



THOMAS TRAVEL

Hello Friends! Another edition for Armchair Traveling for us to get into the spirit of exploring our wonderful & beautiful world that is waiting out there for us to return. Our topic today is the Seine River!

The Seine River



Imagine yourself dreamily coasting along the mirror-like Seine River in France on a lovely river cruise, visiting spectacular cities and romantic towns such as Rouen, Le Havre, Etretat, Les Andelys, Giverny, Vernon and, of course, the beating heart of France, Paris. Follow the footsteps of van Gogh, Cezanne and Gauguin along the winding Seine River into Normandy, one of the most beautiful areas of France, up to scenic Le Havre situated on the rugged Atlantic coast. In addition to being a bucolic region with its wealth of inspiration that served many Impressionist painters, it was the location of a crucial turning point during the second World War; where its emotions echo can still be heard to this day.

No other river in the world is steeped in such history, romance, and artistic innovation. Let's take a look and get to know the Seine River with its awe-inspiring destinations better together!

The Seine-



The Seine's headwaters are from multiple small springs in Burgundy. The river meanders northwards 780 kilometers (485 miles), but would only be half of its length if it ran in a straight line! The embodiment of the Seine is the Gallo-Roman goddess Sequana. Water was venerated by the Celts as a source of life, as well for its healing properties; Thus giving birth to the stunning

watershed deity.

Auvers-sur-Oise-

Northwest of Conflans is Auvers-sur-Oise. The natural beauty of the area was an inspiration to many of the Impressionist masters, including Cezanne, Pissarro and Daubigny; it's also Vincent van Gogh's final resting place.



Giverny-

Two and a half miles from Vernon sits Giverny, home to Impressionist Claude Monet from 1883 until his death in 1926.



Monet's Garden is known for its beautiful surroundings and bountiful vivid flora and served as a major inspiration for some of his most famous works. He spent years transforming the garden into a living *en plein air* painting, planting thousands of flowers in straight-lines patterns. You can experience Giverny for yourself on a delightful River cruise on the Seine!

Normandy Beaches-



Normandy boasts many historic landmarks, such as the Normandy landing beaches and the city of Arromanches, the closest harbor linked with the liberation of Western Europe after D-Day.

Paris-



Neatly dividing the city of Paris into its distinctive left and right banks, the river has become the cultural powerhouse that it is due to a Celtic tribe of fishermen, known as the Parisii, who settled between its banks on a small strip of land, the Ile de La Cite, in 300 BC. Since the early Middle Ages, the Seine has been cemented as the river of Paris; the mutual interdependence of the river and the city that was established at its major crossing points is forever forged in the city's landscape. From the Louvre to the Eiffel Tower, the Place de la Concorde and the Grand and Petit Palais, the evolution of Paris and its history can be seen from the river itself.

The Cathedral of Notre Dame and Sainte Chapelle are architectural masterpieces, while the wide squares and boulevards built by Baron Haussman for Napoleon III influences late 19th and 20th century urban planning all over the world. The fertile center of its basin, the Ile-de-France, was the cradle of the French monarchy and the nucleus for the expanding nation-state where it is still its heartland and metropolitan region.

Since 1991, the Seine River has been a UNESCO World Heritage Site, which means that it enjoys the legal protection and recognition it deserves as an important natural and cultural site to this day. Discover for yourself why so many have been moved by this vital and beautiful river for centuries upon centuries!

