The Great Outdoors Driving Guide



Spring is the perfect time to explore the great outdoors of Northern France, with plenty of hidden gems to discover. Here's a driving itinerary to help you make the most of your journey, departing from either Calais or Dunkirk.

Dunkirk/Calais • Cap Gris-Nez • Montreuil-sur-Mer • Baie de Somme

Where To Go:

Start your trip by heading to Cap Gris-Nez, a majestic headland offering spectacular views of the English Channel. Breathe in the spring air as you take a hike along the scenic coastal paths and explore the wildflower meadows and sand dunes.

Drive to Montreuil-sur-Mer, a charming walled town surrounded by beautiful countryside. Explore the historic ramparts and enjoy a leisurely bike ride through the rolling hills and picturesque villages.

Head towards the 'Bay of Somme', one of the most magnificent bays in the world, with its breath-taking landscapes and unique flora and fauna. Take a boat ride through the bay and watch the seals basking in the sun, then visit the Marquenterre Bird Park to spot a wide variety of avian species.

Drive back towards Dunkirk and stop at the Parc Naturel Régional des Caps et Marais d'Opale, a nature reserve that encompasses 15,000 hectares of unspoiled wilderness. Hike through the hills, forests, and wetlands, and discover the rich diversity of plant and animal life. Or finish your trip with a visit to Calais, where you can take a walk along the gorgeous sandy beaches and explore the stunning natural beauty of the Calais Dunes. Visit the lighthouse at the Cap Blanc-Nez headland for panoramic views of the coastline and enjoy a picnic in the lush greenery of the Parc Saint-Pierre.

Once you've finished exploring what Dunkirk or Calais has to offer, stop by one of our Duty Free shops at the port to fill your boot before you hop back on the ferry to Dover.



