

NORTHWEST EUROPE CANADIAN BATTLEFIELD & REMEMBRANCE TOUR

FROM PARIS TO AMSTERDAM
OCTOBER 2-14, 2021 (13 DAYS)

www.LiberationTours.ca



LiberationTours
THE CANADIAN LEGACY



Canadian Battlefield Tour of Northwest Europe 2021

Normandy to the Liberation of Holland

Our Most Popular Tour!

Embark on a journey of wonder and discovery as you walk in the footsteps of our Canadian soldiers, who left their mark of service and sacrifice upon a far away landscape in the pursuit of democracy & freedom.

Our Northwest Europe battlefield tour is the most comprehensive tour of its kind - a pilgrimage to the Canadian battlefields of WWI and WWII where Canada came of age as a nation and forged a reputation as *the* army to be called upon for some of the most difficult and challenging battles of the wars. Canadians signed up from across our country, joining forces to sail across the Atlantic Ocean to liberate a people they did not know. Many are forever laid to rest in foreign soil.

You'll stay at quality hotels throughout, selected for their great location and service. Your tour also includes free time to enjoy a little culture. And you'll be part of a typically all-Canadian group, mostly couples.

Join us for an unforgettable, life-changing journey through France, Belgium and The Netherlands.

"Thank you for the trip of a lifetime. I have been on many tours and this was the best in every respect."
-Anne D., Winnipeg MB

"I had the honour of traveling on the 2014 tour, I know what lies ahead for future guests ... and I am jealous! Given the chance I would do it all over again."
-Jeffery S., Calgary AB

"The most amazing days of my life."
-Brock W., Orillia ON

October 2-14, 2021
Thirteen Life-Changing Days



*Juno Beach • Gold Beach • Omaha Beach
Vimy Ridge • Ypres • Passchendaele
Dieppe • Beaumont-Hamel • Arnhem
and so much more ...*





Itinerary

Day 1 - Saturday October 2

Depart from Canada for your overnight transatlantic flight to Paris, except for those who may choose to depart sooner to extend their trip.

Day 2 - Sunday October 3

Arrival at Charles de Gaulle Airport, transfer to downtown to drop baggage for check-in later ... you are now free to explore this amazing city! We gather in the late afternoon for our Welcome Dinner. Overnight Paris. [D]

Day 3 - Monday October 4

Depart for the Normandy coast to consider pre-D-Day 'Atlantic Wall' defenses including Longues-sur-Mer coastal gun battery; visit the Memorial Pegasus Museum followed by a walk to the Café Gondrée. Overnight Bayeux. [B,L]

Day 4 - Tuesday October 5

Walk the sands of Juno Beach on this morning with story-telling and reflection; visit the Juno Beach Centre at Courseulles-sur-Mer; see Canada House on the beach at Bernières-sur-Mer; visit monument at St-Aubin-sur-Mer; Beny-sur-Mer Canadian War Cemetery. Overnight Bayeux. [B,L]

Day 5 - Wednesday Oct 6

Visit British landing zone at Gold Beach and the Mulberry Harbour at the village of Arromanches, including a tour of the Musée du Débarquement; Omaha American Landing Beach; Pointe-du-Hoc; La Cambe German War Cemetery. Overnight Bayeux. [B,L]

Day 6 - Thursday October 7

Today begins with a free morning, with time to visit the Bayeux Tapestry and/or wander the village; afternoon visit to Abbaye d'Ardennes; departure to Dieppe for the evening. Overnight Dieppe. [B]

Day 7 - Friday October 8

Tour the Dieppe main beach to consider Operation Jubilee, followed by visits to the beaches at Puits and Pourville; Dieppe Canadian War Cemetery; departure to Amiens for the evening. Overnight Amiens. [B]

Day 8 - Saturday October 9

Walk the fields of the Battle of the Somme at the Beaumont-Hamel Newfoundland Park; Thiepval Memorial & Lochnagar Crater; other points of interest in the area including Canada's monument at Courcellette. Overnight Arras. [B,L]

Day 9 - Sunday October 10

The morning is dedicated to Vimy Ridge, including walking the trenches and tunnels; points of interest below the ridge at Souchez; depart for Belgium, to Ieper for the evening; Last Post Ceremony at the Menin Gate. Overnight Ieper. [B,L]

