

MARLOW NATIONAL TRUST



Presents

HAUTS DE FRANCE



WHAT'S INCLUDED

6 days / 5 nights' duration

Thursday 23rd - Tuesday 28th April 2026

Return Executive coach travel from Marlow

Return short channel ferry crossings

5 nights half board

4* Aiden T'aim Hotel in Margny les Compiègne

Excursion package as overleaf + 2 x lunches

PRICES & SUPPLEMENTS

Minimum 30+ persons **£1299pp** two share

Single supplement **£179** (5 nights) - max. 16 rooms

Deposit **£250pp** (non-refundable/ non-transferable)

Balance due in full by the **16.02.26**

Optional Travel Insurance - **£48pp** up to 79 years

£72pp (80-89 years at booking)

Insurance Handling fee **£5pp** (email) or **£10pp** post

HIGHLIGHTS

- Arras - Historic Picturesque Town
- Laon—Guided Walking Tour, 'Secrets under the City' audio guided visit
- Chantilly - Chateau Guided Tour, Condé Museum, Dressage Presentation, Electric Train Journey, Gardens + Lunch
- Beauvais + Cathedral of Saint-Pierre, Astronomical Clock Sound and Light Show
- Gerberoy - Beautiful Village
- Compiègne + Castle
- Pierrefonds—Medieval Village & Castle
- Les Hortillonnages Boat Cruise
- Amiens— Old Town Walking Tour + Lunch

HOW TO BOOK

Complete the attached booking form and return with your non-refundable deposit, insurance premium & handling fee if applicable to:

Simply Groups, Dalton House, 1 Hawksworth Street, Ilkley, LS29 9DU

TEL 01943 605999 info@simplygroups.co.uk
www.simplygroups.co.uk



Chantilly Chateau



Gerberoy



Les Hortillonnages



Pierrefonds

SIMPLY GROUPS

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The Specialist Group Tour Operator



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**Group
AWARDS
2020**



Sample Itinerary

Day 1 – Departing around 7am we travel to the coast for a short channel crossing to Calais. Arriving in France we head south, making a break in the historic + picturesque city of **Arras** before continuing on to your hotel in Picardy, where a set dinner is included.

Day 2 - The hilltop at the heart of **Laon** offers wonderful views. The short climb that connects low town with high town is a natural heritage walk to the cathedral with its breath-taking view. Look up to scrutinise both the horizon and the details of a Medieval town that was home to Clovis and Hugues Capet – kings of the Franks in Medieval Europe. A **guided walking tour** is included which takes in the cathedral & medieval city, followed by free time to buy lunch locally. This afternoon's included **audio-guided** visit discovers the '**secrets under the city**' during which you will discover the history of Laon through its underground galleries. This tour culminates with a film describing 2,000 years of tumultuous history in Laon. Returning to the hotel, dinner is included.

Day 3 – Breakfast included before travelling to **Beauvais**, a grandiose city brimming with culture and character. Included is an **audio guided visit** to the stunning grand **Cathedral of Saint-Pierre**, a one-of-a-kind monument and a masterpiece of Gothic-style art! The 13th-century Gothic choir is the highest in the world from where you can admire the light streaming through stained-glass windows. It also houses a collection of religious art objects and two astronomical clocks, bearing witness to the historical significance of the cathedral for the town and France as a whole. This masterpiece of accuracy stands inside a 12m high and 6m wide Roman-Byzantine casing and is made of 90,000 mechanical pieces, 52 dials and 68 automatons, all perfectly synchronised. Included is the **Astronomical Clock Sound and Light Show**. There will be some **free time** to explore + buy lunch before this afternoon's visit to **Gerberoy**, one of the '**140 most beautiful villages in France**', protected as a classified site. Free time to explore this small medieval village lined with timber-framed houses and flower-strewn balconies. Hotel dinner included.

Day 4 – Breakfast included. Today is a full day dedicated to **Chantilly**, beginning with an included **guided tour of the Chateau**, visiting the **Condé Museum**, France's 2nd largest collection of period paintings after the Louvre. You then visit the Large Suites, the Chapel and the Reading room. A **set lunch** is included in the heart of the chateau under the vaulted ceilings of the former kitchens. This afternoon begins with a **presentation on dressage** in the Great Stables (subject to schedule). During this 30-minute presentation you will learn about the techniques and secrets of dressage. Also included this afternoon is a **35-minute journey by electric train with audio guided commentary** through the park. Today concludes with **free time to visit the grounds & gardens**, of which there are three. The French-style garden created by André Le Nôtre in the 17th-century, the Anglo-Chinese Garden from the 18th-century and the English Garden from the 19th-century. Hotel dinner + Welcome drink included.

Day 5 – Breakfast included. Today is a fairly leisurely day, as we begin in **Compiègne** with an included visit to the **Castle**. Built by Louis XV and Louis XVI, and remodelled by both Napoleon I and Napoleon III, the Château de Compiègne was a centre for court life. The originality and beauty of this, the biggest neo-classical palace in France, and the quality of its interior décor and furnishings make for a unique ensemble. Alongside Versailles and Fontainebleau, this historic place is one of the three largest royal and imperial residences in France. Make time afterwards to explore the beautiful 'English style' gardens before free time in the town centre where lunch can be purchased. This afternoon's included excursion is to nearby **Pierrefonds**, where we begin with an included audio-guided visit of the picturesque fairy-tale style Castle. This will be followed by **free time** to explore the village before returning to the hotel for your evening meal.

Day 6 – Breakfast included. Retracing our steps, a stop will be made in the historic city of **Amiens**, starting with an included 45-minute **boat cruise of Les Hortillonnages** (market gardens). This is a unique network of ancient canals peppered with island gardens, located on the edge of the city. This vast patchwork of market and floral gardens covers 1.6sq miles and is criss-crossed by more than 40 miles of small canals. This is followed by a **brief walking tour** of the **medieval St Leu** district & the oldest part of the city, home to many small & colourful houses which surround the foot of Notre-Dame cathedral, whose towers soar into the sky. A **set lunch** is included before continuing to Calais for an early evening return crossing to the UK and onwards to your original departure point.

Simply Groups reserve the right to make minor changes to this itinerary due to circumstances beyond our control.

The 4* **Aiden by Best Western T'aim Hotel** is situated in Compiègne and has a terrace, a coffee shop/café, a garden and an indoor pool & hammam. Bedrooms are modern with a chic atmosphere and all have showers (no baths). Rooms are air-conditioned and equipped with a desk, armchair, safe, TV, phone, Nespresso & Kettle + hair dryer. *(drinks + tea / coffee after dinners are not included)*