

• WAR IN THE PACIFIC SERIES •



THE NATIONAL
WWII MUSEUM
TRAVEL

Bringing history to life

VICTORY IN THE PACIFIC

Battle of Guadalcanal

Brisbane • Guadalcanal • Tulagi



Featuring world-renowned
naval historian and author
Jonathan Parshall



Book early and save! Visit ww2museumtours.org for details.

Dear friend of the Museum and fellow traveler,

I am honored to join The National WWII Museum on a fascinating tour of this crucial World War II battlefield.

When U.S. Marines splashed ashore on Guadalcanal in August 1942, they set in motion a savage, seven-month campaign. This first U.S. counterattack of the Pacific War, on an obscure island that most American officers could not have identified on a map in 1940, was launched on a logistical shoestring. It would demand the commitment of almost every available soldier, sailor, ship, and plane from both sides. The Americans prevailed, if only barely, and in the process wrenched the initiative in the Pacific War from the heretofore-invincible Japanese.

Guadalcanal's thick jungle terrain made fighting an unbelievable ordeal for soldiers of both sides. We will visit Alligator Creek, where a battalion-sized action at the beginning of the campaign was arguably the most important small-unit encounter of the Pacific War. A few miles away, on Bloody Ridge, we survey the panorama of a ferocious Japanese attack that nearly ended in the capture of Henderson Field. At the Gifu, on the flanks of Mount Austen, we will get a sense for the bitter fighting fanatical Japanese rearguards mounted during the campaign's closing stages.

The naval action was just as intense. For every American soldier that died on Guadalcanal, almost three Allied sailors perished in the water. The narrow seas north of Guadalcanal, scene of some of the most violent naval clashes of the war, became known as Ironbottom Sound. It took many months, many lives, and a number of humiliating defeats before the U.S. Navy was able to learn, adapt, and turn the tables on an enemy that relished fighting at night.

Our nine-day journey begins in the cosmopolitan city of Brisbane, Australia. We visit the wartime headquarters of Douglas MacArthur who commanded the forces fighting in New Guinea. Less known in America, the New Guinea campaign was in many ways Australia's defining moment of the war, and would be the springboard for MacArthur's eventual return to the Philippines in 1944. We continue to Eagle Farm Airfield, where a secret project rebuilt downed Japanese aircraft to study their defenses.

Guadalcanal is a WWII battlefield that few Americans have been privileged to see, and through our visit, we can fully contemplate the hardships, sacrifices, and heroism of that campaign. I look forward to being your host and traveling companion, delivering relaxed evening lectures, answering questions, and discovering this unique battlefield. I know it will be an experience none of us will forget!

Sincerely,
Jonathan Parshall



Cover Photo Credit: Aerial view of the debris of an Imperial Japan Navy Type Zero Reconnaissance Seaplane in shallow water on the Solomon Islands. Courtesy of The Asahi Shimbun via Getty Images. Photo Credit Page 2: View of Bloody Ridge (US Marine Corps photo by Corporal Samantha K. Braun). Courtesy of AB Forces News Collection/Alamy Stock Photo.

THE NATIONAL WWII MUSEUM

EDUCATIONAL TRAVEL PROGRAM



5 Museum Quick Facts

-  **8 million+** visitors since the Museum opened on June 6, 2000
-  **\$2 billion+** in economic impact
-  **160,000+** active Museum members
-  **8,000+** travelers, representing every US state
-  **625,000+** social media followers

TRAVEL TO 27 COUNTRIES



covering all theaters of World War II



30

Tour Programs operated on average per year, at times **accompanied by WWII veterans**

VISIT 16 Overseas American Battle Monuments Commission cemeteries & memorials plus

& 189

museums on our itineraries



TRAVEL WITH EXPERTS



- 26** top historians with
- 174** published books and
- 47** documentary credits

ww2museumtours.org



#1 ATTRACTION IN NEW ORLEANS



FEATURED HISTORIAN & AUTHOR



JONATHAN PARSHALL

Jonathan Parshall saw his interest in the Imperial Japanese Navy develop early in his childhood. As an adult, that passion led him to create the foremost website devoted to the Imperial Navy, combinedfleet.com, which he founded in 1995. Parshall's book, *Shattered Sword: The Untold Story of the Battle of Midway*, coauthored with Anthony Tully, is the definitive account of that pivotal battle in the Pacific. He has written for the *Naval War College Review*, the US Naval Institute's *Proceedings* and *Naval History* magazines, *World War II Magazine*, *Wartime* (the journal of the Australian War Memorial), *Flypast* magazine, the *Sankei Shimbun*, and several

overseas aviation publications. He has also illustrated numerous books on the Pacific war (including his friend Richard Frank's *MacArthur*). Parshall is an adjunct lecturer for the US Naval War College, and has appeared on the History Channel, Discovery Channel, and the BBC. A graduate of Carleton College and the Carlson School of Management, his next book will look at the Imperial Japanese Navy's tactics while fighting a night, a strategy they used to great early success during the naval battles near Guadalcanal.

