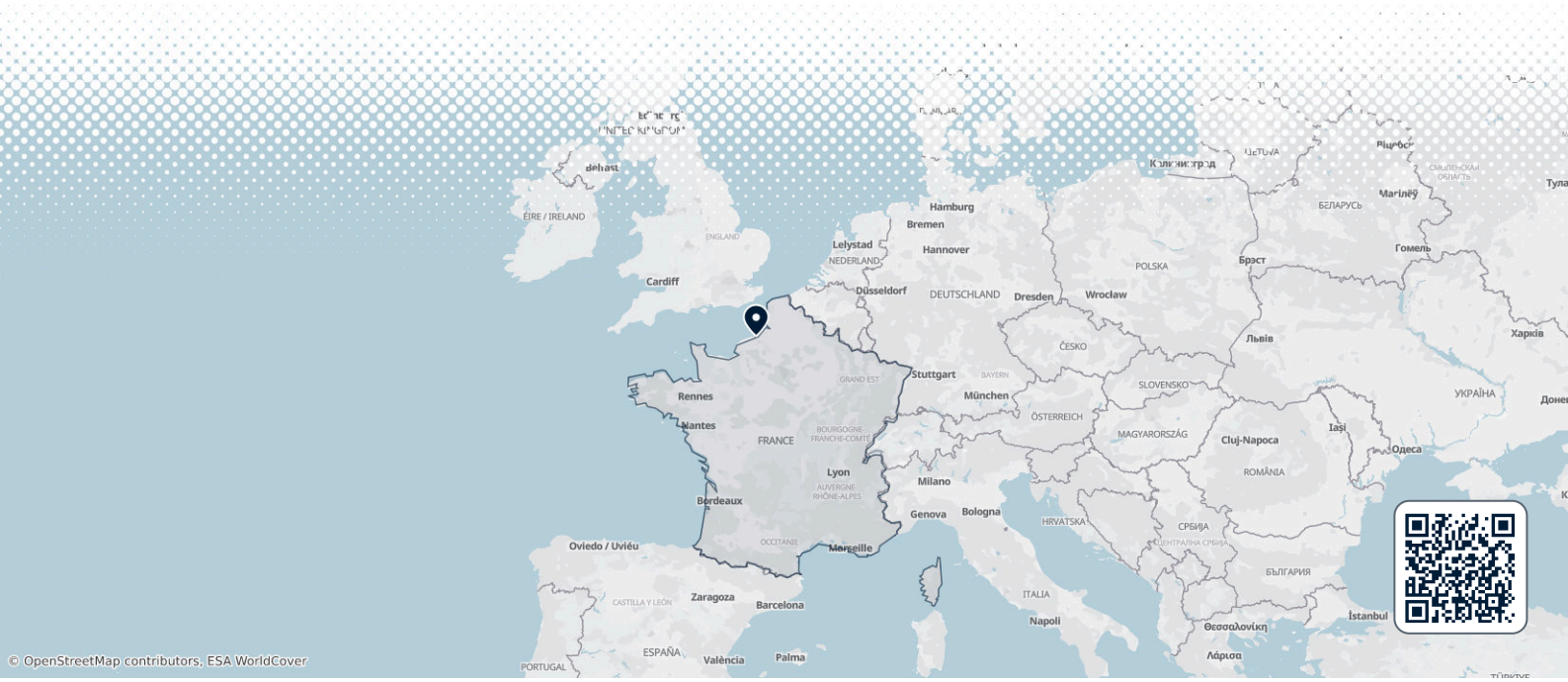


Dieppe

Normandy · France

TRAVEL GUIDE

Tripomatic



Overview

Dieppe is a working fishing port and seaside town on the Normandy coast. It sits between white chalk cliffs and a long pebble beach, about two hours from Paris. It suits a relaxed weekend of sea air, fresh seafood and short walks.

The town has been a harbour for centuries. Ships sailed from here for trade and exploration, and ferries still link it to England. Painters and writers came in the 19th century and made it a fashionable resort. Today it mixes a lively market and harbour life with a small clifftop castle and a few good museums.

