



79th INFANTRY DIVISION

NORMANDY / LORRAINE TOUR from PARIS to BRUSSELS

SEPT 14 - 22 2009

A message from your Tour Guide Patrick Hinchy

When Doc Long (315th Regt) and his family asked me to take them back to Normandy and Lorraine again for the 65th Anniversary, we never could have guessed what a wonderful program of celebrations and ceremonies our French friends in Normandy and Lorraine were going to arrange for us! Our friends in France feel in their hearts that this really is going to be the last chance for us all to get together, because time marches on. They very much want other 79th Division veterans, their families and friends to come back too if possible, and they extend a warm welcome to all of you!

Our local friends, Regis Giard and Claude Dahan have helped me arrange the Normandy program, highlighting Utah Beach, Cherbourg, La Haye du Puits and Lessay where Regis is arranging a special 79th Division exhibition for us. Claude Dahan and the people of Epône plan a big welcome for us close to where the 79th Division made the historic first Allied crossing of the River Seine. In Lorraine I am working closely with the town of Lunéville, Gerard Bazin, president of the Lorraine Battle Memorial, and Philippe Sugg, former French soldier and local military expert. All are great friends of the 79th Division and some of you know them already.

In Lunéville, the 65th Anniversary Liberation ceremonies, festivities and battlefield visits will extend over three days. Today's US Army will be officially represented accompanied by a color guard and the French Army will give a banquet. Hundreds of local school children as well as the townspeople will take part. The people of Ancerville will welcome us where Doc Long fought and was wounded. A new monument to 314th's heroic action at Fraimbois will be dedicated. And much more. From Lunéville we go to Luxembourg with its US Cemetery where General Patton is buried, and then to the Belgian and European capital Brussels with our Farewell Dinner in the beautiful, historic Grand Place. This is going to be a very special, historic and memorable tour both for the 79th Division and for the French.

If you want to come, please don't wait too long to register your place on the tour. This 65th Anniversary is developing into a very large and important festival in Lunéville because so many veterans from other divisions now also want to come. Lunéville hotel rooms have become scarce. We have already reserved good hotel rooms in Lunéville but once our allocation is used up, it may be difficult to get more. So do register soon, if you can come.

Registration is easy. Simply fax or mail a copy of the Registration Form in this document with your details to Céline Renaudeau of our French travel agency CRIV Voyages (contact details on the Registration Form). Céline is in charge of our tour at CRIV Voyages. She is fluent in English. CRIV Voyages organized Doc Long's previous family tour to France and provided excellent service. If you have any booking queries or requests, do email Céline at criv@editions-lariviere.fr or fax her at 011 33 836 418 181 (simpler than telephoning to France.)

Remember, if you have any general questions about the tour; do email me in Europe at patrick@libertyroad.com. I have also discussed the tour in detail with Doris Davis, editor of the *BOOGIE* 315th Regt's magazine. Doris is a 79th Division veteran's daughter and an experienced veterans tour participant. She has kindly offered her help to you either by email at dordavis@earthlink.net or by telephone (650) 654-0101 or cellphone (650) 430 1595 PST (California).

I am really delighted and honored to be able to guide what is going to be a very special tour and am looking forward to seeing many old friends again. I sincerely hope you can join us.

Best wishes to all of you

Patrick



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*Céline Renaudeau of CRIV Voyages and Patrick Hinchy
welcome the 79th Division to Europe.*

FLIGHTS:

Everyone arranges, books and pays for their own **flights to Paris CDG and from Brussels BRU**. The tour starts 10 AM (local time) **MON SEPT 14** at our Paris CDG rendezvous where Patrick meets us. So try and ensure that you **arrive Paris CDG around 8 AM (local time) MON SEPT 14**. Most transatlantic flights do. The tour finishes on **TUE SEPT 22** at **Brussels BRU** (Zaventem) airport. Patrick takes us there in the morning by coach for our return flights.

