



WWII AND THE WESTERN FRONT



*Educational
Tours*

→ *Discover the Global Classroom*

11 or 14 DAYS

History: WWII and the Western Front

England • France • Germany



Number of overnight stays in parentheses.

Program Fee includes:

- Round-trip airfare
- 8 overnight stays in hotels with private bathrooms (11 with extension); plus 1 night ferry accommodations
- Complete European breakfast and dinner daily
- Full-time bilingual EF Tour Director
- 5 sightseeing tours led by licensed local guides: London • Normandy Beaches • Paris • Bastogne Berlin
- 2 sightseeing tours led by your tour director: Rouen • Cologne
- 2 EF walking tours: London • Paris
- 8 visits to special attractions: Imperial War Museum • Cabinet War Rooms Caen Memorial • Notre-Dame • Ardennes American Cemetery and Memorial • Historical Center Cologne Cathedral • Checkpoint Charlie Museum

OPTIONALS:

- London Eye and Thames River cruise (seasonal)
- Versailles

WITH EXTENSION: All of the above PLUS:

- 3 sightseeing tours led by a licensed local guide: Munich • Salzburg • Eagle's Nest OR Documentation Center/Bunker tour (seasonal)
- 1 sightseeing tour led by your tour director: Nuremberg
- 1 EF walking tour: Munich
- 2 visits to special attractions: Dachau • Eagle's Nest or Documentation Center/Bunker (seasonal)



The interior of St. Peter's Basilica in the Vatican was designed by Raphael and Michelangelo.

Day 1 Flight

Overnight flight to England • Relax aboard your overnight flight to England.

Day 2 London

Arrival in London • Touch down in London, Europe's largest capital.

EF walking tour of London • Stroll through the heart of London on our EF walking tour, which begins along the banks of the River Thames. These shadowy waters gave the city its name, which derives from Llyn-Dyn, Celtic for "city of the lake." Walk along the Strand and see the spot considered to be London's geographic center; all measurements of distances to London end here. Enter Trafalgar Square and pause at Nelson's Column, built to commemorate his 1805 victory in the Battle of Trafalgar. Continue on to Leicester Square, where duels once fought to the death. Then saunter through London's tiny Chinatown. Your walk ends at chic Covent Garden, where you'll enjoy watching street performers (or "buskers") amuse the lively crowds. (The exact walking route may vary, depending on your hotel location and the day's other activities.)

Day 3 London

Guided Sightseeing of London • England's important role in World War II contributed to London's extensive, war-related history. Learn about this part of history and much more on your panoramic tour of the city. Begin in Grosvenor Square, which is sometimes called "Little America" because it's the site of the U.S. embassy and the house where former President Eisenhower once lived. Continue to

Hyde Park Corner, located at the southeast corner of Hyde Park, one of London's largest parks. At bustling Piccadilly Circus, the intersection of five busy streets, check out the bright lights and big-city displays, before heading to Trafalgar Square. Pass Speaker's Corner, where anyone with something to say is invited to speak his or her mind. Snap a photo of the Houses of Parliament and continue along the South Bank for views of the famous London Bridge. Stroll across the Millennium Bridge for an orientation of St. Paul's Cathedral, the magnificent 17th-century Baroque church designed by Sir Christopher Wren. Finally, witness a London tradition—the Changing of the Guard (subject to scheduling).

Visit to the Imperial War Museum • Visit the Imperial War Museum and get a feel for the everyday challenges presented by modern warfare. Founded in 1917, the museum originally sought to serve as an active memorial to those who died during World War I, but has since added to its collection from conflicts of the 20th century to the present. See actual tanks, military aircraft and weapons of war.

