

# **OUR STRATEGIC WW2 PARTNERS AND MUSEA**





### **CAMP VUGHT NATIONAL MEMORIAL**

In 1943 Konzentrationslager Herzogenbusch was built in Vught - the only SS concentration camp outside Nazi Germany. The memorial centre tells of Camp Vught's beginnings and the national-socialist system. In just 18 months, more than 32,000 people were kept prisoner, mostly because they were Jewish or because they worked for the resistance.



The museum is located in the middle of the battlefield of the Overloon tank battle of 1944. It houses a large, comprehensive exhibition about the Netherlands during WW2 with more than 150 military vehicles. This makes Overloon the largest war museum in the Netherlands.

### **WINGS OF LIBERATION MUSEUM**

Operation Market Garden was one of the most important military events in the history of the Netherlands. Follow in the footsteps of the 101st Airborne Division heroes and relive the story that led to the liberation of the southern Netherlands at the Wings of Liberation Museum.







### **MACZEK MEMORIAL BREDA**

On the 29th of October 1944. Breda was liberated in a man-to-man fight by a Polish division commanded by General Maczek. As from 2019 the Story of the Poles will be told in the General Maczek Memorial and museum. Next to the Memorial you'll find the Polish Military Field of Honor.

### **CANADIAN WAR CEMETERY** & BRITISH WAR CEMETERY

The Battle of the Scheldt was one of the biggest military operations carried out during WW2 by Canadian, British and Polish troops and operated under Canadian command. The Canadian, British and Polish soldiers received orders to capture the Western Scheldt. Most of the fallen in both cemeteries lost their lives during this operation.

### **CITY OF EINDHOVEN** (18 SEPTEMBER FOUNDATION)

Since 1945, Eindhoven has organised a number of historical, cultural and sporting events for its liberation every year. The main events take place on the 18th of september, the day Eindhoven was liberated from the German occupiers by the American 101st Airborne Division and the Second British army.

### **MORE INFORMATION**

If you have any questions about the Travel & Trade services, the Brabant Remembers locations, package deals and (group) rates or would like to receive a custom quote, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Email trade@brabantremembers.com Website www.brabantremembers.nl/trade Telephone +31 6 510 44 318





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# **WW2 TOURS AND PACKAGES FOR THE AMERICAN MARKET**







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We are excited to introduce our Travel & Trade factsheet curated especially for American tour operators. In 2024 and 2025, Brabant will commemorate eighty years of freedom, marking significant historical events from WW2. During the late 1944 and early 1945, Brabant played a crucial role as a haven for over one million American, Canadian, British, Polish, and Dutch soldiers preparing for the liberation of Europe during the Battle of the Scheldt and Operation Market Garden. The experiences of that time have left behind numerous captivating war stories and compelling WW2 heritage locations, making Brabant an excellent destination for remembrance tourism.

Brabant Remembers, in collaboration with Battlefield Discovery, offers a variety of WW2 tours and packages. These include explorations of military operations, city wartime experiences, and stories of prosecution, deportation, and resistance activities. Please note that all prices are based on tour groups of 25 people or more. For smaller groups or customized itineraries, feel free to reach out to us for specific pricing. For further insights into Brabant Remembers and its stories, kindly visit www.brabantremembers.nl/trade or contact us at trade@brabantremembers.com.

### **EXPERT GUIDES BY BATTLEFIELD DISCOVERY**

In cooperation with Brabant Remembers, Battlefield Discovery coordinates the network of local expert guides and provides tour packages. Battlefield Discovery is a company focused on WW2 research and battlefield tour guiding. Run by Edwin Popken, military historian and guide, Battlefield Discovery develops and offers tours for the commercial and consumer market. Therefore Battlefield Discovery is the best party to host and guide your tour in Brabant.



### 4 MAY

National remembrance Day 2022 - 2025 throughout the Netherlands on multiple locations people commemerate WW2.

Liberation day 2022 - 2024 throughout the Netherlands on multiple locations people celebrate their freedom. Liberty festival in 's-Hertogenbosch with an interactive program and lots of music from national and international artists.

### 20 - 21 MAY 2023 | 18-19 MAY 2024

Militracks: the greatest event worldwide on German motorcycles, passenger cars, trucks, half-tracks and armoured vehicles that were predominantly in service of the Wehrmacht. **EVERY FIRST OR SECOND SUNDAY IN JUNE** 

Commemoration of the children's transports in Camp Vught National Memorial (6 and 7 June 1943)

### 14 - 22 SEPTEMBER 2024

Operation Market Garden 2024 Re-Enactment route Operation Market Garden over 400 authentic vehicles.

15 SEPTEMBER 2023 | KICK OFF 'BRABANT BRIDGE TO FREEDOM AND PEACE'

The launch of 'Brabant bridge to freedom and peace' in Meijerijstad.

### 15 - 21 SEPTEMBER 2024

Visit the basecamp in Meijerijstad; what was it like for the young American soldiers who landed with their parachute in Brabant to live here?









City of Den Bosch

### **BRABANT LEISURE HIGHLIGHTS**

Homeland of Vincent Van Gogh, the founders of Dutch Design, and blessed with cities full of character, prize-winning theme parks and exciting events, Brabant has a lot to offer and is increasingly being discovered by international tourists. This makes perfect sense, because there is plenty of good accommodation in Brabant with favourable terms. Moreover, Brabant has quick and excellent connections to Amsterdam, Antwerp and Brussels. This makes Brabant the ideal starting point for trips out to the metropolitan areas in the Netherlands, Belgium and Germany. Come and discover Brabant!