MEALS:

B FULL BREAKFAST **L** LUNCH **D** DINNER

The tour includes 8 breakfasts, 4 lunches, 4 dinners. It is intended that a full breakfast and a main meal (either lunch or dinner) is included each day. But on the traveling day from Versailles to Luneville (Day 5, Thu Sept 17), there is no included main meal. However on Day 6, Fri Sept 18, in Luneville, there is an included lunch and banquet dinner. There will always be water to drink at meals. Wine and beer, etc. can be bought separately. Sometimes wine (and other drinks) may be included.

PORTERAGE:

No luggage portorage in the airports and hotels is included but it will usually be available if required at the usual portorage rates.

Itinerary

PRE-TOUR DAY

Sunday Sept 13


USA – IN AIR (OR PRE-TOUR STAY IN PARIS)

*Our tour officially begins tomorrow morning Monday Sept 14 at 10 AM (local time) from Paris CDG and we depart immediately for Normandy where a special ceremony with taps is scheduled for us at the famous **Normandy American Cemetery above Omaha Beach**. If you arrive late tomorrow, Céline will help you to go to Normandy by train to meet up with us. If you are worried about arriving late tomorrow, why not plan to arrive in **Paris** today (Sunday Sept 13) or even earlier. Then you will also have some time to explore and enjoy **Paris** since we shall not be stopping there during the tour. Just tell Céline on your Registration Form and she will book you the extra hotel night(s) in Paris which are not part of the tour. It is what Doc Long and his family are going to do.*

*If you are in Paris today, you are officially invited with Doc Long's family to the Sunday afternoon **Veterans Ceremony** at the **Arc de Triomphe** at which **Doc Long** has the honor of laying a wreath at the **Tomb of the Unknown Soldier**. Other **79th Division veterans** will be able to accompany him.*

Day 1 - Monday Sept 14

PARIS – LA ROCHE GUYON – GIVERNY – OMAHA BEACH – LESSAY

Our tour officially starts today at 10 AM at Paris CDG. We all rendezvous with Patrick at an easily accessible Paris CDG airport hotel. Full details will be in your Final Documents which Céline will send you. Multilingual Patrick with an Oxford masters degree is one of the most experienced veterans tour guides in Europe and has been recently commissioned to write a book on 1944 Normandy. From Paris CDG we drive by coach along the beautiful River Seine valley past the magnificent renaissance chateau of **La Roche Guyon** which was Field Marshal Rommel's Normandy HQ but also a secret meeting place of the anti-Hitler conspirators, and **Giverny** where Monet the most famous Impressionist lived and painted. Passing 1000 year old **Caen** which was almost completely destroyed just after D-Day, we visit **Omaha Beach** and the beautiful, peaceful **Normandy American Military Cemetery** which overlooks it. A special wreath-laying ceremony with taps is scheduled for us. Then on to **Lessay** liberated by the 79th Division. A welcome dinner with Lessay friends and a special exhibition about the 79th Division in Normandy arranged by our local friend and Normandy military expert **Regis Giard**. Overnight in the Brit Hotel, Lessay. 

Day 2 - Tuesday Sept 15

LESSAY – UTAH BEACH – CHERBOURG – LA HAYE DE PUIITS – LESSAY


With his expert local knowledge and contacts, Regis has helped Patrick to plan a wonderful day with a warm welcome everywhere. Firstly we go to **Utah Beach** where 79th Division landed on D+8 (June 14 1944), then via **Ste Mère Église** up to the great port of **Cherbourg** where we have an official reception and lunch. The 79th Division first went into action on June 26 1944, storming the formidable stronghold of Fort du Roule which led to the fall of **Cherbourg** and the capture of 6,000 German prisoners.

It earned the 79th Division its first battle citation of World War II. But despite this great success, the Germans continued to keep the US forces bottled up on the **Cotentin Peninsula**, north of the marshes across its base. Only on the western side was there firm dry land. Here the 79th Division broke the impasse, after fierce house-to-house fighting, in and around **La Haye du Puits** over six days from July 3 to 9 1944. We return from **Cherbourg** via **Orglandes** German Cemetery to **La Haye du Puits**, for an official reception and wreath-laying ceremony at the 79th Division monument. Free evening. Hotel as above.



