



WorldStrides®

←explORICA®→

The experience is everything



**D-Day 75th
Anniversary tours
Victory in Europe
75th Anniversary**

2019/2020 Canadian
History Tours

explorica.ca/history
1.888.378.8845



Dear traveller,

There's an endless world to explore outside of your classroom, and we are excited to help you and your students to experience it!

At Explorica, we take educational travel – every part of it – to the highest levels of eye-opening discovery, quality learning, and genuine enthusiasm. From the support of our team of seasoned travel consultants to our ability to customize an itinerary that's perfect for your group, our goal is simple: be your trusted partner and exceed your expectations for safety, security, quality, price, and overall peace of mind.

Most of our tours span 10 days, but the memories they create? They last forever. That's why our emphasis on a superior planning process is our highest priority, from our first phone call to the day you and your group return. It all starts with listening to you. Where you want to go, what you want to do, how your students will learn along the way – this is where our partnership begins. And since we've joined the WorldStrides family, we can deliver even more travel options, with even greater support and flexibility, across the globe.

So what else is happening at Explorica? A lot! I am especially excited to point out that we are already hard at work planning the 75th anniversaries of D-Day (2019) and the Liberation of the Netherlands (2020). These commemorations may be among the last to share with WWII veterans — a living history opportunity that we believe should not be missed.

Here's to you, your students, and future adventures in educational travel!



David

David Conklin, CPA, CA

General Manager, Explorica Canada

What we provide

Every destination, every time; Explorica provides more services and support to give you a world-class experience.

A proven process: Step-by-step support	2
Quality tour components	4
Total customization	5
Authentic learning experiences	6
Price accessibility	7
Safety and security	8
History of the Broncs World Tour	10
Canadian History WOW Moments Travel Guide	12
Student spotlight - A solider buried in Normandy	20
Student spotlight - A solider buried in the Netherlands	24

Where we travel

We offer more than 200 fully customizable, fully inclusive tours on all seven continents.

Canadian history sample itineraries

D-Day Paris, Vimy and Normandy	14
D-Day Netherlands and France	15
Central European History	16
Germany: WWII History	17
Venice, Florence, Ortona & Rome	18
The Italian Campaign	19
D-Day 75: London & France	22
D-Day 75: Amsterdam, Normandy & London	23
VE Day 2020: Netherlands and Germany	26
VE Day 2020: France and Netherlands	27
VE Day 2020: London, Belgium and Netherlands	28

A proven process: Step-by-step support

We've been helping teachers lead incredible tours for decades, so we've got it down to a science. And we're by your side, providing guidance and support, every step of the way.

1

We help you choose.

We give you an expert travel consultant to help you choose (or build) your perfect tour. You get the ability to change anything you want, and see instant pricing.



Joe Wyatt
Business Development Executive
Team Lead
5 years with Explorica

"Joe Wyatt is fabulous. He is reliable, honest, dependable, and goes above and beyond to make all our travel plans run as smoothly and enjoyably as possible. Joe is a true credit to his profession, and I highly recommend dealing with him for any travel needs one might have."

2

We help you recruit.

We make a web page for your tour, then send you beautiful posters, invitations and more to give to your students and their parents. Then your students sign up online.



Stephanie Crosbie
Senior Client Experience Manager
and Canadian History Lead
8 years with Explorica

"Stephanie is always available to answer questions and help with last-minute adjustments. She takes the time to understand what I need and works tirelessly through the planning stages to build the perfect tour for my groups. I deeply appreciate all her time and help!"



Brent Bidner
Senior Business
Development Executive
6 years with Explorica

"Brent is extremely helpful with all aspects of planning a tour. He is knowledgeable, helpful, considerate and polite; overall a perfect example of an excellent Program Consultant. Brent is very flexible in accommodating challenges and always caters to our needs.."



Todd Cornford
Senior Client
Experience Manager
7 years with Explorica

"Todd takes a very diligent, personalized and pragmatic approach to working with teachers. He is efficient, transparent, exceptionally resourceful and has a keen ability to adapt to evolving situations and challenges. Among these many exceptional qualities, he also recognizes the individual needs of his clients and does his utmost to ensure that their experiences meet or exceed their sometimes very personalized expectations."

3

NEW TO
EXPLORICA?
We'll train you.
Learn more
1.888.378.8845

4

We prepare you.

We give you webinars and an extensive network of experienced Explorica trip leaders, who provide field-tested tips and advice about the tour you're taking.

We deliver an exceptional experience.

We meet you at the airport and take it from there, guiding your group, managing logistics and bringing the destinations to life.



Erin Stokes
History Teacher and Explorica
Teacher-to-Teacher Mentor
10+ tours

"Erin guided us through every step of the process. Her presentation for parents clearly displays her passion for history, her enthusiasm for the trip and her knowledge of all the details of planning and preparing. She is an excellent source of support for any trip organiser."

-Marline A., vice principal



Stefan Aquilina
Explorica Tour Director
12 years with Explorica,

"Stefan was on top of everything. He answered all our questions, attended to any issues, had a wealth of knowledge about each destination, and was just generally an overall delight as our Tour Director. And, the students loved him! He was definitely the linchpin of the tour."

-Elaine N., history teacher



Cloyd Barth
Visual Arts Teacher and Explorica
Teacher-to-Teacher Mentor
10+ tours

"It was a pleasure getting to meet Cloyd and learn about how he conducts successful trips. After the webinar I requested the health forms he created for his groups, which I'm going to implement for my trip this year."

-M. Ali, social studies teacher



Martin Ross
Explorica Tour Director
12 years with Explorica,

"Martin was extraordinarily knowledgeable about all the destinations and attractions. His perspectives on history and literature were extremely valuable for the students. He was also affable and truly connected with everyone."

-Stephen J., history teacher

Quality tour components

While standard inclusions appear to be comparable across leading tour operators, Explorica gives you more for your dollar. When it comes to travel, the details matter.



Round trip airfare

We only work with the most reliable major airlines to ensure that all of our tours arrive safely and on time.



Accommodations

We guarantee quality hotels within 45 minutes of activities, so you have more time in your day to see the things you came to see. All Explorica hotels offer clean, safe and comfortable rooms with private bathrooms, and you can even upgrade for more amenities—for one night, or for your entire tour.



All transportation

We provide all transportation between cities and itinerary activities. Our clean, comfortable coaches follow the strictest safety standards, and we opt for high-speed trains whenever possible, so you spend less time in transit.



