



BAIV

D-Day Experience Normandy

Newsletter December 2023

This December 2023 issue is the first newsletter you will receive from us to inform you of our plans for the BAIV D-Day Experience 2024.

Every month from now we will tell you what our plans are, what progress we made in organizing the campsite, the catering and the tours, which historical sites and which museums we will visit during our tours etc. etc.

The next issues will be sent to you in January, February, March, April and May 2024.

Breaking News!



The international commemoration of D-Day on the 6th of June 2024 will be at ...

Saint-Laurent-sur-Mer!



Only a mile from our Dog Green Camp (...!) the French President Macron will welcome royal representatives and heads of states from all over Europe, Canada and the United States for a joint commemoration of D-Day 1944 and the start of the liberation of Europe.

Because of these royals and heads of states there will be restrictions in the area and also there will be many French Gendarmerie and American soldiers to guarantee the safety of those special guests.

We are in close contact with the local French authorities to see what is possible for us as an international group to witness the ceremonies. We cannot promise anything, but we will do our utmost to ensure that you can follow the ceremonies in some way.

We will keep you informed about our progress.

One thing we can promise you: the 6th of June 2024 will be a festive and memorable day on Dog Green Camp and in Vierville-sur-Mer.



Dog Green Camp

In 2024 Dog Green Camp will be built on a larger field on the other side of the church of Vierville-sur-Mer. Together with the French association UNIVEM we will set up a military camp..

Our camp consists of a large mess and canteen tent and several large tents with sleeping compartments for the participants.

New is that participants can hire from us a separate sleeping quarter in a reproduction 'US Small Wall Tent', which offers room for two persons. More information about this possibility and the costs you can find on our website.

We take you on eight tours!

During the BAIV D-Day Experience 2024 we offer you no less than eight tours. The last months a lot of work is done to set up the tours to drive you around in Normandy in June 2024. On those tours we drive you in American military vehicles from World War Two.

We are now servicing several GMC trucks, an Halftrack and a Jeep for our transport. Besides that a few participants from Europe will take their own WW2 army vehicle, so we have a nice range of army vehicles in June 2024 to tour Normandy.



Program

At this moment the program is as follows:

- 31 May German Defence in Normandy
- 1 June 101st Airborne Division and Utah Beach
- 2 June Omaha Beach and US Normandy Cemetery
- 3 June 82nd Airborne Division and Sainte-Mère-Église
- 4 June The Battle for Carentan
- 5 June First Allied Petrol Harbor Port-en-Bessin
- 6 June Flower ceremony at Dog Green sector Omaha Beach at 06:30 hour
Open Day and festivities at Dog Green Camp
- 7 June British and Canadian landing beaches
- 8 June Farewell Tour Bayeux, the first liberated city in Normandy

In the tours we will show you many historical sites that give you a good idea of what was done in 1944 by American, English and Canadian soldiers to create a foothold at the Normandy coast, and from there to drive the Nazi occupiers out of Normandy.

In October 2023 all tours were checked in Normandy for verification by our guide/historian Carry Harts and Henri Ponsteen. During this trip several museums and historical sites are added to enhance your experience of the Normandy invasion and the sacrifices that are made for the liberation of this part of France.

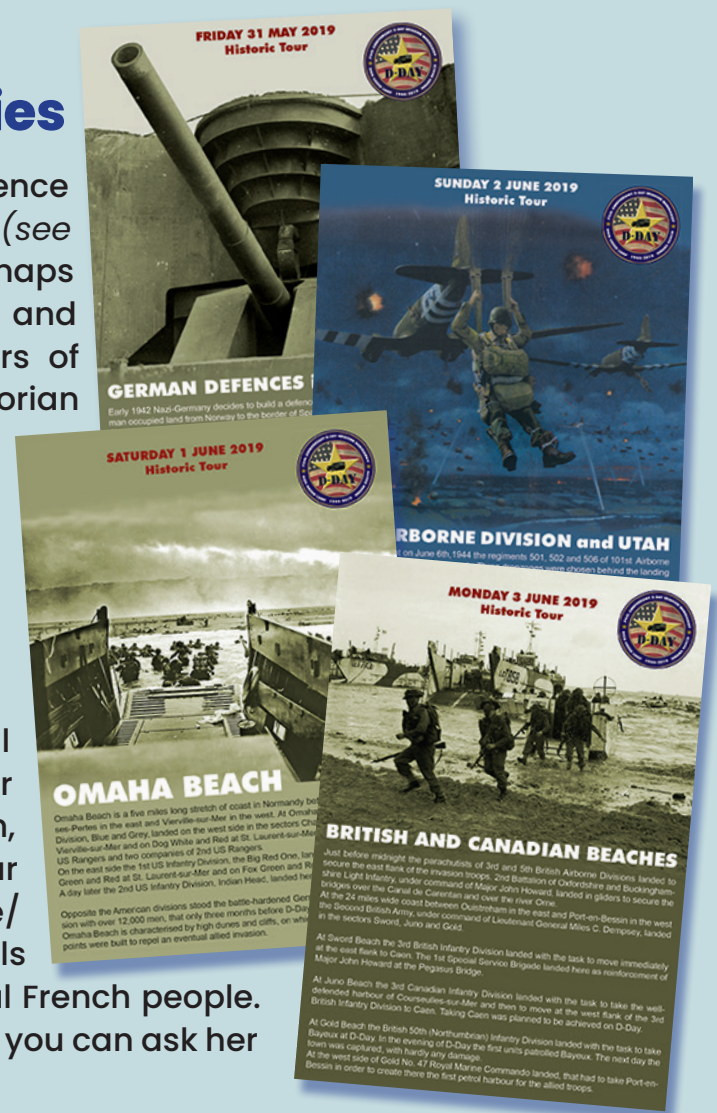
In the following issues we will give you more insight about the tours and the historical sites and museums that we will visit.

