

NEBRASKA NATIONAL GUARD MUSEUM SOCIETY

75th Anniversary of
the Liberation of Saint-Lô

July 15-25, 2019



Dear Friends,

Come join us on a once in a lifetime trip to France to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the liberation of select cities by members of the Nebraska National Guards' famed 134th Infantry Regiment in World War II. The highlight of the trip will be in the city of St. Lo, France on the actual day we liberated during the war (July 18th). We will pay homage to the sacrifice and courage at Normandy American, Lorraine American and Luxembourg American Cemeteries to lay a wreath for our gallant warriors from Nebraska that are buried there. Spend three days in the Normandy area to visit D-Day sites and hedgerow sites (Hill 122) and museums in the area. Follow the route of the 134th as they liberated cities and became some of the first Americans to cross into Germany at Habkirchen. Move north to the Battle of the Bulge historic sites at Lutrebois and Bastogne. Celebrate the official crossing into Germany at Rheinburg with a short trip down the Rhine River. This trip will include scholars and academics on military history of the Nebraska National Guard in World War II. We will be joined by families of the 134th (to include Gold Star members) and local and state dignitaries. The trip will also include news and television coverage along the route. This promises to be a trip of a lifetime for those that sign up. I look forward to seeing you on the trip.

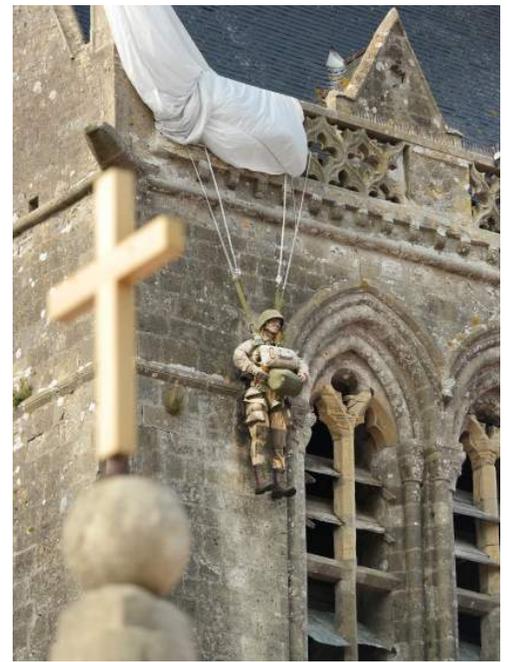
Gerald D. "Jerry" Meyer
Colonel (Retired), NENG Historian
Tour Host



**Nebraska National Guard
Museum Society**

 **ExecutiveTravel**

Call Executive Travel's Group Department today at 402-435-8888.



July 15, 2019 Monday

Our journey begins as we meet at the Omaha airport for an overnight flight to Paris. Enjoy in-flight entertainment and meal service as you start your once-in-a-lifetime tour. Meals served on board your international flight. B

July 16, 2019 Tuesday - Arromanches Les Bain - Omaha Beach - Caen

Welcome to France! We are met by our professional tour guide and driver at the Airport and we are off to the Normandy region. We make a stop for lunch at a local restaurant at Arromanches Les Bain. We will discover the Mulberry Harbors, considered one of the greatest engineering feats of WWII, the temporary mobile harbors for unloading troops, vehicles, and supplies. Omaha Beach, the codename for one of the five sectors of the Allied invasion of German-occupied France in the Normandy landing on June 6th, 1944, is next. We will visit the American cemetery of Colleville-sur-Mer, the first American cemetery on European soil in WWII with wreath-laying at the cemetery.

Transfer to our hotel and get ready for a welcome dinner in a local restaurant or at our hotel. Overnight in Caen. B (during flight) | L | D

July 17, 2019 Wednesday - Utah Beach - Hill 122

Breakfast at our hotel. The morning is dedicated to Utah Beach and Higgins Boat Memorial – Andrew Higgins WWII Boast Builder and NENG soldier. Guided visit of the Utah Beach D-Day Museum. The museum recounts the story of D-Day in 10 sequences, from the preparation of the landing to the final outcome and success. By the end of the visit, you will understand the strategic choices for the Allied invasion of Normandy and the reasons for the success at Utah Beach. Next stop today is at the church of Sainte-Mère-Église to see where Private John Steele's parachute got caught in one of the pinnacles of the church tower, leaving him hanging on the side of the church. Time for lunch at leisure before we continue to experience the Hedgerow Tour and Hill 122, north of the city of Saint-Lô. We return to our hotel for a dinner on our own. Overnight in Caen. B

July 18, 2019 Thursday - Saint-Lô

After a hearty breakfast, we take a short drive to Saint-Lô to spend the day with the ceremonies of the liberation in the city. Today is the 75th anniversary and we will have a full day to enjoy and plenty of time to reflect on history. Lunch is at leisure and we will transfer back to our hotel at the end of the ceremonies.

