

NORMANDY D-DAY CANADIAN BATTLEFIELD MINI-TOUR

79th Anniversary at Juno Beach

JUNE 2-9, 2023 (8 DAYS)

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Normandy D-Day Canadian Battlefield Mini-Tour

79th Anniversary at Juno Beach
June 2-9, 2023

Join us on a special one-week mini-tour to Normandy, to commemorate the 79th Anniversary of the Normandy Landings at Juno Beach.

You will attend the special event at the Juno Beach Centre on June 6th, and enjoy the sights and sounds of the annual D-Day celebrations. Your trip will include a number of Canadian-focused sites relating to the 1944 landings and the subsequent Battle of Normandy:

- the Juno Beach Centre & the various Juno beaches
- Buron & Authie
- the Ardennes Abbey
- Verrieres Ridge
- the Falaise Gap
- Beny-sur-Mer & Bretteville Canadian War Cemeteries

You will also visit key sites on the Normandy beachhead including Omaha Beach, Pegasus Bridge, Longues-sur-Mer, Arromanches and more.





Thursday June 1

For many of our Canadian travelers it is departure day, for the overnight transatlantic flight to France. Some travelers may choose to leave for Europe sooner to extend the start of the trip - let us know if we can quote you on pre-tour accommodations. Guests who have other travels already in progress, or guests from other points of origin including the United Kingdom, the United States and elsewhere, will meet the start of the tour on Day 1 in Paris.

Day 1 - Friday June 2

In the mid-afternoon all clients can check into the group hotel. In the meantime, luggage is stored in the hotel baggage lock-up. Today you are free to explore Paris, La Ville Lumière - The City of Light. In the evening we gather in the heart of Paris for our Welcome Dinner, to share a glass of wine and set the stage for our special journey. Overnight Paris. [D]

Day 2 - Saturday June 3

This morning we depart for the Normandy coast where we will consider pre D-Day, looking at the 'Atlantic Wall' defenses facing the Allies. We visit Robehomme Bridge, and then Pegasus Bridge with its well-known memorials by the Orne River. This is where you will learn the amazing story of the pre-dawn paratrooper landings made by the British 6th Airborne and the 1st Canadian Parachute Battalion.

In the afternoon we visit Longues-sur-Mer, a German coastal artillery position of four large naval guns which posed a serious threat to Allied ships off-shore and the landing beaches themselves. We then make our way to our hotel for the evening. Overnight Bayeux. [B]

Day 3 - Sunday June 4

We begin the day stretching our legs, with a 20-minute hike/walk along the bluffs overlooking Omaha Beach. Here the Americans suffered heavy losses, which are contemplated with some time in reflection at the Normandy American Cemetery at Colleville-sur-Mer which serenely overlooks the Normandy shore.

Itinerary is subject to minor change prior to departure. Minor variances are also possible during the actual tour based on the need to adapt to circumstances we may encounter during our travels.

ITINERARY

Following a group lunch in the quiet countryside, we move onward to Gold Beach where we explore one of two British landing zones. This area was selected as one of two sites to construct the man-made Mulberry Harbour where ships could off-load the massive supplies needed for the invasion force. We take in the view from the cliffs above the beach to reveal remnants of the harbour just off-shore. We then walk down into Arromanches, a lovely coastal tourist village, for free time to visit shops and remnants of the landings. Overnight Bayeux. [B,L]

Day 4 - Monday June 5

This morning we touch down at the various little towns along the coast that comprise "Juno Beach." We begin at Courseulles-sur-Mer, where a Sherman Tank stands as a testament to the landings here. We visit to St-Aubin-sur-Mer where a 50-mm German anti-tank gun still sits ominously in its casemate. And we visit Bernières-sur-Mer and the famous Canada House on the beach.

