

PRESS RELEASE

A SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION TO “MONET ON THE NORMANDY COAST”: OVER 250,000 VISITORS

**AN OVERWHELMING PUBLIC RESPONSE WITH 252,148 VISITORS // ONE OF
THE MOST SUCCESSFUL EXHIBITIONS IN THE STÄDEL’S HISTORY**

Frankfurt am Main, 6 July 2026. With over a quarter of a million visitors (252,148), the major highlight exhibition “Monet on the Normandy Coast. The Discovery of Étretat” came to a successful close yesterday. This makes the exhibition, following “Making van Gogh. A German Love Story” (2019/20), the most successful Städel exhibition of the past ten years and one of the five most-visited exhibitions in the history of the Städel Museum. With “Monet on the Normandy Coast”, open from 19 March until 5 July, the Städel Museum explored the artistic discovery of Étretat. The former fishing village on the Normandy coast had a significant influence on modern painting: its impressive cliff landscape captivated numerous artists in the 19th century. Depictions of the coast by artists including Claude Monet, Gustave Courbet, Eugène Delacroix and Henri Matisse made this remote place famous beyond the borders of France. The exhibition brought together around 170 outstanding paintings, drawings, photographs and historical documents, including twenty-four works by Claude Monet alone, and highlighted the enduring fascination that Étretat continues to exert to this day. Due to high public demand, the exhibition was open daily from 23 June with extended opening hours until 9 pm.

“The exhibition ‘Monet on the Normandy Coast’ proved a real crowd-puller and was a resounding success throughout. We are delighted that, with more than 250,000 visitors, the exhibition will go down as one of the most successful in the history of the Städel Museum. My special thanks go to our visitors from near and far, as well as to all the generous patrons and supporters who made this project possible. The Städel Museum has once again demonstrated its ability to captivate audiences by offering diverse approaches to previously unexplored themes in art history. With our major autumn exhibition ‘Mary Magdalene. Sin. Pray. Love.’, we are continuing to examine extraordinary art-historical themes”, said **Philipp Demandt, Director of the Städel Museum.**

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The huge success of the exhibition “Monet on the Normandy Coast. The Discovery of Étretat” is also reflected in the accompanying educational programme: during the exhibition’s run, more than 27,000 people participated in 1,771 guided tours and workshops. In addition to numerous exhibition highlight tours in German and English, the wide-ranging programme included art workshops for adults, evening and curator-led tours, online tours, the exclusive evening event “Rendezvous in Étretat”, two “Städel Nights”, the “Open Studio” for children, family tours and holiday courses. The free digital offers were widely used: the accompanying Digital@ was viewed over 65,000 times, the audio guide app was downloaded more than 55,000 times, and the exhibition film was viewed over 53,000 times. A wide range of collaborations and communication initiatives on the museum’s social media channels were also very popular.

Alongside “Monet on the Normandy Coast. The Discovery of Étretat”, the five most successful exhibitions in the history of the Städel Museum are “Making van Gogh. A German Love Story” (2019/20, 505,750 visitors), “Monet and the Birth of Impressionism” (2015, 432,121 visitors), “Botticelli” (2009/10, 367,033 visitors) and “Albrecht Dürer: His Art in the Context of Its Time” (2013/14, 258,577 visitors).

OVER 250,000 VISITORS: A SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION TO “MONET ON THE NORMANDY COAST”

Monet on the Normandy Coast. The Discovery of Étretat An exhibition in cooperation with the Musée des Beaux-Arts de Lyon

Curators: Alexander Eiling (Head of Modern Art, Städel Museum), Eva Mongi-Vollmer (Curator, Städel Museum), Stéphane Paccoud (Conservateur en chef, Peintures et sculptures du XIXe siècle, Musée des Beaux-Arts de Lyon) and Isolde Pludermacher (Conservatrice générale peinture, Musée d’Orsay, Paris)
in cooperation with Eva-Maria Höllerer (Curator, Städel Museum) and Nelly Janotka (Assistant Curator, Städel Museum)

Exhibition Dates: 19 March–5 July 2026

Information: staedelmuseum.de/en/

Visitor Services and Guided Tours: +49 (0)69-605098-200, info@staedelmuseum.de

Location: Städel Museum, Schaumainkai 63, 60596 Frankfurt am Main

Digital@: The free Digital@ provides a multimedia introduction to the exhibition, offering descriptive short texts, interactive modules and fascinating background information. It illustrates the artistic discovery of the coastal town of Étretat and presents the fascinating paintings and drawings inspired by the rock formations, created by Claude Monet and many other artists. The digital application can be accessed at monetskueste.staedelmuseum.de/en/ and is compatible with smartphones, tablets and desktop computers. Digital@ is a registered trademark of the SCHIRN, Städel and Liebieghaus. Conceived by the three Frankfurt museums as a digital educational resource, it has already been realized many times. The Digital@ is sponsored by the Deutsche Börse Group.

Catalogue: To accompany the exhibition, Hirmer Verlag has published a catalogue edited by Alexander Eiling, Eva-Maria Höllerer, Stéphane Paccoud and Isolde Pludermacher, with contributions from the editors, as well as S. Aubenat, M.-H. Desjardins, N. Janotka, Y. Leclerc, N. Lefrançois, L. Passilly, A. Théry, S. Venayre, M. Vottero and P. Wat, and a foreword by Sylvie Ramond and Philipp Demandt. Separate



German and French editions, 280 pages, 274 illustrations, 50 euros (bookshop edition), 44.90 euros (museum edition).

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