

# European Coastal Cruise

BODE ANNIVERSARY D-DAY & THE BATTLE OF NORMANDY

> 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 quest 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 80<sup>th</sup> 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 A 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.





#### Dear Alumni and Friends of LSU:

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 80<sup>th</sup> 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 DUMONT D'URVILLE, 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. We urge you to reserve now while space and early booking savings are available.

Sincerely,

Thay Jone

Tracy Jones Director, Touring Tigers Program www.lsualumni.org 1-225-578-3838

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 ERLORD

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 BELFASTreceived 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 80<sup>th</sup> 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 Dumont d' Urville. (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 13<sup>th</sup> 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 lesiure 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 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



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 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



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 13<sup>th</sup>-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 Arromanches 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)





LE DUMONT D' URVILLE 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 12 to 21 (Embarkation: May 13 at 4:30 pm)

Category	LAND/CRUISE RATES per person, based on double occupancy, excluding taxes	Early Booking Rate through Dec. 1, 2023	Rates after Dec. 1, 2023
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, <b>private balcony</b> . Deck 4, midship.	\$7,015	\$7,795
6	Prestige stateroom with sliding glass door, <b>private balcony</b> . Deck 5, midship and aft.	\$7,735	\$8,595
5	Prestige stateroom with sliding glass door, private balcony. Deck 6, midship and aft.	\$8,455	\$9,395
4	Deluxe suite with sliding glass door, <b>private balcony</b> . <i>Deck 3, midship.</i> (limited availability)	\$9,355	\$10,395
3	Deluxe suite with sliding glass door, <b>private balcony</b> . <i>Deck 4, midship.</i> (limited availability)	\$10,075	\$11,195
2	Deluxe suite with sliding glass door, <b>private balcony</b> . Deck 5, midship.	\$10,975	\$12,195
1	Deluxe suite with sliding glass door, <b>private balcony</b> . Deck 6, midship.	\$11,875	\$13,195
Prestige Suite II	Two-room suite, expansive sliding glass door, <b>larger private balcony</b> , two bathrooms, two closets, large sitting area with sofa. <i>Deck 5, midship</i> . (limited availability)	\$12,775	\$14,195
Prestige Suite I	Two-room suite, expansive sliding glass door, <b>larger private balcony</b> , two bathrooms, two closets, large sitting area with sofa. <i>Deck 6, midship</i> . (limited availability)	\$13,675	\$15,195
Privlege Suite	Large suite with expansive sliding glass door, <b>larger private balcony</b> , 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, <b>spacious private terrace</b> , 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, <b>spacious private terrace</b> 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 are subject to availability. All other categories are at 200%.			

Single supplements apply to select categories at 160% of the per person double price and are subject to availability. All other categories are at 200%. 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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#### Lisbon May 10 to May 13, 2024 (Tour Begins: May 11)

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 21 to 23, 2024 (Tour Ends: May 23)

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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