The 76th Anniversary of D-Day
“The Longest Day,” “Saving Private Ryan” and “Band of Brothers” are but a few of the dramatizations that have highlighted the heroism of D-Day over the years. From Churchill’s War Rooms in London to the fortified cliffs of Pointe du Hoc in France, we invite you to retrace the first steps in the historic liberation of France. This specially curated journey tells the story of the battle for France, from the planning grounds of England, where the complex campaign for freeing Western Europe from the Nazis was hammered out, to the landing beaches of Normandy, where the fruits of that labor played out for the world to see. The final resting places of hundreds of Allied soldiers tell a story of duty and bravery by all who fought in the largest amphibious landing in history. The 76th-anniversary observance of June 6, 1944, is a vivid reminder of a time when the fate of Europe hung in the balance of a single battle.
DAY 1  Preparing for Battle
Arrive in London and transfer to your centrally located hotel. In the early afternoon, meet your journalist-host and fellow Los Angeles Times Expedition travelers for a guided tour of the Churchill Museum, an interactive collection exploring Churchill’s 90-year life, as well as the Cabinet War Rooms. The War Rooms, located below Westminster and protected from German aerial bombings due to their underground location, are where Churchill directed the British war effort. This “safe place” contains maps, telephones and bunks that have been preserved since 1945. This evening, attend a welcome reception and dinner. (R, D)

DAY 2  Code Breakers
Travel today to Bletchley Park, home of the first machines designed to break German code. Gain an in-depth perspective of this top-secret location as you learn how the machines, called the Bombe and the Enigma, were created and used by the British during World War II. They are credited with shortening the war by successfully deciphering the encryption used by the German Wehrmacht to safeguard its messages. (The life of their inventor, Alan Turing, was dramatized in “The Imitation Game.”) After lunch at a local pub, visit the HMS Belfast. Launched in 1938, the Belfast almost immediately went to war, hunting down enemy raiders and protecting the Allied convoys in the North Atlantic. It led an expedition force at Normandy on D-Day and was preparing to join the battle in the Pacific when the war ended. The ship last saw action in the Korean War and returned home permanently in 1962. This evening, dinner is on your own. (B, L)

DAY 3  Across to France
Today travel south to Portsmouth. Just outside Portsmouth, visit the Map Room at Southwick House (subject to confirmation) and see where Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower made the historic decision to launch Operation Overlord. At the D-Day Museum, examine the Overlord Embroidery — a stunning, 270-foot handcrafted depiction of D-Day events. Then cross the English Channel by ferry and arrive in Normandy in the late evening. (B, L, D)

EXPEDITION EXPERT
Scott Kraft
As managing editor, Scott Kraft is responsible for The Times’ overall news coverage, overseeing the Metro, California, National, Washington and Foreign sections as well as investigative and enterprise reporting projects. He came to The Times from the Associated Press, where he was a national correspondent based in New York and a 1984 Pulitzer Prize finalist in feature writing.

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DAY 4  By Air and Sea

Explore the village of Sainte-Mère-Église, where the 82nd and 101st Airborne Division paratroopers dropped from the sky in a rain of gunfire on the night of June 5. View the church steeple upon which one unlucky paratrooper was entangled for hours and visit the village’s Airborne Museum. Stop for lunch at Le Roosevelt, a restaurant built around a former German bunker just steps from Utah Beach. Stand on Utah Beach, site of one of the two American amphibious landings in the early hours of D-Day. Time permitting, visit the German war cemetery at La Cambe. (B, L, D)