Full-time services of a professional Tour Director

Our top-rated Tour Directors are by your side from arrival to departure, managing every aspect of your tour while bringing the destinations to life for your students.



Breakfast and dinner daily

You and your students will fuel up for your adventures with hearty breakfasts and sample regional cuisine with filling, authentic dinners. Your Tour Director will show you the best places for lunches and snacks along the way.



All excursions and guided sightseeing tours

You'll see more—and learn more—than you ever thought possible thanks to our professional, local guides who know our destinations inside and out. They amaze and educate with fun stories and little-known facts, and share hidden local gems you could never experience any other way.

Total customization

Explorica's commitment to flexibility ensures that you're in control. From making small changes to designing a tour from scratch, we give you the power to edit your tour with the click of a button.

Upgrade hotels

Want more amenities or a location closer to popular attractions? We let you upgrade your hotel accommodations for one night or your entire trip.

Add extra days

Want more time in your favourite city? Voilà! Choose how long you'd like to stay and what you'd like to do.

Upgrade or remove meals

Opt for a special dining experience, or remove a meal for more freedom of choice.

Add or remove activities

You can decide where to go and what to see. Change individual activities, or create an entirely custom tour.

Add an extension

See even more by adding one of our pre-planned itineraries, or making your own.

See pricing and time allotments instantly:

Hotel: Standard Standard Central Upgrade

+ Add stay ahead day

Day 4 - May 07, 2018 - Royal London

Dinner: Standard Upgrade Remove

Drag and drop activities from the list to modify your schedule:

Visit Tower of London ↗	\$\$		30%
Dinner at Hard Rock Cafe ↗			🔒
London Eye Millennium Wheel ↗	\$\$		10%
Your free time = 55%		Your activity time = 45%	

+ Add Paris extension

Buckingham Palace Visit ↗	\$		20%
Thames River Cruise ↗	\$\$		20%
Globe Theatre Performance ↗	\$\$		5%
Enjoy a local snack ↗	\$		5%
Victoria and Albert Museum ↗	N/A		25%
National Gallery Visit ↗	N/A		25%
Wimbledon Guided Tour ↗	\$\$		30%



Exclusive options

We are the only company that also gives you the freedom to:

- › Guarantee your travel date
- › Opt for exclusive rooming
- › Change your chaperone ratio
- › Prepay tips

Learn more:

1.888.378.8845

explorica.ca/customize

Authentic learning experiences

At Explorica, we don't just show you the sights; we help you truly experience new cultures through personal interactions, hands-on activities, authentic meals and awe-inspiring moments.



History-specific activities

We have helped over 15,000 travellers commemorate Canadian history, so we've learned what it takes to forge a meaningful connection with the past. From visiting the grave of a soldier your students have researched, to seeing the names and ages of young men from your town inscribed on tombstones, witnessing the aftermath of war is a profound learning experience. Our history experts help you choose the best activities for your group. Samples include:

- › Wreath-laying ceremonies
- › Scavenger hunts with local museums
- › Participating in commemorative events
- › A Day in the Life of a WWI Soldier at Passchendaele
- › Pre-tour soldier projects

Call us to explore how we can help you create a custom educational experience.

History expert Tour Directors

Explorica Tour Directors are experts in the history and culture of each tour destination, specially trained to work with teens. They present information in a fun and participatory style that keeps students actively engaged and learning all day long.

Age-appropriate itineraries

Our tours are custom-designed to foster active engagement. Each day is carefully planned to keep the group moving as efficiently as possible from one experience to the next, mixing high-energy activities, focused educational moments and occasional free time to absorb information and make personal observations.

Lasting educational outcomes

Travel connects your students with cultures and communities outside their own—essential in today's interconnected world. Negotiating foreign places, tasting different foods and interacting with different people provides a whole new worldview, opening the door to a lifetime of opportunity. In fact, a comprehensive study by the Student and Youth Travel Association found that educational travel increases students' tolerance, respectfulness and cultural awareness while improving academic performance.

© 2016 Student & Youth Travel Digest, A Comprehensive Survey of the Student Travel Market

Experiential education

Hands-on activities play a leading role in knowledge acquisition, and students retain more information when their minds and bodies are actively engaged. So we provide ample opportunity for experiential education on every tour. With Explorica, you and your students will stand up and participate in your educational experience.

Price accessibility

We believe all students should have the opportunity to experience the world, so we provide a variety of resources to help more of your students travel.



Financial assistance

As a WorldStrides organization, we are making travel accessible to more students across Canada. In addition to our guaranteed best prices and student travel grants, we now offer need-based financial assistance for qualifying families.



Flexible chaperone ratio

Our guaranteed best prices are based on the industry safety standard of one chaperone for every six paying participants. However, if you don't need that many chaperones we let you adjust the ratio to whatever you'd like, and we lower your students' tour fee accordingly.



Student travel grants

We offer student travel grants throughout the year to further reduce the tour fee for your travellers. We award over \$4 million in funds each year.



Guaranteed best prices

We guarantee the absolute best prices in educational travel—and if you happen to find a better price for the same quality components, we'll beat it.



Personal fundraising pages

We empower students to raise money for their tour by giving them a personal fundraising page on explorica.ca. With an average contribution of \$100, students can quickly and easily raise significant funds using their favourite social platforms.



Monthly payment plans

Our easy, automated plans allow your students to spread out their payments over the months leading up to their tour. As low as \$149/month for international tours, this convenient feature helps more of your students afford to travel.

Learn more:

1.888.378.8845
explorica.ca/affordability

Safety and security

Safety is our first priority, and our record proves it. We provide total peace of mind for you, your students and your school.

Our travel protection plans now cover school board cancellations. Call your program consultant for details.



Trusted experience

We have been organizing safe and reliable tours across the globe for more than 17 years. And as a WorldStrides organization, Explorica travellers benefit from an additional 50 years of risk management experience and a worldwide network of support.



Proactive risk management

Safety protocols are built into every aspect of our operations. From rigorous safety checks and detailed site visits, to continuous safety trainings conducted by veteran risk management professionals, we take every possible precaution to ensure a safe and enjoyable travel experience for all participants.



Global vigilance

Our Vice President of Health and Safety, supported by our team of risk management professionals, continually assess all travel destinations and situations. We also partner with iJet, a leading worldwide security and risk management organization, for additional assistance monitoring and evaluating global conditions.



