

St Mont Michel

No holiday in this area would be complete without a visit to this world famous attraction. The route is presented in two halves. The fastest way is straight down the main road to Avranches, but it's a fast road, so I've recommended a route by the coast. The outward route takes in the coast and is a pretty ride in itself, the way back goes inland

The arrangements for getting to the Mont have changed in April, the main car park is being closed and people can't drive to the Mont anymore, how this affects bikes I'm unsure. It's being done to allow the Mont to become an island again with a series of bridges rather than a causeway, so the area won't silt up anymore.

Distance 53.7km out 47.2km back = 100.9km

Places of Interest

St Mont Michel

The long history of **Mont Saint-Michel** is thought to date back to **708**, when Aubert, Bishop of Avranches had a sanctuary built on Mont-Tombe in honour of the Archangel. The Mount soon became a major focus of pilgrimage. **In the 10th century**, the Benedictines settled in **the Abbey**, while a village grew up below its walls. **By the 14th century**, it extended as far as the foot of the rock. An impregnable stronghold during the Hundred Years War, **Mont Saint-Michel** is also an example of military architecture.

Following the **dissolution of the religious community** during the **revolution** and **until 1863, the Abbey was used as a prison**. Classified as a **historic monument in 1874**, it underwent major restoration work. **Mont Saint-Michel** has been listed as a **World Heritage site by UNESCO since 1979**.

Places to eat

The main places will be

Avranches 30km

Mont St. Michel 53.7km

There will be places at Genetes as well as other places

Route Description

Mont St. Michel LONG RIDE-Thursday 6th. June 2012			
Inst.	Miles		Notes
	Total	Stage	
0	0.0	0.0	This route is written from the entrance of the site onto the D973. It's probably possible to exit the site from the back and so avoid this. In this case from the back of the site, head left and pick up the instruction at 2.6km (below) From the entrance of the campsite head right (south) along D973, then take the first right along D154, SP Kairon-Plage
1	0.4	0.4	This is the first right turn described above
2	1.6	1.2	2.6km TL at TJ, SP Jullouville along D21
3	2.8	1.2	4.5km TR, SP Jullouville 2.5, along D109. This will take you to Jullouville which is a long strip next to the beach. At the D911 you will need to head left and south parallel to the beach
4	4.3	1.5	6.9km You've reached the D911 in Jullouville, head left, there is a better beach at Carolles, we will be following the D911 for some time now as it goes close to the coast. (If you lie here is a more minor road that parallels the D911, closer to the shore, but there is probably little advantage in taking this)
5	5.2	1.0	8.5km Carolles-plage RHS. (This is one of the nicer beaches) Carry on along D911
6	6.1	0.9	10.1km. Carry on along the D911, SP Sartilly (8 till huit LHS) Then bear right SP Sartilly, then shortly afterwards bear right again SP St Jean le T, Avranches, Cabane Auban (Sartilly is signed to the left here.)
7	7.3	1.2	11.8km Bear right SP St Jean le TH 3, Avranches 20 along D911
8	8.2	0.9	13.3km Bear right SP St Jean le TH 1.5, along D911. There is a bar here Cap a L'ouest - coffee stop. The next turn is just after this so watch out
9	8.4	0.1	13.5km The road has borne right and just as it starts going left, take the narrower right turn, no SP and descend. It's one way, but please don't go too fast as there is a wall at the bottom
10	8.7	0.4	14.1 km TR at TJ, no SP, low wall and houses opposite, head for Plage de St-Michel, then follow the coast road
11	10.4	1.7	16.8km Bear left and then right (Don't take the D143 back uphill,) just follow the coast
12	12.2	1.8	19.7km Le Bec d'Andaine RHS, the road bears left along D35E, SP Genets 1.8
13	13.1	0.9	21.1km TR at TJ, SP Vains, Avranches along D911 and enter Genets, pass through and then stay on the D911 all the way to the outskirts of Avranches
14	16.4	3.3	26.4km Vains
15	18.6	2.2	30.1km TR at XR (slip road) SP Avranches 1.5, along D973
16	19.0	0.4	30.7km Take the third exit on the roundabout SP Avranches, Caen, over the bridge
17	19.4	0.4	31.3km At the mini roundabout TR, SP Centre Ville
18	19.7	0.3	31.8km Centre Ville is signed left here. If you want to visit Avranches TL here. The route description however will continue
19	20.0	0.3	32.3km With the big church in front, at the mini roundabout TR, SP Lycee Littre, Tennis Club, along D456
20	22.0	2.0	35.6km Just before the TJ onto the main road (D43E) there is a much smaller road that goes right SP Chemintret, La Caustiere, take this as it parallels the larger road heading south
21	22.3	0.3	36km Take the second right no SP (low stone wall with a rail on top LHS) You will pass under the motorway
22	22.9	0.6	36.9km TR at TJ SP Le Val St Pere
23	23.1	0.2	37.3km At the roundabout, bear left (red fire hydrant LHS)
24	23.4	0.3	37.7km Bear Right (Other way signed Pontaubault), then bear left no SP, estuary RHS. You will soon parallel the railway LHS and pass under it
25	24.4	1.0	39.3km TR at TJ no SP. (Hotel/Restaurant LHS and gates and pillars opposite)
26	24.9	0.5	40.2km Just after crossing bridge into Pontaubault, TR SP Ceaux along D113
27	25.5	0.6	41.2km Bear left SP Ceaux, along D113
28	26.8	1.2	43.2km In Ceaux TL at XR, SP Le Mont-St-Michel 13
29	27.1	0.3	43.6km TR at XR, SP Le Mont-St-Michel 12, along D43
30	28.1	1.1	Courtils Village
31	29.3	1.1	47.2km Bear left, SP Le Mont-St-Michel 9, along D75 Next to the coast now
32	33.1	3.9	53.4km TR at TJ, SP Le Mont-St-Michel 2, along D776
33	34.5	1.4	55.7km Le Mont-St-Michel

