An aerial photograph of a coastal cliffside. The cliff is covered in green grass and has a winding white path that leads to a modern, circular museum building. The building has a flat roof and is surrounded by a low wall. The cliff drops down to a rocky beach and the ocean. The water is a deep blue-green color. The sky is not visible.

Book early  
and save up to  
\$1,000 per couple

D-DAY  
THE INVASION  
OF NORMANDY  
AND LIBERATION  
OF FRANCE

2017-2018

NORMANDY BEACHES  
ARROMANCHES  
STE-MÈRE-ÉGLISE  
BAYEUX • CAEN  
POINTE-DU-HOC  
ARGENTAN • FALAISE  
CHAMBOIS



THE NATIONAL  
WWII MUSEUM  
TRAVEL

# NORMANDY CHANGES YOU FOREVER

Dear Friend,

For more than three decades I've had the privilege of helping to design, coordinate, and host tours of the battlefields where America's World War II generation fought.

This began when my university colleague and dear friend Dr. Stephen Ambrose and I founded The National D-Day Museum. Steve took history-loving travelers along many of the paths to victory traveled by our forces in Europe, but he held his visits to Normandy in special regard.

This institution has kept D-Day and the Normandy Campaign at the heart of its mission since opening the Museum's doors on June 6, 2000.

The tours that Steve and I developed became the core of the Museum's Travel Program, which offers more tours in Normandy than all other World War II sites combined. We have worked to fine-tune the program by adding new locations and experiences, solidifying new friendships and partnerships, and uncovering untold stories of those who fought to liberate Europe.

These timeless stories connect in powerful ways identity and values, and nothing can match learning World War II history as you see and touch the very places where these events unfolded.

Our team of travel experts have been working with local managers and guides for years to ensure an exceptional and memorable tour of these hallowed grounds for every traveler. We also strive to incorporate pieces from the Museum's oral history and artifact collections into presentations, drawing on wonderful assets that make our tours unique in the market.

I know Steve would be proud of how we have continued to refine our programs, ensuring that we offer the very best tours – because I certainly am.

Take a few minutes to review this brochure, learning about places we will visit and some of the historical figures we will highlight, and then come along on a trip of a lifetime!

Sincerely,



Gordon H. "Nick" Mueller, PhD  
President & CEO  
The National WWII Museum

COVER PHOTO CREDIT: MONUMENT BETWEEN OMAHA BEACH AND GOLD BEACH

# EXTRAORDINARY JOURNEYS



THE NATIONAL  
WWII MUSEUM  
TRAVEL



## ILLUMINATING BATTLEFIELD TOURS

From London to the Eagle's Nest and the beaches of Normandy to the streets of Paris, many of the places where decisive WWII battles were fought and pivotal decisions were made now play host to quiet coastlines, bucolic pastures, or charming cafés. To bridge the gap, the Museum's historic journeys include immersive tours that paint in vivid detail what these places were like during World War II. See Paris through the eyes of a wartime spy, visualize the retaking of the bridge at La Fièvre, the Allied Forces' arrival on Omaha Beach, and much more.



## THE AUTHORITY ON WWII EDUCATIONAL TRAVEL

While many tour providers offer visits to key WWII sites, none provide such comprehensive, informed, and poignant journeys as The National World War II Museum. Named by *USA Today* as the #1 Best Place to Learn US Military History and designated by Congress as America's official museum about World War II, the Museum offers journeys designed and hosted by renowned WWII scholars, best-selling authors, Normandy natives, historians, and actual D-Day veterans. Along the way, these learned individuals share their knowledge and insights through lively discussions, engaging activities, and enlightening lectures.



*Gift of Dr. Hal Baumgarten, 2000.208.001*

## EXCLUSIVE ACCESS TO MUSEUM ARCHIVES

With exclusive access to the Museum's archival materials – including digital recordings of intimate interviews with veterans and their families – the Museum Travel Program guests relive pivotal moments on the beaches and bridges and in the cities and villages where crucial battles took place and history-making decisions were made. After your journey, you'll return home with once-in-a-lifetime memories, autographed mementos, and a keepsake guide with maps, photographs, and historical information gathered from the Museum's collection.

*Pictured above: a watch worn by Private Harold "Hal" Baumgarten on D-Day. Read his story on page 15.*



## EFFORTLESS TRAVEL & PERSONAL ATTENTION

To ensure each moment of your historic journey is savored to the fullest, guests of the Museum's Travel Program enjoy effortless days with five-star service provided by seasoned tour directors who anticipate your needs, cater to your desires, and are ready with suggestions and recommendations for relaxation or individual exploration. Convenient transportation between destinations is provided via private, air-conditioned motor coach, with luggage handling included.



## EVOCATIVE DINING & HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

Each day of your journey, you'll share magnificent meals in dining venues chosen for their culinary excellence, warm ambiance, and historic significance. Thoughtfully selected nighttime accommodations further enrich your experience with stays in luxurious and historic hotels such as Château de Sully or Hotel Villa Lara in Bayeux, Westin Paris Vendôme, and Maison des Armateurs in Saint-Malo, France.



## EXCLUSIVE TOURS & VIP ACCESS

All Museum journeys include special access to rarely seen sites, participation in VIP events, culturally immersive activities, and opportunities to interact with eyewitnesses to the history of World War II-era France. You'll enjoy included excursions to hallmark sites such as Pointe-du-Hoc, Omaha Beach, Ste-Mère-Église, and tours of battlefields not typically found on D-Day itineraries.

# ILLUMINATING EXPERTS & GUIDES

Gen. Dwight Eisenhower, Supreme Commander of Allied Forces in Europe, reviews troops shortly before the Normandy invasion while British Gen. Bernard Montgomery looks on over his right shoulder.

8 | VISIT US AT [WW2MUSEUMTOURS.ORG](http://WW2MUSEUMTOURS.ORG)



STEPHANE LAMACHE, HISTORIAN

A tour of Normandy with The National WWII Museum showcases the knowledge and expertise of local guides and tour managers with stories from the Museum's collection. Every tour features a local expert who can explain not only the history of the Battle of Normandy, but also the personal stories passed down through the Norman citizens. Our featured Tour Manager is Stephane Lamache, a professional historian and former director of the Airborne Museum in Ste-Mère-Église.

**Q: Tell us a little bit about your personal and work history?**

**A:** I am a doctor in history, a certified guide, and a specialist in the D-Day landings and the Battle of Normandy. I recently spent one year in Washington, D.C., for my historical research. I am also the former director of the Airborne Museum in Ste-Mère-Église. I am currently working for a major scientific program concerning the Atlantic Wall as the scientist in charge of this program. Through this project and leading tours, I am able to support my own research, especially my project identifying American soldiers missing in action in Normandy.

