

Cap Griz Nez + Marquenterre, France

“Birding et gourmet dinner”

Oct. 13-14

Repeating last year’s successful Tour, how about this for fun then!

The itinerary & birds..... Moderate NW winds and direct to Dunkirk Harbour for exciting seabird movements - Arctic & Great Skua, Sooty Shearwater, Leach’s Storm-petrel, Sabine’s Gull, Grey Phalarope, divers, grebes, auks etc. With lighter SW/SE winds then let’s head for Cap Gris Nez for classic overhead diurnal movements of thrushes, finches, larks, pipits, buntings and maybe a Rough-legged Buzzard, Yellow-browed Warbler or Red-breasted Flycatcher. Then drive to Marquenterre for the afternoon high tide, birding the lagoons from the hides, many of the September species will still be possible - waders, wildfowl and raptors, with winter thrushes, finches and often scarce species/rarities. Next morning after birding locally, drive back up to Cap Gris Nez/Cap Blanc Nez and onto Oye Plage for late waders, ducks etc.

The accommodation.....at *Les Pilotes*, a delightful hotel in Saint Valery-sur-Somme, situated on the harbour front overlooking the Baie de Somme and offering excellent *dejeuner* including a wonderful range of “*fruits de mer*”. Bottle of wine, convivial company, what more could you ask for!

Cost: £285

Deposit: £100

B/L due: Aug. 13

Included in the cost: Return ferry Dover/Calais, o/night accn. & b/fast at *Les Pilotes*, full transportation & full guidance throughout.

Not included in the cost: evening dinner [approx. €35-75 per person per night depending on the menu chosen/a la carte], lunch and entrance to Marquenterre reserve [@ €9.50].

NB: For guests travelling from further afield who wish to “overnight” in/around Dover, I can thoroughly recommend *the Premier Travel Inn* [Marine Court, Marine Parade, Dover CT16 1LW Tel: 01304 218260/240465] situated some 500 metres from the ferry terminal.