

NORMANDY CELEBRATES LIBERTY



75th

ANNIVERSARY

OF D-DAY AND BATTLE OF NORMANDY

1944-2024

**Selection of tours
and events**



**D-DAY
NORMANDY**
LAND OF LIBERTY



© Coralline et Léo

80th ANNIVERSARY OF D-DAY AND BATTLE OF NORMANDY 1944-2024

Selection of tours and events

This year, the whole of Normandy will be celebrating the 80th anniversary of the D-Day landings and ensuing Battle of Normandy.



© Eric Kiermacki - Région Normandie

Hervé MORIN,
President of the
Normandy Region

Given this fact, the Normandy Region is especially delighted to be able to offer you this guide, featuring a selection of events that form a major part of the overall celebrations, of such international significance, that will take place across the entire summer.

In this special year, a broad array of regional participants will propose a great range of popular festivities, reflecting the people of Normandy's eagerness to commemorate the lives of the men and women who strove so hard for our Liberty, ensuring memories of them survive.

The Normandy D-Day landings, conceived on a truly exceptional scale, both in human and logistical terms, marked the beginning of a dreadful drawn-out battle in which all too many men and women died. Today, we pay homage to their bravery and sacrifices. More than ever, it is our duty to celebrate the memory of what happened then in our region, along with the values of peace, freedom and reconciliation so dear to Normandy.

Hervé Morin

APRIL / MAY

MAY

TUESDAY 16 APRIL

DOUVRES-LA-DÉLIVRANDE 14

> 8pm - Show

Bunkers brought back to life

Along the outdoor trail at this Radar Station, take in the projected images and presentations running in a loop, allowing you to learn about this place's history and the decisive role of radar in the war. Free entrance, plus a surprise at the ticket booth! Remember to bring some form of portable lighting with you.

Station Radar 44, Musée Franco-Allemand. Route de Bény - RD 83. Free entrance. www.musee-radar.fr

TUESDAY 23 APRIL

DOUVRES-LA-DÉLIVRANDE 14

> 8pm - Show

Bunkers brought back to life

Along the outdoor trail at this Radar Station, take in the projected images and presentations running in a loop, allowing you to learn about this place's history and the decisive role of radar in the war. Free entrance, plus a surprise at the ticket booth! Remember to bring some form of portable lighting with you.

Station Radar 44, Musée Franco-Allemand. Route de Bény - RD 83. Free entrance. www.musee-radar.fr

THURSDAY 25 APRIL

DOUVRES-LA-DÉLIVRANDE 14

> 8:30pm - Lecture

L'armée allemande face au Débarquement (The German Army confronted by the D-Day Landings)

Madeleine Verly, first a nurse, then a social worker for the SNCF (the French national railways), joined the Resistance in 1942. Her professional duties enabled her, on her train journeys, to pass on lots of information about enemy positions and the Germans' Atlantic Wall coastal defences in Normandy.

La Baronnie de Douvres, Rue de la Baronnie.

TUESDAY 30 APRIL

DOUVRES-LA-DÉLIVRANDE 14

> 8pm - Show

Bunkers brought back to life

Along the outdoor trail at this Radar Station, take in the projected images and presentations running in a loop, allowing you to learn about this place's history and the decisive role of radar in the war. Free entrance, plus a surprise at the ticket booth! Remember to bring some form of portable lighting with you.

Station Radar 44, Musée Franco-Allemand. Route de Bény - RD 83. Free entrance. www.musee-radar.fr

04 & 05 MAY

DUCLAIR 76

> 10am > 6pm - Events

Commemorations of 8 May 1945, special Battle of Normandy edition

Re-enactment of military camps, with a variety of demonstrations across the weekend. This event has taken place since 2005 and is now recognised as one of the most significant military re-enactment events in France.

Musée Août 1944, Château du Taillis. Prices: adults - €10; children and students - €5; free for children under five years of age. www.chateaudutaillis.com

07 > 09 MAY

HERMANVILLE-SUR-MER 14

> Military re-enactment camp

Reconstitution of a military camp "In the Allies' footsteps"

Reconstitution of an entire military camp, with its hospital, canteen, command post tent and the soldiers' and support staff's tents, brought to life by volunteers in period dress... Parade and exhibition of military vehicles. Dance on 8 May.

Parc de la mairie. Free. www.hermanvillesurmer.fr

SATURDAY 11 MAY

OUISTREHAM 14

> 8:30pm - Concert

Chanter la paix (Singing for peace)

Featuring 150 choir members and musicians from Normandy, Germany, Belgium and Great Britain, getting together to give two major concerts, one in Ouistreham, the other in Bayeux, singing about peace and brotherhood. Special guest conductor Denis Thuillier. In the presence of Argentine composer Martin Palmeri.

