ANGOULÊME CIRCUIT DES REMPARTS

A DRIVING TOUR FOR THE JAGUAR XK CLUB & E-TYPE CLUB

15th - 21st September 2020



Angouleme

The Circuit des Remparts in Angouleme is a true spectacle for classic car motor racing enthusiasts. The whole weekend is packed with events starting with a Concours D'Elegance, an organised rally around the Cognac vineyards and of course the racing on the city's Remparts.

Tour Highlights Include:

- Return ferry crossings from Portsmouth with Brittany Ferries
- One night at the famous Hotel de France near Le Mans
- One night at the spectacular Fontevraud Abbey Hotel
- Three nights at the most sought-after hotel in Angouleme
- Beautiful D-road routes with step by step directions to follow
- Entry to all the festivities during the weekend at the Circuits des Remparts

The Proposed Itinerary

Tuesday 15th September

The tour begins at The Barley Mow in Tilford where all the club members on the tour will meet for a buffet dinner in the lovely pub restaurant. The Barley Mow was once a local to Britain's first Formula I World Champion, Mike Hawthorn. This is a great chance for everyone to meet before the short 35-mile journey to Portsmouth ferry port.

Our ferry departs from Portsmouth at 22.45hrs and will arrive in Caen the following day at 07.30hrs. Having arrived at the port, at check in you will be directed to our dedicated loading line. Once we have all boarded the ship together, we will find our overnight cabins for a good night's rest ready for the following day.

Wednesday 16th September

Having docked in Caen, our first destination is the beautiful small town of Putanges on the Orne River. Here we have coffee & croissants ready for you at the Le Lion Verd Hotel right by the river.

Following breakfast, we begin our scenic journey to the famous Le Mans 24hr circuit. The route takes us south into the Normandie-Maine National Park through beautiful French countryside. Upon arrival at the circuit, we will enjoy a

light lunch in one of our favourite restaurants in Le Mans overlooking the circuit. After lunch, we will follow the route to the Hotel de France used by the team cars driving to and from the circuit between 1953 and 1963, including the 1959 winning cars.

The Hotel de France has welcomed the President of France, President Kennedy's family, Steve McQueen, Sir Stirling Moss OBE and a regular guest for the Le Mans 24 Hours, Derek Bell MBE. These are just a few names from a long list of personalities that have enjoyed the hotel's hospitality over the years.

Upon arrival at the hotel, there will be plenty of time to settle into your room before our first dinner as a group in France in the hotel restaurant.

Thursday 17th September

After an excellent French breakfast at the Hotel de France, we have a relaxed start to the morning. We will depart from the hotel at 10.30hrs for a beautiful scenic drive on empty French D-roads to the town of Montsoreau.

Today we have arranged a boat trip on the Loire River. Upon arrival, your Tour Managers will show you to the parking area before boarding the boat.

On the boat, we will enjoy a welcome aperitif with some wonderful live music from two local musicians before sitting down for lunch on board.















Following a fantastic time on the river, we only have 3 miles to cover to reach our overnight stop, the stunning Fontevraud Abbey Hotel. This hotel has been refurbished to an excellent standard and sits within the grounds of the Abbey which was listed as a Historic Monument in 1840. Upon arrival, you will have plenty of time to settle into your room and wander around the 13-hectare site learning all there is to learn about the Abbey's history.

This evening we will dine in their private banqueting room with wonderful high ceilings and enjoy a spectacular meal with wine included.

Friday 18th September

Following breakfast this morning, we aim to leave the hotel at 10.00hrs for our 2-hour drive to the town of Confolens. In Confolens we will visit one of our favourite restaurants for a light lunch before continuing our journey to Angouleme.

Upon arrival at the hotel, you will arrive into the bustling town that is readying itself for the excitement of the weekend ahead. You will be shown to your private parkin space at the hotel in their underground car park before checking in for 3 nights and settling into your room.

In the early evening you are invited to the Classic Grand Touring welcome drinks in one of the hotels private function rooms where you will be served a choice of drinks and a selection of



canapes. Here you will also be handed all your tickets for the weekend and given a briefing by Jamie of what to expect over the next couple of days.

You are free this evening to enjoy the Concours D'Elegance and dine in one of the many excellent restaurants in Angouleme.

Saturday 19th September

This morning the scenic rally which you will be entered into as standard departs on some extremely fine roads surrounding the Cognac region. There are checkpoint and refreshment points along the way and an excellent 4-course lunch taken at a surprise location. The roads on the rally are filled with locals enjoying picnics at the side of the road watching all the wonderful cars pass through the local towns and villages.

Having returned to the hotel following the rally, this evening you have tickets for the competitors' gala buffet in the covered market. Classic Grand Touring have their own private area in the covered market with a private wine bar and canapés.

Sunday 20th September

Today the historic racing begins! Practice and qualifying takes place on the circuit during the morning sessions.

We have an exclusive hospitality tent for CGT guests serving complimentary light refreshments all day for you to use at your leisure and as an area to relax.

Your race tickets will provide access to the paddock and a numbered seat in the Cathedral grandstand on the start-finish straight with a big screen, so you won't miss any of the action. This evening we have organised a farewell dinner at our hotel with a surprise prize giving

Monday 21st September

After our final breakfast in Angoulême we use the motorways to travel back to the port in Caen for our 16:30hrs crossing back to Portsmouth.

Alternative Sailings

We can arrange a later sailing on the 23:00hrs from Caen if you prefer or alternative ferries to suit your plans should you wish to extend your trip. Please contact us for bespoke packages.

What is included?

- Return ferry crossings with Brittany Ferries
- Cabin accommodation on board the ferry on the outbound crossing
- One night at the Hotel de France
- One night at the Fontrevraud Abbey Hotel
- Three nights at the Mercure Hotel, the top hotel in Angouleme
- Entry to the Saturday Rally in Angouleme
- Entry tickets and Cathedral Grandstand seat for the racing on Sunday
- Boat trip on the Loire River including lunch
- Dinner on six evenings including wine
- Lunch on three days including on the Saturday rally
- Breakfast at the Le Lion Verd Hotel in Putanges
- Welcome drinks and canapes at the Mercure Hotel
- Support from an experienced Classic Car Mechanic
- Printed and bound road book with day-by-day itinerary and route directions
- Managed and accompanied by Jamie Robinson, MD of Classic Grand Touring

The Price:

 $\pounds 1{,}995.00$ per person based on two sharing a car and a hotel room throughout

£2,750.00 per person based on one in a car and a single occupancy hotel room throughout















