



WORLD WAR II HISTORY ROUND TABLE



Normandy 2024 - 80th Anniversary Tour

May 18 – June 1, 2024

15 days / 13 overnights

Day 1, Saturday, May 18, 2024

Depart the USA for Amsterdam Airport Schiphol, Netherlands (AMS) on an overnight flight with arrival the next day.

Note: If you would like to depart one day earlier you can enjoy a day of rest or do a 1-day Holland Beach tour or a 1-day Holland Tour which includes a boat ride to the famous island of Marken. The boat tour includes a visit to the famous windmills of Holland, tasting Dutch cheese, seeing how wooden shoes are being made, exploring typical fishing villages, and admiring the summer residences of the rich and famous.



Day 2, Sunday, May 19, 2024

Arrive at Amsterdam Airport Schiphol, Netherlands (AMS) and meet your tour escort. We will then transfer to our hotel with the complimentary hotel shuttle bus. You can join your tour escort on a **Discover Amsterdam canal tour**. During the canal tour, we will experience the gorgeous 17th-century canal houses, old merchant houses from the Dutch Golden Age, charming bridges, and many more well-known highlights. This evening we will have a welcome dinner.

2 overnights Radisson Blu Hotel Amsterdam Airport, Schiphol (Dinner)

Radisson Blu Hotel Amsterdam Airport, Schiphol ****

Boeing Avenue 2, 1119 PB Schiphol, Netherlands.

Day 3, Monday, May 20, 2024

Today's **sightseeing tour of Amsterdam** will include WW2 highlights of the tumultuous history during the Second World War. Focusing on the Netherlands' role during the war, the Nazi occupation, the Dutch resistance, and the Hunger Winter, the old Jewish Quarter and memorials. Our tour will end outside the Anne Frank House, which you can visit as an option. In the late afternoon, you will have free time to visit some of the highlights and museums of Amsterdam.



Overnight Radisson Blu Hotel Amsterdam Airport, Schiphol (Breakfast)

Day 4, Tuesday, May 21, 2024

After breakfast, we depart by bus for Bruges, Belgium - one of the highlights of the tour. Bruges is one of Europe's best-preserved medieval town. Picturesque cobbled lanes, historical canals connecting the famous market squares, historical churches, and street after street historical almshouses. En route to Bruges, we will visit the **Freedom Museum** in Ramskapelle (Knokke-Heist) a museum that focuses on the liberation of West Flanders and the Battle of the Scheldt. Our main interest will be the new wing of the museum called "**Wings of Freedom**" which depicts the Battle in the air during World War 2.

After lunch, we explore **Bruges by boat on a sightseeing tour**. The Bruges canals are the arteries of the city which gives a surprising perspective, because some things you can only see from the water! After we visit Bruges, we will overnight in the nearby seaside city of Blankenberge on the Belgium coast. Our hotel will be adjacent to a historical 350-meter-long art-deco Belgium Pier, constructed in 1933.

2 overnights Blankenberge (Bruges), Belgium (Breakfast, Dinner)

Hotel Riant Sejour ****

Zeedijk 188, 8370 Blankenberge (Brugge)

Day 5, Wednesday, May 22, 2024

In the morning, we will take a **Sightseeing tour of Bruges** to include WW2 highlights like Michelangelo's 'Madonna and Child' statue, a fifteenth-century monument, looted in 1944 from the Church of Notre Dame in Bruges. It now sits in the Church and was represented in the 2014 film "The Monuments Men". Bruges's jaw-dropping, beautiful architecture attracts more than two million visitors every year. With its wealth of interesting old buildings and canals, it is one of the best places to visit in Europe for anyone interested in a well-preserved medieval town. Afterwards, you will have free time to visit the highlights and museums at your leisure.

Overnight Blankenberge (Bruges), Belgium (Breakfast)

Day 6, Thursday, May 23, 2024

This morning, we will visit **Dunkirk Museum 1940 "Operation Dynamo"** to include a **Sightseeing tour of the Evacuation Beaches, The Port, and the British Memorial and Cemetery**.

After lunch, we depart for Dieppe, and en route, we will visit the **Bunker of Éperlecques**, also referred to as "the Watten bunker" or simply "Watten". This is a Second World War bunker, now part of a museum, near Saint-Omer. It essentially was an assembly plant for V2 rockets. The bunker, built by Nazi Germany under the codename Kraftwerk Nord West (Powerplant Northwest) between March 1943 and July 1944, was originally intended to be a launching facility for the V-2 (A-4) ballistic missile. It was designed to accommodate over 100 missiles at a time and to launch up to 36 each day.

If the time and weather permit we will also make a short stop at the 49-meter-high cliffs of **Cap Gris-Nez** which is only 28 kilometers (18 miles) from the white cliffs of the English coast. If the weather is clear we can see the white cliffs of Dover.

2 overnights Dieppe France (Breakfast, Dinner)



Mercure Dieppe la Présidence Hotel ****

1 Boulevard de Verdun, 76200 Dieppe, France

Day 7, Friday, May 24, 2024

We will relive the **Battle of Dieppe** by visiting the **Dieppe Memorial of 19 August 1942 Museum** and see where the Commandos and Rangers came ashore and the bunker sites they attacked. We will also visit the Canadian beaches and spend time remembering the fallen at the Dieppe War Cemetery.

