

World War II Memorial Tour of Europe 2020

17-day tour of Germany, Austria, France, Luxembourg, Belgium and Holland



Amsterdam



Nuremberg Documentation Center



Normandy Beaches

Revisit the dramatic history of WWII as Image Tours brings you to famous battle sites, war museums and memorials. Many scenic and cultural highlights are also included, providing an enjoyable combination of learning and leisure.

To read a review of our World War II Memorial Tour by the **Boston Globe**, go to our website at www.ImageTours.com/BostonGlobe-WW2Article

Walking Expectations: An average of three miles per day, occasionally encountering uneven surfaces and steps.

Highest Elevation: 1637 feet in Munich, Germany and Kufstein, Austria



Included Features

- **Accommodations** in Superior Tourist Class or First Class hotels
- **15 Breakfasts and 9 Dinners** in addition to any in-flight meals
- **Tour Manager** for the full European duration of the tour
- **Land Transportation in Europe** by deluxe, air-conditioned motor coach
- **Baggage Handling** at hotels
- **Image Tours *Touroclopedia***® trip preparation booklet
- **Trip Documents** with luggage tags, final details and helpful travel tips

Favorite Traveler Experiences

- 👍 Stand where Hitler gave speeches at the Nuremberg Rally Grounds
- 👍 Reflect during a sobering visit to Dachau Concentration Camp
- 👍 Enjoy a "performance" of Munich's town square Glockenspiel
- 👍 Tour the Alsace and Vosges regions, sites of heavy 1944 fighting
- 👍 Explore Bastogne, synonymous with the "Battle of the Bulge"
- 👍 See General Eisenhower's WWII headquarters in Reims
- 👍 Visit the Louvre in Paris, the world's largest art museum
- 👍 Tour the Normandy Landing Beaches and Military Cemetery
- 👍 Take a serene boat ride through the famed canals of Amsterdam

MORE of what you can experience on this tour is in the detailed itinerary on the next few pages.

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Tour Itinerary

DAY 1 - Overnight flight to Europe.

Refer to "Preparing for your Departure" in your Trip Documents for easy check-in procedures. Take time to relax on your transatlantic flight with the assurance that Image Tours has taken care of all the details.

DAY 2 - GERMANY .. Arrival at Frankfurt Airport – Nuremberg.

Upon arrival, clear passport control and collect your luggage. Refer to your "Arrival Instructions" page in your Trip Documents for directions on where and when to meet your tour manager. Settle into your comfortable motor coach for a ride into the heart of the Franconian Wine Region on the way to Nuremberg. After check-in, freshen up and relax before the "Welcome to Europe/Get-acquainted" dinner at the hotel. (Dinner)

DAY 3 - GERMANY .. Nuremberg.

Today is devoted to the history of Nuremberg. Hitler staged his propaganda rallies here and, after his fall, it was chosen as the location for the War Trials. You will have an opportunity to see the Nazi Party Rally Grounds, Congress Hall, and Palace

THE NATIONAL WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL



This magnificent structure in our nation's capital was fittingly dedicated on Memorial Day of 2004. Image Tours is pleased to have contributed \$100,000 from the proceeds of our World War II Tour

towards the construction of the memorial. We join all Americans in thanking the World War II generation ... ordinary men and women who truly became extraordinary heroes.

of Justice where the War Trials were held. Admission to the Documentation Center and Palace of Justice is included, providing a more in-depth look at the causes and consequences of Nazi Germany, particularly in connection with the events that took place in Nuremberg. Return to your hotel for dinner. (Breakfast, Dinner)

DAY 4 - GERMANY .. Dachau – Munich & AUSTRIA .. Alpine Village.

Leave Nuremberg and travel to Dachau Concentration Camp. At the

entrance you are already prompted to reflect on the incomprehensible, as your tour manager translates the German phrase on the iron gate: ARBEIT MACHT FREI (Work Makes One Free). Study the exhibit recounting the "path of the prisoners" and see the site of the former barracks. Your tour continues to Munich, the elegant capital of Bavaria. After a photo stop at the Hitler Building, step out for free time at Marienplatz, a pedestrian-only zone where historic buildings are cleverly interspersed with modern store fronts. The focal point of the square is the Rathaus (Town Hall) with its captivating Glockenspiel (clock tower). Following a leisurely visit, depart Munich and cross the border from Germany into Austria, where you will spend the next two nights in an Alpine Village. (Breakfast, Dinner)

DAY 5 - AUSTRIA .. Alpine Village.

