

# NW EUROPE and the LIBERATION OF HOLLAND

Paris – Rouen – Caen – Juno Beach – Landing Beaches – Honfleur – Dieppe –  
Beaumont-Hamel – Vimy – Ypres – Scheldt Estuary – Bergen op Zoom – Arnhem –  
Katwijk – Otterlo – Groesbeek – Reichswald – Apeldoorn – Rotterdam – Amsterdam

April 25 – May 10, 2022 (16 days)



Canadian National Vimy Memorial © Carcharoth



Tulips, Keukenhof Gardens



Anniversary of the Liberation of Holland, Apeldoorn

## Highlights:

- See most of the great historical locations of two world wars, and follow in the footsteps of our Canadian veterans through Normandy, Belgium and Holland, accompanied by a military historian.
- Celebrate the much-anticipated 75+2 anniversary of VE Day, one of the most historic moments of our time, in Holland.
- Visit the war cemeteries of Bény-sur-Mer, Bretteville-sur-Laize, Dieppe, Tyne Cot, Adegem, Bergen op Zoom, Otterlo, Groesbeek and Reichswald.
- Explore the beautiful cities of Rouen, Caen, Honfleur, Dieppe, Ypres, Arnhem, Rotterdam and Amsterdam, and discover the magnificent Keukenhof Gardens, one of the largest flower gardens in the world.



**SPECIAL  
TRAVEL  
INTERNATIONAL**

**SPECIAL TRAVEL INTERNATIONAL**

4603 Main Street, Vancouver, BC V5V 3R6, Canada

Tel: 604-291 1332 or 1800-665 0998 Fax: 604-291 1378

Email: [sti@sticanada.com](mailto:sti@sticanada.com) website: [www.sticanada.com](http://www.sticanada.com)

# ITINERARY

## Day 1 / Mon, Apr 25: DEPART CANADA

Depart for France.

## Day 2 / Tue, Apr 26: ARRIVE PARIS

After arrival in **Paris**, transfer to your hotel. Remainder of the day at leisure to rest or explore the city.

## Day 3 / Wed, Apr 27: PARIS – ROUEN – CAEN

Depart the French capital and proceed to **Rouen**, city of Jeanne d'Arc, famous for its half-timbered houses.

Time for lunch before continuing to the coast. Stop at **Pegasus Bridge** prior to your arrival in **Caen**. (B,D)

## Day 4 / Thu, Apr 28: CAEN – JUNO BEACH – LANDING BEACHES – CAEN

Visit **Bény-sur-Mer** Canadian War Cemetery. In Courseulles-sur-Mer, discover the **Juno Beach Centre**, a permanent memorial to all Canadians who served during WWI.

This afternoon travel along **Normandy's landing beaches** where parts of the Mulberry Harbour are still visible. (B,D)

## Day 5 / Fri, Apr 29: CAEN

This morning explore the impressive **Caen Memorial Museum**, Normandy's greatest museum, also known as the Centre for History and Peace. Lunch at leisure in Caen.

Embark on a tour of the surrounding areas of Audrieu, Putot-en-Bessin and past Carpiquet Airfield, stopping at the **Ardenne Abbey**. (B,D)

## Day 6 / Sat, Apr 30: CAEN – FALAISE – CAEN

Drive to **Verrières Ridge** on your way to **Bretteville-sur-Laize** Canadian War Cemetery. Drive down the Falaise Gap to **Falaise**, birth place of William the Conqueror.



Canadian landings at Juno Beach on June 6, 1944  
Courtesy of Library and Archives Canada

Begin your return journey via Trun and St. Lambert-sur-Dive, where Major Currie earned the Victoria Cross. (B,D)

## Day 7 / Sun, May 1: CAEN – HONFLEUR – DIEPPE

Visit the picturesque seaside resort of **Honfleur**, from where Samuel de Champlain set sail for the New World.

