



Cornell **CAU**
Education Vacations



BREAKING THE WALLS OF FORTRESS EUROPE

WWII & D-DAY

OCTOBER 22-31, 2023



David Silbey, associate director of the Cornell in Washington program and a senior lecturer at Cornell, has designed a fascinating tour from London to Paris focusing on the American legacy of World War II. Beginning in a beautiful historic inn outside of London, continuing to an 18th-century chateau in the heart of Normandy, and ending in an elegant Parisian hotel in bustling Saint Germain, spend 10 days hearing rich stories of valor and courage, witnessing stunning art and architecture, sampling culinary delights, and taking in spectacular landscapes celebrated by artists for centuries.

STUDY LEADER



David Silbey

He teaches courses on defense policy and military history and has written multiple books, including *The British Working Class and Enthusiasm for War, 1914-1916* (2005), *A War of Empire and Frontier: The Philippine-American War, 1899-1902* (2007) and *The Boxer Rebellion and the Great Game in China* (2012). His latest, *The Other Face of Battle: America's Forgotten Wars and the Experience of Combat* examines America's struggles in wars where soldiers were forced to engage in "irregular" warfare, confronting an enemy entirely alien to them, redefining success and failure and viewing victory and defeat in different ways.



HIGHLIGHTS

Visit the **Churchill War Rooms**, a labyrinthine bunker in central London where Winston Churchill directed the British war effort, as well as Chartwell, Churchill's country home for over 40 years.

Embark on a daytime **crossing of the English Channel** from Portsmouth to Normandy aboard a high-speed ferry.

Gain an in-depth perspective of D-Day, including a visit to **Southwick Park**, former headquarters of the Allied Commanders; a tour of the **D-Day Museum** in Portsmouth; and walks along the emotionally charged **beaches of Normandy**, including the nearby American Cemetery.

Marvel at the stunning beauty of the 12th-century Benedictine monastery of **Mont Saint-Michel**, a UNESCO World Heritage Site that seemingly rises out of the sea, one of the most iconic examples of Gothic architecture in all of France.

Delve into the fascinating history of Paris during the occupation, including a guided tour through the new **Liberation of Paris Museum**, highlighting heroes of the French resistance and the liberation of the city from Nazi occupation in WWII.

Stay in **deluxe and memorable accommodations**

- 1 night at the 5-star Royal Horseguards Hotel on the banks of the River Thames
- 2 nights at The Spread Eagle, a historic boutique inn dating back to 1430 that served as Nazi commander Goering's headquarters after the invasion of England
- 3 nights at Chateau D'Audrieu, a magnificent 18th-century chateau on a grand estate between Caen and Bayeux in the heart of Normandy
- 2 nights at 5-star Hotel Pont Royal set in the midst of the stylish Saint-Germain area





ITINERARY

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22 /

MONDAY OCTOBER 23

HOME / LONDON, ENGLAND

Depart home on an overnight flight to London, arriving on October 23. Transfer independently to the historic 5-star Royal Horseguards Hotel, located in the heart of London on the banks of the River Thames. Enjoy the rest of the day to explore the city at leisure and recover from international flights.

ROYAL HORSEGUARDS HOTEL

TUESDAY OCTOBER 24

LONDON / WEST SUSSEX

Gather this morning for a welcome orientation and first lecture by Professor Silbey. Explore the nearby Churchill War Rooms for a curator-led tour of this historic underground complex that housed a British government command center throughout World War II. Depart London and stop at Chartwell, the country home of Winston Churchill for over 40 years, for lunch and a private tour of the estate. Continue to Midhurst, a charming town in West Sussex on the Rother River. Check in to The Spread Eagle, one of England's oldest inns and the headquarters for Nazi officer Goering after

the invasion of England. Enjoy a welcome a dinner in the inn's beautiful Jacobean Hall and hear about the inn's fascinating history.

THE SPREAD EAGLE (B,L,D)

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 25

PORTSMOUTH

Embark on an exploration of the Portsmouth area beginning with a visit to Southwick Park, General Eisenhower's D-Day headquarters. Continue to the Portsmouth Historic Dockyard for lunch and free time to explore several attractions, including the Royal Naval Museum and the famed ships Mary Rose, HMS Victory, and HMS Warrior. End the afternoon with a guided tour of the award-winning D-Day Museum. Return to Midhurst for an evening at leisure with an opportunity to dine independently in one of the town's many pubs and restaurants.

