as it really couldn't be considered a view of Le Havre, I replied: 'Put down: Impression.' From that arose Impressionism and many jokes ensued around that [1]." Certainly, it was as a result of this canvas that the term Impressionism was coined, with very ironic intent, by art critic Louis Leroy.

While the term was rapidly adopted, the same can't be said of the work, that was little commented on by art critics of the time. At the end of the group's exhibition, *Impression, Sunrise* was bought for 800 francs (c.€3,040 now) by Ernest Hoschedé, an art-loving industrialist who would become a close supporter of Monet. But his business having failed, in 1878 he was forced to sell his collection. The canvas was then acquired for a mere 210 francs (c.€798) by Georges de Bellio, one of the earliest and most important appreciators of Impressionist painters. On his death, his daughter Victorine and her husband Eugène Donop de Monchy inherited the work, which remained in their collection up to 1940. The outbreak of World War II sped up their plan to donate the canvas and all the Donop de Monchy collections to the Musée Marmottan.



1872

Monet creates the painting in a few hours in Le Havre

1874

The painting is displayed for the first time at the Paris exhibition of the Société anonyme coopérative de peintres, sculpteurs, graveurs, à capital et personnel variables. Louis Leroy, referring to this work, characterises these artists as Impressionists

12 years

The time between the first Impressionist exhibition in 1874 and the last, in 1886

1940

The canvas enters the collections of the Musée Marmottan Monet in Paris

1950s

Impression, Sunrise, so long neglected, is recognised for its foundational importance. It is insured for 50 million francs for a loan in 1959.

1990

Stolen in 1985, Monet's masterpiece is once more put on display at the Musée Marmottan Monet in Paris

If the canvas did begin to be displayed in a few important exhibitions, it was only in the 1950s that its reputation really grew considerably. Art critics and art historians of the time emphasised the significant role of the canvas for the eponymous art movement and made it, in this respect, a crucial milestone in the history of Impressionism. Despite its greatly increased fame, the canvas remained, up until recently, shrouded in mystery, or at least surrounded by uncertainty.

The important research work carried out for the exhibition *L'Histoire vraie du chef-d'œuvre de Claude Monet*, held at the Musée Marmottan Monet in 2014-2015, made it possible to answer some of the outstanding questions.

While errors in titles, sales catalogues and exhibitions, and even in the writings of major art historians, may have maintained certain doubts, it has now been confirmed that the canvas was painted from the window of the Hôtel l'Amirauté, along Le Havre's Grand Quai, very shortly after sunrise on a misty winter's morning, no doubt in November 1872.

It's highly likely that Monet painted the scene in the one sitting, so in just a few hours of painting, but ones that would leave their mark on the history of art for good.

[1] Maurice Guillemot, "Claude Monet", Revue illustrée, 13^e année, n° 7, 15 mars 1898, n.p.

300 000

Number of visitors came to see the work at the Marmottan Museum in 2019

4

Number of people who owned the canvas

50x65 cm

Size of canvas without frame. 75x91 with frame

+ 54 000

sunrises have taken place over the port of Le Havre since November 1872

An iconic canvas

Monet: an artist who divided his life between Normandy, Paris and its region

Having lived his earliest years in Paris, where he was born in 1840, Claude Monet spent his childhood and youth in Le Havre. He returned to Paris in 1859 to embark on his career as an artist. In search of new subjects to paint as well as of a cheaper rent, Monet soon left the French capital to live in villages close by: Argenteuil (1871-1878); Vétheuil (1878-1881); Poissy (1881-1883); and, finally, Giverny, from 1883 until the end of his life (1926).

These many moves were interspersed with regular, frequent stays in Normandy to visit family – his aunt Lecadre owned a house in Sainte-Adresse, next to Le Havre, while his brother Léon lived in Rouen – or for painting sessions, leading him from the Seine Estuary to the cliffs of the Côte d'Albâtre.

Monet may always have been in search of new subjects to paint, but essentially always returned to the primary concerns of *Impression, Sunrise* – light and water. The theme of water and the manner in which sun and sky are reflected in it continued to obsess the artist right through his long career. From Le Havre to Paris, it's possible to follow his trail along the Seine, that ribbon of water along which he built his life, which was spent in a ceaseless toing and froing between Normandy and the Paris Region.

Monet learnt about marine art in the 1860s, painting beside illustrious artists a generation older, notably Boudin and Jongkind, but also Courbet. At that time, they would meet up in Honfleur, at the Ferme Saint-Siméon, a sociable gathering spot for more than a generation of landscape painters. When he left the seaside to return to Paris, Monet turned to the Seine, notably at La Grenouillère (Croissy-sur-Seine), which he depicted alongside Renoir (1869).

Back in Normandy, he painted, once again alongside Boudin, in Trouville (1870), and while at his aunt's in Sainte-Adresse (in 1873 in particular). When he settled in Argenteuil, he focused on his garden and the Seine so close by. His visits to Normandy became less frequent, but no less significant, as they brought about *Impression, Sunrise*. As to his house in Vétheuil, it too was located very close to the Seine, which he continued to depict across the seasons and from all manner of angles, notably aboard his boat-cum-studio, which he had built in order to be able to paint directly on the water. After that, during his stays in Normandy, he neglected the Seine Estuary and Côte Fleurie for the Côte d'Albâtre. Finally, Monet's setting up home in Giverny, close to the railway line linking Paris's Gare Saint-Lazare to Le Havre via Rouen, epitomised his dual attachment to Normandy and Paris.



