

St-Malo - the most visited place in Brittany!

St Malo

St Malo is famed for its beautiful walled city where you will find beautiful old buildings in a maze of small narrow streets, museums, restaurants and cafés. The city has been an important seaport for centuries. At one time it was responsible for supplying a large portion of the royal wealth to the French monarchy. This was done through legitimate ventures such as the French East India Company as well as the more dubious efforts of the Corsairs who used the town as their base. Present day riches are generated by the abundance of tourists who come to explore St Malo and the surrounding area.

When you arrive, we recommend you should firstly take a walk along the top of the city's ramparts (defensive walls) and enjoy the splendid view of the Emerald Coast. At low tide you can reach the National Fort by foot where you can admire St Malo harbour, which boasts the largest marina in France. Then we suggest walking down the cobblestone streets to reach St Malo's Cathedral, or alternatively just stop at a "crêperie" restaurant to enjoy a delicious crepe with a cup of apple cider from Brittany.

Gateway to Paris

Take advantage of the free morning shuttle bus connecting HD Ferries terminal and the TGV station, allowing you to venture into Paris for a late lunch.

There is a **FREE** morning shuttle bus service exclusively for use by HD Ferries customers.



Bus type:
55 seater coach with good storage space for luggage.

Timetable

Time	Route	Duration
08:45	St Malo Train & Bus Station (Quay C) to St Malo Ferry Port	15 minutes (arrive 0900)
09:45	St Malo Ferry Port to St Malo Train & Bus Station	15 minutes (arrive 1000)

All times shown are French local time. The bus runs everyday, including weekends.

Bus stops

The HD Ferries shuttle bus arrives and departs from "Quay C" at the St Malo Train & Bus Station. The bus also arrives and departs from in front of the ferry terminal.

Ticket

The shuttle bus driver will only accept customers holding a valid HD Ferries e-ticket or boarding pass. The shuttle bus is not allowed to make intermediate stops. Seats are given on a first come, first served basis.



Eating Out

As you may expect, St. Malo offers a breadth of good eateries to suit all tastes and budgets. Local specialities include fresh lobsters and Cancale oysters, as well as other classic French traditional cuisine such as sweet galettes, crepes and moules. All taste fantastic particularly when washed down with a 'boule' of cider. Some of the most popular restaurants and cafés are situated in a long line inside the city ramparts, between Porte St-Vincent and the Grande Porte.

Key Sites of Interest :



The Walled City (La Ville Intra-Muros) The city ramparts date from the 12th century and stretch 1.2 miles from Saint-Vincent Gate to Saint-Thomas Gate. When walking along the ramparts you can admire the fantastic views of the old town's houses, the large bay and the islets at the mouth of the Rance estuary.

The Château of Saint-Malo To the right of city's main gate, Porte St-Vincent, is the Musée de la Ville (city museum) called the Château of Saint-Malo. The museum covers most of St. Malo's historic past, with maps, diagrams and dioramas documenting a history incorporating piracy, colonialism, slave trading, and more recently German occupation during World War II. A grand dungeon and general tour is available here.

The Grand Aquarium Situated a few miles to the south of the citadel, St Malo's Grand Aquarium displays fish and sea life from around the world in 8 different aquariums. One of the aquariums is a circular fish tank that allows visitors to stand in the middle of magnificent swirling fish shoals. Other attractions include underwater rides on a Nautibus, a ship wreck and a lost city exhibits. The Grand Aquarium is essential viewing for all the family.



Ile du Grand Bé At low tide it is possible to take a 25 minute walk from St Malo city center to the island of Grand-Be. As well as spectacular views of the surrounding coastline, the island holds the tomb of the 19th Century writer and politician, Mr Chateaubriand.

The Cathedral of St. Vincent The Cathedral dates from the 9th century and includes Angevin, Plantagenet, Romanesque and Gothic architecture. It is famous for its 1160 nave vault, as well as its magnificent choir concerts and organ playing. Admission is free and it's open daily from 8am to 7pm.

Go as you please, Breton style!

If you are travelling by car then, after stopping off in St Malo, why not visit the unique surrounding area?

Mont-Saint-Michel

Classified as a World Heritage Area by UNESCO, the bay of Mont-Saint-Michel boasts the strongest tides in Europe. The "Wonder of the Western World" stands majestically in the middle of the bay, and any visitor to the region would regret visiting the beautiful abbey (pictured below).



Cancale

Cancale is a small, traditional fishing harbour and large oyster-farming centre that produces thousands of tons of Portuguese and European flat oysters. Whilst visiting be sure to go to the port of "La Houle" where you can buy oysters directly from the harbour front or from the "Marine Farm", a family-run oyster farm.

Dinard

Enjoy the traditional charm of this family seaside resort with its very beautiful 19th century British-style villas.

Dinan Ville d'art et d'histoir

This mediaeval town, which is one of the oldest in Brittany, towers over the Rance valley from its ramparts. A walk on the port and along the Jerzual street is very worthwhile.

Gulf of Morbihan

The Gulf of Morbihan is a vast inland sea covering more than 12,000 hectares. It is sheltered from the Atlantic winds and, according to the legend, is made up of 365 original islands. Take a lunch or dining cruise on the Gulf of Morbihan and visit islands such as l'île aux Moines and l'île d'Arz.

Vannes - Cité d'art

Vannes is the keystone of the Gulf of Morbihan area, and is also a very old town. Its walls encircle one of the most beautiful examples of perfectly preserved and richly decorated architecture in Brittany.

Josselin

Josselin sits at the edge of the Oust canal, on the road taken by the dukes of Brittany. Its castle, which is still home to the De Rohan family, offers a surprising contrast. Its exterior is the remainder of the former mediaeval fortress and its interior is sculpted granite made in a Renaissance style. The museum, in the former stables of the castle, houses the De Rohan family collection of dolls and is well worth a visit.

Rennes

Beautiful Rennes is home to the mediaeval streets lined with timber-framed houses contrasting with 18th century buildings. There are two royal squares: Place du Parlement and De l'Hôtel de Ville. Also the Brittany museum, the Museum of Fine Arts and the Thabor are worth a visit.



Carnac

Enjoy the village of Carnac's sandy beaches, traditional rural architecture, and famous / haunting megaliths (large stone monuments) - not to be missed!



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