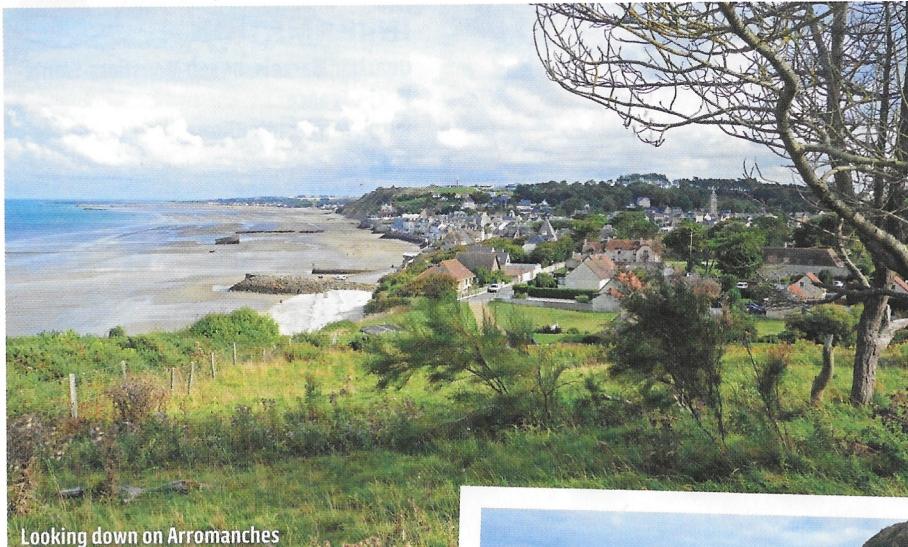


Camping Les Bas Carreaux, Normandy, France



Looking down on Arromanches



World War II remains at Longues-sur-Mer



A beach to ourselves near Arromanches

INFORMATION

Route de la Mer, 14117, Tracy-sur-Mer, Arromanches-les-Bains, France
what3words: misfit.twinkles.bluebirds

T 0033 688 332496

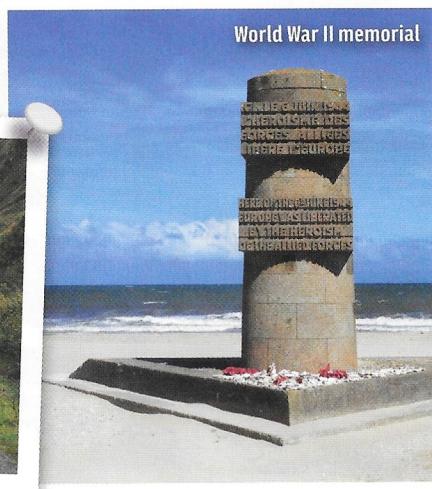
W campinglesbascarreaux.com

Cost: Two adults, pitch, electric from €19 (£16.62)

Open: 19 April – 20 September

Nearest bus / train: 1.3km

Nearest pub/food: 1.3km



World War II memorial

A small campsite with views across fields to the sea suited us perfectly for a few days of autumn sunshine. Sitting above the seaside town of Arromanches on the Normandy coast, the campsite owner showed us the pleasant traffic-free walk down the hill to the town.

Arromanches is a popular resort with restaurants, cafés and souvenir shops. There's a long sandy beach dotted with the concrete remains of the temporary harbour installed here in the aftermath of D-Day in June 1944. Known as Mulberry Harbours, these important innovations were developed by the British so that cargo could be quickly landed after the Allied invasion.

Although it was low season the campsite was full every day and it is worth booking ahead if this is where you want to be. With a sparkling

clean facilities block and good hot showers, I could see why it was popular and we were lucky to have a pitch furthest away from the road.

The temptation of the bakery van arrives on the site around nine in the morning. After a leisurely breakfast with a fresh baguette, we set off on a walk west along the coastal path.

This coastline of crumbling cliffs is easy walking once you have gained the height, and despite having to walk down and back up, we couldn't resist stopping at a secluded bay. You never travel far along this Normandy coastline before finding a remnant of World War II and at Longues-sur-Mer we learnt about the complex of concrete gun casements and lookouts.

At a snack bar the owner gave us generous slices of cake that provided the energy to return to the campsite

through Manvieux, a sleepy and pretty village of stone houses where an attractive old church detained us. Manvieux is only around a 30-minute walk from the campsite.

To the east the coastline is made up of dunes and wetlands. We caught the bus to Courseulles-sur-Mer and spent some time among the memorials and information boards about D-Day and the landings at Juno Beach. Climbing inland, we reached the British Normandy Memorial, a moving place of remembrance.

We would have stayed longer but the winter closing date came and we reluctantly left our lofty seaview pitch.



Carol Kubicki

FOUND YOUR PERFECT PITCH? Tell readers about your opinions on the campsites you've stayed at recently in the UK and abroad  motorhome.ma/campsitereview