DAY 5  Remembrance

This morning, visit one of the most dramatic sites along the Normandy coastline, Pointe du Hoc, where U.S. Rangers used hooks and ropes to scale cliffs some 100 feet high to destroy key German gun positions. Walk along clifftop pathways still cratered by mortar blasts and venture into the concrete bunkers from which German forces unleashed a barrage of artillery fire. Then travel to the American military cemetery in Colleville-sur-Mer, where we will lay a wreath in honor of the brave men and women who gave their lives for our freedom. Afterward continue to the Overlord Museum, which chronicles the two months between the invasion and the liberation of Paris, then walk on Omaha Beach, site of the bloodiest fighting of D-Day. (B, D)
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DAY 6  Honor and Sacrifice
This morning, visit Pegasus Memorial bridge and museum, dedicated to the men of the 6th British Airborne Division. Hear a private talk by the director of the museum, then tour the exhibits that recount the battle in 1944 for this strategic location. Travel to Bayeux, and take a guided tour of the Bayeux Tapestry. Have lunch in Bayeux and explore the city. This evening, attend a farewell reception and dinner with your fellow travelers. (B, R, D)

DAY 7  Bound for Home
After breakfast, transfer to Charles de Gaulle Airport in Paris for individual flights home or onward. (B)

ACCOMMODATIONS

2 NIGHTS  The Bloomsbury Hotel  - London
The Bloomsbury Hotel is perfectly located on a quiet street in the heart of literary London, a short distance from the theater and shopping districts. Rooms evoke a sense of period charm blended with contemporary chic and feature comfortable beds, sumptuous armchairs to relax in and Italian marble bathrooms with heated floors. Located in the hotel, the Landseer Restaurant and Bar offers high-quality British cuisine throughout the day and also serves a delightful afternoon tea daily. Complimentary Wi-Fi is provided throughout the hotel.

4 NIGHTS  Le Grand Hôtel  Cabourg-Normandy
The stately Le Grand Hôtel Cabourg, immortalized by writer Marcel Proust, has been an iconic presence on the Cabourg seafront since 1907. It is one of the only luxury hotels on the Normandy coast with direct beachfront access. While you will be within walking distance of several restaurants, we highly recommend enjoying dinner at the hotel’s gourmet restaurant, Le Balbec.

The renovated rooms feature modern romantic decor with clean lines and rich colors. Room amenities include plasma televisions, minibars, tea, coffee and mineral water, C.O. Bigelow toiletries and complimentary Wi-Fi.
DATES & PRICING

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**Meal Key:** B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner, T=Tasting, R=Reception

**LAND COST**

Prices are listed in U.S. dollars and are based on a person sharing a room with another. Although we do our best to maintain the listed price, because our prices are set over a year in advance, we reserve the right to increase costs due to circumstances beyond our control, tariffs, taxes and VAT received after prices are published and to reflect fluctuations in foreign exchange markets. The land cost is based on a minimum number of guests as described on the trip page.

**WHAT IS INCLUDED**

- Comprehensive educational program by content experts and professional on-site guides
- All accommodations and meals as outlined in the itinerary
- All ground transportation within the itinerary unless otherwise indicated
- All sightseeing as specified in the itinerary
- Entrance fees
- Gratuities to porters, drivers and guides for all included arrangements
- The assistance of an ATA expedition manager for comprehensive logistical and customer service management on the expedition
- Wireless listening devices
- The assistance of an ATA professional travel team to assist with pre-trip questions, travel arrangements, including flights, extra hotel nights or other services
- Comprehensive pre-departure information about the destination and what to expect on the expedition, including a suggested reading list
- Transfers to and from airports for those arriving or departing according to the designated itinerary (exceptions may apply)

**WHAT IS NOT INCLUDED**

- U.S. domestic or international airfare or other transportation from your home to the departure point of the trip and from the end point of the trip to your home
- Travel and trip cancellation insurance
- Passport, visa, airport departure and baggage fees
- Meals not specified in the itinerary, and food and beverages not part of the included meals
- Personal items such as telephone, fax and internet charges, laundry, room service and alcoholic or other beverages not specified as included
- Gratuities for non-group services
- Expenses you may incur resulting from delays due to bad weather, road conditions, sickness, government action and flight delays
- Expenses incurred in making individual travel arrangements in conjunction with the trip, and sightseeing not included in the itinerary

**BOOK NOW**  
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(Monday-Friday, 7 a.m.-5 p.m. PT)

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