normandy and brittany walk

FRANCE’S HISTORIC NORTH COAST BY FOOT

June 27 to July 9, 2016
The regions of Brittany and Normandy in the northwest corner of France are dripping with history and culture that span millennia and nations. On this walk, we'll stroll through the heathland of the Breton peninsula and along the beaches of Normandy whose D-Day-designated names (Utah, Omaha) are etched forever in the collective memory of World War II. In Brittany, the Celtic fringe of France, we'll poke around ancient megalithic outcroppings and walk along its rugged shorelines. And in Normandy we'll explore the world of William the Conqueror, Duke of Normandy, who invaded England in 1066, viewing the Bayeux Tapestry and visiting the castle where he was born. Join us!

BRETT S. THOMPSON, ’83, DIRECTOR, STANFORD TRAVEL/STUDY

COVER: MONT SAINT-MICHEL
Professor CAROLYN LOUGEE has taught European history at Stanford since 1973. Her research specialty is early modern France, so she particularly enjoys introducing travelers to the extraordinary richness and diversity of the French provinces. But her teaching has encompassed a much broader range, especially in the freshman courses (successors to Western Civ) that she has taught nearly every year. She has been the faculty leader on some 30 Travel/Study trips since 1988, encompassing most of the countries of Western Europe both by sea and by land. Her lecture topics reflect her particular interest in explicating the historical roots of the cultural practices and built environments that Stanford travelers encounter. She also uses the experiences of the past to illuminate current political issues and socioeconomic challenges in various European countries as well as in the European Union and the Eurozone.

—BA, history, Smith College, 1963
—PhD, history, University of Michigan, 1972

"Carolyn was perhaps the most 'value-added' professor of any I have encountered on a Stanford trip. Her skill of presentation, knowledge of subject and style are superlative."

CAROLE FLAXMAN, PROVENCE WALK, 2009

OR BY PHONE: (650) 725-1093

HONFLEUR
MONDAY & TUESDAY, JUNE 27 & 28
U.S. / RENNES, FRANCE / LORIENT
Depart the U.S. on overnight flights to Rennes, France. After arrival on Tuesday at Rennes Airport, transfer to Southern Brittany and the town of Lorient. Mingle with fellow travelers at a welcome reception and dinner this evening.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 29
CARNAC / GULF OF MORBIHAN / LORIENT
Explore the famous megalithic monuments in the Carnac area before continuing to the Gulf of Morbihan, a flooded plain that was once home to some of Western civilization’s prehistoric ancestors. Today’s walk is around the rim of this beautiful inland sea. HOTEL CHÂTEAU DE LOCGUENOLÉ (B.L.D.) APPROXIMATELY 7 MILES OF WALKING

THURSDAY, JUNE 30
BRITTANY / DINARD
Drive north to the heathland of Brittany that lies at its heart. Hear the great stories of Celtic Brittany and trace the histories of Merlin, Arthur and the knights of the round table. Continue to Dinard on Brittany’s rugged northern coast, where we spend the next two nights. HOTEL DE LA BARRIERE (B.L.D.) APPROXIMATELY 8 MILES OF WALKING

FRIDAY, JULY 1
CANCALE / SAINT-MALO / DINARD
Today enjoy a spectacular cliff walk between the towns of Cancale and Saint-Malo. On arrival in Saint-Malo explore the old walled town before returning by boat across the bay to our hotel. HOTEL DE LA BARRIERE (B.L.) APPROXIMATELY 3.5 MILES OF WALKING

SATURDAY, JULY 2
MONT SAINT-MICHEL / BAYEUX
Head eastward to the very western edge of Normandy and its most-visited site, Mont Saint-Michel. Explore the great Abbey of Mont Saint-Michel before lunching in the most-renowned of the village restaurants, La Mère Poulard. This afternoon continue by road into Normandy to the charming town of Bayeux where we spend the next four nights. HOTEL CHÂTEAU DE SULLY (B.L.D.) VISIT TO MONT SAINT-MICHEL

SUNDAY, JULY 3
ARROMANCHES / OMAHA BEACH / BAYEUX
Today travel north to the landing beaches and especially Omaha to relive some of the most deadly moments of World War II. We view the site of the landings before climbing the cliff to the American cemetery before lunch. In the afternoon walk the clifftops to Arromanches and the site of the remains of the floating Mulberry harbor. HOTEL CHÂTEAU DE SULLY (B.L.D.) APPROXIMATELY 3.5 MILES OF WALKING

