

Brittany Ferries
Media pack



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Who are Brittany Ferries?

- Privately owned French company created in 1972 and still largely owned by Breton farmers
- A car ferry service operating from nine ports, linking four countries: UK-France, UK-Spain & Republic of Ireland-France
- Market leader on the Western Channel with one of the largest French merchant fleets.
- Most modern fleet on the Channel - 6 cruise ferries, 1 high speed ferry and 1 freighter. One high speed ferry operated by Condor on the Poole-Cherbourg route.
- A leading supplier of ferry-inclusive motoring holidays to France and Spain.
- The company employs a total of 2900 staff (high season) of which 350 are UK based. The majority work on board of which almost all are French nationals.
- All cruise-ferries have air-conditioned cabins with en-suite facilities - a total of 5,644 beds across the fleet.

Key benefits

- Brittany Ferries offer the widest choice of mile-saving routes that can take you far closer to the popular holiday regions of western France, saving miles of driving through the congested roads of north-east France. The choice of route is also dependent upon town of origin and so the spread of ports along the south coast – Portsmouth, Poole and Plymouth – is an attraction
- Brittany Ferries has the most modern fleet on the channel, with ferries that are more like cruise ships, and offers a uniquely French style of onboard service as all crew are French.

The Ferry Market: France & Spain

3.9 million cars crossed the Channel by ferry in 2008. Approximately 26% crossed on Western Channel routes – Brittany Ferries has 75% of this market sector including 59% of the UK-Spain market and 30% of the Ireland-France market.

In 2008 we carried 2.7 million passengers, 823,000 cars and almost 232,000 freight vehicles.



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Routes

Portsmouth to Caen

Excellent road links to virtually every part of France.
Choice of cruise and high speed ferry services.

Portsmouth to St Malo

Ideal gateway to Brittany, Loire, Dordogne and South West France.

Portsmouth to Cherbourg

Ideal for Brittany, Normandy and Western France.
High speed ferry service March to October.

Portsmouth to Santander

The fastest direct ferry crossing from Portsmouth to Spain, and also ideal for South West France.

Poole to Cherbourg

Choice of cruise and high speed ferry services.

Plymouth to Roscoff

Perfect starting point for Brittany, with easy access to France's Atlantic Coast.

Plymouth to Santander

The fastest direct ferry crossing from UK to Spain, and also ideal for South West France.

Complete flexibility

- Morning, afternoon and overnight departures year round to France
- Twice weekly overnight sailings to Spain from March to December
- Choice of high speed and cruise ferry services
- Mix and match routes to suit any itinerary



Brittany Ferries at a glance

	Crossing time	Frequency	Main ships
Portsmouth to Caen Most popular route on the Western Channel. Ideal not only for Normandy, but also for Loire, Paris and Southern Europe.	6 hours 3 1/2 hours	Up to 3 daily return sailings Weekend high-speed service	Mont St Michel Normandie Normandie Express
Portsmouth to Cherbourg Ideal not only for Normandy, but also Brittany and beyond.	3 hours	Up to 2 return sailings daily	Normandie Express
Portsmouth to St Malo Ideal for Brittany, Loire, Dordogne and South West France.	8 3/4 hours	Daily return sailings	Bretagne
Portsmouth to Santander New service from Portsmouth for Spain, Portugal and South West France.	24 hours	1 sailing a week	Pont-Aven
Poole to Cherbourg Ideal not only for Normandy, but also Brittany and beyond.	4 1/4 hours 2 1/4 hours	Up to 2 return sailings daily Daily return sailings May-Sep	Barfleur Normandie Vitesse
Plymouth to Roscoff Gateway to Brittany and ideal for Atlantic Coast, Dordogne and South West France.	6 hours (Armorique) 4 3/4 hours (Pont-Aven)	Up to 3 return sailings daily	Armorique Pont-Aven
Plymouth to Santander Unique service for Spain, Portugal and South West France.	20 hours	1 sailing a week	Pont-Aven
Cork to Roscoff Direct Ireland to France flagship service.	11 hours	1 return sailing weekly (March – Oct)	Pont-Aven

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Miles better off

See how many miles can be saved from the tables below which show driving distances from our ports compared to Calais and the Tunnel. France and Spain are large countries and journey planning is important.

