



Exploring Canadian History in the World Wars

Designed by Arden Court | 13 days | August 2027

The experience of a lifetime is waiting for you. Every detail from the cities you'll stay in, to the cultural discoveries you'll make have been customized by your teacher for your group. Look at your personal itinerary for a sneak peek of what's in store.

Included on tour



Round-trip flights on major carriers; full-time Tour Director; project-based learning program, EF's personalized learning experience; hotels with private bathrooms; breakfast and dinner daily.

Sightseeing:

Sachsenhausen; Berlin; Paris; Versailles

Entrances:

Tränenpalast (Palace of Tears); Berlin Wall Memorial; Panel Discussion about the Cold War; Topography of Terror Museum; Freedom Museum; Scavenger Hunt; Bike tour; Anne Frank House; Canal Cruise; Volendam and Zaanse Schans; Essex Farm Cemetery; "Last Post Ceremony" at the Menin Gate; In Flanders Fields Museum; Vimy Ridge Historic Site; Juno Beach Centre; Louvre.

Overnights:

Berlin (3); Arnhem (1); Amsterdam (2); Ypres (1); Normandy Region (1); Paris (3)

Not included:

Optional excursions; Insurance coverage; Beverages and lunches; Transportation to free-time activities; Customary gratuities (for your Tour Director, bus driver and local guide); Porterage; Adult supplement (if applicable); Weekend supplement; Any applicable baggage-handling fee imposed by the airlines; High-Season Surcharge; Single-Date Departure Supplement; Expenses caused by airline rescheduling, cancellations or delays caused by the airlines, bad weather or other events beyond EF's control; Passports, visa and reciprocity fees.

Your Itinerary

Day 1: Board your overnight flight to Berlin!

Day 2: Berlin

Arrive in Berlin

Welcome to historic Berlin, once again the German capital. For many years the city was defined by the wall that separated its residents, but since the monumental events that ended Communist rule in the East, Berlin has re-emerged as a treasure of arts and architecture with a vibrant heart.

Walking Tour of Museum Island

Explore Berlin with a walking tour around Museum Island, led by your Tour Director. Museum Island offers a captivating journey through the heart of the city's cultural heritage. Strolling along the Spree River, you'll also encounter scenic views of Berlin and see some historic landmarks.

See the Brandenburg Gate

A symbol of Berlin, this gate is the only remaining gate of a series located on the Pariser Platz. Stop for a moment to admire its magnificence.

Overnight in Berlin

Day 3: Berlin

Guided excursion to Sachsenhausen

Located north of Berlin, Sachsenhausen was a German concentration camp that operated from 1936 to 1945. It was primarily used by Nazi forces as a detention camp for political prisoners. From 1945 to 1950, it was referred to as "Special Camp #7" by occupying Stalinist Soviet forces who also used it to house political prisoners.

See the Olympic Stadium

Visit Tränenpalast (Palace of Tears)

Visit the permanent exhibit "Border Experience," which illustrates everyday life in divided Germany.

Visit the Berlin Wall Memorial

The Berlin Wall Memorial is the central memorial site of German division, located in the middle of the capital. Situated at the historic site on Bernauer Strasse. The memorial contains the last piece of Berlin Wall with the preserved grounds behind it and is thus able to convey an impression of how the border fortifications developed until the end of the 1980s. The events that took place here together with the preserved historical remnants help to make the history of Germany's division comprehensible to visitors.

Panel Discussion about the Cold War

Today, learn about German history from those who lived it as you participate in a panel discussion about life in East and West Germany. Hear the Cold War memories from both a "Wessi" (someone from West Germany) and an "Ossi" (someone from East Germany). Find out where they were and how they experienced the fall of the Wall, as well as their reflections on how their lives and the country changed in the years after.

Overnight in Berlin

Day 4: Berlin

Guided sightseeing of Berlin

On your guided bus tour over to the Eastern sector, pass the Reichstag, former seat of the parliaments of the German Empire and the Weimar Republic. Arrive at the Brandenburg Gate, once the symbol of the undeclared Cold War, and now the symbol of a reunited Berlin. It was at this gate that the famous images of East and West Berliners dancing atop the crumbling Berlin Wall were filmed and broadcast around the world. As you see Checkpoint Charlie and remnants of where the Berlin Wall actually stood, imagine the bleak watchtowers and piercing spotlights that guarded "the border" until November 1989.

Visit the Topography of Terror Museum

Located on the site of the former SS headquarters in Berlin, this museum outlines the Nazi's rise to power and the depth of their administrative center. The outdoor exhibits in the former basement cells focus on the regime's systemized rule of terror, and the fate of some of the individuals who were imprisoned and tortured in these dungeons.