**Q: What is it like to live and work in Normandy with so much history around?**

**A:** I have lived in Normandy since childhood, and almost everything reminds us of the terrible fighting that took place here. Numerous museums and monuments honor the Allied soldiers and the French civilians who lived through that time.

**Q: Describe the Museum's Normandy tour from your point of view?**

**A:** A Museum tour is a personal experience. I share my knowledge and my impressions of the common history between my birthplace and the United States. A tour is a very special week, a kind of return to the past by sharing the stories I have heard since I was a child.

**Q: You occasionally discover WWII artifacts in Normandy. Can you tell us about that?**

**A:** I am not a collector, but during my research I sometimes find artifacts left behind after the fighting. I once discovered a dog tag along the beach and through some research I was able to have it returned to the American soldier who lost it in 1944. He was quite surprised to see it again 69 years later. Additionally, the wrecks of planes are numerous in this region, and I come across parts quite often.

**Q: Why should someone book a trip to Normandy?**

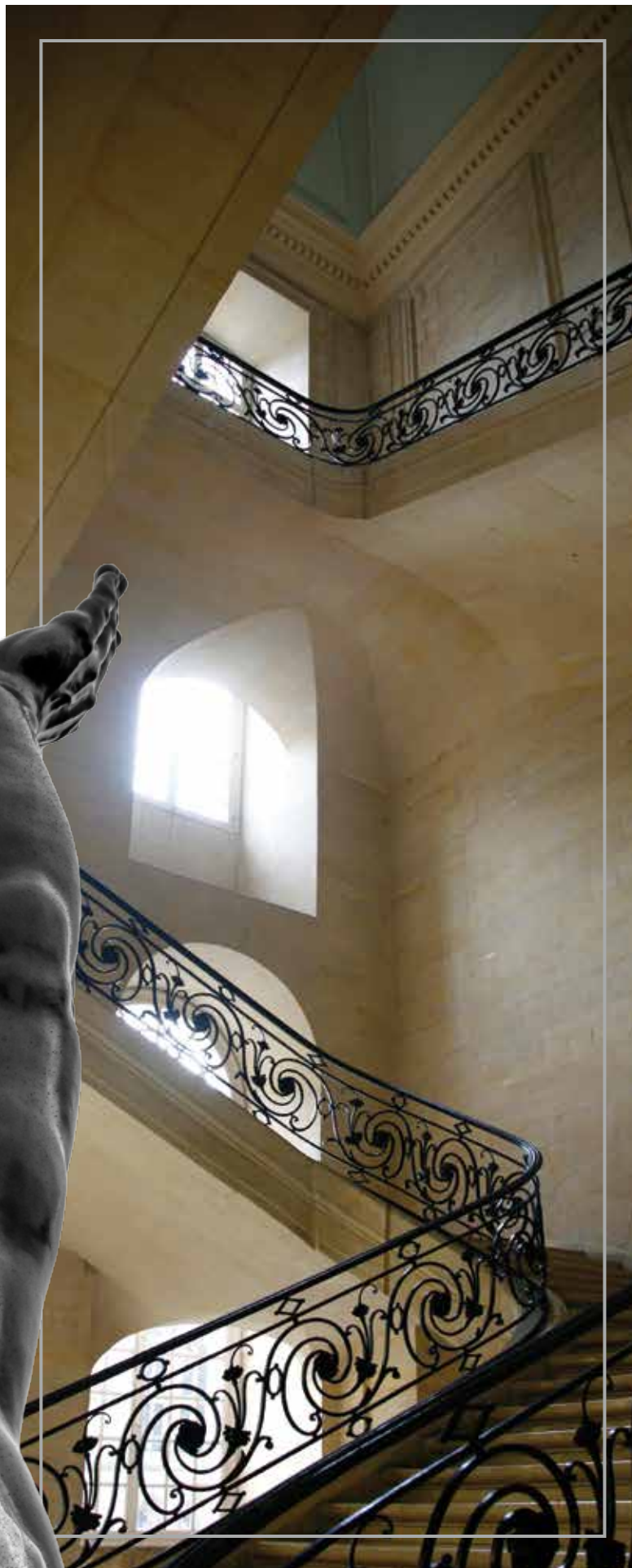
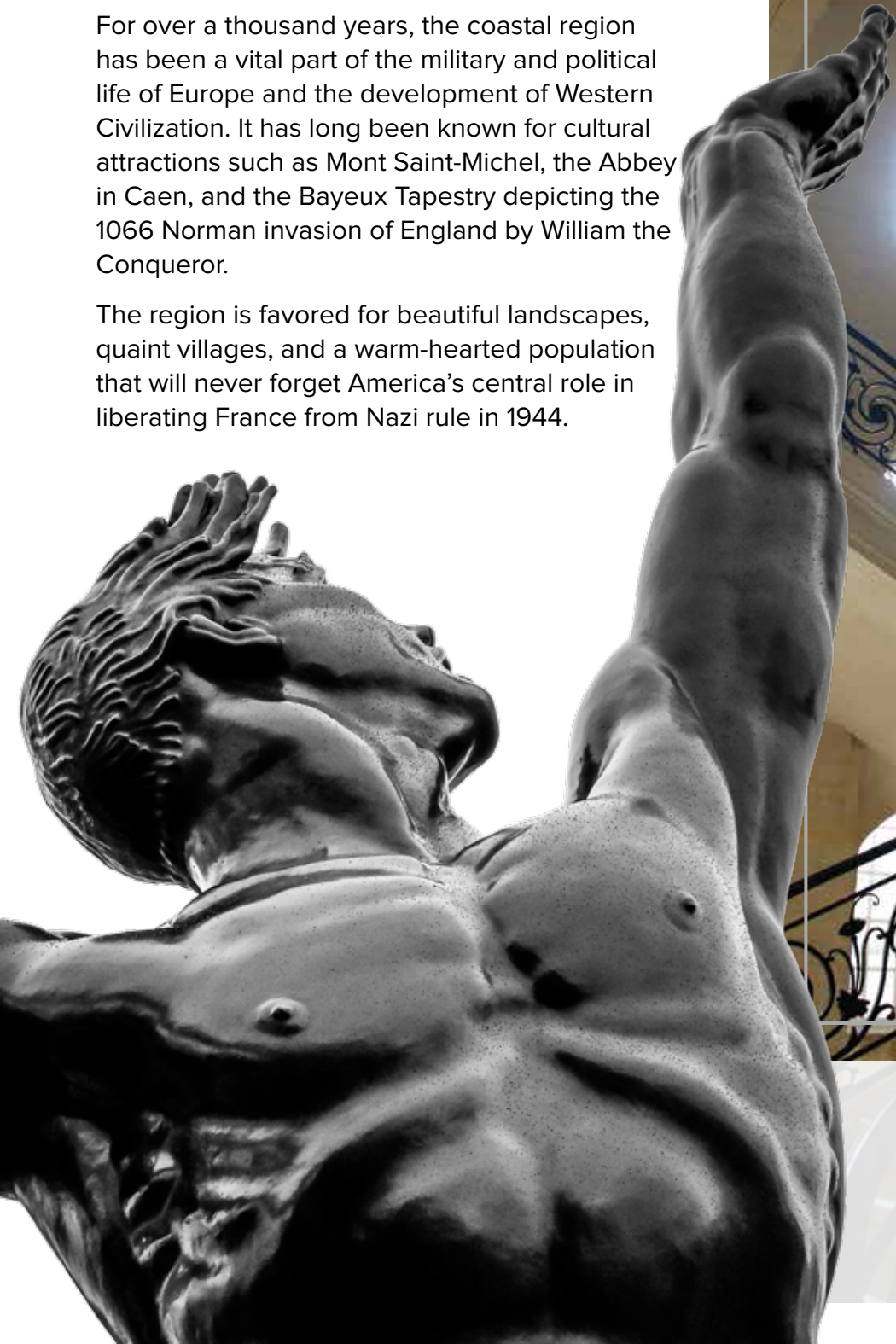
**A:** I think visiting Normandy is a unique experience. One cannot fully understand what happened here in 1944 without having seen the Normandy American Cemetery at Colleville sur Mer. And that is only one part of the trip.

