

Effingham and Fetcham Parish Pilgrimage to Northern France by luxury coach from Monday 3rd to Sunday 9th of September

Day one - Monday 3rd September

Effingham - Evreux

Depart Effingham by air-conditioned touring coach to Folkestone cross by Eurotunnel Shuttle to Calais, from where we drive to the cathedral town of Evreux (approx 3 hours). Check into our hotel for dinner and a five-night stay.

Day two - Tuesday 4th September

Chartres

This morning we drive south to visit the great cathedral of Chartres, dedicated to Our Lady. There will be the opportunity to attend Catholic Mass here, as well as taking a tour of the cathedral, where the stained glass windows will be interpreted by a local guide. There will be time at leisure to explore the medieval town before the return journey to Evreux in the late afternoon.

Day three - Wednesday 5th September

Lisieux

Today we drive to the town of Lisieux, where we visit the Basilica of St Therese, consecrated in 1954. Afterwards, we visit the Carmel, which contains the Shrine of St Therese, and the chapel containing her relics. Mass will be celebrated here. We also visit Les Buissonets (the family house) and the cathedral of St Peter, where Therese made her first communion. After a break for lunch, we return to Evreux.

Day four - Thursday 6th September

Giverny + Evreux

We make an early start after breakfast to the little village of Giverny, and the home of the impressionist painter Claude Monet (1840 - 1926).

We visit his house and the wonderful gardens, which include the famous water lilies. After a break for lunch, we return to Evreux to spend the afternoon, including an optional visit to the cathedral of Notre Dame and the public gardens (Jardin public Francois Mitterrand) and its ornamental lake and aviaries.

Day five - Friday 7th September

Rouen

Today we visit Rouen, the capital of upper Normandy, a splendid medieval town. We visit the twelfth century cathedral of Notre Dame, for a guided tour. We also visit the Tour Jeanne D'Arc, the keep where Joan was tortured in May 1431, and part of which is now devoted to Joan's life. The narrow streets of Rouen are ideal for browsing, and there will be time at leisure, before the return journey to Evreux.

Day six - Saturday 8th September

We depart Evreux after breakfast, and drive to **the Chateau de Versailles**, where a 40-minute tour of the park by le petit train (tourist train), which involves a stop at the Trianon, is included. There will be the opportunity to have lunch in the grounds of Versailles, before transferring to our hotel on the outskirts of Paris for dinner and an overnight stay.

Day seven - Sunday 9th September

Paris - Effingham

This morning, we drive into the centre of Paris, where we celebrate **Sunday Mass at the Rue du Bac** which contains the Chapel of the Miraculous Medal and the convent where St Catherine Laboure is buried. It was in this chapel that in 1833, Our Lady gave Sister Catherine the medal that was to be called 'miraculous' owing to the great many conversions and healing worked through it. Afterwards, we visit the Cathedral of Notre Dame, and have time for lunch, before our return journey to Effingham via Calais and Folkestone.

Price of **£769** is guaranteed for booking received before 30th April 2018