

### Abbaye de Hambye

Getting 5 routes that are different, from a coastal location isn't easy. On Friday this route is partially repeated and will take in the Abbaye de Hambye and the cider farm (in addition to Mont Robin) therefore you can make a choice which one to stop at on each day.

I would suggest that you visit the Cider farm on Friday. The reason is simply that the owner simply can't accommodate all of us today and as the short ride is going there today this will be a tremendous help.

A day of two Abbeys. Close to the campsite is the rebuilt Abbaye de la Lucerne. The ride takes you straight there (the short ride takes a loop). After this the ride heads across country to the ruined Abbaye de Hambye. According to the Michelin Guide this is one of the must see sites in this area. The route returns via the cider farm and they are expecting us for a guided tour and tasting.

**Distance**      68km / 42.5 miles

#### Places of Interest

##### 1) **Abbaye de la Lucerne**

<http://www.abbaye-lucerne.fr/>

**La Lucerne Abbey** (*Abbaye Sainte-Trinité de La Lucerne*<sup>[1]</sup>) is a [Premonstratensian](#) monastery situated in the forests of the Thar valley in the [Manche](#) department, near the commune of [La Lucerne-d'Outremer](#), in [France](#).

The abbey was founded in 1143 by Hasculf de Subigny, son of Othoerne, the tutor of [William Adelin](#), both of whom perished in the [White Ship](#) disaster of 1120, and later had the support of the English crown. The new monastery was settled from [Dommartin Abbey](#) near [Hesdin](#). The foundation stone of the permanent buildings was laid in 1164 by [Acharde of St. Victor](#), who was later buried here. Construction lasted from 1164 to 1178 and was in the [Romanesque](#) style, in the restrained and sober manner of [Cistercian](#) architecture, except that the complex was dominated by an [Anglo-Norman Gothic](#) tower.

La Lucerne was the mother-house of four other Premonstratensian monasteries: [Ardenne Abbey](#), [Mondaye Abbey](#) and [Belle-Étoile Abbey](#) (at [Cerisy-Belle-Étoile](#)) in [Normandy](#), and [Beauport Abbey](#) in [Brittany](#).

Major structural renovations were carried out in the 15th and 17th centuries.

During the [French Revolution](#), in 1792, the abbey was suppressed. Its buildings were at first turned into a cotton mill and then used as a source of stone.

The ruins were classed as a *monument historique* in 1928.

In 1959, under the aegis of Abbé Marcel Lelégard (1925-94), the enormous task was begun, which still continues under the "Fondation Abbaye de La Lucerne d'Outremer", of the restoration of the abbey. The first phase of the work was the reconstruction of the abbey church, particularly the [ogival](#) crossing vaults and the west front with its Romanesque portal, continuing to the refectory and cellars.

Work has continued since then and the [tithe barn](#), the Romanesque [lavatorium](#) (the only one in Normandy), the medieval gatehouse (with its bakery and courtrooms), the [dovecote](#), the park, the 18th century abbot's lodgings and the ponds are all now restored. The chapel of [Blessed Acharde](#) is in the process of restoration.

One of the aims of the "Fondation Abbaye de La Lucerne d'Outremer" has been to re-establish a monastic community at La Lucerne, and the abbey is still being rebuilt with that intention.

**Open every day from 1000 to 1200 and 1400 to 1830 (17h du 1er octobre au 31 mars).**

	ADULTES (+ de 18 ans)	JEUNES (15-18 ans)	ENFANTS (7- 14 ans)			
	INDIVIDUELS	GROUPES	INDIVIDUELS	SCOLAIRE	INDIVIDUELS	SCOLAIRE
VISITES LIBRES		5 €	3,50 €	3,50 €	2,50 €	3€ 2,50 €
VISITES GUIDEES			4,50 €		3,50 €	3,50 €

Groups are 15 and above

## 2) Abbaye de Hambye

<http://patrimoine.manche.fr/reseau-sites-musees-manche.asp>

<http://patrimoine.manche.fr/abbaye-hambye-N.asp>

<http://tripideas.org/abbaye-de-hambye-france/>

Situated in the Normandy region of France, the Abbaye de Hambye is a Benedictine monastery founded in the mid-12th century, whose ancient buildings and picturesque ruins are open to visitors. The monastery's golden age lasted from its inception into the 14th century when its decline began until it fell into disuse in the 18th century. It has changed hands numerous times since then. Most of the original furnishings were sold at auction. The buildings themselves have even served as source of construction materials for their stones in the 19th century, but since 1900, the Abbaye de Hambye has been the beneficiary of active restoration efforts on the part of private donors and of the French government.