# TREASURED FRENCH HERITAGE

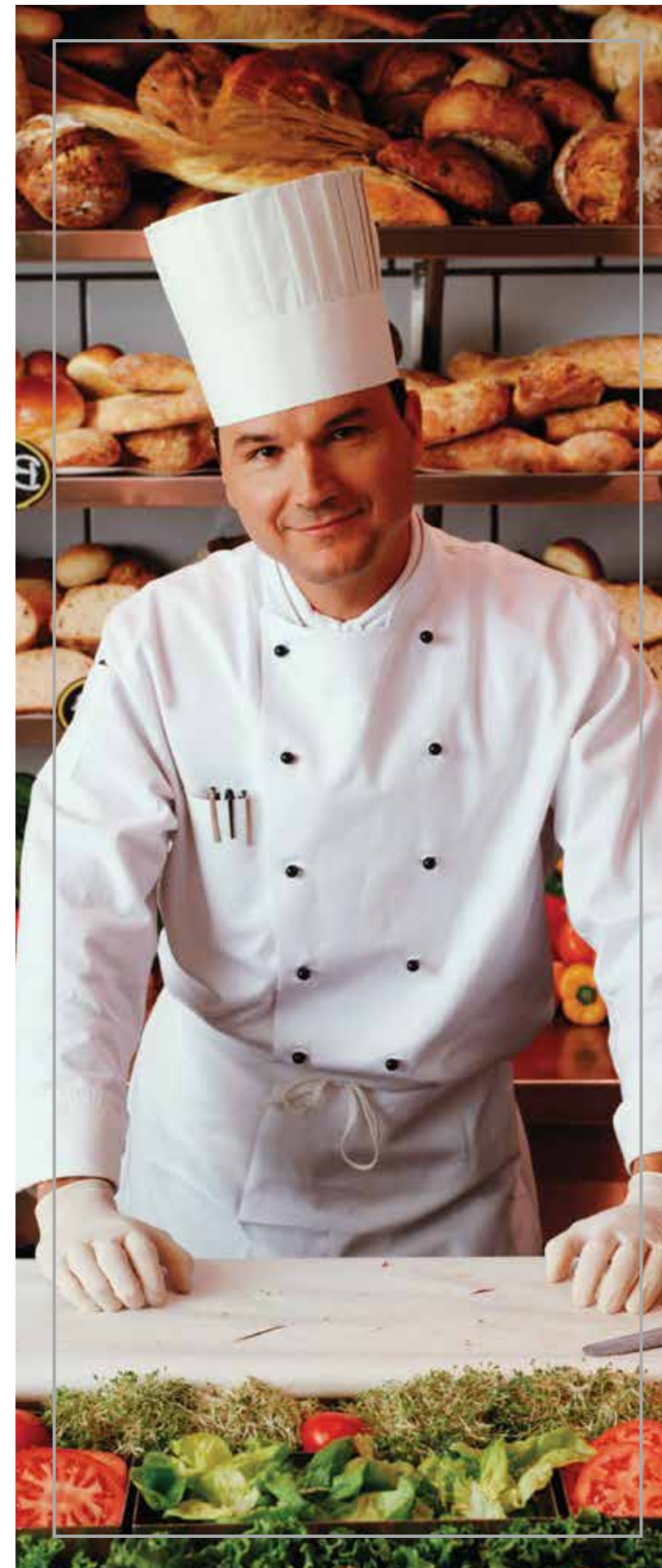
Normandy has been ranked among the top five most important destinations in France for many years. In addition to its key location as a turning point in the Allied victory in World War II, the area has its own rich history.

For over a thousand years, the coastal region has been a vital part of the military and political life of Europe and the development of Western Civilization. It has long been known for cultural attractions such as Mont Saint-Michel, the Abbey in Caen, and the Bayeux Tapestry depicting the 1066 Norman invasion of England by William the Conqueror.

The region is favored for beautiful landscapes, quaint villages, and a warm-hearted population that will never forget America's central role in liberating France from Nazi rule in 1944.



ARCHITECTURE



CULINARY EXPERIENCES



ART & CULTURE

# HEAR THEIR STORIES

Guests of The National WWII Museum Travel Program have access to actual first-person accounts –stories meticulously collected and archived by The Museum – which bring to life the incredible challenges faced by the Allied Forces.

## COLETTE MARIN-CATHERINE

Colette Marin-Catherine was a fourteen-year-old girl when the Germans occupied Normandy in 1940. Living in a small village between Bayeux and Caen, she watched as the Germans requisitioned homes and vehicles, cut down trees to create beach obstacles, and constructed the defenses along the Atlantic Wall. Two of Colette’s uncles lost their lives during World War I, and the family carried an anti-German sentiment into the World War II years. They became active in the French Resistance and suffered greatly as a result. Two of Colette’s brothers were taken by the Gestapo and deported to camps—neither survived the war.

