

VMFA

VIRGINIA MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

Celtic Lands

ENGLAND ♦ FRANCE ♦ IRELAND ♦ WALES ♦ SCOTLAND

and

D-DAY REMEMBERED

75th  **ANNIVERSARY**

Featuring Guest Speaker

DWIGHT DAVID EISENHOWER II

accompanying you to the Normandy Beaches

Aboard the

Exclusively Chartered Small Ship

Five-Star **LE CHAMPLAIN**

April 27 to May 6, 2019



RESERVE BY
SEPTEMBER 7, 2018

SAVE \$2000
PER COUPLE

VMFA

VIRGINIA MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

Dear VMFA Members:

Experience the rich traditions and astonishing beauty of the British Isles and Northern France's storied coastline during this unforgettable Celtic Lands voyage. During our specially designed itinerary, traverse the lands and seas of the ancient and influential Celts. In commemoration of the historic 75th anniversary of the **D-Day Invasion**, visit the solemn shores of Normandy with **David Eisenhower**, grandson of General and President Eisenhower.

Professor Eisenhower will join us for a portion of the cruise and share his exclusive insights on one of the most influential figures of the 20th century. While you cruise the waters of the Irish and Celtic Seas and cross the English Channel, enjoy the luxuries of the exclusively chartered, Five-Star, small ship **LE CHAMPLAIN**—featuring only 92 Suites and Staterooms, each with a private balcony, and the extraordinary *Blue Eye*, the world's first multisensory underwater observation lounge—and explore cities, villages and islands that abound with Celtic heritage. Call at ports inaccessible to larger vessels, discover firsthand the bold influence left by the ancient Celts and visit the historic territories where their renowned culture remains.

Discover Scotland's seldom-visited Inner Hebridean Islands and admire the austere landscapes of the United Kingdom. In North Wales, enjoy a privately arranged musical performance by the renowned Welsh Maelgwyn Choir. Stroll the rare and exquisite Tresco Gardens in the Scilly Isles, England, and in Dublin, Ireland, view treasures of Celtic heritage and revel in the lively delights of traditional Irish song and dance.

VMFA is proud to be sharing this departure with travelers from John Hopkins, Northwestern and Tufts Universities. This extraordinary visit to the pivotal D-Day beaches of Normandy—where Allied forces turned the tide of World War II—and the beautiful Celtic Lands of the British Isles is an exclusive program that will sell out quickly. Make your reservations now, as space is limited!

Sincerely,



Adele "Hutch" Livingston
VMFA Coordinator of Member Travel

VMFA Host



An avid traveler, Hutch has participated in more than 40 VMFA travel programs over the past 12 years, and has been the Coordinator of Member Travel since 2013. A former banker, she is a graduate of Randolph-Macon Woman's College with a degree in economics. She loves people and loves connecting travelers to VMFA.



Cover photo: *Duart Castle's clifftop grounds offer breathtaking views out across the Sound of Mull.*

Spread photo: *The seaside town of Arromanches overlooks Mulberry "B," the military code name for an artificial harbor created to land troops and equipment on D-Day.*

the LEGACY of the CELTS



The ancient Celts' immeasurable contributions to Europe are rooted in a tradition of art, science and folkloric legend. This tribal civilization spanned two thousand years with a diversified domain extending from the Iberian Peninsula to the Black Sea and from the Mediterranean to the North Sea. Today, they are most associated with the cultural identity and consciousness of Ireland, although their roots run deep in England, Wales, Scotland and northern France—historic territories where traces of their influence remain and where Celtic dialects formed the original languages.

U.S./London, England

Saturday and Sunday, April 27 and 28

Depart the U.S. for London. On arrival, check into the deluxe RUNNYMEDE ON THAMES HOTEL. Following an afternoon at leisure on Sunday, return to the hotel for dinner.

London

Monday, April 29

Check out of the hotel and embark the Five-Star LE CHAMPLAIN. Cruise down the River Thames, a memorable passage possible only by small ship. Later on board, **Professor David Eisenhower** will share captivating personal insights about his grandfather and “Operation Overlord,” the Allies’ code name for the military campaign that launched the D-Day airborne and amphibious invasion at Normandy.