Day 10 - Monday October 11

We tour the Ieper (Ypres) salient including Hill 62, the Crest Farm monument at Passchendaele, The Brooding Soldier at St. Julien, Essex Farm, and Tyne Cot Cemetery. Free afternoon at leisure in Ieper. Last Post Ceremony at the Menin Gate. Overnight Ieper. [B,L]

Day 11 - Tuesday October 12

Depart Belgium for the Netherlands, Groesbeek Canadian War Cemetery; Operation Market Garden and the John Frost Bridge. Overnight Arnhem. [B,L]

Day 12 - Wednesday October 13

Our final visit of the tour, at Holten Canadian War Cemetery, followed by a Farewell Lunch nearby. Overnight Amsterdam. [B,L]

Day 13 - Thursday October 14

Return flights from Amsterdam, except for those who may choose to extend their stay.

Itinerary is tentative at this time and subject to change prior to the booking deadline. Minor variances are also possible during the actual tour based on the need to adapt to circumstances encountered during our travels.

detailed itinerary & pricing at
www.LiberationTours.ca



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Reg. No. 2780622



The Tour.

Juno Beach

Stand on the very shore where Canadians stormed the beaches on D-Day, June 6, 1944. Learn how the Canadians made it further inland than any other allied force. Your visit includes a guided tour of the beaches and a tour of the Juno Beach Centre.



Vimy Ridge

The ground that could not be taken and held ... until the Canadians came. It was the first time all four divisions of the Canadian Expeditionary Force fought together, and their success of April 1917 resonates still to this day. See what many consider the most beautiful of all the war monuments, including a must-see guided tour of the tunnels.



Passchendaele

It's been called the ugliest fight of both World Wars. It's October 1917 and the Canadians will suffer gas attacks, infested trenches, misery. And yet they will once again prevail. What was then a barren, muddy landscape is now a quiet, lovely countryside. You'll see where they fought, and where John McCrae wrote his famous poem.



Beaumont-Hamel

Many Canadians don't know the name but Beaumont-Hamel is forever etched into the memory of Newfoundlanders. It was here in July 1916 that a thousand soldiers climbed up out of the trenches and into the gunfire, and were almost completely wiped out. They are the Royal Newfoundland Regiment and their battleground is renowned as one of the best preserved WWI sites in all of France.



What our Clients Say ...

After considering a battlefield tour for years I was delighted to find one focused on the Canadian experience. Liberation Tours are great people who definitely know their Canadian military history. Wonderful to visit so many places that I had read about for years.

-Jeremy L., Calgary AB

Phil and John host a terrific historical journey, one that every Canadian should make. Adding the personal family stories to the historical context, although emotional, created a living story of my father and his experiences during WW 2. Thank you to Phil and John for such a wonderful tour.

-John & Heather C., Westwood ON

Thank you for a superb tour. All commented on the fact that all enjoyed each others company, even expressing that a reunion would be nice ... one doesn't usually see this coming off tours.

-Keith & Louise W., Ottawa ON

We highly recommend Liberation Tours to everyone interested in the battlefields. The all inclusive package made this trip stress free. This was a trip of a lifetime for us and we will always have special memories.

-Peggy & Robin B., Calgary AB

Thank you for the trip of a lifetime. I have been on many tours and this was the best in every respect.

-Anne D., Winnipeg MB

The Trip.

Commonwealth War Graves Cemeteries

The war cemeteries of Europe, from both the First and Second World Wars, are places of peace and respect. They are immaculately maintained by CWGC staff around the world, with a majority of those cemeteries in northern France and Belgium.



Ieper (Ypres)

Ypres was completely destroyed during WWI, but the citizens of Ypres rebuilt their proud town brick by brick. Enjoy a little shopping and a lot of great food, or perhaps a walk along the old city ramparts and cobblestone streets. Here you'll often cross paths with other battlefield tourists from Canada, the USA and Great Britain.



Holten

Want to feel great Canadian pride? There can be no better place than Holland. The Canadian army were the primary liberators of this small nation in WWII and citizens of Canada are always greeted with immense warmth.



Your guide will be Liberation Tours' lead historian **Phil Craig**, Professional Actor and Co-Founder of the Georgina Military Museum.