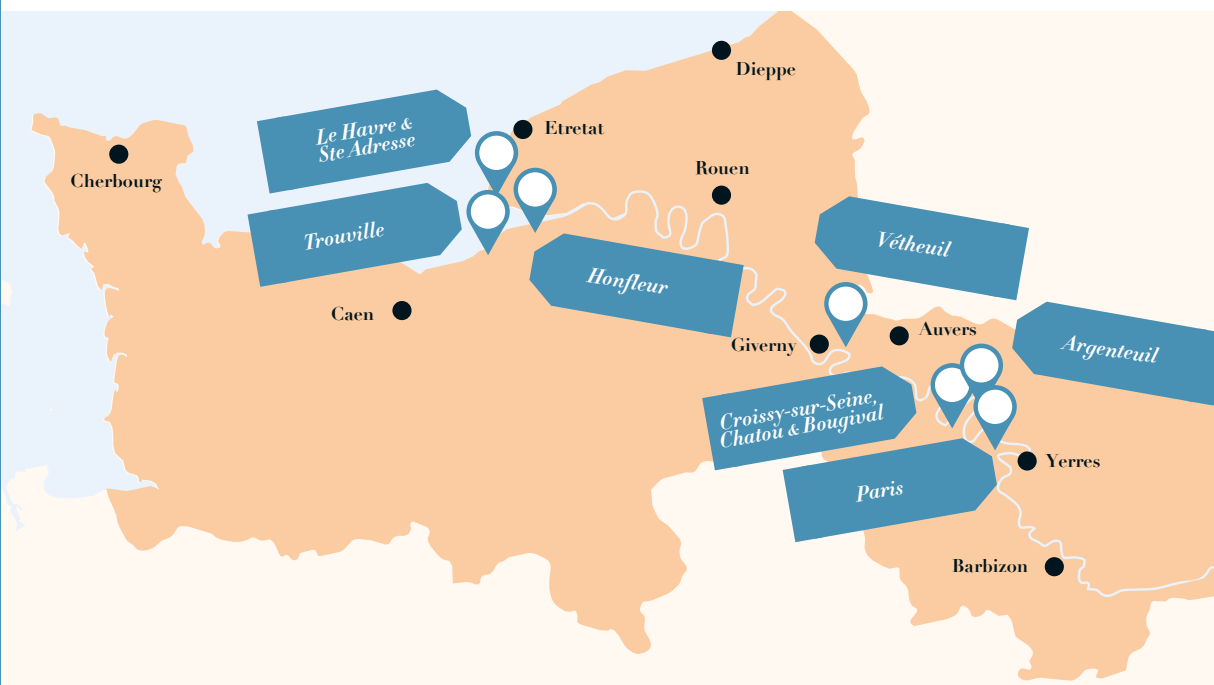
The visual interpretations Monet offered up of all these landscapes have contributed to the creation of our own perceptions! Wandering around the places where Monet stayed and painted, you pick up on his special relationship with these areas. Going from Paris to Le Havre, you enter the geographical heart of Impressionism, where natural and cultural heritage combine so powerfully.

*19 venues
and events*

Celebrating the 150th anniversary of *Impression, Sunrise* via 19 venues and events

From Le Havre to Paris, experience the dawn of Impressionism

The expansion of the railways allowed the Impressionists to turn Normandy into a vast playground for practising their art. Some decided to set up their easels along the Normandy coast or in the Seine Estuary. The landscapes, the blossoming of France's first seaside resorts and the industrial scenes, all observed in a variety of atmospheres, fascinated these painters. Eugène Boudin had recommended to the young Monet that he paint maritime scenes, as for him "the sea and the skies are so beautiful". After several painting sessions in Honfleur in 1864, Monet focused on Sainte-Adresse and Trouville between 1867 and 1870 before going on, in 1872, to execute the iconic canvas "*Impression, Sunrise*" at the port of Le Havre. Still today, the area between Le Havre and Trouville can bring back to life, unspoilt, the mass of fugitive impressions caught on canvas by the Impressionists. Plus, there are all the museums and places to visit enabling you to understand more on how this artistic movement arose.



Le Havre & Sainte-Adresse

While the port of Le Havre has been significantly modernised since Impressionist days, the beach here can still provide a veritable Impressionist experience, offering views of the sea bathed in ever-shifting light, changing according to the weather's vagaries. Standing on Quai de Southampton 150 years after Monet, watching the sun rise over a coastal stretch filled with port activity makes for an unforgettable experience. Plus, it's in just such an environment, right by the water, that MuMa, or the Musée d'Art Moderne André Malraux du Havre, displays one of the most spectacular permanent Impressionist collections in France.

A short distance along the coast from MuMa, extending up the hillside, Sainte-Adresse was already a fashionable seaside resort in the 19th century. Monet spent some of summer 1867 here, painting his first Impressionist works, including the famed *Terrasse à Sainte-Adresse*, a canvas that has toured the world.

At the bottom of the slope, Sainte-Adresse Beach remains a much-prized place for holiday-makers and artists. The beach bars and terraces open out to the horizon, allowing you to take in the ceaseless ballet of boats and endlessly changing light that so captivated the young Monet. Reputed for water sports, this resort is worth exploring to appreciate its seaside villas and feeling of standing at the end of the earth – "au bout du monde" in French. On which, an eponymous bar sits in a wonderful location here, with unbeatable sunset views, the promenade along the sea wall close by, the atmosphere great.

PRACTICAL

Musée d'Art Moderne André Malraux (MuMa)
2 bd Clemenceau - 76600 Le Havre
+ 33 (0) 2 35 19 62 62 - www.muma-lehavre.fr

Sainte-Adresse Beach
76310 Sainte-Adresse

Place of creation of
Impression, Sunrise
Quai de Southampton
76600 Le Havre



Trouville

Monet stayed in Trouville with the family in 1870. Following in Eugène Boudin's footsteps, he captured beach scenes reflecting the birth of a leisured society that delighted in the pleasures of the seaside. Among the canvases he executed here were the splendid *Sur la plage à Trouville*, depicting his wife Camille, and *L'Hôtel des Roches Noires*, to be admired at the Marmottan Monet and d'Orsay museums.