Total travel protection

No one wants to think about cancelling their tour, but sometimes life happens. Our two trusted travel protection plans offer a cash refund—not just credit for a future trip like other companies provide.

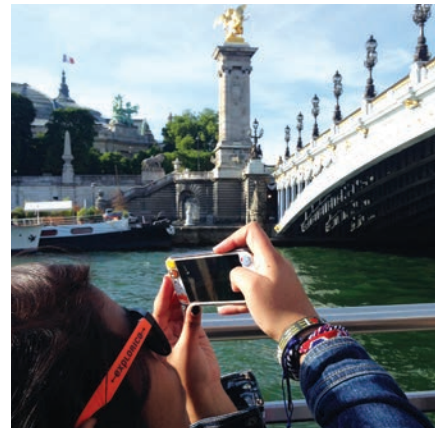
› Explorica Travel Protection Plan

Our standard plan covers common mishaps like misplaced tickets or passports, lost luggage, sickness or injury during the tour, and more. If you have to cancel your tour due to a covered reason, you will receive a full refund minus the cost of the insurance policy.

› Travel Protection Plan PLUS

Our exclusive, upgraded plan adds to the standard plan, providing the ability to cancel your tour for *any* reason up to 30 days before departure and receive a cash refund for 75% of the non-refundable fee. This is the only “cancel for any reason” policy in the industry.

And as a member of the Travel Industry Council of Ontario (TICO), a self-governed non-profit that promotes a fair and ethical market place where consumers can be confident about their travel purchases, your investment with Explorica is fully protected by TICO's Compensation Fund.





Unparalleled on-tour support

We're by your side every step of the way to provide guidance and assistance.



Expert Tour Directors

Explorica Tour Directors live and work in the cities our tours visit, and are fluent in the local languages and customs. They will advise you and your students on how to ensure your personal safety and the safety of your belongings and are thoroughly trained to handle any situation that may arise. We maintain regular contact with all Explorica field staff to provide up-to-date information on local conditions.



Global presence

As a WorldStrides organization, we have a network of more than 45 offices around the world, so no matter where you go we are always nearby and ready to help in person if the need arises.



24/7 emergency support

We operate a dedicated, 24/7 emergency contact line to assist you with any problem, anywhere, at any time.



Daily tour updates

Our exclusive online Tour Diaries enable friends and family to check on their loved one and follow the group's progress. These private trip logs are posted daily by the group's Tour Director.



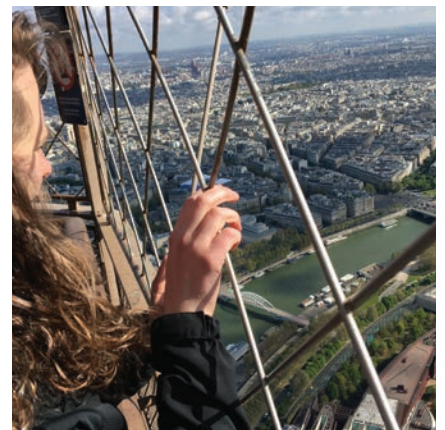
Comprehensive liability coverage

When you travel with Explorica, your tour is backed by our USD \$50 million liability policy protecting third parties such as your school and school board. Your academic institution can rest assured that they are protected with Explorica.



Industry leadership

Explorica is a founding member of the Student Youth Travel Association (SYTA) and a long-standing, active member of several nationally and internationally trusted travel safety and security associations such as iJet, the International Airlines Travel Agent Network (IATAN), and the Ontario Motor Coach Association (OMCA) and other trusted industry associations.



History of the Broncs World Tour

In 2009, Ron, a teacher from Ponoka Alberta, initiated the **Broncs World Tour** (Cenotaph project) where the students began researching the untold stories of Ponoka and area killed in action (KIA) soldiers. The course runs “unscheduled” (after normal school hours) from May to to the following April. The culminating activity is the international travel experience to the Canadian battlefields and cemeteries of Europe.

Subsequently, Ron has been working with the Broncs World Tour (BWT) travellers to expose the stories of their fallen comrades. Their mission is to orate the personal biography of every soldier from their community at their gravesite or memorial and honour their sacrifice. In many cases, Ponoka Secondary Campus students have been the only visitors to the final resting place of these killed in action soldiers. When the students recite the story of their Ponoka soldier after researching them for an entire year, the significance of the sacrifice becomes entrenched.

Ron’s students have had many unbelievable discoveries over the years including sharing information, pictures and grave rubbings with families. These events have been extremely emotional, yet highly rewarding as there has been a sense of connection and reminiscence of soldiers long lost. Furthermore, the BWT has uncovered monuments of local war dead that were previously not known to Ponoka residents (Village of Aquino, Italy and Bois-Heroult, France).

In 2011 and 2014, the BWT was thankful to meet Signore Costantino, who was the village historian and expert on the Battle of the Liri Valley. He was very happy that a group of young Canadians shared the same passion of remembrance and were interested in the battle that destroyed his village in 1944. The students very grateful that he was able to show them the location of Ponoka KIA Robert Wesley Kay’s last stand. They were overwhelmed when he proudly toured them to a newly constructed memorial that commemorated the soldiers lost in the Liri Valley.

In 2017, BWT’s main focus was the magnitude of Vimy 100. PSC students were involved in the Lest We Forget Project and uncovering the five Ponoka KIA soldiers memorialized on the Vimy Ridge Memorial. They were puzzled as they uncovered Anthony Barrett and his two different regimental numbers. This mystery challenged their research skills and they eventually uncovered his storied military career. The Broncs World Tour 2017 submitted an application to purchase two Vimy saplings to enhance their culture of remembrance and create a living legacy of the Battle of Vimy Ridge. They were rewarded with two authentic Vimy Oak saplings that are thriving in the courtyard at Ponoka Secondary Campus.



Grave Rubbing



Vimy Ridge Room (Hall of Valour)



Visiting our Fallen Soldiers



Ortona room (Hall of Valour)



C. Arlwin



The students laid wreaths on behalf of the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 66 at various monuments in Europe including, Passchendaele, Sanctuary Wood, Thelus, Brookwood Memorial, Runnymede, St. Julien, Menin Gate(Ypres), Juno Beach, Omaha Beach, Dieppe, Tyne Cot, Langemarck and Vimy Ridge.

