

# Logistics Victory Tour

## Tour Highlights:

- **29 April:** Dutch National Military Museum
- **30 April:** Arnhem Tour
- **1 May:** Veritable Tour – Groesbeek Cemetery
- **2 May:** Blockbuster Tour
- **3 May:** Operation Plunder and Varsity Tour
- **4 May:** Dutch Remembrance Day Holten Cemetery
- **5 May:** Dutch Liberation Day
- **6 May:** Keep them Rolling & Op Faust
- **7 May:** Return to Canada

Fields of Fire  
Tours  
Kingston ON  
K7M 3C9

[www.foftours.com](http://www.foftours.com)

## Welcome to the Tour!

Welcome to the 78<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Victory in Europe tour. Thank you for choosing to participate in this very special event that will mark the 78<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Canadian participation in the Victory Campaign. After three years of pandemic-induced delays we will finally be able to visit the sites of memory and pay tribute to the sacrifice they made for our freedom. We will also examine the vital role played by the Corps and Services that today comprise the Logistics Branch. We

will start our trip with a visit to the Dutch military museum, which holds a great collection of Second World War vehicles that would have been used by the Service Corps and RCME soldiers. Our first day on the battlefields will be on the famous landing zones and sites of Operation Market Garden. We then spend three days looking at the operations of the Canadians in the Rhineland and crossing the Rhine River in Operations Veritable, Blockbuster, Plunder and Varsity. The 4<sup>th</sup> of

May is Dutch Remembrance Day so we will attend the Canadian ceremony in Holten, the other major Canadian cemetery in this part of the Netherlands. On the 5<sup>th</sup> of May the Dutch celebrate their liberation. The parade in Wageningen will be our major event that day with our uniformed troops marching in the parade. Our last full day will allow us all to get a close up view and even ride in Second World War vehicles of Keep Them Rolling. The next day we return to Canada Tot ziens!

## Participation in Ceremonies

If our tour had occurred in 2020, as planned, we would have attended several ceremonies run by Veterans Affairs Canada and supported by an official Armed Forces contingent. In the Netherlands, the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> of May are national holiday only every five years – 2025 will be the next occasion. This means that our group may be the only uniformed group of any size

attending the events on 4 May. We are in touch with our attaché in The Hague, who is keeping us up to date on the plans for Holten Cemetery.

We may end up being involved in the ceremony as a formed body. More to follow on that but it certainly would be a memorable occasion.

## Passports

Although you have all provided your passport numbers to Merit Travel, please ensure that your passport is valid for 90 days after our planned return date 7 May 2023. So, if your passport is to expire before 7 August 2023 you will need to get it renewed before our departure.

[www.cic.gc.ca/english/passport/apply/renew/apply-how.asp](http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/passport/apply/renew/apply-how.asp)



ReeHorst Hotel



ReeHorst Hotel



Groesbeek Cemetery



Airborne Museum



Freedom Museum



Dutch Military Museum



Dutch Military Museum

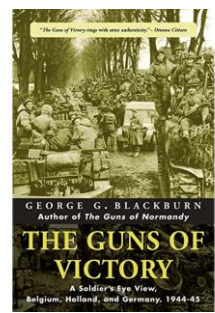
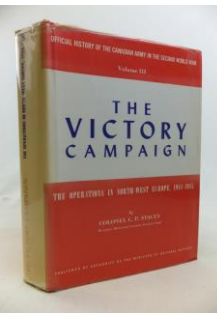
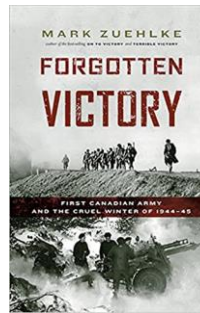


Keep Them Rolling

## The Hotel on Our Trip

Location	Hotel	Phone Number	Website
Ede	ReeHorst Hotel	+31 318 750 300	<a href="https://www.hotelreehorst.nl/">https://www.hotelreehorst.nl/</a>

## Pre-Tour Reading



## Our Guides



**Col (ret) John Conrad** served 34 years in the Canadian Army as a logistics officer, retiring as a Colonel. A bestselling author, he has written a number of books and articles on Canada's involvement in Afghanistan, including *What the Thunder Said*, a Military Book of the Month club selection in 2009. He is currently an Assistant Deputy Minister with Alberta's Ministry of Agriculture & Irrigation. John Conrad currently resides near Cooking Lake, Alberta.

**Maj (ret) Dr. Gary Campbell** was a member of the RCASC and the Logistics Branch for over 42 years serving in Canada, the United States, and the United Kingdom. He has studied at the University of Western Ontario, the Royal Military College of Canada, and the University of New Brunswick, where he completed his PhD in history. Campbell is also the author of volume two books in the NBMHP series: *The Road to Canada* and *The Aroostook War of 1839*



## Tour Support

**Maj (ret) Helene Tanguay & LCol (ret) Roch Giguere** are a retired service couple with Helene a 33-year veteran of the Logistics Branch and Roch a proud VanDoo for 37 years. Their role on the tour is to keep the wheels rolling smoothly and respond to any tour related admin. They will meet you on arrival at museums to ease entry, and generally try to make your experience on the tour a success.