

VMFA

VIRGINIA MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

European Coastal Cruise

80th

ANNIVERSARY

D-DAY & THE BATTLE OF NORMANDY

May 2 to 11, 2024



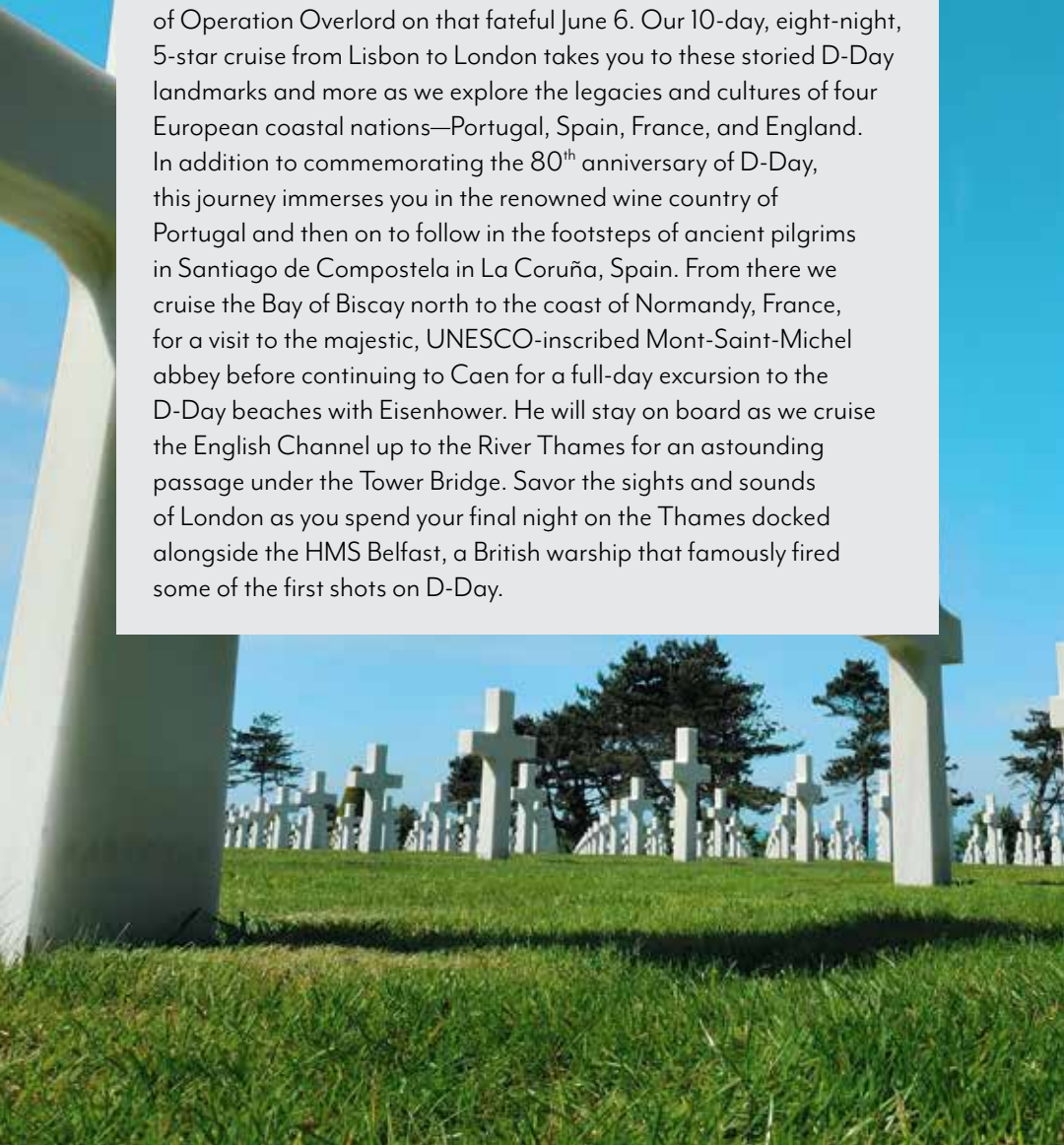
FEATURING

DWIGHT DAVID EISENHOWER II

EUROPEAN COASTAL CRUISE

D-DAY AND THE BATTLE OF NORMANDY

Eighty years ago, Allied forces stormed the beaches of Normandy, France, for an invasion that would change the course of history. Walk these sacred grounds in the company of special guest speaker Dwight David Eisenhower II—grandson of President Dwight D. Eisenhower, who served as Supreme Allied Commander of Operation Overlord on that fateful June 6. Our 10-day, eight-night, 5-star cruise from Lisbon to London takes you to these storied D-Day landmarks and more as we explore the legacies and cultures of four European coastal nations—Portugal, Spain, France, and England. In addition to commemorating the 80th anniversary of D-Day, this journey immerses you in the renowned wine country of Portugal and then on to follow in the footsteps of ancient pilgrims in Santiago de Compostela in La Coruña, Spain. From there we cruise the Bay of Biscay north to the coast of Normandy, France, for a visit to the majestic, UNESCO-inscribed Mont-Saint-Michel abbey before continuing to Caen for a full-day excursion to the D-Day beaches with Eisenhower. He will stay on board as we cruise the English Channel up to the River Thames for an astounding passage under the Tower Bridge. Savor the sights and sounds of London as you spend your final night on the Thames docked alongside the HMS Belfast, a British warship that famously fired some of the first shots on D-Day.





Bombers over Pointe du Hoc prior to the invasion of Normandy

VMFA

VIRGINIA MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

Dear VMFA Members:

Neoclassical palaces, medieval castles, and Romanesque cathedrals illuminate the enduring cultural legacies of four European coastal civilizations that have played a pivotal role in world history. From the old-world sophistication of Portugal and the artistic verve of Spain's Basque country to the historic D-Day beaches of Normandy, France, and the regal majesty of London, a riveting canvas of influential seaports awaits you along Europe's Atlantic coastline.

