



SAMPLE TOUR



OPERATION OVERLORD



THE BATTLE OF NORMANDY



OPERATION OVERLORD - THE BATTLE OF NORMANDY

Destination: England and France

Tour length: 6 days / 6 nights

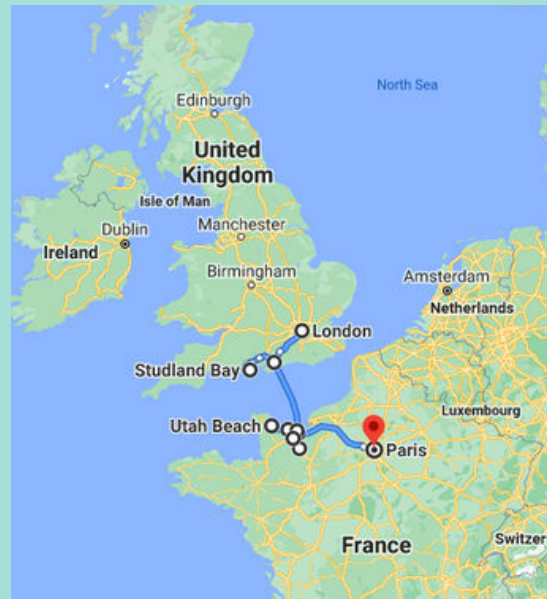
Tour includes:

- 6 nights with breakfast in a mix of 3 and 4 star hotels
- Dinners on request
- Specialist WW2 multi-lingual tour manager and local guides
- Travel on a Private deluxe coach
- Activities as per the itinerary

Overview:

This tour will focus on the most famous WWII operation in Western Europe: Operation Overlord. Starting in England where the preparations for the large-scale operation began, continue in Normandy where it took place, before ending in Paris.

Highlights of the tour include a visit to the Churchill War Rooms in London, the D-Day Museum and command rooms in Portsmouth, the training site of Operation Smash, the British landing beaches: Sword, Juno and Gold Beach, the American landing beaches: Omaha and Utah Beach, the remains of the Mulberry Harbor in Arromanches and Paris.



1 LONDON IN WWII - LONDON / PORTSMOUTH

We start in London with a visit of the Imperial War Museum, one of the finest military museums in world, for an introduction and overview of the main events of WWII.

After lunch we stop at the ruins of the church St. Dunstan to learn about the devastation and impact of The Blitz , the 8 months Nazi bombing campaign, that killed over 40.000 civilians in the UK.

We end the day with a visit of the Churchill War Rooms, the rooms underneath the streets of London that allowed Churchill and his war cabinet to work in relative safety from Nazi bombings.

Welcome dinner and overnight in Portsmouth.





2

ENGLAND AS A MILITARY BASE - PORTSMOUTH

In the morning we visit the D-Day Story museum in Portsmouth, which tells the story of Operation Overlord in three parts: the Preparation, D-Day and the Battle of Normandy and the Legacy.

These stories are told through the personal accounts of people who were there and are brought to life through audio-visual presentations as well as wide collections of objects.

In the afternoon we visit the Wilton House, the headquarters of Southern Command, where Churchill and Eisenhower would regularly meet and much of the D-Day planning took place.

Today's last visit will be Lepe Beach, which was a secret manufacturing site and an embarkation point for troops and equipment for the D-Day landings in Normandy.

Overnight in Portsmouth.

3

ENGLAND: OPERATION SMASH - NORMANDY

This morning we visit Studland Bay in Dorset. The coastline here was heavily fortified in the first years of the WWII in defense of Nazi Germany.

In April 1944, 6 weeks before the D-Day, Operation Smash took place here, a 'dress rehearsal' for D-Day and the largest live ammunition exercise of WWII.

We also visit Fort Henry, a WWII observation bunker, from where Churchill, Eisenhower, Montgomery, and King George VI watched the exercise.

Our next visit is Palace Beaulieu, the 'finishing school' for SOE (Special Operations Executive) agents, who spied for and assisted the resistance in Europe.

In the late afternoon we take the ferry across the Chanel to Normandy. Overnight in Normandy.

4

BRITAIN'S D-DAY - NORMANDY

On our first morning in Normandy, we see the Pegasus Bridge and visit the Pegasus Memorial Museum. Here we see where the gliders of the British Airborne troops landed and how the troops held on during the battle.

After a refreshment at Café Gondrée (known as the first house liberated on D-Day) we make stops at the British landing beaches: Sword Beach, Juno Beach and Gold Beach.

At Juno Beach we visit the Juno Beach Center to learn about the Canadian role in the Battle of Normandy. We stop at Ranville War Cemetery, where many of the British 6th Airborne division casualties are buried.

Our last stop of today will be at Arromanches, to see the remains of the Mulberry Harbour. Overnight in Normandy.

5

AMERICA'S D-DAY - NORMANDY

We start with a visit of Pointe du Hoc, a clifftop which was heroically taken by the US Rangers, where the landscape shaped by bomb craters and bunkers gives a good impression of the heavy fighting on D-Day.

Our next stop is Utah Beach, where we learn why the landing here was relatively easy and swift.

We continue with a visit of the nearby Crisbecq Battery Museum, set in German bunkers which were part of the Nazi-built Atlantic Wall guarding Utah Beach.

We spend time for lunch in Sainte-Mere-Eglise and learn more about the role of the American Airborne troops on D-Day.

Finally, we visit Omaha Beach (Bloody Omaha) to understand the huge sacrifices that have been made for freedom. We end our day with a visit the Normandy American Cemetery. Overnight in Normandy.





BATTLE OF NORMANDY - PARIS

Today we look at what happened in Normandy beyond the landing beaches.

We drive through the Bocage countryside and make a stop at the Hill 112 Memorial. The 'Hill of Peace' was known as 'Death Valley' in 1944, as it took 10 weeks of fierce fighting and over 10,000 deaths to take the hill. The hill was a key location which allowed the Allies to retake Caen and continue with the liberation of Europe.

Our next stop is Falaise to examine the bloody Battle of the Falaise Pocket from which took place in August of 1944. The decisive Allied victory at this battle opened the way to Paris and the Franco-German border.

We continue to Paris, which was liberated shortly after. Farewell dinner and overnight in Paris.