THE SPREAD EAGLE (B,L)

THURSDAY OCTOBER 26

**PORTSMOUTH / ENGLISH CHANNEL
CROSSING / BAYEUX, FRANCE**

Early this morning board a ferry bound for Normandy, relaxing and enjoying lunch independently on board while crossing the English Channel to Caen. Travel the short distance to Arromanches, a pleasant seaside town famous for the part it played





in the D-Day landings. Visit the Liberators Museum, the first museum built to present the timeline and events from June 6, 1944 onward in Normandy, and walk along Juno Beach and Gold Beach, two of the landing points for the Allied invasion. Check-in to Château d'Audrieu, a lovely 18th-century estate in the heart of Normandy and our base for the next three nights.

CHÂTEAU D'AUDRIEU (B,D)

FRIDAY OCTOBER 27 **NORMANDY D-DAY SITES**

Prepare for a full-day exploration of Normandy's D-Day sites beginning with Pointe du Hoc, where U.S. Rangers where U.S. Rangers scaled 100- foot high cliffs in order to destroy key German gun positions. Meander along the scenic Normandy coast to Omaha Beach, a crucial Allied landing site, and pay respect at the Normandy American Cemetery where the graves of 9,387 troops commemorate lives lost during the D-Day landings. Continue up the coast to Utah Beach, the Westernmost of the D-Day landing areas before heading inland to the strategically located Sainte Mère-Église, one of the first towns liberated during the invasion, for a visit to the outstanding Airborne Museum. Enroute to the Audrieu, stop in Carentan, where the attacking 101st Airborne Division landed by parachute on 6 June to capture this strategically important village from the German Wehrmacht.

CHÂTEAU D'AUDRIEU (B,D)



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28

MONT SAINT-MICHEL

Following a lecture by David Silbey, travel to the UNESCO-classified Mont Saint-Michel for a guided tour of the Gothic monastery and village, followed by free time on the island and lunch at leisure. Return by way of Avranches to see the General Patton Memorial, paying tribute to the U.S. general who liberated the town from the German army on July 31, 1944. Return to the Chateau for an evening at leisure with the option to go into Bayeux independently.

CHÂTEAU D'AUDRIEU (B,D)

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29

BAYEUX / PARIS

Spend the morning in Caen, first at the Caen Memorial, a state-of-the art museum dedicated to 20th-century history, followed by free time to explore and grab lunch at Caen's Sunday market, the most important market in Normandy. Drive to Paris, stopping en route to visit the newly renovated Liberation of Paris Museum. Partially located in an air raid shelter and above the Liberation of Paris underground headquarters, the museum re-opened in 2019 with state-of-the-art exhibits documenting life in Paris during World War II and the city's subsequent liberation. Check in to the 5-star Hôtel Pont Royal, ideally situated in the Saint-Germain-des-Prés district on the left bank of the Seine. Enjoy an evening at leisure to sample Paris' many fine cafes and restaurants.

HÔTEL PONT ROYAL (B,L)





MONDAY, OCTOBER 30

PARIS

Following a final lecture by David Silbey, embark on a special walking tour focused on Paris during the occupation, including a visit to the Musée des Invalides, the national military museum of France. Enjoy lunch and the afternoon at leisure in Paris before gathering at the hotel to walk to a nearby restaurant for a festive farewell dinner.

HÔTEL PONT ROYAL (B,D)

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 31

PARIS / HOME

After breakfast, transfer independently to Paris airports for flights home.

(B)



CORNELL'S TRAVEL AND SAFETY POLICY

While Cornell is pleased to facilitate travel opportunities for its alumni and friends with tour operators that specialize in high-quality educational travel, please be aware that Cornell does not conduct, manage or operate these travel experiences, or act as an agent for travelers interested in tours. Tour operators and travelers are responsible for making their own safety decisions concerning this travel, and, as a facilitator between travelers and the tour operators with whom travelers make arrangements for completing travel, Cornell's role and liability are strictly limited. Specific tour operator and national health and safety protocols will apply to each trip, and travelers should review all protocols and trip terms and conditions, including terms and conditions regarding cancellations, refunds, health and safety, and insurance prior to making a reservation. Cornell is not responsible for changes to trips or travel arrangements or for losses, expenses, damages, or injuries resulting from travel.