Wandering along Trouville's boardwalk, sensing the late-19th-century atmosphere, offers a fine way of travelling back in time. It's easy to fall for this splendid beach backed by magnificent villas so prized in the Belle Époque. Some have been turned into visitor centres, such as the Villa Montebello, or Cabourg's Villa du Temps Retrouvé, allowing you to learn how seaside holidays evolved along Normandy's Côte Fleurie, captivating so many artists. Trouville's neighbouring resort, Deauville, has become home to a new multi-cultural space since 2021, Les Franciscaines regularly exhibiting pieces from its Impressionist collections, the *Peindre en Normandie* fund, including works by the young Monet.



Honfleur

19 venues and events

Following in the footsteps of J.M.W. Turner, many artists, including Claude Monet, Louis-Alexandre Dubourg and Johan Barthold Jongkind, fell for the highly picturesque little medieval port of Honfleur at the mouth of the Seine. Known since the 19th century as a "Cité des Peintres" (or "Artists' Town"), the place has inspired quite an array of painters. One of the most famous, Eugène Boudin, in fact hailed from Honfleur. A veritable mentor to Claude Monet, whom he met in 1858, he invited the young artist to join him in painting sessions outdoors and on the spot. Monet would go on to state: "I owe everything to Boudin and I'm so grateful to him for my success." Under Eugène Boudin's influence, Honfleur became an exceptional creative magnet. Gathering around him many artists who were also friends, he helped forge the conditions that would give rise to Impressionism. Still today, it's exhilarating to wander around this port that so resembles a painting brought to life, its lanes lined with timber-frame and slate-clad houses that appear scarcely to have changed since Impressionist times.

Ferme Saint Siméon

In the early days when the Ferme Saint Siméon attracted artists, it was a picturesque, friendly place for painters to meet, notably those coming from Paris in search of peace, as well as to get close to nature and encounter locals. It then developed into something of an artistic laboratory reflecting the creative effervescence of the second half of the 19th century. Artists of all kinds, painters leading the charge, sought to liberate themselves from the yoke of academic, or Salon, rules that imposed classical traditions. The painters here practised a new way of working directly from life and in the open air, "sur le vif", creating Impressionism. Claude Monet, Eugène Boudin, Gustave Courbet, Charles-François Daubigny and many others who followed took up board and lodgings at the Ferme-auberge Saint Siméon, long run by a woman known as la Mère Toutain. Already at the end of the 1850s, the rencontres de Saint Siméon brought together leading exponents of avant-garde art. The place became iconic.

Located on the heights above Honfleur, set amidst apple trees, this farm built in traditional Normandy style provided a haven of peace that was depicted, among others, by Claude Monet in his *La Charrette*. *Route sous la neige à Honfleur*, in the collections of the Musée d'Orsay in Paris. Today, this illustrious establishment has been transformed into a top-flight hotel-restaurant offering a unique setting in which to stay, perhaps in Claude Monet's favourite room, or in the space Camille Corot used as his studio, now turned into a bedroom.

Musée Villa Montebello

64 rue Général Leclerc - 14360 Trouville-sur-Mer
www.trouville.fr/MuseeVillaMontebello

Les Franciscaines

145b avenue de la République - 14800 Deauville
+33 (0) 2 61 52 29 20 - www.lesfranciscaines.fr

Villa du Temps retrouvé

15 avenue du Président Raymond Poincaré - 14390 Cabourg
www.villadutempsretrouve.com

PRACTICAL

Ferme Saint Siméon Hôtel-Restaurant-Spa

20 Rue Adolphe Marais - 14600 Honfleur
+33 (0) 2 31 81 78 00 - www.fermesaintsimeon.fr

Musée Eugène Boudin

Rue de l'Homme de Bois - 14600 Honfleur
+33 (0) 2 31 89 54 00 - www.musees-honfleur.fr

Honfleur town centre lying just 10 mins away by foot, a visit to the Musée Eugène Boudin is a must before following in the footsteps of Honfleur's artists on a walking trail taking you from the highly picturesque little harbour through the town's medieval streets. In 1864, the young Monet notably painted the quarter around St Catherine's Church, its unique architecture exuding so much charm.

PRACTICAL



Vétheuil

In summer 1878, Claude Monet left Paris and settled with his family in Vétheuil, a charming village in the Vexin area, in the département of Val d'Oise, 60km from the capital. The Monets and their two boys lived in a little house beside the Seine up to winter 1881. Those times were hard for the artist and his loved ones, his Impressionist art selling poorly, while his wife Camille was very unwell.

Yet, inspired by the luminous landscapes in and around the village, Monet painted over 180 canvases during the three years he stayed in Vétheuil. The place's looks have scarcely changed since that period and certain spots depicted by Monet remain practically intact.

Claire, a guide to the Vexin Français area and owner of Monet's house in Vétheuil, proposes guided tours for visitors to explore Monet's historic and artistic heritage around the village. In addition, a 2.7km trail with 13 stops along the way enables you to discover 18 works by major artists inspired by Vétheuil.

