

Memorial Day 2012

VBOB Battle of the Bulge Tour & Normandy Battlefield Tour



Battle of the Bulge Tour

Thursday, May 24, 2012: USA/Aloft. Depart the U.S. via flights you have booked yourselves to Brussels.

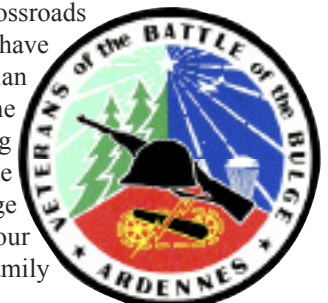
Friday, May 25, 2012: Brussels. On arrival at Brussels BRU International Airport you will find it simple and quick to get to our airport hotel. It is in the center of the airport and very easily accessible from all arrival terminals. Free time for sightseeing, shopping, etc. in Brussels City Center. Lots of tips and guidance about exploring Brussels will be in your Final Documents that you will receive before the start of the tour.

Saturday, May 26, 2012: Brussels - Annual Memorial Day Ceremony – Aachen. Our 2012 Battle of the Bulge Memorial Day Tour officially begins today. Our Tour Director, Patrick Hinchy, will meet us and take us directly from our Brussels airport hotel eastwards across Belgium into the heart of the battlefields of the famed Bulge. Patrick is multi-lingual and one of the most experienced Veterans tour guides in Europe. He has planned this tour especially for VBOB Veterans, their families and history enthusiasts. There will be a festive buffet lunch at the farm and private WWII Museum of our great friends, Mathilde and Marcel (the M&Ms), deep in the Belgian countryside. This afternoon is the Annual Memorial Day Ceremony at the American Battle of the Bulge Cemetery of Henri-Chapelle. The US Army will be there and so will US and European military, governmental, diplomatic and religious dignitaries. We shall be among the guests of honor. Afterwards we shall drive to the beautiful historic cathedral city of Aachen. (B, L)

Sunday, May 27, 2012: Aachen - Hurtgen Forest - Cologne - Remagen Bridge – Aachen. We shall spend today in Germany seeing the Aachen/Roer battlefields, the Hurtgen Forest and the Remagen Bridge and honor the Soldiers who fought in these critical battles in the fall of 1944 just before the Bulge. Our program includes a boat trip on the Rhine River with lunch. We also have a brief stop in the famous cathedral city of Cologne before returning to Aachen. (B, L)

Monday, May 28, 2012: Aachen – Neuville-en-Condruz - Liège – Aachen. Today, Memorial Day, is observed in the USA. We shall have our own private Memorial Day wreath laying ceremony with Taps at the other great American Battle of the Bulge Cemetery in Belgium: the Ardennes Cemetery at Neuville en Condruz. Afterwards to Parker's Crossroads

where we shall lay a wreath and then have a festive lunch with our local Belgian friends of CRIBA who research the Battle of the Bulge and enjoy meeting us. After lunch, we tour in depth the northwestern battlefields of the Bulge with our Belgian friends and visit our 'special places' of our Veteran and family



Memorial Day is the day on which we officially commemorate and honor those who have made the supreme sacrifice. They gave their lives for the sake of our country and our freedom. This important and sacred act of commemoration was first observed on 30 May 1868 in Arlington National Cemetery and has been observed annually ever since. Memorial Day is of supreme importance in the American Military Cemeteries of the Battle of the Bulge in Europe. Each year, there are magnificent ceremonies attended by international military, political and diplomatic dignitaries and the US Army in Europe. Our VBOB Veterans and their families are treated as guests of honor. For them it is a deeply moving, significant and historic experience, something that our Veterans and their families will remember and treasure for the rest of their lives.