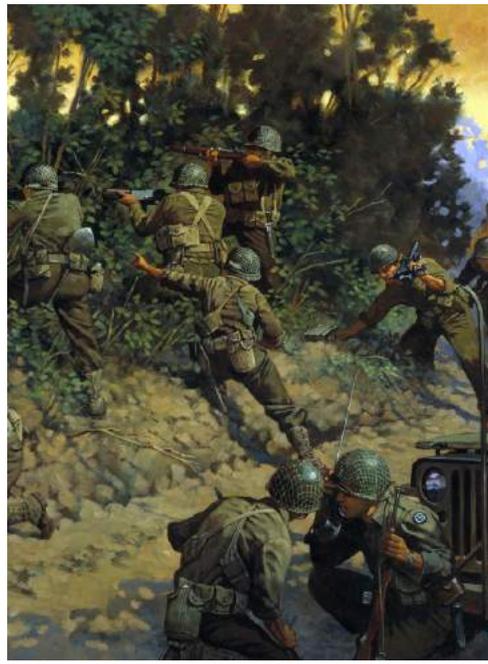
Dinner on your own in Caen. B

July 19, 2019 Friday - Mortain - Montargis

After a filling breakfast, we check out and continue our journey. During the following days, we will travel the route and discover the French cities liberated by the Nebraskans. We are also going to enjoy some of the delicacies of the region and our first stop today is at a local farm to discover and taste the local cider and delicate bouquet of Calvados (apple liquor), along with the best cheeses France has to offer. We continue to Mortain for a brief stop, before arriving in Montargis. Characterized by its canals, flowers and half-timbered houses, Montargis will charm you for sure. We take a tour of the city before checking in to our hotel. Then get ready to enjoy dinner at a local restaurant. B | D

July 20, 2019 Saturday - Joigny - Nancy

We board our motor coach and head to Joigny for a walking tour of the city center. This is a picturesque little town, spilling down the terraces of the Côte St-Jacques overlooking the River Yonne, which has a good local market and plenty of waterway activity. Nancy - a town for all the senses - is reached in the afternoon. The beautiful capital of the Dukes of Lorraine, and known throughout the world for its array of eighteenth-century architecture in Place Stanislas, Place de la Carrière and Place d'Alliance - listed as UNESCO World



Heritage sites since 1983. Even more than being a town dedicated to art (which it is!), Nancy has turned to “live” culture, with a national opera, a ballet, a symphony and opera orchestra. We will head to the city hall to be welcomed by the mayor*. Time to unwind and relax for lunch and dinner on your own. Overnight in Nancy. B (*Meeting with the mayor is to be confirmed)

July 21, 2019
Sunday - Morhange - Saint-Avoid - Sarreguemines - Habkirchen

Breakfast is enjoyed before we continue on a scenic route to discover the cities liberated by the Nebraskans. Today we will visit Morhange, then the Lorraine American Cemetery and Memorial in Saint-Avoid before we continue to Sarreguemines and the German town of Habkirchen. We will have plenty of time to enjoy the day. Lunch is at leisure on your own before we return to Nancy for a special evening and dinner with the locals to share great memories and stories. B | D

July 22, 2019
Monday - Lutrebois – Bastogne

Breakfast at our hotel and time to check out. Our route today includes a stop at the Luxembourg and American Memorial Cemetery. Entering through the gates, we will see the impressive memorial chapel encompassed by a stone terrace. The cemetery was established on December

29, 1944, by the 609th Quartermaster Company of the U.S. Third Army, while Allied Forces were stemming the enemy’s desperate Ardennes Offensive, one of the critical battles of WWII. We arrive at Lutrebois in time for a leisurely lunch and a guided tour of this tiny city. In the afternoon we continue to Bastogne and visit the Bastogne War Museum prior to checking in to our hotel. We enjoy dinner tonight at a local restaurant. B | D

July 23, 2019
Tuesday - Rheinberg

After breakfast, we head out at a relaxed pace to drive to Rheinberg, a small town at the slopes of the Rhine River. We will take a short city tour upon arrival and the remainder of the day is at leisure to enjoy lunch and relax. Dinner tonight is served at a local bistro. B | D