PRACTICAL

Guided Tour in the footsteps of Claude Monet in Vétheuil

Claire Vincent Gardie - +33 (0) 6 70 12 73 30
claudemonetvtheuil@gmail.com

Painters Trail in Vétheuil

Mairie de Vétheuil - Place de la mairie - 95510 Vétheuil
+33 (0) 1 34 78 13 18
infotourisme@vexinvaldeseine.fr
mairie.larocheguyon@wanadoo.fr
www.mairie-vetheuil.fr



19 venues
and events

Croissy-sur-Seine, Chatou & Bougival

While the Impressionists were greatly inspired by new, modern Paris going up around them, they found new themes to paint just beyond the capital thanks to the development of the railways, improvements in painting materials and the explosion in recreational activities here. Along the Seine's meanders, at Croissy-sur-Seine, Chatou and Bougival, a joie de vivre blossomed, centred around carefree days, dancing and boating. Between 1855 and 1928, La Grenouillère, a riverside restaurant, attracted Parisians in search of distractions, including, notably, Monet and Renoir, who painted several memorable canvases of the scene including *Bain à la Grenouillère* and *La Grenouillère*, which they painted side by side in 1869.

This area is packed with places and activities that evoke Impressionism and Monet's times in these parts. At Croissy-sur-Seine, the Musée de la Grenouillère reconstitutes, via canvases, objects and engravings, all in the setting of a Belle Époque guinguette, memories of this place that so encouraged leisure activities, culture and pleasure. From Bougival, you can embark on an Impressionist trail in inflatable dinghy in summer, heading out to explore iconic Impressionist spots from the Seine, notably passing by the Île de la Grenouillère.

The Chemin des Impressionnistes, taking you through the heart of the Seine's meanders west of Paris, encourages you to explore landscapes depicted by the likes of Auguste Renoir, Alfred Sisley, Claude Monet and Camille Pissarro. Thanks to 30 panels displaying reproductions of works in the exact spots where these painters set up their easels, view the surrounding landscapes via some of these Impressionists' most famous works. One special trail is devoted to Monet, going from Chatou's bridge to Bougival's.

At Chatou, on the Île des Impressionnistes, the famed Restaurant Fournaise still exists today. This place in its unique setting has reopened after many months of renovation works. It was a guinguette (riverside restaurant) much loved by Impressionist artists, among them Monet and Renoir, the latter painting his masterpiece, *Le Déjeuner des Canotiers*, here. A listed building, the property has preserved its finest features, including its wrought-iron terrace, from where you can contemplate the Seine below.

PRACTICAL

Musée de la Grenouillère

Espace Chanorier - 12 Grande Rue - 78290 Croissy-sur-Seine
+33 (0) 1 30 53 61 02
www.grenouillere-museum.com

Impressionist circuit in an inflatable dinghy

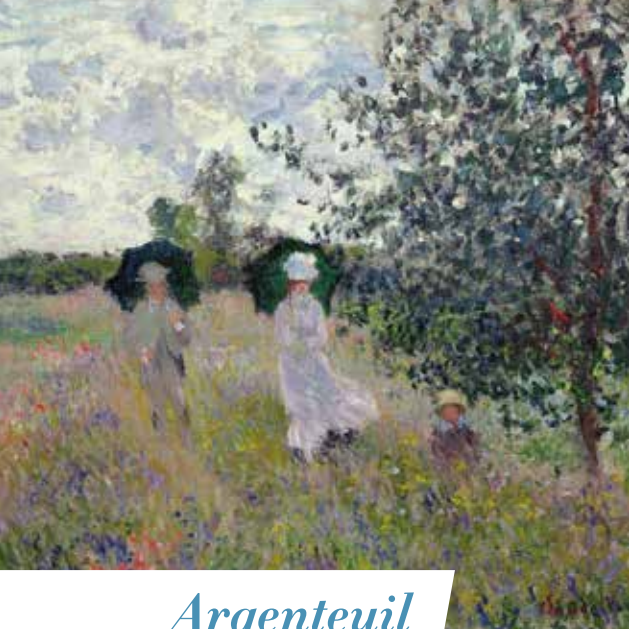
Nautic Park
Île de la Chaussée - 78380 Bougival
+33 (0) 6 37 22 34 77 - contact@nauticpark.com
www.nauticpark.com

The Impressionist Trail

Saint Germain Boucles de Seine Tourist Office
Jardin des arts - 3 rue Henri IV - 78100 Saint-Germain-en-Laye
+33 (0) 1 30 87 20 63
www.seine-saintgermain.fr

Maison Fournaise Restaurant

3 rue du Bac - 78400 Chatou
www.maisonfournaise.com



Argenteuil

In 1871, Claude Monet settled with his wife Camille and son Jean in Argenteuil, a 20-minute train ride from Paris. He stayed here almost six years, during which he painted 170 canvases.

Some half of his works from this period depict the banks of the Seine. Monet was attempting to capture elusive qualities, such as reflections on the water and shifting light...

Monet ordered the building of a boat-cum-studio in 1872 to be able to sail on the Seine and get as close as possible to the water. The pink house with green shutters in which Monet lived is located at 21 Boulevard Karl Marx.

Owned by the town authorities, the house will open to visitors next September, an immersive, playful trail encouraging you to discover all about the artist's life in Argenteuil (cf New in 2022 & 2023).

Maison impressionniste Claude Monet
Service Archives et Patrimoine/Ville d'Argenteuil
Stéphanie Feze Responsable unité Patrimoine-Musée
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19 venues
and events

Paris

Born in Paris in 1840, Claude Monet spent his youth in Normandy. In 1859, he returned to the capital, which he referred to as "head-spinning Paris". Napoleon III had ordered colossal works to embellish the city, led by Baron Haussmann. These transformations engendered major shifts in the way of life of Parisians, in particular as far as leisure pursuits were concerned. Cafés staging concerts, dances, circuses, operas, public parks and gardens, race courses and more grew greatly in number. Impressionists loved to go to these venues, among them Claude Monet, of course!