City of Breda

### Visit our website for more Brabantse Leisure Highlights: trade.visitbrabant.com

# **AMERICAN WW2 TOURS AND PACKAGES**

### #1 Operation Market Garden: Hell's Highway - One day tour by coach

The largest airborne operation the world had ever seen, an audacious plan, and desperate fighting to get to Arnhem. Famously known for the battle at Arnhem, many of the reasons why British 30 Corps failed to get to Arnhem in time lie in the fighting in Brabant. This tour explores the advance of British 30 Corps and the battles fought by US 101st Airborne Division to keep 'Hell's Highway' open.

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Joe's bridge
- German defenses south of Eindhoven
- Son bridge
- · Joe Mann and Robert Cole
- Fighting around St Oedenrode

### POSSIBLE ADD-ONS

- · Visit to Museum Wings of Liberation
- Visit to Paulushoef Farm on former Dropzone C
- Expansion and detailing up to a two day tour
- · Touring bus

- Expert step-on battlefield tour quide
- · Tour booklet with background information
- Lunch
- Admission Eerde Windmill

Prices € 33.50 p.p.

US 7th Armored Division at Overloop

US paratrooper leaves dropzone

### #2 US 7th Armored Division in Brabant - One day tour by coach

After Operation Market Garden, German presence in a salient on the west bank of the river Maas posed a threat to Allied plans to advance east into Germany. Attempting to clear the salient, the initial assault was made by US 'Lucky 7th' Armored Division. For almost six days the division struggled to break through the German lines in heavy autumn rains. Later, the division took up defensive positions in the Peel marshes, where they were hit by a severe German counterattack. This tour takes you to the places where the American and Germans clashed in this fierce battle.

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- Stevensheek
- Hatert Castle
- Battle for the Dogshaped Woods
- The toehold at Kamphoef

### POSSIBLE ADD-ONS

- Visit to War Museum Overloon
- Visit to German Military Cemetery Usselstein
- Visit to The Netherlands US War Cemetery at Margraten
- Castle Heeswijk

### INCLUSIVE

- Expert step-on battlefield tour quide
- Tour booklet with background information and maps
- Lunch

## Prices € 32.50 p.p.

### #3 Occupation and liberation of Eindhoven - Three hours city walking tour

Get a taste of what it was like to live in a Dutch town during World War Two. While walking through the city, you will visit several places related to either the occupation or liberation. You will hear the stories of what the people back then experienced, as well as the stories of soldiers participating in the liberation of the city. Backed up with photographs, maps and visible traces of that period, you will gain an exclusive insight in what live was like in the 1940-1945 era.

### HIGHLIGHTS

- · Former German Military and Civil Administration buildings
- Stolpersteine: prosecution and deportation of Dutch Jews
- The Eindhoven bridges captured by US 506 Parachute Infantry Regiment

### POSSIBLE ADD-ONS

- · Visit to former concentration camp site National Monument Camp Vught
- Visit to Museum Wings of Liberation at Best
- · Visit to The Netherlands US War Cemetery at Margraten
- Castle Heeswijk

### INCLUSIVE

- · Expert battlefield tour guide
- · Tour booklet with background information and maps
- Coffee/tea and cake
- Prices € 17,50 p.p.

### #4 US 104th Infantry Division in Brabant - One day tour by coach

Clearing the western part of Brabant tied up many British and Canadian divisions. Needing extra manpower, the newly arrived US 104th 'Timberwolves' Infantry Division was inserted into the line. The division fought as the first and only US division alongside British and Polish divisions as part of a British army corps in the 1st Canadian Army, During October and November 1944 this division quickly gained fame, liberating several towns and villages in this part of The Netherlands.

### HIGHLIGHTS

Zevenbergen

- 104th kicks off: the attack on Zundert
- The liberation of Etten-Leur
- Gaining a bridgehead on the Mark river
- Final act: the push for the river Meuse

### POSSIBLE ADD-ONS

 One or two day extension to the 7eeland parts of Battle of the Scheldt

### INCLUSIVE

- Expert step-on battlefield tour guide
- Tour booklet with background information and maps
- Lunch



104th infantry division in N

Biesboschcrosser.

Prices € 32,50 p.p.

### **#5 Biesbosch Line Crossers - Three hours boat tour**

The Biesbosch area is one of the largest freshwater tidal wetlands in Northwest Europe. During World War Two this large maze of rivers, creeks and islands was used from autumn 1944 till the end of the war. The area was used for clandestine traffic of men and information between the liberated and still occupied part of the Netherlands. This tour takes you on a unique boat trip through the Biesbosch. During the tour you will hear the stories of the dangerous cat and mouse game played between Germans and Dutch resistance workers in cooperation with British intelligence units, and see some traces of the war.

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Introductory presentation
- Boat trip through the Biesbosch creeks
  The Helsluis incident
- POSSIBLE ADD-ONS Remnants of hiding places

### INCLUSIVE

- · Expert step-on battlefield tour guide
- · Tour booklet with background information and maps
- Coffee/tea and cake Boat ride



Prices € 31,50 p.p.

Visit our website for more detailed information: www.brabantremembers.nl/trade