This evening, attend the Captain’s Welcome Reception and Dinner on board the ship.

Caen, France, for

Arromanches and Omaha Beach

Tuesday, April 30

Dock in Caen and travel to Arromanches to view a wraparound short film documenting the D-Day campaign at the Arromanches 360 Circular Cinema. Continue to Longues-sur-Mer, where the coastal German artillery battery remains intact.

After lunch, continue to Omaha Beach, where Allied forces landed on June 6, 1944, and walk the historic Normandy shores.

Then, in the company of Professor Eisenhower, contemplate the solemn commemorative crosses and Stars of David in the American Military Cemetery at Colleville-sur-Mer.

Caen for Utah Beach and Sainte-Mère-Èglise/Cherbourg **Wednesday, May 1**

Begin your day at Pointe du Hoc to envision the heroic U.S. Army Second Ranger Battalion scaling this cliff promontory, and survey the serene English Channel.

After lunch, visit the Church of Angoville-au-Plain, an emergency aid station during D-Day, and view its modern stained-glass rendition of the American Airborne parachute drop; here, two brave U.S. Army medics treated wounded soldiers, using pews as makeshift beds.

Continue to Utah Beach, the westernmost shore of the five landing areas of the Normandy invasion. Visit the Utah Beach D-Day Museum for a chronological account of the landing retold through an immersive curation of artifacts, vehicles and oral histories.

Nearby Sainte-Mère-Èglise, the first French village to be liberated by American forces during World War II, is known for its great historical significance, including the famous story of American soldier John Steele, who caught his parachute on the church steeple and was forced to dangle limply for two hours before being taken as a German prisoner.





Brightly painted houses overlook

See Milestone 0, which marks the Road to Freedom's commencement.

Tresco, Scilly Isles, England

Thursday, May 2

Visit the lush, 19th-century Tresco Abbey Gardens, weather permitting. Blooming with more than 6000 exotic plant species ranging in origin from Brazil to New Zealand, and built around the ruins of a Benedictine Abbey, this subtropical landscape is often compared to London's Royal Botanic Garden as a "perennial Kew without the glass." Meander among spires of indigo viper's bugloss, broad-leafed tree ferns, flourishing aloes and bright pink South African *suikerbos* in this surprising, magical haven.

Dublin, Ireland

Friday, May 3

Built astride the River Liffey, Ireland's historic capital has retained its rich heritage of Georgian architecture.

The Long Room of Trinity College's Old Library showcases 200,000 of its oldest books, with the Book of Kells on display in the adjacent Treasury.



The panoramic tour of the city highlights the landmark St. Patrick's and Christ Church Cathedrals and grand O'Connell Street, lined with bronze and marble statues of Irish statesmen. Stroll through the stately quadrangles of Trinity College and view the incandescent illuminations of the ninth-century *Book of Kells*. The afternoon is at leisure to walk along colorful Grafton Street, savor a pint of Guinness in a neighborhood pub or visit the National Gallery of Ireland, one of the best repositories of Celtic treasures in the world.

On board the ship this evening, enjoy specially arranged, traditional Irish music and dance performed by a local band.

Holyhead, Wales

Saturday, May 4

From Holyhead, transfer across the diminutive Isle of Anglesey and over the Menai Strait to North Wales, cradle of Celtic culture, where Welsh remains the mother tongue.

Choose to visit beautiful Bodnant Garden, one of the finest examples of 19th-century Victorian landscape artistry, or tour the imposing UNESCO World Heritage-designated Caernarfon Castle, an impenetrable 13th-century





the sheltered sound in the colorful fishing port of Tobermory, capital of the Isle of Mull.

fortress built by Edward I of England as a defense against the marauding Welsh. Following the tradition of seven centuries of monarchs, Queen Elizabeth II invested the future heir to the British throne, her son Charles, as Prince of Wales at Caernarfon in 1969.

Following your excursion, enjoy a stirring private choir performance of Welsh hymns in St. Mary's Church in Conwy.

Enjoy views of the beautiful, glacier-sculpted peaks and valleys of the Snowdonia Mountains during your return to the ship.

