# PARIS & NORMANDY

9 Days | France Student Battlefield Tour

# Brightspark

## **TOUR SNAPSHOT**

History is at the forefront on this 9-day battlefield student tour through France. Spend time immersing yourself in the history, culture food and architecture of this beautiful country. Your class will start their journey discovering the battlefield beaches, the D-Day Memorial site, the Juno Beach Centre and the Bény-sur-Mer Canadian Military Cemetery in Normandy. Moving on to the City of Lights, you will be guided through major landmarks such as the Eiffel Tower, Sainte-Chapelle and the Louvre. This school trip will allow your students to learn all about the Canadians who fought during World War II and leave them with an appreciation of the sacrifices made. Your class will return with an understanding of history and a desire to see the world.

### WHAT'S INCLUDED:



Guided Tours of: Paris, St. Malo, Caen

**Site Visits:** Eiffel Tower, Palace of Versailles Musée du Louvre, Sainte-Chapelle, Mont Saint-Michel, Juno Beach Centre, River Cruise on the Seine



Local Tour Leader



Accommodations 3-star centrally located hotels



**Transportation** Flights, private motor coach, public transportation



**Meals** Breakfasts, dinners





# **EXPERTS IN STUDENT TRAVEL**

Our local partnerships allow for personalized tours that are a hybrid of traditional and unconventional. **WHY BRIGHTSPARK?** 

## **PUTTING YOUR EXPERIENCE FIRST**

- **Guaranteed Flights and Hotels:** We confirm the booking of flights and hotels when you submit your deposit to avoid last minute hiccups.
- **Centrally Located Accommodations:** Save hours avoiding long commutes and maximize your time in destination with hotels within the city limits.
- **Private Tours:** Personalize your class trip to suit your needs and be assured that your students will never be joined with another group.
- **Go, Discover, Inspire:** You are not a tourist but a traveller; we will expose you and your students to the soul of the destination and ignite your sense of wonder.

95% of teachers love our tours

60+ YEARS OF TRAVEL EXPERIENCE



# WE'VE GOT YOU COVERED

### 24/7 GLOBAL SUPPORT

No matter your destination or itinerary, our state-ofthe-art Operations Centre is designed to proactively protect you and your students during your educational trips around the globe. From the best insurance to advanced incident management software to 24/7 emergency assistance, we've got you covered.

"Paris is a fascinating city with something for everyone! A personal favourite is watching the lights glitter on the Eiffel Tower at night. While in France, a visit to the Juno Beach Centre is also an absolute must to learn about Canadian soldiers' contributions to World War II."

Teri, Operations

#### Day 1: Board your flight to Paris.

#### Day 2: Étretat - Deauville - Caen

- Arrive at the Charles de Gaulle International Airport and meet your Tour Leader.
- Travel towards the beautiful region of Normandy.
- Stop at the high cliffs of **Étretat** for some fresh air. Walk along the hiking trail to the foot of the **gate of Aval**.
- Continue travelling to Honfleur for lunch and see the Sainte-Catherine Church.
- Next stop Deauville.
- Experience the twin cities of **Deauville and Trouville**. Walk along the wooden boardwalk, the **Promenade de Planches**, and observe the charming villas of this seaside town.
- End the day travelling to Caen where you will spend the night.

#### Day 3: Juno Beach - Berniéres - Beny-sur-Mer - Caen

- Start the day at the Caen Memorial and Museum.
- Meet with your specialized local guide and depart for your half-day tour of the Canadian landing beaches.
- Begin your journey at the Juno Beach Centre to see several exhibits that mark the efforts of Canadian soldiers during World War II. You will also see Juno Park and part of the famous Atlantic Wall.
- Explore an **underground bunker** that was a German strong point to get a better understanding of a German Command Post, tunnel and Observation Post.
- You will then be lead to the village of **Berniéres** where you will see Canada House, one of the first homes to be liberated by the Canadians on **June 6th**, **1944**.
- Discover the emblematic remembrance site of D-Day, Pointe du Hoc.
- Visit Bény-sur-Mer Canadian Military Cemetery and pay your respects to the soldiers killed during the early stages of the Battle of Normandy.
- Pay your respects at the American cemetery of Colleville.
- Last stop on the tour takes you to the **Ardenne Abbey** where your guide will explain the tragic events that took place here.
- Return to **Caen** for the night.

#### Day 4: Mont Saint-Michel - St Malo

- Depart for Mont Saint-Michel, an architectural marvel that sits on an island in the middle of the bay.
- Enjoy a guided tour of the city to see the ramparts, Grande-Rue and the abbey.
- Travel to St Malo and spend the afternoon on a guided tour of the fortified city, which is also the birthplace of explorer Jacques Cartier.

5: Versailles - Paris

 Explore the stunning Château de Versailles with a guided tour of the Grand Apartment, the Hall of Mirrors and the King and Queen's suites.

# **START PLANNING NOW!**

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1.800.267.6425



emailus@brightsparktravel.ca

- Marvel at the gardens of the palace on your own time.
- Travel to **Paris** for the night.

#### Day 6: Paris

- Take a 3-hour guided tour of the **City of Lights** where you will see the revolutionary square **La Bastille** where the storming of the Bastille prison took place, **Les Invalides**, the tomb of Napoleon and **L'Opéra** which was founded in **1669** by **Louis XIV**.
- Free time for lunch near Les Halles.
- Wander along the **River Seine** and across the famous **Pont des Arts**.
- Visit the Musée d'Orsay to see mainly French art from 1848-1915 from famed artists Claude Monet, Édouard Manet, Paul Cézanne and Vincent Van Gogh.
- Stroll down one of the most famous streets in the world, the Champs Elysées and see the stunning Arc de Triomphe.
- Visit the Eiffel Tower and take a photo from the best vantage point: le parvis du Palais de Chaillot. Those feeling daring can take the elevator to see a bird's eye views of the Parisian landscape.

#### Day 7: Paris

- Start your day with a guided tour of the Musée du Louvre, including a view of the famous Mona Lisa.
- Walk along the river to the garden of the Tuileries.
- Explore La Coulée Verte René-Dumont, Paris' version of the High Line Park in New York.
- Visit Montmartre to see the Sacré Cœur Basilica from the top of the hill, Place Pigalle and the Moulin Rouge.
- Time to live like a local! During your initiation to Pétanque, a traditional bowls game, you will learn to play but not only that! It will be a perfect opportunity to practise your French!

#### Day 8: Paris

- Start the day in the charming Latin Quarter to see the remains of the Gallo-Roman Arena, an amphitheater built in the 1st century AD for gladiator fights.
- Visit Sainte-Chapelle and discover the beautiful stained glass windows of this gothic church.
- Explore the Île Saint Louis and the Île de la Cité and see Pont Neuf, the Conciergerie and le Square du Vert-Galant to see views of the Pont des Arts and the Louvre.
- Wander down the Grands Boulevards.
- Enjoy a relaxing cruise along the **River Seine** on the famous **Bateaux Mouches**.

Day 9: Depart to the airport for your flight home.



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