In November of 2010, Ponoka Composite High School and the Royal Canadian Legion Branch No. 66 participated in a unique remembrance project... CANADA 1914-1918 YPRES. In coordination with 150 other schools, from the Yukon to Newfoundland and in Europe, Broncs World Tour 2010 participants projected the names of the 68,000 Canadians who died in the First World War in a week-long vigil. In addition, the BWT has

actively participated in the Royal Canadian Legion Candlelight Vigil every October at their Forest Home Cemetery.

Ron's school has really embraced the Cenotaph project and consequently their Remembrance Day Ceremony is one of the most important assemblies at Ponoka Secondary Campus. They have dedicated an entire wing of their school to recognize and remember their community's fallen. The Hall of Valour has become a showcase of their community cenotaph list, plaques for inductees and student artwork. All classrooms are etched and named after important battles that are significant to their Ponoka KIA soldiers. In November 2016, Ron unveiled their Poppy Project; a poppy that has been made from a

brass shell casing fired in combat from the Royal Canadian Artillery. It is proudly displayed in the Hall of Valour and symbolizes the horror, valour and sacrifice from Canada in all of its world conflicts. Currently, the students are passionately pursuing the completion of their Cenotaph project. Future tours and the Activism for Remembrance of PSC students will make this goal attainable.

Lest We Forget,
Ron Labrie

Ponoka Secondary Campus
(formerly Ponoka Composite High School)

Canadian History WOW Moments Travel Guide

Visitors to modern-day Europe can find ample reminders of a time when the continent was bitterly divided into Allied, Central and neutral powers. As a record number of Canadians prepare to visit Europe for the 75th anniversary D-Day, we've assembled a collection of must-see historic sites, monuments and museums to enhance your students' understanding of the greatest wars in our nation's history.



Passchendaele - "When we visited the Passchendaele it was amazing! The main curricular point of the trip was the War aspect...this really put things into perspective for the group."



Menin Gate - "After seeing all of the sites for WWI and WWII, I think being at Menin Gate meant something more than just being at a regular tourist attraction. I think the students truly paid their respects to the fallen and will never forget their sacrifice."



Tyne Cot - "I think the visit to Tyne Cot Cemetery when the students realized all of these sites are gifts from the country and that they are maintained so lovingly and for all of these years. Also when one of our students found her relative. It made others feel more connected and wonder more deeply about their affiliations."



Vimy - "For our group, it was more about the history and Canada's participation in WWI and WWII than the culture. The most significant experience would have to be the visit to the Vimy Ridge Memorial. For the students, seeing that memorial dedicated to Canadians and the land itself being a Canadian National Park in another country - had the most impact."



Juno - "I think the visit to the D-Day beaches was a solemn moment and an experience the students will never forget. To be able to walk in the footsteps of soldiers who fought for our safety is something that is hard to put in words - but it was also when I felt that my students really appreciated the stop at Juno Beach and to be able to take in that moment."



Dieppe - "I don't think students can truly can't understand the magnitude of what the Canadians had to overcome at Dieppe until you've seen it for yourself. It was a profound and moving experience and more than one student put a rock in the their pocket to never forget what happened in 1942. So many students tell me they didn't get it until now."



London – “Churchill War Rooms give the students an opportunity to step back in time and experience what it must have been like to be in London during the Blitz. The exhibit is well laid out and explained; and because it’s so authentic the students really love it.”



Netherlands

Germany

Belgium

France

Ortona - “Our experience at the Ortona cemetery was incredible. We were invited to view the small church by the groundskeeper. He has been the caretaker for the Ortona site for over thirty years, and was proud to show us the tile work in the chapel that was rebuilt with Canadian donations following the war. He also shared photos and memorials that previous visitors had left at the site.”



Cassino Memorial - “While at the monastery in Monte Cassino, our group met two British veterans of WWII. We gathered around them and listened attentively while they shared a few stories of their war experiences. On-lookers from other countries commented positively on this unscripted response from our students. Moments like this one in Monte Cassino make me realize that our students truly respect our veterans.”

Italy



D-Day Paris, Vimy and Normandy

10 days | 8 nights

- > Full European breakfast daily (except arrival day)
- > Dinner daily (except departure day)

Day 1

- > Travel to Paris

Day 2

- > Meet your Tour Director
- > Paris city walk - Île de la Cité, Notre Dame Cathedral visit, Île St. Louis, Latin Quarter visit
- > Louvre visit

Day 3

- > Paris guided sightseeing tour - Arc de Triomphe, Champs-Élysées, Eiffel Tower, Champ de Mars, École Militaire, Les Invalides, Conciergerie, Tuileries, Place Vendôme, Opera House
- > *Optional: Versailles guided excursion - State Apartments, Hall of Mirrors, Gardens of Versailles*

Day 4

- > Travel to Flanders via Vimy Ridge
- > Vimy Ridge Guided Sightseeing Tour
- > Beaumont Hamel visit

Day 5

- > Passchendaele Canadian Memorial Park
- > Talbot House Museum
- > St Julien Memorial
- > In Flanders Fields Museum visit
- > Attend Last Post Ceremony at Menin Gate

Day 6

- > Wellington Quarry visit
- > Travel to Normandy via Dieppe
- > Canadian Cemetery visit
- > Dieppe Canadian landing beach visit

Day 7

- > Arromanches Museum visit
- > Juno Beach Centre visit

Day 8

- > Batterie de Merville
- > Beny-sur-Mer Canadian Military Cemetery visit

Day 9

- > Travel to Paris via Rouen
- > Rouen Tour Director-led sightseeing - Visit Rouen Cathedral, Old Clock,
- > Seine River cruise

Day 10 – 13 - Extension in Berlin

Travel home or travel to Berlin. Highlights: Musée d'Orsay, Berlin guided sightseeing tour, Checkpoint Charlie Museum, Sachsenhausen excursion, Jewish Museum, Potsdam excursion

explorica.ca/PVN

Spring 2019	Vancouver	\$3,616
	Calgary	\$3,616
	Winnipeg	\$3,616
	Toronto	\$3,406
	Halifax	\$3,541

Prices in table are based on 3/6/2019 departure date.

Prices available from all Canadian airports. Call for details.