Salle Legoupil, Ouistreham. Adults - €15; under-12s - €8; choraledeouistreham.free.fr

SUNDAY 12 MAY

BAYEUX 14

> 6:30pm - Concert

Chanter la paix (Singing for peace)

Featuring 150 choir members and musicians from Normandy, Germany, Belgium and Great Britain, getting together to give two major concerts, one in Ouistreham, the other in Bayeux, singing about peace and brotherhood. Special guest conductor Denis Thuillier. In the presence of Argentine composer Martin Palmeri.

Salle Legoupil, Ouistreham. Adults - €15; under-12s - €8; choraledeouistreham.free.fr

15 MAY > 18 AUGUST

BERJOU 61

> 10am > 6pm - Events

Fête de la libération de Berjou (Berjou Liberation Festival)

Re-enactment camp with period vehicles, plus an historic hike, with commentary, entitled "In the liberators' footsteps", given by a guide from the Blackwater Museum Libération de Berjou 39-45. Also: book fair; local producers' market on the Sunday; workshop for fabric painting; period hairdressing salon; on-site food and drink stalls. Concert featuring contemporary variety performances too.

Libération de Berjou 39/45. Full adult price - €6.50; children 7 - 17 years of age - €4.50; free for children under six. musee-berjou.fr

THURSDAY 16 MAY

DOUVRES-LA-DÉLIVRANDE 14

> 8:30pm - Lecture

L'armée allemande face au Débarquement (The German Army confronted by the D-Day landings)

What was the impact of Operation Overlord in the final defeat of the Third Reich? What was the Wehrmacht's view of D-Day?

La Baronnie de Douvres, Rue de la Baronnie.

SATURDAY 18 MAY

CHERBOURG-EN-COTENTIN 50

> Tour

Une nuit pour la mémoire (A night dedicated to remembrance)

On France's Nuit des Musées (Museums Night), the Musée de la Libération explores the notion of shared remembrance. Now, 80 years on from the beginning of the Liberation of Europe, who should transmit memories of that period, and how? Guided tours, storytelling, plus a children's workshop will feature across the evening, covering topics such as daily life for civilians, resistance and peace.

Musée de la Libération, Fort du Roule, Montée des Résistants. Free. www.cherbourg.fr

24 MAY > 6 JUNE

SAINT-JAMES 50

> 7pm - Events

80th anniversary of the Battle of Normandy

On the programme: concerts; re-enactments of American military camps; demonstrations of military vehicles; the construction of a portable Bailey bridge; lectures; exhibitions; cinema screenings; memorial trails; plus, other demonstrations and presentations paying homage to those who sacrificed so much for our freedom, all presented in a festive atmosphere bringing together the different generations.

MAY

SATURDAY 25 MAY

LESSAY 50

> 8:30pm - Show

Play: Le Jour d'après
(The Day After)

On 6 June 1944, in a Normandy block of flats, two couples from different social backgrounds take refuge in a cellar during an air-raid warning. Collaboration, antisemitism and resistance are themes that come to the fore in the conversations during this enforced time spent in such a confined space.

Espace culturel. Free entrance, voluntary donations.

WEDNESDAY 29 MAY

LA FERTÉ-MACÉ 61

> 12pm midday - Event

Lunch concert and exhibition

Concert with lunch or aperitif boards proposed by final-year students training to work in the hotel and restaurant industry – by reservation. On-site exhibition focusing on civilian and military life from 1939 to 1945 put together by the students, plus presentation of several period vehicles.

Lycée Flora Tristan, 7/9 avenue Meunier de la Raillère. €21 per adult for the lunch concert. €10 per child up to 12 years of age (steak and fries meal). €10 per aperitif board. Meals and boards must be reserved in advance – book by phone on +33 (0)2 33 37 06 33 or via www.lycee-flora-tristan.fr

THURSDAY 30 MAY

SAINT-LAURENT-SUR-MER 14

> 9:30am - Sports event
Freedom Games

Take part in our playful event based around physical effort and sports during our D-Day festivities. In pairs, head along the historic beach at St-Laurent-sur-Mer to pick up the nine flags of the countries involved in the conflict here. As a symbolic memorial gesture, conveying the message of peace among all people, place your flags around the Signal Monument.

Monument Signal and Monument Les Braves, 14710, Saint-Laurent-sur-Mer. Free for everyone. www.colia-normandie.com

30 MAY > 2 JUNE

VIERVILLE-SUR-MER 14

> 10am > 6pm - Tour

Discover all about the dock piers, floating roadways built for the D-Day 1944 artificial harbours and given the codename Whales, via a photographic exhibition and a tour. Photo exhibition presenting the artificial harbour, Mulberry A, from its construction in England to its setting up on Omaha Beach.

Salle exposition route de la mer, boulevard de Cauvigny. Adults – €2; children under 12 – free.

31 MAY > 2 JUNE

CAEN 14

> Sports event

Marathon de la Liberté, or D-Day Landings Marathon, Normandy Running Festival

Since 1988, the Marathon de la Liberté, or D-Day Landings Marathon, has been paying homage to the events of D-Day via sports, and running in particular. Over 25,000 people take part every year. The various courses take in the key D-Day sites (Juno and Sword Beaches, Ouistreham Casino, Pegasus Bridge, etc.).