Driving in France - Distance in miles

	Caen	Roscoff	St Malo	Cherbourg	Santander	Calais/Tunnel
Biarritz	475	495	426	507	150	615
Bordeaux	358	379	310	391	264	499
La Baule	195	152	111	202	505	380
La Rochelle	258	263	195	276	378	418
Paris	134	331	226	209	607	183
Quimper	225	60	120	231	606	461
Toulouse	459	522	453	519	327	579
Tours	156	260	166	216	468	297

Driving in Spain - Distance in miles

	Santander	Roscoff	St Malo	Cherbourg	Caen	Calais/Tunnel
Alicante	498	940	871	952	909	1059
Barcelona	423	720	651	718	649	777
Faro	598	1183	1115	1196	1154	1304
Lisbon	516	1101	1033	1114	1072	1222
Madrid	242	809	740	821	779	929
Marbella	587	1152	1084	1164	1123	1273
Oporto	390	996	928	1009	967	1117
Santiago	292	930	862	943	901	1051

Driving to our UK ports - Distance in miles

	Portsmouth	Poole	Plymouth	Dover
London	73*	109	215	75*
Birmingham	145	142	200	185
Manchester	226	223	275	257
Bristol	93	69	115	195
Newcastle	331	337	399	341
Edinburgh	430	427	477	440

*NB Portsmouth is closer to London than Dover

Fleet and on-board information

In addition to unique routes, our ships offer unrivalled standards of service, style and facilities.

Routes (Duration/hrs)

Pont-Aven

Plymouth – Santander (20)
 Portsmouth – Santander (24)
 Plymouth – Roscoff (4^{3/4})
 Cork – Roscoff (11)

Mont St Michel

Portsmouth – Caen (6)

Armorique

Plymouth – Roscoff (6)

Bretagne

Portsmouth – St Malo (8^{3/4})

Normandie

Portsmouth – Caen (6)

Barfleur

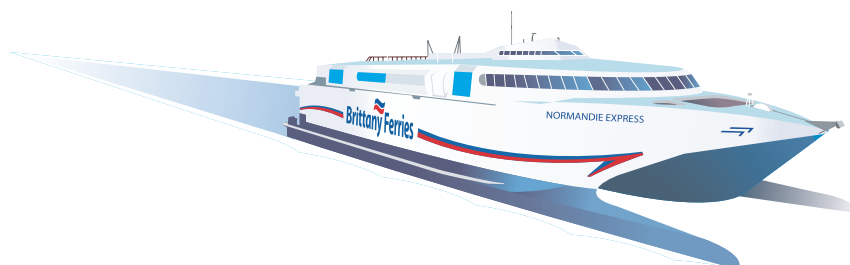
Poole – Cherbourg (4^{1/4})

Normandie Vitesse

Poole – Cherbourg (2^{1/4})

Normandie Express

Portsmouth – Caen (3^{1/2})
 Portsmouth – Cherbourg (3)



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	Pont-Aven	Mont St Michel	Armorique	Bretagne	Normandie	Barfleur	Normandie Vitesse	Normandie Express
Ship description								
Tonnage	39,500	30,000	29,500	24,534	27,541	20,133	5,000	6,581
Passenger Capacity	2400	2200	1500	2056	2123	1212	750	750
Car Capacity	650	884	470	580	600	590	185	260
On-board facilities								
Restaurant	●	●	-	●	●	-	-	-
Self Service Restaurant	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Café	●	●	●	●	●	●	-	-
Bar	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Bureau de Change	●	●	●*	●	●	●	●	●
Shops	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Playroom	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Cinema [†]	●	●	●	●	●	-	-	-
Lifts	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Disabled Cabins	●	●	●	●	●	-	-	-
Disabled Toilets	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Kennels	●	-	-	●	-	-	-	-
Children's Club	●	●	-	●	●	-	-	-
Teenage Area	●	●	●	-	-	●	-	-
Tourist Information	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Sundeck	●	●	●	●	●	●	-	-
Video Games Room	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Baggage Room	●	●	●	●	●	●	-	-
Swimming Pool	●	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Baby Changing Room	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●