Colette’s earliest act of resistance was placing garlands and wreaths at the gravesites of her fallen comrades. Every morning the Germans would remove the forbidden decorations, and every evening she would replace them. This daily ritual was part of a strategy she refers to as “annoyance techniques.” Prior to the D-Day invasion, she also assisted forced laborers in their escapes, and attained the equivalent rank of “Lieutenant” in the Resistance.

On D-Day, her group’s orders were to serve under the first Allied military unit they encountered. She spent several days assisting Canadian and British soldiers near Highway N13 between Caen and Bayeux. Caen would become a major battle site along the eastern flank, and Colette assisted in evacuating wounded soldiers to Bayeux, which was liberated on the first day of the Allied invasion. After the German retreat, Colette continued to work in the Bayeux Seminary, which served as an Allied military hospital through the remainder of the Normandy Campaign. Remembering her experiences,

Colette commented that she aged “ten years in a matter of a few months.”



## PARACHUTE WEDDING DRESS

Wedding dresses made from parachutes were made on the US Home Front and in postwar occupied Europe. The war led to shortages of most fabrics, and to have dresses for their special day, brides often would acquire a parachute from a relative serving in the military. The parachute would then be cut up and turned into a dress, either at home or by a dedicated dress-maker. This dress was worn by Myrtille Delassus, when she married American GI Sergeant Joseph Bilodeau in France shortly after the end of the war.

*Gift of Myrtille M. Bilodeau, 2010.233.003*



## BRITISH PARATROOPER BERET

This red beret worn by British paratroopers in World War II belonged to Corporal Wally Parr of the Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry. He wore it on D-Day, throughout the Battle of Normandy, at the Battle of the Bulge, in Denmark, and after the war in Palestine. A tear in the beret was caused by a shell fragment that tore a gash in the side of Parr’s head on July 22, 1944.

*Gift of Wally Parr, 1995.002.001*



## GERMAN BOOTS

The black leather boots pictured here were worn by Franz Gockel on Omaha Beach on June 6, 1944. Franz Gockel’s 18th birthday passed while he was defending the Atlantic Wall as a member of Germany’s 726th Infantry Regiment of the 352nd Infantry Division. He manned a captured Polish machine gun in Widerstandsnest (Resistance Nest) 62 on Omaha Beach.

*Gift of Franz Gockel, 2004.235.005*

## 101ST AIRBORNE EASY COMPANY HELMET

This US M1 infantry helmet with airborne liner was worn by Edward Sabo, member of Easy Company, 2nd Battalion, 506th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 101st Airborne Division, during and after the Normandy invasion. Each of the four infantry regiments in the 101st Airborne used a suit from a deck of cards as its identifying mark. The spade went to the 506th Parachute Infantry Regiment hence the mark on the side of this helmet.

*Gift of Linda Sabo Peck, 2033.352.001*



# LEARN THEIR NAMES

Only a fraction of the 16 million Americans who served in World War II are still alive today. To remember them and honor the sacrifices they made, guests have access to photographs, intimate details, and personal oral histories of these courageous men and women.



1925–2016

## PRIVATE HAROLD "HAL" BAUMGARTEN

Company B, 116th Regiment, 29th Infantry Division

Harold Baumgarten was born in New York City in March 1925. On June 26, 1943, when he was just 18 years old, he was drafted into the U.S. Army. After completing infantry basic training at Camp Croft, South Carolina, he was shipped overseas to England and assigned to the 116th Infantry Regiment of the 29th Infantry Division.

On the morning of June 6, 1944, Baumgarten landed in front of the Vierville sur Mer draw at the Dog Green Sector of Omaha Beach. During the hours that followed, he received four serious wounds as he worked his way up the bluffs and moved inland. He received his fifth wound while lying on a stretcher on the beach the following afternoon awaiting evacuation. Of the 30 men on his landing craft, he was one of only two survivors.

After the war, the multi-decorated veteran received a BA from NYU and an MS and MD from the University of Miami. He became a renowned speaker and internationally recognized historian who wrote two books on D-Day, including *Eyewitness on Omaha Beach: A Story about D-Day, June 6, 1944*. Before his passing in 2016, he made it his life's work to share his story and those of the men who were lost on D-Day, with the purpose of ensuring the heroes that paid the ultimate sacrifice on the beaches of Normandy are never forgotten. In recounting those horrific moments on "Bloody Omaha," Baumgarten would recite the full name and hometown of fellow soldiers who didn't come home. He did so, he said, because "I want them never to be forgotten."



1918–2015

## LIEUTENANT JOHN MARR

Company G, 507th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 82nd Airborne Division

Colonel John Marr was born in Johnson County, Missouri, in May 1918. He was drafted into the Army and entered service in June 1941. When he became aware of a new, specialized unit called the paratroopers, which would give him twice his monthly pay, Marr decided to join up. After earning his jump wings he completed Officer Candidate School and became a Lieutenant. Assigned to Company G of the 507th Parachute Infantry Regiment, he was dropped behind enemy lines on June 6, 1944, with the 82nd Airborne Division. Lt. Marr saw action almost immediately near Ste.-Mère-Église, where he was involved in what is considered the costliest small-unit action in United States Army history: the Battle of the La Fièvre.

After fighting in Normandy, Marr was put in command of Company B of the 507th during the Battle of the Bulge, and continued to lead the company as it spearheaded Operation VARSITY, the crossing of the Rhine River, on March 24, 1945. He returned to the US in September 1945 and continued his career in the Army, earning his Army Aviator wings and eventually commanding the 17th Combat Aviation Group in Vietnam and earning a Distinguished Flying Cross. Marr retired with the rank of Colonel in January 1974 after more than 32 years of service to his country. Prior to his passing in 2015, he frequently shared his story on Museum tours and at the 2009 opening of the US Freedom Pavilion.



# STAND WHERE HISTORY WAS MADE

For over two-and-a-half years the Allies planned and gathered their military strength to launch the decisive amphibious invasion of northern France and strike a mortal blow against the Third Reich. In anticipation, Adolf Hitler stockpiled reserves in the Atlantic Wall defenses across the French coastlines, determined to drive the Allied forces back into the sea. There will be no second chance for the Allies: The fate of the continent hangs upon this decisive day.