Stade Hélicas de Caen, rue du Carel. From €16 to €69, depending on course selected. Free for children www.marathondelaliberte.fr

31 MAY > 30 JUNE

FONTAINE-HENRY, CREULLY-SUR-SEULLES, AUDRIEU, GRAYE-SUR-MER, ASNELLES, MEUVAINES, FONTENAY-LE-PESNEL, VER-SUR-MER 14

> Events

80th anniversary of the D-Day landings and the Battle of Normandy, 1944–2024, the Seulles Terre et Mer sector remembers

Across one month, including many festivities in the area of Gold Beach.

Château de Fontaine Henry: 3 le château. Prieuré Saint Gabriel: 1 rue du Prieuré. Château d'Audrieu: Château d'Audrieu. Grange à dime (tithe barn) at Graye sur mer. Parish and sea walls at Asnelles. British Normandy Memorial at Ver-sur-Mer.

31 MAY > 9 JUNE

CARENTAN-LES-MARAIS 50

> 9am > 7pm - Events

80th anniversary of the D-Day landings at the Normandy Victory Museum

On the programme: welcoming veterans and paying homage; demonstrations of period vehicles; demonstrations both inside and outside the museum; lectures; book signings; film screenings; plus festive events. Many of these elements will be free. Consult the full programme on our website.

Normandy Victory Museum, P.A. La Fourchette. Events outside the museum (demonstrations, projections, lectures) free for everyone and freely accessible. Entrance inside the museum at normal prices (including museum tours, demonstrations within the museum, temporary exhibitions, etc.): adults – €9.90; reduced price (for students, the handicapped, teachers, military personnel) – €7.00; low-carbon price – €8.00; children from 7 to 17 years of age – €6.00; children under 7 years of age – free; family discount (2 adults + 3 to 4 children) – €30.00; Groups (over 10 people) – €8.00; free car parking. normandy-victory-museum.fr

SATURDAY 01 JUNE

QUISTREHAM 14

> 2pm - Lecture by bike!

Guided bike tour, Sur les traces des Français du Commando Kieffer (In the Footsteps of the French Paratroopers of Kieffer Commando)

A lecture to follow on your bike, focusing on the history of the Franco-British commandos who landed on Sword Beach on 6 June 1944. Starting from Ouistreham, the commentary will be provided by historian Stéphane Simonnet, leading you along the trail taken by these commandos and retracing their story.

Bureau d'informations touristiques de Ouistreham, Esplanade Lofi. €40.00 per person. Trail length: 18km. You need to come with your own bike. Booking ahead required. www.caenlamer-tourisme.fr

JUNE

CABOURG 14

> 5pm - Concert

Concert pour la Paix (Concert for Peace)

A major concert for peace organised by Cabourg and Bad Homburg (Germany), including 80 students from the German town's Humboldtsschule. An occasion to appreciate sharing emotions, the healing effects of music, and messages of peace.

Hippodrome (race course). Free

VIERVILLE-SUR-MER 14

> 6pm - Concert

Concert de la liberté (Freedom Concert)

An exceptional evening dedicated to American musical culture from the 1940s to the 1970s. A series of concerts will take place in a breathtaking setting overlooking Omaha Beach. Plus, fireworks show. On-site food and drink stalls.

Rue du Hamel au Prêtre. Free isigny-omaha-intercom.fr

HARFLEUR 76

> 8:30pm - Show

60 jours de prison
(60 Days in Prison)

23 August 1944. While the battle to liberate Paris is still raging, a great figure in French theatre, Sacha Guitry, is arrested at his home by five armed men. Simply on the basis of rumours, he is suspected of the crime of collaborating with the German occupiers and will be subjected to 60 harsh days behind bars...

Centre culturel et associatif la Forge Rue Chopin. Tickets: from €11.50 to €23 € for adults over 25 years of age; from €8.50 to €16.50 for those under 25. www.harfleur.fr

SAINTE-MÈRE-ÉGLISE 50

> 8:30pm - Show

Play: Le Jour d'après
(The Day After)

On 6 June 1944, in a Normandy block of flats, two couples from different social backgrounds take refuge in a cellar during an air-raid warning. Collaboration, antisemitism and resistance are themes that come to the fore in the conversations during this enforced time in such a confined space.

Salle de Chef du Pont, Espace culturel. Free entrance, voluntary donations.

JUNE

01 > 09 JUNE

SAINTE-MÈRE-ÉGLISE 50

> 8am > 11pm - Events

Festivities to mark the 80th anniversary of the D-Day landings at Sainte-Mère-Église

A whole range of festive events will take place from 1 to 9 June, including: concerts; musicals; displays of period vehicles; and more...