When to visit

Late spring to early autumn is the best time for the beach, the harbour terraces and the coast walks. Summer is mild, not hot, and the sea stays cool. Winter is grey and windy, but many hotels and restaurants stay open. Rain can come in any month, so bring a light waterproof.

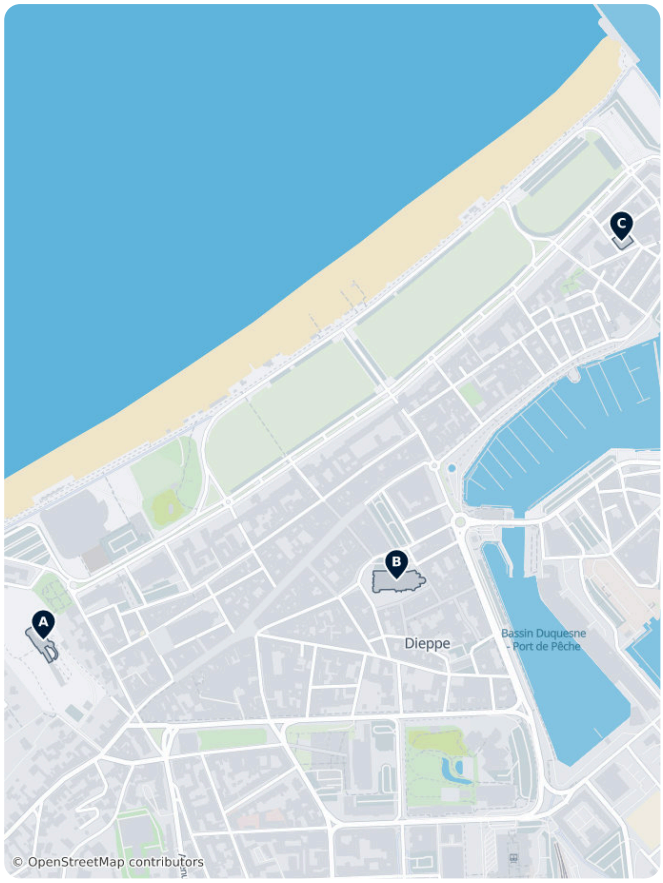
The biggest annual event is the Herring and Scallop Fair in mid-November. It celebrates the local catch and the start of the scallop season, with food stalls, boats and music around the harbour.

MONTH	CONDITIONS	DAY °C avg / max	NIGHT °C avg / min	
January	Poor Poor for sightseeing	7° / 12° Feels like 3°	3° / -4°	14 rainy days · Dry air
February	Fair Fair for cycling	8° / 14° Feels like 4°	3° / -3°	12 rainy days · Dry air
March	Fair Fair for cycling	11° / 17° Feels like 7°	4° / -1°	13 rainy days · Dry air
April	Good Good for cycling	14° / 21° Feels like 10°	6° / 1°	12 rainy days · Dry air
May	Good Good for cycling	17° / 24°	10° / 5°	14 rainy days · Dry air
June	Great Great for sightseeing	20° / 27°	13° / 9°	12 rainy days · Dry air
July	Great Great for sightseeing	22° / 28°	15° / 11°	13 rainy days
August	Great Great for sightseeing	22° / 29°	15° / 12°	13 rainy days
September	Good Good for sightseeing	20° / 26°	13° / 9°	12 rainy days · Dry air
October	Good Good for cycling	16° / 21° Feels like 13°	10° / 5°	15 rainy days · Dry air
November	Poor Poor for cycling	11° / 16° Feels like 7°	7° / 1°	16 rainy days · Dry air
December	Poor Poor for cycling	8° / 13° Feels like 4°	4° / -3°	15 rainy days · Dry air