Today, Paris is packed with spots that evoke Impressionist times and which are made for wandering around. The banks of the Seine, listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, inspired the young Monet, attracted not so much by the capital's monuments as by the clouds, the light and the urban activity he saw. In 1867, working from a second-floor balcony at the Musée du Louvre, Monet depicted three views of the Seine's north bank: *L'Eglise Saint-Germain-l'Auxerrois*; *Le Jardin de l'Infante*; and *Le Quai du Louvre*.

Saint Lazare train station, built in 1837, has an important place in the history of Impressionism and in Claude Monet's life in particular. This was the station he used during his youth, when he came from Le Havre to Paris to attend art classes at the Atelier Gleyre. At different periods in his life, this was also the station from which Monet travelled to such places as Argenteuil, Rouen, Dieppe and Vernon. Fascinated by the building, Monet depicted the Gare Saint Lazare in 12 paintings he made in 1877.

To discover the works of the young Monet, a visit to two Parisian museums boasting prestigious collections is a must. At the Musée Marmottan Monet, admire the iconic *Impression, Sunrise* (currently abroad, the painting will return to the museum's collections in early July 2022). This museum holds the largest collection in the world of works by the great master of Impressionism. Donated by the artist's family, they were sent here from the artist's home in Giverny. Claude Monet's son Michel Monet also bequeathed drawing notebooks and many personal objects to the institution. In a space measuring 200m² especially dedicated to the master's canvases, you can notably admire works from the artist's youth in Normandy (*Camille et sa cousine sur la plage de Trouville*), from his period in the Paris Region (*Promenade à Argenteuil*, *Pont de chemin de fer*), Parisian views painted in 1876 (*Les Tuileries* and *Le Pont de l'Europe*) and canvases from Monet's time in Vétheuil.

At the Musée d'Orsay, which holds the largest collection in the world of Impressionist works, including 72 paintings by Monet covering his whole career, admire canvases from his earliest days as an artist (his *Le Déjeuner sur l'herbe*), his earliest masterpieces painted in Normandy (*Femmes au jardin*, begun in Ville-d'Avray, completed in Honfleur; *La Pie*, painted in Etretat during winter 1868-69; *L'Hôtel des Roches Noires* painted in Trouville during summer 1870) and canvases from his period in the Paris Region (*Régates à Argenteuil*, plus one of his 12 versions of *La Gare Saint-Lazare*).

PRACTICAL

Musée Marmottan Monet
(Place of exhibition of *Impression, Sunrise*)
2 rue Louis Boilly - 75016 Paris
+33 (0) 1 44 96 50 33 - www.marmottan.fr

Musée d'Orsay
1 rue de la Légion d'Honneur - 75007 Paris
+33 (0) 1 40 49 48 14 - www.musee-orsay.fr

PRACTICAL

Celebrating the 150th anniversary of *Impression, Sunrise* via 19 venues and events

Exhibitions and events to mark the 150th anniversary of *Impression, Sunrise*

Facing the Sun

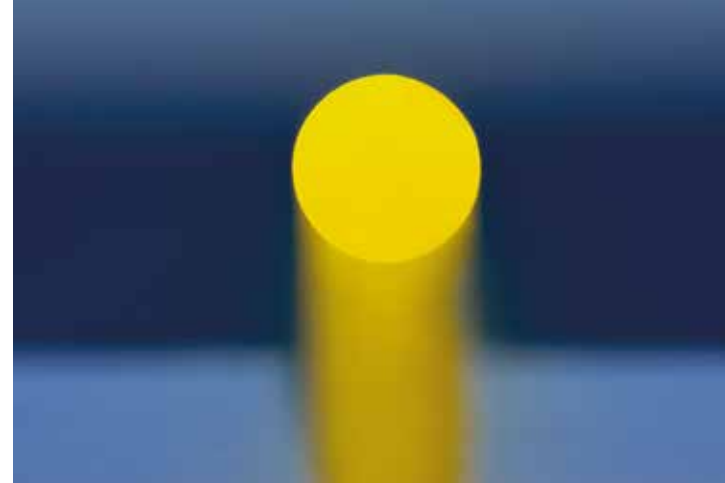
From 14 September 2022 to 29 January 2023

In 2022, the Musée Marmottan Monet is celebrating the 150th anniversary of *Impression, Sunrise* by Claude Monet, the flagship work of its collections.

For this event, the Paris institution has linked up with Berlin's Musée Barberini, another museum with a splendid Impressionist collection and owner of what might be called the matching nocturnal image, *Impression, Sunrise : Le Port du Havre, effet de nuit*. This exhibition traces the representation of the sun in art, from antiquity to the present via a chrono-thematic trail featuring over 60 works brought together from private and public international collections.

Musée Marmottan Monet
2, rue Louis-Boilly
75016 Paris
+33 (0) 1 44 96 50 33
www.marmottan.fr

TICKETING : [click here](#)



Les Nuits Normandie Impressionniste

26, 27 and 28 August 2022

To celebrate the 150th anniversary of the painting *Impression, Sunrise, Normandie Impressionniste* is creating a startling series of events to enjoy across a festive weekend.

This event, designed as a homage by young contemporary artists, will reassess, through some 30 events held across the Normandy Region, the heritage left by the Impressionist cultural revolution that so transformed the way the world was represented, at the same time as charting its evolution.

The set-up of these *Nuits Normandie Impressionniste* will provide visitors with an intense weekend in Normandy, going from one cultural highlight to another. Via the interpretations offered up by the young artists involved, these special nights will invite you to share in the emotions created by those new "representations of the world" and enjoy spectacular and contemplative moments, both festive and full of meaning, putting to the fore the avant-garde spirit of the Impressionists in all their modernity. These events will act as so many milestones that should also encourage you to rediscover the rich Impressionist collections scattered across Normandy.