Sainte-Mère-Église town centre. All the shows and events will be free and open to everyone. www.saintemereeglise.fr

01 > 09 JUNE

SAINTE-MÈRE-ÉGLISE 50

> Re-enactment camp

Camp Geronimo

Re-enactment of an American military camp. Many vehicles on display, including tanks; exhibition focusing on women in the US Army; workshop events; demonstrations on how the paratroopers prepared for D-Day. 1940s show in the camp. Parade, on foot and by bike, of civilians dressed in 1940s style. Parade of American military vehicles, together with horses and re-enactment participants.

Airborne Museum. Free. airborne-museum.org

SUNDAY 02 JUNE

SAINTE-MARIE-DU-MONT 50

> 5am - Sports event - Ultra trail

D-Day Beaches Run

The D-Day Beaches Run is the name given to this commemorative running challenge covering 100km, taking the participants through protected natural spaces and along a cycle route (La Vélomaritime). This trail is a non-competitive run (the runners won't be timed or ranked), but six athletes from the five major countries involved in the Normandy D-Day landings of 6 June 1944 will head out together and finish the race hand in hand.

Starts at the Utah Beach Monument at the end of the D913 road, on the coastal side, c.6km northeast of Sainte-Marie-du-Mont. Free. www.ultradaytrail.com

MONDEVILLE 14

> 10am - Event

D Day 80 Naval Gathering

Climb aboard real British and American boats brought over from Britain for this occasion. Most of them served during the Second World War.

Port Lamy, quai Lamy. Tours of the boats and the exhibition: €6 for adults; €3 for teenagers (12-18 years of age); free for children under 12. Free concert. Reading by actors - €5. bateauxdenormandie.fr

HARFLEUR 76

> 3pm - Show

Semelles de bois et Doryphores (Wooden Soles and Colorado Potato Beetles) - daily life during the Second World War

A trunk belonging to a 90-year-old woman turns out to contain many memories of a childhood marked by war, occupation and restrictions, but some fun and pranks too. Learn more about daily life under German occupation during the Second World War. Objects, photos and sound archives help bring this period back to life.

Salle Jean Lebosqué. Rue Jean Barbe. Free www.harfleur.fr

JUNE

WEDNESDAY 05 JUNE

BÉNOUVILLE 14

> 7pm - Concert

The Massed Band of the Pegasus Memorial

Concert to welcome the families and friends of veterans of Major Howard's Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry and veterans of the 7th Parachute Battalion. Given by the Massed Band of the Pegasus Memorial, a British orchestra.

Western esplanade of the salle polyvalente. Free www.mairie-benouville.fr

THURSDAY 06 JUNE

VER-SUR-MER 14

> 10:30am - Concert

Pipers' Tour. Memorial tour of Pipers and Drummers (bringing together musicians from 12 nations)

At the Memorial at Ver-sur-Mer, in the presence of the Lord Commander of the Ramsay clan, morning musical tribute and commemoration dedicated in particular to Admiral Ramsay, who played a major role in the planning of Operation Overlord.

British Normandy Memorial, 10:30am. Free bowu.international

COLLEVILLE-SUR-MER 14

> 2:30pm - Concert

Pipers' Tour - Memorial tour of Pipers and Drummers (bringing together musicians from 12 nations)

Paying homage to the American Allies as well as female fighters, all too often forgotten. (With the musicians of l'Harmonie du Pays de Falaise.)

Colleville-sur-Mer American Cemetery. Free bowu.international

COLLEVILLE-SUR-MER 14

> 4pm - Concert

Bal de la liberté (Freedom Dance)

On the programme: from 4pm to 6pm, dancers from the Caen association, Rock'n Go, will offer free lessons to teach you the Lindy-hop, a popular period dance; from 7:30pm, try out your dance moves at the free concert featuring the D-Day Ladies, a singing trio plus their eight musicians, who will perform the Andrews Sisters' swing and boogie-woogie repertoire.

Free. www.overlordmuseum.com

2, 3, 4, 5, 7 & 8 JUNE

COLLEVILLE-SUR-MER 14

> 11am & 3pm - Event

Active tank demonstrations

Come and learn about the heavy-duty vehicles used by the soldiers who fought in the Battle of Normandy in 1944. Experience an exceptional daily demonstration bringing together some 15 to 20 vehicles.

Overlord Museum, Lotissement Omaha Center - Free. www.overlordmuseum.com

5 > 8 JUNE

MERVILLE-FRANCEVILLE 14

> Show

Ils ne savaient pas que c'était impossible, alors ils l'ont fait (They didn't know it was impossible, so they did it!)

Paying homage to British D-Day veterans, this re-enactment recreates the crucial hours of the attack on this artillery battery, with the aid of pyrotechnic effects, period vehicles and 150 participants.

Musée de la Batterie de Merville. Single ticket price: €20 per seat in the tiers. www.batterie-merville.com

JUNE

CAEN 14

› 7pm - Concert

Pipers' Tour. Memorial tour of Pipers and Drummers (bringing together musicians from 12 nations)

Serenade in Caen. In memory of the civilians who lost their lives in 1944.