The Battle of Dieppe, also known as Operation Jubilee, was a major raid on the French coastal port of Dieppe during the Second World War. It took place on 19 August 1942 and involved 5,000 Canadians, 1,000 British troops, and 50 United States Rangers as the attacking force. The defending force consisted of German troops stationed in the area. We will also cover the **Pourville radar station account** in which RAF Flight Sgt. Jack Nissenthall's secret role in the Dieppe Mission was long considered a catastrophic failure. It was argued that one of the real objectives of the Dieppe raid was to gather intelligence on German technology. This included an attempt to steal Germany's new four-rotor Enigma machine, as well as infiltrating a site that housed a powerful German radar, codenamed Freya, which sat atop a cliff right between Dieppe and neighboring Pourville.

Overnight Dieppe, France (Breakfast)



Day 8, Saturday, May 25, 2024

This morning we will visit the **Cathedral Basilica of Our Lady of Amiens a Roman Catholic church**. The cathedral is the seat of the Bishop of Amiens. It is situated on a slight ridge overlooking the River Somme in Amiens. The cathedral was built almost entirely between 1220 and c. 1270, a remarkably short period of time for a Gothic cathedral, giving it an unusual unity of style and a good example of the High Gothic style of Gothic architecture. It also has some features of the later Rayonnant style in the enlarged high windows of the choir, added in the mid-1250s. Amiens Cathedral is the largest in France, 260,000 cubic yards, large enough to contain two cathedrals the size of Notre Dame of Paris. The cathedral has been listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 1981.

In the afternoon we depart for Normandy and en route visit the city of **Rouen and its Cathedral**. During World War II, in 1940–1944, the town was occupied by Germany. Rouen was heavily damaged during the war – approximately 45% of the city was destroyed. In June 1940, the area between the Rouen Cathedral and the Seine River burned for 48 hours. Other areas were destroyed between March and August 1944, just before and during the Battle of Normandy, which ended on the left bank of the Seine with the destruction of several regiments belonging to the German 7th Army. Rouen's cathedral and several significant monuments were damaged by Allied bombing. During the German occupation, Nazi Germany's Kriegsmarine had its headquarters located in a château and the SS operated a subcamp of the V SS construction brigade in the city. Around 500 prisoners, were used as slave labor to build launching bases for the V-1 and V-2 rockets.

3 overnights Normandy (Breakfast, Dinner)

Ferme de la Rançonnière - Hôtel ****

9 Route de Creully, 14480 Crépon, France

Day 9, Sunday, May 26, 2024

This morning, we will attend the **Memorial Day Service at the Normandy American Cemetery and Memorial**. After lunch, we visit **Pointe du Hoc Ranger Monument, Longues-sur-Mer Battery, and Musee Du Debarquement (D-Day Museum Arromanches)** before returning to our hotel.

Overnight Normandy (Breakfast, Dinner)



Day 10, Monday, May 27, 2024

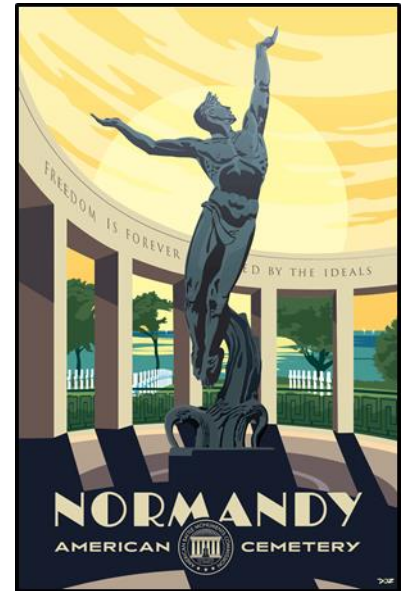
A full-day program to cover the **Normandy American Sector** is planned for today. Some of the highlights include **St. Marcouf / Crisbacq Battery, Utah Beach, Brecourt Manor, St Mere Eglise and Airborne Museum, Carentan Causeway, and Battle of Graignes**.

Overnight Normandy (Breakfast, Dinner)

Day 11, Tuesday, May 28, 2024

This morning, we depart for the **Normandy British Sector**. Some of the highlights will include **Battery Merville and Museum, Pegasus Bridge and Museum**. In the late afternoon, we will depart for Mont St. Michel.

2 overnights Mont-Saint-Michel (Breakfast, Dinner)



Hotel Le Relais du Roy ***

8 Route du, 50170 Le Mont-Saint-Michel, France

Day 12, Wednesday, May 29, 2024

Today, we will discover the medieval city and the **Abbey of Mont St. Michel with a local professional guide**. The Mont-Saint-Michel architecture and its bay are the most visited tourist sites of Normandy. In 1874 it was classified as a historical monument and since 1979 it has been a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Overnight Mont-Saint-Michel (Breakfast, Dinner)

Day 13, Thursday, May 30, 2024

Today, we depart for Paris. En route, we will tour **Rommel's headquarters "Chateau de LA ROCHE-GUYON"** before arriving at our hotel in Paris.