In the afternoon continue on to **Dieppe**; visit the Canadian War Cemetery, the memorial at **Pourville** which marks the losses of the South Saskatchewan Regiment and Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders, as well as the small but meaningful museum run by the Jubilee Association. (B,D)

## Day 8 / Mon, May 2: DIEPPE – BEAUMONT-HAMEL – VIMY – YPRES

After a brief stop at Puys, proceed to the infamous WWI sites of the Somme. Start with **Beaumont-Hamel** and continue to Canada's magnificent National Historic site on Hill 70 at **Vimy**; visit its tunnels and learn about the battle that took place in April 1917 and is such an important milestone in Canada's history at the visitor centre.

End the day in **Ypres, Belgium**. If possible, take part in the Last Post Ceremony at the **Menin Gate** this evening. (B,D)

## Day 9 / Tue, May 3: YPRES – SCHELDT ESTUARY – ARNHEM

This morning explore the **Passchendaele Museum**, a worthy introduction to the war that engulfed the area for so many years. Travel through this hotly contested region which suffered WWI's first gas attacks. Visit **Tyne Cot Cemetery**, the largest Commonwealth War Graves Commission cemetery in the world, with 11,965 graves and a further 33,783 commemorated on the Memorial to the Missing. Stop at the St. Julien Canadian Monument with Vancouver Corner and the Canadian Cemetery at **Adegem**. Proceed northeast into the Scheldt Estuary, which was



Passchendaele Memorial Gardens © Visit Flanders

partly flooded during the war. Tracing the route of the Canadian Second Division back toward Arnhem, travel via the **Leopold Canal** on to Holland and see Breskens, Terneuzen, **Middelburg** and **Bergen op Zoom**. End the day in **Arnhem**, your home base for the next week. (B,D)

**Day 10 / Wed, May 4: ARNHEM – KATWIJK – ARNHEM**

Today join the locals in **Katwijk**, a seaside town at the mouth of the Rhine which once marked the northern border of the Roman empire. There will be a parade and wonderful local festivities as you celebrate their liberation in 1945. Return to Arnhem for dinner. (B,D)

**Day 11 / Thu, May 5: ARNHEM – OTTERLO – ARNHEM**

Today visit the nearby **Airborne Museum**, dedicated to the Battle of Arnhem. Time at leisure to explore **Arnhem**, location of the famous John Frost Bridge of the movie *A Bridge Too Far*. In the afternoon take a drive to the nearby village of **Otterlo**. (B,D)

**Day 12 / Fri, May 6: ARNHEM - GROESBEEK - REICHSWALD - ARNHEM**

Visit the Canadian cemetery at **Groesbeek** before driving to Germany. Explore **Reichswald** Forest War Cemetery, the largest WWII Commonwealth Cemetery. On your return journey, cross the Rhine at Rees-Bienen, where the Nova Scotia Highlanders of the 3rd Canadian Division crossed in April 1945. Dinner in Arnhem. (B,D)

**Day 13 / Sat, May 7: ARNHEM – AMSTERDAM – ARNHEM**

Full day excursion to **Amsterdam**. On arrival, embark on a canal cruise. Afternoon at leisure to further explore the Dutch capital on your own. You may wish to visit the Van Gogh's Museum, the

Rijksmuseum or Anne Frank's House. Late afternoon return to Arnhem. (B,D)

**Day 14 / Sun, May 8: ARNHEM – APELDOORN – ARNHEM**

Today join the main parade in honour of the Anniversary of the Liberation of Holland in **Apeldoorn**. Thousands of people line the streets to pay tribute to returning veterans, reconfirming the special ties that connect Holland and Canada. (B,D)

**Day 15 / Mon, May 9: ARNHEM – ROTTERDAM – AMSTERDAM**

Depart Arnhem and drive to **Rotterdam**. Enjoy a cruise of the largest seaport in Europe. See Rotterdam's impressive skyline with its imposing buildings glide by, and get a unique view of the harbour's shipyards, docks and the hypermodern transshipping of thousands of containers.

