



Education First

Educational Tours

World War II in Europe

12 days | Summer 2020





Educational Tours

World War II in Europe

Included on tour



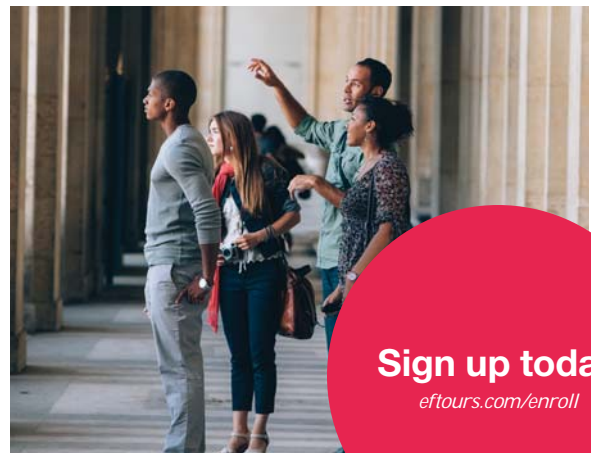
Round-trip flights on major carriers; full-time Tour Director; weShare, EF's personalized learning experience; hotels with private bathrooms; breakfast and dinner daily

Sightseeing: Berlin; Auschwitz and Birkenau; Prague; Paris; Normandy region

Entrances: Topography of Terror Museum; Ghetto Warsaw; Warsaw Ghetto Monument; Auschwitz and Birkenau; St. Mary's Church, Krakow; Notre Dame Cathedral; American Cemetery at Colleville; Normandy Beaches; Caen Memorial

Overnight stays:

- Berlin (2)
- Warsaw (1)
- Krakow (2)
- Prague (2)
- Paris (3)



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Your itinerary

Day 1: Fly to Germany

Board your overnight flight to Berlin!

Day 2: Berlin

Arrive in Berlin

Arrive in historic Berlin, once again the German capital. For many years the city was defined by the wall that separated its residents. Since the monumental events that ended Communist rule in the East, Berlin has re-emerged as a treasure of arts and architecture with a vibrant heart.

Walking tour of Berlin

Stroll among the cafés, restaurants and embassies of the elegant, tree-lined Unter den Linden, sometimes known as the Champs-Élysées of Berlin. Your Tour Director will show you the city's most famous sites as you continue to the Reichstag, Germany's Parliament. The building, constructed in the late 19th century, was the seat of the Weimar Republic government until it was seized by the Nazis in 1933. Sir Norman Foster's glass dome, added to the top of the Reichstag between 1995 and 1999, is now one of the city's most recognizable landmarks, offering fantastic views of Berlin from its top.

Day 3: Berlin

Guided sightseeing of Berlin

Ride past the Kaiser Wilhelm Gedächtniskirche (left unrestored as a reminder of the ravages of war) and down the glittery Kurfürstendamm, Berlin's liveliest street. Pass the Rathaus Schöneberg, where 1,500,000 West Berliners flocked to hear President Kennedy's famous "Ich bin ein Berliner" speech in 1963. On your way to the Eastern sector, pass the Reichstag, former seat of the parliaments of the German Empire and the Weimar Republic. Arrive at the Brandenburg Gate, once the symbol of the undeclared Cold War, and now the symbol of a reunited Berlin. It was at this gate that the famous images of East and West Berliners dancing atop the crumbling Berlin Wall were filmed and broadcast around the world. As you see where the Berlin Wall actually stood, imagine the bleak watchtowers and piercing spotlights that guarded "the border" until November 1989. Journey down Unter den Linden, once considered one of the world's most elegant boulevards. You will also see the site of Checkpoint Charlie, which once guarded the border between East and West Germany.

Visit the Topography of Terror Museum

The Topography of Terror Museum is located on the site of the former SS headquarters in Berlin. The outdoor exhibit in the former basement cells focuses on the regime's systemized rule of terror, and the fate of some of the individuals who were imprisoned and tortured in these dungeons. A general documentation outlines the Nazi's rise to power and their administrative center in Berlin

Day 4: Berlin | Warsaw

Travel by train to Warsaw

Arrive in Warsaw, Poland's capital since 1611.

Walking tour of Warsaw

View ornate Renaissance facades and elegant baroque townhouses during your walking tour of Warsaw, which brings you through the enchanting Old Town-closed to all traffic except horse-drawn carriages-to Starego Miasta Square, the city's former marketplace.

Day 5: Warsaw | Krakow

Walking tour of the Warsaw ghetto

On your walking tour explore the Warsaw Jewish Ghetto, a German-constructed area that housed all members of the Warsaw Jewish community during the second World War. Thousands of Jews were dispatched from the ghetto to the Treblinka Concentration Camp in the summer of 1942, which led to the Ghetto Uprising. The Warsaw Uprising Monument and the Monument to the Ghetto Heroes mark the center of the ghetto.

Travel to Krakow

Travel to Krakow, Poland's former capital and second largest city. Krakow is one of the oldest cities in Poland dating back to the 7th century.

Day 6: Krakow

Guided visit to Auschwitz and Birkenau

Between 1940 and 1945, over 1.1 million people died at the Auschwitz and Birkenau death camps as a result of Hitler's "Final Solution" to rid Europe of Jews and other ethnic minorities. A chilling reminder of man's inhumanity, the camp has since been turned into a memorial museum. Observe a moment of remembrance for the 6 million victims of the Holocaust, and view a film about the horror of Auschwitz and the Third Reich. *(Pending availability due to limited group reservations)*

Day 7: Krakow | Prague

Walking tour of Krakow

Enjoy the unspoiled splendor of Poland's former capital as you walk the narrow streets of Krakow's Old Town on your Tour Director led walking tour. Hitler's armies were driven out of Krakow before they had a chance to destroy it, thus the city has retained its original charm.