PROGRAM INCLUSIONS

- Travel with James Hornfischer, one of the foremost experts on the Battle of Guadalcanal
- Full-time logistical Tour Manager
- Expert local battlefield guides
- Roundtrip airport transfers (when arriving & departing on scheduled group tour dates)
- 2 nights in Brisbane at The Westin Brisbane
- 5 nights in Honiara at Heritage Park Hotel
- 1 night at Pullman Brisbane Airport
- Roundtrip flights between Brisbane and Honiara
- 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
- Included gratuities to guides, drivers, porters, and servers
- Personal listening devices on all included touring
- 8 breakfasts, 7 lunches, 4 dinners
- Beer, wine, and soft drinks with included lunches and dinners
- Informative map book including useful battlefield maps and archival images to be used throughout your journey
- Personalized luggage tags and customized name badge

THROUGH THEIR EYES



SOLOMON SCOUT

SIR JACOB VOUZA

Jacob Vouza was born in 1892 in Guadalcanal, where he was a British subject. Vouza spent 25 years as a police officer. After the Japanese invaded Guadalcanal in mid-1942, Vouza volunteered to work with the Coastwatchers, a group of Allied operatives who rescued stranded personnel. On August 7, Vouza conducted his first rescue of a downed aviator and met the US Marines for the first time. Vouza stayed with the Marines, volunteering to scout behind enemy lines on several missions. On August 20, 1942, the Japanese found Vouza with an American flag and subjected him to a brutal interrogation. Unwilling to forfeit any information, Vouza was stabbed multiple times with bayonets and left to die. Still conscious, Vouza escaped by chewing through his ropes and crawling through the jungle to American lines. Before he accepted medical care, Vouza reported the oncoming 250 – 500 Japanese soldiers, giving the Marines the precious few minutes they needed to form a defensive line along the Ilu River. The resulting Battle of the Tenaru was a significant American victory. For his actions during the Guadalcanal campaign, Jacob Vouza received the Silver Star and the Legion of Merit.



Photo Credit: View of a downed Japanese Mitsubishi G4M bomber as it floats off Tulagi, Solomon Islands, August 9, 1942. The photo was taken from the USS *Ellet* (DD-398) destroyer. Courtesy of PhotoQuest/Getty Images.

THREE SPHERES OF BATTLE LAND, SEA, AND AIR



Guadalcanal was a trial by fire. On land, at sea, and in the air, Americans experienced their first taste of what the next three years would hold: oppressive heat, unforgiving terrain, and an enemy that refused to surrender.

The first Allied land offensive in the Pacific began on August 7, 1942, when the First and Second Marine Divisions landed on Guadalcanal. Surprised Japanese defenders immediately abandoned their defenses and the partially completed airfield. The Marines took the airfield, renaming it Henderson Field after Marine Aviator Major Lofton Henderson who died during the Battle of

Midway. Henderson Field became the objective of three major Japanese offensives between August and December 1942.

In a succession of battles off the coast of Guadalcanal, both navies inflicted punishing losses yielding the nickname “Ironbottom Sound” to the waters north of the island. After their defeat at Bloody Ridge (later called Edson’s Ridge) in September 1942, the Japanese began a massive buildup to take back the island and ensure the delivery of essential supplies to Guadalcanal. The American ground forces on Guadalcanal beat back every Japanese attack on their lines, sometimes at great cost and from their last defensive positions. On February 7, 1943, the Japanese, Americans on their heels, finished their evacuation of Guadalcanal.

The air war around Guadalcanal tested the skill and nerves of the Allied pilots. Taking off from Henderson Field and aircraft carriers in the area, Allied aviators took the fight to the Japanese. The “Cactus Air Force,” named after the code name for Guadalcanal, provided much-needed air cover against the Japanese. To overcome the technologically superior Japanese Zeroes, the Americans developed tactics such as focusing on bombers, taking high dives to ambush enemy planes, and using the sun to hide in enemy blind spots.