Tobermory, Isle of Mull, Scotland/ Isle of Iona

Sunday, May 5

Go ashore at the sheltered port of Tobermory on the Isle of Mull, where brightly painted houses are nestled between the hills and the harbor. Visit 13th-century Duart Castle, the ancestral home of the Clan Maclean, and enjoy lunch at the castle.

Ferry across the Sound of Iona to the neighboring Hebridean Isle of Iona, the birthplace of Christianity in Scotland. In A.D. 563, the Irish monk Columba founded a monastery here, where scribes

Explore Edward I's impressive Caernarfon Castle, the mightiest link in his Iron Ring of fortresses across North Wales and where the investiture of Prince Charles of Wales took place in 1969.



would spend their entire lives painstakingly copying and illuminating religious tracts and transcribing ancient Celtic sagas. Iona became the burial place of Scotland's kings, including Duncan and Macbeth. Stroll through the serene, restored abbey and see the churchyard's intricate Celtic crosses.

This evening, attend the Captain's Farewell Reception.

Glasgow/U.S.

Monday, May 6

Disembark and continue on the Glasgow and Edinburgh Post-Program Option or transfer to the airport for your return flight to the U.S.

London

Pre-Program Option

Experience stately London, where living history makes each visit more enjoyable than the last. Enjoy a panoramic tour of London's West End landmarks and visit the underground cabinet war rooms of Winston Churchill. Accommodations

for two nights are in the

ideally located, deluxe

INTERCONTINENTAL

LONDON PARK LANE.



Glasgow ♦ Edinburgh

Post-Program Option

Explore Glasgow and Edinburgh, two of Scotland's great cities

intertwined with Celtic history.

Visit Glasgow's 12th-century cathedral and the captivating St. Mungo Museum. In Edinburgh, explore the medieval Old Town and Neoclassical New Town, both UNESCO World Heritage sites. Tour the renowned Museum of Scotland and visit the majestically perched Edinburgh Castle. Spend two nights in the ideally located, Five-Star WALDORF ASTORIA EDINBURGH - THE CALEDONIAN.

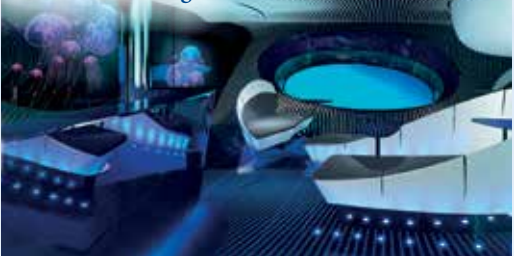


Pre- and Post-Program Options are available at additional cost. Details will be included with your reservation confirmation.

EXCLUSIVELY CHARTERED, FIVE-STAR MV LE CHAMPLAIN



Underwater Lounge



Stateroom with Balcony



Blue Eye - The World's First Luxury Underwater Observatory

Exclusive to the Ponant fleet, the extraordinary *Blue Eye* multisensory underwater lounge evokes the mystique of subaquatic life in a luxurious, refined atmosphere. *Marine life viewing varies by location.*

Luxury Small Ship, Innovative Design

LE CHAMPLAIN, launching in 2018, ushers in a new generation of Five-Star small ships, combining revolutionary design and a new standard of luxury for an unparalleled cruising experience. Dock in smaller ports inaccessible to larger ships and where authentic cultural experiences and majestic scenery await you.

Respect for the Environment

The newest addition to the Ponant "Clean Ship" fleet, a rare distinction among ocean-cruising vessels, LE CHAMPLAIN is energy efficient and eco-friendly, protecting fragile marine ecosystems while providing a safe and comfortable voyage.

Chic and Casual Dining

Dine indoors or alfresco on international and regional cuisine served in the stylish, spacious indoor-outdoor restaurant, at the casual pool deck grill or from 24-hour room service. Daily meals include continental and buffet breakfasts, buffet lunch, afternoon tea and four-course dinner.

92 Elegant Suites and Staterooms, 100% with Private Balconies

Each Five-Star Stateroom and Suite (up to 484 square feet) features a private balcony. Grand Deluxe Suites have a bay window and spacious private terrace. Accommodations offer two twin beds or one queen bed, individual climate control and luxurious hotel amenities.

