

**What: Press trip**  
**Where: Normandy**  
**When: 4-7 June 2018**  
**Theme: D-Day and the Battle of Normandy**

Introduction:

On behalf of the Liberation Route Europe Foundation, I hereby invite you to join us on a press trip to Normandy in June 2018. It is a great opportunity for you to look forward to the important remembrance years 2019 and 2020, during which Europe commemorates the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of liberation and the end of WWII.

A broad consortium of international partners is supporting 'Europe Remembers 1944-1945', an international public campaign dedicated to this 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Part of this campaign will be the development of the online portal [www.euoperemembers.com](http://www.euoperemembers.com). From the end of May 2018, this portal will reach out to a potential of 25 million people around the world who are interested in visiting Europe for the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of WWII.

The upcoming press trip will focus on some of the annual commemorative events in Normandy, as well as the places of interest and remains of the war in the area. Besides this, we will visit several museums and monuments that are dedicated to D-Day and the Battle of Normandy. Please note that:

- *We will cover the costs for your travel and stay (3 nights)*
- *We aim to travel with a group of 4-7 participants from various countries*
- *You are kindly requested to mention the Europe Remembers campaign in your publication*
- *Please also mention us on your social media channels as well:*
  - *Hashtags: #euoperemembers  
#liberationroute*
  - *Users: @euoperemembers  
@liberationroute*

In case you want to sign up for the press trip, or wish to have more information, do not hesitate to contact me. Please bear in mind that the program below is a draft and therefore subject to change.

With kind regards,

Jeroen van Wieringen

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**Program (draft):**

June 4 (Monday)

- Morning - Arrival in Paris
- Morning - Transfer to Normandy
- Afternoon - Lunch
- Afternoon - Arrival in Normandy. Check into hotel (Carentan or nearby city)
- Afternoon - Transfer to Utah Beach Museum:  
<http://www.utah-beach.com/museum/?lang=en>  
*Built on the very beach where the first American troops landed on June 6, 1944, the Utah Beach Museum recounts the story of D-Day in 10 sequences, from the preparation of the landing, to the final outcome and success. This comprehensive chronological journey immerses visitors in the history of the landing through a rich collection of objects, vehicles, materials, and oral histories.*
- Afternoon - Visit Utah Beach Museum and nearby beach
- Evening - Transfer to Sainte-Mere-Église  
<http://en.normandie-tourisme.fr/sainte-mere-eglise-565-2.html>  
*Quaint, quiet Sainte-Mère-Eglise became involved in one of the greatest exploits in military history in the night of 5 to 6 June 1944, as D-Day began. American parachutists were being dropped all around the area, and in the village itself.*
- Evening - Dinner at Sainte-Mere-Église
- Evening - Return to hotel

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June 5 (Tuesday)

- Morning - Check out of hotel and transfer to German War Cemetery at La Cambe  
<https://liberationroute.com/france/spots/l/la-cambe-german-military-cemetery>  
*The cemetery of La Cambe is located near Omaha Beach. With around 21.200 graves it is the largest and best known German military cemetery in Normandy. In contrast to the Allied cemeteries, the setting is simple and sober, creating a serenity that urges the living to live in peace.*
- Morning - Visit to German War Cemetery at La Cambe
- Morning - Transfer to Vierville-sur-Mer (Omaha Beach & Pointe du Hoc)  
<https://liberationroute.com/france/pois/o/omaha-beach>  
*Omaha is the most renowned of the five landing beaches of D-Day, 6 June 1944. On this 6-km-long beach the U.S. troops had to deal with German defences that were still virtually intact. They suffered heavy losses and came close to disaster.*

- Morning - Visit Omaha Beach & Pointe du Hoc
- Afternoon - Lunch near Omaha Beach
- Afternoon - Transfer to Normandy American Cemetery  
<https://liberationroute.com/france/spots/n/normandy-american-cemetery>  
*The impressive American Military Cemetery of Colleville-sur-Mer contains the remains of 9.387 American soldiers who fell during the Battle of Normandy. The cemetery reflects and honors the sacrifices that the USA made for the liberation of Europe. From this point one can overlook Omaha Beach, the deadliest landing beach of Operation Overlord (D-Day).*
- Afternoon - Visit American War Cemetery near Colville-sur-Mer
- Afternoon - Transfer to Bayeux
- Afternoon - Check into hotel Bayeux
- Evening - Transfer to Arromanches  
<https://liberationroute.com/france/pois/t/the-artificial-harbor-of-arromanches>  
*While preparing for Operation Overlord, the Allied strategists decided they needed two artificial, pre-fabricated ports in Normandy. These were considered essential for bringing reinforcements and equipment to the Continent. The remains of the port of Arromanches are still visible today as silent witnesses to this bold gamble and stunning technical achievement.*
- Evening - Dinner and beach visit Arromanches
- Evening - Return to hotel

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June 6 (Wednesday)

- Morning - Transfer to Juno Beach Centre  
<https://www.junobeach.org/>  
*The Juno Beach Centre is Canada's Second World War museum and cultural centre located in Normandy, France. The Centre pays homage to the 45,000 Canadians who lost their lives during the War, of which 5,500 were killed during the Battle of Normandy and 359 on D-Day. Opened in 2003 by veterans and volunteers with a vision to create a permanent memorial to all Canadians who served during the Second World War, the Centre's mandate is to preserve this legacy for future generations through education and remembrance.*
- Morning - Attend official D-Day commemoration at Juno Beach Centre
- Morning - Visit Juno Beach Centre

- Afternoon - Lunch near Juno Beach Centre / Canada House  
<http://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/la-maison-des-canadiens/>  
*"La Maison des Canadiens," or Canada House, is one of the most iconic buildings in Canadian military history. It was one of the first houses liberated by Canadian soldiers on D-Day, 6 June 1944, and has since become a familiar historic landmark, standing in the backdrop of the many black-and-white photographs showing troops landing on the sands of this village in Normandy.*
- Afternoon - Transfer to Ouistreham
- Afternoon - Visit area of Sword Beach (Ouistreham)  
<https://liberationroute.com/france/pois/s/sword-beach>  
*Sword was the code-name for the easternmost of the five landing beaches in Normandy. Reinforced by commandos and supported by specially adapted tanks, the 3rd British Infantry Division landed here. The men were to gather up with the 6th Airborne Division and capture Caen. This last objective was finally achieved a month later on 9 July.*
- Afternoon - Return to hotel / Return to Paris
- Evening - Dinner at hotel / flight or train home
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### **June 7 (Thursday)**

- Morning - Check out of hotel and return to Paris