Friends of the Department of History at Ohio State

World War II Tour 2023

June 17 - June 30, 2023

Join alumni and friends for this unique experience with expert guides and Ohio State Professors Peter Hahn, Peter Mansoor, and David Steigerwald!
OPTIONAL PRE-TOUR EXCURSION | June 15 - 16, 2023

For an additional fee, arrive in London on June 15 and make your way from the airport to the Strand Palace Hotel. The next morning, it’s, “All Aboard!” Take the train from London to Bletchley Park, home of the Ultra code-breakers, made famous in the 2014 film, The Imitation Game. The recently restored site tells the story of how a dedicated group of cryptologists changed the course of World War II by cracking the German Enigma cypher. For World War II enthusiasts, this experience is not to be missed!

PRE-TOUR EXCURSION includes overnight accommodations for two nights (June 15 and 16); continental breakfast buffet (June 16 and June 17); round-trip train tickets; and entrance to Bletchley Park.

ADD-ON COST:
$961 (per person, double occupancy)
$1,105 (single)

ITINERARY | June 17 - July 1, 2023

DAYS ONE | JUNE 17 | LONDON
Depart your gateway city for London, England. Upon arrival, transfer from the airport and check-in to the Strand Palace Hotel. Later that evening, join Ohio State Professors and WWII experts Peter Hahn, Peter Mansoor and David Steigerwald for a guided tour of Churchill's War Rooms. After the tour, join your fellow travelers for a Welcome Reception and Dinner in the famous Harmsworth Room, which features an original 1940’s electric generator wall with L.E.D.'s, switches and dials.

DAYS TWO | JUNE 18 | LONDON
Take the London Underground (Tube) to the Imperial War Museum, London. The IWM collections stretch from the everyday to the exceptional. They contain some of the most important technical, social, economic, political, personal and cultural artifacts relating to Britain and its role in twentieth-century conflict.

DAYS THREE | JUNE 19 | LONDON & BAYEUX
Our air-conditioned motor coach will transfer you from London to Portsmouth, where you will board a ferry to Caen, France. Upon arrival in Caen, you will transfer to the Churchill Hotel in Bayeux, the heart of Normandy. Later that evening, the group will gather for a three course meal at the charming La Taverne des Ducs.

DAYS FOUR | JUNE 20 | BAYEUX
Today you will receive an introduction to Operation Overlord (Battle of Normandy). We'll visit Pegasus Bridge, then travel to Arromanches via Sword, Juno and Gold beaches. We'll end the day at the Commonwealth War Cemetery and with an optional visit to the Bayeux Tapestry.

OPTIONAL TOUR OPPORTUNITY: For an additional fee, learn the story of the conquest of England in 1066, told in embroidery. The Bayeux Tapestry tells the epic story of William, Duke of Normandy, who became King of England in 1066 after the Battle of Hastings. Most historians believe that the embroidery was commissioned to decorate the nave of the new cathedral of Notre-Dame of Bayeux, consecrated on July 14, 1077.

DAYS FIVE | JUNE 21 | BAYEUX
Your journey continues with excursions to the Easy Company 101st Airbourne Monument, Musée du Débarquement Utah Beach, Angoville-au-Plain church and cemetery, Airborne Museum Sainte-Mère-Eglise, and the German War Cemetery (La Cambe).

DAYS SIX | JUNE 22 | BAYEUX
Our tour of Normandy concludes with a look at Point du Hoc, the 100-ft cliff overlooking the English Channel that was captured by the U.S. Army Ranger Assault Group on D-Day, followed by an outing to Omaha Beach, the beach depicted in the film Saving Private Ryan, and an emotional visit to the Normandy American Military Cemetery. The group will gather for a lunch at a local restaurant.

DAYS SEVEN | JUNE 23 | BAYEUX & PARIS
Our deluxe motor coach will transfer you to Paris, where you will stay at the Pullman Montparnasse Hotel Arena.

DAYS EIGHT | JUNE 24 | PARIS
You will have a full day in Paris, which will include entrance to Musee de l’Armee (Army Museum), which houses nearly 500,000 works, covering military history over a chronological period ranging from prehistory to the present day. Wear your walking shoes as you take a private Wartime Walking Tour of Paris.

DAYS NINE | JUNE 25 | PARIS & KRAKÓW
After breakfast, transfer to Paris CDG airport to board your flight to Kraków, Poland, where you will stay at the Holiday Inn Kraków Center.

DAYS TEN | JUNE 26 | KRAKÓW
Explore historic Kraków. Activities include a tour of Oskar Schindler’s Factory. Oskar Schindler was a German entrepreneur and member of the Nazi party credited with saving approximately 1,200 Jews by employing them in his factories so they could avoid death in Nazi labor camps. His story became well-known because of the Steven Spielberg movie, Schindler's List.
DAY ELEVEN | JUNE 27 | KRAKÓW & OŚWIĘCIM
Experience a full-day excursion to Oświęcim for a guided tour of the concentration and extermination camps Auschwitz I and Auschwitz II-Birkenau. You will return to the Holiday Inn Krakow Center for an evening of quiet reflection.

