

Battle of Normandy *and* The Liberation of Paris

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

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





AMERICAN SOLDIERS ABOARD AN LCI LANDING CRAFT ON D-DAY.

Dear Alumni and Friends,

Nothing can match learning about the Normandy landings as you visit the very places where these events unfolded and hear the stories of those who fought there.

The story of D-Day and the Allied invasion of Normandy have been at the heart of The National WWII Museum's mission since they opened their doors as The National D-Day Museum on June 6, 2000, the 56th Anniversary of D-Day. Since then, the Museum in New Orleans has expanded to cover the entire American experience in World War II. The foundation of this institution started with the telling of the American experience on D-Day, and the Normandy travel program is still held in special regard – and is considered to be the very best battlefield tour on the market.

Drawing on historical expertise and an extensive archival collection, the Battle of Normandy and the Liberation of Paris tour takes visitors back 80 years, to June 6, 1944. Embark on a memorable journey from the famous church at Sainte-Mère-Église to Omaha Beach and Pointe du Hoc. Along the way, also discover the medieval treasures of Normandy in Bayeux and Rouen, then conclude in Paris to learn about the tragedies under occupation and triumphs after liberation.

Led by local guides who are experts in their fields, this travel program offers an exclusive experience that incorporates pieces from the Museum's oral history and artifact collections into presentations that truly bring history to life. Discover the lesser known stories of France, and experience this country in a new way. Even if you have been to France before, this tour promises to uncover history you've never heard of! We are pleased to offer Battle of Normandy and the Liberation of Paris, to honor those who fought for our freedom from tyranny.

To reserve your space(s), contact The National WWII Museum Travel at 1-877-813-3329 X 257.

Sincerely,

Mark

Mark D. Bieger '91 Colonel, U.S. Army (Retired) *The Honorable & Mrs. Robert A. McDonald '75* President & CEO West Point Association of Graduates

Stand Where History Was Made



For more than 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 reserve units in the Atlantic Wall defenses across the French coastlines, determined to drive the Allied forces back into the sea when the invasion was finally launched. There would be no second chance for the Allies: The fate of the continent hangs upon this decisive day.

In the early minutes of June 6, 1944, Allied paratroopers and gliders descended from the night sky to wrest control of key bridges and roadways from the German Nazis. Behind them in the darkness of early morning, an initial force of over 130,000 servicemen from the Allied nations crossed a choppy English Channel aboard an armada of more than 5,000 ships. Their destination was Normandy, D-day had arrived.

Learn Their Names



LIEUTENANT JOHN MARR 1918 - 2015

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

Colonel John Marr was born in 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. 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 Sainte-Mère-Église, where he was involved in what is considered the costliest small-unit action in United States Army history: the Battle of La Fière.

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.



Hear John's story in his own words in the Digital Archive of The National WWII Museum Visit ww2online.org and enter "John Marr into the search field.

Hear Their Stories



PRIVATE HAROLD "HAL" BAUMGARTEN 1925 - 2016 116th Regiment, 29th Infantry Division

Harold "Hal" Baumgarten was born in New York City in March 1925. When he was just 18 years old, he was drafted into the US Army, 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, known to history as "Bloody Omaha." Of the 30 men on his landing craft, he was one of only two survivors. After the war, the multi-decorated veteran earned his MD and practiced medicine for over 40 years.

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.



Hear Hal's story in his own words in the Digital Archive of The National WWII Museum. Visit ww2online.org and enter "Baumgarten" into the search field.