2 overnights Paris Charles de Gaulle (Breakfast, Dinner)

Hilton Paris Charles de Gaulle ****

8 Rue de Rome, Tremblay-en-France, 93290, France

Day 14, Friday, May 31, 2024

After breakfast, we will conduct a **Paris sightseeing tour** by coach and walking with a local professional guide to include a historical "Before/After Tour of Paris" to re-trace the route that Hitler took on his visit in 1940.

Overnight Paris Charles de Gaulle (Breakfast, Farewell Dinner)

Day 15, Saturday, June 1, 2024

Fly home from Paris Charles De Gaulle Airport (CDG). (Breakfast)

Highlights included in the tour program

May 18 – June 1, 2024

15 days / 13 overnights

- Deluxe air-conditioned coach transportation.
- Full-time tour escort - John Rogers with over 30 years of guiding experience in Europe.
- Professional historians and guides throughout the tour programs.
- 13 overnights in 4-star hotels as per the itinerary
- 13 breakfast buffet and 10 dinners
- Discover Amsterdam canal tour.
- Sightseeing tour of Amsterdam to include WW2 highlights.
- Freedom Museum "Wings of Freedom"
- Bruges by boat sightseeing tour.
- Sightseeing tour of Bruges, Belgium to include WW2 highlights for example the well-known Michelangelo's 'Madonna and Child' statue.
- Dunkirk Museum 1940 "Operation Dynamo"
- Dunkirk sightseeing tour of the Evacuation Beaches, the Port, and the British Memorial and Cemetery.
- Bunker of Éperlecques, " the Watten bunker"
- Visit Cap Gris-Nez, 18 miles from the white cliffs of the English coast.
- Battle of Dieppe "Operation Jubilee" tour
- Dieppe Memorial of 19 August 1942 Museum
- Pourville radar station special account in which RAF Flight Sgt. Jack Nissenthall's participated.
- Cathedral Basilica of Our Lady of Amiens
- Sightseeing tour of Rouen and its Cathedral
- Memorial Day Service at the Normandy American Cemetery and Memorial.
- Pointe du Hoc Ranger Monument
- Longues-sur-Mer Battery
- D-Day Museum Arranches
- Normandy American Sector
- St. Marcouf / Crisbacq Battery
- Utah Beach
- Brecourt Manor
- St Mere Eglise and Airborne Museum
- Carentan Causeway
- Battle of Graignes.
- Normandy British Sector
- Merville Battery and Museum
- Pegasus bridge and museum.
- Abbey of Mont St. Michel with a local professional guide.
- Rommel's headquarters
"Chateau de LA ROCHE-GUYON"
- Paris sightseeing tour by coach to include a historical "Before/After Tour of Paris" 1940.

Tour Coordinator and HRT contact person:

Don Patton

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John Rogers

Battlefield Seminars and Tours Dept.
Narrow Gauge Paradise
P.O. Box 130807, Tampa, Florida, 33681-0807
Tel: 305-572-5770
Email: ngpamerica@aol.com

Application and Deposit

History Round Table Tour 2024

(flight not included)

I would like to book the following tour	Date:	Price p.p. double/twin room
Normandy 2024 - 80th Anniversary Tour	May 18 – June 1, 2024	US \$ 5,495.- * paying by check (if paying by credit card: \$ 5,695.-)
		US \$ 995.- single supplement

Mr. /Mrs. (Last name / First name)	Birth date	Double / Single	Price
1. Name:			
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2. Name:			
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Address			
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Phone / E-mail			
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Please check one: The deposit can be paid by credit card and the balance by check.

I have enclosed a check for \$ 400.- per person for a deposit to reserve a place on the tour.

Please bill my credit card in the amount of \$ _____ My credit card information is included below.

Card number: _____ Expiration: _____

Minimum of participants: 20

We reserve the right to cancel any tour up to 2 months before the travel date if the minimum group size is not met.

Signature(s) / Date:

Narrow Gauge Paradise - As a condition to the acceptance of any application, each applicant must agree to, and sign, the statement set forth below: The undersigned has read the schedule of activities for this tour and recognizes and accepts any risk thereof. The undersigned also understands and hereby agrees for and on behalf of himself, his dependents, heirs, executors, administrators, and assigns to abide by the conditions set forth under the History Round Table Tour 2024 Terms and Conditions, and to release and hold harmless Narrow Gauge Paradise and any of their officers, agents, licensees or representatives from any liability for delays, injuries or death, for the loss of or damage to, his property, however occurring during any portion of, or in relation to, the History Round Table Tour 2024. After receiving your application, the detailed conditions will be sent to you together with a confirmation of your application. *(Subject to changes and errors)*

Please mail a check for payments to:
(secure P.O. Box)

Tour Operator and contact person

Narrow Gauge Paradise – John Rogers

Battlefield Seminars and Tours Dept.

P.O. Box 130807, Tampa, Florida, 33681-0807

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