

TOP TEN CYCLE ROUTES IN NORTHERN FRANCE

1. A coastal cycle

Follow the Normandy coastline on the La Vélomaritime – EuroVelo 4 route and cycle through the Baie de Somme region and the Opal Coast, taking in the breathtaking landscapes as you ride. Stop at France's Finest Market in Dieppe to pick up local produce for a picnic and enjoy beneath the white cliffs of Étretat.

2. A riverside ride

Follow the river Seine to cycle past quaint villages and tree-lined canals while taking in the landscape which inspired the Impressionists. Start in Giverny after visiting Monet's gardens and follow the route through vast countryside which connects towns and villages such as Le Havre and Honfleur. Stop by any one of these towns for 19th century architecture, amazing local food and fascinating cultural sites.

3. Cycle the Canal de la Somme

For a peaceful cycle, a quiet stretch of the Canal de la Somme is the perfect place to free your mind. Start in Boismont and pedal down the tree-lined canal into the open countryside surrounding it.

4. Follow the old railway line in Le Bec-Hellouin

The path that links one of the most beautiful villages in France, Le Bec-Hellouin to Evreux, follows a former railway line which passes through medieval villages, dense woods, abandoned train stations and beautiful countryside. You can follow the full 42km trail over a series of days on your bike or by foot. Alternatively, you can explore a stretch of it, visiting the villages en route, discovering their history, traditions and cuisine.

5. An historic cycle ride

Cycle the route from the D-Day beaches all the way to Mont St-Michel for tranquil country lanes, sprawling valleys and hills which reward you with great views. Visit the historic sites en route, including the WW2 landing beaches, Bayeux, where the famous medieval tapestry sits, and the magnificent Mont St-Michel, which appears out of the sea like a mirage.



6. Mountain biking in La Manche

With over 700km of trails, La Manche in Western Normandy is ideal for cyclists and hikers. The mix of terrains in the region make it suitable for a range of purposes but the rugged trails are ideal for exploring on a mountain bike. Not only will you be challenged by the hilly routes, you will be able to see natural marshlands, cycle through one of the most beautiful nature reserves in Northern France and admire the unspoilt coastline.

7. L'Avenue Verte London to Paris cycle

While the cycle ride doesn't start in France, it's a great challenge for any cyclist and a wonderful way to see a mix of cities, countryside and coast both sides of the channel. Starting at the London Eye and ending at the Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris, you could spend a leisurely week cycling between the two, with a short crossing between Newhaven and Dieppe providing a welcome rest stop.

8. Dunkirk/Calais - Boulogne - Lille

Cycle south from our ports in either Dunkirk or Calais and head to Boulogne-sur-Mer, the beautiful walled French city. Over the course of 5 days cycle east via Le Wast, Watten and Cassel, before crossing the border into Belgium and cycling down the Ypres canal and finally onto Lille, the biggest city in northern France.

9. Dieppe - Seine Valley - Paris

Our Dieppe room is the closest port to Paris, making it the ideal starting point for a trip to the capital. Cycle south over the course of 6 days, via The Vexin and Giverny, before following the Seine Valley down to the French capital, which has become more and more cycle-friendly over the last few years.

10. French Flanders

Explore French Flanders, on a cycle route which takes you from Monts de Flandres, just one hour from Calais, all the way down to Vallée de la Lys. The 830km route is marked with hundreds of numbered signposts which you can easily follow – no need for your smartphone! The official map highlights restaurants, breweries, museums and campsites along the route so you can factor in cultural or foodie pit stops too!