Caen city centre. Free. bowu.international

ARROMANCHES-LES-BAINS 14

› 11:30pm - Show

Fireworks display from a platform out to sea

Fireworks display organised from a platform out to sea, opposite the port of Arromanches-les-Bains

Free. www.musee-arromanches.fr

VENDREDI 07 JUIN

SAINT-LÔ 50

› Concert

Chorale pour la Paix (Peace Choir) 250 Normandy choir members sing in honour of the 80th anniversary of D-Day

Specially created for this occasion, a regional choir made up of 250 amateur and professional singers of different generations sing for peace, giving interpretations of some great classics specially rearranged to mark this anniversary, such as Ode to Joy, We Are the World and more... accompanied by top level musicians. A major event combining music, history and magic.

Concert at the Hôpital Mémorial. free www.normandsdechœur.fr

08 > 09 JUNE

ISIGNY-SUR-MER 14

› Events

Isigny Swing Festival

4th edition. A free festival consisting of two days of concerts and swing dancing, with Ray Collins' Hot Club topping the bill, its players fine exponents of this

style of music whose first notes were heard on French soil at the Liberation. Refreshments available on the spot.

Parc de l'Hôtel de Ville. Free.
Facebook: [Isignyswingfestival2024](https://www.facebook.com/Isignyswingfestival2024)

SATURDAY 08 JUNE

SAINTE-MARIE-DU-MONT 50

› Concert

Chorale pour la Paix (Peace Choir) 250 Normandy choir members sing in honour of the 80th anniversary of D-Day

Specially created for this occasion, a regional choir made up of 250 amateur and professional singers of different generations sing for peace, giving interpretations of some great classics specially rearranged to mark this anniversary, such as Ode to Joy, We Are the World and more... accompanied by top level musicians. A major event combining music, history and magic.

At the Utah Beach Landings Museum (Musée du Débarquement), accompanied by the Baden-Baden Symphony Orchestra. www.normandsdechœur.fr

ARROMANCHES-LES-BAINS 14

› 3pm - Show

Aerial display by the Patrouille de France

Aerial display by the Patrouille de France over Arromanches-les-Bains.

Free. www.musee-arromanches.fr

SUNDAY 09 JUNE

ARROMANCHES-LES-BAINS 14

› 12pm midday - Sports event

Triathlon du Débarquement (D-Day Triathlon)

S format: 500m swim; 12.5km mountain-biking section; and 4km run. M format (Normandy cross triathlon championship): 1,000m swim, 22km mountain-biking section; and 8km run.

Place du 6 juin. Entry fee, by registration.

SUNDAY 16 JUNE

COUTANCES 50

› 3pm to 5pm - Concert

Chorale pour la Paix (Peace Choir) 250 Normandy choir members sing in honour of the 80th anniversary of D-Day

Specially created for this occasion, a regional choir made up of 250 amateur and professional singers of different generations sing for peace, giving interpretations of some great classics specially rearranged to mark the anniversary, such as Ode to Joy, We Are the World and more... accompanied by top level musicians. A major event combining music, history and magic.

Concert at Coutances Cathedral. free www.normandsdechœur.fr

THURSDAY 27 JUNE

CAEN 50

› 8pm to 10pm - Concert

Chorale pour la Paix (Peace Choir) 250 Normandy choir members sing in honour of the 80th anniversary of D-Day

Specially created for this occasion, a regional choir made up of 250 amateur and professional singers of different generations sing for peace, giving interpretations of some great classics specially rearranged to mark the anniversary, such as Ode to Joy, We Are the World and more... accompanied by top level musicians. A major event combining music, history and magic.

At the Zénith de Caen, prices by category of seats (according to zones at the venue): €15 / €25 / €35 / €45. www.normandsdechœur.fr

TUESDAY 09 JULY

CAEN 14

› 7pm - Concert

Liberation Dances

To celebrate the 80th anniversary since its liberation, the City of Caen will be organising two dances marking key dates on which freedom was re-established, on 9 July on the town's left bank, and on 19 July on its right bank. Accompanied by the rhythm of jazz classics and other music from the 1950s, the general public is invited to dance along and celebrate peace.

City centre - Place Saint Sauveur / Esplanade Hôtel de Ville - Caen. Free. caen.fr

13 & 14 JULY

HERMANVILLE-SUR-MER 14

› 8pm - Events

Liberation Dance and Beach Fireworks

Concert and Bal de la Libération, music provided by the Prestige Orchestra. Big band, one-hour concert featuring 20 musicians playing 1940s tunes, followed by a dance. After the dance, fireworks on the beach between Lion-sur-Mer and Hermanville-sur-Mer

Place du courbet and beach. Free. www.hermanvillesurmer.fr

18 JULY > 22 AUGUST

CREULLY-SUR-SEULLES 14

› 5:30pm - Tour

Creully, the village that wasn't burnt down on 6 June 1944

Visitors are invited to discover the iconic spots around the village of Creully-sur-Seulles, reliving the Allied advance here. The tour takes you to places linked both to the occupation of this village and its liberation: the church, the washhouse, the monuments to the 4th and 7th Royal Dragoon Guards, the monument to the Royal Winnipeg Rifles, and the terrace and grounds of the Château de Creully.