Our 2012 Battle of the Bulge Memorial Day Tour will start from Belgium's historic capital, Brussels. From there we shall go eastwards across Belgium to the battlefields of the Bulge in the Belgian Ardennes. We shall attend the official Annual Memorial Day Ceremony in the American Battle of the Bulge Cemetery of Henri-Chapelle as guests of honor. Then, over the next several days, we shall immerse ourselves in the history of the Battle of the Bulge and tour its battlefields in depth. We shall visit the "special places" requested by our VBOB group members and meet and celebrate with the local people. But we shall have plenty of time too for shopping, general sightseeing, relaxation, etc. during our tour. We shall also spend a day in Germany honoring the soldiers who fought in the critical battles of the Hurtgen Forest, between Aachen and the Roer and up to the Rhine as far as the Remagen Bridge. Their soldiers were also buried in the American Battle of the Bulge cemeteries. Please let Sarah at MilSpec Tours know as soon as you can if you have any "special places" so that she can discuss them with our Tour Director, Patrick Hinchy. He will do his best to ensure that your "special places" are included in our itinerary.

Our Battle of the Bulge Tour is followed by an optional tour of Normandy battlefields including official commemorations on the 68th anniversary of the historic landings.





tour participants. Next, we will attend an official reception in Liege and then spend the rest of the day visiting in depth the northern battlefields of the Battle of the Bulge and celebrating with the local people. (B, L)

Tuesday, May 29, 2012: Aachen – Clervaux. From Aachen, we drive through the crucial northeastern battlefields of the Bulge via Rocherath Krinkelt, Malmedy and St Vith. This is the area through which Hitler’s Sixth Panzer Army launched its massive opening offensive of the Battle of the Bulge on December 16, 1944. In the afternoon, we shall continue visiting the battlefields and the “special places” of our VBOB group members. (B, D)

Wednesday, May 30, 2012: Clervaux – Luxembourg. We will continue our in depth visit of the Bulge battlefields as we drive south to Luxembourg. We will visit Bastogne for an official reception followed by a visit to Brigadier General McAuliffe’s underground HQ. Then, we see the largest and most important US Battle of the Bulge monument at Mardasson. (B, D)

Thursday, May 31, 2012: Luxembourg. Our friends in Luxembourg will welcome us and join us for a special wreath-laying ceremony and Taps at Luxembourg American Cemetery where General George Patton is buried. Then we will tour the southern Bulge battlefields and visit Luxembourg’s National Museum of Military History in Diekirch, universally regarded as the best Battle of the Bulge Museum. Tonight we will enjoy a Farewell Dinner including wine or beer. (B, D)

Friday, June 1, 2012: Luxembourg – Paris. Today we come to the end of our 2012 Battle of the Bulge Memorial Day Tour. We shall return from Luxembourg to Paris. Our hotel is centrally located at Charles DeGaulle Airport. (B)

Saturday, June 2, 2012: Paris – USA. For those returning to the USA, it will be very easy to get to your departure terminal for your flight home from your central airport hotel. There will be full instructions in your Final Documents that you will receive before the start of the tour. Those continuing on to Normandy can enjoy a day a leisure in Paris. (B)

Normandy Invasion Commemoration Tour

Saturday, June 2, 2012: Paris. New tour members arrive and transfer to our centrally located hotel. Balance of the day free at leisure.

Sunday, June 3, 2012: Paris. This morning meet our local guide for an indepth tour of Paris. In the afternoon you are free to explore the “Queen of Cities” in Europe on your own. (B)

Monday, June 4, 2012– Normandy - Bayeux. Patrick will take us on a panoramic trip through the picturesque River Seine Valley past Field Marshal Rommel’s magnificent Normandy Château HQ. We see the British and Canadian D-DAY landing beaches, the Mulberry ‘B’ artificial harbor ruins, and huge German coastal gun batteries. If time permits we will see Pegasus Bridge. Then we move to the uniquely beautiful, medieval cathedral city of Bayeux. Captured on D+1, it was thus spared destruction. Onto our hotel for check-in. (B, D)

Tuesday, June 5, 2012: Bayeux. An in-depth tour today through western Normandy. We see the paths that American forces followed to break out from the Omaha and Utah landing beaches. By the end of the day you will understand the tough strategic and tactical problems in Normandy, and how they were solved. (B, D)