DAY TWELVE | JUNE 28 | KRAKÓW & BERLIN
Travel by motor coach to Berlin, Germany, where you will stay at Hotel Berlin Central District, a Marriott International property.

DAY THIRTEEN | JUNE 29 | BERLIN
Your full-day tour will include a Wartime Walk of Berlin.

DAY FOURTEEN | JUNE 30 | BERLIN
On your final day of this amazing tour, you will have a guided tour of Wannsee House, where leading figures in the Nazi government and SS met to discuss their so-called Final Solution to the Jewish Question. Then visit the Cecilienhof Palace, where the heads of the Soviet Union, United Kingdom and United States met for a summit after VE day. Finally, the group will stop at the Olympic Stadium, location of the 1936 Olympic Games, where Ohio State’s Jesse Owens won four gold medals. Your tour ends with a special group dinner at Mutter Hoppe restaurant.

DAY FIFTEEN | JULY 1 | BERLIN & HOME
After breakfast, make your own way to Berlin Brandenburg airport for your return flight home.

Itinerary subject to change.

INCLUDED FEATURES

- Accommodations: Four-star hotels (and one charming three-star) with proximity to historic attractions.
- Meals: Fourteen breakfasts, one lunch and three dinners.
- Professional Program Manager: Throughout your journey, you will be in the care of a seasoned travel professional who will manage all the logistics, allowing you to relax and simply soak up the ambience. Resourceful, knowledgeable and attentive, Christian Mauer helps to ensure you enjoy an unforgettable travel experience.
- Expert Guides: Who better to show you around than experts in the fields diplomatic and military history? Ohio State Department of History Professors Peter Mansoor, David Steigerwald and Peter Hahn understand the needs of educated and curious travelers. Warm and genuine, they’re ready to share their passion for World War II history with you.

LAND PROGRAM

Double occupancy price (per person) - $5,990
Single accommodations - $7,290

*All deposits refundable until January 31, 2023 *

Price includes: a $1,000 tax-deductible contribution per traveler to the Department of History’s WWII Study Abroad program; the expertise of Ohio State Department of History Professors Peter Mansoor, David Steigerwald and Peter Hahn; a professional program manager, Christian Mauer; accommodations; transfers; tours and services per itinerary; meals and drinks listed on itinerary; and all city taxes.

Not included: pre-tour excursion; airfare to/from tour arrival and departure cities; airline baggage fees; passport and visa expenses; meals or drinks with meals if not listed in itinerary; gratuities for program manager and drivers; personal expenses; itemized services; and any government imposed entry/exit fees and taxes (subject to change and without notice).

VISA REQUIREMENTS

The European Union will introduce an electronic visa waiver system in 2022. No precise date has been set yet, but we prefer to advise you in advance so there are no surprises. People travelling from countries to the EU that do not currently have to apply for a Schengen visa will still need to apply online and pay a small fee for a visa waiver via the new European Travel Information and Authorization System (ETIAS). The UK, which is no longer part of the EU, is working on a similar scheme, which may be introduced in 2023. More information will be provided as it becomes available.

RESERVATIONS

Using the words of Dwight D. Eisenhower, tell us, “Okay, let’s go.” Show us your interest in booking this once-in-a-lifetime experience by contacting us through email or phone at:

Email: budreau.5@osu.edu
Phone: 614-247-7686
Professor Peter Hahn

An accomplished research scholar, Professor Hahn has published seven books on the history of American diplomacy in the Middle East, most recently Missions Accomplished? The United States and Iraq since World War I and Historical Dictionary of U.S.-Middle East Relations, as well as scores of articles, essays, and reviews. Professor Hahn has conducted research in the archives of the United States, Israel, Britain, and France; delivered scholarly papers and invited lectures in eleven countries; consulted with policymakers in the U.S. Departments of State, Defense, and Justice and with senior officers of the Ohio National Guard; and given interviews to the media on five continents.

Professor Peter Mansoor

Professor Peter Mansoor, Colonel, U.S. Army (Ret.), is the General Raymond E. Mason Jr. Chair of Military History and the recipient of the 2018 Distinguished Undergraduate Research Mentor Award. A distinguished graduate of the United States Military Academy, Colonel Mansoor served in a variety of command and staff positions in the United States, Europe, and the Middle East during his military career, including two combat tours in Iraq. Professor Mansoor is the author of The GI Offensive in Europe: The Triumph of American Infantry Divisions, 1941-1945, winner of the Society for Military History distinguished book award.

Professor David Steigerwald

Prof. Steigerwald is the director of the history department’s Transnational History of World War II Study Abroad Program. He teaches courses in twentieth century America, ranging from WWI through the Sixties. He is the author of Wilsonian Idealism in America (Ithaca, 1994) and The Sixties and the End of Modern America (New York, 1995), and he co-authored, along with Michael Flamm, Debating the Sixties: Liberal, Conservative, and Radical Perspectives (2007). Steigerwald has twice been honored with Phi Alpha Theta Zeta Chapter’s Clio Award for Outstanding Teaching in History, and he also is the recipient of the university’s highest recognition for teaching excellence, the Alumni Distinguished Teaching Award.