After bad weather forces a delay, a break in the weather for Tuesday, June 6, is reported to General Dwight D. Eisenhower at rain-lashed Southwick House in southern England at 21:30 hours on the night of Sunday, June 4. Eisenhower makes the decision

only he can make: Operation OVERLORD is unleashed by the Supreme Commander to begin the liberation of Europe from Nazi occupation. As word of his decision spreads to the Allied forces after midnight, men across southern England prepare to enter the climactic battle.

Before dawn on June 5, Eisenhower meets with his staff one last time to hear the latest weather report. With ships sailing into the English Channel, the last opportunity to halt the invasion is upon him.

He confirms his previous order with the simple words "OK, let's go.", and in less than a minute he is left alone in the room

in Southwick House as his subordinates rush to forward his order. There is no turning back now. The invasion must succeed—no plan has been made to evacuate the forces in the event of failure.

In the early minutes of June 6, 1944, Allied paratroopers and gliders descend from the night sky to wrest control of key bridges and roadways from the Germans. Behind them in the darkness of early morning, an initial force of over 130,000 servicemen from the Allied nations cross a choppy English Channel aboard an armada of more than 5,000 ships. Their destination is Normandy, where they will assault the German enemy and make history.

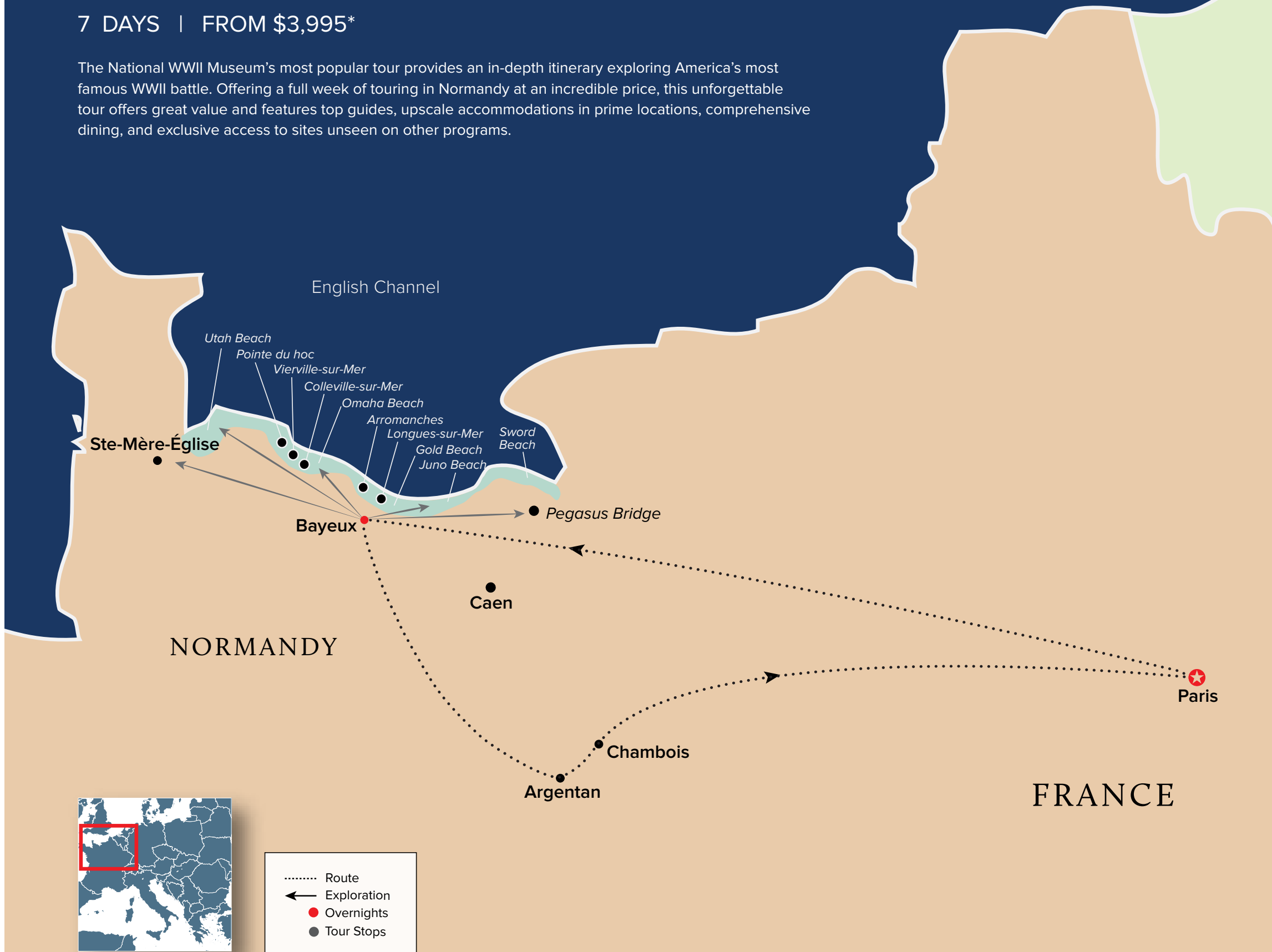


PHOTO CREDIT: ADAM SURREY /GHOST OF TIME FACEBOOK PAGE

# D-DAY—THE INVASION OF NORMANDY AND LIBERATION OF FRANCE

7 DAYS | FROM \$3,995\*

The National WWII Museum's most popular tour provides an in-depth itinerary exploring America's most famous WWII battle. Offering a full week of touring in Normandy at an incredible price, this unforgettable tour offers great value and features top guides, upscale accommodations in prime locations, comprehensive dining, and exclusive access to sites unseen on other programs.



## TOUR INCLUSIONS

Normandy's WWII history is intriguing and moving in countless ways. You will experience these sacred sites in ways other tours can't offer with the Museum's Travel Program. With unmatched local expertise, our itinerary delves deeper into the stories and tumultuous times of World War II while providing the convenience and attention to detail you expect while traveling.