Day 3 - Wednesday Sept 16

LESSAY – ROSNY – EPÔNE – VERSAILLES

The German defensive line along the marshes in the west of Normandy which had given the Americans so much trouble, finally collapsed after a massive American air attack to the west of **St Lô** on July 25 1944. This was Operation Cobra when the American forces finally and unstopably broke through southwards towards Avranches and Brittany. Then they swept round eastwards towards the **River Seine** and the **Paris** region, catching the Germans in the **Falaise Pocket**. From Lessay we follow the 79th Division's path southwards down the pretty Normandy west coast and then eastwards to the River Seine. It was the 79th Division which established the first Allied bridgehead across the Seine at **Rosny** just west of Paris and we will see where. Claude Dahan and local French friends will give us a great reception in nearby **Epône**. Our hotel tonight is in Versailles, close to the magnificent 17th century palace of King Louis XIV. 

Day 4 - Thursday Sept 17

VERSAILLES – REIMS – LUNÉVILLE

We will have a magical opportunity to admire Versailles Palace and gardens in the quiet early morning before the tourist crowds arrive. Then we drive through famous old **World War I battlefields** with **Belleau Wood** and **Chateau-Thierry** where the original American doughboys

stopped the final German offensive in 1918. We visit the historic champagne and cathedral city of **Reims** where in World War II the Germans surrendered on May 8 1945 in SHAEF Forward HQ in the "little red schoolhouse" which we will see. It is still a school today, but not so little. From there we drive into **Lorraine** for three days of 65th Anniversary celebrations, moving commemorative ceremonies and battlefield visits. Hotels in Lunéville. **B**

Day 5 - Friday Sept 18

LUNÉVILLE

Today **Lunéville** celebrates in grand style the 65th anniversary of its liberation and we are among its guests of honor. We will be received by the Mayor of Lunéville in the City Hall. A new monument will be dedicated to the **314th Regt** courageous battle action at **Fraimbois** on the outskirts of Lunéville and a city square will be dedicated to **General Patch** of **Seventh Army**. Then a celebratory lunch in **Lunéville**. In the afternoon is all the pageantry of the main 65th Anniversary commemorative celebrations in Lunéville's central square. Important American and French dignitaries will be present. The day finishes with an evening banquet in the French military garrison. Hotels in Lunéville. **B L D**

Day 6 - Saturday Sept 19

LUNÉVILLE – ANCERVILLER – PARROY FOREST – EMBERMENIL – LEINTREY – LUNÉVILLE

We devote today to the 79th Division's bloody battles east of **Lunéville** as it fought the **German Fifth Panzer Army** counter-attack in the fall of 1944 against the flank of **General Patton's Third Army** which was advancing eastwards towards Germany and joining up with **General Patch's Seventh Army** advancing from the south of France. This morning we concentrate on the individual soldier's war and explore the 79th Division battlefield around **Ancerville** near **Blamont** where **Doc Long (315th)** was in hard combat and was wounded. Our local expert military friend Philippe Sugg,

is helping Patrick arrange this visit with **Jean Mohler** and the people of **Ancerville**. Lunch in **Lunéville**. In the afternoon we visit the 79th Division's battlefields in **Parroy Forest**, **Leintrey** and **Embermenil** with its memorial to **Captain Alexander Patch**. The son of Seventh Army's **General Patch**, he was a 79th Division company commander, killed in action in Embermenil on October 22, 1944. Hotels in **Lunéville**. **B L**

Day 7 - Sunday Sept 20

LUNÉVILLE – ARRACOURT – HAMM – LUXEMBOURG

This morning there is a 65th Anniversary commemorative Mass in the **Lunéville** Basilica. Afterwards we go to **Arracourt** for a ceremony at the main Sherman tank monument of the **Lorraine Battle Memorial Association** whose president is our great friend **Gerard Bazin**. We commemorate the 65th Anniversary of Europe's greatest tank battle September 19 – 22, 1944 which occurred during the German **Fifth Panzer Army's** unsuccessful counter-attack against **Patton's Third Army**. We have lunch with the local people in **Arracourt**. Then we drive northwards to see the beautiful **Hamm American Cemetery** in **Luxembourg City**. **General Patton** is buried there. Our hotel is Novotel Kirchberg, Luxembourg City. **B L**