Life on Board

Enjoy sweeping views from the lounges, which open to the outdoors, and lectures, cultural performances or film screenings in the state-of-the-art theater. Relax in the spa and sauna or the Sun Deck's infinity-style swimming pool. There is a beauty salon, fitness room and two elevators. Complimentary Wi-Fi is available throughout the ship.

World-Class Service

The highly trained, English-speaking crew are personable and attentive, and the ship has a medical center staffed with a doctor and nurse.

Main Lounge



Panoramic Restaurant



Acclaimed Guest Speaker

- ◆ David Eisenhower—grandson of General and President Dwight D. Eisenhower, historian and professor at the University of Pennsylvania.

Included Features

London, England

- ◆ One night in the deluxe RUNNYMEDE ON THAMES HOTEL, with breakfast and dinner.

On Board the Exclusively Chartered, Five-Star, Small Ship LE CHAMPLAIN

- ◆ Seven-night cruise from London, England, to Glasgow, Scotland, including the Normandy beaches Utah and Omaha to commemorate the 75th anniversary of D-Day.
- ◆ Elegantly appointed, Five-Star Suite or Stateroom.
- ◆ Captain's Welcome and Farewell Receptions and Welcome Dinner.
- ◆ Complimentary alcoholic and nonalcoholic beverages available throughout the cruise.
- ◆ All meals aboard ship.
- ◆ Complimentary Wi-Fi throughout the ship.
- ◆ *Blue Eye*—the world's first luxury, multisensory, underwater observatory.
- ◆ Two full-day excursions, with lunch, to the historic D-Day beaches of Normandy with visits to Utah and Omaha Beaches, Sainte-Mère-Èglise, and the American Military Cemetery.
- ◆ Viewing of a short film documenting the D-Day campaign at the Arromanches 360 Circular Cinema.
- ◆ Visit to the lush, 19th-century Tresco Abbey Gardens, weather permitting.
- ◆ City tour of Dublin, featuring a visit to Trinity College to see the legendary *Book of Kells* masterwork.
- ◆ Traditional Irish music and dance entertainment aboard ship while in Dublin.
- ◆ Visit to Caernarfon Castle, a UNESCO World Heritage site, OR 19th-century Bodnant Garden, with picturesque views of the magnificent Snowdonia Mountains in Wales.
- ◆ Private performance by the renowned Welsh Maelgwyn Choir.
- ◆ Panoramic tour of the Isle of Mull, featuring an excursion to Duart Castle, with a light lunch.
- ◆ Visit to the Isle of Iona featuring the historic Iona Abbey.



Always Included

- ◆ Transfers and luggage handling abroad if your arrival(s)/departure(s) coincide with the scheduled group transfer(s).
- ◆ Experienced, English-speaking local guides for included excursions.
- ◆ Gratuities to local guides and drivers on included excursions and transfers.
- ◆ Complimentary bottled water in your Suite or Stateroom aboard ship and on excursions.
- ◆ Hospitality desk aboard ship and in the hotel.
- ◆ Experienced Gohagan & Company Travel Directors at your service.
- ◆ Complimentary use of an audio headset during guided excursions.
- ◆ Automatic \$250,000 flight insurance policy for each participant ticketed on flights by Gohagan & Company.



Attend a dynamic lecture and enjoy informal discussions with an expert on one of the most powerful world leaders of the 20th century and World War II.

Featured Guest Speaker

Dwight David Eisenhower II



Grandson of General and President Dwight D. Eisenhower, **David Eisenhower** is a noted historian of World War II and the Cold War. His 1986 bestseller, *Eisenhower: At War 1943-1945*, was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize in history.

Eisenhower received a B.A. in history *cum laude* from Amherst College. Following graduation, he served in the United States Naval Reserve for three years as an officer on the *USS Albany*; shortly afterward, he earned his J.D. *cum laude* from The George Washington University Law School.

Today, Eisenhower is Senior Fellow of the Foreign Policy Research Institute and a Public Policy Fellow at the Annenberg School of Communication and the School of Arts and Sciences at the University of Pennsylvania, where he teaches “Communication and the Presidency.” His lecture will feature:

- ◆ ***Operation Overlord***—the concept, planning and personalities behind the D-Day invasion; and
- ◆ ***Triumph and Tragedy***—big-picture consequences of the Allied Forces Normandy landings.