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO REGISTER,
CALL (888) 328-2089 OR EMAIL RES@CRITERIONTRAVEL.COM

PROGRAM RATES

Per Person sharing	\$8,790
Single Supplement	\$2,200

PROGRAM RATES INCLUDE

All accommodations, meals, transportation, and excursions as specified in the itinerary including eight nights in 5-star hotels • Comprehensive program of briefings, lectures, and presentations • Baggage handling • All gratuities to porters, wait staff, guides, and drivers for all group activities • Entrance fees • House wine, beer, and soft drinks with all group lunches and dinners • Complete packet of pre-departure information • Professional tour manager throughout the program

AIR ARRANGEMENTS

U.S. domestic and international airfare is not included in the program rates. Valerie Wilson Travel, Inc., can help with airline arrangements for this trip and can be reached at (877) 376-1754. You are also welcome to book your air transportation through your local travel agent, an online travel site, or the airline of your choice. Further information about making flight arrangements will be sent to confirmed participants.

WHAT TO EXPECT

We consider this program to be moderately active. Much of the touring is done by motorcoach, but some excursions may require standing for long periods of time and/or walks that range from one to three miles, often on uneven terrain where stairs may be unavailable or not have handrails. Daytime temperatures range from cool to mild, usually in the mid 60s F with cooler evenings, and rain is always a possibility. Participants should be fit and in active good health. As of publication, all participants and tour staff will be required to be fully vaccinated for SARS-COV-2 (COVID-19), plus follow safety/ sanitization protocols set forth by the tour operator, local staff, and host country laws. By forwarding the deposit for passage, the participant certifies that s/he does not have any physical or other limitation that would create a hazard for her/himself or other travelers.

GROUP SIZE

This exclusive program is limited to a maximum of 32 participants.

PROGRAM RATES DO NOT INCLUDE

U.S. domestic and international airfare • Passport/ visa expenses • Medical expenses, immunizations, and Covid-19 testing if required at time of travel • Travel and trip cancellation insurance • Airport arrival and departure transfers • Excursions that deviate from the scheduled tour options • Airline baggage charges • Meals not specified in the itinerary; dishes and beverages not part of the included meals; liquor or soft drinks except as noted • Laundry or dry cleaning • Telephone, fax, internet, and email charges • Room service • Other items of a personal nature

TRAVEL INSURANCE

Travel insurance for trip cancellation and interruption, medical problems, baggage loss and delay, etc., is highly recommended. Cancellation policies that apply to this expedition are included in this brochure. Information about travel insurance will be sent to confirmed participants.

A NOTE ABOUT RATES

Tour rates are based upon current fuel prices, currency values, taxes, tariffs, and a minimum number of participants. While we will do everything possible to maintain the listed prices, they are subject to change. If there are significant changes, details and costs will be advised prior to departure.

TERMS & CONDITIONS

Complete Terms and Conditions including Statement of Responsibility will be made available to you at time of registration, or in advance upon request. A signed “Terms & Conditions, Release from Liability, Assumption of Risk and Binding Arbitration Clause” is required from each applicant prior to participation on the tour.

RESERVATIONS & PAYMENTS

A deposit of \$1,000 per person is required to reserve space on this program. To register using a credit card, please call (888) 328-2089 or email res@criteriontravel.com. Final payment deadline is July 24, 2023. For those who register after July 24, 2023, full payment is due upon registration. Final payment must be made by check or bank transfer.

CANCELLATIONS & REFUNDS

Upon payment of the \$1,000 per person deposit, all reservations are subject to the cancellation provisions set forth below and by which the passenger agrees to be bound. Cancellations shall not be in effect until they are received in writing and confirmed by Criterion Travel. Deposits are refundable (less a \$250 per person admin fee) if written notice of cancellation is received within 30 days of booking; after that, deposits are 100% nonrefundable. For cancellations after final payment deadline: All payments are 100% nonrefundable, regardless of booking date. Trip cancellation insurance is strongly recommended. NOTE: Neither Cornell University nor Criterion Travel, the tour operator, accepts liability for any airline cancellation penalties incurred with the purchase of non-refundable tickets.

ITINERARY CHANGES

The itinerary presented for this tour is subject to modification and change by Cornell University and Criterion Travel. Every reasonable effort will be made to operate the program as planned; however, should unforeseen world events and conditions require the itinerary to be altered, Cornell University and the tour operator reserve the right to do so for the safety and best interest of the group. Any extra expenses incurred in this situation are the responsibility of the participant.

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