- Full-time logistical Tour Manager
- Expert local battlefield guides
- Roundtrip Airport Transfers (when arriving and departing on scheduled group tour dates)
- Historic, fully-renovated accommodation in Normandy
- Four-star Charles de Gaulle Airport accommodation near Paris
- Private, first-class, air conditioned motor coach transportation
- VIP access to sites not offered on other tours
- Video Oral History presentations from the Museum collection
- Personal listening devices on all included touring
- Included gratuities to guides, drivers, porters and servers
- Personal listening devices on all included touring
- 6 Breakfasts, 3 Lunches and 3 Dinners
- Free flow beer, wine, and soft drinks with included lunches and dinner
- Welcome and Farewell Receptions
- Included gratuities to guides, drivers, porters and server
- Informative map book including useful battlefield maps and archival images to be used throughout your journey
- Document wallet, personalized luggage tags and customized name badge
- Personal journal and pen to document your journey

## TOUR PRICING

TOUR PRICING			
DATE	REGULAR	EARLY BOOKING	BOOK BY
September 14-20, 2017	\$4,495	\$3,995	Jul 3, 2017
September 21-27, 2017	\$4,495	\$3,995	Jul 3, 2017
May 17-23, 2018	\$4,695	\$4,195	Oct 23, 2017
May 24-30, 2018	\$4,695	\$4,195	Oct 23, 2017
June 3-9, 2018*	\$4,895	\$4,395	Oct 23, 2017

\*74th Anniversary Departure

Prices listed are based on double occupancy. A 35% Single Supplement applies for single accommodation. Pricing and itinerary subject to change. Airfare is not included in the price listed. Please inquire at time of booking for best available airfare pricing.

## LEARN AS YOU EXPLORE

"We found the tour to be extremely well organized in content. The combination of museums, outdoor sites, touring of towns was perfectly combined and orchestrated. The educational information presented was outstanding and extremely beneficial."

- RACHEL M., BOSTON, MA

"I have been on dozens of military history tours...and Corinne and Stephane [the Museum guides] measured up with the best. They were well prepared and patient."

- RICHARD C., POTOMAC, MD

"There was excellent overall value in this tour. The educational information we received would have been very difficult to obtain during six days had we attempted to tour the various sites on a self-guided tour."

- JAMES H., FARMINGTON HILLS, MI

"Breakfasts provided at hotels were excellent. Very good choice of restaurants during tour; enjoyed ambiance and food."

- JENNY P., NEW YORK, NY

"Great value for the money. I learned much more than I expected and returned with greater appreciation and understanding of both the small and big pictures."

- JOHN T., HOUSTON, TEXAS



## ITINERARY

### DAY 1: ARRIVAL PARIS / NORMANDY

Upon arrival at Charles de Gaulle Airport in Paris guests are warmly welcomed and transported by private motor coach to Normandy. After enjoying some free time to relax or explore Bayeux, the group gathers this evening for a welcome dinner at a local French restaurant.

**Accommodations: Hôtel d'Argouges (D)**



VIERVILLE-SUR-MER, OMAHA BEACH, NORMANDY



## DAY 2: BRITISH SECTORS: PEGASUS BRIDGE GOLD, JUNO & SWORD BEACHES ARROMANCHES

Today's tour of Normandy begins where the first shots of the invasion were fired by British glider troops at the crucial Pegasus Bridge. Guests learn about Major John Howard and his men of the "Ox and Bucks" and how they were able to secure and hold the bridge. The drives along the British and Canadian sectors become the backdrop for the stories of landings that took place to the east of the American assaults. Arriving at Arromanches, an exploration of the remains of a "Mulberry Harbor" offers insight into this great feat of engineering and ingenuity. Following free time for lunch and exploration in the village, a trip up the commanding bluff culminates with a viewing of Cinema Circulaire 360 and a visit to the German gun battery at Longues-sur-Mer. Enjoy free time this evening to explore Bayeux and enjoy dinner at one of the many cafés and restaurants serving traditional fare.

**Accommodations: Hôtel d'Argouges (B)**

PEGASUS BRIDGE



CROSS OF LORRAINE, JUNO BEACH, NORMANDY



## DAY 3: CHÂTEAU DE BERNAVILLE / STE-MÈRE-ÉGLISE & UTAH BEACH

A visit to the private Château de Bernaville begins the day, before traveling along rural lanes, past hedgerows, and over causeways to La Fièvre, where the 82nd Airborne fought off four days of attacks from German troops trying to retake this strategic bridge. During today's drive both the battlefield guide and the Museum's exclusive oral history collection offer personal stories from the men who fought on the frontlines. On arrival in Ste-Mère-Église, the famous crossroads town where American paratroopers landed during the predawn hours of D-Day, tour the Musée Airborne and visit the church made famous in the film *The Longest Day*. After an included lunch, continue this afternoon to Brécourt Manor, where Dick Winters and some of his men from "Easy Company" launched the assault on German guns portrayed in the book and miniseries *Band of Brothers*. The day's touring concludes with a visit to the Utah Beach Museum, which includes the story of the exemplary leadership of General Teddy Roosevelt, Jr., during the landings. Enjoy another free evening at leisure in Bayeux.