MONDAY, JULY 4
UTAH BEACH / STE-MÈRE-ÉGLISE / BAYEUX
Today travel westward around the end of the Cotentin peninsula and continue north along Utah Beach. This area is famous for the fierce battles among the hedgerows where the capture of each field in 1944 was a major achievement. Walk inland and stop briefly at Ste-Mère-Église where the effigy of a paratrooper still hangs from the church steeple. We travel to the Pointe du Hoc before returning to our hotel in Bayeux. HOTEL CHÂTEAU DE SULLY (B.L.D.) APPROXIMATELY 6 MILES OF WALKING

TUESDAY, JULY 5
SUISSE NORMANDE / BAYEUX
Today visit a lesser-known region of Normandy called the Suisse Normande, named
after the hills that rise above the river Orne. We return to our hotel in Bayeux this afternoon.

**HOTEL CHÂTEAU DE SULLY (B,L,D)**

**APPROXIMATELY 8 MILES OF WALKING**

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 6**

**BAYEUX / CAEN / HONFLEUR**

This morning visit the world-famous tapestry in Bayeux that depicts momentous events of 1066, including the Norman invasion of England. Then drive east to the historic city of Caen. Our walk takes in the Abbaye-aux-Hommes, founded by William the Conqueror, and the château, begun in 1060 by this remarkable man. After free time for lunch, continue to one of the newest and most striking museums in France, the Caen Mémorial, dedicated to peace and featuring the events of World War II. From here continue to Honfleur where we stay for the next three nights in the glorious setting of La Ferme Saint-Siméon. This spectacular residence overlooking the Normandy coastline was a famous retreat for Monet, Sisley and many other impressionist painters.

**HOTEL LA FERME SAINT-SIMÉON (B,D)**

**APPROXIMATELY 6 MILES OF WALKING**

**THURSDAY, JULY 7**

**SEINE VALLEY / HONFLEUR**

Visit the Seine Valley and the Abbey church of Jumièges that dominates this part of the world. The Abbey is located on a loop in the river accessible by ferry. Our walk leads to the Abbey and after a picnic and visit there, we continue our walk before returning to our hotel.

**HOTEL LA FERME SAINT-SIMÉON (B,L)**

**APPROXIMATELY 5 MILES OF WALKING**

**FRIDAY, JULY 8**

**ÉTRETAT / HONFLEUR**

Today we walk north along the “Alabaster Coast” to the little seaside port of Étretat. The coastline here is quite stunning with its sheer chalk cliffs eroded into extraordinary formations that have been the subject of myriad paintings by several impressionist masters. Return by coach to the town of Honfleur where there’s time to visit the port also made famous by Boudin and other members of the impressionist movement before we walk back to our hotel for our farewell reception and dinner.

**HOTEL LA FERME SAINT-SIMÉON (B,L,D)**

**APPROXIMATELY 6 MILES OF WALKING**

**SATURDAY, JULY 9**

**PARIS / U.S.**

Traveling from Honfleur, transfer to Paris’ Charles de Gaulle airport for return flights to the U.S. (B)
Trip Information

DATES
June 27 to July 9, 2016 (13 days)

SIZE
32 participants (single accommodations are limited—please call for availability)

COST*
$9,295 per person, double occupancy
$11,160 per person, single occupancy
*Association nonmembers add $300 per person

INCLUDED
11 nights of deluxe hotel accommodations  ■ 11 breakfasts, 9 lunches, 9 dinners  ■  Welcome and farewell cocktail receptions  ■  Gratuities to guides and drivers for all group activities  ■  All tours and excursions as described in the itinerary  ■  Transfers and baggage handling on program arrival and departure days  ■  Minimal medical, accident and evacuation insurance  ■  Educational program with lecture series and pre-departure materials, including recommended reading list, a selected book, map and travel information  ■  Services of our professional tour manager to assist you throughout the program

NOT INCLUDED
International and U.S. domestic airfare  ■  Passport and visa fees  ■  Immunization costs  ■  Meals and beverages other than those specified as included  ■  Independent and private transfers  ■  Trip-cancellation/interruption and baggage insurance  ■  Excess-baggage charges  ■  Personal items such as internet access, telephone and fax calls, laundry and gratuities for nongroup services

AIR ARRANGEMENTS
International and U.S. domestic airfare is not included in the program cost. Round-trip, economy-class airfare on Air France from San Francisco to Rennes, France, and return from Paris, France, to San Francisco is approximately $1,800 as of June 2015 and is subject to change without notice.

