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Valor Tours, Ltd,
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Sausalito, Calif. 94965
Tele: 415-332-7850 or 1-800-842-4504
Fax: 415-332-6971   email: valortours@yahoo.com

Tour director historian George Cressman
Operation Market-Garden (September 1944) was born in an environment of significant political infighting among Allied commanders, highlighted by a controversy over the “broad front” versus concentrated thrust approaches. Eisenhower’s senior commanders were driven by strong egos, and a need to be seen as the “one” who drove the Germans to surrender. Market-Garden was launched at a time when the Allies believed they had significantly weakened the Germans, and surrender was in sight. There was considerable discussion about being “home for Christmas” in 1944. And yet, there were significant holes in the Allies’ position, not the least of which was gaping problems in supplying the broad front attacks on the Germans. Montgomery believed he could win the war quickly by achieving a thrust into the Ruhr area, destroying the German’s ability to supply their own troops. But to do this, Montgomery needed supply priority. Ever the careful planner, Montgomery and his staff seemed to have placed much on faith in the Market-Garden proposal. The loss of one critical bridge would slow or even prevent the ground forces from reaching Arnhem – and that’s exactly what happened. The blind spots in the plan seem to hinge on the perspective the Germans were fatally weakened, demoralized, and would be able to resist the Allies’ thrust. But resist they did and the fallout was the loss of large numbers of British paratroopers. In contrast, the Rhine River crossings of 1945 follow after the humbling of the Allies in the Bulge and Nordwind offensives. By this point, Eisenhower and his senior commanders knew the Germans could still strongly resist Allied operations. The capture of the Luddendorf Bridge at Remagen (see above left) was a massive piece of good luck; exploiting the luck shows the Allies ability to make good from luck. The Crossing the Rhine/Market-Garden tour, starting in Frankfurt, traces the late war activities of the Allies.

Tour Leader, George Cressman, standing in front of a statue to the 101st ABN in Eindhoven 2010.

George is a docent at the Camp Blanding Museum in Starke, Florida where he also works on artifact documentation. He has designed and escorted many tours to the European Theater of WWII and gives regular presentations on WWII history here in the U.S.

Operation Market Garden tour – Frankfurt/Amsterdam 2019

REGISTRATION FORM

Mail to: Valor Tours, Ltd., 10 Liberty Ship Way, Sausalito, Calif. 94965 U.S.A.

Questions? Call 1-800-842-4504.

Name________________________________________________________
Name________________________________________________________

Address______________________________________________________

City__________________________________ State_____________________

Zip________________ Phone (days) ________________________________

Email address: ________________________________________________

I/we wish to reserve ____ spaces on a ____ twin share basis (two persons to a hotel room), or ___ I am traveling alone and wish to pay the single supplement so as not to share my hotel room, or ____ share with another tour member

____Enclosed is my/our check for the deposit in the amount of $_______
($600 per person, per tour), or please charge my credit card ________________

Account number __________________ Security code ____________

Exp _____________

Please arrange my/our air arrangements from ______________________
to Europe to coincide with tour in ___Economy class or ___ business class.

I/we would like ___ additional night’s hotel accommodations in: ___Frankfurt
and/or ___ Amsterdam.

Reason for taking tour, i.e. Veteran, history buff, family member, etc.

________________________________________________________________

Special needs, dietary requirements____________________________________

Next of kin_______________________________________________________

I/we have read and understand the terms set forth in this brochure:

_______________________________________________________________

Signature Date

Early Booking/Payment Discount Policy applies to this tour. Subject to availability. Continue your WWII adventure and take the Battle of the Bulge In-Depth tour, September 25 to October 4, 2019 from Luxembourg. Free train.
Reservations and Final Payment

Reservations can only be held with a deposit of $600 per person accompanied by the Application form. Payments accepted in the form of a personal check or credit card. Overseas passengers may use Paypal. Final payment is normally due by June 13, 2019 unless otherwise stated on confirmation. Reservations will be accepted on a first come – first served basis. Valor Tours, Ltd. does not recommend that children under the age of 12 participate on this tour. Passport required. Visas are not required. Tour cost based on minimum of 10 paying participants. Changes to itinerary may result if we have less than 10 paying passengers. Airfare from the U.S. to Europe not included, however if you need assistance with air arrangements we will be happy to do so.

Cancellations and Changes

If Valor Tours, Ltd. receives cancellation more than 90 days prior to departure your deposit is fully refundable. Cancellations received between 89 to 30 days prior to commencement of tour subject to loss of deposit. Cancellation within 30 days or “no shows” are non refundable. Refunds may take up to 30 days to process. Cancellation charges also apply to additional travel arrangements such as airfare. If flight changes are requested after airline tickets are issued, revision fees will apply. Travel and emergency insurance is available for purchase. Details will be sent to those who sign up for tour. Available upon request.

Baggage allowance

We recommend one suitcase and one carry-on bag per person, please. Porterage for one bag per person is included in the tour cost; however there may be times when you will be responsible for your baggage, so it is to the benefit of the passenger to travel light. Passengers are responsible for carry-on bags, purses, camera bags, briefcases, etc. No responsibility is accepted for loss or damage to baggage, or any of the passenger’s belongings.

Disabilities

Any personal disability requiring special attention should be reported to Valor Tours at the time of reservation. Valor Tours will make reasonable attempts to accommodate the special needs of disabled tour participants, but is not responsible for any denial of services by carriers, hotels, restaurants and other independent suppliers. Motor coach companies and other carrier employees may not physically lift participants or assist them on or off conveyances. A qualified companion must accompany persons requiring such assistance. Be advised that foreign countries do not have the disabled and handicapped laws that Americans enjoy here at home.