**Accommodations:** Hôtel d'Argouges (B, L)

CHÂTEAU DE BERNAVILLE ©MRW ZEPPELIN



STE-MÈRE-ÉGLISE, NORMANDY



UTAH BEACH MUSEUM



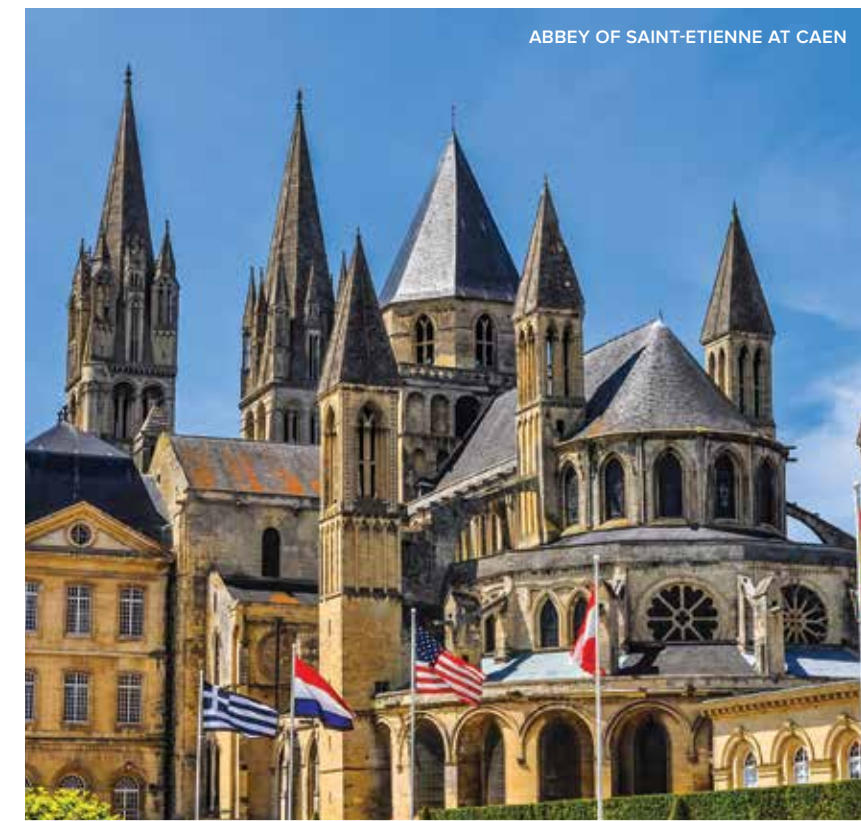
## DAY 4: BAYEUX / CAEN

This morning's tour is devoted to the picturesque town of Bayeux, beginning with a viewing of the Bayeux Tapestry—a 230-foot-long embroidered chronicle of William the Conqueror's cross-channel invasion of England. Continue to the iconic skyline feature of Bayeux and the medieval center of the town, the Bayeux Cathedral, where a guided tour will bring to life the construction of the cathedral from the crypt to the spires. Following free time for an independent lunch, journey to Caen to tour Memorial de Caen, a museum that places the battles of Normandy within the international context of World War II. This evening, the group enjoys dinner with a local citizen who shares stories of the German occupation and Allied liberation before returning to Bayeux.

**Accommodations:** Hôtel d'Argouges (B, D)



GERMAN UNIFORM, MÉMORIAL DE CAEN MUSEUM

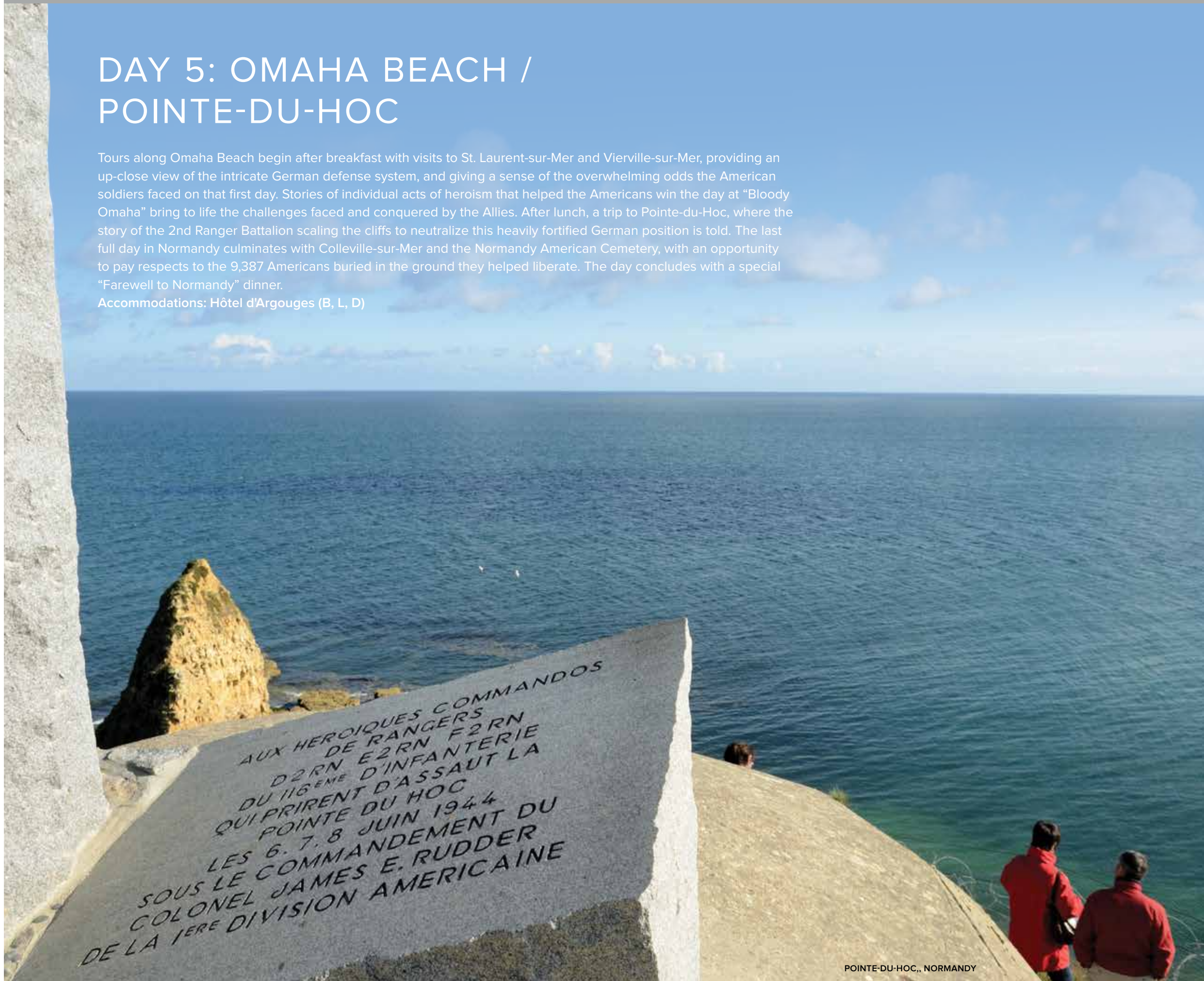


ABBEY OF SAINT-ETIENNE AT CAEN

## DAY 5: OMAHA BEACH / POINTE-DU-HOC

Tours along Omaha Beach begin after breakfast with visits to St. Laurent-sur-Mer and Vierville-sur-Mer, providing an up-close view of the intricate German defense system, and giving a sense of the overwhelming odds the American soldiers faced on that first day. Stories of individual acts of heroism that helped the Americans win the day at “Bloody Omaha” bring to life the challenges faced and conquered by the Allies. After lunch, a trip to Pointe-du-Hoc, where the story of the 2nd Ranger Battalion scaling the cliffs to neutralize this heavily fortified German position is told. The last full day in Normandy culminates with Colleville-sur-Mer and the Normandy American Cemetery, with an opportunity to pay respects to the 9,387 Americans buried in the ground they helped liberate. The day concludes with a special “Farewell to Normandy” dinner.