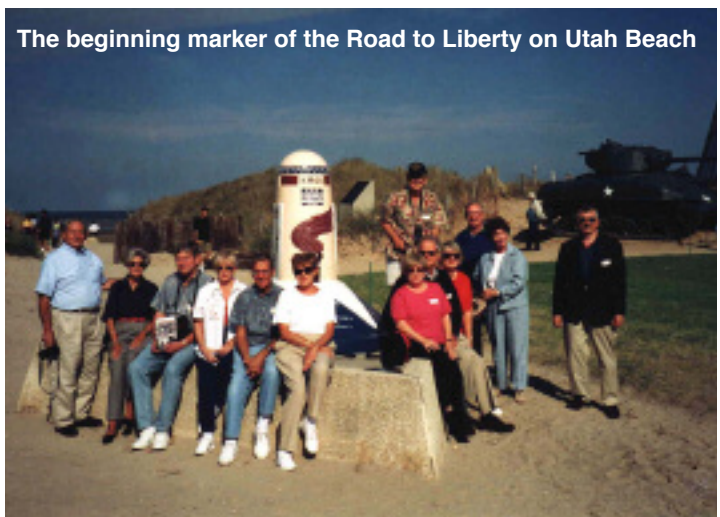
Wednesday, June 6, 2012: Bayeux – Mont St. Michel. Each year the D-Day Anniversary on June 6 is ceremonially commemorated in Normandy, especially at the American landing beaches of Utah and Omaha and the magnificent Normandy American Military Cemetery. Today, our American WWII Veterans and their families will participate in the ceremonies as honored guests. Then we shall track the American breakout southwards through Normandy via St Lo and Operation Cobra to Avranches and around the corner into Brittany. We shall stay overnight in Mont St Michel. (B, D)

Thursday, June 7, 2012: Mont St. Michel – Paris. Today we parallel the southeastern sweep of General Patton’s 3rd Army through Normandy in a pincer movement that, combined with the British and Canadians’ northern pincer, trapped two German Armies in the Falaise Pocket. This brought the Battle of Normandy to what seemed its victorious close. But, the Allies rejoiced too soon. The Falaise Pocket was never properly closed. Thousands of battle-experienced German troops were outside the Falaise Pocket, or escaped through it and withdrew in good order to Germany. Just four months later they were once again on the offensive in the greatest American land battle of all time; the Battle of the Bulge. (B)

Friday, June 8, 2012: Paris - USA. Return to the USA today. (B)

B = Breakfast. L = Lunch D = Dinner

Note: These are land-only tours. You must book your own trans-Atlantic flights. Please do not book your flights before you consult with our staff.



The beginning marker of the Road to Liberty on Utah Beach



2012 Battle of the Bulge Tour

Normandy Battlefield Tour



Reservation Application

Please make ___ reservation(s) on the following tours. Enclosed is \$ _____ representing \$400.00 per person deposit. (Please make checks payable to "MilSpec Tours")

Tour Option (√ one)

- Battle of the Bulge Tour \$2,851 per person (double occupancy)
- Normandy Battlefield Tour \$2,184 per person (double occupancy)
- Both Battlefield Tours \$4,675 per person (double occupancy)

Single Room Supplement (√ if you desire a single room at the additional cost)

- Bulge Tour \$817
- Normandy Tour \$505
- Both Tours \$1,296

Payment Option (√ one)

- Option A: I would like to Pay In Full. Payment enclosed.
- Option B: I am paying a deposit only and will pay in full 90 days before departure.

Insurance Option (√ one)

I accept the travel insurance at an additional cost. Below are tour costs ranges and associated insurance cost.

- \$2,001-\$2,500 = \$164
- \$2,501-\$3,000 = \$200
- \$3,001-\$3,500 = \$235
- \$3,501-\$4,000 = \$270
- \$4,001-\$4,500 = \$305
- \$4,501-\$5,000 = \$340
- \$5,001-\$5,500 = \$407

Please add the per person cost of your insurance to your \$400 deposit when submitting this registration form.