This afternoon visit the famous **Keukenhof Gardens** and experience the full glory of tulip fields in bloom. Late afternoon arrival in the **Amsterdam** area. Join fellow travellers for a farewell dinner. (B,D)

**Day 16 / Tue, May 10: DEPART AMSTERDAM – ARRIVE CANADA**

Transfer to Amsterdam Airport Schiphol for your flight(s) home. (B)

Minor adjustments may need to be made to our programme due to the scheduling of local events and security arrangements for ceremonies.



## TOUR COSTS in CAD

Per person, based on twin occupancy:

<b>From Vancouver</b>	<b>\$5,190</b>
<b>From Toronto/Montreal</b>	<b>\$4,990</b>
<b>From Ottawa/Halifax</b>	<b>\$5,090</b>
<b>From Calgary/Edmonton/ Saskatoon/Regina/Winnipeg</b>	<b>\$5,190</b>
<b>Single supplement</b>	<b>\$1,500</b>
<b>Land only (if booking your own flights)</b>	<b>\$4,390</b>

## INCLUDED

- Return economy airfare  
Canada – Paris; Amsterdam – Canada
- Accommodation in superior tourist class hotels
- Meals as per itinerary  
(B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner)
- Private air-conditioned coach transportation
- Comprehensive sightseeing incl. military historian,  
local guides and admission fees as per itinerary
- Special events and commemorations
- Hotel portorage (where available)
- Local taxes and service charges
- Gratuities for drivers and guides

## NOT INCLUDED

- Air taxes (vary by gateway)
- Travel insurance  
(please contact our office for a quote)
- Drinks with meals
- Items of a personal nature



# RESERVATION FORM

**NW EUROPE and the LIBERATION OF HOLLAND**

**April 25-May 10, 2022**

**Please fill out this form in full and mail it with your deposit of \$600.00 and travel insurance payment for each traveller. Travel insurance is optional but recommended. Please write name(s) exactly as listed in passport (e.g.: William, not 'Bill').**

TRAVELLER #1		TRAVELLER #2	
Mr/Mrs/Ms	First name	Mr/Mrs/Ms	First name
	Middle name(s)		Middle name(s)
	Last name		Last name
Date of birth:	dd/mmm/yyyy	Date of birth:	dd/mmm/yyyy
City + country of birth:		City + country of birth:	
Passport #:		Passport #:	
Passport expiry date:	dd/mmm/yyyy	Passport expiry date:	dd/mmm/yyyy
Passport issuing country:		Passport issuing country:	
Preferred first name (for name tag):		Preferred first name (for name tag):	

## ADDRESS

Street:	
City:	Province/State:
Postal code:	Country:
Cell #:	Home #:
Email:	
Accommodation:	<input type="checkbox"/> Single <input type="checkbox"/> Double <input type="checkbox"/> Twin <input type="checkbox"/> Sharing with:
Seating preference on aircraft:	<input type="checkbox"/> Aisle <input type="checkbox"/> Window
Special dietary meal request:	(where available)
Next of kin (in case of emergency):	Phone #:

## TRAVEL INSURANCE (to be purchased at time of deposit)

<input type="checkbox"/> All Inclusive <input type="checkbox"/> Trip Cancellation <input type="checkbox"/> Declined
Amount of premium: \$ .....

## PAYMENT

<input type="checkbox"/> Please make cheques payable to: <b>SPECIAL TRAVEL INTERNATIONAL</b> 4603 Main Street Vancouver, BC V5V 3R6 Canada Tel: 604-291-1332 or 1800-665-0998
<input type="checkbox"/> Visa / MasterCard / American Express (a 2% service fee applies to payments made by credit card)
Card #:
Expiry date:
Name on card:
Amount to be charged: \$ .....

**I acknowledge that I have read and agree to the terms and conditions outlined in the brochure.**

**SIGNATURE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

# FACTS YOU SHOULD KNOW

## RESERVATIONS AND PAYMENT:

\$600 pp deposit due at time of booking  
2nd installment of \$600 pp due by December 17, 2021  
Balance due by February 25, 2022  
Tour documents will be sent to you approximately 14 days prior to your trip departure, provided full payment has been received.