Our exclusive, 5-star, small ship itinerary immerses you in these iconic stories and includes special guided excursions to commemorate the 80th anniversary of D-Day. Accompanying us to the hallowed Normandy Beaches is special guest speaker Dwight David Eisenhower II, grandson of General and President Dwight D. Eisenhower—Supreme Commander of the Allied Forces during World War II.

Cruise for eight nights aboard the exclusively chartered, 5-star LE CHAMPLAIN, featuring only 92 suites and staterooms, each with a private balcony. Dock in small ports of call inaccessible to larger vessels and enjoy ocean-view accommodations, enriching excursions, and attentive, personal service.

Visit three UNESCO World Heritage Sites, including the astonishing island monastery of Mont-Saint-Michel, the jewel of medieval France; the Christian world's third holiest city of Santiago de Compostela, where you will walk in the footsteps of medieval pilgrims to visit the tomb of Saint James; and spirited Oporto, the center of world-famous port wine and exemplary Moorish-influenced architecture. Cruise Spain's ruggedly beautiful Costa Verde, tour Frank Gehry's visionary Guggenheim Museum in Bilbao, and cruise up the River Thames to spend one night on the ship a mere stone's throw from Tower Bridge in the heart of London.

This amazing program features at least one included excursion in each port with options to customize your journey at no extra cost with a choice of activities. VMFA is proud to be sharing this departure with travelers from University of Connecticut, Rice University, and other fine organizations, so we urge you to reserve now while space and early booking savings are available.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Adele 'Hutch' Livingston". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Adele" and the last name "Livingston" being more prominent than the middle name "Hutch".

Adele "Hutch" Livingston
VMFA Coordinator of Member Travel

**To secure your spot, call Gohagan and Company at 800-922-3088
or visit gohagantravel.com/reserve**



GUEST SPEAKER

DWIGHT DAVID EISENHOWER II

Grandson of General and President Dwight D. Eisenhower, Dwight David Eisenhower II 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 lectures will feature:

Operation Overlord

The concept, planning and personalities behind the D-Day invasion

Triumph and Tragedy

Big-picture consequences of the Allied forces’ Normandy landings

A WORLD AT WAR: SPIES, ALLIES, AND OPERATION OVERLORD

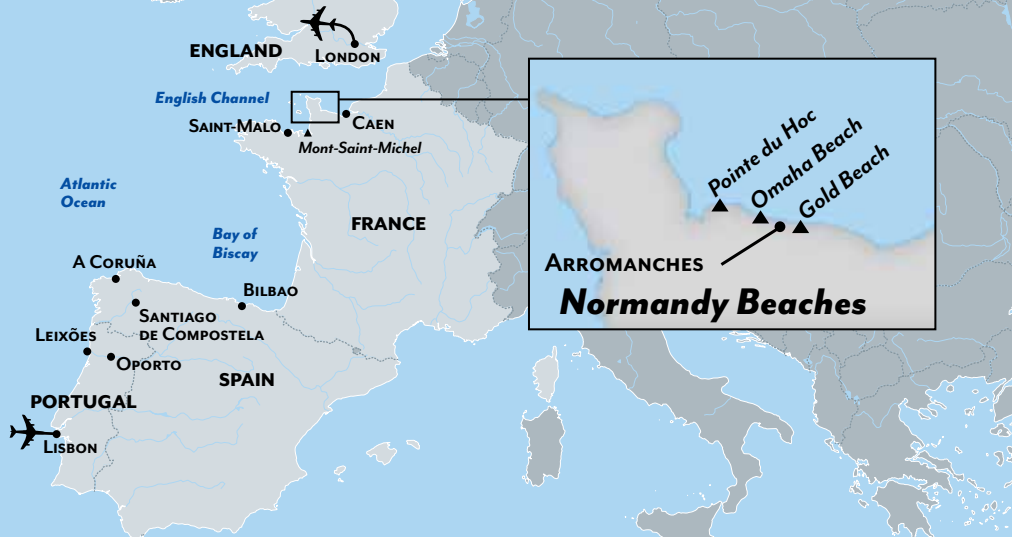
In the days before President Dwight D. Eisenhower led land, air, and sea forces to victory in one of the largest amphibious invasions in military history, Allied powers in nearby London and the then-occupied France were on high alert. On June 1, 1944, five days before troops stormed Normandy beaches, the BBC sent its first coded message to warn the French resistance of the coming invasion. The next day in London, Prime Minister Winston Churchill—who had wanted to watch the operation code-named OVERLORD from HMS BELFAST—received a letter from King George VI pleading with him not to go. The city had suffered tremendous loss just a few years prior in an aerial German bombing campaign known as The Blitz. The risk, according to the king, was just too high. Meanwhile, secret messages were flying in Lisbon—a notorious hive of spy activity during World War II. Consequently, when nearly 133,000 troops finally landed on the Normandy beaches at 6:30 a.m. on June 6, 1944, Allied countries throughout Europe watched, and waited, for news of a much-needed victory. Our exclusive travel program takes you in the path of this iconic history on the 80th anniversary of D-Day, from Lisbon’s “city of spies” to Caen, the French city that set the stage for the Battle of Normandy, and on to London, where you will spend the night docked on the Thames next to none other than the HMS Belfast. Dwight David Eisenhower II, historian and grandson of President Eisenhower, joins us on a special anniversary tour with onboard lectures and guided walks through the American Military Cemetery, Pointe du Hoc, and Omaha Beach, where an estimated 2,400 Allied soldiers died on a day the world will never forget.



INCLUDED FEATURES

- ◆ Transfers and luggage handling abroad if you purchased air through Gohagan & Company and 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 and on excursions.
- ◆ 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.
- ◆ Hospitality desk aboard the ship.
- ◆ Meals included as noted in the itinerary (B,L,R,D).





10-DAY/8-NIGHT ITINERARY

Depart home city

Day 1

Depart your home city on an overnight flight to Portugal.

Lisbon, Portugal/ Embark

Day 2

Arrive in Lisbon and embark the 5-star LE CHAMPLAIN. (D)

Leixões for Oporto

Day 3

Dock in Leixões and transfer to Oporto, a former Roman outpost and center of port wine trade since the 13th century. The cultural legacy of the Moors finds expression in Oporto's rich architectural details.

Choose from two included activities this morning.

Either choose to experience a port and cheese tasting at a local lodge or take a "Medieval Monuments of Oporto" tour.

After lunch, the group will embark on a walking tour of Ribeira, Oporto's historical center, declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site for its living history status. Enjoy the afternoon at leisure before embarking the ship to attend the Captain's Welcome Reception this evening. (B,L,R,D)

A Coruña, Spain, for Santiago de Compostela

Day 4

Visit the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Santiago de Compostela, and stroll along medieval stone streets



Wine and Cheese in Oporto, Portugal

to the Praza do Obradoiro—flanked by the glorious Romanesque cathedral. As a pilgrimage site since the Middle Ages, the cathedral enshrines the tomb of Saint James and is recognized for its carved Baroque façade, original medieval portico, and Churrigueresque altar. (B,L,D)

Bilbao

Day 5

Frank Gehry's titanium-clad Guggenheim Museum hailed Bilbao's cultural renaissance as modernist marvels from Santiago Calatrava and

