



## CHÂTEAU D'AUDRIEU

### DDAY EXPERIENCE

Today, your licensed driver/guide will meet you in the lobby of Château d'Audrieu and accompany you for a DDAY Experience.

He/she will adjust the presentation to adapt to your level of knowledge and interest. Throughout the day, your guide will invite you to discuss many aspects of the war including the events leading to the invasion, the operations of the invasion and the weeks following

the invasions. Your guide has spent years "keeping the memory of the soldiers alive" through presentations and private visits for families of veterans, military officials and discerning travelers. We strongly suggest watching Saving Private Ryan or The Longest Day which can provide reference points for the discussion with your guide.

Here is a list of suggested sites you will visit, the driver/guide will of course adjust accordingly:

#### POINTE DU HOC:

Captured on the morning of the 6th of June 1944 by Colonel Rudder's Rangers, the site was also one of key features of the German defensive fortifications. The site reminds us of what an artillery battery was like, with its firing command post, casemates and shelters.



#### OMAHA BEACH:

Omaha Beach is the second beach from the west among the five landing areas of the Normandy Invasion of World War II. It was assaulted on June 6, 1944, by units of the U.S. 29th and 1st infantry divisions, many of whose soldiers were drowned during the approach from ships offshore or were killed by defending fire from German troops placed on heights surrounding the beach.

#### THE NORMANDY AMERICAN CEMETERY:

The site covers 172.5 acres and contains the graves of 9,387 American War Dead, most of whom died during the landings and ensuing operations. The walls of a semicircular garden on the east side of the memorial contain the names of 1,557 missing.

#### LONGUES SUR MER:

Key element of the Atlantic Wall, the battery at Longues sur Mer included a range-finding post and four casemates, each housing a 150-mm gun. It was built on a clifftop overlooking the English Channel. In the heart of the Allied assault sector, it played a strategic role during the Normandy Landings on June 6th 1944. Despite numerous allied air raids in the night of 5th June 1944, the battery was still operational on the morning of 6th June.

#### ARROMANCHES LES BAINS:

Here, in the midst of the D-Day beaches, you still get a strong sense of the huge effort involved in the Allied invasion to liberate France and the rest of Western Europe from June 1944 on. Troops deliberately did not land at Arromanches on D-Day itself, to leave the coast here clear for a portable harbor (nicknamed Mulberry Harbor) being tugged over from southern England to be put in place, free of any debris.

The port was meant to be temporary, lasting maybe three months. It served for some five months.



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