Today, a number of buildings remain from the original complex. The sanctuary itself has lost its roof, but most of the structure remains and displays its magnificent mixture of Romanesque and Gothic architecture. On the first floor of the novices' building, a permanent exhibit, "From Prayer to Fields, the Economic Life of a Medieval Abbey" illustrates the daily existence of the Benedictine monks.

Additional buildings have survived, such as the Scriptorium (where manuscripts were copied), the Chapter House (where the brethren gathered daily), the Sacristy, as well as some remarkable frescoes. Altogether, the historical complex at the Abbaye de Hambye is the largest and most complete monastic monument in France, second only to the famous Mont Saint Michel, which is still an active religious community.

## 3) Ferme de l'Hermitiere

<http://www.ferme-hermitiere.com/index.htm>

<http://www.normandie-tourisme.fr/Hermitiere-Cider-Farm---Ferme-Cidricole-de-l-Hermitiere/PCU/SAINT-JEAN-DES-CHAMPS/fiche-PCUNOR050FS000TU-2.html>

Meet the people who make the wealth of our Norman's soil. Jean-Luc Coulombier, producer and owner of the farm invites you to share his passion of the cider. In a verdant setting, surrounded of apple trees, "la Ferme de l'Hermitière" is an invitation to discover the cider and calvados making. A video film and a guided tour will permit you to understand what is necessary to produce a high quality cider. In front of a century old still, you will understand the distillation of cider into calvados and its improvement in our barrels

This visit has been arranged and they are expecting us

#### **Places to eat**

- 1) **13.5km La haye Pesnel** Several Places
- 2) **21.4km Champrepus** Boulangerie
- 3) **41.9km Gavray** Several Places
- 4) **57km St-Jean-des-Champs**, several places