- I will obtain my own insurance.

Tour Participants (please print your names as they appear on your passports)

Name: _____ Male Female Date of Birth: _____

Name: _____ Male Female Date of Birth: _____

Street: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Please furnish us with both your street address and post office box address to avoid delays in shipment of documents to you by Federal Express.

Your home phone: (____) _____ Work Phone: (____) _____

Any diet/health problems? _____

Please print the name and phone number of a person not traveling with you who is to be notified in the event of an emergency.

Name: _____ Relationship _____ Phone #(____) _____

Special requests/places to visit: _____

- I desire:
- 2-in-a-room.
 - Single Room at additional cost noted above.
 - Willing to share, 2-in-a-room basis. Roommate (if known) _____

To charge your deposit to a major credit card, please complete the following:

- Discover Card
- Visa
- Mastercard
- American Express

Name on Card: _____

Credit Card Number: _____

Expiration Date: ____ / ____ Billing Zip Code: _____

I agree to the terms and conditions as outlined in this tour brochure.

Signature: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / _____



Tour #12-562

Mail to:

MilSpec Tours

Post Office Box 340
Flourtown, PA 19031-0340
Phone 215-248-2572 Fax 215-248-5250
Email: GoMilSpec@aol.com Web:GoMilSpec.com

Your MilSpec Tour Includes. .

*First-class and selected hotels with private bath (where available), 2-in-a-room basis. Single room additional cost. *Breakfast daily plus table d'hote lunches and dinners in accordance with the custom of each country and as noted in the itinerary. *Mini-van or motorcoach transportation as required by the itinerary. *Sightseeing as specified with English-speaking guide & appropriate admission fees. *Porterage of one (1) suitcase per person, where available. *Tips & taxes on all pre-paid services. *Professional Escort while on tour. *

Tour Prices Do Not Include: TransAtlantic air; airport /customs/departure taxes, passports, any applicable visa fees, excess baggage charges, optional sightseeing, meals other than those shown in the itineraries, items not on table d'hote menus, laundry, liquor, mineral water, beverages with lunch & dinner, customary, gratuities to Tour Directors, Coach Drivers & local guides, & any other expenses of a personal nature.

Tour Prices are based on a minimum of 35 tour participants on the Battle of the Bulge Tour and 20 tour participants on the Normandy tour as shown in the itinerary, and on tariffs and rates (currency & exchange) known at the time of printing; prices are subject to adjustment without notice in event of changes to such rates prior to departure.

Tour Itineraries are developed to maximize the understanding of the subject of the tour and the interest and enjoyment of the tour participants. Tours are sold as a package of events, transportation, lodging, meals and professional guidance. Tour packages are not intended to be offered in increments. Requests for participation in an increment of a tour package are discouraged and if honored may require payment up to the full cost of the tour.

Hotels: Unless otherwise stated, all tour prices are based on two persons sharing a twin/double room. Applicable single supplements are indicated for those wishing single room accommodations. Single rooms are limited in quantity and are sometimes not of the same size or quality as twin/double rooms. Single room reservations will be accepted with the understanding that we cannot guarantee single rooms will be available on all parts of your tour. We do not recommend triple rooms as they tend to be very crowded; in most cases, triple rooms are a twin room to which a cot has been added. There is no reduction in tour cost for triple rooms.

Deposits and Final Payments: A deposit of \$400 per person is required to effect reservations. This deposit forms part of your final payment which is due when billed but not later than 90 days prior to departure. Acceptance on tour is subject to verification of payment in full to MilSpec Tours.

Baggage: No responsibility is incurred by MilSpec for loss or damage to baggage or any of the passengers belongings. It is recommended that all passengers purchase baggage insurance.

Passports and Visas: A valid passport is required for all tour participants. Visas are not required for this tour program.

Smoking: Please kindly note that for the safety and well-being of the group, smoking is not permitted on the motorcoach at any time.