14 1.888.378.8845 • explorica.ca





D-Day Netherlands and France

10 days | 8 nights

- > Full European breakfast daily (except arrival day)
- > Dinner daily (except departure day)

Day 1

- > Travel to Amsterdam

Day 2

- > Meet your Tour Director

Day 3

- > Amsterdam Tour Director-led sightseeing - Canal guided cruise, Diamond factory visit, Anne Frank House visit
- > Jewish Historical Museum visit
- > Traditional Dutch pannenkoeken dinner

Day 4

- > Travel to the Flanders region via Arnhem
- > John Frost Bridge photo stop
- > Liberation Museum visit
- > Groesbeek Cemetery visit

Day 5

- > Passchendaele Canadian Memorial Park
- > Talbot House Museum
- > St Julien Memorial
- > In Flanders Fields Museum visit
- > Attend Last Post Ceremony at Menin Gate

Day 6

- > Wellington Quarry visit
- > Travel to Normandy via Dieppe
- > Canadian Cemetery visit
- > Dieppe Canadian landing beach visit

Day 7

- > Juno Beach Centre visit
- > Beny-sur-Mer Canadian Military Cemetery visit
- > D-Day beaches

Day 8

- > Arromanches Museum visit
- > Batterie de Merville
- > Travel to Paris
- > Paris city walk - Île de la Cité, Notre Dame Cathedral visit, Île St. Louis, Latin Quarter visit

Day 9

- > Paris guided sightseeing tour - Arc de Triomphe, Champs-Élysées, Eiffel Tower, Champ de Mars, École Militaire, Les Invalides, Conciergerie, Tuileries, Place Vendôme, Opera House
- > *Optional: Versailles guided excursion - State Apartments, Hall of Mirrors, Gardens of Versailles*

Day 10 – 12 - Extension in London

Travel home or travel to London. Highlights: London city walk, Classic fish & chips dinner, London guided sightseeing tour, Imperial War Museum visit, Cabinet War Rooms with Churchill Museum visit

explorica.ca/NAF

Spring 2019	Vancouver	\$3,509
	Calgary	\$3,509
	Winnipeg	\$3,509
	Toronto	\$3,293
	Halifax	\$3,434

Prices in table are based on 3/6/2019 departure date. Prices available from all Canadian airports. Call for details.

Central European History

10 days | 8 nights

> Full European breakfast daily (except arrival day)

> Dinner daily (except departure day)

Day 1

> Travel to Berlin

Day 2

> Meet your Tour Director
 > Berlin city walk - Alexanderplatz, Bebelplatz, Hackesche Höfe, Nikolai Quarter, Museum Island

Day 3

> Berlin guided sightseeing tour - Checkpoint Charlie, Potsdamer Platz, Berlin Wall, Brandenburg Gate, Reichstag, Victory Column
 > Checkpoint Charlie Museum visit
 > Jewish Museum visit

Day 4

> Travel to Warsaw
 > Warsaw city walk

Day 5

> Warsaw guided sightseeing tour
 > Old ghetto visit
 > Museum of Warsaw Uprising visit
 > Jewish Institute
 > Pawiak Prison Visit

Day 6

> Travel to Kraków
 > Krakow guided sightseeing tour - Wawel Hill, Wawel Castle & Cathedral, medieval Market Square, Cloth Hall, St. Mary's Basilica, Jewish Quarter

Day 7

> Auschwitz-Birkenau Memorial & Museum guided excursion
 > Traditional Polish dinner

Day 8

> Travel to Prague
 > Prague city walk - Charles Bridge, Mala Strana, Old Town Square, Jewish Quarter

Day 9

> Prague guided sightseeing tour - Hradcany (Prague Castle), Visit St. Vitus Cathedral
 > KGB museum

Days 10–12 Extension in Munich

Travel home or travel to Munich via Nuremberg. Highlights: World War II Art Bunker guided tour, Nuremberg Trial site, Munich guided sightseeing tour, Dachau Concentration Camp & Memorial

explorica.ca/CEH

Spring 2019	City	Price
	Vancouver	\$3,521
	Calgary	\$3,521
	Winnipeg	\$3,491
	Toronto	\$3,322
	Halifax	\$3,478

Prices in table are based on 3/6/2019 departure date.

Prices available from all Canadian airports. Call for details.

16 1.888.378.8845 • explorica.ca





Germany: WWII History

9 days | 7 nights

- > Full European breakfast daily (except arrival day)
- > Dinner daily (except departure day)

Day 1

- > Travel to Berlin

Day 2

- > Meet your Tour Director
- > Berlin city walk - Alexanderplatz, Bebelplatz, Hackesche Höfe, Nikolai Quarter, Museum Island

Day 3

- > Berlin guided sightseeing tour - Checkpoint Charlie, Potsdamer Platz, Berlin Wall, Brandenburg Gate, Reichstag, Victory Column
- > The Story of Berlin visit
- > DDR Museum visit

Day 4

- > Travel to Dresden via Leipzig
- > Leipzig guided sightseeing tour - Augustus Square, Old Town Hall, St. Thomas Church
- > Museum of Military History visit

Day 5

- > Dresden guided sightseeing tour - Frauenkirche, Bruhlsche Terrasse, Furstenzug
- > Travel to Nuremberg
- > Nuremberg city walk

Day 6

- > War Crimes Trial Museum visit
- > Nazi Party Rally Grounds visit
- > Documentation Centre visit

Day 7

- > Travel to Munich
- > Dachau Concentration Camp & Memorial visit

Day 8

- > Munich guided sightseeing tour - Residenz, Nymphenburg Palace Gardens, Alte Pinakothek, Deutsches Museum, BMW Headquarters visit, Olympic site of 1972, Frauenkirche, Neues Rathaus, Marienplatz/ Glockenspiel, Hofbräuhaus
- > Bavarian bratwurst dinner

Day 9 – 11 - Extension in Vienna

Travel home or travel to Vienna via Berchtesgaden. Highlights: Eagle's Nest Excursion, Vienna guided sightseeing tour, Jewish Museum, Wiener Schnitzel dinner

explorica.ca/GEH

Spring 2019	Vancouver	\$3,602
	Calgary	\$3,602
	Winnipeg	\$3,541
	Toronto	\$3,390
	Halifax	\$3,546

Prices in table are based on 3/6/2019 departure date.

Prices available from all Canadian airports. Call for details.

