

Opal Coast



The French Opal Coast is a popular choice for British school groups. Within a short distance are many opportunities for sightseeing and activities based upon the rich natural, historic and maritime heritage of the region.

Optional visits



Boulogne and the Nausicaa Sea Life Centre.

Enjoy Boulogne's Old Town, built within the original Roman walls, the harbourside, or spend time at the market (Wed & Sat). At Nausicaa, you can explore ocean life from all latitudes – from a tropical lagoon to the cold seas and unfathomable depths.

Medieval Montreuil.

Montreuil-sur-Mer, was a medieval port but as the harbour silted up so the 'sur-mer' was dropped. It was one of the wealthiest ports in northern Europe, guarded by a royal castle built by French king Philippe Auguste. Local market on Saturday.

Desvres Pottery.

The lively market town Desvres, has been famous for centuries for the manufacture of decorated ceramics. If you are interested in pottery and enjoy watching skilled craftspeople at work – Desvres is the place to visit!

The underground caves at Naours.

Located between Amiens and Doullens, the underground city of Naours is a whole city which has been excavated 33 metres under ground.

Agincourt.

You can tour the battlefield where in 1415 Henry V's English army massacred a French army. The Medieval History Centre in the village not only tells the story of the battle, but sets the whole bloody conflict in context.

Aqualud Water Park, Le Touquet.

You can enjoy swimming in warm water even on a cold, windy day at Aqualud, beneath the vast glass pyramid which offers a wide range of indoor water-based activities – a giant water slide, the "River of Surprises", artificial waves, bubbling baths.

Bagatelle Theme Park.

A popular fun environment set in attractive woods and hills with imaginative rides, including many "white knuckle" rides and breath-taking experiences, a zoo and gentler rides for younger children, and a choice of places to eat and drink.

World War I sites (see pages 17 & 19).

Ypres – possible visits: 'In Flanders Fields' Museum, Passchendaele, Tyne Cot British cemetery, or Sanctuary Wood. The Somme – consider Thiepval, Ulster Tower, Newfoundland Park or Lochnagar Crater at La Boiselle.

World War II sites (see page 22).

Ambleteuse, Battery Todt (Audinghen), Mimoyecques, La Coupole History Centre of War and Rockets, Eperlecques, Calais War Museum, Dunkerque or Atlantic Wall near Ostende.



Included in this tour

- Full board from dinner on Day 1 to packed lunch on final day • Coach travel • Short sea channel crossing
- Sightseeing pre-booked to requirements (excluding entrance fees) • Comprehensive travel insurance
- Information pack for group leader

4 Day Opal Coast Tour

Day 1

Travel from school to Channel coast for your crossing to Calais, and on to your accommodation in the Opal Coast. Time for a brief visit* en route.

Day 2 & 3

Two full days including visits to some of the major places on the Opal Coast (see below).

Day 4

We depart your accommodation centre after breakfast with time for a brief visit*, before your return to Calais, and journey back to school.

*The time available for visits en route is dependant upon the school's distance from the Channel port.



Other short visits which could be considered:

- Discover some of the secrets of baking delicious French bread and croissants – and maybe sample some of them at the Boulangerie in Hardelot.
- See demonstrations of traditional manufacture of sweets and jellies at a Sweetmaker's in Boulogne.
- Learn the secrets and sample the delights of chocolate making, in the village of Beussent.
- Visit a Cheese Farm to see cheese production.