These geographically separate battle spheres each played a significant part in the eventual US victory on Guadalcanal and the Solomon Islands as a whole. They also crushed the image of the omnipotent Japanese military, raising American morale and providing the first ground victory in the Pacific war.

REMEMBERING MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENTS



As a testament to the difficulty of the fighting in Guadalcanal and the bravery and heroism of the men who first encountered the Japanese, 20 Medals of Honor were awarded for actions in and around Guadalcanal. The recipients include Marines, aviators, sailors, and soldiers. During the tour, guests will hear many of their stories.



**CORPORAL
ANTHONY CASAMENTO**
US Marine Corps
November 1, 1942

"Only part of this medal belongs to me. Pieces of it belong to the boys who are still on Guadalcanal. It was rough as hell down there."

– Sergeant John Basilone upon receiving the Medal of Honor.



**SERGEANT
JOHN BASILONE**
US Marine Corps
October 24 – 25, 1942



**MAJOR
KENNETH D. BAILEY**
US Marine Corps
September 12 – 13, 1942



**LEIUTENANT COLONEL
HAROLD W. BAUER**
US Marine Corps
November 10 – 14, 1942



**TECHNICIAN FIFTH GRADE
LEWIS HALL**
US Army
January 10, 1943



**COLONEL
MERRITT EDSON**
US Marine Corps
September 13 – 14, 1942



**GENERAL
ALEXANDER A. VANDEGRIFT**
US Marine Corps
August 7 – December 9, 1942



**CAPTAIN
CHARLES DAVIS**
US Marine Corps
January 23, 1943



**MAJOR
ROBERT GALER**
US Marine Corps
August – September 1942



**LEIUTENANT COMMANDER
HERBERT E. SCHONLAND**
US Navy
November 12 – 13, 1942



**SERGEANT
WILLIAM FOURNIER**
US Army
January 10, 1943



**REAR ADMIRAL
NORMAN SCOTT**
US Navy
November 12 – 13, 1942



**MAJOR
JOHN LUCIAN SMITH**
US Marine Corps
August 21 – September 15, 1942



**REAR ADMIRAL
DANIEL J. CALLAGHAN**
US Navy
November 13, 1942



**CAPTAIN
JEFFERSON J. DEBLANC**
US Marine Corps
January 31, 1943



**PLATOON SERGEANT
MITCHELL PAIGE**
US Marine Corps
October 26, 1942



**LEIUTENANT COMMANDER
BRUCE MCCANDLESS**
US Navy
November 12 – 13, 1942



**SIGNALMAN
FIRST CLASS (PO)
DOUGLAS MUNRO**
US Coast Guard
September 27, 1942



**BOATSWAIN'S MATE
FIRST CLASS
REINHARDT J. KEPPLER**
US Navy
November 12 – 13, 1942



**CAPTAIN
JOSEPH FOSS**
US Marine Corps
October 9, 1942 – January 25, 1943

Book early and save!
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VICTORY IN THE PACIFIC