Enjoy a relaxing day in the surroundings of your hotel. The area offers many options for sightseeing and leisure activities within walking distance or by public transportation. Another choice is to join the full day optional [Salzburg & Eagle's Nest with Dinner](#) excursion. This excursion includes a guided visit to the Kehlsteinhaus, Hitler's mountain hide-away, followed by an afternoon in Salzburg, Mozart's birthplace and the

Dachau Concentration Camp

By Traveler Michael Viggiano



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filming site for the "Sound of Music." This evening, return to your Alpine Village hotel. ([Breakfast](#))

DAY 6 - GERMANY .. Ulm –

Bad Herrenalb. After a leisurely breakfast, travel to Ulm to view the imposing Ulm Minster with the tallest church steeple in the world. This afternoon, make a stop at the grave of Erwin Rommel, the general who was forced to commit suicide when Hitler suspected him of treason. End the day with a buffet dinner at your hotel in Bad Herrenalb, on the northern edge of Germany's Black Forest. ([Breakfast](#), [Dinner](#))

DAY 7 - FRANCE .. Saverne – St. Avold – Fort Hackenberg & GERMANY .. Igel.

Follow a scenic route through the Alsace Region and the Vosges Mountains to the town of Saverne, the site of heavy fighting in the fall of 1944. Stop at Lorraine's American Cemetery in St. Avold, the largest American World War II cemetery in Europe. The afternoon is reserved for a tour of Fort Hackenberg, part of the Maginot Line. This system of obstacles was constructed between the world wars as a defense against any future German invasions. Your hotel for the next two nights will be in Igel, a quiet village near the three-country border of France, Luxembourg and Germany. ([Breakfast](#), [Dinner](#))

DAY 8 - LUXEMBOURG ..

American Cemetery – Diekirch, BELGIUM .. Ardennes – Bastogne & GERMANY .. Trier – Igel. The morning stop is at the American Cemetery in Luxembourg where General George Patton is buried. Continue into the Belgian Ardennes Region and arrive in Bastogne to view the star-shaped Mardasson Monument, a tribute to the soldiers who died in the Battle of Ardennes. Also see the fox holes used by Easy Company, whose stories inspired the TV mini-series "Band of Brothers." Your travels this afternoon take you to

the Luxembourg National Museum of Military History in Diekirch. Trier, the oldest city in Germany, provides an intriguing backdrop during your independent dinner, before returning to your hotel in Igel. ([Breakfast](#))

DAY 9 - FRANCE .. Verdun – Reims – Paris. Today's travels into France will center around World War I and II battlefields, heroic stories, and memorials near Verdun. The Battle of Verdun was fought in 1916 for over 300 days, going down in history as one of the longest and most costly battles of WWI. After a stop at

principal sights, such as the Notre Dame Cathedral, Eiffel Tower, museums (the Louvre Museum is open every day except Tuesday), the famous Galeries Lafayette department store, and the even more famous Champs-Élysées. Before beginning your free time, we suggest joining the optional [Seine River Cruise](#) excursion for unsurpassed views of some of the city's popular landmarks. Spend the evening on your own or consider the optional [Paris Evening](#) excursion with dinner at a characteristic French bistro in the heart of Paris. ([Breakfast](#))

DAY 11 - FRANCE .. Caen. The city of Caen is your destination today. For anyone with memories or knowledge of World War II, these next few days will truly be the highlight of your European tour. Upon arrival in the area, stop at the Pegasus Bridge, whose capture by the British 6th Airborne Division was instrumental in deterring a German counter-attack. Spend the next few hours touring the Caen Peace Memorial and Museum. This beautiful place honors the liberators, victims, and all those who continue to fight for peace. Dinner awaits you at the hotel in Caen. ([Breakfast](#), [Dinner](#))