			Note: From this point the km. distance shown in this column are measured from Mont St. Michel
	34.5	0.0	0.0km Head back along the causeway. The route will be a repeat of going out until Avranches
34	35.9	1.4	2.2km TL, SP Caen, Alencon, Cherbourg
35	39.7	3.9	8.4km Bear right SP Avranches along D43
36	41.9	2.2	11.9km TL at XR, SP Ceaux 0.5, along D113
37	42.2	0.3	12.4km In Ceaux, TR at XR, SP Pontaubault, along D113
38	43.4	1.3	14.4km Bear right, SP Pontaubault 1 along D113
39	44.0	0.6	15.4km TL at TJ, SP Avranches 6
40	45.2	1.1	16.2km TL SP Aerodrome sign on other side of natural view, pass under railway
41	46.1	1.0	17.8km Bear right, then bear left, SP Le Val St Pere, Aerodrome
42	46.4	0.3	18.3km Bear right at the mini roundabout, pass under the railway taking the next left SP La haute Guelle
43	47.2	0.8	19.6km TL at TJ, no SP
44	47.5	0.2	20km TL at TJ, no SP (more major road RHS) along D456
45	49.5	2.1	23.3km TL at mini roundabout, by big church, SP Villedieu, Granville, Caen, along D7
46	50.2	0.6	24.3km TL, SP Jullouville, Granville, descend D973
47	50.5	0.4	24.9km At the roundabout, take the second exit, SP Cherbourg, Sartilly, Jullouville, along D973
48	51.0	0.5	25.7km You can turn off the D873 here which is too be recommended (It is arrow straight passing the campsite, if you are short of time) TL, SP Marcey-Les-Greves 1.5, along D31
49	51.8	0.8	26.9km In Marcey-Les-Greves, TR at mini roundabout SP Bacilly 4.5
50	52.1	0.4	27.5km Bear left, staying on D31
51	52.8	0.7	28.6km Take the next right along minor road SP Chantere, sign on blind side to direction of travel (La Pensee-dark blue sign, at this junction)
52	53.8	0.9	30.2km TR at TJ, SP Lolif 4, along D333
53	54.1	0.3	Bear left, no SP (other way signed Lolif)
54	54.7	0.6	31.6km TR at TJ, SP Montviron 2.5, along D41
55	55.5	0.8	32.9km TL at XR, SP Champcey 2, St Jean Le Thomas 8
56	56.6	1.1	34.7km Champcey
57	57.3	0.7	35.9 TR at XR, SP Sartilly 2.5, along d35
58	58.9	1.5	38.3km In Santilly TL along Rue de Haras (One way) If you reach the D973 (main road) you've gone just too far
59	59.0	0.1	38.5km TR at TJ SP Granville, Avranches, then shortly afterwards TL, along D261 (there are recycling bins on the right side of the road and a small right turn just after this junction)
60	61.0	2.0	41.8km TR at TJ, SP St Pierre-Langers 3, Carolles 6, along D143, then shortly afterwards TL, SP St Michel les Loups 2.5, Carolles 6, along D61
61	62.7	1.6	44.4km In St Michel-des-Loups TR at TJ to head north along D21 (Le St Michel bar LHS, church RHS at junction)
62	63.3	0.7	45.6km TR, SP Vaumoisson (sign on other side to your view) along Route de la Pierre du Diable. This is a more minor road and there is a lone menhir close to the fence LHS after 200 metres.
63	63.7	0.4	46.2km Take the next left at the XR
64	64.3	0.6	47.2km TR at TJ, no SP (almost an XR - other road is to the left) You are now on the road you came out on follow this back to the campsite 50.8km FINISH
	65.6	1.3	Return to campsite