Battle of Guadalcanal

Featuring Jonathan Parshall

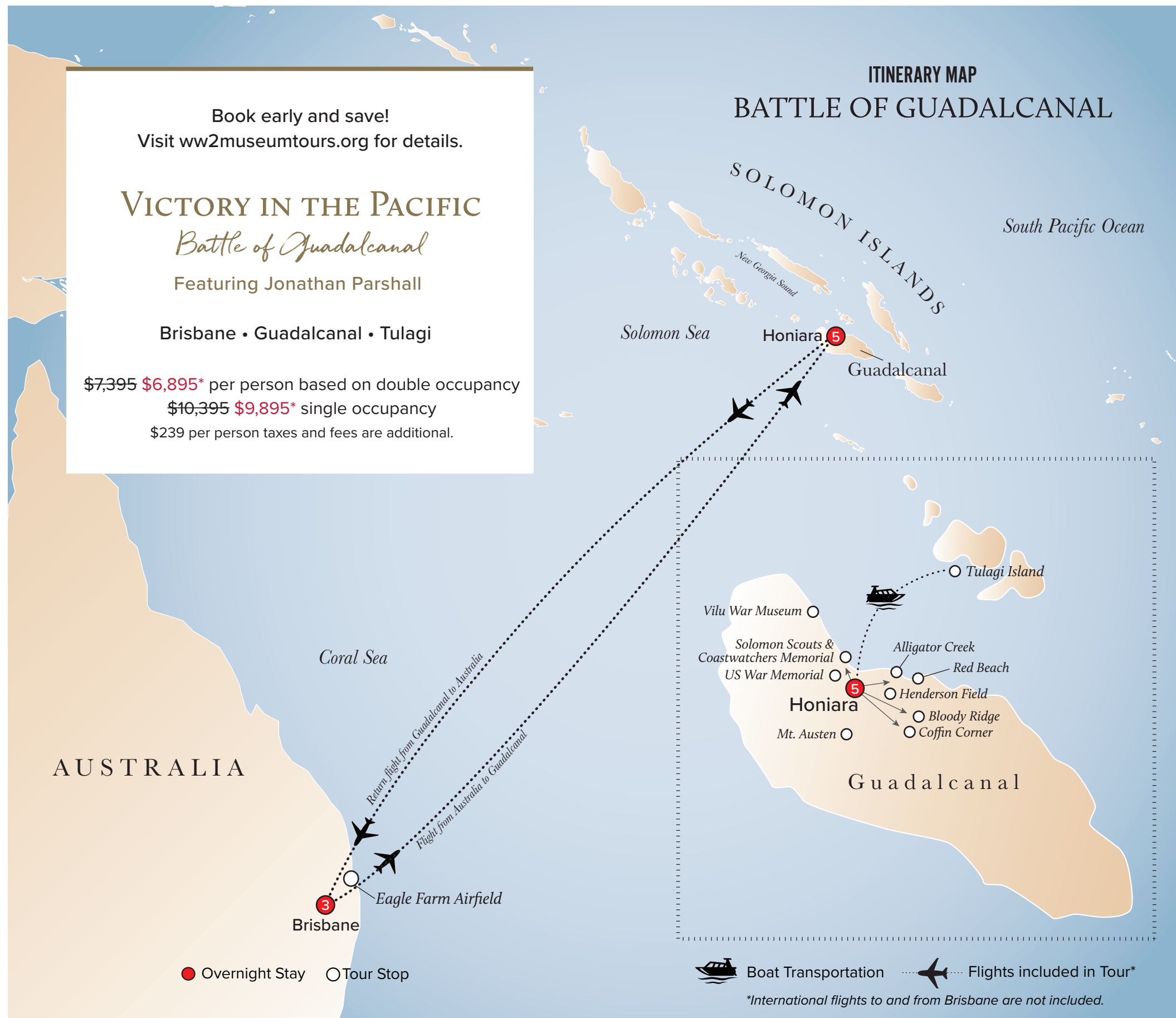
Brisbane • Guadalcanal • Tulagi

~~\$7,395~~ **\$6,895*** per person based on double occupancy

~~\$10,395~~ **\$9,895*** single occupancy

\$239 per person taxes and fees are additional.

ITINERARY MAP BATTLE OF GUADALCANAL





ITINERARY



DAY ONE

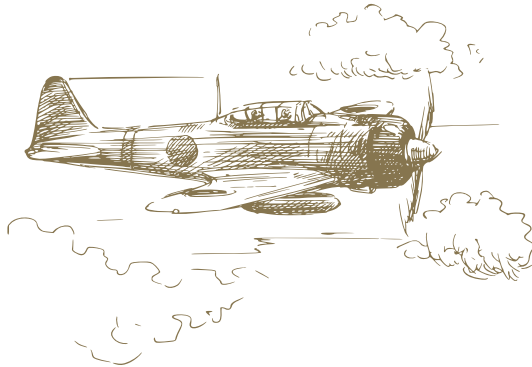
ARRIVALS & MACARTHUR MUSEUM

Arrive at Brisbane International Airport (BNE), Australia, and transfer to The Westin Hotel located in the heart of the city. This afternoon, experience Brisbane as it was from 1942 – 1945 when one million American servicemen rotated through the city. The MacArthur Museum, located inside the wartime headquarters of General Douglas MacArthur, tells the story of MacArthur's time in Brisbane and the war in the South Pacific. MacArthur's personal office is preserved inside the museum. Just a few blocks away, visit the site of the infamous Battle of Brisbane, a brawl that erupted when tensions ran high between American and Australian servicemen. This evening, get to know fellow tour mates at a Welcome Dinner.

Accommodations: The Westin Brisbane (D)

Photo Credit: Battle station at an important coastal fortress near Brisbane, 1942. Courtesy of Historic Collection / Alamy Stock Photo. Sketch of General Douglas MacArthur.

