



**Fields of Fire Tours
and Merit Travel Canada
presents**

**75th Anniversary of Victory Tour
30 Apr – 9 May 2020
Signals in the Liberation of the Netherlands**



- Attend ceremonies at Holten Cemetery and Liberation Day at Wageningen
- Visit important Canadian battlefields in the Netherlands
- Pay tribute to Canada's war dead of the Victory Campaign
- Optional 5-day add-on tour to visit the Channel Ports and Scheldt battlefields
- Visit monuments, museums, and Commonwealth War Cemeteries
- Led by experienced military historians and veterans

**For more information contact Brian Cruickshank- at Merit Travel
BCruickshank@MeritTravel.com, or call 1-866-341-1777 #3375**

75th Anniversary of Victory Tour

Day 1 – 30 April ...Depart Canada for Amsterdam.

Day 2 – 1 May ...We arrive in Amsterdam, meet our bus and then drive to our hotel. In the afternoon we will visit the Airborne Museum in Arnhem to examine this epic battle. We will check into our hotel for the next seven nights:

Mercure Hotel Nijmegen

Day 3 – 2 May ... Today we will visit the Dutch signals museum in Amersfoort as well as the surrender site in Wageningen, and the site where the April '45 truce that allowed food to be delivered to the starving Dutch population was negotiated in Achterveld.

Day 4 – 3 May ... We will hit the battlefields today when we look at the largest Canadian directed operation of the war: Op Veritable. We will end the day with a visit to Groesbeek Cemetery and the nearby Liberation Museum.

Day 5 – 4 May... Today is the Dutch Remembrance Day and we will attend the Canadian memorial ceremony at Holten Canadian War Cemetery.

Day 6 – 5 May ... This is the big day for ceremonies: Liberation Day. We will join the crowds of people in Wageningen for the Canadian commemoration and parade. Some of our group may march in the parade.

Day 7 – 6 May Today we will be back on the battlefields as we tour the sites of Operation Blockbuster and the Hochwald.

Day 8 – 7 May ... The crossing of the Rhine will be the focus of our touring today, including the airborne battle of 1st Canadian Para Battalion. On our way to Amsterdam we will visit the site of 1st Canadian Army headquarters to look at the signals challenges posed by such a large organization. Our hotel will be the **TBC**.

Day 9 – 8 May ... A free day in Amsterdam. The excellent resistance museum is highly recommended as well as the amazing art galleries if you are so inclined.

Day 10 – 9 May ... We will get our flights back to Canada from Amsterdam airport. Anyone staying on in Europe can make easy connections from the airport.

Tour Price (Land Only)

CAD \$3600 – (per person, Double occupancy)

(single supplement: \$800 – limited availability)

Airfare can be added if desired and will vary according to point of departure

\$500 per person non-refundable deposit required on booking

Price includes:

- all breakfasts and a bagged lunch daily (no lunch 8 May)
- all travel by coach bus
- accommodation as shown in the itinerary
- opening reception and final dinner
- services of historian/guides

Not Included:

- return airfare from Canada to Amsterdam
- travel insurance
- dinners
- items of a personal nature such as beverages

Note: limited single room availability – “first come, first served”

All terms and conditions available at www.foftours.com

**For more information contact Brian Cruickshank- at Merit Travel
BCruickshank@MeritTravel.com, or call 1-866-341-1777 #3375**

Supplemental Tour of the Channel Ports and the Scheldt (can be added to the basic package described above)

Day 1 – 26 April ...Depart Canada for Paris.

Day 2 – 27 April ...We arrive in Paris, meet our bus and then drive to Boulogne-sur-Mer where we will look at the battle to clear this port by 3rd Canadian Division. Our hotel in Boulogne will be: **Ibis Centre Cathedrale**

Day 3 – 28 April ... On our way to Bruges we will look at the battle to liberate Calais. We will tour the enormous gun positions of the Atlantic wall and follow the path of the Canadians who captured them. Our hotel in Bruges for three nights will be the **Golden Tulip Hotel de Medici**

Day 4 – 29 April ... We will look at attempts to cross the Leopold Canal at Moerkerke and then the 7th Brigade crossings. We will also tour the outstanding Canada Museum in Adegem and Adegem Cemetery.

Day 5 – 30 April ... The battles to clear the northern approaches to the Scheldt will be our subject today. This was probably the most important battle of the war for the Canadian Army.

Day 6 – 1 May ... Depart Bruges, stopping at Woensdrecht and Bergen-op-Zoom Cemetery before meeting the main group in Arnhem to tour the airborne museum and check into our hotel for the next seven nights: **Mercure Hotel Nijmegen**.

Supplemental Tour Price (Land Only)

CAD \$1700 – (per person, Double occupancy)
(single supplement: \$450 – limited availability)

Airfare can be added if desired and will vary according to point of departure

\$250 per person non-refundable deposit required on booking

Price includes:

- breakfasts and a bagged lunch daily
- all travel by coach bus or van
- accommodation as shown in the itinerary
- services of historian/guides

Not Included:

- dinners
- travel insurance
- items of a personal nature such as beverages

Note: limited single room availability – “first come, first served”

All terms and conditions
available at www.foftours.com

**For more information contact Brian Cruickshank- at Merit Travel
BCruickshank@MeritTravel.com, or call 1-866-341-1777 #3375**