Best months: June, July, August

Climate data: NASA POWER + Copernicus ERA5-Land and ERA5 · 1996–2025

Top sights



- A Musée de Dieppe is the castle on the western cliff, built in the 15th century. It holds the town's museum, with ship models, paintings and a famous collection of carved ivory. Dieppe was a centre of ivory carving.
- B Église Saint-Jacques is the main church in the old centre. It mixes Gothic and Renaissance styles and was built over several centuries. Look for the carved frieze on the outside wall.
- C ESTRAN Cité de la mer is a sea museum near the harbour entrance. It covers fishing, shipbuilding and the coastal environment, and it works well with children.
- The harbour quays around the marina are the best place to watch boats and fishermen. A lifting bridge crosses the entrance to the old basin.
- The long pebble beach and its wide lawns stretch along the seafront below the castle. It is good for a walk at any time of year.
- The cliff path to the Notre-Dame-de-Bon-Secours chapel on the eastern cliff gives a wide view over the port and the town.
- The Square du Canada, near the castle, honours the Canadian soldiers of the 1942 raid on Dieppe.

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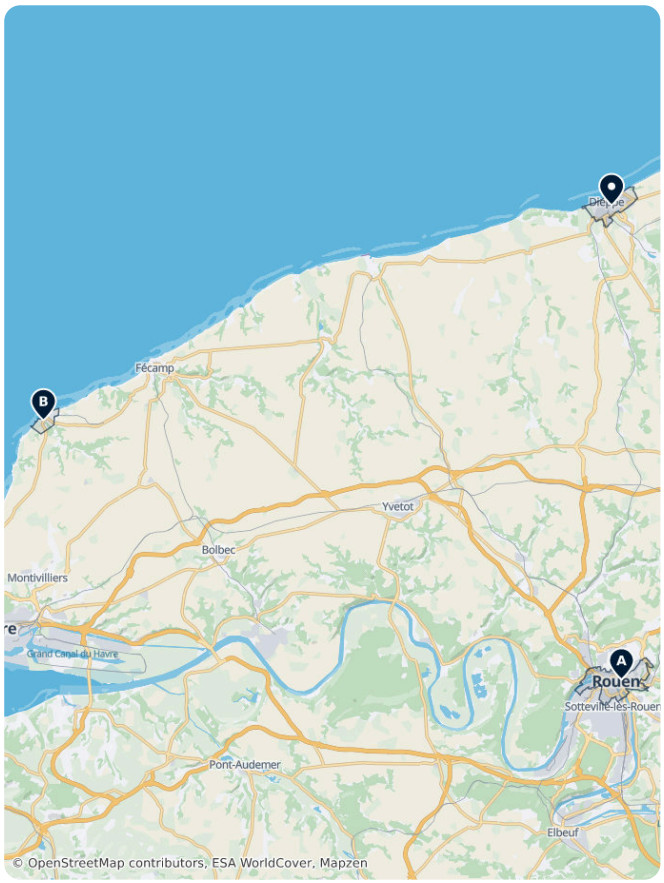
What to experience

- **Saturday market**: The main weekly market fills the streets of the old centre on Saturday morning. It sells local produce, cheese, seafood and flowers.
- **Dieppe International Kite Festival**: This event takes place every two years in September. Giant kites fly over the beach and the lawns for two weekends.
- **Herring and Scallop Fair**: Every November, the harbour hosts a fair for the local fishing catch. The fair marks the start of the scallop season.
- **A beach walk or swim in summer**: The beach is pebbles, not sand. Bring water shoes. The sea is cool even in August.
- **Cycling the Avenue Verte**: Ride part of the London to Paris cycle route inland from Dieppe on quiet, mostly flat paths.

Day trips

Dieppe is a good base for the Alabaster Coast and the green valleys inland. Places are listed from closest to farthest.