Place Paillaud, leaving from the apse of the church of Saint Martin in Creully-sur-Seulles. Free. creully-sur-seulles.fr

JULY

FRIDAY 19 JULY

CAEN 14

> 7pm - Concert Liberation Dances

To celebrate the 80th anniversary since its liberation, the City of Caen will be organising two dances marking key dates on which freedom was re-established, on 9 July on the town's left bank, and on 19 July on its right bank. Accompanied by the rhythm of jazz classics and other music from the 1950s, the general public is invited to dance along and celebrate peace.

Parc Claude Decaens, Rive-Droite, avenue G.Guynemer - Caen. Free. caen.fr

20 & 21 JULY

CARENTAN-LES-MARAIS 50

> 9am > 7pm - Events Commemorative Cobra 44 Festival

This is the 4th edition of the Cobra 44 Festival. On the programme, lectures, themed tours, a re-enactment camp, demonstrations, activities, tours in military vehicles, book signings, meetings and festivities. Many of the events will be free.

Normandy Victory Museum, P.A. La Fourchette - Events outside the museum (demonstrations, projections, lectures - free for everyone and freely accessible. Entrance to the museum at normal prices (including museum tours, demonstrations in the museum, temporary exhibitions, etc.): adults - €9.90; reduced price (for students, the handicapped, teachers, military personnel) - €7.00; low-carbon price - €8.00; children from 7 to 17 years of age - €6.00; children under 7 years of age - free; family discount (2 adults + 3 to 4 children) - €30.00; Groups (over 10 people) - €8.00; free car parking. Cobra 44 - Commemorative festival - 2024 Edition - Programme (normandy-victory-museum.fr)

FRIDAY 26 JULY

CANISY 50

> 8:30pm - Show Play: Le Jour d'après (The Day After)

On 6 June 1944, in a Normandy block of flats, two couples from different social backgrounds take refuge in a cellar during an air-raid warning. Collaboration, antisemitism and resistance are themes that come to the fore in the conversations during this enforced time in such a confined space.

Salle le Metronome. Free entrance, voluntary donations.

26 > 28 JULY

GAVRAY-SUR-SIENNE 50

> Events 80th anniversary of the liberation of Gavray-sur-Sienne

Embark on a weekend taking you back in time, experiencing the liberation of Gavray-sur-Sienne in July 1944. It'll include a unique reconstitution in Normandy, in the form of the construction of a vital strategic element, a Bailey Bridge, a technological prowess of the period that contributed to the success of Operation Cobra. Across the weekend, enjoy many activities: commemorations; a peace meal; concerts; parades; a dance; fireworks; and more.

In the village. Free (except for food and drinks). Facebook: Maison-du-Tourisme-Gavray-sur-Sienne

SUNDAY 28 JULY

AGON-COUTAINVILLE 50

> 7pm - Concert Agon-Coutainville celebrates its liberation on 28 July 1944

An evening involving 30 dancers from the collective, Rock'n'Roll, and the orchestra, Normandy Jazz Patrol, putting on a musical programme honouring the great names of jazz from the 1940s, such as Glenn Miller, Duke Ellington and Benny Goodman.

Place de Gaulle. Free. www.agoncoutainville.fr

AUGUST

7 > 15 AUGUST

COURSEULLES-SUR-MER, BERNIÈRES,
SAINT-AUBIN-SUR-MER, LANGRUNE,
LUC-SUR-MER, DOUVRES-LA-DÉLIVRANDE,
AUTHIE, CARPIQUET 14

> Events 19th edition of the festival La semaine acadienne (Acadian Week)

On the programme: commemorative ceremonies; an exhibition about people who witnessed the D-Day landings; a peace concert; a ballet entitled Devoir de mémoire (The Duty of Remembrance); a net covered with peace wishes; the projection of documentaries about Canada during the Battle of Normandy; a themed day on life at the time of the D-Day landings; an historical walk; an exceptional concert entitled Les années 40 et la Libération autour de la guitare (The 1940s and the Liberation through guitar music).

Except for the peace concert (€12) and the ballet Devoir de mémoire (€9), all events freely accessible to the public. www.semaineacadienne.net

10 & 11 AUGUST

THURY-HARCOURT-LE-HOM 14

> 9am > 8pm - Events Sur la route des libérateurs : bataille des collines (On the liberators' route - the battle for the hills)

Military camp reconstitution at the Domaine du Traspy. The weekend will end with a shindig followed by a fireworks display lighting up the Château d'Harcourt.

