

NORTHWEST EUROPE CANADIAN BATTLEFIELD & REMEMBRANCE TOUR

FROM PARIS TO AMSTERDAM

APRIL 22 - MAY 7, 2021 (16 DAYS)

www.LiberationTours.ca



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Liberation of Holland 75+1 Anniversary Tour

WW1 & WW2 - Paris to Amsterdam
Our Most Popular Tour!

In the spring of 2021 our annual Northwest Europe battlefield tour will focus upon the last big anniversary in Europe ...
75+1 Anniversary of the Liberation of the Netherlands.

The Liberation of Holland was brought about primarily by the Canadians, a monumental struggle of service and sacrifice in the pursuit of democracy & freedom. Canadians signed up from across our country, joining forces to sail across the Atlantic Ocean to liberate a people they did not know. As many Dutch people of that generation will say, "thank God they came."

Meanwhile, back in Canada, the Dutch royal family found refuge in Ottawa, where Princess Margriet was born in 1943.

The Dutch people have never forgotten. Each spring the Dutch send 20,000 tulips to Ottawa, a heartfelt gesture signalling an unbroken friendship. And each spring, Liberation Tours takes Canadians back to Holland to reflect, remember, and in particular to honour those who fell - and who are forever laid to rest in Dutch soil.

Now, 76 years later, you will become part of this enduring connection between our two nations. It will be an experience of admiration and respect - a truly emotional journey. There is no better place to be a proud Canadian than Holland in the spring.



April 22 - May 7, 2021
(16 LIFE-CHANGING DAYS)



MAIN 16-DAY ITINERARY:

Day 1 - Thursday April 22

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 - Friday April 23

Arrival at Charles de Gaulle Airport, transfer to downtown and enjoy free time at leisure in Paris. In the early evening we gather for our Welcome Dinner in the heart of the city. Overnight Paris. [D]

Day 3 - Saturday April 24

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 Normandy. [B,L]

Day 4 - Sunday April 25

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

Day 5 - Monday April 26

Visit British landing zone at Gold Beach and the Mulberry Harbour at the village of Arromanches; Omaha American Landing Beach; afternoon visit to Abbaye d'Ardenne; departure to Dieppe for the evening. Overnight Dieppe. [B,L]

Day 6 - Tuesday April 27

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

Itinerary

Day 7 - Wednesday April 28

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 Amiens. [B,L]

Day 8 - Thursday April 29

The morning is dedicated to Vimy Ridge, including walking the trenches and tunnels; points of interest below the ridge at Souchez; visit Hill 70 Memorial, then onward to Belgium; Last Post Ceremony at the Menin Gate. Overnight Ieper. [B,L]

Day 9 - Friday April 30

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

Day 10 - Saturday May 1

Tour Canadian battle sites of the Leopold Canal and Breskens Pocket, including Eede, Hoodplaat, Hickman Bridge, and more. Overnight Zeeland. [B,L]

Day 11 - Sunday May 2

Visit the Calgary Monument at the Walcheren Causway; visit Woensdrecht with a local historian; visit Bergen-op-Zoom Canadian War Cemetery; visit the Kapelsche Veer Monument. Overnight Arnhem. [B,L]

Note: This itinerary is tentative, with some changes possible prior to the booking deadline as we await confirmation of details of the special commemorative events in Holland around the 4th and 5th of May. Minor variances are also possible during the actual tour based on the need to adapt to circumstances we encounter during our travels. See website for hotel details.