Battle of Normandy and The Liberation of Paris

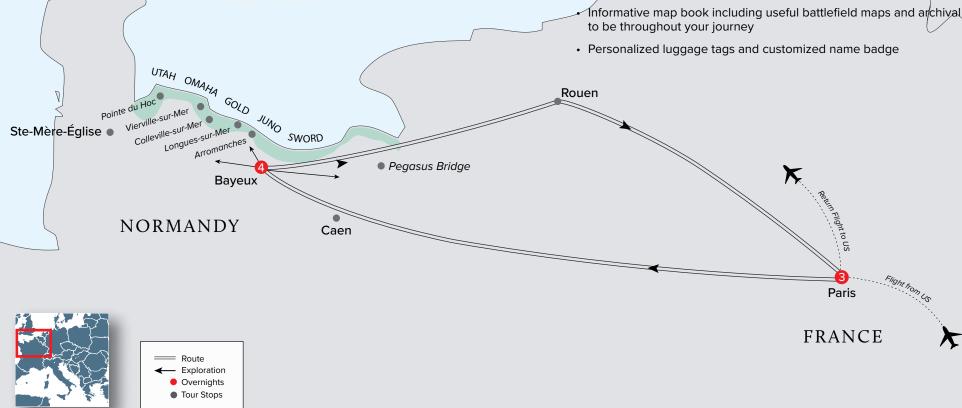
7 days from \$8,395 \$7,895* double occupancy \$10,485 \$9,985* single occupancy

*\$239 per person taxes and fees are additional. Pricing and itinerary subject to change. Airfare is not included in the price listed.

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 National WWII Museum. 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 & departing on scheduled group tour dates)
- 4 nights accommodations in historic, hand-picked, fully-renovated hotel in Normandy
- 3 nights accommodations in 5-star Paris hotels
- Private, first-class, air-conditioned motor coach transportation
- VIP access to sites not offered on other tours
- Video Oral History presentations from the Museum's digital collection
- Gratuities to guides, drivers, porters, and servers
- Personal listening devices on all included touring
- 7 Breakfasts, 3 Lunches, and 4 Dinners
- · Beer, wine, and soft drinks with included lunches and dinner
- Informative map book including useful battlefield maps and archival images to be throughout your journey



DAY 1: ARRIVE PARIS / TRANSFER TO NORMANDY

Arrive at Charles de Gaulle Airport (CDG) in Paris, and transfer by private motor coach to the quaint, medieval village of Bayeux, in Normandy. Enjoy some free time to relax or explore Bayeux, then gather this evening for a welcome dinner at a local French restaurant. Accommodations: Hotel d'Argouges (D)

PHOTO: STREET VIEW IN BAYEUX NORMANDY.

8 | BATTLE OF NORMANDY AND THE LIBERATION OF PARIS

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DAY 2: UTAH BEACH / US AIRBORNE

Travel along rural lanes, past hedgerows, and over causeways to La Fière, where the 82nd Airborne fought off four days of attacks from German troops trying to retake this strategic bridge. Listen to the rich stories told by the battlefield guide, augmented with videos from the Museum's exclusive oral history collection, which are personal accounts from the men who fought on the frontlines. Explore Sainte-Mère-Église, the famous crossroads town where American paratroopers landed during the predawn hours of D-Day, tour Musée Airborne, and visit the church made famous in the film The Longest Day. After an included lunch, continue to Brécourt Manor, the site where Dick Winters and some of his men from "Easy Company" launched the assault on German guns, an action portrayed in the book and miniseries *Band of Brothers*. Visit the Utah Beach Museum, and discover details of the exemplary leadership of General Teddy Roosevelt, Jr., during the landings at Utah Beach. Enjoy dinner and an evening at leisure in Bayeux.

Accommodations: Hotel d'Argouges (B, L)

LA FIÈRE, COURTESY OF JOHN SNOWDON

UTAH BEACH MUSEUM,

COURTESY OF JOHN SNOWDC

DAY 3: BAYEUX / CAEN

Bayeux is a medieval city full of fascinating history and natural beauty. It is perhaps most famously known for being the site of the Bayeux Tapestry, a 230-foot-long embroidered cloth which tells the story of the 1066 Norman conquest of England. Visit the Tapestry Museum and then marvel at the Gothic architecture of the 12th-century Bayeux Cathedral from the crypt to the spires on a guided tour. Indulge during lunch at one of Bayeux's abundant cafes serving up traditional fare. This evening, journey to nearby Caen for dinner and to tour Mémorial de Caen, a museum and tranquil park that is dedicated to the memory of those who lost their lives during World War II in Normandy.