Day 8 - Monday Sept 21

LUXEMBOURG – BRUSSELS

In the morning we drive from Luxembourg across Belgium to **Brussels**, capital of Belgium and main capital of the European Union. In the afternoon, we have city sightseeing and then free time in this fascinating and historic city. Our Farewell dinner is in Brussels's Grand Place, one of the most beautiful and historic squares of Europe. Thus our very special and historic 79th Division tour comes to its close. **B D**

Day 9 - Tuesday Sept 22

LUXEMBOURG – BRUSSELS

In the morning, we drive in our coach to Brussels BRU Zaventem airport for our return flights. But if you wish to stay on in Brussels, just tell Céline on your Registration Form and she will arrange it for you. **B**



CELINE RENAUDEAU - CRIV Voyages - 12 RUE MOZART - 92587 CLICHY – FRANCE
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 EMAIL: criv@editions-lariviere.fr License No. LI092970013

79TH DIVISION NORMANDY/LORRAINE TOUR PARIS to BRUSSELS (SEPT 14 - 22 2009)

REGISTRATION FORM (1)
 PLEASE USE CAPITAL LETTERS EVERYWHERE

FIRST NAME: _____ **LAST NAME:** _____

MR/MRS/MS: _____ **DATE OF BIRTH:** / /
 (mm/dd/yyyy)

ADDRESS: _____

CITY / STATE / ZIP CODE: _____

HOME PHONE: _____ **CELL PHONE:** _____


FAX: _____ **EMAIL:** _____@_____

I want to register myself and the persons below for this tour.

Please write first and last names with Mr/Mrs/Ms and show room sharers. 'Twin' is a room with two beds. 'Double' is a room with one large bed. (E.g. Mr John Smith Mrs Ann Smith Double. Mr Peter Brown, Mr Alan Green Twin. Ms Jane Smith Single.) Any 79th Division veteran should include his unit. Veterans' widows/(grand)children may include their late husband/(grand)father's unit.

The following persons want to arrive in Paris before Sept 14 2009 (and/or stay on in Brussels after Sept 22 2009). Please book hotel accommodation for them for the following dates. Céline will book accommodation at a Paris CDG airport hotel (and/or in our Brussels hotel) according to your instructions and advise you of the price by email.

Please continue on a separate sheet if necessary.

79TH INFANTRY DIVISION NORMANDY/LORRAINE 2009 TOUR (SEPT 14 – 22 2009)	PRICE PER PERSON	NUMBER OF PERSONS	AMOUNT
TOUR PACKAGE PER PERSON SHARING A TWIN OR DOUBLE ROOM	1685.00 €		
SINGLE ROOM SUPPLEMENT	380.00 €		
REDUCTION FOR CHILD UNDER 15 DEDUCT 100 €			
 200 EURO PRICE REDUCTION PER PERSON IF MORE THAN 23 REGISTER BY AUG 1 2009	TOTAL AMOUNT DUE 1 MONTH BEFORE DEPARTURE		€



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79TH DIVISION NORMANDY/LORRAINE TOUR PARIS to BRUSSELS (SEPT 14 - 22 2009)

REGISTRATION FORM (2)

- 1. On behalf of the persons named above, I have read and agree to CRIV Voyages Terms and Conditions (T&C).
- 2. I authorize CRIV Voyages Travel Agency to charge a deposit of 650 Euros per person for the persons named above to my credit card and I will pay the balance of the Total Amount due by Aug 14 2009 (see para 5 and 6 T&C). I agree to CRIV Voyages cancelation terms (see para 7 T&C).
- 3. Here are my Credit Card details:



Visa

Card No.....



Mastercard

Expiry date.....



American Express

Security code.....

(Check ✓ the card that you are using)

This is the last three numbers on the signature strip on the back of a Visa or Mastercard. It is the four printed numbers on the right side of the front of an American Express card.

4. HEALTH REQUIREMENTS AND INSURANCE (VERY IMPORTANT)

I/We will comply with paras 8 and 9 T&C and provide any necessary details in the box below.