Single travelers

Single occupancy of hotel rooms is an additional $800 over and above the tour cost. If you would like to avoid this expense, you may share with another single traveler. Valor Tours will make every attempt to find you a suitable roommate of the same age and gender, however Valor Tours, Ltd. cannot be held responsible for incompatibility, nor can they guarantee a roommate should one not be available. In that case, the single supplement will apply.

Not included in tour cost

Meals not indicated in itinerary, airfare from the U.S., passport fees, items of a personal nature such as laundry, telephone calls, alcoholic beverages, tipping to driver & guide, foreign airport departure taxes, cancellation/trip interruption/emergency travel insurance coverage.

Valor Tours Ltd. reserves the right to substitute hotels listed with alternate hotels of similar quality, or of lesser quality should our passenger numbers fall below 10 passengers. Regardless our passengers will always have hotel rooms with private ensuite.

Itinerary – subject to change - 2019

Monday September 16 (D)

Independent arrivals into Frankfurt. Take public transportation to main train station in Frankfurt. Hotel across the street. Meet in lobby at 6:30pm for 7:00pm Welcome dinner in hotel with briefing and introductions. Tour background history book will be passed out. Overnight Inter City Hotel

Tuesday September 17 (B)

Today drive along the Rhine River, stopping to see the Lorelei Statue near Weisbaden, and then continuing to the Luddendorf Bridge Museum at Remagen. The bridge was captured by the 9th Armored Division, and was the only Rhine River bridge captured intact by the Allies. Overnight Rhinelanland Holiday Finger Hotels

Wednesday September 18 (B)

Morning driving tour of Cologne, an industrial city heavily bombed during the war, stopping at famous Cologne cathedral, which was damaged but not destroyed. Drive down A4 toward Duren to pick up local historian who will be our guide for tour of Hurtgen Forest and Vossenack Museum, which will be opened specially for our group. Overnight at hotel formerly HQ of Col. Wilek, commander of forces defending Aachen during the battle to take the city, is overlooking Farwick Park, object of the 3rd Battalion, 26th IR, 1st ID. Overnight Pullman Aachen Quellenhoh Hotel

Thursday September 19 (B)

Visit Battle of the Bulge sites in Germany and NE Belgium: Monschau Germany where Battle of the Bulge attack began, and Emsenborn and Twin Villages where 2nd and 99th Infantry Divisions held the line. Visit Fort Eben-Emael. Considered impregnable, the fort was taken by Germany Paratroopers and Glider forces, and was the site of the first use of shaped charges. Taking this fort allowed the Germans to bypass the Maginot Line and proceed through Belgium into France in 1940. Visit Netherlands American Cemetery and Memorial at the village of Margarten, Holland. Overnight Maastricht, Holland.

Friday September 20 (B)

Visit Thorn to see the ancient cathedral. Visit Eindhoven, drop zone for the 101st Airborne whose mission was to secure three bridges. We will find the three bridges in these small towns and review the 101st actions in the area: Son – the southernmost of the three bridges (Wilhelmina Kanal); St. Oedenrode Intermediate Bridge; Veghel – the northern most bridge. Visit Overloon and War & Resistance Museum. Overnight Mercure Hotel Nijmegen Centre.

Saturday September 21 (B)

Visit Nijmegen and the drop zone of the 82nd Airborne whose mission was to secure two bridges: Grave – the southernmost of the bridges spanning the Maas River; Lent – the northernmost bridge over the Maas-Waal Kanal. Visit the National Liberation Museum in Groesbeek. Overnight Mercure Hotel Nijmegen Centre.

Sunday September 22 (B)

Meet local guide, Pim Donkersloot, whose father was in Operation Market Garden, at hotel. Follow the XXX Corps route into Arnhem: Walking tour of John Frost Bridge of the “Bridge Too Far” fame, St. Eusebius Church and the Devil’s House. Drive to Oosterbeek and passing St. Elizabeth’s hospital on the path Lt.Col Frost’s men following
into Arnhem. Attend 75th Anniversary ceremony – details yet to be confirmed. Hartenstein Airborne Museum, formerly General Urquhart’s HQ during the war, Arnhem Battle Cemetery. Drive to the river to see small Church that was a landmark for the British. Mercure Hotel Nijmegen Centre.

**Monday September 23 (B)**
Travel to Amsterdam – about two hours. Visit Anne Frank House, and then check into hotel. After lunch, canal boat tour to see the architecture. Walking tour in the evening with Pim Donkersloot. Overnight Die Port Van Cleve Hotel, Amsterdam

**Tuesday September 24 (B, D)**
Today we go to Harlem and see the Corrie Ten Boom House (where Jews were hidden during the War) in the morning, then Resistance Museum in the afternoon. Farewell dinner tonight and overnight Die Port Van Cleve Hotel, Amsterdam.

**Wednesday September 25 (B)**
Check out of hotel and transfer to airport. The hotel Die Port van Cleve has an airport shuttle for € 15 per person for a single way. This airport shuttle departs every half an hour from the hotel to the airport. For this shuttle it’s necessary to make a reservation the night before with front desk. Tour ends.

**Crossing the Rhine Sept 16 to 25 from Frankfurt to Amsterdam - tour cost, land only $3800 per person, twin share. Single supplement $800 extra.**
Includes nine nights hotel accommodations at three star or better hotels; welcome and farewell dinners; breakfast daily; private coach transportation; services of tour leader/historian; local historian/guides where necessary; entrance fees to museums indicated; local taxes; Tour Briefing Book. Subject to change and currency fluctuations, and a minimum of 10 passengers traveling together – maximum 40 passengers. Cancellation insurance sold separately.