July 24, 2019
Wednesday - Düsseldorf

A day of fun and excitement awaits on this last day of our trip. After a rich breakfast, we are off for a short drive to Düsseldorf to board our riverboat for a one-hour panoramic tour of the Rhine. We continue to enjoy a farewell lunch at a local restaurant in Alt Stadt (Old Town) before meeting with our local beer guide to enjoy a “Dark Beer for Bright Minds”-tour! Düsseldorf’s is famous for the Altbier, or “old beer”, as the name suggests, and has been around for

a long time. Its first consumption is thought to have been approximately 3,000 years ago. We will enjoy a sociable guided walk and you will get acquainted with the most important sights and the history of the Altbier and the home breweries. We will visit two breweries and sample some fine beer! In the late afternoon, we transfer back to our hotel for a good night’s rest. B | L | T

July 25, 2019
Thursday - Return home

All too soon, our journey has ended. Take an early morning transfer to Paris airport in plenty of time to check in for our flight and clear security. You may do some last minute shopping at the duty-free stores before boarding and flying west across the Atlantic Ocean, back to the United States. Arrive at Omaha airport tonight. B | Meals served on board your International flight.

Itinerary is subject to change.

B = Breakfast L = Lunch
 T = Tasting D = Dinner



To register contact:



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ONLINE REGISTRATION LINK:
executivetravel.com/nebraska-national-guard-tour

Package Price:

Per person in shared double room: \$2,995
 Per person in single room: \$4,295
 (limited number of single rooms)

We offer "Pair & Share" service. Ask us to assist finding your roommate!

A non-refundable deposit of \$500 per person is required upon signing up for the tour. Deposit can be paid by cash, check or credit card. Balance is due on April 15, 2019, and is non-refundable. Balance can be paid by cash or check. Credit card payment(s) (any payment applied to the tour after the deposit) will access a 3.5% processing fee.

We strongly recommend travel insurance, not only in the unfortunate event of cancellation prior to the departure but also for full medical coverage while traveling in Europe. Base Plan coverage is offered from \$252 per person (covers land and airfare up to a total of \$5,000 per person). Please ask us for the details.

This tour will be materialized with a minimum of 40 and a maximum of 50 travelers. Should the number fall below 40, all funds paid to Executive Travel will be refunded 90 days prior to departure.

Activities for this tour:

Involves walking over relatively level and steep terrain, some cobblestone, gravel paths and climbing some stairs. This tour is not recommended for guests with walking difficulties. Comfortable, sturdy shoes are recommended.

Air:

Executive Travel offers group airfare with Delta Airlines:

- July 15, 2019: Omaha - Atlanta, 11:08 AM - 2:20 PM
 - July 15, 2019: Atlanta - Paris (CDG), 3:24 PM - 6:00 AM (July 16)
 - July 25, 2019: Paris (CDG) - Atlanta, 1:50 PM - 5:15 PM
 - July 25, 2019: Atlanta - Omaha, 7:12 PM - 8:45 PM
- \$1,590 per person incl. taxes and fees.

Group airfare comes with seat assignments 30 days prior to the departure. Delta Airlines' premium seating can be purchased and confirmed at this time. Executive Travel cannot confirm precise seat numbers earlier than 30 days prior to your departure, and therefore cannot guarantee the availability of specific seating on the aircraft earlier than that.

Included:

- 9 nights during the tour at local 4* hotels, standard rooms
- Porterage at hotels
- 9 x full breakfast
- 2 x lunch (welcome and farewell, 3-course meals)
- 5 x dinner (3-course meals)
- Calvados and local cheese tasting
- Dark Beer tastings
- All motor coach (private) transportation as per itinerary
- Sightseeing program as per itinerary
- All admissions as per itinerary
- Professional tour manager/guide in France
- All local taxes and fees as per October 11, 2018
- Tour host (Gerald "Jerry" Meyer)

The price quoted within this proposal is based on a USD/EURO exchange rate of 0.85 (1 USD = 0.85 EURO). We reserve the right to adjust pricing at final payment.

Accommodations (Local/French star ratings):

- Caen: Mercure Caen Port de Plaisance, 4-star
- Montargis: Domaine et Golf de Vaugouard, 4-star
- Nancy: Grand Hotel de la Reine, 4-star
- Bastogne: Hotel Melba, 4-star
- Rheinberg: Wellings Park Hotel, 4-star

Final accommodations will be confirmed 90 days prior to departure.

Not Included:

- Airfare
- Additional baggage fees (first checked bag FREE, 50 lbs)
- Travel insurance
- Gratuities for local tour manager/guide and driver (estimate \$5 per person per day)
- Personal expenses
- Meals other than mentioned in the tour program
- Beverages at meals
- Entrances to monuments and/or museums other than mentioned
- Professional fee, \$75 per person, due at time of registration
- Anything not mentioned in the inclusions

Forwarding registration and deposit signifies that you agree to the terms and conditions of this tour which can be found at <http://executivetravel.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/Terms-and-Conditions.pdf>

Call Executive Travel's Group Department today at 402-435-8888. Space is limited.