



## WWII History: Battlefields of Normandy

13 days

Along the coast of Normandy, the influence of WWII can still be felt. As you visit memorials, trenches, and museums, you'll learn about the important role American forces played in the outcome of D-Day. Explore the locations that were the backdrops for pivotal battles and take time to honor the sacrifices made by the Allied soldiers.



### Your tour package includes

- 11 nights in handpicked hotels
- 11 breakfasts
- 5 lunches
- 3 dinners with beer or wine
- 1 Champagne tasting
- Guided sightseeing tours
- Expert Tour Director & local guides
- Private deluxe motor coach

### Included highlights

- Eiffel Tower photo stop
- Utah Beach
- Dead Man's Corner Museum
- Omaha Beach
- American Cemetery in Colleville
- Overlord Museum
- Mont-Saint-Michel
- Monet Gardens
- Seine river cruise

### Tour pace

On this guided tour, you'll walk for at least 2.5 hours daily across moderately uneven terrain, including cobblestone streets and paved roads.

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## Overnight flight → 1 night

### Day 1: Travel day

Board your overnight flight to Paris today.

## Paris → 1 night

### Day 2: Arrival in Paris

*Included meals: welcome dinner*

Welcome to France! Tonight, meet your Tour Director and fellow travelers at a welcome dinner.

## Normandy Region → 7 nights

### Day 3: Paris sightseeing tour & transfer to Normandy Region

*Included meals: breakfast, dinner*

A guided tour introduces you to the architecture, scenery, and history of the City of Light's many neighborhoods, called arrondissements.

- Drive down the sycamore-lined Champs Élysées to view the Arc de Triomphe
- Pass Pont Neuf and the legendary Notre Dame Cathedral, located on an island in the Seine River
- See the Eiffel Tower, the Palais Garnier opera house, and Place de la Concorde, the city's grandest square
- Marvel at the iconic architecture of the Louvre and Hôtel des Invalides

Then, travel through historic cities and pristine port towns on your way to the Normandy region, and sit down for an included dinner.

### Day 4: Sightseeing tour of the Normandy Region

*Included meals: breakfast, lunch*

Spend the day visiting memorials and museums that honor the soldiers who fought during the D-Day invasion in June 1944.

- Head to Sainte-Mère-Église, site of early landings of paratroopers, to visit the Paratroopers Memorial
- Learn about the Battle of la Fière during a visit to Cauquigny Chapel
- Visit Château de Bernaville, which is part of the Normandy Institute campus

- Stop at the 101st Airborne Division in Picauville and the 508th Parachute Infantry Regiment Memorial Garden in Chef-du-Pont
- Enjoy an included lunch
- Travel back to Sainte-Mère-Église and step inside the Airborne Museum
- Make your way to Beuzeville-au-Plain to see the C-47 crash site monument
- See the site of the Brécourt Manor Assault and the accompanying memorial

### Day 5: Utah Beach & Dead Man's Corner Museum

*Included meals: breakfast, lunch*

Get to know the landscapes that both the Allied and Axis forces fought on during today's guided tours.

- Learn more about the German fortifications as you explore the Azeville Battery and accompanying museum
- Walk along Utah Beach and enjoy an included lunch
- Enter the historic chapel that's located in the Angoville-au-Plain city center
- Make your way to Hiesville to visit local WWII memorials
- Step inside the Dead Man's Corner Museum and take time to explore the exhibits at your leisure
- Travel along Purple Heart Lane and learn about the interesting history of the road

### Day 6: Omaha Beach & American Cemetery in Colleville

*Included meals: breakfast, lunch*

Join your Tour Director and a local guide to learn more about the D-Day landings.

- Walk along Omaha Beach, landing site for the American troops on D-Day
- Pass Widerstandsnetz 62 and Widerstandsnetz 65, two German bunkers
- Enjoy an included lunch
- Tour the American Cemetery in Colleville, the burial place for more than 9,000 American soldiers who lost their lives during the Battle of Normandy

### Day 7: Sightseeing tour of Bayeux

*Included meals: breakfast*

Today, pay a visit to Bayeux.

- Explore Bayeux with your tour director leading the way
- Step inside the Musée de la Tapisserie de Bayeux

### Day 8: Overlord Museum, Pointe du Hoc, La Cambe & Graignes

*Included meals: breakfast, lunch*

Spend the day learning about how the American troops retaliated against the strategies used by the German forces during the Normandy invasion.

- Enter the Overlord Museum and enjoy more time to explore Omaha Beach
- Enjoy an included lunch
- Head to Pointe du Hoc, where the American 2nd Ranger Battalion seized German cannons before they could be used to fire at American troops
- Visit the La Cambe German war cemetery, where 21,000 members of the German military who fought in WWII are buried
- Travel to the town of Graignes to learn about how the residents worked to aid the American troops

### Day 9: Mont-Saint-Michel & Brittany American Cemetery

*Included meals: breakfast*

Explore the striking 8th-century island of Mont-Saint-Michel on a guided tour before heading to sites that are significant to both American and German troops.

- Pass by medieval houses and then enter the Benedictine Abbey of Mont-Saint-Michel with your local guide
- Stop in the village of Saint-James to visit the Brittany American Cemetery
- Travel to Saint-Lô to enter the Church of Notre-Dame and see the nearby WWII monument

*Please note: In order to enter the Abbey, travelers must be able to climb steep inclines and over 300 steps. Travelers who are not comfortable with climbing, or do not wish to visit the Abbey, may stay in the lower area.*

## Paris → 3 nights

## **Day 10: Paris via Giverny**

*Included meals: breakfast*

This morning, travel to the village of Giverny, home to famous Impressionist artist Claude Monet from 1883 until his death in 1926. Visit Monet's home and gardens and discover the subtle palette of colors that inspired his Water Lilies series and gave rise to a new way of seeing.

Continue on to Paris for a free evening.

## **Day 11: Épernay Champagne tasting**

*Included meals: breakfast, lunch, wine tasting*

Travel to Épernay for an included lunch and tour of a Champagne estate before sampling two types of Champagne alongside a sommelier.

## **Day 12: Seine river cruise**

*Included meals: breakfast, farewell dinner*

Enjoy a free day to explore Paris at your leisure. This evening, take in the nighttime allure of the city during a signature farewell dinner.

- Toast to your trip as you enjoy dinner at a local restaurant
- Board a boat after dinner to coast along the Seine and watch as the illuminated monuments of the city glitter alongside the riverbanks

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## **Flight Home**

### **Day 13: Departure**

*Included meals: breakfast (excluding early morning departures)*

Transfer to the airport for your flight home.