WHAT TO EXPECT
We consider this to be a moderately strenuous and physically demanding program that involves a great deal of walking. Our walks range in length from three to eight miles per day, with a daily average of about six miles. The terrain of the Normandy and Brittany region is not mountainous but there are some hills and coastal walking is notoriously undulating. The terrain is varied and includes rough and muddy hill paths as well as farm tracks and grassy paths. There are short periods of rocky or shoreline walking on some beach walks. Sturdy, well-fitting and broken-in hiking shoes with ankle support are essential. To participate fully in this walking tour, you need to be physically fit, agile and used to moderate exercise. All participants must be able to navigate rocky paths without the assistance of handrails or tour staff. Several of our daily excursions might be considered by some participants to be hikes rather than walks. However, if you are in good shape and active, you should have no problem keeping up with the group. We welcome travelers 15 years of age and older on this program.
Deposit & Final Payment
A $1,000-per-person deposit is required to hold your space. Sign up online at alumni.stanford.edu/trip?normandy2016 or call the Travel/Study office at (650) 725-1093. Final payment is due 120 days prior to departure. As a condition of participation, all confirmed participants are required to sign a Release of Liability.

Cancellations & Refunds
Deposits and any payments are refundable, less a $500-per-person cancellation fee, until 120 days prior to departure. After that date, refunds can be made only if the program is sold out and your place(s) can be resold, in which case a $1,000-per-person cancellation fee will apply.

Insurance
Stanford Travel/Study provides all travelers who are U.S. or Canadian citizens with minimal medical, accident and evacuation coverage under our group-travel insurance policy. Our group policy is intended to provide minimal levels of protection while you are traveling on this program. You may choose to subscribe to optional trip-cancellation and baggage insurance. A brochure offering such insurance will be provided to U.S. residents with their welcome materials. The product offered in this brochure includes special benefits if you purchase your policy within a specified window: 14 to 21 days of your written confirmation of participation on the trip, depending on your destination and state of residence.

Eligibility
We encourage membership in the Alumni Association as the program cost for nonmembers is $300 more than the members’ price. Families and trip companions may travel on one membership. For more information or to purchase a membership, visit alumni.stanford/goto/membership or call (650) 725-0692.

Responsibility
The Stanford Alumni Association, Stanford University and our operators act only as agents for the passenger with respect to transportation and exercise every care possible in doing so. However, we can assume no liability for injury, damage, loss, accident, delay or irregularity in connection with the service of any automobile, motorcoach, launch or any other conveyance used in carrying out this program or for the acts or defaults of any company or person engaged in conveying the passenger or in carrying out the arrangements of the program. We cannot accept any responsibility for losses or additional expenses due to delay or changes in air or other services, sickness, weather, strike, war, quarantine, force majeure or other causes beyond our control. All such losses or expenses will have to be borne by the passenger as tour rates provide arrangements only for the time stated. We reserve the right to make such alterations to this published itinerary as may be deemed necessary. The right is reserved to cancel any program prior to departure in which case the entire payment will be refunded without further obligation on our part. The right is also reserved to decline to accept or retain any person as a member of the program. No refund will be made for an unused portion of any tour unless arrangements are made in sufficient time to avoid penalties. Baggage is carried at the owner’s risk entirely. The airlines concerned are not to be held responsible for any act, omission or event during the time that passengers are not onboard their plane or conveyance. Neither the Alumni Association, Stanford University nor our operators accept liability for any carrier’s cancellation penalty incurred by the purchase of a nonrefundable ticket in connection with the tour. Program price is based on rates in effect in June 2015 and is subject to change without notice to reflect fluctuations in exchange rates, tariffs or fuel charges.
Another wonderful Stanford Travel/Study walking trip through a region of great historical significance with wonderful culinary and cultural interest.

MIKE KAHN, MS ’67, PHD ’70, BURGUNDY AND ALSACE WALK, 2014

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BAYEUX
FRANCE