[†]Charge payable on board
*Euro cash machine available

On-board accommodation**

Commodore Class	18	8	-	16	8	-	-	-
De Luxe	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Club Plus	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-
2 Berth Outside	12	-	6	-	3	-	-	-
2 Berth Inside	284	42	95	149	33	-	-	-
4 Berth Club	56	-	96	-	-	-	-	-
4 Berth Outside	106	68	-	85	139	44	-	-
4 Berth Inside	158	105	42	110	27	15	-	-
Reclining Seats	47	416	-	454	416	295	F50, C100, P582	750
Cots	15	15	15	15	15	15	-	-

**All cabins are en-suite unless otherwise shown
Normandie Vitesse - Reclining Seats: F=Free, C=Commodore, P=Pre-allocated



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Fares

The proportion of bookings made online at brittanyferries.com continues to increase and it is easy to obtain a fare quote and identify the cheapest crossing. Bookings for both ferry crossings and ferry-inclusive holidays can be made online. Alternatively you can call our Reservations line which is on 0871 244 1400. This is located in the UK and the highly trained staff are all direct employees who answer the telephone without the need to go through irritating prompts.

The following is useful to know when planning a journey:

- Fares are based on date of travel (season, day, time), route, date of booking and length of stay
- Prices are likely to be higher in summer, on overnight crossings and at weekends
- Prices are likely to be lower in winter, on day and mid week sailings
- Shorter stays are generally cheaper than longer stays – up to 40% cheaper
- Early booking usually means lower price. Fares normally increase through the year
- Remember – fares are only valid at the time of quotation

The magic of France

Brittany

Our home region, Brittany is one of the most popular holiday destinations in France with over 270 miles of wonderful coastline providing sheltered sandy bays, little harbours, dramatic rugged cliffs, islands and pretty estuaries.

Inland Brittany offers gentle wooded hills and valleys, rivers and medieval towns and villages.

There are four main 'departments' – Finistere to the west, Cotes d'Armor to the north, Morbihan to the south and Ille et Vilaine to the east. The main cities are Rennes, St Malo, Brest, Quimper, Lorient, Vannes and St Nazaire.

Eating in Brittany is a delight with excellent seafood, thousands of creperies (serving savoury and sweet pancakes) and strong local cider.

Brittany also boasts a rich Celtic culture, the old language, Breton, bearing similarities with Welsh and Cornish. There are many art and music festivals throughout the summer, where the traditional national costume is worn by locals.

Because of its proximity to our ports of Roscoff and St Malo, anywhere in Brittany can be reached within a three hour drive. It is therefore very popular for families with young children wishing to avoid a long drive in France.



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Normandy

Normandy is steeped in history, from William the Conqueror to the D-Day landings, and links between Normandy and Britain have always been close. The famous Tapestry at Bayeux and the remarkable Memorial Museum of Peace near Caen, as well as the landing beaches themselves are especially worth a visit.

The main departments are Manche, Calvados, Orne, Eure and Seine-Maritime and the main cities are Caen, Rouen, Le Havre and Cherbourg. At the border with Brittany is the magnificent Mont St Michel – one of the wonders of France.

Lovers of fine food will know that this is the home of cheeses such as Camembert and Pont-l'Évêque, of rich creamy cuisine, and the distinctive apple brandy known as Calvados.

Our port of Ouistreham is just 9 miles from Caen and is actually adjacent to Sword Beach. Cherbourg is at the top of the Cotentin peninsular, providing easy access to the west of the region. Because of its variety, Normandy is perfect for a short break or longer stay at any time of year.

Loire

The Loire Valley boasts an array of châteaux and royal palaces surrounded by fertile fields and vineyards producing a range of superb wines. The climate is mild and the scenery enchanting, just right for a gentle touring and sight-seeing holiday.