Venice, Florence, Ortona & Rome

10 days | 8 nights

> Full European breakfast daily (except arrival day)

> Dinner daily (except departure day)

Day 1

> Travel to Milan

Day 2

> Meet your Tour Director and travel to Venice

Day 3

> Venice guided walking sightseeing tour with Whisper headsets - St. Mark's Square, St. Mark's Basilica, Doge's Palace visit, glass-blowing demonstration

Day 4

> Travel to Florence via Bologna

> Traditional Italian pizza dinner

Day 5

> Florence guided walking sightseeing tour with Whisper headsets - Palazzo Vecchio, Piazza della Signoria, Chiesa di Santa Croce, Ponte Vecchio, Duomo visit, leather workshop, Gates of Paradise, Giotto's Bell Tower, Dante's House

> *Optional: Pisa guided excursion - Baptistery visit, Leaning Tower*

Day 6

> Travel to Ortona via Assisi

> St. Francis of Assisi Basilica visit

Day 7

> Ortona Tour Director-led Sightseeing Tour

> Private Remembrance Ceremony at Moro Cemetery

> Ortona War Museum

Day 8

> Travel to Rome via Monte Cassino

> Commonwealth War Graves Cemetery

> Monte Cassino Monument visit

> Piana delle Orme Museum visit

Day 9

> Rome guided walking sightseeing tour with Whisper headsets - Vatican Museums & Sistine Chapel visit, St. Peter's Basilica visit, Colosseum visit, Piazza Venezia, Forum Romanum visit

> Authentic trattoria dinner

Day 10 – 14 Extension in Sicily

Travel home or travel to Naples via Pompeii. Highlights: Pompeii guided excursion, Palermo guided sightseeing tour, Agrigento guided sightseeing tour, Piazza Armerina, Agira Canadian War Cemetery, Taormina guided sightseeing tour



explorica.ca/ITA

Spring 2019	City	Price
	Vancouver	\$3,416
	Calgary	\$3,416
	Winnipeg	\$3,374
	Toronto	\$3,213
	Halifax	\$3,378

Prices in table are based on 3/6/2019 departure date.

Prices available from all Canadian airports. Call for details.

The Italian Campaign

10 days | 8 nights

- > Full European breakfast daily (except arrival day)
- > Dinner daily (except departure day)

Day 1

- > Travel to Catania

Day 2

- > Meet your Tour Director
- > Catania Guided Sightseeing Tour

Day 3

- > Museo Dello Sbarco visit
- > Enna and Assoro guided sightseeing
- > Agira Canadian War Cemetery visit

Day 4

- > Travel to Palermo
- > Palermo Guided Sightseeing Tour - Quattro Canti, Palermo Cathedral, Teatro Massimo, La Martorana, Monreale visit, Monreale Cathedral
- > Overnight ferry to Naples

Day 5

- > Arrive in Naples
- > Travel to Rome via Monte Cassino
- > Cassino Excursion - Commonwealth War Graves Cemetery, Monte Cassino Monument visit, Piana delle Orme Museum visit
- > Rome city walk - Spanish Steps, Trevi Fountain, Pantheon, Piazza Navona

Day 6

- > Rome guided walking sightseeing tour with Whisper headsets - Vatican Museums & Sistine Chapel visit, St. Peter's Basilica visit, Colosseum visit, Piazza Venezia, Forum Romanum visit
- > Authentic trattoria dinner

Day 7

- > Travel to Ortona
- > Ortona Canadian Cemetery Visit

Day 8

- > Travel to Florence via Assisi
- > Assisi guided sightseeing
- > St. Francis of Assisi Basilica visit
- > Make your own pizza dinner

Day 9

- > Florence guided walking sightseeing tour with Whisper headsets - Palazzo Vecchio, Piazza della Signoria, Chiesa di Santa Croce, Ponte Vecchio, Duomo visit, leather workshop, Gates of Paradise, Giotto's Bell Tower, Dante's House
- > Travel to Rome

Day 10

- > Travel home



explorica.ca/ITC

Spring 2019	Vancouver	\$3,970
	Calgary	\$3,970
	Winnipeg	\$3,928
	Toronto	\$3,767
	Halifax	\$3,932

Prices in table are based on 3/6/2019 departure date.

Prices available from all Canadian airports. Call for details.

Student spotlight - **A soldier buried in Normandy**

Dear Ernest Garfield Tuttle,

My name is Deanna, and I'm here to keep your memory alive. I want to first start off by saying thank you – for enlisting, for fighting, for helping your country – you are the true definition of a hero. I wish I could have half of the bravery you had the day you signed up to fight the war. I've not been able to find out much about you, but I feel connected to you in a way already.

It's hard to believe that you were only 25 when you enlisted to serve your country. You were only 25 when you went off to strange new country, you were only 25 when you went to fight, and you were only 26 when you died. You had barely had time to live your life and it was already over. I'm curious, what made you willingly sign up? I feel like you did it because you felt the need to protect your family, but there might be another reason. I know that you had four sisters and only one brother, and I imagine it must have been a very hectic household with all those girls! I'm sure that Edith, Hellena, Alvina and Anna were all very proud of you though, and it made them happy that you were helping your country, as I would be. You also had a younger brother, George – did he eventually enlist too?


A 26 year old today would most likely be in university, but there you were in Belgium staring death in the face every day, prepare to do anything to help your country, that's crazy to think of. I hope you weren't alone in battle, but that friends from home were there with you.

I am proud to have been chosen to represent a man like you. You were brave, determined, and courageous, and I want to be a bit more like you when I think of what you did for us. All of the soldiers that have fought for our country are cemented into our hearts and our country's history forever, and we will always remember that our lives wouldn't be the same if it wasn't for your sacrifice. You are now in heaven, watching over people you love and forever smiling, for there is no pain or suffering there, and you deserve just that. You will live forever in my heart, and you will always be my hero.

With love,

Deanna W.

P.S., I wrote you this poem

A close-up photograph of a person's hands writing in a spiral-bound notebook. The notebook is open to a page with a poem written in cursive. The person's left hand holds a black pen, and their right hand holds a bouquet of dried, brown flowers. The background is a blurred outdoor setting with a red blanket and a brown hat. The lighting is bright, suggesting a sunny day.

There was nothing I could do to help you,
it was too late to try,
this wasn't what you were used to,
and no one could say goodbye.
You were once young and innocent,
but then you saw what life is really like,
your life changed in an instant,
and you had no time to strike.
You were sent to a better home,
a little place they call heaven,
and now you have endless places to roam,
because you are forever twenty seven.
You might be in heaven now,
but I wish you were here
and I just want to know how,
you like it with the all-seeer.