Philippe Starck redefined the post-industrial skyline. An afternoon excursion in the city will give you two options for included activities. Choose between touring the Guggenheim's renowned art collection or enjoy a basque

cooking demonstration and a panoramic tour of Bilbao. Conclude the day with a guided visit to the old quarter, followed by time at leisure. (B,L,D)

Cruising the Bay of Biscay

Day 6

Enjoy a lecture by Professor Eisenhower on the ship this evening while cruising. (B,L,D)

Saint-Malo, France, for Mont-Saint-Michel

Day 7

Rising from a tidal plain that appears to be suspended

Mont St. Michel, near Saint-Malo, France



above the sea, the UNESCO World Heritage-designated Mont-Saint-Michel is a sight of soaring spires isolated beyond a stretch of saltwater marsh. This fortified village began as a humble oratory and became a renowned medieval center of learning. Cobblestone streets weave through the village, culminating in the Abbaye du Mont-Saint-Michel, a three-story Gothic masterpiece. Admire the serene cloisters, barrel-roofed réfectoire, and Salle des Hôtes of the 13th-century La Merveille and the magnificent Église Abbatiale. (B,L,D)

Caen for the Normandy Beaches Day 8

Dock in Caen and make the solemn pilgrimage with David

Eisenhower to the historic Normandy beaches, site of the largest seaborne invasion in history. Following lunch, opt to continue to Arranches to see the remnants of the Mulberry “A” harbor that was taken across the English Channel to support Allied landings on the Normandy beaches or choose to see the 230-foot-long Bayeux Tapestry, which chronicles the Norman Conquest of 1066, or continue to explore the region at leisure. (B,L,D)

Cruising the English Channel/ River Thames, London, England Day 9

This morning, attend a lecture from Professor Eisenhower on board the ship. Cruise the English Channel across

the Strait of Dover and continue up the River Thames, a memorable passage possible only by small ship. See Britain’s history revealed as you pass the towering skyline and take in monumental views of Greenwich’s Observation Tower, the Tower of London, Norman Foster’s emerald-hued Gherkin, and Renzo Piano’s sky-piercing Shard. Dock overnight alongside a famous D-Day-era warship in view of the Tower Bridge. Attend the Captain’s Farewell Reception this evening. (B,L,R,D)

London/Return to home city Day 10

Following breakfast, disembark and continue to the London Post-Program or transfer to the airport for your return flight home. (B)

Guggenheim Museum





LE CHAMPLAIN represents a new generation of 5-star small ships, combining revolutionary design and a new standard of luxury for unparalleled cruising. Dock in smaller ports inaccessible to larger ships, where authentic cultural experiences and majestic scenery await you. Complimentary alcoholic/nonalcoholic beverages and internet access are available throughout the cruise. Each of the 92 five-star staterooms and suites (up to 484 square feet) features a private balcony. Grand deluxe suites have a floor-to-ceiling panoramic window and spacious private terrace. Accommodations offer two twin beds or one queen bed, individual climate control, a private bathroom with shower, and luxury hotel-style amenities. All meals aboard ship are included with a choice of restaurants, including in-room options.



2024 DEPARTURE DATE: May 2 to 11 (Embarkation: May 3 at 4:30 pm)

Category	LAND/CRUISE RATES <i>per person, based on double occupancy, excluding taxes</i>	Early Booking Rate through Dec. 1, 2023	<i>Rates after Dec. 1, 2023</i>
8	Deluxe stateroom with a picture window, single door onto private, partial-wall balcony. <i>Deck 3, midship.</i> (limited availability)	\$6,295	\$6,995
7	Prestige stateroom with sliding glass door, private balcony. <i>Deck 4, midship.</i>	\$7,015	\$7,795
6	Prestige stateroom with sliding glass door, private balcony. <i>Deck 5, midship and aft.</i>	\$7,735	\$8,595
5	Prestige stateroom with sliding glass door, private balcony. <i>Deck 6, midship and aft.</i>	\$8,455	\$9,395
4	Deluxe suite with sliding glass door, private balcony. <i>Deck 3, midship.</i> (limited availability)	\$9,355	\$10,395
3	Deluxe suite with sliding glass door, private balcony. <i>Deck 4, midship.</i> (limited availability)	\$10,075	\$11,195
2	Deluxe suite with sliding glass door, private balcony. <i>Deck 5, midship.</i>	\$10,975	\$12,195
1	Deluxe suite with sliding glass door, private balcony. <i>Deck 6, midship.</i>	\$11,875	\$13,195
Prestige Suite !!	Two-room suite, expansive sliding glass door, larger private balcony , two bathrooms, two closets, large sitting area with sofa. <i>Deck 5, midship.</i> (limited availability)	\$12,775	\$14,195
Prestige Suite !	Two-room suite, expansive sliding glass door, larger private balcony , two bathrooms, two closets, large sitting area with sofa. <i>Deck 6, midship.</i> (limited availability)	\$13,675	\$15,195
Privilege Suite	Large suite with expansive sliding glass door, larger private balcony , sitting area with sofa. <i>Decks 5 and 6, aft.</i> (limited availability)	\$14,575	\$16,195
Grand Deluxe Suite	Extra-large, one-bedroom suite and separate sitting room with sofa, expansive sliding glass door, spacious private terrace , full bathroom with tub and separate shower, additional half bath. <i>Deck 6, aft.</i> (limited availability)	\$15,475	\$17,195
Owner's Suite	Extra-large, one-bedroom suite and separate sitting room with sofa, expansive sliding glass door, spacious private terrace with outdoor Jacuzzi, full bathroom with tub and separate shower, additional half bath. <i>Deck 5, aft.</i> (limited availability)	\$16,375	\$18,195