- **Arques-la-Bataille**: about 10 minutes by car. A ruined 11th-century castle stands on a hill above the village.
- **Varengeville-sur-Mer**: about 15 minutes by car. A clifftop church with the tomb of the painter *Georges Braque*, and the Bois des Moutiers gardens. Nearby Pourville-sur-Mer has a beach and cliff walks.
- **Eu and Le Tréport**: about 35 to 40 minutes by car. Le Tréport is a busy fishing port under high cliffs, with a funicular. Inland Eu has a château and a large Gothic church.
- **Saint-Valery-en-Caux**: about 40 minutes by car. A small harbour town between tall chalk cliffs.
- Ⓐ Rouen: about 50 minutes by train. A large old city with a famous Gothic cathedral and half-timbered streets.
- Ⓑ Etretat: about 1 hour 15 minutes by car. Famous for its natural rock arches and white cliffs.

Getting there

- **By air**: There is no airport with scheduled passenger service in Dieppe. Most visitors fly into the Paris airports, then continue by train or car. The trip from Paris to Dieppe takes about 2 to 3 hours.
- **By train**: Trains run to Dieppe from Rouen in about 50 minutes. From Paris (Saint-Lazare station) the trip takes about 2 hours 15 minutes to 3 hours, with one change. Dieppe station is a short walk from the harbour. Book on SNCF Connect.
- **By ferry**: A ferry runs between Newhaven in England and Dieppe. The crossing takes about 4 hours. The port takes foot passengers, cyclists and cars. The terminal is about 2 km from the station, so plan a taxi or a 30-minute walk.
- **By car**: Dieppe is about 2 hours from Paris and 1 hour from Rouen by road.

Getting around

- **On foot**: The centre, the harbour, the beach and the castle are all within a 15-minute walk of the station. This is the best way to see Dieppe. The castle is up a short, steep slope.
- **By bus**: A local bus network serves the suburbs and nearby villages. You will rarely need it in town. Services to coastal villages are limited, so check times before you go.
- **By bike**: The seafront is flat and good for cycling. Dieppe is also on the *Avenue Verte*, the cycle route between London and Paris. More information: Dieppe tourist office.

Getting around on foot & by bike

WALKABILITY

High

The centre, harbour, beach and station are close together and mostly flat, so walking works well.

CYCLING INFRASTRUCTURE

Moderate

The seafront is flat and the Avenue Verte starts nearby, but the cliffs are steep.

Driving

- **Is a car worth it?**: Not for Dieppe itself, which is compact and walkable. A car is useful for the coast and villages nearby, where buses are infrequent.
- **Parking**: Paid car parks and street parking are available near the harbour, the old centre and the seafront. Parking is harder on market mornings and in summer weekends.

Food & drink

Dieppe is known for seafood, especially scallops (*coquilles Saint-Jacques*), herring, sole and mussels. A typical local dish is *sole à la dieppoise*, cooked in a cream and white wine sauce. Normandy butter, cream, cider and apple brandy appear on many menus.

Eating clusters around the harbour quays, where restaurants line the water. For a simpler meal, try the small streets near the old centre and the market on Saturday morning. Fresh fish stalls near the harbour sell seafood to take away.

What to eat & drink

BREAKFAST

Croissant
Buttery, flaky laminated pastry and a classic French breakfast staple.

LUNCH

Ratatouille
A Provençal stewed vegetable dish of eggplant, zucchini, peppers, and tomatoes.

DINNER

Coq au Vin
Chicken braised slowly in red wine with mushrooms, onions, and lardons.

Beef Bourguignon · Bœuf Bourguignon
Beef stewed in red Burgundy wine with carrots, onions, and mushrooms.

Escargot · Escargots de Bourgogne
Snails cooked in garlic and parsley butter, a classic starter.

SNACKS & STREET FOOD

Baguette
Long, crusty white bread loaf bought fresh daily from the local boulangerie.

Cheese · Fromage
France produces hundreds of cheese varieties, often served as a course before dessert.

SWEETS & DESSERTS

Crepes · Crêpes
Thin pancakes served sweet with sugar or jam, or savory as galettes.

Macarons
Delicate almond meringue sandwich cookies in a range of flavors and colors.