Please continue on a separate sheet if necessary.

5. PASSPORTS. I/We will comply with para 10 T&C.

Signature:

Date:

Please fax or mail a completed copy of this REGISTRATION FORM (1 and 2) to Céline Renaudeau at CRIV Voyages (contact details above).



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79TH DIVISION NORMANDY/LORRAINE TOUR PARIS to BRUSSELS (SEPT 14 - 22 2009)

TERMS AND CONDITIONS (T&C)

1. YOUR FRENCH TOUR OPERATOR CRIV VOYAGES

We are the officially licensed and bonded French tour operator CRIV Voyages, 12 Rue Mozart, 92587 Clichy, France. License No. LI092970013. criv@editions-lariviere.fr Fax 011 33 836 418 181 Tel 011 33 1 41 40 32 40/44 and we are delighted to serve you. Céline Renaudeau of CRIV Voyages is in charge of your tour. These Terms and Conditions, Registration Form and Tour Itinerary form the basis of our Agreement with you.

2. TOUR PRICE

The price of your tour (Paris CDG to Brussels BRU) is based on known costs on April 10 2009 and is given in Euros not \$\$ because you are paying CRIV Voyages, a French travel agency. But this is also the most economical way for you. You simply pay with your credit card and your credit card company converts the Euro tour price into \$\$ at the current Euro/\$ exchange rate, so that a \$ amount appears on your credit card statement. As a rough non-binding guide to help you, an approximate \$ amount is given in brackets after the Euro price, based on 1 Euro = \$1.40. But remember, it fluctuates daily. So this really is just an approximate guide and you will pay a \$ amount based on your credit card company's current Euro/\$ exchange rate. The price of your tour is 1685 Euros (approx \$2359) per person sharing a twin or double room. We regret that we have to charge a Single Person Supplement of 380 Euros (approx \$532) if just one person occupies a room, in order to cover the entire room cost which we are charged. There is a reduction of 100 Euros (approx \$140) for a child under 15.

3. PRICE REDUCTION

Good news. If 23 or more people register for the tour, then CRIV Voyages will reduce the tour price by 200 Euros (approx \$280) from 1685 Euros (approx \$2359) to 1485 Euros (approx \$2079)

4. TOUR CONTENT

The tour price includes: transport in a modern air-conditioned coach with 44 seats, road tolls, Patrick Hinchy as your tour guide and escort throughout, accommodation in a twin or double room or a single room (with the Single Person Supplement) in the hotels in the tour itinerary, breakfast and other meals specified on your behalf by Patrick Hinchy. It does not include your airfare, portorage of your luggage in airports and hotels, drinks which are not part of the specified meals, meals not specified by Patrick Hinchy, your personal expenses in hotels and elsewhere, insurance (see Paras 8 and 9), tips to coach driver and guides. Patrick Hinchy will pay entrance fees within the tour itinerary. We reserve the right to amend the advertised price of the tour at any time if there are unavoidable changes in the tour costs.

5. REGISTRATION

You (or your party leader on your behalf) should complete the Registration Form and fax or mail a copy of it to CRIV Voyages. Once we have received it, we will send you a Confirmation of your booking and will charge the deposit of 650 Euros per person to your credit card. This creates the booking Agreement between us which is binding on CRIV Voyages and you.

6. PAYING FOR YOUR TOUR

Once your deposit of 650 Euro per person has been paid, the balance of the cost of your tour becomes due one month before departure date, i.e. by August 14 2009, and we will automatically charge the balance to the same credit card to which we charged the deposit(s), unless you instruct us otherwise. If you register after August 14 2009, we will charge the total cost of your tour to your credit card.

7. CANCELTION

If we do not receive the balance in full by August 14 2009, we unfortunately have to treat your booking as canceled. The following percentages of a person's total amount due will be charged for tour cancelation within the following periods. 40%: Registration until Aug 19 2009. 50%: Aug 20 until Aug 31 2009. 75%: Sept 1 until Sept 15 2009. 100%: after Sept 16. You may be able to reclaim these cancelation charges under the terms of your travel and cancelation insurance (see Para 8).

