

# Le Havre



> **Lights of Le Havre,  
Prepare to be dazzled!**

## Le Havre, Cradle of Impressionism

When the river meets the sea in the *Baie de Seine*, the spectacle of lights is unique. The palette goes from deep green to emerald.

These lights have given birth to impressionism. Technical advances, the fashion of sea bathing and high society have influenced young artists to paint this motif.

Eugène Boudin has been one of the first to come and catch the light of Le Havre's skies, and he introduced Claude Monet to this. Many are those who came and laid their easel on the pebbles, among them were Pissarro and Sisley...

In 1872, Claude Monet, whose uncle and aunt owned two cottages in Sainte-Adresse, painted *Impression, sunrise* at the entrance of the port of Le Havre. In 1874, Nadar allows him to show his work at his house. Visitors have attributed the title of Monet's piece to these "open air painters", since then known as impressionists.

## Malraux Museum

With its major collections of impressionist painters, its permanent collection of Eugène Boudin (about 200 pieces), and the recent Senn-Foulds donation, the **Malraux Museum houses the largest collection of impressionist paintings in France after Paris.**

Made of glass and steel, anchored at the entrance of the port, this "ship" is open to the sky and sea. Its roof with an openwork design allows an indirect natural lighting and its plate glass windows offer a really peculiar resonance.

- Temporary exhibition not to be missed :

***"On the quays: Port, dock and dockers, from Boudin to Marquet"***  
or the way ports were pictured in the 19th and 20th centuries Art  
***18<sup>th</sup> October 2008 until January 25<sup>th</sup> 2009***

***"Clouds, these marvellous clouds..."***  
Around the studies of the sky by Eugène Boudin. Homages and digressions  
***10th October - mid January 2010***

# Le Havre



Musée Malraux, 2 bd Clemenceau - Tel: +33 235 196 262

Open from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. during the week and from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays  
Closed on Tuesdays

## Impressionist tour:

9 boards all over the city show some of the works painted in Le Havre and Sainte-Adresse, and this, in the very place where they were originally painted.

This itinerary starts off at the *Bassin du Commerce*, carries on by the seaside and ends up in Sainte-Adresse.

A brochure is available at the Tourist Office of Le Havre.

## Panoramas

- The cliffs and hundreds of [stairs](#) all over the city provide magnificent panoramas: the bay, the shores of the regions of *Calvados* and *Cotentin*, the city and the port.

A "round tour of the stairs" guide is available at the Tourist Office of Le Havre.

- Not to be missed: [360° panorama](#) from the Hanging Gardens, situated on the heights of the city.

## From up above:

Fly over the *Baie de Seine* or the cliffs aboard a plane or a helicopter.

New: discovery of the surroundings of Le Havre aboard a hot-air balloon.

## Le Havre by night

Owing to the emphasis brought on to the architectural heritage, the city enjoys a unique atmosphere at night.

Strolling around the city at night enables you to discover, among other things, the lighting of Saint-Joseph Church and of City Hall. If you take the *rue de Paris*, the lights on the footbridge of the *Bassin du Commerce*, of the *Monument de la Victoire* and of the *Volcan* catch your eyes. If you keep walking by, you will come across Notre-Dame Cathedral and the front wall of the Museum of Natural History which reveal their true selves, draped in lights.

From June 2009, and for the second year: **"Le Havre: Lights on the heritage"**, light will be cast on the buildings of the city centre listed as World Heritage sites by the UNESCO.