D-Day 75: London & France

9 days | 7 nights

> Full European breakfast daily (except arrival day)

> Dinner daily (except departure day)

Day 1

> Tour must depart June 1, 2019

> Travel to London

Day 2

> Meet your Tour Director

> London city walk - Thames River, Trafalgar Square, National Gallery visit, Piccadilly Circus, Covent Garden, Leicester Square, Soho

Day 3

> London guided sightseeing tour - Buckingham Palace, Big Ben, Houses of Parliament, Westminster Abbey, Tower Bridge, Hyde Park, St. Paul's Cathedral

> Imperial War Museum visit

> Classic fish & chips dinner

Day 4

> Eurostar Chunnel crossing

> Travel to Normandy

Day 5

> D-Day 75 Explorica Exclusive Events

> Arromanches Museum visit

Day 6

> D-Day 75 Official Ceremony

Day 7

> Travel to Paris

> Visit Louvre

> Paris city walk - Île de la Cité, Notre Dame Cathedral visit, Île St. Louis, Latin Quarter visit

> Seine River cruise

Day 8

> Paris guided sightseeing tour - Arc de Triomphe, Champs-Élysées, Eiffel Tower, Champ de Mars, École Militaire, Les Invalides, Conciergerie, Tuileries, Place Vendôme, Opera House

> *Optional: Versailles guided excursion - State Apartments, Hall of Mirrors, Gardens of Versailles*

Day 9

> Travel home



explorica.ca/dd2

June 1, 2019	Vancouver	\$3,911
	Calgary	\$3,868
	Winnipeg	\$3,845
	Toronto	\$3,521
	Halifax	\$3,784

Prices in table are based on 6/1/2019 departure date.

Prices available from all Canadian airports. Call for details.

D-Day 75: Amsterdam, Normandy & London

9 days | 7 nights

- > Full European breakfast daily (except arrival day)
- > Dinner daily (except departure day)

Day 1

- > Tour must depart June 1, 2019
- > Travel to Amsterdam

Day 2

- > Meet your Tour Director

Day 3

- > Amsterdam Tour Director-led sightseeing - Canal guided cruise, Diamond factory visit, Anne Frank House visit

Day 4

- > Travel to Dunkirk
- > Dunkirk Dynamo guided tour

Day 5

- > Travel to Normandy
- > D-Day 75 Explorica Exclusive Events
- > Pointe du Hoc visit

Day 6

- > D-Day 75 Official Ceremony

Day 7

- > Travel to Paris
- > Eurostar Chunnel crossing
- > London city walk - Thames River, Trafalgar Square, National Gallery visit, Piccadilly Circus, Covent Garden, Leicester Square, Soho
- > Classic fish & chips dinner

Day 8

- > London guided sightseeing tour - Buckingham Palace, Big Ben, Houses of Parliament, Westminster Abbey, Tower Bridge, Hyde Park, St. Paul's Cathedral
- > Imperial War Museum visit

Day 9

- > Travel home



explorica.ca/dd3

June 1, 2019	Vancouver	\$4,151
	Calgary	\$4,065
	Winnipeg	\$4,016
	Toronto	\$3,662
	Halifax	\$3,966

Prices in table are based on 6/1/2019 departure date.

Prices available from all Canadian airports. Call for details.

Student spotlight - A soldier buried in the Netherlands

Private Ernest Floyd Myer

M104220

November 11th 1908 - February 8th 1945

**Groesbeek Canadian Military Cemetery
(Plot 5 Row A Grave 6)**

Ernest Myer was born to Andrew T. Myer and Christina Myer on November 11th 1908 in Ponoka, Alberta. Ernest stood at 5 feet 7 inches, weighing 144 pounds, with brown hair and blue eyes. Ernest grew up in an agriculturally centered family, dropping out of school after completing the fourth grade. He spent the remainder of his childhood working on the Myer family farm, with his 11 younger siblings. He had a close relationship with his sister Viola, whom he exchanged letters and gifts with. He told her of a woman he had met whilst serving his country. He even announced that he had proposed to her and that he planned on bringing her back home to his family in Alberta.

Ernest Myer signed up for the Canadian Military on September 9th, 1942. Ernest started his basic training in Camrose, Alberta, and was transferred to Calgary to continue his training at Sarcee Camp. He left Calgary on June 3rd, 1943 and departed from Canada for Europe on June 10th. After 8 days at sea, he arrived in England on the 18th of June. Upon arrival, Ernest Myer was transferred to the Canadian Infantry Reserve Unit to complete his basic training overseas. On March 17th, 1944, Ernest completed his training in England and was then awarded the Canadian Volunteer Service Medal and Clasp for voluntarily joining the Canadian Armed Forces.

Ernest was assigned to the Calgary Highlanders, more specifically Charlie, AKA "Cork", Company on August 31st, 1944, as one of twenty reinforcements deployed to the unit in Belgium. Ernest's first mission as part of the Highlanders was the Siege of Dunkirk, not to be confused with the Battle of Dunkirk in 1940. The unit passed through Les Planches, their first objective, and moved towards Dunkirk. However they were stopped by heavy enemy artillery, not allowing them to proceed. They were soon withdrawn and the responsibilities of taking the German garrison were handed off to the 1st Czechoslovak Armoured Brigade.



After only a month of active duty, Ernest Myer was injured after narrowly escaping death on September 29th, 1944. When he was grazed by a sniper's bullet just above his left eye during the fighting at the Antwerp-Turnhout Canal in Northern Belgium. After spending 11 days on rest to recover from his injury and with multiple visits from his then fiancé to boost his morale, Ernest was taken back on strength by the Calgary Highlanders on October 9th, 1944.

On February 8th, 1945, the Highlanders began their drive towards the Rhineland with an attack on the small, German occupied, village of Wyler, Netherlands. At this point in the war Hitler had declared a "Festung", a call for all Nazi supporters to fight to death. Ernest Myer and his comrades began their advance on the village of Wyler at 11:18AM. "C" company, containing Ernest Myer, ran into schu mines during their approach. Ernest Myer and his comrades from "C" and "D" companies ran into stiff opposition and "C" company suffered heavy casualties. They reached all their objectives by 8:00PM and took nearly 200 prisoners, however during the attack Ernest Floyd Myer had fallen victim to the fighting less than 3 kilometers north of our current location. He was transported to the Dutch city of Nijmegen, then buried here, in Groesbeek Cemetery, his final



resting place. Ernest received the France and Germany Star Defence Medal as a token of appreciation, from the United Kingdom for his service as a member of the British Commonwealth in the Second World War, along with his Volunteer Service Medal and clasp.

