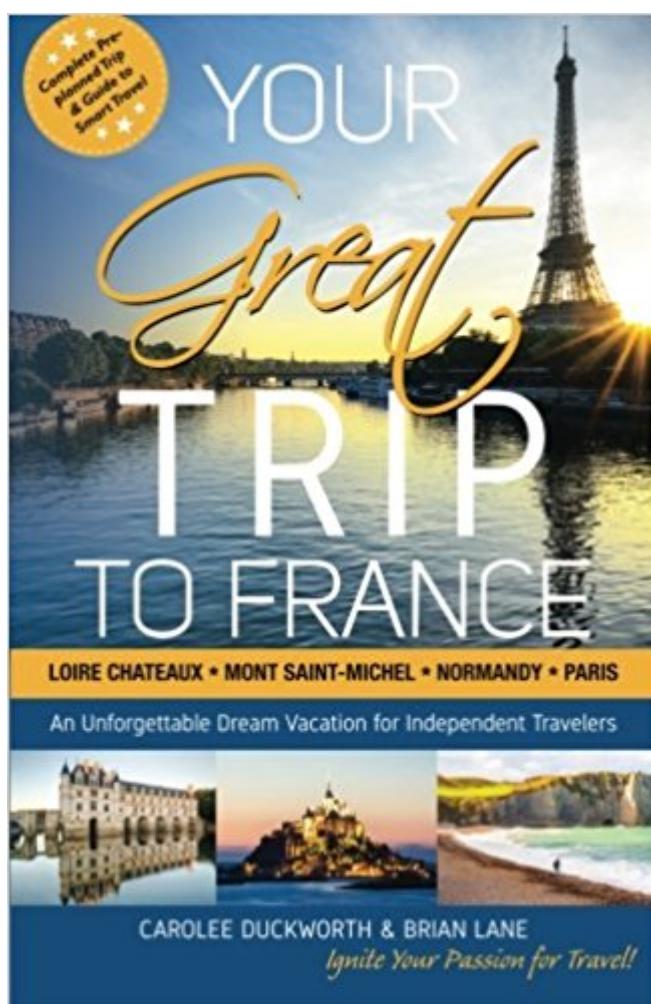


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# Your Great Trip To France: Loire Chateaux, Mont Saint-Michel, Normandy & Paris: Complete Pre-planned Trip & Guide To Smart Travel (Volume 1)





## Synopsis

Would you love to travel to France, but without the limitations of a tour group? An insiders' guide for unforgettable travel in France. Following this guidebook, your trip will begin in the Loire Valley, visiting magnificent chateaux. Then you will travel by train to the incomparable Mont Saint-Michel. You will visit the Normandy of William the Conqueror and the Allied liberators, then travel to Paris, to stay near the Seine, soaking in the brilliance of this iconic city. Your remarkable 2-week trip to France will be rich in experiences you will remember forever—experiences that will have an impact on you and your approach to life. This will be a "trip of a lifetime." History to walk around in. Phenomenal food. Parks and cafés. People-watching opportunities. Eating outdoors, with views of cathedrals, or rivers, or châteaux, or the tides coming in. Children in the squares, laughing as they ride the town Merry-go-Round. Fountains and gardens, with benches for pausing. Outdoor markets. Charming shops. Unexpected encounters. Are you tired of the bus, but want to have an exceptional, well-planned trip and not miss out? Prepare yourself for a new experience in international travel, with all the guidance you will need to know exactly what to do, why you want to do it, and how, every step of the way. As your trusted France travel guide and companion, Your Great Trip to France will lead you through every detail of your travel in France, so you can anticipate what you will encounter, both challenges and delights, before you arrive. You will know what your trip will cost and how to travel in France by train. So you will be able to avoid the frustration of missing out on experiences, vistas and connections that would have been among the most memorable highlights of your trip, had you only known about them ahead of time. You will have a plan but freedom too! Although your travel in France will be well-planned, you will be free to shape its pace and focus as you like, with confidence, awareness and the capability to make it all work. Will you travel to France from the USA or travel to France from the UK? Or will you be coming from Canada or elsewhere? When? And for how long? Wherever you begin your journey, you will have a full and independent France vacation, with all the details and possibilities laid out in advance—a blueprint. Then you will be able to customize your trip to your own particulars, arrangements and preferences with speed and ease, using the provided trip adaptation downloads. Why read this book? Discover how to: Travel expertly by train so the getting there is part of the discovery and adventure. Pack like a pro for life abroad. Fully experience the best sights and local culture. Book places to stay in "the heart of it all." Orient yourself to each new home base. Speak simple French phrases to easily communicate and relate with the locals. Finance and budget your trip. Cut traveling costs and save money. Stay safe and protect your valuables. Overcome common travel challenges and

fears. Travel well with others. Enjoy your trip and keep it fun. Read Your Great Trip to France, and then be off on your own holiday in France. You will have an amazing experience and lots of fun— and bring home lasting memories of the sights, the sounds, the feel, the sense, the tastes, and the ambiance, because you will have ample time and opportunity to experience these fully. Bon Voyage!!