Featuring contemporary art installations, spectacular videos, a varied programme in participating museums, the inauguration of the first "Kit guinguette" ordered from a contemporary artist... most of the events making up the *Nuits Normandie Impressionniste* will be free.

Detailed programme in May

Facts to remember:

3 days: 26, 27 and 28 August 2022

15 venues: Rouen, Caen, Le Havre, with some detours to Giverny, Deauville, Dieppe, St Lô and the Normandy county of Orne

Involving Normandy's 5 départements, or counties

Some 20 contemporary artists, including Paul Rousteau (photographer), putting together the festival's poster based around images of sunrises around Normandy (still being compiled) and Charlotte Vitaioli (sculptor and performance artist), putting together the guinguette kit for *Normandie Impressionniste*...

Around a dozen accredited exhibitions

Some 30 festive and innovative rendez-vous, most free, based around dance, music and creative workshops.

MORE INFORMATION : [click here](#)

*Exhibitions
& events*

Impressionist exhibitions and events

Maurice Denis. Bonheur Rêvé

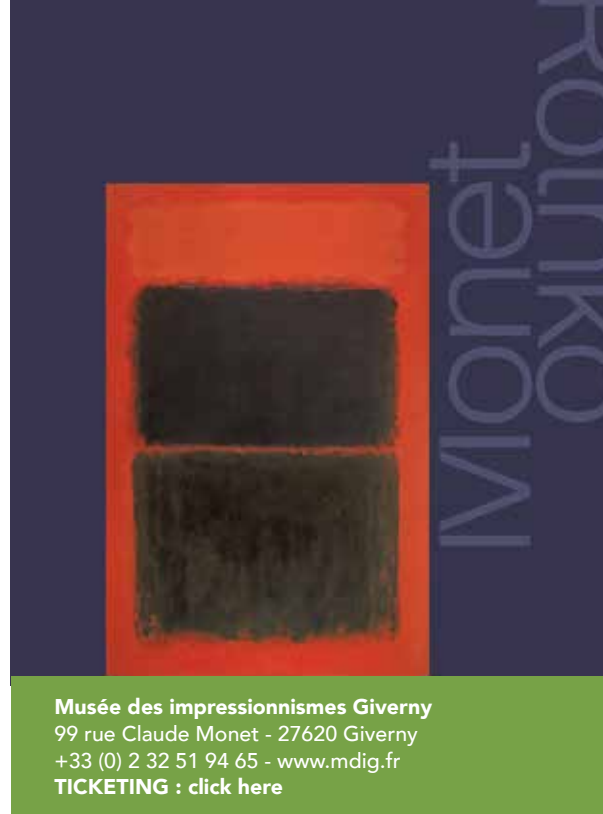
Until 29 May 2022

Musée Maurice Denis, Saint-Germain-en-Laye

This exhibition allows you to learn all about Maurice Denis, the man and the artist, through his life, focusing on how his art evolved. It reveals the progression of a painter based his whole life in the town of Saint-Germain-en-Laye west of Paris, his series of homes here acting as a backdrop to a number of his works. The exhibition is enhanced by the loan of several pieces from the Musée d'Orsay, notably *Les Muses*, one of Maurice Denis's most famous canvases.

Musée départemental Maurice Denis

2 bis, rue Maurice Denis
78100 Saint-Germain-en-Laye
+33 (0) 1 39 07 87 87
www.musee-mauricedenis.fr



Musée des impressionnismes Giverny
99 rue Claude Monet - 27620 Giverny
+33 (0) 2 32 51 94 65 - www.mdig.fr
TICKETING : [click here](#)

Monet Rothko

To 3 July 2022

Musée des impressionnismes Giverny

The Musée des impressionnismes Giverny presents visitors with an exceptional dialogue between works by Claude Monet and Mark Rothko. Bringing together late pieces by the Master of Impressionism and the enigmatic colours of the great American artist, it provides a rare immersive experience and an invitation to contemplation.

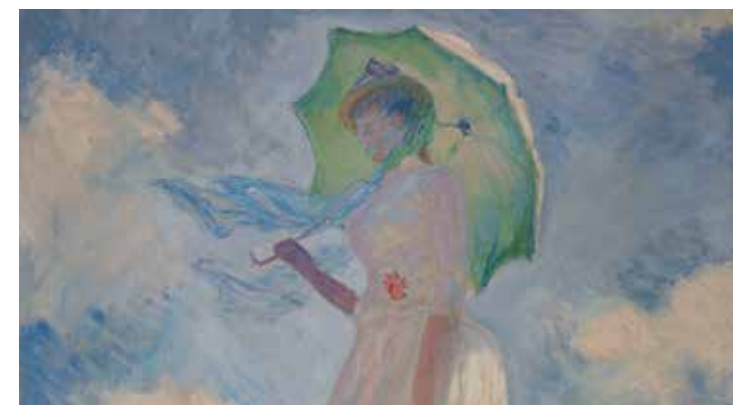
Organised chromatically, with six works by Rothko and seven canvases by Monet displayed alongside each other, the exhibition trail allows the public to view these two masters' paintings in a wholly new light. While Monet's obsession was capturing a moment's fugitive impression on canvas, Rothko produced paintings in which space appears to dissolve in the time the observer takes to contemplate the work. Inducing meditation, or even a kind of visual intoxication, this exhibition promises visitors a very special experience, offering them the opportunity to discover a different perspective on abstract and modern art.

