

Educational Tours



VE Day 75: London, Normandy & Amsterdam

April 27, 2020 - May 6, 2020

From arriving by boat at Normandy, to walking along the beaches of Juno, to travelling to Amsterdam, this tour follows the journey an Allied soldier might have taken during the Second World War. It tells the story chronologically and ends with a visit to Bergen op Zoom, the former Canadian Headquarters during the Battle of the Scheldt—a pivotal event leading to the liberation of the Netherlands. Students and cadets will have the opportunity to meet with the local community there and discover firsthand how liberating the Netherlands forever changed Canada's relationship with the Dutch people.

Victory in Europe

May 5, 1945—Nazi forces finally surrender, and Canadian and Allied troops liberate the Netherlands after months of battling to push out the Nazis.

More than seven decades later, the connection forged between Canadians and the Dutch has stayed strong. In May 2020, students and cadets can experience firsthand present-day Dutch culture, and discover for themselves how the unique histories and contributions of the Allied forces continue to influence modern European life and our world today.



What to expect on a Historic Event Tour

ACTIVE PARTICIPATION

Students and cadets become part of history and carry on the legacy of past generations during once-in-a-lifetime commemoration ceremonies and exclusive EF-led events with thousands of fellow Canadians.

CONNECTIONS

Whether it's researching the life of a local soldier, honouring a hometown Regiment, or connecting with international students before tour, travellers engage with the community at home and abroad.

REFLECTION

Participate in group reflection through activities designed to engage travellers and reflect on the experience. Every itinerary is customizable to create a personalized and profound experience for your group.

BUILDING PERSPECTIVE

By exploring significant sites, visiting the graves of Canadian soldiers, or taking part in special ceremonies, travellers develop a richer understanding of historic events and how they impact the present.





What you'll experience on your tour

April 27, 2020 - May 6, 2020

Day 1: Fly to London

Board your overnight flight to London.

Day 2: Arrive in London

Touch down in the capital city of England and the United Kingdom, and meet your Tour Director at the airport. Then, enjoy a walking tour of London and take in the sights and sounds of the city.

Day 3: London

In the morning, enjoy an expertly guided tour of London with a licensed, local guide. Then, visit Bletchley Park, the central location for British codebreakers during the Second World War. Participate in EF-enhanced programming and learn about the role communication played in the world of secrets and spies, and how it affected the outcome of the Second World War. In the Cabinet War Rooms, get a glimpse of the life and legacy of Winston Churchill.

Day 4: Portsmouth

Travel to Portsmouth, where you'll enjoy a sightseeing tour of the coastal city. Afterwards, visit the D-Day Museum where you'll get unique insight into Operation Overloard and the D-Day story.

Day 5: Normandy | Caen

Take an early-morning ferry from Portsmouth to Normandy, where Allied troops landed on June 6, 1944—launching the campaign that eventually liberated mainland Europe from the Nazis. Then, travel to Caen and enjoy a walking tour of the historic town.

Day 6: Normandy | Vimy region

At the Juno Beach Centre, take part in immersive activities and unique experiences exclusive to EF travellers. Programming will encourage exploration of Juno Park and give travellers a more in-depth understanding of the site's history. Then, travel to the Vimy region.

Day 7: Vimy region | Amsterdam

At Vimy Ridge, visit the battlefields where brave soldiers fought and fell. Stand by the towering Vimy Memorial then wind your way through the underground tunnels and bunkers. From there, travel to the Scheldt and take a sightseeing tour of Bergen op Zoom. In the former Canadian Headquarters during the Battle of the Scheldt, a pivotal event leading to the liberation of the Netherlands, students and cadets will have the opportunity to work hand-in-hand with the local community on an installation to commemorate Canada's relationship with the Dutch people.

Day 8: Amsterdam

Every May 4, the people of the Netherlands participate in a two-minute moment of silence for Remembrance Day. At the VE Day remembrance ceremony at the Groesbeek Canadian War Cemetery, join fellow Canadians and the local community in memorializing those who fell during the Second World War.

Day 9: Wageningen | Amsterdam

Travel to Wageningen, a historic town along the Rhine river. Here, you'll commemorate Liberation Day—when the Dutch celebrate the end of Nazi occupation and honour freedom, democracy, and human rights. While you're here, you'll be participating in EF-enhanced events surrounding the celebrations.

Day 10: Depart for home

Say goodbye to your Tour Director at the airport and depart for home.

Itinerary is subject to change. Accommodations and flight details to be announced approximately 14 days prior to departure.

EVERYTHING YOU GET



Full-time Tour Director



Sightseeing: 1 sightseeing tour led by an expert, licensed, local guide; 1 sightseeing tour led by your Tour Director; 2 walking tours



Entrances: Bletchley Park; Cabinet War Rooms; D-Day Museum; Juno Beach Centre



weShare: Our personalized learning experience engages travellers before, during, and after tour, with the option to create a final, reflective project.



EF-enhanced programming: Our expert Educational Programming team has designed enhanced programming opportunities at the Juno Beach Centre, Bletchley Park, the Scheldt, Groesbeek Canadian War Cemetery, and Wageningen







Round-trip flights on major carriers; upgraded hotel accommodations; comfortable motor coach; European breakfast and dinner daily

The world leader in international education

For over 50 years, EF has been working toward one global mission: Opening the World Through Education. Your teacher has partnered with EF because of our unmatched worldwide presence, our focus on affordability, and our commitment to providing experiences that teach critical thinking, problem solving, collaboration, and global competence.

AFFORDABLE

We always offer the guaranteed lowest prices so more students and cadets have the opportunity to travel and experience the world.

INSIGHTFUL

We believe in experiential learning at the most important sites. Your Tour Director is with you at every step, providing their own perspective and local tips.

SAFE

We're committed to your safety. With 500 schools and offices in over 50 countries, EF staff can react quickly and in person wherever you travel.

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