Ancienne gendarmerie: 75 rue de Condé. Place du 13 août 1944. Traspy. Hiking trails. Free. www.le-hom.fr

SATURDAY 17 AUGUST

FLERS 61

> 11am & 2pm - Events Parade of 15 period vehicles, along with a Scottish piper (through the town centre), plus exhibition of vehicles in the château car park

From 11am: parade of 15 period vehicles, along with a Scottish piper (through the town centre, up to the château car park). Exhibition of vehicles from 11am to 2pm. At 2pm: guided tour on the Liberation of Flers and the Resistance, entitled On a retrouvé la 11e DB (We've found the 11th Armoured Division again!), by Hugues Ménès, an accredited guide - starting from the Parc du Château de Flers.

Centre of town to château car park. Free. Further information from Bureau touristique de Flers: 02 33 65 06 75. www.flers-agglo.fr

24 & 25 AUGUST

MONT-ORMEL 61

> Events L'Appel de la Liberté l'Orne se souvient (The Call of Freedom - the Orne remembers)

A day of remembrance and festivities with a variety of events laid on during the day, including: a camp reconstitution; presentations of period vehicles; period merry-go-round, fairground stands and displays of trades; food and drinks stalls; concerts; and projection mapping fireworks to end with.

Mémorial de Montormel. Les Hayettes 61160 Mont-Ormel. Free.

AUGUST / SEPTEMBER

SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER / NOVEMBER

FRIDAY 30 AUGUST

MÉZIDON 14

› 6pm - Concert
Concert for the 80th anniversary of the D-Day landings

The intergenerational orchestra of the Conservatoire à Rayonnement Départemental de Lisieux, represented by amateur and professional musicians, will perform a selection of music linked to the concert's theme (including relevant film music, songs, etc...).

SATURDAY 31 AUGUST

SAINT-DÉSIR 14

› 6pm - Concert
Concert for the 80th anniversary of the D-Day landings

The intergenerational orchestra of the Conservatoire à Rayonnement Départemental de Lisieux, represented by amateur and professional musicians, will perform a selection of music linked to the concert's theme (including relevant film music, songs, etc...).

Allée de la paix, between the two cemeteries of Saint-Désir.

ÉVREUX 27

› 8pm - Concert
Concert for Freedom

Concert by 240 choir members and 60 musicians entitled L'Homme armé, a mass for Peace composed in 1999 by Karl Jenkins, conveying a message of peace and friendship between peoples and generations.

Le Cadran. Free. evreuxportesdenormandie.fr

31 AUGUST › 01 SEPTEMBER

PAVILLY 76

› Events
80 years since the liberation of Pavilly

Historical re-enactment over two days. On the programme: a military camp; a ceremony paying homage to Resistance members; parade of vehicles; evening dance; inter-Allied boxing match in period gear and setting; exhibition... Along with the period vehicles, many participants will be to hand in period dress and period objects will be on display.

On the esplanade around the Pavilly dovecote (colombier) and thatched house (chaumière), rue du Val de l'Esne, at Pavilly. Close to the centre of this little town. Free. www.pavilly.fr

SUNDAY 01 SEPTEMBER

COURSEULLES-SUR-MER 14

› Afternoon - Concert
Concert for the 80th anniversary of the D-Day landings

The intergenerational orchestra of the Conservatoire à Rayonnement Départemental de Lisieux, represented by amateur and professional musicians, will perform a selection of music linked to the concert's theme (including relevant film music, songs, etc...).

Esplanade at Juno Beach Centre, Courseulles-sur-Mer

SAINT-MARCEL 27

› 5pm - Concert
Concert for Freedom

Concert by 240 choir members and 60 musicians entitled L'Homme armé, a mass for Peace composed in 1999 by Karl Jenkins, conveying a message of peace and friendship between peoples and generations.

Centre Culturel Guy Gambu. Free. evreuxportesdenormandie.fr

SUNDAY 22 SEPTEMBER

HARFLEUR 76

› 3pm - Show
Semelles de bois et Doryphores (Wooden Soles and Colorado Potato Beetles) – daily life during the Second World War

A trunk belonging to a 90-year-old woman turns out to contain many memories of a childhood marked by war, occupation and restrictions, but some fun and pranks too. Learn more about daily life under German occupation during the Second World War. Objects, photos and sound archives help bring this period back to life.

Salle Jean Lebosqué. Rue Jean Barbe. Free. www.harfleur.fr

THURSDAY 31 OCTOBER

DOUVRES-LA-DÉLIVRANDE 14

› 7pm - Show
Bunkers brought back to life

Along the outdoor trail at this Radar Station, take in the projected images and presentations running in a loop, allowing you to learn about this place's history and the decisive role of radar in the war. Free entrance, plus a surprise at the ticket booth! Remember to bring some form of portable lighting with you.