ITINERARY



DAY TWO EAGLE FARM AIRFIELD

After breakfast, visit the remains of Eagle Farm Airfield, the wartime home of the 81st Air Depot Group. At Eagle Farm, Allied engineers assembled, repaired, and maintained Allied aircraft. At Hangar No. 7, a secret project aimed to give Allied aviators an advantage over the Japanese Zero fighters. The Allied Technical Air Intelligence Unit, made up of personnel from the United States, Australia, and the United Kingdom, worked to rebuild and test recovered Japanese aircraft to identify their weaknesses. Over the skies of Brisbane, residents could occasionally see Japanese aircraft, sometimes with an Allied escort or painted in friendly colors to reduce a chance of friendly fire. To ensure the secrecy of the project, Hangar No. 7 stood away from the other hangars and operated under a tight security protocol. A group lunch is included during touring today, and the evening is free to enjoy Brisbane on your own.

Accommodations: The Westin Brisbane (B, L)

Photo Credit: Civil aviation workshop Eagle Farm, circa 1952, Queensland Archives.
Courtesy of History and Art Collection/Alamy Stock Photo. Sketch of Japanese Zero.

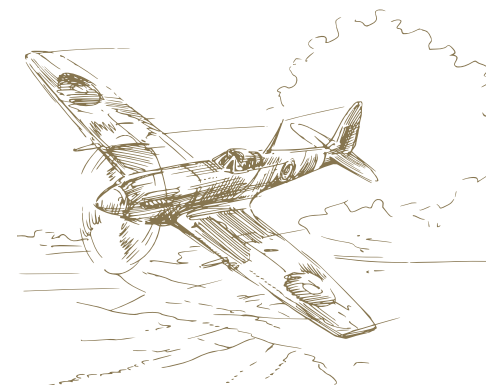




LOCAL TOUR GUIDE TIP

During all excursions in Guadalcanal, we advise guests to protect themselves from the sun with long sleeves and pants suitable for hot, humid weather. On some of the hikes, plants with thorns and spikes are present at the edge of the hiking paths.

ITINERARY



DAY THREE HENDERSON FIELD

A morning flight from Brisbane to Guadalcanal (lunch served in-flight) arrives in the afternoon, landing at Honiara International Airport which is built on the remains of Henderson Field. Upon arrival at the airfield, explore the surrounding terrain to appreciate the presence of Bloody Ridge, the location of the fighter strips, and the American section of the island where hospitals, barracks, and officers' quarters once stood. A memorial tree garden now stands near the airport. Individuals from Australia and the United States have purchased the memorial trees in honor of loved ones who fought or trained in Guadalcanal. This evening, check in to the Heritage Park Hotel in Honiara and enjoy an included group dinner.

Accommodations: Heritage Park Hotel Honiara (B, L, D)

Photo Credit: Local workmen assist American troops in the construction of an airfield runway on Guadalcanal Island in the Solomon Islands. Metal plates interlock to form a firm base for fighters and bombers to land and take off from, 1943. Courtesy of Hulton Archive/Getty Images.
Sketch of French Arsenal VG 33.

ITINERARY



DAY FOUR D-DAY & THE JAPANESE COUNTERATTACKS

Touring begins at the invasion beaches where US Marines landed in their first ground assault of the war. On August 7, 1942, 11,000 Marines took Red Beach with no Japanese opposition. No American casualties occurred during the landings. By the next day, the Marines arrived at Henderson Field, capturing the lightly defended and recently completed airfield. Continue to Alligator Creek, the site of the first Japanese counterattack attempt at recapturing the airfield. In a nighttime assault, waves of between 100 and 200 Japanese soldiers attacked in the darkness. Each wave was defeated, and the Japanese lost more than 770 of their attacking force of 917 men. The next major Japanese attempt to recapture the airfield took place at Bloody Ridge, the last stop of the touring day. At Bloody Ridge, the Japanese learned from their previous attacks and assembled a much larger force that pushed the Marines to their last defensive position.

Accommodations: Heritage Park Hotel Honiara (B, L)

Photo Credit: Artifacts in Bloody Ridge, Guadalcanal. Courtesy of Douglas Peebles Photography/Alamy Stock Photo. Sketch of US soldier.



LOCAL TOUR GUIDE TIP

Portions of touring on Tulagi are reached by foot. The boat ride to Tulagi lasts approximately 45 minutes.