We would like to point out during his initial psychological evaluation, Captain R. Stewart, Army examiner, did not speak highly of Ernest Myer's intellectual ability. Quoting him as saying "There is no chance of this man completing basic training. Recruit should not have been enlisted except for a special job (if such is possible) as he is hopelessly incapable of taking instructions". These harsh words were taken right off of Ernest Myer's medical evaluation. The army examiner also critiqued Ernest Myer's spelling ability and Captain R. Stewart even referred to Ernest Myer as a "High Grade Moron". The negative comments made by the army examiner, Captain R. Stewart, did not deter Ernest Myer



from serving his country. Ernest proved the examiner wrong when he completed his basic training and was sent overseas. Once he was in Western Europe he proved the medical examiner wrong once again when he was put into active duty with the Calgary Highlanders and he valiantly served his country. Ironically the military commented on Ernest's poor spelling, however it was a clerical mistake on our community's cenotaph that stopped us from uncovering Ernest's history and properly memorializing Ernest Floyd Myer. Ernest Myer is remembered here in Groesbeek Cemetery for his actions and sacrifice during the Second World War. Our nation is forever grateful for the courage and devotion of this Ponoka boy. Lest we forget Private Ernest Floyd Myer.

By Aidan S. and Sean R.

VE Day 2020: Netherlands and Germany

9 days | 7 nights

> Full European breakfast daily (except arrival day)

> Dinner daily (except departure day)

Day 1

- > Tour must depart May 2, 2020
- > Travel to Amsterdam

Day 2

- > Meet your Tour Director

Day 3

- > John Frost Bridge photo stop
- > National Liberation Museum visit
- > Groesbeek Canadian War Cemetery visit

Day 4

- > Attend Liberation Day Parade in Wageningen

Day 5

- > Fly to Munich
- > Travel to Nuremberg
- > Nuremberg city walk

Day 6

- > Nazi Party Rally Grounds visit
- > Documentation Centre visit
- > War Crimes Trial Museum visit

Day 7

- > Travel to Munich via Dachau
- > Dachau Concentration Camp & Memorial visit

Day 8

- > Munich guided sightseeing tour - Residenz, Nymphenburg Palace Gardens, Alte Pinakothek, Deutsches Museum, BMW Headquarters visit, Olympic site of 1972, Frauenkirche, Neues Rathaus, Marienplatz/ Glockenspiel, Hofbräuhaus
- > Bavarian bratwurst dinner

Day 9

- > Travel home



explorica.ca/VE1

May 2, 2020	Vancouver	\$3,632
	Calgary	\$3,632
	Winnipeg	\$3,607
	Toronto	\$3,454
	Halifax	\$3,578

Prices in table are based on 5/2/2020 departure date.

Prices available from all Canadian airports. Call for details.

VE Day 2020: France and Netherlands

9 days | 7 nights

> Full European breakfast daily (except arrival day)

> Dinner daily (except departure day)

Day 1

- > Tour must depart April 30, 2020
- > Travel to Paris

Day 2

- > Meet your Tour Director
- > Paris city walk - Île de la Cité, Notre Dame Cathedral visit, Île St. Louis, Latin Quarter visit

Day 3

- > Paris guided sightseeing tour - Arc de Triomphe, Champs-Élysées, Eiffel Tower, Champ de Mars, École Militaire, Les Invalides, Conciergerie, Tuileries, Place Vendôme, Opera House
- > Visit Louvre

Day 4

- > Travel to Flanders via Vimy Ridge
- > Vimy Ridge Memorial visit - Vimy Trenches visit, Vimy Tunnels visit, Memorial Museum visit

Day 5

- > In Flanders Fields Museum visit
- > Passchendaele 1917 Museum visit

Day 6

- > Travel to Arnhem via Wageningen
- > Attend Liberation Day Parade in Wageningen

Day 7

- > John Frost Bridge photo stop
- > National Liberation Museum visit
- > Groesbeek Canadian War Cemetery and Memorial visit
- > Travel to Amsterdam

Day 8

- > Amsterdam Tour Director-led sightseeing
- > Canal guided cruise, Diamond factory visit, Anne Frank House visit (subject to availability)

Day 9

- > Travel home



explorica.ca/VE2

April 30, 2020	Vancouver	\$3,374
	Calgary	\$3,374
	Winnipeg	\$3,374
	Toronto	\$3,197
	Halifax	\$3,313

Prices in table are based on 4/30/2020 departure date.

Prices available from all Canadian airports. Call for details.

VE Day 2020: London, Belgium and Netherlands

9 days | 7 nights

> Full European breakfast daily (except arrival day)

> Dinner daily (except departure day)

Day 1

- > Tour must depart April 30, 2020
- > Travel to London

Day 2

- > Meet your Tour Director
- > London city walk - Thames River, Trafalgar Square, National Gallery visit, Piccadilly Circus, Covent Garden, Leicester Square, Soho

Day 3

- > London guided sightseeing tour - Buckingham Palace, Big Ben, Houses of Parliament, Westminster Abbey, Tower Bridge, Hyde Park, St. Paul's Cathedral
- > Cabinet War Rooms with Churchill Museum visit
- > Imperial War Museum visit

Day 4

- > Eurostar Chunnel crossing to Brussels
- > Travel to Bruges
- > Tour Director-led Sightseeing of Bruges

Day 5

- > Travel to Arnhem via Ghent
- > St. Bavo's Cathedral visit

Day 6

- > Attend Liberation Day Parade in Wageningen

Day 7

- > John Frost Bridge photo stop
- > National Liberation Museum visit
- > Groesbeek Canadian War Cemetery and Memorial visit
- > Travel to Amsterdam

Day 8

- > Amsterdam Tour Director-led sightseeing - Canal guided cruise, Diamond factory visit, Anne Frank House visit (subject to availability)

Day 9

- > Travel home



explorica.ca/VE3

	Vancouver	\$3,223
	Calgary	\$3,223
April 30, 2020	Winnipeg	\$3,219
	Toronto	\$3,066
	Halifax	\$3,180

Prices in table are based on 4/30/2020 departure date.
Prices available from all Canadian airports. Call for details.



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Destination	Date	Deadline	One free place	Two free places
Netherlands	July 2019	November 30, 2018	10 enrolments	25 enrolments
Belgium	July 2020	February 28, 2019	8 enrolments	20 enrolments

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–Ron L., *Group Leader Training*

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