



**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 the Canadian ceremony at Wageningen on Liberation Day.
- 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 the Airborne Museum in Arnhem to examine this epic battle. In the late afternoon we will check into our hotel for the next eight nights: **Mercure Hotel Nijmegen**

Day 3 – 2 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 Freedom Museum

Day 4 – 3 May ... Today we will attend the Canadian memorial ceremony at Groesbeek Canadian War Cemetery. In the evening we will participate in the sunset walk across the Waal River.

Day 5 – 4 May... Today is the Dutch Remembrance Day and we will be back on the battlefields as we tour the sites of Operation Blockbuster and the Hochwald.

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 visit the Dutch signals museum in Amersfoort as well as the site where the April '45 truce that allowed food to be delivered to the starving Dutch population was negotiated in Achterveld. The day will wrap up with a dedication ceremony in the Dutch Signals barracks at Stroe. to our hotel

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. We will also visit the Canadian cemetery in Holten.

Day 9 – 8 May ... Several options today including a free day in the Nijmegen area, or a day-trip to Amsterdam by train or bus, where the resistance museum and the art galleries are highly recommended. A visit to the Dutch National Military Museum is also a possibility. Our last night in Nijmegen.

Day 10 – 9 May ... We will depart early to 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 9 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
- train trip to Amsterdam on free day
- dinners & lunch on 9 May
- 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

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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 **Hotel Floris**.

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 \$1900 – (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”

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