Impressionist Decorations Tracing the Roots of Monet's Water Lilies

Until 11 July 2022

Musée de l'Orangerie, Paris

Organised in an exceptional partnership with London's National Gallery, this exhibition retraces the origins of the creation of Claude Monet's famed series of monumental mural painting and also reviews the art of decoration put into practice by the Impressionists. The exhibition uncovers a different angle to the history of Impressionism, highlighting specific works by the likes of Bracquemond, Boudin, Caillebotte, Cassatt, Cézanne, Degas, Manet, Monet, Morisot, Pissarro and Renoir, brought together from across the world, some rarely, or never up until now put on display in France. Via some one hundred paintings, drawings and objects, the exhibition reveals how the Impressionists set out a new path, guided by the conviction that art, to quote Renoir, is above all meant "to brighten up the walls"!



Musée de l'Orangerie

Jardin des Tuileries, Place de la Concorde - 75001 Paris
+ 33 (0) 1 44 50 43 00 - www.musee-orangerie.fr
TICKETING : [click here](#)



Hameau Fournaise

Île des Impressionnistes - 78400 Chatou
www.chatou.fr

Impressionist Lights Festival 2022 *Renoir invite Degas à Chatou*

8, 9 and 10 September 2022, 7pm - 11pm
Hameau Fournaise, Chatou

The *Festival Lumières Impressionnistes* proposes three festive cultural evenings based around the theme of Impressionism, with sound and light shows, dance, contemporary circus acts, a Venetian-style festival, exhibitions, workshops, evening craft markets and more.

For its second edition, the Festival pays homage to the works of Edgar Degas, a great painter of light, dance and movement.

Impressionist Renoir, the immersive experience show tour

Prolonged for the foreseeable future,
Musée Fournaise

The Musée Fournaise explores the Impressionist times that artist Auguste Renoir spent in Chatou, on the banks of the Seine, in what he termed "the prettiest place in the outskirts of Paris".

Thanks to the use of new technology and immersive museum presentations, enjoy a voyage back into the 19th century. Auguste Renoir himself appears as a hologram to serve as your guide, recounting the course of his artistic career, revealing some of the secrets of how he worked in his studio and helping you get to the heart of his work.



Musée Fournaise

Ile des Impressionnistes
3 rue du Bac - 78400 Chatou
www.musee-fournaise.com

TICKETING : [click here](#)



Musée de l'Hôtel-Dieu

1 rue Thiers - 78200 Mantes-la-Jolie
+33 (0) 1 34 78 86 60 - www.manteslajolie.fr

Georges Tardif (1864-1933), architecte du paysage

From 15 October 2022 to 30 April 2023
Musée de l'Hôtel-Dieu, Mantes-la-Jolie

A prolific architect and artist, Georges Tardif left a collection of works demonstrating his mastery of a great variety of techniques, including watercolours, drawing, geometry and perspective. Moving in avant-garde literary and art circles, Tardif was close to many Neo-Impressionist painters, notably Maximilien Luce, although he maintained his own very personal style. This exhibition at Mantes's Musée de l'Hôtel-Dieu brings together, for the first time, the whole of his œuvre, presented chronologically, displaying his visual evolution and the diversity of subjects he covered, profoundly marked by geometry and mathematics.

This invitation to learn about Tardif at the Musée de l'Hôtel-Dieu also makes it possible to create a dialogue with the museum's collection of works by Maximilien Luce, Tardif's loyal friend from the time they met in 1883. Both explored the Paris suburbs in search of themes and depicted some of the same places, such as Meudon, Issy-les-Moulineaux and the Butte de Montmartre. This presentation of Tardif's works allows the museum boasting the largest collection of Luce's works to present a counterpoint to the latter's time in Montmartre.

*New in
2022 & 2023*

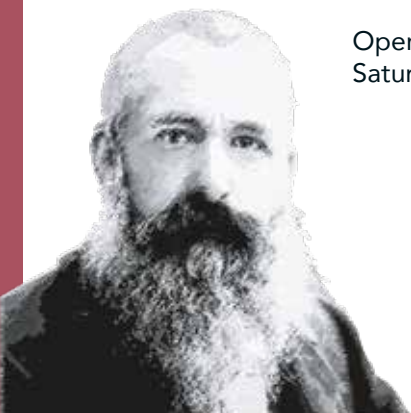
New in 2022 and 2023

Maison impressionniste Claude Monet in Argenteuil

The town of Argenteuil northwest of Paris owns the house here where Claude Monet and his family lived during the 1870s. Renovation works are underway to turn it into a cultural venue.

A visit here will take you on an immersive, playful journey, both presenting period furniture and making use of contemporary digital technology, revealing Claude Monet's life in Argenteuil, including via the reproduction of many canvases by the famed Impressionist. The trail will be designed as a kind of treasure hunt, leading you all around the house and into the new redesigned garden.

Opening to the general public from
Saturday 17 September 2022.



Maison impressionniste Claude Monet

Ville d'Argenteuil
Stéphanie Feze,
Responsable unité Patrimoine-Musée,
Service Archives et Patrimoine
+33 (0) 1 34 23 68 81
stephanie.feze@ville-argenteuil.fr

Maison Berthe Morisot in Bougival

As Berthe Morisot wrote, she spent "the happiest times of my life" in Bougival. She rented this joyous house each summer between 1881 and 1884.

Now it is undergoing renovations to be turned into a space dedicated to the artist, both as a female Impressionist painter and as a mother, wife and good friend.

The light here on the banks of the Seine and the place's flower-filled garden served as inspiration for some 40 canvases, such as *la Fable*, *le Quai à Bougival*, *Eugène Manet et sa fille dans le jardin* (1883), *dans la Véranda*, *Jardin à Bougival* and *Roses trémières* (1884).

The opening of the Maison Berthe Morisot is planned to take place during the course of 2023.