Accommodations: Hotel d'Argouges (B, D)



FRENCH LEADER CHARLES DE GAULLE IN BAYEUX, 1944. COURTESY OF PICTORIAL PRESS LTD/ALAMY



GERMAN STRONGPOINT, OMAHA BEACH

DAY 4: POINTE DU HOC / OMAHA BEACH NORMANDY AMERICAN CEMETERY

The final day in Normandy is devoted to the ground troops who came ashore in the Omaha Beach area. Pointe du Hoc is a stunningly beautiful battlefield riddled with a network of craters, caused by the massive Allied bombardment of the area prior to the D-Day invasion. It is also the site where the Army Rangers faced tough odds in the English Channel before landing and scaling the imposing 100-foot cliff. Next, stand on Omaha Beach, where some of the fiercest fighting of the invasion took place. Contemplate the sacrifices made here during an included group lunch. Spend the afternoon at the Normandy American Cemetery, where more than 9,000 Americans are laid to rest in the ground they helped liberate. Walk the grounds, visit the small museum, and remember the sacrifices made here. Reflect on the Normandy touring at a group dinner this evening. *Accommodations: Hotel d'Argouges (B, L, D)*





LES BRAVES MEMORIAL, OMAHA BEACH

DAY 5: ROUEN / TRANSFER TO PARIS

From the Gothic architecture of the Notre-Dame Cathedral to the charming half-timbered houses in the center of town, enjoy a walking tour of the place described by Victor Hugo as "the city with a hundred bell towers." During a guided walking tour, view the monumental Gros-Horloge, the 14th-century astronomical



DAY 6: PARIS UNDER OCCUPATION

When Paris fell in 1940, the first couple of years under occupation resembled a pre-war "City of Light", but the Gestapo slowly increased pressure on the French citizens. From their headquarters on Avenue Foch, the Gestapo looked for spies, saboteurs, and resistors. The plan to deport France's Jews to concentration camps also operated from Avenue Foch. In one horrendous incident, the French police and gendarmes rounded up over 13,000 Jews from January 16-17, 1942, holding them at the Velodrome d'Hiver. The Germans sent most of the Jews held at this cyclodrome to Auschwitz. The Vel d'Hiv roundup has proven to be a difficult moment for French politicians with an apology coming from Jacques Chirac in 1995, and a wider admission of the French government's involvement from Emmanuel Macron in 2017. Take in important landmarks around Paris, such as Arc de Triomphe, Champs-Élysées, and the Eiffel Tower during a driving tour. Also visit two memorials commemorating Vel d'Hiv, then continue to the National Resistance Museum in Champigny. This captivating museum provides a unique insight into the bravery and courage of those who fought against the Nazi occupation of France during World War II. *Accommodations: Hôtel Du Louvre (B, L)*



FRENCH CIVILIANS LEAVE THEIR DESTROYED HOUSES IN PARIS, FRANCE, 1943. COURTESY OF DPA PICTURE ALLIANCE.





DAY 7: LIBERATION OF PARIS

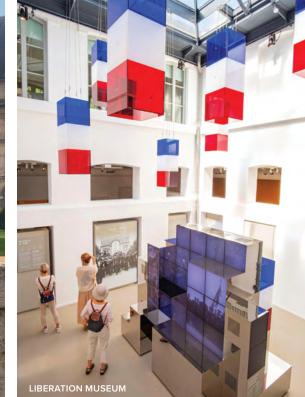
Experience the inspiring stories of victory at the Liberation Museum in Paris. The exhibits showcase a vast collection of artifacts, documents, and personal accounts from those who lived through this pivotal moment in French history. Interactive displays highlight the lives of key figures like Jean Moulin and Philippe Leclerc. Moulin's work to unify the disparate resistance groups to a common cause, and Leclerc's role in commanding Free French forces in North Africa and in Europe highlight the paths available to free France from Nazi tyranny and its collaborationist partners. Transport back to the summer of 1944, and admire the courage and determination of the ordinary citizens who rose up against the German occupiers.