The region boasts a number of fine cities – Orleans in the East; Blois, Tours, Angers, and Nantes in the West. In addition to the Loire, there are a number of charming tributaries such as the Indre, Cher, Sarthe and Mayenne.

The area is known as the Garden of France for its abundance of fresh produce. Famous wines include Sancerre, Bourgueil, Vouvray, Saumur, Anjou and Muscadet.

Our ports of Ouistreham or St Malo are both within an easy three hour drive of the Loire.

South West France - Aquitaine & Midi Pyrénées

For the wine lover, there are the famous vineyards of Bordeaux. For the historian, there are châteaux and fortified medieval villages. There are also miles of beaches with stylish resorts such as Biarritz and Bayonne. Inland, the Dordogne and Lot valleys boast ancient towns, meandering rivers and spectacular scenery.

To the south, the Pyrenees have a character all their own, with some outstanding local dishes and drinks.

The main cities are Bordeaux, Bergerac, Périgueux, Arcachon, Biarritz, Agen, Pau, Tarbes and Toulouse.

Western France – Vendée Coast & Poitou Charentes

Further south from Brittany and the mouth of the Loire, the Vendée coast has long stretches of sandy beaches, scented pine woods and lively seaside resorts. The area is popular with families, particularly for camping and mobile home holidays.

Poitou Charentes is a varied region with sophisticated seaside resorts and the hi-tech Futuroscope theme park.

The main cities are Poitiers, La Rochelle, and La Roche sur Yon. The resorts of St Jean de Monts, Port Bourgenay, Les Sables d'Olonne and the islands Ile de Noirmoutier, Ile de Re and Ile d'Oleron are popular.

Good country cooking can be accompanied by local wines and of course the finest brandy in the world from nearby Cognac.

The South Coast - Languedoc Roussillon & Côte d'Azur

To the west Languedoc Roussillon is the largest wine producing area in the world. It also offers a vast stretch of sandy coastline dotted with modern bustling resorts.

The main cities are Perpignan, Carcassonne, Beziers and Montpellier. Further east, you will find the stylish Riviera with resorts such as Cannes, St Tropez and Juan les Pins.

Inland lies the sleepy timeless countryside of Provence heading up to the foothills of the French Alps. The main cities are Marseille, Toulon, Avignon, Aix en Provence and Nice.



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The magic of Spain

Andalucia

A long day's drive from Santander, this is the sun-baked Spain that everyone knows, with historic cities, whitewashed villages and miles of popular beaches.

Asturias

This is classic 'Green Spain' – rugged coastlines with glorious hidden beaches; rolling countryside with ancient Romanesque churches and villages; bustling towns each with their own fiesta; and the backdrop of the spectacular Picos de Europa mountains waiting to be explored.

A region of genuine natural beauty untouched by tourism – and it's all just a short drive from our port at Santander.

Cantabria

Our port of Santander is the capital of the region of Cantabria, and we have always offered a wide range of holidays within an short drive of the ferry terminal.

In easy reach are beautiful beaches, historic towns and villages, countryside, mountains – the list is endless. The summer climate is warm, the beaches and sea beautifully clean and sparkling, and the dramatically changing landscape means that you're never far from a new view or sudden secret spot.

Castilla-Leon & La Mancha

At the heart of ancient Spain, this enormous region includes the capital Madrid. Fascinating old cities like Salamanca and Toledo are well worth a visit. There are also spectacular nature reserves and beautiful river valleys to be discovered.

Galicia

This peaceful, unspoilt part of Spain has been compared to Ireland – not just for its Celtic past but for its rugged, green landscape and its air of rural peace. The region boasts some wonderful beaches and some of the best seafood in Europe. The great city of Santiago de Compostela is the highlight, and is still a magnet for pilgrims. Its Parador is the oldest hotel in the world.

Pais Valencia

This is the undiscovered Costa Blanca – away from the hustle and bustle of Benidorm and Alicante in the most lush and fertile part of Spain. We offer deserted beaches, pretty hilltop villages and the delights of Valencia.