Scheduled guest speakers may be altered due to circumstances beyond our control. See Release of Liability, Assumption of Risk and Binding Arbitration Agreement.

On June 6, 1944, Allied forces launched the D-Day invasion, landing on the beaches of Normandy.





Iona Abbey, Scotland's holiest place since the sixth century A.D., is traditionally believed to be where the Book of Kells was created.

RELEASE OF LIABILITY, ASSUMPTION OF RISK AND BINDING ARBITRATION AGREEMENT

RESPONSIBILITY: Gohagan & Company, the sponsoring associations/organizations, and its and their employees, shareholders, subsidiaries, affiliates, officers, directors or trustees, successors, and assigns (collectively "Gohagan"), do not own or operate any entity which is to or does provide goods or services for your trip including, for example, lodging facilities, airline, vessel, or other transportation companies, guides or guide services, local ground operators, providers or organizers of optional excursions, food service or entertainment providers, etc. All such persons and entities are independent contractors. As a result, Gohagan is not liable for any negligent or willful act or failure to act of any such person or entity or of any other third party.

In addition and without limitation, Gohagan is not responsible for any injury, loss, death, inconvenience, delay, or damage to person or property in connection with the provision of any goods or services whether resulting from, but not limited to, acts of God or force majeure, acts of government, acts of war or civil unrest, insurrection or revolt, bites from or attacks by animals, insects or pests, strikes or other labor activities, criminal or terrorist activities of any kind or the threat thereof, sickness, illness, epidemics or the threat thereof, the lack of availability of or access to medical attention or the quality thereof, overbooking or downgrading of accommodations, mechanical or other failure of airplanes, vessels, or other means of transportation, or for any failure of any transportation mechanism to arrive or depart timely or safely.

If due to weather, flight schedules or other uncontrollable factors, you are required to spend an additional night(s), you will be responsible for your own hotel, transfers and meal costs. Baggage is entirely at owner's risk. The right is reserved to decline to accept as a trip participant, or remove from a trip, without refund, any person Gohagan judges to be incapable of meeting the rigors and requirements of participating in the activities, or who is abusive to other trip participants, leaders or third parties, or who Gohagan determines to detract from the enjoyment of the trip by others. Specific room/cabin assignments are within the sole discretion of the hotel or cruise line.

Gohagan reserves the right to change the itinerary or trip features at any time and for any reason, with or without notice, and Gohagan shall not be liable for any loss of any kind as a result of any such changes. Ship schedules, port calls, hours of arrival and departure, sightseeing events, special programs and guest lecture series (if applicable), are subject to change or cancellation. Gohagan reserves the right to substitute motorcoach transportation using hotels, inns or lodges for cruise accommodations if necessary due to weather, water conditions or levels, other events of force majeure, mechanical or other conditions beyond the control of Gohagan. Gohagan is not responsible therefor and is not required to compensate passengers under these circumstances. Gohagan may cancel a trip (or an option) for any reason whatsoever; if so, its sole responsibility is to refund monies paid by the participant to it. Gohagan, however, is not required under these circumstances to refund the cost of any purchased travel insurance. Gohagan is not required to cancel any trip for any reason including without limitation, United States Department of State, World Health Organization or other Warnings or Advisories of any kind. Gohagan is not responsible for penalties assessed by air carriers resulting from operational and/or itinerary changes, even if Gohagan makes the flight arrangements or cancels the trip. Gohagan reserves the right to substitute vessels, hotels or attractions of a similar category for those listed in this brochure.

NOT INCLUDED: Taxes; passport, visas and associated fees; personal expenses such as laundry, telephone calls and Internet access; accident/sickness, trip cancellation, and baggage insurance; gratuities to ship and hotel personnel; optional sightseeing excursions; baggage charges on aircraft; local departure air/airport tax(es); airfare and associated local taxes, airport facility and security taxes and federal inspection fees not listed in the "Included Features" section of the brochure; transfers and baggage handling to/from airport/hotel/ship on day(s) of arrival and/or departure if you are arriving earlier or later than and/or departing earlier or later than the scheduled group transfer(s); any overnight on land due to flight schedule(s); meals, alcoholic or other beverages and all other services not specifically mentioned in the "Included Features" section.