Included in your Package

- Eleven nights accommodation in twin-bedded rooms with private facilities in Trafalgar First Class Hotels (*European standards*)
- Premium airport departure lounge at the start of the tour for those booked on the group flight via Toronto (subject to availability)
... *an exclusive benefit not offered by other battlefield tours*
- Travel by luxury air-conditioned coach with reclining seats, on-board facilities and free mobile Wi-Fi
- Buffet breakfast (cold and/or hot) at the hotel each morning, plus selected lunches & dinners as outlined in the itinerary
- All hotel service charges, local taxes, baggage handling of one bag per person, plus entry fees to sites included in the itinerary
- Gratuities to Coach Driver, Trafalgar Agent and Local Guides **included!** (*important note: these costs are extra on most other tours and can add up to \$150 CAD or more at the end of your trip, be sure to compare!*)
- Group pick-up from Charles de Gaulle Airport on October 3, 2021 and group flight drop-off to Schiphol Airport on October 14, 2021 (*all non-group flight travelers are responsible for their own airport transfers*)

Excluded

- Airfare: optional group air booking available, see website for details
- Meals other than stated on the itinerary
- Travel / Cancellation / Medical Insurance
- Passport & related fees
- Any optional excursion not specifically stated
- Items of a personal nature

Notations

- Hotels have been pre-booked but are subject to change
- This tour requires a minimum of 20 passengers to operate
- Non-refundable deposit of \$500 per person due with booking
- Balance of payment due no later than June 30, 2021
- **All deposits & payments are non-refundable.**
- Read Liberation Tours' Terms & Conditions prior to booking

additional details on our website:

www.LiberationTours.ca

\$5990

Land Only, per person, based on double occupancy
(two people sharing a room)

\$1300

Single Supplement - the additional cost if traveling
on your own (one person in the room)

Non-Refundable Deposit at time of Booking:

\$500

Contact your favourite Travel Agent or:

Natalie Hébert

UNIGLOBE Travel Innovations

1-800-565-7999

natalie@travel-til.com

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Terms & Conditions of Booking and other Important Information

- 1. Deposits & Final Payments:** A Deposit is required at the time of booking in order to secure a place on the trip. A Final Payment is required on or before the final payment deadline to ensure your place on the trip is fully vested. Deposits and Final Payments, once paid, are non-refundable.
 - 2. Insurance:** Liberation Tours strongly recommends the purchase of Trip Cancellation and Interruption Insurance, plus out-of-country medical coverage, etc. You can obtain a quote from Manulife Insurance via our booking agent, or from Sanderson Insurance via our website, or from your favourite local travel or insurance agent. You could also check your credit card provider in case you have coverage by purchasing your trip on your credit card.
 - 3. Itinerary:** Every effort is made to deliver the itinerary of a given tour as outlined on the website and within the published literature, however due to circumstances beyond our control (including but not limited to weather, construction, passenger illness, mechanical breakdown, civil unrest, etc.) Liberation Tours reserves the right to alter the published itinerary by substituting where possible alternate venues and/or sightseeing locales so as to make the best possible accommodation under the circumstances.
 - 4. Hotels:** All hotels listed on the itinerary have been pre-booked at time of publishing. Whereas Liberation Tours will do its utmost to prevent our pre-booked hotels from 'booking out' we cannot accept responsibility for this eventuality. Similarly, there may be occasions where Liberation Tours is not able to secure our contract hotels due to conferences, sporting events etc. in which case a hotel of similar standard will be booked. Liberation Tours reserves the right to accommodate within 80 km of locations listed on the attached itinerary.
 - 5. Food Allergies:** Some tours may include one or more pre-booked group meals. For such meals Liberation Tours will make every effort to accommodate food allergies that you declare to us in advance, however please be aware that such accommodations cannot be entirely guaranteed. Our responsibility will be limited to requesting of the restaurant(s) to provide a safe, allergy-free meal and to extend to you whatever the restaurant can offer. Failing this, should you find it necessary to substitute one of these pre-booked meals in some alternate way (ie different restaurant, hotel meal, etc) you will need to be responsible for cost of same. Liberation Tours regrets we cannot refund or otherwise transfer the value of pre-booked meals.
 - 6. Coach Seating:** We employ a seating rotation program whereby all clients are shuffled through the coach to new seats daily, thereby ensuring everyone has an opportunity to be seated in different areas of the coach and also providing for different neighbours across the aisle. Requests to be accommodated in a fixed seat location will respectfully be declined.
 - 7. Group Air Seating:** Clients who choose to take seats with the group air booking should note that, while every effort is made to seat couples together, it cannot be guaranteed that they will sit side-by-side. Group air bookings are such that advance seat selection is usually not offered, and that seats are not always guaranteed as side-by-side, rather whatever free seats are available on that flight as determined by the airline. Please be prepared for the possibility that you will not sit together. Requests to be seated together should be made at the check-in desk at the airport, or otherwise with the in-flight cabin crew upon boarding.
 - 8. Individual Bookings for Air Travel, Hotels, etc:** Clients who plan to arrange their own air travel (ie. not reserving a seat with the group air booking), or extra hotels before/after the tour, should not make any non-cancellable bookings prior to the booking deadline. Once the booking deadline has passed and the tour is officially a 'go' with the minimum required number of passengers, individual bookings can then be made!
 - 9. Passport & Visa:** Canadians do not require a visa to travel to countries within the *Schengen Area* for stays of up to 90 days in any 180-day period. If you leave the Schengen Area and return within the same 180-day period, the previous stay will count against the permitted 90 days. See <https://travel.gc.ca/travelling/schengen-area>. The Schengen Area includes Austria, Belgium, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland. A tourist visa is also not required for the United Kingdom (for stays of six months or less). See <https://travel.gc.ca/destinations/united-kingdom>. Beginning in either 2022 or 2023, most Canadian travelers to Europe will require an ETIAS Travel Authorization. More information is available at <https://www.etias.ca/etias-mandatory-2022/>.
- In general, **it is the responsibility of each traveler** to obtain a valid passport, and to obtain any visa(s) (where necessary) or travel authorizations, for countries to be visited. Please ensure you have the relevant documentation required. Liberation Tours will not accept responsibility for clients who do not have a passport and the appropriate visas. Any interruption in travel to the client resulting from lack of proper documentation will be at the client's expense.



