

History 3385 D-

Long before they launched across the Channel, the Allies transformed Great Britain into a training camp, capital of the British Empire including a tour of Westminster Abbey and an optional night of London theater. We will visit the Imperial War Museum at the WWII airbase, RAF Duxford, as well as the university town of Cambridge and the nearby Cambridge American Cemetery. Departing London, we will visit the grounds of Bletchley Park where, secret for decades, the ULTRA codebreakers worked tirelessly for allied victory. Portsmouth on the Channel coast where we will



### Day 3, Thursday May 21<sup>st</sup>: Airpower in Europe ±RAF Duxford and Cambridge

- x Breakfast
- x Bus drive to RAF Duxford, a WWII base for British and American air groups. Today it is an arm of the Imperial War Museum focused on airpower. We will explore and discuss various aspects of airpower in both WWII and the Normandy invasion, in particular. There will be plenty of aircraft, vehicles and other equipment to examine.
- x On your own time to explore the gorgeous and historic university town of Cambridge. We will do a



- x Next is the 10<sup>th</sup> Airborne Division landings near Ste Madeu Mont, and the Band of Brothers of Easy Company including their leader Dick Winterst, Brecourt Manor. The monuments to these men are a perfect place to examine the minute tactical battle detail of Americans in combat.
- x At the UTAH Beach Memorial with the 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division, we will see where Americans first came ashore on June 6.
- x When we arrive at our lodgings, we will discuss the June 6 capture of Crepon and the only Victoria Cross awarded on D-Day as well as La Ferme de la Ranconniere [ • μ • stics ) Bin ] and air field.
- x Check in to lodgings at La Ferme de la Ranconniere
- x Four-course dinner at the Michelin-rated, charming La Ferme de la Ranconniere

### Day 6, Sunday May 24<sup>th</sup>: British Airborne Beaches & Bayeux

- x Breakfast
- x Our first stop is the Caen Memorial Museum. There is a plethora of museums throughout the region but none tell the story as well as this official site with its incredible collection that goes into both depth and breadth of the vast enterprise. Lunch on your own at the café.
- x Next, we will visit Pegasus Bridge, where glidermen of the British Airborne Division captured the key bridge over the Orne and liberated the first French house in the invasion Ç [ • ( ' ) v Œ U where you can enjoy a coffee and may meet the owner, Madame Arlette Gondree, who saw the invasion as a little girl.
- x The critical capture of the Merville Battery by British paratroopers is our next stop. An American C that dropped 10<sup>th</sup> Airborne troopers on D-Day is a museum part of this visit.
- x Visit the nearby Ranville British Cemetery, where the first Allied killed in action are buried.
- x Drive along SWORD Beach
- x We will visit Courselles, the heart of JUNO Beach, where we will visit the Canadians, Free French and the French Resistance in the success of the invasion.
- x Arranches is next, the site of GOLD Beach, another British landing site for the 50<sup>th</sup> Airborne Division and the location of the British Mulberry artificial harbor.
- x At 5:45pm, in the old town of Bayeux, we will visit the famed Tapestry Museum where the story of t]oo] u [ • } v < μ Œ ] v P } ( v P o v Z • v % } Œ š Œ Ç ( } Œ ííí Ç Œ • J
- x A walk through the ancient center of Bayeux will include the glorious Cathedral and streets.
- x Dinner on your own in one of the many great restaurants in old Bayeux. There are a plethora of museums th\* n BT 792 r old B

Day 7, Monday, May 2





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