ITINERARY



DAY FIVE TULAGI

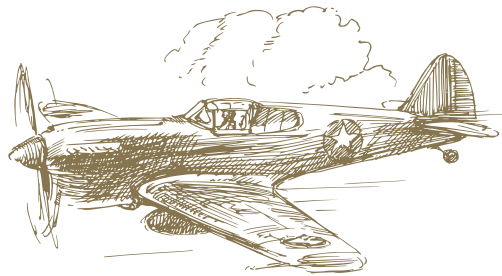
Take a short boat ride to the island of Tulagi, located to the north of Guadalcanal. Tulagi was the seat of the British colonial government of the Solomon Islands. The Japanese took the island in May 1942, and the Americans invaded on August 7, 1942, the same day as the invasion of Guadalcanal. On August 8, the island was declared secure. Tulagi became a headquarters for the subsequent efforts in the Solomon Islands. Following the war, the locals began using the remaining American infrastructure. Visit the battle sites on the island before returning to Guadalcanal for the evening.

Accommodations: Heritage Park Hotel Honiara (B, L, D)

Photo Credit: A US Marine Corps M2A4 Stuart light tank is hoisted from USS *Alchiba* (AK-23) into a LCM(2) landing craft, off the Guadalcanal invasion beaches on the first day of landings there, August 7, 1942. Courtesy of Niday Picture Library / Alamy Stock Photo.

Sketch of Tulagi coastline.

ITINERARY



DAY SIX VILU WAR MUSEUM

The Vilu War Museum, nestled just inside the jungle, contains the remains of numerous Allied and Japanese aircraft. The aircraft exist in disparate conditions, but highlights include an F4U-1 Corsair, a P38F Lightning, an SBD Dauntless, and several examples of Japanese 150mm guns. During the drive along Cape Esperance, hear the stories of the naval battles that took place off the coast of Guadalcanal.

Accommodations: Heritage Park Hotel Honiara (B, L)

Photo Credit: Japanese and American aircraft wrecks at Vilu War Museum on the outskirts of Honiara. Under the War Relics Act, passed in 1980, it is illegal to take any WWII artifacts out of the Solomon Islands. Courtesy of Madeleine Coorey/AFP/Getty Images. Sketch of SBD Dauntless.





LOCAL TOUR GUIDE TIP

Today's touring visits outdoor sites in a tropical, jungle environment. We'll be staying on the well-known paths during the battlefield exploration. After a bit of hiking, there is nothing as refreshing as drinking from an ice-cold coconut.

ITINERARY



DAY SEVEN MOUNT AUSTEN

Continue the journey through Guadalcanal with a visit to the Solomon Scouts & Coastwatchers Monument in Honiara. The next stop is the American Memorial that honors those Americans and their allies who lost their lives during the Guadalcanal Campaign. After lunch, examine the Battle of Mount Austen, the Galloping Horse, and the Sea Horse. Since the American landings in August 1942, the Japanese had viewed the American defenses from the top of Mount Austen. Artillery from Mount Austen harassed operations at Henderson Field, and in December 1942, small Japanese raids succeeded in destroying several American fighter planes and a fuel truck. On December 16, 1942, taking Mount Austen became the first objective in an operation designed to drive the Japanese off Guadalcanal. Combat continued through ridges and hills nicknamed Galloping Horse and Seahorse because of their appearance on topographical maps. This evening, participate in a special "Farewell to Guadalcanal" dinner and reminisce about the journey with fellow tour mates.

Accommodations: Heritage Park Hotel Honiara (B, L, D)

Photo Credit (Top): Army units moving toward the front on Guadalcanal, January 30, 1943.
Courtesy of National Archives & Records Administration. Sketch of the American flag.

ITINERARY



DAY EIGHT

OPTIONAL EXPLORATION OF COFFIN CORNER

Before the heat of the day rises, participate in an optional excursion to Coffin Corner, near the site of John Basilone's heroic actions of October 1942. The tour guide will identify the remains of foxholes and trenches along the jungle floor as you explore the terrain to get a sense of the close-quarter fighting seen in the jungle. Review after-action reports and logbooks of previous researchers, and attempt to identify the positions held by Basilone. Return to Honiara by mid-morning to prepare for the return flight to Brisbane (lunch served in-flight). The evening is free for relaxation prior to your international journey home the next day.

Accommodations: Pullman Brisbane Airport (B, L)



LOCAL TOUR GUIDE TIP

The optional excursion consists of a short hike into the jungle around Bloody Ridge. As guides, we have a lot of experience in taking interested travelers to the old foxhole positions.

DAY NINE

DEPARTURES

After breakfast, make your way to Brisbane International Airport (BNE) for your journey home. (B)

Sketch of Howard Brodie sketch of two US soldiers sharing a foxhole, one alert while the other sleeps. during combat in the Solomon Islands, 1942. Courtesy of Everett Collection Inc./Alamy Stock Photo.