Maison Berthe Morisot

Mairie de Bougival
Cabinet du Maire,
Christine Dezaunay
+33 (0) 1 30 78 25 86
christine.dezaunay@ville-bougival.fr

*A Destination
100% geared
to cyclists!*

**A Destination 100% geared to cyclists!
Follow in the Impressionists' cycle tracks**

Criss-crossing our Impressionist areas by bike involves enjoying those feelings of freedom and pleasure in the great outdoors that so thrilled our artists dedicated to seizing the moment on canvas. During the 150th anniversary of "Impression, Sunrise", fans of Monet can reach the place that inspired this iconic canvas on a short detour by bike from the Seine à Vélo. In addition, beyond the Seine Valley, well served since 2020 by this new cycle route, our whole destination can be explored by following four further cycle routes suitable for all types of cyclists, whether travelling as a family, among friends, or on a sporting challenge: the Avenue Verte London-Paris, the Scandibérique, the Vélomaritime and the Vélo Francette®.



**FOLLOWING THE BIRTH
OF IMPRESSIONNISM
IN YOUNG MONET'S FOOTSTEPS
RIDING ALONG THE SEINE À VÉLO
CYCLE ROUTE**

A source of inspiration for many artists, discover the Seine Estuary from a completely different angle, by cycling around it. Since June 2020, 520km of cycle ways link Paris to either Le Havre or Deauville, riders following the Seine's meanders to the Channel. The Seine Estuary is covered by a cycle route on either bank, the southern one heading to Honfleur and Deauville, the northern one to Le Havre. The landscapes shift between the bucolic and the urban, the natural and the industrial, immersing cyclists at certain points in what really look like Impressionist canvases reproduced out in the open! Along the cycle route, Argenteuil, Chatou, Giverny, Rouen, La Bouille and Honfleur are so many iconic Impressionist spots that provide both inspiring landscapes and places to visit dedicated to the great art movement.



1

FROM PARIS TO CHATOU

Going from Paris via Saint-Denis, this stretch of the Seine à Vélo cycle route leads riders via the canals serving the French capital to join the great river itself along the *Promenade Bleue*, a Seine-side cycle path along former towpaths. You cross a mix of industrial and more countrified landscapes, both a great source of inspiration for artists in the late 19th century. Arriving in Chatou, the Île des Impressionnistes and Hameau Fournaise provide a lovely halt. Immerse yourself in the period feel of this place where Auguste Renoir painted his famous boating-party scene, *Déjeuner des Canotiers*. At the Musée Fournaise, delve further into the atmosphere of those outdoor riverside restaurants known as *guinguettes* in French, while the Restaurant Fournaise is a perfect place in which to round off a visit to the area, enjoying a traditional culinary treat.

Discover here the stretch of cycle route from Paris to Chatou

2

FROM CHATOU TO CONFLANS-SAINTE-HONORINE

After Chatou with its Île des Impressionnistes, the Seine à Vélo continues via the banks of the great river. Along this stretch, discover about the boatmen and sailors who plied the riverine route between the French capital and the sea, particularly active in the late 19th century. At Bougival, a pedestrian trail leads walkers in the footsteps of the Impressionist painters and provides an enlightening cultural pause. The period's artists, including Camille Pissarro, were fascinated by the bustling activity along the Seine here, depicting it on many occasions. Reproductions of canvases inspired by these scenes are dotted along this walk. Having touched on the green lungs of these western outskirts of Paris, in the form of the state forests of Marly-le-Roi and Saint-Germain, the cycle route, before reaching Conflans-Sainte-Honorine, takes you via La Frette-sur-Seine. A further walking trail here focuses on works painted in this little town at the end of the Oise Valley, nestling in a Seine meander. From Barbizon School painters, such as Charles-François Daubigny and Camille Corot, precursors of Impressionism, to Camille Pissarro, panels show canvases such artists painted outdoors and on the spot along the quays here, backed by splendid Belle Époque villas.

Discover here the stretch of cycle route from Chatou to Conflans-Sainte-Honorine

3

FROM HONFLEUR TO DEAUVILLE

Beginning in Honfleur, this portion of cycle route (quite difficult because of the significant shift in altitude) starts with a flourish, leading you on a little tour of the magnificent Vieux Port, following in the footsteps of Impressionist painters. Next, the route plunges riders into the lovely green pastures of the Pays d'Auge area, going via the town of Pont-l'Évêque to Deauville and its iconic beach. The coast here is lined with beautiful seaside villas from the early 20th century and induces relaxation. To add to the artistic experience, visit Les Franciscaines, recently transformed into a new Impressionist venue, its collection, *Peindre en Normandie*, boasting an exceptional body of 185 works. Finally, just the other side of the Touques Estuary, the port of Trouville makes a fine culinary stop. Enjoy a seafood platter around the fish market before heading over to this resort's splendid white sandy beach conjuring up the famed *Dame en blanc sur la plage de Trouville* depicted by Eugène Boudin (on display in Le Havre's MuMa museum).

Discover here the cycle route from Honfleur to Deauville

4

ALONG THE SEINE ESTUARY TO LE HAVRE

Looking over the Seine's final meander before its estuary, the port of Lillebonne is the starting point for this portion of the Seine à Vélo cycle route. Once you've passed under the impressive Tancarville Bridge, a greenway leads you beside a canal running between cliffs, fields and industrial landscapes indicating that you're approaching the major port of Le Havre. Stop to visit its renowned town centre, rebuilt after World War II to Auguste Perret's designs and listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The Impressionist highlight on this cycling outing stands out on Le Havre's seafront – MuMa, the Musée d'art moderne André Malraux, with its magnificent Impressionist collections, among the richest in France. Please note: this stretch of cycle route is only suitable for seasoned cyclists.

Discover here the cycle route from Lillebonne to Le Havre

*A Destination
100% geared
to cyclists!*

Follow us on



Impressionist adventures

Produced by Paris Region and Normandy Tourist Boards. CRT/Rb, 03-2022.

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