Accommodations: Hôtel Du Louvre (B, D)

DAY 8: TRANSFERS TO CHARLES DE GAULLE AIRPORT

After breakfast at the hotel, transfer to Charles de Gaulle (CDG) Airport for flights home. (*B*)





LIBERATION MUSEUM (MUSÉE DE L'ORDRE DE LA LIBÉRATION





Hôtel d'Argouges bayeux, france

The ideal location of the 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, period fireplaces, and parquet floors polished by time..





Hôtel Du Louvre

A short walk from the Louvre, the Palais Royal, and the Opéra Garnier, the 5-star Hôtel du Louvre invites you to explore the City of Light from one of the best locations in the city. This luxurious hotel offers bright, spacious rooms and stunning architecture. Amenities include a fitness center, room service, and complimentary internet access. OPTIONAL TWO-NIGHT PRE-TOUR EXTENSION PROGRAM

THE TREASURES OF NORMANDY

Only \$1,199 per person double occupancy, \$1,799 single occupancy \$129 taxes and fees are additional.



Journey into the Middle Ages on our custom-curated extension program focused on the historic importance of the picturesque Normandy region.

MONT SAINT-MICHEL

CHÂTEAU DE FALAISE

Program Itinerary

Day One - Arrive Paris, transfer to Normandy

Enjoy a scenic transfer from Charles de Gaulle Airport (CDG) to Bayeux and settle into the historic Hotel d'Argouges. Spend the afternoon and evening exploring the medieval town center and enjoying dinner at one of the many quaint restaurants serving traditional fare.

Accommodations: Hotel d'Argouges

Day Two - Falaise

On your first day of touring, journey to the picturesque town of Falaise, the birthplace of William the Conqueror. Visit Chateau de Falaise, the seat of the Dukes of Normandy from the 13th century to the 17th century, when it was abandoned. During World War II, the chateau suffered from heavy bombardment during the Battle of the Falaise Pocket, but was restored after the war. Next, visit the Memorial des Civils, dedicated to the Norman civilians who were affected by the D-Day invasion and during the ensuing 3 months of the Battle of Normandy. Return to Bayeux for an evening at leisure.

Accommodations: Hotel d'Argouges (B)

Day Three - Mont Saint-Michel

Today's touring includes a trip to 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. Return to Bayeux this afternoon and attend a welcome dinner with main tour guests arriving today.

Accommodations: Hotel d'Argouges (B, L)

Program Inclusions

- · Two-night accommodations at the historic 4-star Hôtel d'Argouges
- · Transfer from Paris-Charles de Gaulle Airport (CDG) to Bayeux
- · Two days of touring, including all admissions
- · 2 Breakfasts, 1 Lunch
- Beer, wine, and soft drinks with included lunches
- Expert local guide / tour manager
- · Private, first class air-conditioned coach
- Personal listening devices on all included touring
- \cdot $\,$ Included gratuities to guides, drivers, porters, and servers





Experience the #1 Attraction in New Orleans on this custom-curated, four-day group tour to The National WWII Museum



EXCLUSIVE 4-D CINEMA EXPERIENCE



PRIVATE GUIDED GALLERY TOURS



CURATOR'S COLLECTION TOUR



LUXURY ACCOMMODATIONS AT THE HIGGINS HOTEL

HE NATIONAL

WWIL MUSEUM





For tour dates and more information Visit ww2museumtours.org • Call: 1-877-813-3329 x 257