Accommodations: Hôtel d'Argouges (B, L, D)



POINTE-DU-HOC., NORMANDY



GERMAN STRONGPOINT, OMAHA BEACH



AMERICAN CEMETARY, NORMANDY

## DAY 6: ARGENTAN / FALAISE GAP CHAMBOIS

After breakfast, the group bids farewell to Normandy and begins the trip back to Paris. Focusing on the concluding battles of the Normandy Campaign, the first stop is in Argentan, where Patton's Third Army liberated the city from staunch German resistance. Memorial de Montormel on Hill 262, where the Falaise Gap was sealed, offers a incredible view across the landscape and the perfect vantage point for recounting these final battles. Traveling through a pastoral valley, a picnic lunch is enjoyed at a picturesque stop before arriving at Chambois, the memorial that commemorates the meeting of American and Polish troops and the linking of the Allied armies. Upon arrival at the Sheraton Paris Charles de Gaulle Airport, the remainder of the evening is at your leisure.

Accommodations: Sheraton Paris Charles de Gaulle Airport (B, L)

## DAY 7: PARIS CHARLES DE GAULLE AIRPORT TO THE UNITED STATES

This morning, bid farewell to France and return to Paris-Charles de Gaulle Airport at leisure for individual journeys home. (B)



FALAISE TOWN



FEATURED ACCOMMODATIONS

# HÔTEL d'ARGOUGES



HÔTEL D'ARGOUGES



## YOUR HOTEL

Handpicked for your comfort and convenience

The ideal location of historic Hôtel d'Argouges' is perfect for exploring Normandy. This elegant 18th-century residence, owned by the same family for two generations, invites you to experience luxury and comfort among refined surroundings: high ceilings, original doors, parquet floors polished by time, and period fireplaces.

OPTIONAL PRE-TOUR EXTENSION



# THE TREASURES OF NORMANDY

OPTIONAL THREE-DAY PRE-TOUR EXTENSION PROGRAM

ONLY \$999 PER PERSON | SINGLE SUPPLEMENT \$399

Journey into the Middle Ages on our custom-curated extension program that focuses on the historic importance of the picturesque Normandy region. Enjoy a scenic transfer from Paris-Charles de Gaulle Airport to Bayeux, and settle into the Hotel d'Argouges, your home for the next seven nights. Spend the afternoon and evening exploring the medieval town center and enjoying dinner on your own at one of the many cafés and elegant restaurants serving traditional fare. A morning departure from Bayeux begins a scenic drive to Mont Saint-Michel, a breathtaking tidal island just off the Normandy coast. The island's signature abbey projects a dominating presence that has attracted pilgrims, armies, and tourists for more than a millennium. The visit includes lunch and returns to Bayeux in time to enjoy some free time with another opportunity to try of one Bayeux's restaurants. Follow the path of William the Conqueror the following morning to Château de Caen, which was constructed in 1060. Bombed during World War II, it has now been beautifully restored and houses several museums. Enjoy lunch and a visit to William's tomb at the nearby Abbaye aux Hommes before returning to Bayeux to enjoy a welcome dinner with main tour guests arriving today.





# THE NATIONAL WWII MUSEUM SIGNATURE JOURNEYS



## THE RISE AND FALL OF HITLER'S GERMANY

Germany and Poland | September 18–29, 2017

*Book by June 29, 2017 and save \$800 per couple\**

An exclusive 12-day tour exploring Germany and Poland through the lens of the rise and fall of the Third Reich



## WRITING THE WAR

September 25–October 3, 2017

*Book by June 2, 2017 and save \$1000 per couple and receive FREE air\**

Guided by best-selling author Donald L. Miller, PhD, walk in the steps of World War II's most legendary chroniclers and relive some of the most significant battles.



## SOLDIERS AND SPIES

Normandy to Paris | October 12-18, 2017

*Book by June 2, 2017 and save \$800 per couple and receive FREE air\**

A seven-day, six-night tour of France, focused on Alex Kershaw's *New York Times* best-selling books *The Bedford Boys* and *Avenue of Spies*.



## THE 10TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON WORLD WAR II

New Orleans | November 16–18, 2017

*Book by July 3, 2017 and save over \$200 on the new PT-305 Boat Experience\**

Join the world's preminent WWII historians for an enlightening and engaging weekend featuring the Pre-Conference Symposium, "Hitler in History."

\*Terms and conditions apply. For a full list of terms and conditions, contact The National WWII Museum Travel at 1-877-813-3329 x 257

## BRINGING HISTORY TO LIFE

The National WWII Museum Signature Journeys extend the Museum's tradition of inspiration, excellence, and thoughtful inquiry to important World War II sites around the world. With VIP access to the most intriguing destinations, rich historical context from curators, primary-source materials from the Museum's digital collections, and custom experiences found nowhere else, The National WWII Museum has become the leader in World War II travel, providing unforgettable journeys into history.

Engage. Reflect. Explore.  
WITH THE NATIONAL WWII MUSEUM TRAVEL PROGRAM



# THE NATIONAL WWII MUSEUM



Originally founded in 2000 as The National D-Day Museum, The National WWII Museum is now the top-rated tourist destination in New Orleans, TripAdvisor's #4 museum in the country, and an unforgettable way to experience World War II—from industrial efforts on the Home Front to the combat experience of the American servicemember abroad. Offering a compelling blend of sweeping narrative and poignant personal detail, the Museum features immersive exhibits, multimedia experiences, and an expansive collection of artifacts and first-person oral histories to take visitors inside the story of the war: why it was fought, how it was won, and what it means today. Beyond the galleries, the Museum offers unique access to experiential history, including the opportunity to tour and even ride on an authentically restored PT-boat, tours behind the scenes to handle artifacts alongside Museum curators, and an impressive collection of restored and working macro-artifacts to discover. In addition, online collections, virtual field trips, webinars, educational outreach, travel programs, and renowned International Conference offer patrons new ways to connect to history and honor the generation that sacrificed so much to secure our freedom.



## COMMITMENT TO WWII—FROM THE HOME FRONT TO THE BATTLE FIELD

Opening June 2017, The Arsenal of Democracy exhibit tells the story of the road to war and the Home Front, drawing on personal narratives and evocative artifacts to highlight facets of WWII-era American life.

## NUMBER ONE TOURIST ATTRACTION IN NEW ORLEANS

Rated #1 among 152 New Orleans Attractions, #7 Among Top US Museums, #14 Among Top Museums in the World.



## UNIQUE EXHIBITS AND ARTIFACTS

The Museum offers unique access to experiential history, including the opportunity to tour and even ride on an authentically restored PT-boat.

## AUTHORITY ON WWII HISTORY

The Museum is the nation's foremost source of information on World War II and is driven to preserve and teach this history, making it relevant and accessible to future generations.



## PT-305 THE RIDE OF A LIFETIME







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2017-2018

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