

8-Day Battlefields of France



Itinerary

Day 1: Upon arrival in Paris, you will be met and transferred to your hotel. En route to the hotel you will have a panoramic sightseeing tour of the French capital. Welcome dinner in the hotel or a local restaurant. Overnight at the hotel in Paris.

Day 2: After breakfast you will leave Paris and drive to Compiègne. Historical Compiègne is where Joan of Arc was captured by the Burgundians in 1430. It is also where Germany surrendered in 1918 to end World War I. In World War II, Adolf Hitler ensured that the same railway clearing and carriage were used for France's surrender to Germany in 1940. You will visit the Musée de l'Armistice, which houses a replica of the carriage. You will then drive on to Amiens in the heart of the Somme region. Overnight at the hotel in Amiens or area.

Day 3: Today you will have a full day tour of the Somme Region with an expert local guide. This area was the scene of one of the bloodiest conflicts in history: the Battle of the Somme. Thousands of men of over twenty nationalities fell for their countries. You will visit the Somme American Cemetery and Memorial and the Musée Somme 1916. Overnight at the hotel in Amiens or area.

Day 4: After breakfast you will leave Amiens and drive to Normandy. En route you will visit Memorial Pegasus, where you can relive the dawn of 6th June 1944, known as "the longest day". Overnight at the hotel in Caen area.

Day 5: Today's full day excursion begins with a visit to Bayeux. The town is of course



principally famous for the 70m long 11th century Tapestry which describes in pictures the Battle of Hastings, but it was also the first town to be liberated by the Allies in 1944. You will visit the Musée Mémorial de la Bataille de Normandie. In the afternoon, you will continue to the undoubted jewel of northern France, the Abbey of Mont St Michel, possibly the most enchanting and romantic image of the country. The picturesque abbey dominates a fortified island, once protected by strong tides, but today linked to the mainland by a causeway. Overnight at the hotel in Caen area.

Day 6: Today you will have a full day tour of the Normandy battlefields and beaches with a local expert guide. You will visit the US Cemetery which sits on a cliff overlooking Omaha Beach and the English Channel. On the Pointe du Hoc now stands the Omaha Beach Memorial Museum and inside you can view displays of military vehicles, arms, uniforms and badges worn by American and German soldiers in World War II. Overnight at the hotel in Caen area.

Day 7: After breakfast you will visit the Caen Peace Museum. The Caen Memorial was established in 1988 and dedicated to peace. As well as presentations on D-Day and World War II, the museum includes exhibits on other failures and triumphs of peace, such as September 11th and the fall of the Berlin Wall. You will then transfer back to Paris. Farewell dinner in a restaurant in Paris. Overnight at the hotel in Paris.

Day 8: Breakfast at the hotel. Transfer to the airport for your flight home.