Station Radar 44, Musée Franco-Allemand. Route de Bény - RD 83. Free entrance. www.musee-radar.fr

SATURDAY 09 NOVEMBER

DOUVRES-LA-DÉLIVRANDE 14

› 7pm - Show
Bunkers brought back to life

Along the outdoor trail at this Radar Station, take in the projected images and presentations running in a loop, allowing you to learn about this place's history and the decisive role of radar in the war. Free entrance, plus a surprise at the ticket booth! Remember to bring some form of portable lighting with you.

Station Radar 44, Musée Franco-Allemand. Route de Bény - RD 83. Free entrance.



EXHIBITIONS

MARCH 2024 > DECEMBER 2025

COURSEULLES-SUR-MER

14

> Temporary exhibition

Rising to the Challenge: the Canadian Royal Air Force in the Second World War

Exhibition focusing on the Canadian Royal Air Force during the Second World War and its legacy. Of some 45,000 Canadian military personnel who lost their lives between 1939 and 1945, around 18,000 were members of the country's air force.

Juno Beach Centre. www.juno.beach.org

06 APRIL > 29 SEPTEMBER

ARROMANCHES-LES-BAINS

14

> 9am > 6pm - Exhibition

80 ans de commémorations (80 years of commemorations)

An exhibition dedicated to the ten-yearly anniversaries marking the commemoration of the D-Day landings and ensuing Battle of Normandy.

Musée du Débarquement, Place du 6 juin.

19 APRIL > 23 AUGUST

CAEN

14

> 9am > 5pm - Exhibition

Calvados, 6 juin 1944 - Les civils et le Débarquement (Civilians and the D-Day landings)

This exhibition will highlight original documents dating from the day of 6 June 1944 itself, or concerning that exceptional day. From the D-Day landings to the people shot in Caen Prison, via the daily life of the citizens of the département (county) of Calvados, the archives on display enable visitors to see how the day was experienced by those who took part directly in or witnessed this monumental event.

Archives du Calvados, 61 rue de Lion-sur-Mer. Free. archives.calvados.fr

18 MAY > 22 SEPTEMBER

BAYEUX

14

> 9:30am > 6:30pm - Exhibition

Jeunesse et Résistance (Young People and the Resistance)

The exhibition Jeunesse et Résistance highlights the role of young people in the Resistance. Visitors of all ages can learn more about the successful cartoon series, Les Enfants de la Résistance (Children of the Resistance). The exhibition ends with the documentary, Mauthausen, mémoire d'un déporté (Mauthausen, memories of a deported teenager), dedicated to the extraordinary destiny of Paul Le Caër, arrested at school in Bayeux and deported in 1942.

Memorial Museum of the Battle of Normandy, Boulevard Fabian Ware, 14400 Bayeux. Free www.bayeuxmuseum.com/musee-memorial-de-la-bataille-de-normandie

05 MAY > 13 OCTOBER

DEAUVILLE

14

> Exhibition

Robert Capa

Les Franciscaines presents the historic photo reportage undertaken by Robert Capa on Normandy's beaches. La Compagnie du Grain de sable will give readings set to

music of texts written by the famous photo-journalist. A lecture by Olivier Weber will pay homage to Gerda Taro, Robert Capa's wife, also a major war photographer.

Les Franciscaines. lesfranciscaines.fr

02 JUNE > 15 NOVEMBER

SAINTE-MÈRE-ÉGLISE

50

> Exhibition

Système D. Quand les normands réutilisent le matériel militaire de la Seconde Guerre Mondiale. (What ingenuity! How Norman farmers recycled Second World War military equipment)

An exhibition showing how civilians recycled military material. Duration of the exhibition - to last four to five seasons. Museum open April to November (and year-round for groups).

Ferme-musée du Cotentin, Sainte-Mère-Eglise. Entrance to the museum: €6/adults; €3/children (7 - 18 years of age); free for under 7s. ferme-musee.manche.fr

03 JUNE > 03 NOVEMBER

CAEN

14

> 9am > 6pm - Exhibition

Joséphine Baker, libre et engagée (Josephine Baker, a liberated woman committed to the cause)

In partnership with the magazine Paris-Match, paying homage to Josephine Baker, a liberated woman committed to fine causes, the City of Caen presents a unique exhibition retracing the life of this great performer originally from the US. An activist, courageous, active in the Resistance as well as mother to many children, Josephine Baker counted among the great figures of the 20th century, both in France and further afield. This exhibition, presented in the historic setting of the Abbaye aux Hommes, enables visitors to (re-)discover this exceptional woman and her exemplary life story, right up to her posthumous honouring by the French State, when her remains were moved to the Panthéon in Paris.

Abbaye aux Hommes, Hôtel de Ville de Caen Esplanade Jean-Marie Louvel. Abbaye aux Hommes ticket office. Free to Caen citizens providing proof of address. caen.fr

**Consult the full,
up-to-date
programme on
80e-normandie.fr/en**



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