

NORTHWEST EUROPE CANADIAN BATTLEFIELD & REMEMBRANCE TOUR



FROM PARIS TO AMSTERDAM

SEPTEMBER 19 - OCTOBER 3, 2024
(15 DAYS)

www.LiberationTours.ca



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Northwest Europe Canadian Battlefield Tour

Canada in WWI and WWII
from Paris to Amsterdam



September 19 - October 3, 2024

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 tours are the most comprehensive of their kind - pilgrimages to the Canadian battlefields of WWI and WWII where Canada came of age as a nation and forged a legendary 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. Our groups are mostly an even 50/50 mix of ladies and gentlemen, from all walks of life.

Join us for an unforgettable journey of remembrance through France, Belgium and the Netherlands.



OUR SIGNATURE TOUR

Juno Beach & the D-Day Landings
Beaumont-Hamel & The Trail of the Caribou
Vimy Ridge Passchendaele & Flanders Fields
Canada's 100 Days The Battle of the Scheldt
Paris & Amsterdam ... and more ...





Wednesday September 18

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 - Thursday September 19

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, an amazing city of history and monuments. In the late afternoon we gather in the heart of Paris for our Welcome Dinner, to share a glass and set the stage for our special journey. Overnight Paris. [D]

Day 2 - Friday September 20

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

Day 3 - Saturday September 21

Morning walk along the sands of Juno Beach, followed by a tour of the Juno Beach Centre including the German bunkers; see Canada House on the beach at Bernières-sur-Mer; visit the coast at Saint-Aubin. Overnight Bayeux. [B,L]

Day 4 - Sunday September 22

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

Day 5 - Monday September 23

We'll visit Bény-sur-Mer Canadian War Cemetery, and the Abbey Ardennes, before carrying onward up the coast. Overnight Dieppe - hotel tba. [B]

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Day 6 - Tuesday September 24

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

Day 7 - Wednesday September 25

Walk the fields of the Battle of the Somme at Beaumont-Hamel Newfoundland Park; visits to the Thiepval Memorial, Lochnagar Crater and the monument at Courcellette. Overnight Arras. [B,L]

Day 8 - Thursday September 26

We spend the morning at the Canadian National Vimy Memorial, standing proudly on the highest point of Vimy Ridge. In the afternoon we visit the amazing War Graves Commission's factory where soldiers' headstones are carved with meticulous reverence and care. Overnight Arras. [B,L]

Day 9 - Friday September 27

We continue our exploration of the WW1 and the importance of the battles in what has become known as 'Canada's 100 Days.' We also continue our journey along the Trail of the Caribou. Overnight Arras. [B,L]

Day 10 - Saturday September 28

We visit the monument to Canadian George Lawrence Price, the last soldier of the British Empire to die in The Great War. Free time for lunch in historic Mons. Overnight Ieper (Ypres). [B]

Day 11 - Sunday September 29

We will tour the Ypres Salient with visits to Hill 62, the Passchendaele, The Brooding Soldier at St. Julien, Essex Farm, and Tyne Cot Cemetery; free afternoon in Ieper to relax and explore; optional evening attendance at the inspiring Last Post Ceremony. Overnight Ieper (Ypres). [B]

Day 12 - Monday September 30

Explore the Breskens Pocket with visits to the Leopold Canal, Eede, Hickman's Bridge, the monuments at Hoofdplaat and more, along with a special visit to the Canada-Poland Museum in Adegem. Overnight Vlissingen. [B,L]

Day 13 - Tuesday October 1

Discover the Scheldt Estuary campaign as we make visits in Woensdrecht, Bergen op Zoom, and more. Following our Farewell Lunch near the German border we visit Groesbeek War Cemetery, then continue onward to Amsterdam. Overnight Amsterdam. [B,L]

Day 14 - Wednesday October 2

Enjoy a free day at your leisure exploring one of Europe's great capital cities, with its UNESCO World Heritage canals. Overnight Amsterdam. [B]

Day 15 - Thursday October 3

This morning is departure day for those returning home - a 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 Amsterdam. [B]

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.



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Reg No. 50025639

additional details and pricing at
www.LiberationTours.ca





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. It's a little piece of Canada on the French coast.



Vimy Ridge

The ground that could not be taken and held ... until the Canadians came. For the first time, all four divisions of the Canadian Expeditionary Force will fight together, and their success of April 1917 resonates still to this day. See what many consider the most beautiful of all the war monuments in Europe, a symbol of peace.



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.



THE TRIP.

Paris

Enjoy some time unwinding as you absorb Paris in the spring! There's so much to see, including the Eiffel Tower, Notre Dame Cathedral, the Louvre, the Arc de Triomphe, the Champs-Élysées, Les Jardins du Luxembourg, the list goes on!



leper (Ypres)

Enjoy a little free time for 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 United Kingdom and more. The evening Last Post Ceremony is a very special highlight of any visit to leper, a tradition that continues since 1928.



War Graves Cemeteries

The war cemeteries are places of serenity. They are immaculately maintained by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, which commemorates 1.7 million soldiers, sailors and airmen from two world wars. They are peaceful places, and they beckon you to visit.



Amsterdam

You will round out your fabulous trip with two nights in the beautiful city of Amsterdam. It's 17th century canals are a UNESCO World Heritage Site. You may wish to visit the Rijksmuseum, the House of Anne Frank, or simply sit at a canal-side café enjoying coffee while watching the people go by.



WHAT OUR CLIENTS SAY ...

"We have travelled extensively around the world but nothing quite compares to this personal journey. The attention to detail was over the top. Every traveler was made to feel very special. It was so much fun. But more importantly, you made us all feel so proud to be Canadian by our sharing family histories. We will remember them."
- Dawn & Murray McGinnis

"Thank you for such great passion, and for putting us in the soldiers' shoes. We are also very grateful for your flexibility in modifying one of the days on the tour, so that we could visit the grave of my Uncle Stanley. It's a trip we will not forget."
- Mary & Don Lee

"Liberation Tours took my wife and I on a cultural adventure and dramatic exploration of the Canadian battlefields and war grave cemeteries of Italy. This was military history combined with the best cultural experience Italy has to offer. Every day provided unique surprises and freedom of movement. Flights and bus transport, hotels, baggage handling, gratuities, entry fees to historical sites, and splendid culinary and architectural experiences - all were choreographed with the precision but doled out with an Esprit du Coeur. Liberation Tours offer a large variety of experiences around military history through time and place."
- Nick Cuberovic

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

- An expert Canadian Historian, and an expert Canadian Tour Director, both of whom will accompany you on the full tour
- Fourteen 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, portorage at select hotels (one bag per person), plus entry fees to sites as outlined in the itinerary
- Gratuities to coach driver and local guides (note: these gratuities are extra on most other tours and can add up to \$200 CAD or more, be sure to compare!)
- Tour package 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 - we can provide a quote for flights from any gateway in Canada, to match your own individual preferences based on dates, routes, class of seating, etc; there will be one coach transfer at either end of the tour: from Charles de Gaulle Airport to the hotel in Paris on September 19, 2024 in coordination with the arrival of Air Canada AC872; and from the hotel to Schiphol Airport on October 3, 2024 in coordination with the departure of Air Canada AC809; travelers not utilizing these will be responsible for their own airport transfers
- Porterage at select hotels
- 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
- 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: July 15, 2024
- 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:

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