

CHERBOURG, FRANCE

The port gateway for Normandy – many people use their day in Cherbourg as an opportunity to visit the D-Day Landing Beaches, memorials, and associated museums.

KEY INFO

Currency: EUR (1 USD = 0.92 EUR)

Population: 186,735 (64.76 million France)

Emergency #: Dial 112

Drinking water: Tap water is drinkable

Time Zone: GMT+1 (winter), GMT+2 (summer)


ID Requirements: Photo ID/Passport (non-EU)


Languages: French

Drive on the: Right

Pharmacy: Pharmacie du Centre, 25 Rue Albert Mahieu 

Protection: SPF 30+

Wi-Fi: Tourist Information (Office de Tourisme) 

Post Office: 2 Av. Carnot, 50100 Cherbourg 

PORT LOCATION

Ships dock at [Cite De La Mer](#), which is also an aquarium and museum. It is where the Titanic docked before making her fateful maiden voyage.

Getting Around: In town, the easiest way to explore is by foot. Taxis are available. To get further afield, taxis and trains are your best options. For longer journeys, taxis are more reliable for the return trip.

 [Click here](#) for a map of Normandy and [here for a comprehensive list of public transport options](#)

 <http://www.busverts.fr/> for bus information

Taxis: Taxis are available at the port.

Tourist Bus: There is no Hop-On Hop-Off Sightseeing Bus in Cherbourg

Tourist Information: At the pier ([click here for a pdf map](#))

Port Facilities: Taxis, Tourist Information, Toilets, Restaurant, Shop, Museum



Port Address: La Cité de la Mer, All. du Président Menut, 50100 Cherbourg-en-Cotentin, France 

CHERBOURG HIGHLIGHTS

Cite De La Mer: The port itself is a main attraction of Cherbourg, with the Redoubtable submarine (go onboard and enjoy a 35-minute audio guide), aquarium and Titanic Museum to explore. There's also a restaurant and gift shop.

9:30a-6p | €19   | At the port (3-min walk)  | 

Thomas Henry Museum: European masters from the 15th Century through to the 20th Century. Including works by Chardin, Poussin, David, and Millet.

10a-12:30p, 2p-6p (Tue-Fri), 1p-6p (Sat, Sun) | €6 | 2km from port (17-min walk)  | 

Liberation Museum: Set upon the Roule mountain, this museum examines the role of Cherbourg in WWII – the first place in France to be liberated following the D-Day Landings in June 1944.

10a-12:30p, 2p-6p (Tue-Fri), 1p-6p (Sat, Sun) | €5 | 4km from port (10-min drive)  | 


Manufacture le Parapluie: A museum dedicated to umbrellas – makes sense in this part of the world. If you've ever wanted to know the history of the umbrella or how they're made, this is your place.



10a-7p | €5 | 1.8km from port (15-min walk)  | 

For more: <https://www.cherbourg.fr/>, <https://www.encotentin.fr/cherbourg>



 card payment accepted

 cash payment accepted


 [link to map](#)


Cidrerie-Distillerie Théo Capelle: Visit the farm and distillery where Théo Capelle cider, calvados and aperitifs are made. Tours available. 20km from port (25-min drive)  | 


Weekly Markets: Thursday and Sunday are the most common days for the various weekly markets that pop up in Cherbourg, where locals gather to buy all sorts of delicious fresh and baked goodies.


Basilique Sainte-Trinité: With a tremendously long history, dating back to 435, the original Church of Cherbourg was destroyed in 841 and has been rebuilt multiple times since. The current Gothic church predominantly dates to the 1800s. 9a-7p | Free | 1.8km from port (20-min walk)  | 


NEARBY IN NORMANDY

Barfleur: Dubbed the prettiest village in France, on a clear day you can see all the way across the English Channel. A traditional Norman fishing village, known for its mussels – especially Barfleur blondes. 30km from port (35-min drive) 

Sainte-Mère-Eglise: This small town is perhaps best-known for its Airbourne Museum, commemorating the heroic efforts of the paratroopers of the 82nd and 101st Airborne Division. Great collection of military artifacts, not far from the landing beaches. US Paratrooper John Steele famously collided with the church steeple and had to be cut down. 40km from port (35-min drive) 

Mont St Michel: This magnificent mountain village rises out of the water in an almost fantastical way. Formerly a monastery, this island is home to less than 100 people and is an important Christian pilgrimage site – as it has been since Medieval times. 174km from port (2-hr drive) 

D-Day Landing Beaches: The various D-Day landing beaches are all within a 1–2-hour drive of Cherbourg and are best seen at low tide to get a fuller picture of the scene the landing soldiers were met with. Visit [Musée Arromaches](#) for the full story (€12.70) 105km from port (1-hr, 20-min drive) 

Bayeux: Historic town with an impressive cathedral and monumental tapestry, illustrating the history of the Norman Conquest of England. [Read more here](#). 100km from port (1-hr, 20-min drive) 

SOMETHING TO EAT OR DRINK

French Cheese: Fiercely protected, there are four famous cheeses from this region and all hold PDO certification (meaning they can only use the name if they are made within Normandy). The celebrated cheeses are: Camembert, Livarot, Pont-l'Évêque and Neufchâtel.

Apples, Apples, Apples: Apples grow fabulously well in Normandy and so the gastro-scene has been inspired by the abundance of Adam and Eve's favourite fruit. Tarte Tatin and other sweet treats feature apples, as do the region's favourite drinks: cider, Pommeau (apple liqueur) and calvados (apple brandy).

Seafood: The Normandy coastline is one of Europe's seafood hotspots, thanks to a delicious range of oysters, mussels, clams, whelks and scallops.