Free time to explore Berlin

Overnight in Berlin

Day 5: Berlin | Arnhem Region

Travel by Train to Arnhem, Netherlands

Visit the Groesbeek Canadian War Cemetery

Groesbeek Canadian War Cemetery is a Commonwealth War Graves Commission cemetery containing the largest number of Canadian war dead in the Netherlands. Set amongst the soft, rolling green hills and farmland of rural Holland, Groesbeek Canadian War cemetery feels like a sacred place. Young and old, Canadian and non-Canadian alike, will find it difficult to escape the overwhelming sense of loss of life and deep pride in honouring the brave men who sacrificed their lives for us.

Visit the Freedom Museum

Visit the National Liberation Museum The National Liberation Museum 1944-1945 is set in one of the most beautiful locations in the Netherlands in a landscape of hills and woods. This museum, on the German border South-East of Nijmegen and Arnhem, is a place where history comes to life. The smells of the 1940's, displays and dioramas, original film footage, lectures and music enable you to experience the liberation of the Netherlands and Europe at first hand. The museum shows the real meaning of freedom, democracy and human rights to young and old alike.

Overnight in Arnhem

Day 6: Arnhem Region | Nijmegen | Amsterdam

Tour Director-led Sightseeing of Nijmegen

Journey through Nijmegen's charming and historic streets, where ancient Roman ruins, picturesque canals, and vibrant squares blend seamlessly with modern Dutch culture.

Free Time to Explore Grote Markt in Nijmegen

Grote Markt in Nijmegen is a bustling square surrounded by beautiful historic buildings, lively cafés, and the iconic St. Stephen's Church, making it a vibrant heart of the city.

Transfer to Amsterdam

Welcome to Amsterdam, capital of the Netherlands. Known both as a center of entertainment and as a city of classic design and architecture, Amsterdam is a city of astonishing contrast.

Explore Amsterdam with a Scavenger Hunt

Explore the city during a self-guided immersive scavenger hunt designed exclusively for EF.

Bike tour of Amsterdam

Enjoy Amsterdam from a different perspective today - by bike!

Overnight in Amsterdam

Day 7: Amsterdam

Visit the Anne Frank House

Enter through the secret staircase up to where the young girl hid with her family from 1942 to 1944-and where she penned the poignant diary that has been translated into dozens of languages worldwide. *(Pending availability due to entrance capacities and limited group reservations)*

Your Itinerary

Canal cruise

Cruise the canals on board a glass-topped boat, the perfect way to become acquainted with the city. You will pass some of Amsterdam's most enchanting bridges, including those depicted in some of van Gogh's paintings.

Free time to explore Amsterdam

Overnight in Amsterdam

Day 8: Amsterdam | Ypres

Excursion to Volendam and Zaanse Schans

Journey to the heart of the Dutch countryside. Visit the picturesque fishing village of Volendam and the living and working neighborhood of Zaanse Schans, re-created to look like an old Dutch village. Make your way down the winding, cobblestone streets, past windmills, charming shops and crooked houses. Enjoy demonstrations on cheese and clog making.

Arrive in Ypres

Arrive in this small Flemish town that saw five bloody battles during World War I. Once situated right between the lines of the allied and German troops, and still surrounded by stones marking the limit of the German offensive, Ypres remains an important pilgrimage site.

Visit the Essex Farm Cemetery

This small and sometimes overlooked place remains a moving and important First World War site for Canadians. Essex Farm is the location where Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae penned the famous and haunting war poem "In Flanders Fields". The advanced dressing station where McCrae was stationed remains remarkably intact and shares the site with a small Commonwealth cemetery.

Attend the "Last Post Ceremony" at the Menin Gate

Experience a unique and moving nightly ceremony to honour the dead of WWI. At exactly 8 pm up to six members of the regular buglers from the local volunteer Fire Brigade step into the roadway under the memorial arch and play the Last Post, followed by a short silence and Reveille. The Last Post Ceremony has become part of daily life in Ieper (Ypres) and the local people are proud of this simple but touching tribute to the courage and self-sacrifice of those who fell in defense of their town.

Overnight in Ypres

Day 9: Ypres | Vimy Region | Normandy Region

Visit the In Flanders Fields Museum

This award-winning museum is located in the eastern end of the beautiful and grand Cloth Hall in Ypres. Focusing on the horrors of war, this interactive museum invites participants to engage emotionally in the presentation of the past.