Visit to the Churchill Museum and Cabinet War Rooms • Visit the Cabinet War Rooms, where Winston Churchill and his cabinet worked during World War II. The rooms look almost as they did decades ago with large military maps and charts still hanging on the walls today. You'll even see the bed Churchill slept in when it was too dangerous for him to return to his primary residence. Wander through the Churchill Museum, the first national museum dedicated to the life of Winston Churchill. The museum is divided into five



PBS

Learn before you go
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sections, each of which focuses on a portion of Churchill's life, from his early childhood until his death. Be sure to check out the Lifeline, a gigantic interactive table that allows visitors to learn about specific years, months, weeks and even days in Churchill's life.

Optional London Eye and Thames River cruise (seasonal) • Choose to join this exciting optional excursion, which is available from April to October. See London's sights from a different angle—take a ride aboard the London Eye. The enormous 32-capsule observation wheel offers spectacular 360-degree views of the city as far as 25 miles in each direction. The idea for the wheel was originally conceived to mark the millennium celebration in 2000 and took six years to build. Afterwards, enjoy a cruise down the Thames.

Day 4 London • Night Ferry

Transfer to Portsmouth • Transfer to Portsmouth, headquarters of the British Navy for 500 years. It was from here that Allied troops set sail to invade France on June 6, 1944. Time permitting, you may wish to visit the D-Day Museum before boarding the night ferry.

English Channel Crossing (Portsmouth-Caen) • The overnight Portsmouth–Caen ferry crossing brings you across the English Channel to France.

Day 5 Normandy

Arrival in Caen • Disembark from your ferry in Caen, the historic town that saw intense fighting during the Battle of Normandy.

Full-day guided excursion to the beaches of Normandy • Head for the historic Normandy region, arriving at the beaches that witnessed D-Day. The WWII battles that took place here were part of the largest seaborne invasion in history. Visit Omaha Beach, where the worst fighting of WWII took place. See the bomb craters that testify to the horrors that took place here June 6, 1944. Continue on to Pointe du Hoc, the 320-foot cliff scaled by American troops to capture German weapons planned to be used at Omaha Beach.

Visit to Caen Memorial: Museum of Peace • Pay tribute to WWII troops who fought at these fateful beaches as you visit the Caen Memorial. Watch a short film about the D-Day invasion and a slide show on WWII. A third audio-visual presentation recounts the wars in Korea, Afghanistan and Vietnam, as well as the continuing quest for world peace. Tour the museum and see displays that depict pre-WWII Europe. Trace the events that eventually led to the outbreak of war, and walk through the Nobel Peace Prizewinners'

Gallery, a gallery that highlights the accomplishments of the men and women who struggled for peace.

Visit to the American Cemetery • Nearly 10,000 American soldiers are buried in this hauntingly serene cemetery overlooking the English Channel, their graves marked with endless rows of white crosses. Visit the Gardens of the Missing and the bronze statue named *Spirit of American Youth*.

Day 6 Rouen • Paris

Transfer via Rouen to Paris • Transfer to Paris this morning via a guided sightseeing tour of Rouen.

Tour director-led sightseeing of Rouen • In this architecturally breathtaking city, step inside the Notre-Dame Cathedral. Gaze at its towering Gothic spires and recall that it was one of Monet's favorite subjects to paint. Nearby, see the Tour de Beurre (Butter Tower), financed by dispensations made to Catholics who wished to avoid fasting during Lent.

Walking tour of Paris • Meander through the Latin Quarter, an area dominated by the Sorbonne, Paris' most famous university, founded in 1253. As you stroll, look for the Panthéon, created by Louis XV because of a promise he made to build a church dedicated to Saint Geneviève if he survived a severe illness. You'll also explore Boulevard St. Michel and spend time browsing at the famous Shakespeare and Company bookstore, which published James Joyce's *Ulysses* in 1922. As you make your way along the Seine, check out *les bouquinistes*, the bookstalls that sell old books, maps, art prints and postcards.