DAY 12 - FRANCE .. Normandy Landing Beaches – Caen. The entire day is spent touring the famous Normandy Landing Beaches. From Caen, drive to the coast and stop at Pointe du Hoc to view the German fortifications. You'll also travel to Utah Beach and Sainte-Mère-Église, the site where paratroopers landed during World War II as portrayed in the movie "The Longest Day." Visit Sainte-Mère-Église Airborne Museum before continuing to Omaha Beach and the American Cemetery. Proceed to the artillery battery at Longues-sur-Mer. At today's final stop in the village of



the remains of Fort Douaumont, proceed to Reims, General Eisenhower's headquarters during WWII. Visit the location where the Declaration of Surrender was signed on May 7, 1945 and see the Cathedral of Reims, the coronation church of the French Kings. Sample French cuisine during an independent dinner before transferring to your Paris hotel. ([Breakfast](#))

DAY 10 - FRANCE .. Paris. The day is devoted to Paris, La Ville Lumière (The City of Light). Your tour manager will direct you to the location of the

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Ride through Amsterdam's renowned canals

Arromanches, you can view remnants of the artificial harbor and reflect on the sights of the day over an independent dinner. ([Breakfast](#))

DAY 13 - FRANCE .. Caen & BELGIUM .. Antwerp & HOLLAND .. South Holland. Today is a full day of travel from Caen to Holland with an independent lunch stop near the French/Belgian border. As you enter Belgium, the French language stays with you for another hour or so until you enter the province of Flanders, where Flemish (similar to Dutch) is spoken. By mid-afternoon, arrive in Antwerp for a stop in the Flemish capital. Shop for lace handicrafts and delicious chocolates in the city's attractive Grand Square. Antwerp's many waffle shops and outdoor cafés provide a convivial setting for a tasty treat. Continue into South

Holland, your home for the next two nights. Dinner will be served upon your arrival. ([Breakfast](#), [Dinner](#))

DAY 14 - HOLLAND .. Amsterdam – South Holland. Travel through the Dutch countryside, characterized by canals, bridges, dikes and windmills, as you make your way to the dynamic city of Amsterdam. Walk to the main square, an excellent starting point for your individual exploration. During an independent lunch, you may wish to try Dutch pancakes or poffertjes (mini-pancakes). Conclude your visit with a cruise aboard a glass-topped boat through Amsterdam's harbor and canals where you will see colorful gabled houses and numerous bridges. Before returning to the hotel, sample Dutch specialties during an independent dinner in one of South Holland's historic towns. ([Breakfast](#))

DAY 15 - HOLLAND .. Arnhem – Nijmegen – Rhine-Ruhr Region.

Today's focus will be on sights significant to this area's role in the liberation efforts during WWII, including Operation Market Garden and Arnhem's "A Bridge Too Far." The bridge over the Waal River at Nijmegen was a strategic asset reclaimed after the historical crossing of American paratroopers. Travel Hell's Highway and stop at the Overasselt Monument, commemorating the site of the largest airborne landings of all time. The day will also feature a visit to one of the local museums portraying the history of the WWII Resistance in the Netherlands. Returning to Germany, travel via the Autobahn, the super highway system expanded by Hitler. After an included dinner, spend the night in the Rhine-Ruhr Region, close to the Rhine River which will be the focus of tomorrow's program. ([Breakfast](#), [Dinner](#))

DAY 16 - GERMANY .. Remagen – Rhine Cruise – Rüdesheim. Stop in Remagen to view the remains of the Ludendorff Bridge, the last standing bridge on the Rhine, which was captured by U.S. soldiers on March 7, 1945. Follow the Rhine River to Boppard. Here, you will board a Rhine steamer for an upstream cruise past endearing villages, medieval fortresses, and hillside vineyards known for producing the distinctive Rhine wines. This evening's hotel is located in the wine village of Rüdesheim. Known for its festive atmosphere, this is a fitting location for tonight's "Farewell Dinner." ([Breakfast](#), [Dinner](#))

DAY 17 - Daytime flight back to U.S.A. Transfer to the Frankfurt Airport for the return flight home. ([Breakfast](#))



German pillboxes in Normandy

By Traveler Heidi Jensen