Free Time in Ypres

This morning, take time to explore Ypres on your own.

Visit the Vimy Ridge Historic Site

Walk along Vimy Ridge, where in 1917, Canadian troops came together to accomplish what larger British and French forces had failed to do, and what would become a defining moment in the first World War. See where these brave soldiers charged over the ridge, marching under continuous, heavy fire and cleverly isolating the German troops in their dugouts. A towering, white marble monument now marks Hill 145, the place where the capture of Vimy Ridge ended in a bayonet charge against machine-gun nests. Learn more about this stunning victory that Brigadier-General A.E. Ross called "the birth of a nation."

Travel to Normandy

Welcome to the Normandy region, the location of many of the battles that turned the course of World War II. See why Normandy is not only known for its connection with major military events, but for its scenic beauty, elegant landscapes and patchwork fields, as well.

Overnight in Normandy Region

Day 10: Normandy Region | Paris

Visit the Juno Beach Centre

Visit the Juno Beach Centre, the first memorial of its kind for Canadian veterans of WWII. The Centre was conceptualized by Canadian veterans who fought in the June 6, 1944 D-Day invasion of Normandy and stands at Courseulles-sur-Mer, the site of the invasion. The Centre is an educational facility designed to teach Canadians more about Canada's role in the war, whether on land, sea or air.

Visit Arromanches

Visit the seaside town of Arromanches, whose coastline hosted some of the D-Day landings in 1944. As part of the designated 'Gold Beach' area, British troops landed here. Arromanches was also important in WWII as one of the chosen sites for the Mulberry Harbours built by the British forces to aid in the allied invasion of Normandy. The massive concrete blocks can still be seen today.

Visit the Bény-sur-Mer Canadian War Cemetery

Honour our fallen soldiers and airmen at Bény-sur-Mer Cemetery, which houses the graves of over 2,000 Canadians.

Travel to Paris

Welcome to Paris, the cosmopolitan City of Light. While visiting, learn why Paris has grown to become the undisputed center of France, and one of the world's most important cities both culturally and politically.

Overnight in Paris

Day 11: Paris

Guided sightseeing of Paris

Discover the city on the Seine during your panoramic bus tour. An expert local guide will accompany you as you drive through Paris' lively Latin Quarter. You will also drive down the elegant, tree-lined Champs-Élysées. Finally, be sure to snap a photo at the magnificent Eiffel Tower, an unmistakable and controversial symbol of Paris since its appearance at the 1889 World's Fair.

Free time to explore Versailles

Exploration time in Paris

Enjoy time to explore Paris on your own. You may wish to visit one of Paris' many museums, or stroll through one of its iconic neighborhoods, like the Latin Quarter.

Overnight in Paris

Your Itinerary

Day 12: Paris

Visit the Louvre

The Palais du Louvre, built to defend the city in the 13th century, now safeguards one of the world's greatest art collections. Enter the museum through world-renowned architect I.M. Pei's 1989 modernist glass pyramid. Inside, discover priceless antiquities from Egypt, Greece, Italy and Asia such as the statues of *Venus de Milo* and *Nike of Samothrace*, better known as *Winged Victory*. You'll also see some of the Louvre's most prized paintings by Renaissance and European masters, including Leonardo da Vinci's painting of the mysterious *Mona Lisa*. *(Please note that due to limited group reservations, your group may visit another art museum when the Louvre is not available.)*

Free Time in Paris

Enjoy time to explore Paris on your own. You may wish to visit one of Paris' many museums, or stroll through one of its iconic neighborhoods, like the Latin Quarter.

Overnight in Paris

Day 13: Depart for home

Transfer to the airport for your return flight

Your tour director assists with your transfer to the airport, where you will check in for your return flight home.

Itinerary is subject to change

For complete financial and registration details, please refer to the Booking Conditions at www.eftours.ca/bc.



This is more than a class trip

So how are students impacted by their travel experiences?
How do they grow not just academically, but as human beings?
After our tours come home, we always follow up with teachers to get their perspective on these questions, and more.

Of the teachers who've spoken with us this past year:



98%

said their tour broadened their students' worldview



95%

said it encouraged their students to embrace new challenges



97%

said it helped their students grow as people



2/3

said it helped their students develop the ability to have an impact on the world

Travel changes everyone for the better, especially students. They try things they might never have attempted, talk to people they might never have met, and grow into someone they might never have become—all from experiences they can only get by travelling.

What's included?



Airfare and on-tour transportation



Hotels with private bathrooms



Regional-style meals



Guided tours & immersive experiential learning



Full-time Tour Director



24-hour emergency services.