THROUGH THEIR EYES



GUNNERY SERGEANT JOHN BASILONE

"Sgt. Basilone in his personal humility and unwavering dedication to the men who served with him, became a true hero of the American people during World War II."

– Jim Proser, I'm Staying with My Boys: The Heroic Life of Sgt. John Basilone, USMC

John Basilone was the sixth of ten children born to his Italian immigrant parents. At the age of 15, Basilone dropped out of school and worked at a country club before joining the US Army in 1934. Basilone enjoyed a three-year tour in the Philippines, where he proved his grit by becoming boxing champion. After completing his enlistment, Basilone returned home, but he pined for Manila. In 1940, he joined the Marine Corps, believing he could return to the "Pearl of the Orient" more quickly with the Marines. He never made it back to Manila, instead going on active duty in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

On August 7, 1942, Basilone landed on Guadalcanal with the First Marine Division. For Basilone, as well as his fellow Marines, the unopposed landings offered little clue to the conditions they would later encounter on the island. On the night of October 24, while holding a defensive position on Bloody Ridge, Basilone's two machine gun sections came under attack from a company of Japanese soldiers. The Japanese charged out of the jungle, right into the firing lanes of Basilone's machine guns. Within minutes, most of the 100 Japanese

soldiers lay dead. Basilone fought for the remainder of that night and the next, fending off almost non-stop attacks. During an assault, the Japanese knocked out one of Basilone's machine gun crews. Basilone moved his gun to the other position, repaired the downed gun, and manned it, holding the line until replacements arrived. The supply line was blocked and ammunition became dangerously low. Basilone battled his way back and forth through enemy lines for supplies, allowing his crews to continue the fight.

By the end of the battle, only three of the fifteen men in Basilone's sections remained alive or unharmed. For his "great personal valor and courageous initiative" and "extraordinary heroism and conspicuous gallantry in action against enemy forces," John Basilone was awarded the Medal of Honor. His return to the United States in 1943 received great fanfare. A parade in his honor took place on September 19, 1943, and Basilone became a regular on the War Bond Drives, a role that did not suit him well. He returned to combat in 1945 at Iwo Jima, where he was killed in action.

ACCOMMODATIONS



BRISBANE, AUSTRALIA THE WESTIN BRISBANE

The Westin Brisbane is a 5-star urban retreat located in the city center near popular attractions, including Queen Street Mall, the Queensland Performing Arts Centre (QPAC), Suncorp Stadium, and the Treasury Casino. The luxury hotel rooms feature Heavenly® Beds, flat-screen TVs with Chromecast, mini-refrigerators, and complimentary Wi-Fi, as well as floor-to-ceiling windows. On-site dining options include the first swim-up pool bar in Brisbane, as well as a Jazz bar and Eden's Table Restaurant.

ACCOMMODATIONS



HONIARA, SOLOMON ISLANDS HERITAGE PARK HOTEL

Heritage Park Hotel, Honiara's only luxury 4-star hotel, is modern and comfortable, with friendly staff eagerly awaiting to serve. The airy accommodations feature a queen bed or twin beds, furnished balconies, tea and coffee facilities, and free Wi-Fi access. The relaxed rooms come with ocean or garden views. Three on-site restaurants boast the most delicious fare in all of Honiara.

Worry-free booking! Full refund until one week prior to the tour.

Family discount pricing available. Please call -1-877-813-3329 x 257



Experience THE VICTORY

NEW ORLEANS



A custom-curated, four-day group tour
to The National WWII Museum in New Orleans



Experience the #1 Attraction in New Orleans.

Travel to The National WWII Museum in New Orleans to explore, remember, and reflect on World War II through exclusive access to the Museum's campus. Don't miss this unique opportunity to experience a custom program at this world-class institution!

Four days from ~~\$1,449~~ **\$1,199** per person.
\$129 taxes and fees person are additional.

Luxury Accommodations at the Official Hotel of The National WWII Museum

Enjoy easy access to The National WWII Museum during your stay at The Higgins Hotel, located across the street from the Museum.



Prominently located in the New Orleans Warehouse District and directly on the Museum campus, the Higgins Hotel & Conference Center features a striking 1940s theme and is part of the exclusive Curio Collection by Hilton. This 4-star hotel offers spacious and well-appointed accommodations featuring 230 era-inspired guest rooms and suites, exceptional dining, and a state-of-the-art conference center, home to the Museum's many conferences, symposia, military reunions, student group visits, and student and teacher residential programs. Revenue generated by the Higgins Hotel helps fund the growth of the Museum's endowment and educational initiatives.