Cancellations for unforeseen and valid reasons in advance of departure are entitled to a full refund less actual expenses incurred and a \$75.00 per person service charge, if written notice is received not later than 120 days prior to departure. If cancellation occurs less than 120 days prior to departure, deposits will be refunded less a \$150 per person cancellation charge; less than 60 days prior to departure date, deposits will be refunded, less a \$250 per person cancellation charge plus any penalties assessed to MilSpec Tours by hotels, transportation companies, airlines and other purveyors of services. Cancellations of 30 days or less receive no refund. Trip cancellation and interruption insurance is available and strongly recommended on all tours.

Revisions and Refunds: All changes must be confirmed in writing. A handling fee of \$75.00 per transaction will be charged for any alteration or revision made to a tour reservation. All claims for refunds

must be made within 60 days after termination of the tour and must be accompanied by a statement from the Tour Director, certifying exactly the services not taken. No refund can be made for unused transportation where group tickets or vehicles are involved. No refund can be made for services not taken unless the services omitted cover 72 consecutive hours or more.

Tour Participants: In order to insure the smooth operation of all tours, and to ensure congenial tour groups, MilSpec Tours reserves the right to accept or reject any person as a tour participant and to expel from the tour any person for any reason including anyone whose conduct is deemed incompatible with the interest of the tour group. Any handicapped participant who requires special assistance must be accompanied by a qualified helper who assumes total responsibility for the handicapped participant's well-being. MilSpec Tours reserves the right to exclude from the tour any handicapped participant whose physical condition impairs customary operation of the tour. Should a wheelchair or other special equipment, care, maintenance or services be required at any time, all arrangements shall be made and all costs and obligations will be borne by the tour member. All tour members must be able to make their own way on/off the motorcoach. Well-behaved children over 10 years of age are welcome on any MilSpec Tours tour under the same conditions as noted above.

Responsibility: MilSpec Tours and/or its agents act only in the capacity of agent for carriers, hotels, bus operators, and other suppliers of services and shall not be held responsible for any injury or for any loss or damage caused by accidents or events beyond their control, or by any action or negligence of attendants or third parties who are not in their employ and on their payroll. The tour operator and/or its agents can accept no responsibility for losses or additional expenses due to delay or changes in air, sea or other services, sickness, weather, strike, war, quarantine, or other causes. All such losses will have to be borne by the passenger, as tour rates provide for arrangements only for the time stated. The right is reserved to substitute hotels specified for others of similar category. The right is reserved to make minor adjustments in the itinerary. Prices are based upon current tariffs and are subject to adjustment in the event of change. The right is reserved to decline to accept or retain any person as a member of the tour. No refund will be made for any unused portion of the tour unless arrangements are made prior to departure. The issuance and acceptance of vouchers or tickets shall be deemed to be consent to the above conditions. In addition, transportation companies concerned shall not be held responsible for any act, omission or event during the time that passengers are not on board their carriers. The passenger contract in use by the carriers concerned, when issued shall constitute the sole contract between the transportation companies and the purchaser of the tour and/or passengers. The itineraries shown are planned at the time of issue of this flyer, but are subject to revision should circumstances make it necessary. Such revisions will be shown on the individual traveling itinerary you receive before departure.

© MilSpec Tours 2011

Travel Insurance

Take advantage of our valuable insurance protection. For \$164 to \$407 you can enjoy the security of the following coverage:

Schedule of Coverages

• Trip Cancellation & Interruption	Up to Tour Cost
• Travel Delay (\$150 maximum per day)	\$750
• Baggage and Travel Documents	\$1,000
• Baggage Delay	\$250
• Medical Expense	\$50,000
• Emergency Medical Transportation	\$500,000
• Accidental Death & Dismemberment	\$25,000

This is a brief summary of the insurance plan offered. For a full description of the benefits, exclusions & conditions, an insurance brochure is available. Or, call Travel Guard International at 1-888-826-1300.