Single supplements apply to select categories at 160% of the per person double price and is capacity controlled.

Port taxes are an additional \$515 per person. Customers will be notified of any fuel surcharge fee prior to final payment.

This fee will then be charged and collected by the vessel operating company while on board. Deck plans available upon request.

To secure your spot, call Gohagan & Company at 800-922-3088 or visit gohagantravel.com/reserve

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PRE-PROGRAM OPTION

Lisbon

April 30 to May 3, 2024 (Tour Begins: May 1)

Experience the cinematic streetscapes, medieval passageways, and timeless rituals of Lisbon—one of Europe’s most visually appealing capitals that was famously known as the “city of spies” during World War II. Discover the best of the city on a walking tour, followed by an afternoon at leisure and an authentic Fado dinner experience. Savor breathtaking views on a scenic drive to Sintra, immortalized in English poetry by Lord Byron and noted for its natural beauty and resplendent palaces. Accommodations are for two nights in the 5-star LISBON SOFITEL.

Price per person, based on double occupancy: **\$820**

Price per person, based on single occupancy: **\$1,095**



POST-PROGRAM OPTION

London

May 11 to 13, 2024 (Tour Ends: May 13)

Explore the storied history and vibrant modernity of London, a compelling city that continues to rewrite its narrative and make each visit more enjoyable than the last. See the legendary Tower of London and Westminster Abbey, both UNESCO World Heritage Sites, on a city tour. Step into Churchill’s Cabinet War Room—a secret World War II bunker where the Prime Minister and his staff charted a course to victory. Spend two nights in the 5-star INTERCONTINENTAL LONDON PARK LANE, ideally located near Buckingham Palace.

Price per person, based on double occupancy: **\$1,095**

Price per person, based on single occupancy: **\$1,645**

Further details will be provided with your reservation confirmation.

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THE BOSTON HERALD
6 A. M.
EXTRA

CLASCOVICI, NO. 128
BOSTON, TUESDAY, JUNE 6, 1944—TWENTY PAGES *****

GREAT INVASION STARTED

**Gen. Eisenhower Bares Landings in France
By Both Sea, Air from Le Havre and North;
Fierce Fight at Caen, Dunkerque Rocked**

**Bulletins
ALLIED ARMY
REINFORCED,
NAZIS SAY**

The German news Agency
LONDON, June 6 (AP)—
PINE said in a broadcast
today that the German
army had been re-
inforced by 200,000 men
and that the German army
was prepared to fight a
fierce battle at Caen.

NEW YORK, June 6 (AP)—
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WHERE GERMAN REPORT START OF ALLIED INVASION—Paris, where the capture from Bayeux, England, by the British army, June 6, 1944. (AP) (Inset shows the capture from Bayeux, England, by the British army, June 6, 1944.)

Paratroops Hit Nazis In Pre-Dawn Assaults

SUPREME HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCE, June 6 (AP)—American, British and Canadian troops landed in northern France this morning, launching the greatest overseas military operation in history with word from their supreme commander, Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, that "we will accept nothing except full victory" over the German masters of the Continent.

The invasion, which Eisenhower called "a great crusade," was announced at 7:32 A. M. Greenwich mean time (3:32 A. M. Eastern War Time) in this one-sentence communique No. 1:

Under the command of Gen. Eisenhower Allied landing forces supported by strong air forces began today Allied armies this morning on the northern

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