EXPRESSIONS of America

All-New
Sound & Light
Show

Generously presented by the Bob & Dolores Hope Foundation, *Expressions of America* is a brand-new outdoor sound and light show featuring living murals covering the facades of our buildings. Along with music, archival footage, and personal reflections, this groundbreaking show places you in the center of the war's most epic and personal moments.



Program Highlights



OUT OF THE VAULT MUSEUM TOUR
WITH A MUSEUM CURATOR



BEYOND ALL BOUNDARIES
A UNIQUE CINEMA EXPERIENCE



EARLY ACCESS TO
CAMPAIGNS OF COURAGE GALLERIES

Tour Inclusions

Out of the Vault tour with a Museum Curator
Guided touring of all of the Museum's permanent exhibits
Private Early Access to the Museum
3-day access to The National WWII Museum
A showing of *Beyond All Boundaries*
Final Mission: USS Tang Submarine Experience

3-nights stay at the Higgins Hotel with 3 breakfasts
Special group events including a welcome cocktail reception, private lunch, and VIP dinner with viewing of *Expressions of America*
Free time to explore the Museum and New Orleans on your own
3-day unlimited rides on Hop on Hop off double decker bus and streetcar lines



The National WWII Museum Educational Travel Programs

THE EUROPEAN THEATER



FLAGSHIP LAND PROGRAM

D-DAY: INVASION OF NORMANDY AND LIBERATION OF FRANCE

Normandy Beaches • Arromanches
Sainte-Mère-Église • Bayeux • Caen • Pointe du Hoc
Falaise



FLAGSHIP LAND PROGRAM

EASY COMPANY: ENGLAND TO THE EAGLE'S NEST

Featuring an original Band of Brothers cast member
Aldbourne • Portsmouth • Normandy • Eindhoven
Bastogne • Clervaux • Dachau • Zell Am See
Berchtesgaden



FLAGSHIP LAND PROGRAM

BATTLE OF THE BULGE

Featuring battlefield guide Roland Gaul and an original Band of Brothers cast member
Clervaux • Lanzerath • Elsenborn Ridge • Malmédy
La Gleize • Bastogne • Luxembourg American Cemetery • Ardennes • Bois Jacques



HISTORIAN CURATED PROGRAM

MEGASTRUCTURES

Featuring Alexandra Richie, DPhil
Hamburg • Neuengamme • Binz • Peenemünde
Szczecin • Wałcz • Bydgoszcz • Szubin • Treblinka
Warsaw



FLAGSHIP LAND PROGRAM

ITALY 1944: FROM ANZIO TO THE GOTHIC LINE

Rome • Anzio • Florence • Lucca • Ponzalla
Futa Pass



HISTORIAN CURATED PROGRAM

MASTERS OF THE AIR: THE MIGHTY EIGHTH OVER THE SKIES OF EUROPE

Featuring Donald L. Miller, PhD
London • Cambridge • Thorpe Abbots • East Anglia
Parham • Duxford



HISTORIAN CURATED PROGRAM

THE RISE & FALL OF HITLER'S GERMANY

Featuring Alexandra Richie, DPhil
Berlin • Stalag Luft III • Wrocław • Kraków
Auschwitz • Gdańsk • Wolf's Lair • Warsaw

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Expressions of America sound and light show
Out of the Vault Museum Tour • Early Access to Campaigns of Courage Galleries
Beyond all Boundaries: unique cinema experience

THE PACIFIC THEATER



HISTORIAN CURATED PROGRAM

VICTORY IN THE PACIFIC: PEARL HARBOR, SAIPAN, TINIAN, GUAM, AND THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE BATTLE OF IWO JIMA

Featuring Jonathan Parshall and James M. Scott



HISTORIAN CURATED PROGRAM

VICTORY IN THE PACIFIC: WORLD WAR II IN THE PHILIPPINES

Featuring James M. Scott
Manila • Corregidor • Bataan



HISTORIAN CURATED PROGRAM

VICTORY IN THE PACIFIC: BATTLE OF GUADALCANAL

Featuring Jonathan Parshall
Brisbane • Guadalcanal • Tulagi



HISTORIAN CURATED PROGRAM

VICTORY IN THE PACIFIC: JAPAN & OKINAWA

Featuring Jonathan Parshall
Tokyo • Hiroshima • Kagoshima • Okinawa

EXCLUSIVELY CHARTERED LUXURY CRUISES



HISTORIAN CURATED LAND & CRUISE PROGRAM

NORMANDY & THE SEINE RIVER: FROM THE D-DAY BEACHES TO THE LIBERATION OF PARIS

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