Visit St. Mary's Basilica

Visit this Gothic brick church located in the main square. It is famous for the wooden altarpiece carved by Veit Stoss, and if you stand outside, you will catch a glimpse of the trumpeter that plays the *Hejnał Mariacki* on every hour.

Travel to Prague

Encounter the legendary beauty of Prague, former capital of the Holy Roman Empire. Dubbed the City of One Hundred Spires, the city boasts an enchanting mix of diverse architecture, Bohemian culture, and storied history. Despite many recent changes, the undeniable charm of centuries past still permeates from the cobblestone streets and countless gothic spires piercing the skies.

Day 8: Prague

Guided sightseeing of Prague

Your tour begins at the celebrated Prague Castle (Hradcany). In the castle's courtyard, you'll peek inside the magnificent St. Vitus Cathedral, which took over 600 years to complete. From the Castle, you'll continue to the gardens of Wallenstein Palace (April-October), and then to the Lennon Wall, where your guide will share stories of Prague during the Cold War. Cross the Charles Bridge, adorned with 30 beautiful baroque statues, to the 13th-century Old Town (Stare Mesto). Here you'll see Market Square, famous for its 15th-century astronomical clock.

Day 9: Prague | Paris

Fly to Paris

Welcome to Paris, cosmopolitan City of Light. Over the centuries, Paris has grown to become the undisputed center of France, and one of the world's most important cities both culturally and politically. Equally famed for its high fashion, awe-inspiring museums and elegant cuisine, Paris has also been a center of theater, literature and philosophy throughout the ages.

Walking tour of the Latin Quarter

Your Tour Director will lead you on a walking tour of Paris' famous Latin Quarter. Featuring a diversity of restaurants, the Latin Quarter is just a short walk down the Rue de la Seine from the museum area.

Visit Notre Dame Cathedral

Built between 1163 and 1361 over the remains of an ancient Roman temple, it was here that Napoleon crowned himself emperor in 1804. Victor Hugo once described the sculptured façade of Notre Dame as "a vast symphony in stone." However, had it not been for the creation of his famous hunchback, Quasimodo, the cathedral might never have returned to its former glory. Hugo's novel *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* helped inspire a 23-year restoration of the cathedral that began in 1841. Step inside to admire the stained-glass rose window and seemingly weightless vaulted ceilings.

Day 10: Paris

Guided sightseeing of Paris

Discover the city on the Seine during your bus tour. Learn about Paris' origins as a Roman settlement as you pass through the Île de la Cité, where you will also see Notre Dame Cathedral. Pass by the imposing Arc de Triomphe, and the Place de la Concorde, dedicated to King Louis XV and the site where Louis XVI and Marie Antoinette were executed during the French Revolution. Continue down the elegant Champs-Élysées to the École Militaire, where a promising young Napoleon launched his rise to power. Then, head through the Latin Quarter where you will see the world-renowned Sorbonne University. Drive along the Seine for wonderful views of the Musée D'Orsay, the Louvre, and the Pont de Neuf, or "new bridge," which is ironically Paris' oldest. Finally, make a photo stop at the iconic Eiffel Tower, built for the 1889 World's Fair. Learn why this impressive, yet controversial symbol of Paris was spared the wrecking ball in 1909.

Explore Paris on your own

Enjoy time for your own explorations of Paris. You might wish to visit the Musée d'Orsay, the Rodin Museum, or the futuristic exhibits of the Centre Pompidou. Alternatively, take a stroll through the Latin Quarter or take part in the timeless Parisian tradition of people-watching over

a cup of café au lait at a sidewalk café. Last but not least, for the fashion conscious traveler, a visit to the Rue du Faubourg Saint Honoré is a must and don't forget to drop by and explore the famous Galeries Lafayette which have made fashion come alive for more than a century.

Day 11: Paris

Guided excursion to Normandy

At daybreak on June 6, 1944, the Allies' D-Day landings took place, sparking the largest sea-borne invasion in military history and one of the bravest acts of World War II. As you walk on the same shores that witnessed so much courage and sacrifice over half a century ago, you can still see shelled out craters on the rocky cliffs alongside the occasional remains of German bunkers. You will then visit the final resting place of 9,386 American military dead, most of whom gave their lives during the landings and ensuing operations of World War II. The site also includes a memorial commemorating the soldiers and a chapel bearing the poignant words: "These endured all and gave all that justice among nations might prevail and that mankind might enjoy freedom and inherit peace." Next, pay tribute to World War II troops who fought on the Normandy beaches as you visit the Caen Memorial. More than just a commemoration, the museum explores the failure of peace in the years before 1939 and explains what happened during the D-Day landings.

Day 12: Depart for home

Transfer to the airport for your return flight

Your Tour Director assists with your transfer to the airport, where you'll check in for your return flight home.

Itinerary is subject to change

For complete financial and registration details, please refer to the Booking Conditions at www.eftours.com/bc.

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“My daughter has gained such an amazing view of the world and history from this experience. She has not stopped talking since I picked her up at the airport. Thank you for all the organization, helpful hints, flexible payment plan, and knowledgeable tour guides.”

–**CHARLOTTE, PARENT**