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Terms & Conditions of Booking and other Important Information

- 10. Surcharges:** Prices may be subject to a Surcharge to cover any unexpected costs over which Liberation Tours has no control, including but not limited to fuel surcharges, government taxes and country visas. The Surcharge shall not exceed 7% of the Land-Only booking price and shall, if needed, be applied no later than the date of final payment. If a Surcharge of more than 7% is necessary clients may, at their option, cancel their booking and receive a full refund of any payments made, with no penalties. No Surcharges shall be applied after the booking deadline.
- 11. Baggage:** Maximum baggage allowance on motor coach tours is one large suitcase per person, plus a small hand luggage item (ie. backpack/satchel) which can be stored in the shallow overhead bin inside the coach cabin. All hand luggage must be carried personally aboard the coach. Although the Tour Manager and Coach Driver supervise the transfer of luggage to and from the motor coach and every effort is made to handle luggage as carefully as possible, Liberation Tours cannot assume liability for loss, theft or damage due to breakage, fire, water, etc. Porterage is available at most hotels, although it is often the case that clients will need to port their own luggage between the coach and the hotel lobby. Some hotels do not offer porterage and thus clients will need to handle their own luggage.
- 12. Responsibility:** You acknowledge and agree that Liberation Tours (the "Organizer") acts solely as an organizer of the tours outlined in this brochure and as such is a middle-person between you and the carriers, hotels, tour operators and other service/product providers which form part of this tour. Consequently, Liberation Tours shall not be held liable for the services rendered, and/or the products offered, by such third-party providers. Liberation Tours shall not be liable and assumes no risk for the obligations, or any default or negligence, of third-party providers and for any damages including, among other things, damages due to delay, cancellation, loss of goods, sickness, injury, accident, quality of services, inconvenience, loss of enjoyment, disappointment, acts of God or force majeure. The Organizer reserves the right to make any changes before or during the tour for the comfort and enjoyment of the clients.
- The Organizer reserves the right to decline any person as a member of the tour at any time before or during the tour should such person's presence be considered, at our sole discretion, detrimental to the interest, comfort or enjoyment of the other tour members. Persons leaving the tour during operation will not receive a refund of unused services.
- 13. Itinerary:** All tour itineraries are subject to change or cancellation without prior notice. Tour managers and/or historians designated for a particular tour are subject to substitution where deemed necessary.
- 14. COVID-19:** Should it become necessary to cancel a tour due to Covid-19 prior to the start of a tour, all clients on the manifest would receive a full refund of the ground portion of the tour. Refunds for airfare would be subject to airline policy.
- 15. Acceptance:** Liberation Tours, its agents and all clients agree that conditions set out herein are part of the terms between the client and the Organizer. Acceptance of the ticket for the tour or any deposit given to the Organizer's agents represents acceptance by the client of all the aforementioned Terms and Conditions.