## Route Description

Abbaye d'Hambye –LONG RIDE- Monday 4th. June 2012			
Inst	Miles		Notes
	Total	Stage	
0	0.0		Head out the back exit of the campsite
1	0.2	0.2	250metres Having borne left out of the campsite. At the road by the cross TL at TJ, no SP towards Angomesnil
2	0.6	0.4	1.1km. Having just passed through the small hamlet of Angomesnil and taken a left hand bend. TR on the edge of the hamlet, no SP, along Route de Guigeois. Take the first left after 900 metres (don't worry if you miss it, just TL at TJ at the D109 - next junction)
3	1.5	0.9	2.42km TL at TJ, (eff SO)
4	2.0	0.5	3.2km SO at XR, SP St Pierre-Langers 0.5, along D109
5	2.5	0.5	4.1km TL at TJ, SP Hudemesnil 10, along D143, shortly afterwards TR, SP Abbaye de la Lucerne, along D143E
6	3.7	1.2	6km If you want to visit the Abbaye de la Lucerne - TL at TJ, SP St Jean des Champs 6, along D105. If not then TR at TJ, SP La Rochelle-Normande 4, along D105 and take the next left at XR, SP La Lucerne d'Outremer
7	4.1	0.4	6.6km Abbaye de la Lucerne RHS, once visited return the way you came
	4.9	0.8	8km TL at XR, SP La Lucerne d'Outremer 3, along D109
8	6.6	1.7	10.8km In la Lucerne-d'Outremer, bear right then left along one way system followed by TL at TJ, SP La Haye-Pesnel 2.5, along D35
9	8.4	1.8	13.5km In la Haye-Pesnel TL at XR, SP Gavray, Coutances along D7
10	8.5	0.1	13.8km TR, SP Le Tanu, along D165 (car park RHS) climb out of town
11	10.4	1.9	16.7km Having just passed under the railway TR at TJ, SP Le Tanu 1.5 along D165
12	11.4	1.0	18.3km Follow sign SO for Champrepus 3.5
13	12.8	1.4	20.6km Bear left, SP Champrepus 0.7 along D238
14	13.3	0.4	21.4km In Champrepus TR at TJ, no SP, along D924 (boulangerie RHS, church LHS) then shortly afterwards TL, SP Le Mesnil-Garnier 4, along D258 (there is a filter lane)
15	13.7	0.5	Bear left, cross small bridge then bear right, SP Le Mesnil-Garnier 3.5, along D238
16	15.8	2.0	25.4km In le Mesnil-Garnier, TL at XR, no SP (Other way Villiedieu-les-Poeles) then shortly afterwards TR, SP Le Mesnil-Hue 3.5, along D238
17	16.4	0.6	26.4km TL, SP Le Mesnil-Hue 2, along D238
18	17.7	1.3	28.5km Le Mesnil-Hue
19	18.3	0.6	29.5km SO at XR, SP Sourdeval-les-Bois 3, along D238
20	18.8	0.5	30.3km TR at XR, SP Sourdeval les Bois 2, Percy 8 , along D98
21	20.1	1.3	32.4km In Sourdeval-les-Bois, TL at XR, SP Hambye 5, Abbaye 2, along D51
22	21.2	1.1	34.2km TR, SP Abbaye de Hambye 0.2.
23	21.3	0.1	34.3km Abbaye de Hambye. Once finished return to the previous junction, TL at TJ, SP Sourdeval 2, along D51 and then take the second right SP Gavray 7
24	22.6	1.3	36.5km Bear right, SP La Baleine 3, along D198
25	23.3	0.6	37.5km Keep straight, passing the turn to la baleine RHS
26	25.2	2.0	40.6km TR at TJ, SP Gavray, Coutances 19, along D9
27	25.7	0.5	41.4km TR over the bridge into Gavray, SP Monmartin, Coutances, along D7
28	26.0	0.3	41.9km Having passed through the centre of Gavray, TL at XR, SP Les Barrieres 1, along D98, then after 200 metres take the next left as the road bears right. You will effectively carry SO. The river will come close to your LHS
29	28.1	2.1	45.3km TL at XR, towards Ver, along D145 and shortly afterwards cross the river
30	28.6	0.5	46km In Ver, TL at TJ opposite the church, then very shortly afterwards TR, SP la Meurdraquiere 5, along D145
31	31.6	3.1	51km A road will go left to the centre of the small hamlet of la Meurdrquiere, carry on straight and after 400 metres you will pass another road coming in from the left from la Meurdraquiere.

32	32.3	0.7	52.1km SO at XR, SP St Sauveur la Pommeraye 2, along D145
33	33.5	1.2	54km In St Sauveur la Pommeraye, you will go round the church (LHS) after which, take the first right heading west then take the first left (If you miss this left turn, no matter it reaches the D105 too, just a little further north)
34	34.2	0.7	55.1km TL at TJ, towards St Jean des Champs, along D105
35	34.7	0.5	55.9km SO at XR, SP St Jean des Champs 1, along D105
36	35.0	0.3	56.4km Cider Farm RHS
37	35.4	0.4	57km In St-Jean-des-Champs TR at TJ, SP St Planchers 5 , opposite Boulangerie, along D151
38	35.8	0.5	57.7km TL, SP St Planchers 4.5, along D151, keeping railway RHS
39	36.9	1.1	59.5km TL at TJ, SP St Planchers, along D143, then shortly afterwards TR (Eff SO) SP St Planchers 2.5, along D151
40	38.5	1.6	62.1km In St-Planchers TL at TJ, SP St Pair sur Mer, along D154, then bear left by the church, heading south towards St-Aubin-des-Preaux, along D154
41	40.3	1.8	64.4km In St-Aubin-des-Preaux carry straight through the village, keeping the church to the left
42	41.2	0.9	66.4km SO at XR (CARE) crossing D9, SP Kairon-Plage 3.5, along D154 , then having passed through Angomesnil, TR and back to the campsite
43	42.2	1.0	68km FINISH