## TOUR PRICES:

All tour prices for land arrangements are based on rates effective at the time of printing and are expected to be in effect at the time of departure. Should these rates change, it may be necessary to surcharge the price of your vacation. Should the tour price increase by more than 10%, the passenger shall have the right to cancel within seven days of notification without penalty.

## CANCELLATION AND REFUNDS:

Notice of cancellation must be made in writing. The effective cancellation date is the date when written notification is received by Special Travel International (hereafter called STI).

**Due to the current COVID-19 crisis, we have put in place a special scale of charges in case of cancellation, to protect the traveller as much as possible:**

Until Dec 16, 2021	\$300
Dec 17, 2021 – Jan 24, 2022	\$600
Jan 25 – Feb 24, 2022	\$1,200
From Feb 25, 2022	100%

(a cancellation/interruption insurance policy should be purchased to cover these cancellation charges)

**We are also offering the following consideration: if you cancel PRIOR to January 25, 2022, YOU may find a traveller to take your place on the tour, and only forfeit \$300 (instead of \$600).**

*NB: different payment/cancellation policies apply to airline tickets; you will be advised at time of booking.*

## TRAVEL INSURANCE:

STI strongly recommends that each tour participant has health, cancellation, interruption, accident and baggage insurance for the duration of his/her travels. Travel insurance companies are offering packages that include Cancellation and/or Medical coverage should you fall ill before or during your trip. Premiums are based on the age of the traveller(s). Should you be unable to travel because of contracting COVID-19, or ANY other insurable reason, you will be entitled to compensation by your travel insurance company.

**COVID-19 consideration: Some insurance companies offer an optional add-on benefit allowing you to cancel for ANY reason. These specific CANCEL FOR ANY REASON (CFAR) policies will reimburse you up to 80% of your monies, depending on when you cancel. Cost of the premium is usually about 25% higher than a standard insurance policy.** CFAR policies can only be purchased at the time of booking your trip. Standard policies (All Inclusive / Cancellation / Medical) can be purchased later – at the time the 2nd payment is due, for instance. Please note travel insurance does not cover everything. It is designed to cover losses arising from sudden and unforeseeable circumstances due to emergencies. For further details, please call our office or an insurance company specialized in travel insurance.

## TRAVEL DOCUMENTS, VISAS AND VACCINES:

It is entirely the passenger's responsibility to possess whatever documents, visas and vaccines are required by the law of the countries visited on the tour.

**RESPONSIBILITY AND LIABILITY:** STI acts only as an agent in securing all services related to the tours described in this brochure, including transportation, sightseeing and accommodation. STI shall not be responsible or liable for any loss, cost, damage, injury, delay or expense arising from the use of any conveyance, accommodation or service or from acts of God, strikes, weather, quarantine, accidents, sickness, government regulations, insufficient documents and any loss expense resulting from the above contingencies shall be borne by the tour member. In the event it becomes necessary or advisable for the comfort of the passenger, or for any reason whatsoever, to alter the itinerary or arrangements, such alterations may be made without penalty to the operators. Additional expense, if any, shall be borne by the passenger. The right is reserved to withdraw any or all tours should conditions warrant, and also to decline to accept or retain any passenger as a member of the tour. In such instances, full or equitable amounts will be refunded.

## AIRLINE RESPONSIBILITY:

Any air carrier providing transportation in connection with these tours is not to be held responsible for any act, omission or event during the time the passenger is not on board its planes. The passenger contract in use by the airlines concerned, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the airline and the purchase of these tours and/or passenger. Similar responsibility as noted applies to all types of carriers, including car rental companies.



**SPECIAL  
TRAVEL  
INTERNATIONAL**

**SPECIAL TRAVEL INTERNATIONAL** BC Reg #23625  
4603 Main Street, Vancouver, BC V5V 3R6, Canada  
Tel: 604-291 1332 or 1800-665 0998 Fax: 604-291 1378  
Email: sti@sticanada.com website: www.sticanada.com