DRINKS

Wine · Vin
France's wine regions, including Bordeaux, Burgundy, and Champagne, are among the world's most renowned.

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Safety & health

Dieppe is a safe town for visitors. Petty theft such as pickpocketing and car break-ins can happen, especially around the harbour and in busy summer weekends. Do not leave bags visible in a parked car.

The cliffs and the tide need care. Check tide times before walking on the beach below the cliffs. The tide comes in fast and can cut off the path. Stay away from cliff edges and from the foot of the cliffs, because rocks fall.

Tap water is safe to drink.

History

Dieppe grew as a port from the Middle Ages. In the 16th century, the shipowner *Jean Ango* sent trading and exploration ships from here, and the town became a centre of mapmaking. Craftsmen carved ivory brought back by sailors, and the best pieces are now in Musée de Dieppe. The castle dates from the 15th century and survived a bombardment in 1694.

Église Saint-Jacques shows the wealth of those years. Later, in the 19th century, Parisian and English visitors came to bathe and paint. The artist *Walter Sickert* and others worked here, and the town became a resort.

On 19 August 1942, Allied troops, mostly Canadian, landed at Dieppe in a large raid on the German-held coast. More than 1,200 Allied soldiers died and the raid failed. Canadian troops liberated the town on 1 September 1944. The beach and the Square du Canada remember them today.

Country facts

Quick practical facts for France at a glance:

CURRENCY
EUR €

EMERGENCY
112

ELECTRICITY

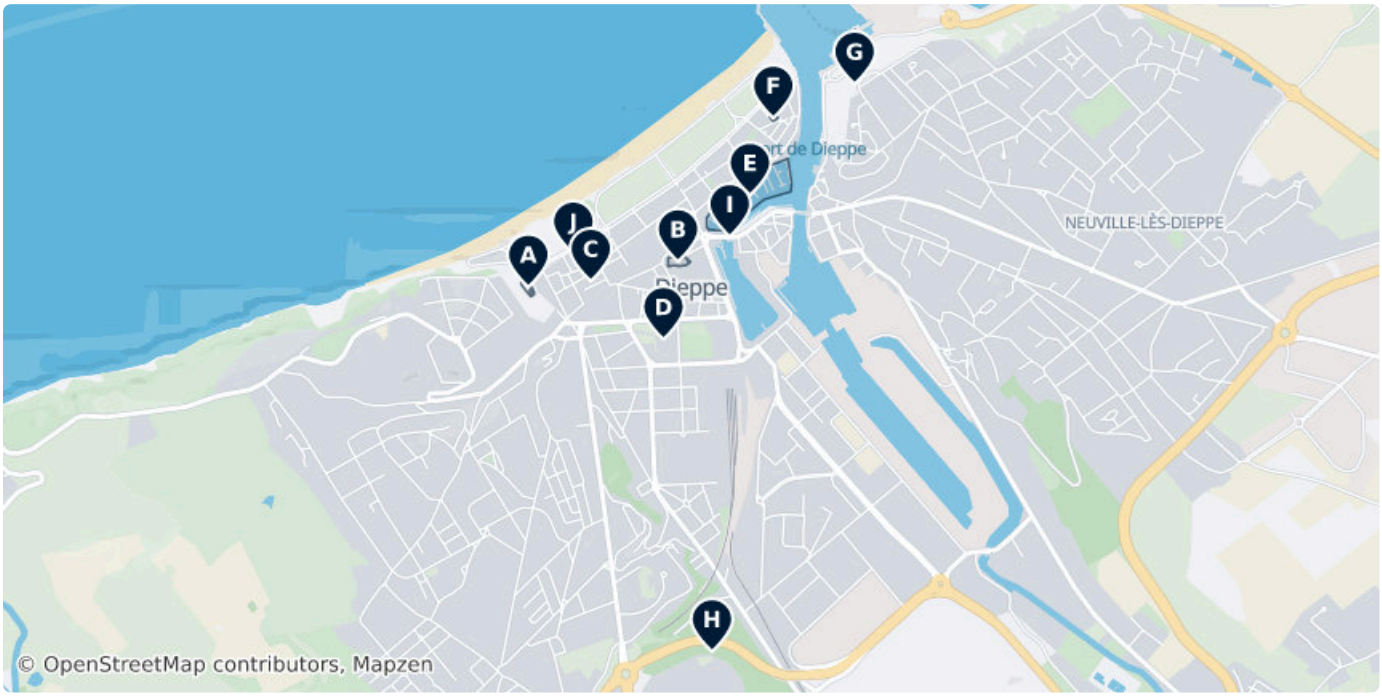
Type C / Type E
230 V · 50 Hz

LANGUAGES
French

TAP WATER
Safe to drink

Dieppe Essentials

Dieppe is a historic maritime hub on the Alabaster Coast, characterized by dramatic limestone cliffs and deep seafaring traditions. This selection highlights the city's architectural evolution, from the 12th-century Gothic masonry of Église Saint-Jacques to the 1950s engineering of the Jehan Ango lift bridge. The list covers essential landmarks including the clifftop castle museum, the bustling central marina, and the ESTRAN Cité de la mer, which documents Normandy's fishing and shipbuilding heritage.





A Château de Dieppe

The Château de Dieppe is a castle in the French town of Dieppe in the Seine-Maritime départementThe castle was founded in 1188 by King...

Rue de Chastes, 76200 Dieppe, France (49.92467, 1.07027)



B Church of Saint-Jacques, Dieppe

A 12th-to-16th-century Gothic church featuring ornate shell-decorated chapels and a 42-meter-high bell tower. It serves as a historic stop for pilgrims on the Way of St. James.

18 Rue Sainte-Catherine, Dieppe 76200, France (49.92556, 1.07844)

C Église Saint-Rémy

This 16th-century church blends Flamboyant Gothic and Renaissance architecture. It is noted for its 18th-century organ and detailed wood carvings within the choir.

1 Passage Pauline Amblard, Dieppe 76200, France (49.92488, 1.07368)



D Dieppe

The city's administrative center, housed in a 19th-century building located near the historic core and the waterfront.

Dieppe 76200, France (49.92284, 1.07765)

dieppe.fr, +33 2 35 06 60 00

E Port de plaisance - Bassin Jehan Ango

A central marina named after a famed 16th-century Dieppe shipowner. It provides over 500 berths and is lined with restaurants overlooking the docked sailboats.

Dieppe 76200, France (49.92789, 1.08237)

portdedieppe.fr, +33 2 35 40 19 79



F Estran Cité de la mer

A maritime museum and aquarium dedicated to the Alabaster Coast. It features exhibits on traditional fishing techniques, regional shipbuilding, and local marine ecosystems.

Rue de l'Asile Thomas 37, 76200 Dieppe (49.93061, 1.08364)

Mo–Fr	09:30–18:00
Sa–Su	09:30–12:30, 13:30–18:00

estrancitedelamer.fr

G Entrée du port

A scenic viewpoint at the harbor mouth, ideal for watching cross-channel ferries and fishing boats pass the town's distinctive lighthouses and piers.

(49.93180, 1.08808)

H Belvédère

A panoramic lookout point offering elevated views across the harbor, the pebble beach, and the surrounding limestone cliffs of the Normandy coastline.

(49.91186, 1.08029)

I Pont levant Jehan Ango (1950)

A vertical-lift bridge constructed in 1950. It spans the harbor to allow large vessels access while connecting the city center to the historic Pollet district.

Pont Jehan Ango, 76200 Dieppe, France
(49.92645, 1.08126)

Mo–Su Open 24/7

dieppe.fr/menus/decouvrir-dieppe-2/le-patrimoine-archit...

J Grand Casino

A seaside entertainment complex featuring gaming rooms, slot machines, and a restaurant, located directly on the waterfront promenade.

(49.92583, 1.07272)

casinodieppe.com

DATA SOURCES

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