AIRFARE: Airfare is subject to change and availability and, depending on the fare basis, likely is nonrefundable. Your airline ticket constitutes a contract between you and the airline, even if purchased through Gohagan.

LUGGAGE: Luggage allowance policies are set by the airlines and may change without notice.

PHYSICAL ACCESSIBILITY: All programs require physical independence and mobility. Any physical or mental condition that may require special medical attention or physical assistance (for example, the need for a wheelchair) must be reported in writing when you make your reservation. Travelers must be able to embark or disembark motorcoaches alone or with minimal assistance from your traveling companion and climb stairs and step over raised thresholds without assistance. Travelers requiring assistance must travel with a companion who will be responsible for handling equipment.

DISCOUNTED RESERVATIONS: Discounts apply only to those reservations received in the offices of Gohagan in writing, accompanied by the required deposit, by **September 7, 2018**. In the event a "discounted" reservation must be cancelled, no "replacement" reservation can be substituted at the discounted rate. A "replacement" reservation is a new reservation and can be substituted only at the full-fare tariff. Cancellation penalties may apply.

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CANCELLATIONS: Cancellations for all or any part of the trip including Pre/Post Program(s) reservation(s) will not be effective until received in writing in the offices of Gohagan. Should you have to cancel, the following terms will apply: reservation cancellation(s) are subject to a \$200 (\$50 Pre/Post Program(s)) per person administrative fee from the time of booking through 120 days prior to departure; from 95 through 119 days prior to departure, \$800 (\$200 Pre/Post Program(s)) per person; from 60 through 94 days prior to departure, 70% of the published full regular tariffs; cancellations 59 days or less prior to departure, a no-show, or early return from the trip will result in forfeiture of 100% of the published full regular tariffs. In addition, any applicable airline cancellation fees, optional excursion cancellation fees and administrative fees may apply.

TRIP INSURANCE: We strongly recommend that you purchase trip cancellation insurance. In the event that you must cancel your participation in a travel program, trip cancellation insurance may be the only source of reimbursement. Trip cancellation insurance is available through Gohagan and others for comprehensive coverage of such expenses in conjunction with cancellation due to illness or accident, and damaged or lost luggage. We will send you an application upon receipt of your reservation.

RATES: Prices quoted are based on fares in effect at the time of printing and are subject to change at any time. On land and/or cruise programs, even after full payment, Gohagan reserves the right to increase the tour price in the event of cost increases due to changes in supplier costs, currency fluctuations or fuel or energy surcharges and all such increases are to be paid to Gohagan upon notice to the tour participant of such increases. On programs which include Gohagan purchased interstate or international air (which originates or returns to the United States), no increased costs will be passed on after final payment except for subsequently imposed governmental tax increases.

REGISTRATION: CST#: 2031868-40, WST#: 601767666, OST#: TA 0905.

BINDING ARBITRATION: Any dispute concerning, relating or referring to this Agreement, the brochure or any other literature concerning the trip, or the trip itself, shall be resolved exclusively by binding arbitration pursuant to the Federal Arbitration Act, 9 U.S.C. Sections 1-16, either according to the then existing Commercial Rules of the American Arbitration Association (AAA) or pursuant to the Comprehensive Arbitration Rules & Procedures of the Judicial Arbitration and Mediation Services, Inc. (JAMS). Such proceedings will be governed by substantive (but not procedural) Illinois law and will take place in Chicago, IL. The arbitrator and not any federal, state, or local court or agency shall have exclusive authority to resolve any dispute relating to the interpretation, applicability, enforceability, conscionability, or formation of this contract, including but not limited to any claim that all or any part of this contract is void or voidable. Please understand that by agreeing to these terms and conditions, the participant and Gohagan are waiving the right to a trial by jury.

ACCEPTANCE OF CONTRACT: By forwarding of deposit, the participant certifies that he/she does not have any mental, physical or other condition of disability that would create a hazard for him/herself or other participants and accepts the terms contained in this Release of Liability, Assumption of Risk and Binding Arbitration Agreement.

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