

William the Conqueror Discovery tour

4 Night Tour - Bed & Breakfast

Your itinerary

The following pages contain general information about your car or motorcycle tour and the locations where you will stay. For your individual itinerary please refer to your holiday documentation.

Hotel directions

With your travel documents is an information sheet for each hotel we have booked for you giving directions together with some further details.

Arrival

Unless stated, you will be expected to arrive at the hotels pre-booked for you by 6pm each day. This should allow time for a fairly leisurely drive between hotel stops but if you find you will be arriving later than this please ring the hotel so that your room is held for you.

■ Day 1 | Bayeux

See the old façades of private mansion houses, some of which date back to the end of The Hundred Years War. Visit Bayeux cathedral, a gem of Norman architecture which was consecrated in 1077 by Bishop Odon de Conteville with his brother William the Conqueror. Learn the history of the famous Tapestry in its dedicated museum (closed September 2025-2027) and then maybe practice some sewing with an expert in Bayeux embroidery. Whilst here, why not taste the local speciality of fine praline coated with a light meringue called Drakkar.

Overnight stay in the pretty 18th century Château de Bellefontaine, Bayeux



■ Day 2 | Bayeux>Evreux (186 km–2h)

After leaving Bayeux we recommend you venture off route to Evreux towards the city of Falaise, the birthplace of William the Conqueror. Visiting the castle is a must to discover an array of interiors, from the most royal to the most domestic, in either richly decorated or starkly military designs. Follow the fortified walls along the Circuit des Remparts until you reach Arlette's fountain which is named after William's mother and is where she first met his father, Robert the magnificent.

Overnight stay in the comfortable Best Western Plus Palais des Congrès, Evreux

■ Day 3 | Evreux

From Evreux, we suggest you drive to Les Andelys and visit Château Gaillard which was constructed on the high chalk cliffs overlooking the river Seine by Richard the Lionheart, William's great, great grandson. Le Grand Andely, with its museum, church and miraculous fountain offers plenty of charm. Petit Andely, is equally attractive, due to its Norman houses and the impressive Saint Jacques hospital. Both places have merged over time to form Les Andelys, in an area of outstanding natural beauty. Take a long walk around the village to take in the stunning river views!

2nd overnight stay in Evreux



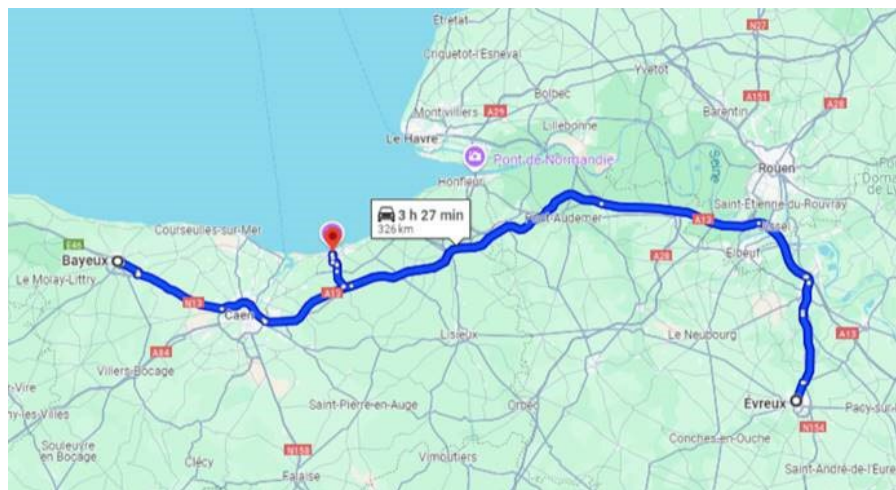
■ Day 4 | Evreux>Cabourg (140 km–1h27)

On your way to Cabourg, stop in the picturesque port of Honfleur and learn the secrets of the construction of the majestic 'La Mora', William's flagship. Further down the coast is the tranquil seaside resort of Houlgate where a column stands on the beach in memory of William's famous departure for the conquest of England in 1066. In Dives sur Mer (1.5km from Cabourg) you can visit the Village d'Art Guillaume le Conquérant and the Notre-Dame church where a list of the names of the Duke's 475 battle companions is engraved in stone above the porch.

Overnight stay in the ideally located Mercure Cabourg Hotel & Spa, Cabourg

Caen (33 km from Cabourg)

After leaving Cabourg it is well worth finding the time to explore this historic city before you return home. Visit the Benedictine abbey of St Etienne de Caen (Abbaye aux Hommes) that houses the tomb of William the Conqueror. Then discover the Abbaye aux Dames which is the burial place of its famous founder Mathilde of Flanders, the Duchess of Normandy. Transport yourself back to the 11th century with a local guide who will tell you all about the prosperity brought by the Norman Duke after the conquest of the English throne. For lunch or dinner, why not treat yourself to a delicious meal at the Michelin starred Yvan Vautier's restaurant which is just outside the city centre.



Tour driving distance is approximately 326 km (202 miles – 3h27)

Please note that the time given covers the distance between overnight stops.

This itinerary may suggest some recommended visits that are not included in the price of the tour so must be paid direct.