Following a group lunch, we follow the path of the Canadians inland with visits to Carpiquet, Bretteville-sur-Odon, Bretteville-l'Orgueilleuse and Le Mesnil Patry where monuments and plaques pay homage to the Canadians who fought to liberate their citizens. Overnight Bayeux. [B,L]

Day 5 - Tuesday June 6

Today is D-Day, and we maintain a flexible schedule allowing us to attend the special 79th Anniversary Commemoration event at the Juno Beach Centre.

Following a group lunch, we follow the liberating forces inland through the small villages of Buron and Authie, and eventually make our way to Ardennes Abbey for an important Canadian pilgrimage. Overnight Bayeux. [B,L]

Day 6 - Wednesday June 7

Today, with most of the crowds having dispersed, we circle back to the Juno Beach Centre for a tour inside. Our visit includes a guided tour of

the German bunkers buried beneath the sand dunes, and a walk along the shoreline to view the defenses and monuments.

In the afternoon we visit the hallowed grounds of Bény-sur-Mer Canadian War Cemetery, the burial place of 2,044 Canadians who fell in the early hours of D-Day and the subsequent liberation of Normandy. Overnight Bayeux. [B,L]

Day 7 - Thursday June 8

Our final day of the tour takes us inland, looking at the Battle of Normandy of July and August 1944. We'll make a visit to the monument at Point 67, followed by a coffee break in the lovely village of Saint-Martin-de-Fontenay. We then pay respects at Bretteville-sur-Laize Canadian War Cemetery on our way to Falaise for a Farewell Lunch. We visit the monument to Worthington Force at Hill 140 along the way.

After lunch we'll stop in at Saint-Lambert-sur-Dives, where Major David Currie earned a Victoria Cross in the battle for the Falaise Pocket. It's then onward to Paris for our final night, to raise a toast to our men and women who fought in WWII. Overnight Paris. [B,L]

Day 8 - Friday June 9

This morning is departure day for those Canadians returning home on the optional group flight - buffet or box breakfast is included, depending on departure time from the hotel. Some travelers may choose to remain in Europe longer to extend the end of the trip - let us know if we can quote you on post-tour accommodations to enjoy extra time in Paris. Others guests will depart for home or continue their travels on other routes. [B]



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additional details and pricing at
www.LiberationTours.ca



Your guide will be Liberation Tours' chief historian **Phil Craig**, professional actor and Co-Founder of the Georgina Military Museum.



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INCLUDED

- Seven nights accommodation in twin or double rooms with private facilities
- 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 select meals as outlined in the itinerary (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner); group lunches and dinners typically include a glass of wine/beer!
- All hotel service charges, local taxes, plus entry fees to sites as per the itinerary
- Gratuities to coach driver and local guides (note: these gratuities are extra on most other tours and can add up to \$150 CAD or more, be sure to compare!)
- Tour package which includes select daily detailed historical battle maps, period photographs, original audio recordings, and more; a complete digital copy of all this is also given to you at the conclusion of the tour!

EXCLUDED

- Airfare
An optional group air booking is available for Canadian travelers, departing from Toronto, details on our website; we can provide a quote for connecting flights from other gateways in Canada; alternatively, we can quote flights for any dates/routes of your preference; travelers on the group flight will be picked up from Paris Charles de Gaulle Airport on June 2, 2023 and dropped off on June 9, 2023; all other travelers are responsible for their own airport transfers
- Pre-tour and/or post-tour accommodations - ask for a quote and extend your stay!
- Travel Insurance Protection - ask us for a no-obligation quote from Manulife!
- Meals other than stated on the itinerary
- Passport & related fees, Covid testing fees (as may be required)
- 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 upon booking
- Balance of payment due on or before the booking deadline: March 2, 2023
- Liberation Tours will donate on your behalf to Forest Recovery Canada, to make your trip **carbon-neutral**
- Read Liberation Tours' Terms & Conditions prior to booking

ADDITIONAL DETAILS ON OUR WEBSITE @

www.LiberationTours.ca

ground transportation by:

TRAFALGAR

\$3850

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

\$875

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

\$500

deposit per person upon booking (all prices in Canadian dollars)



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Contact your favourite Travel Agent or:

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