Visit to Notre Dame Cathedral • Built between 1163 and 1361 over the remains of an ancient Roman temple, it was here that Napoleon crowned himself emperor in 1804. Victor Hugo once described the sculptured façade of Notre Dame as "a vast symphony in stone." However, had it not been for the creation of his famous hunchback, Quasimodo, the cathedral might never have returned to its former glory. Hugo's novel *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* helped inspire a 23-yea restoration of the cathedral that began in 1841. Step inside to admire the stained-glass rose windows and seemingly weightless vaulted ceilings.

Day 7 Paris

Guided sightseeing of Paris • Discover the city on the Seine, beginning with the imposing Arc de Triomphe, commemorating Napoleon's Grande Armée. Take a drive down the elegant Champs-Élysées to the Place de la Concorde. Pass the Conciergerie, where prisoners of the Revolution spent their final days, and see Les

Invalides, Louis XIV's grand retirement home for wounded soldiers. You'll also see the École Militaire, where Napoleon graduated to lieutenant and was told he'd go far if circumstances allowed. Next, make a photo stop at the Eiffel Tower to marvel at the 6,000-ton centerpiece for the 1889 World's Fair. Pass the Opéra Garnier, where the famous Phantom of the Opera haunted his dear Christine, and marvel at Église de la Madeleine, designed as a temple of glory for Napoleon's army. Continue past the geometric gardens of the Tuileries as you travel to the Place Vendôme, a vast square surrounded by elegant 17th-century façades.

Optional visit to Versailles • Visit Versailles, the elaborate palace of Louis XIV. Here, the Sun King held court in the most lavish style imaginable. At one point, 1,000 nobles were attended by 4,000 servants inside the palace, while 15,000 soldiers and servants inhabited the annexes. Stroll through the elegantly landscaped gardens designed by André Le Nôtre, tour the State Apartments of the King himself, walk through the historic Hall of Mirrors and admire the ornate decor of the State Apartments of the Queen. (Please note: Because of the extreme popularity of Versailles, guided visits of the interior cannot be guaranteed during peak seasons. In this case, your group will hear a presentation from your guide before entering the palace. Please also note that Versailles is closed on Mondays.)

Day 8 Ardennes

Visit to the Ardennes American Cemetery and Memorial • This 90-acre cemetery contains the gravesites of those who died during the 1944 Battle of the Bulge, one of the bloodiest battles of World War II. Marble panels in the memorial depict the military activities that took place.

Guided sightseeing of Bastogne • "Nuts," declared General Anthony McAuliffe when German forces demanded that the Americans stationed in Bastogne surrender. The ensuing Battle of the Bulge cost many lives, but ultimately also cost the Germans their goal – Antwerp. Visit McAuliffe Square and see the Sherman Tank, a symbol of the victory of the U.S. forces. Make your way to Mardasson Monument, built as a token of gratitude for the American soldiers who gave their lives for the liberation of Belgium. Finally, stop at the Patton Monument, erected in honor of the general who liberated Bastogne.

Visit to the Bastogne Historical Center • Step into a reconstruction of the Battle of the Bulge. You will see the battle unfold from both the German and American perspectives at the two reconstruction scenes. Complete with

weapons, uniforms and other military paraphernalia, the dioramas depict battle scenes and moments from the soldiers' lives.

Day 9 Cologne • Berlin

Transfer to Cologne • Leave France for Germany as you travel to Cologne.

Tour director-led sightseeing of Cologne •

Make a stop at one of Germany's most moving symbols: Cologne's sublime, war-scarred Gothic cathedral (the Kölner Dom), which took more than 600 years to complete. Within the cathedral, you'll find a medieval shrine to the Three Wise Men.

Day train to Berlin • Relax aboard your train to the capital of reunified Germany.