8. HEALTH REQUIREMENTS

VERY IMPORTANT. If you or any member of your party have any medical problems, disabilities or special needs which may affect the tour, you must give us full details on the Registration Form and you must have with you a doctor's letter certifying that you are fit to come on the tour, and a list of your medications. If you or any member of your party need a wheel chair, you must either bring it with you, or ask us on the Registration Form to arrange wheelchair rental in Europe for you and you must be accompanied by someone who is responsible for and fully capable of looking after you at all times. If you fail to take these steps, CRIV Voyages and its agents have no liability to you and you will have to pay CRIV Voyages any costs which CRIV Voyages incurs through helping you because of such failure on your part. Furthermore, CRIV Voyages is not liable to you for any illness or discomfort you suffer through such failure on your part. If we reasonably feel unable to properly and comfortably accommodate your medical problem, disability or special needs during the tour, we regret that we cannot confirm your booking or, if full details are not given on the Registration Form, we will have to cancel your booking when we become aware of these details.

9. INSURANCE

It is essential that you have travel, cancelation and medical repatriation insurance. It is your responsibility to ensure that you have insurance cover suitable and adequate for your needs. Take your insurance policy with you on the tour. It is advisable and more advantageous for you to buy your insurance in the USA. Tip: there are websites which compare the plans of major US travel insurance companies, e.g. InsureMyTrip.com which compares "more than 100 plans from 18 insurance providers". (This is only an example and not a recommendation).

10. PASSPORT

You must have a valid passport with an expiry date well after Sept 22 2009. If you need to apply for or renew your passport, please do so immediately. It normally takes 4-6 weeks. Passport applications are available at your local Post Office or online from the State Department <http://travel.state.gov>. Alternatively if you are short of time, a passport service company can help you get a passport very quickly for a fee, e.g. 'Passports and Visas', toll-free 800-860-8610, <http://www.passportsandvisas.com> . (This is only an example and not a recommendation).

11. BEHAVIOR

If, in the opinion of ourselves, our tour guide or other person in authority, anyone in the tour group behaves in such a way as to cause danger, distress or annoyance to others or damage to property, we may terminate their tour. In this situation, we will have no liability to them and will not be responsible for making any refunds, paying any compensation or meeting any costs or expenses they incur as a result. Further, they must meet any expenses we incur as a result of their behavior.

12. FORCE MAJEURE

We regret that we cannot accept liability where you suffer any damage or loss as a result of "force majeure", i.e. any event which we could not foresee or avoid. Such events include war or threat of war, riot, civil strife, actual or threatened terrorist activity, industrial dispute, natural or nuclear disaster, adverse weather conditions, fire and all similar events outside our control.

13. OUR RESPONSIBILITY FOR YOUR TOUR

You can have complete confidence that we at CRIV Voyages will make every effort to ensure your tour is as enjoyable and trouble-free as possible. Our record shows that we have the necessary experience, knowledge and expertise. Our obligations and liability towards you are wholly and exclusively governed and defined by the strict European Union Package Travel Regulations 1992, enacted in France under governmental Decree 92-645 of July 13 1992 and Decree 94-490 of June 15 1994. The laws of France and the jurisdiction of the Tribunal of Nanterre apply in any dispute. The minimum group size for the tour to take place is 10 people. Because the arrangements for your tour are complex, we must reserve the right to make changes to the tour if we judge it to be in your best interest.



79th INFANTRY DIVISION **NORMANDY / LORRAINE TOUR from PARIS to BRUSSELS** **SEPT 14 - 22 2009**

ACTION PLAN **HERE'S WHAT TO DO**

1. HEALTH CHECK – see Para 8 Terms and Conditions
2. BOOK YOUR TOUR PLACE – fax or mail the REGISTRATION FORM (1 and 2) to CRIV Voyages
3. BOOK YOUR FLIGHTS – see Tour Itinerary for timings
4. GET PROPERLY INSURED – see Para 9 Terms and Conditions
5. IS YOUR PASSPORT VALID? – see Para 10 Terms and Conditions