Day 12 - Monday May 3

Visit Operation 'Market Garden' paratrooper drop zone near Oosterbeek; visit the John Frost Bridge at Arnhem; visit the Driel Monument; attend Groesbeek Canadian War Cemetery for Veterans' Affairs Canada Official Ceremony (tbc). Overnight Arnhem. [B,L]

Day 13 - Tuesday May 4

Attend 76th anniversary special commemoration at the Holten Canadian War Cemetery; this evening, observe two minutes silence at 8:00pm. Overnight Groningen. [B,L]

Day 14 - Wednesday May 5

Visit the final Canadian battlefields in the countryside near Delfzijl; Liberation Day activities as may be organized by local officials. Farewell Dinner! Overnight Groningen. [B,L,D]

Day 15 - Thursday May 6

Onward to Amsterdam for free day at leisure. Overnight Amsterdam. [B]

Day 16 - Friday May 7

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

OPTIONAL 2-DAY EXTENSION:

Day 16 - Friday May 7

Enjoy a second free day at leisure in Amsterdam. Or at your option, board the coach for a leisurely tourist visit to three highlight locations: the Zaanse Schans and its world famous windmills, Volendam and its lovely harbour, and the charming small streets and shops of historic Haarlem. Overnight Amsterdam. [B]

Day 17 - Saturday May 8

We board the coach early and make our way east to the lovely town of Apeldoorn, to attend the Liberation Festival on the grounds of the Palace Het Loo ... scheduled to include pipe & drum bands, live music, an exciting WWII reenactment camp, a special tattoo concert in the evening, and much more! Overnight Apeldoorn. [B]

Day 18 - Sunday May 9

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

complete details & pricing at
www.liberationtours.ca



Reg. No. 2780622



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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 ...

"Every morning since I got home I have to get up and go over my photos just to make sure that I really did go on our trip as it tends to feel surreal. From time to time, I still experience the exhilaration of "actually being there." Everything seemed to mesh - from your meticulous planning and attention to detail, the location of hotels near sightseeing venues, the selection of prime sites from WW1 and WW2 as well as the excellent commentary. Definitely, going in a group had some serendipitous advantages as we shared each person's "story." I am so glad I made the choice of going with Liberation Tours. Thank you, THANK YOU!" -Darlene T, Calgary AB

"Thank you again for everything you did for us: an amazing trip, and great people to share moments with. And your attention to detail will always be remembered and appreciated. Several times you went above and beyond the call of duty. Thank you so much for making our experience such a positive and forever memorable one." -Audrey & Sam D., Burlington ON

"A truly awesome retreat 'into the trenches' of both wars." -Vivian H., Millet AB

"Fabulous time, one that none of us are likely to forget for a very long time. A life-long dream fulfilled. Simply excellent." -Neil & Linda S., Whitby ON

The Trip.

Paris

Enjoy your first two days unwinding while you absorb Paris in the Spring! We'll take you on a guided tour of the city by coach. And there's so much to see at your leisure including the Eiffel Tower, Notre Dame Cathedral, The Louvre, the Arc de Triomphe, the Champs-Élysées ...



Ieper (Ypres)

You'll stay in the best hotel in town in the most ideal location, steps from the town square and the Menin Gate. 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.



Holten

Want to feel great Canadian pride? There can be no better place than Holland in the spring. You'll join with other Canadians, Dutch families, and most especially the local school children, in attending the annual remembrance service at Holten Canadian War Cemetery on May 4th.



Liberation Day

You will round out your fabulous trip by joining with Dutch citizens to celebrate Liberation Day ... 75+1! You will also enjoy a free day in the Amsterdam and its UNESCO World Heritage canals. It is one of the truly great capital cities of Europe.



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



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Included in your Package

- Fourteen 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
... 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 April 23, 2021 and group flight drop-off to Schiphol Airport on May 7, 2021
(non-group flight travelers are responsible for their own airport transfers)

Excluded

- Airfare: optional group air booking available, check our website; alternatively, we can provide a quote to connect from other gateways or for alternative flight dates to suit your travel plans!
- 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
- Main Itinerary and Optional Extension each require a minimum of 20 passengers to operate
- Non-refundable deposits due upon booking:
\$500 for the Main Itinerary, \$250 for the Optional Extension
- Balance of payment due no later than December 15, 2020
- **All deposits & payments are non-refundable.**
- Read Liberation Tours' Terms & Conditions prior to booking



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Contact your favourite Travel Agent or:

Debbie Baggley

UNIGLOBE Travel Innovations Ltd.

1-800-565-7999

debbie@travel-til.com

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pricing available on our website:
www.LiberationTours.ca



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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.