Day 10 Berlin

Guided sightseeing of Berlin • Ride past the Kaiser Wilhelm Gedächtniskirche (left unrestored as a reminder of the ravages of war) and down the glittery Kurfürstendamm, Berlin's liveliest street. Pass the Rathaus Schöneberg, where 1.5 million West Berliners flocked to hear President Kennedy's famous *"Ich bin ein Berliner"* speech in 1963. On your way to the Eastern sector, pass the Reichstag, former seat of the parliaments of the German Empire and the Weimar Republic. Arrive at the Brandenburg Gate, once the symbol of the undeclared Cold War and now the symbol of a reunited Berlin. It was at this gate that the famous images of East and West Berliners dancing atop the crumbling Berlin Wall were filmed and broadcast around the world. As you see where the Berlin Wall actually stood, imagine the bleak watchtowers and piercing spotlights that guarded "the border" until November 1989. Journey down Unter den Linden, once considered one of the world's most elegant boulevards.

Visit to the Checkpoint Charlie Museum •

On the site where Checkpoint Charlie once guarded the border between East and West

Germany, you'll visit a museum devoted to the era of the Berlin Wall. Inspect the "escape cars" once used to cross the border. See if you can find the secret compartment where escapees hid. Then view a photo exhibit that evocatively portrays the 30-year separation of East and West Germany, reunified in 1989.

Free time in Berlin • Make some new discoveries of your own in Germany's capital. See the Soviet War Memorial, commemorating the 20,000 soldiers who died in the Battle of Berlin, at Treptow Park. Alternatively, visit Alexanderplatz, and the TV Tower and observation deck, where visitors have been taking in Berlin's ever-changing panorama since 1969.

Day 11 Home

Return home • Transfer to the airport, where you'll check in for your return flight home.

EXTENSION

Day 11 Berlin • Munich

Tour director-led sightseeing of Nuremberg • Your EF Tour Director shows you the second-largest city in Bayern, the site of the Nazi war-crime tribunals. See architecture built up from the stone foundations bombed by the Allies during WWII.

Transfer to Munich • Continue on to Munich, the Bavarian capital. "Munich" is derived from the city's German name, München (little monk), so named because the original settlement bordered a monastery.

Day 12 Munich

Guided sightseeing of Munich • Your guided tour takes you past the Olympic Stadium, BMW's headquarters and the fashionable Schwabing district. You'll also pass the Residenz (once home to the Wittelsbach dukes of Bavaria), the Deutsches Museum, the university, and the Alte Pinakothek. Your tour con-

cludes at Marienplatz, Munich's medieval heart, home of the city's famed Glockenspiel.

Excursion to Dachau • Visit Dachau, a WWII Nazi concentration camp built in 1935 and liberated by the Allies in April 1945. It now serves as a memorial museum.

Day 13 Salzburg • Munich

Guided excursion to Salzburg • Your local guide will introduce you to Salzburg, a town known for its cobblestone streets and famous cafés. You might also recognize Salzburg as the backdrop for *The Sound of Music*. The von Trapp family resided here before fleeing Austria when the Nazis entered the country. Journey through the Old Town and past the Residenz, once home to Salzburg's prince-bishops. Walk by the birthplace of Mozart.

Guided sightseeing at Eagle's Nest (mid-May through October) • Your guide introduces you to Eagle's Nest, originally built as a teahouse for Hitler's 50th birthday. Commissioned by Martin Bormann, Eagle's Nest took approximately 13 months to build and cost 150 million euros. The road leading to Eagle's Nest was blasted out of solid rock. Even though Hitler did not visit often, Eagle's Nest became an important meeting house for Hitler and his Third Reich.

Guided sightseeing at the Documentation Center and Bunker Tour (November through mid-May) • Visit Obersalzberg, once a popular vacation spot that became the headquarters of Hitler's Third Reich. See the remaining buildings and learn about the important historical decisions that were made at this compound. You'll also see the bunker system, built to protect the leaders of the Reich from an air raid.

Day 14 Home

Return home • Your tour director assists with the transfer to the airport for your return flight.

For complete financial and registration details, please refer to the Booking Conditions.

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