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

Carolee Duckworth is a passionate traveler and trip designer, specializing in immersive, independent travel in France, Italy, Europe, Canada, and the USA. Having shifted from a 40-year career as an educator, she is now entirely focused on a lifestyle of travel design, research and writing. She is enthusiastic about bringing the unique travel style and approach, developed jointly with her son, Brian, to maximize reader's fun and sense of fulfillment and to help them get the very most out of their travel experiences, wherever their journey leads them. Brian Lane began traveling internationally at age 8, caught the travel bug early, and has never looked back. Having traveled independently in Europe, Asia, South America, Canada and the USA, he has refined his own approach to traveling, and developed an earnest desire to share those insights and techniques with others to help build their confidence and empower them to strike out on their own, armed with the help of a solid plan. He is passionate about bringing readers the very best technology, safety, time and money-saving travel tips and techniques to make solid preparations in advance and not get caught off-guard by problems that can arise from poor planning. He strives to

provide everything they will need to have a smooth travel experience and focus on their extraordinary adventure.

Fun to read. Jam packed with great travel tips and a philosophy of travel that will be useful anywhere I wander around the globe. Added bonus is the example of applying those ideas to this particular trip to France. I'd love to take that trip someday, but I mostly like that I have all this good advice paired with a concrete example. I feel empowered to build my own flexible and engaging trip to anywhere.

This is a very detailed, how-to guide that provides wonderful guidance in setting up your own trip to the Loire, Normandy and Paris. You don't have to slavishly follow the itinerary to find value in the suggestions made. In particular, their hotel and restaurant recommendations will be useful to anyone travelling to the area.

An honest and thoughtful primer for those avoiding structured tours or who do not wish to travel abroad with a large group of Americans. The authors cater to the DIY crowd who have the confidence to experience travel adventure on their own terms. Enough practical tips, suggested destinations, cultural context, and logistical information are presented to provide the prospective traveler with the everyday information needed to relax and enjoy the experience of living in France for the duration of their visit. The book is as much focused on the dynamics of interpersonal relations between travel companions as it is a travel guide. The advice offered in the "Travel Style" chapter alone would benefit any traveler to any destination. From budgeting expenses for your French adventure to selecting and folding your clothing for packing, and reserving a table at a Parisian bistro, this travel guide is full of information you will use. Suggestions are offered to help you decide which of your credit and debit cards to take, trip planning calendars, where to visit outside of metropolitan Paris, hotels, museums, and train connects with memorable vistas that form the stress-free memory of your great trip to France. This book is more of a guide for self-actualization while traveling than a listing of hotels, restaurants, and historical facts. This is accomplished by providing common everyday knowledge needed to relieve much of the stress of negotiating quotidian activities like buying train and tram tickets, interacting with waiters, exchanging money, avoiding pickpockets and scams, selecting museums to visit, ordering wine, and avoiding conflicts with travel companions. Lots of useful information.

A wonderfully detailed book that allows the traveler to experience the richness of the area with just the right combination of guidance and flexibility. The entries are a combination of text and helpful photos, interwoven with precision and humor. A delightful component of this book is the overall philosophy of the journey, from encouragement and ideas for how to experience the culture more fully to how to enhance the travel experience with your travel companions. The preparation section is extensive, covering everything from suitcase choices and packing tips to SIM cards and web access. There are also helpful links to lists for you to use in travel planning and budget considerations. The trip sections give you highlights and options for hotels, restaurants, places of interest but also for needed leisure breaks. The list of essential French phrases is user friendly and can be downloaded for easy access on your smartphone. Travel within France is explained in detail, and antidotes of the adventure bring the trip to life. The first train trip section is full of useful information. My only suggestion is a bit more detail in the Index to allow to easier search for some these very important specific tips. Overall, this book is much more than a list of things to see - it is a full experience, written in a helpful and engaging way. I can't wait to see what adventures await on the next Great Trip!

Being a bit of a Francophile myself, the vacation outlined is a great one with unique places and activities along the way. Even though I typically don't plan down to the detail provided in the book, it provides many, many ideas that I will incorporate into my next trip to France. This is a great guide for those that don't want to take a tour but are unsure about how easy or hard it will be to travel on their own. With the book as your guide, you can travel with confidence. There are extensive web references and many tips, pointers that even seasoned travelers will appreciate. The arrangements and preparation sections in the back are excellent. I can't wait until my next trip to throw the book in my pack and head to France!

Carolee Duckworth and Brian Lane have written, for the serious independent traveler, the first in their European Travel Series of comprehensive guides, certain to be a valuable resource for initial planning and take-along on one's journey. Your Great Trip To France, in an easy-carry, easy-reference format, deals step-by-step with such important topics as: Envisioning Your Trip; Guides on the Side; Master & Use the Train System; Your Trip Overview; Travel in the Spring or Fall; Castles & Gardens; Chateaux of the Loire; William the Conqueror's Caen; Arromanches & the D-Day Beaches; Art Markets, Gardens & Palaces; How to Pack Like a Pro; Play It Safe While Traveling and What to Take With You. As the text of Your Great Trip To France tells the traveler: "If

any or all of this strikes a chord, this is your book. You will not be traveling in a group. But you will not be alone out there on your own either...It will be our job and our mission to provide you with guidance so that you know exactly what to do, why you would want to do it, and how to do it every step of the way. Glenda Loftin, Columnist & World Traveler

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