Booklets as tangible memories

As former participants of our D-Day Experience 2019 know, booklets will be made for every tour (see examples of 2019 on the right), containing maps and description of the operations in the area and with historical information. Thanks to 20 years of research and regular visits to Normandy our historian Carry Harts collected many personal stories of veterans and locals who endured the fights, which she shares in the booklets.

The booklets will be distributed the evening before the tour, so every participant can read them and prepare him- or herself on the tour.

During the tours our crew in the vehicles will tell you about the area we travel through and their historical significance in the Normandy invasion, and points you at the monuments we pass in our tours. At stops at the historical sites our guide/historian Carry Harts will give you more details and tell stories she heard from veterans or local French people. And if you have any questions about the history, you can ask her for more details.



Only a few vacancies left in our tour

On behalf of our Warrant Office, we are pleased to inform you that the number of participants that registered before 1 December 2023 in the 'early bird phase', has reached 47 people. This month we start the campaign to fill the rest of our 'Invasion Fleet'. We can only offer accommodation for a maximum of 80 people, including our crew.

So feel free to spread the news that we have only a few vacancies left and convince your friends to join us for a memorable experience in Normandy.

An expert advice of our Paymaster

This month all registered participants will receive the first invoice.

In this respect we would like to emphasize that we prefer to receive your payment via PayPal. Although PayPal charges a 5% fee for this, these costs are disproportional to the transfer costs you would otherwise face with international bank transfers.

The major advantage of PayPal: it is very easy and most of all a safe way of paying.

Book your flight to Paris in time

As indicated, the only thing left for members is to book your plane ticket or trip to France. For overseas guests and other plane travelers we will -as we did in 2019- provide a Shuttle Service from Paris Charles de Gaulle (CDG) to our Dog Green Camp in Vierville-sur-Mer, Normandy.



We advise you to book your flight to Paris as soon as possible. This enables us to plan in time the schedule of the Shuttle Service, but also because it will be quite busy around that period with international incoming flights. The following times are important, if you want to use the Shuttle Service.

Inbound CDG

When booking your flight, make sure you plan your **arrival** for the morning of **May 30, 2024** between **6:00 AM** and **12:00 PM**.

With these times we can make a schedule to pick you up in groups and bring you to Normandy. You will arrive in the afternoon at our Dog Green Camp and from that moment you have plenty of time to check your sleeping quarters, settle in and relax.

Outbound CDG

For your return flight, it is best to book a flight that departs on **June 9, 2024** in the afternoon, preferably **from 12:00 noon**.

You have to check in at the airport CDG in time and the travel time from Normandy to Paris is at least 3.5 hours. That is why our advice for your return flight is, the later you leave CDG that day, the more relaxing it will be.

Support with booking your flight

During D-DAY Conneaut in Ohio last summer, we registered for our BAIV D-Day Experience 2024 a nice lady as participant, who owns a travel agency. Her name is Sherry Preece from Abreaze Travel. Feel free to contact Sherry to help you with booking your tickets:

Abreaze Travel, *Your easy Way to Getaway*

Sherry Preece, *Owner & Agent*

Phone: +1 518 602 5824

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In the BAIV workshop ...

In November 2023 the BAIV team started with preparation of the vehicles for your 'invasion of Normandy'. So far two GMC CCKW's and a Halftrack M5A1 are already fully serviced.

The upcoming months other vehicles are planned to ensure smooth and safe trips.



For information, questions and to register as participant see our website:

www.BAIV.events