The North East & Pyrenees

Linking the Mediterranean and Atlantic, this region includes the heady delights of La Rioja, the fascinating history of the Basque country, and the beautiful walking and hiking country of the Pyrenees. For those thinking of cruising to Santander and driving north through France, this is the perfect area to explore on the way.



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Brittany Ferries as a Tour Operator

Brittany Ferries is more than simply a ferry company and is one of the largest self-drive tour operators to France and Spain offering a huge range of ferry-inclusive holidays which are sold through travel agents as well as direct and can all (except golf breaks) be booked online. There are 4 main products:

1. Cottages & Villas

With well over 1,500 gites, cottages, Spanish casas and villas to choose from, this brochure is the ultimate guide to self-drive self-catering holidays throughout France and northern Spain. All are ferry-inclusive and offer outstanding value.

Price match guarantee

Find an identical holiday for less and Brittany Ferries will match the price and give £38 worth of dining vouchers for use in any of our onboard main restaurants.

Features

- Cabins included on Spanish holidays and save 15% on cabin prices on routes to France
- Take your pets
- All properties inspected by Brittany Ferries for guaranteed quality
- Perfect for first-timers to France - 24/7 help line
- The cruise across is an integral part of the holiday
- Holidays bonded with the Passenger Shipping Association, so if things go wrong, your money is protected
- Over 30 years' experience of arranging these holidays
- Baggage allowance limited to what you can pack in your car

2. Hotel Breaks

Find the perfect breaks in the best regions of France and Spain, including Paradores, activity holidays and car tours. All are ferry-inclusive and offer outstanding value.

Price match guarantee

Find an identical holiday for less and Brittany Ferries will match the price and give £38 worth of dining vouchers for use in any of our onboard main restaurants.

Features

- Cabins included on Spanish holidays and save 15% on cabin prices on routes to France
- Take your pets – pet-friendly hotels are identified
- All properties inspected by Brittany Ferries for guaranteed quality

- The cruise across is an integral part of the holiday
- Holidays bonded with the Passenger Shipping Association, so if things go wrong, your money is protected
- Over 30 years' experience of arranging these holidays
- 7 nights for the price of 6 at many hotels
- At many hotels children under 12 stay free
- Hotels and routes can be mixed and matched to create a unique holiday

3. Apartments & Chalet Camping

Fun for all the family – a great selection of apartments, chalets on campsites and holiday resorts in France and northern Spain. All are ferry-inclusive and offer outstanding value.

Price match guarantee

Find an identical holiday for less and Brittany Ferries will match the price and give £38 worth of dining vouchers for use in any of our onboard main restaurants.

Features

- Cabins included on Spanish holidays and save 15% on cabin prices on routes to France
- Most resorts have excellent entertainment
- All properties inspected by Brittany Ferries for guaranteed quality
- The cruise across is an integral part of the holiday
- Holidays bonded with the Passenger Shipping Association, so if things go wrong, your money is protected
- Over 30 years' experience of arranging these holidays
- 7 nights for the price of 6 at many hotels
- Mix & match ferry crossings and types of accommodation to create a unique holiday

4. Golf Breaks

Enjoy the uncrowded courses of France and northern Spain with some delightful hotels. All are ferry-inclusive and offer outstanding value.

Price match guarantee

Find an identical holiday for less and Brittany Ferries will match the price.

Features

- All reservations are handled by our Golf Desk manned by experienced golfers who can offer advice and guidance as well as book tee times.
- Cabins included on Spanish holidays and save 15% on cabin prices on routes to France
- The cruise across is an integral part of the holiday
- Holidays bonded with the Passenger Shipping Association, so if things go wrong, your money is protected
- Over 30 years' experience of arranging these holidays
- Autumn and spring Golf Awaydays from £59



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Bookings

To book ferry crossing only call 0871 244 1400 or visit brittanyferries.co.uk

To book ferry-inclusive holidays call 0871 244 1444 or visit brittanyferries.co.uk/holidays

To book golf breaks call 0871 244 0808

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