RESPONSIBILITY: Valor Tours, Ltd. acts only as an agent in providing all the services in connection with the tour described in this brochure, and cannot assume responsibility for injury, death, damage or loss due to delays, mechanical defects or failure of any nature aboard aircraft. buses, ships, ship's tenders or zodiacs, or any other means of conveyance, accommodation, or other services resulting directly or indirectly from any acts of God, dangers incident to the sea, fire, breakdown of machinery or equipment, acts of government, other authorities de jure or de facto, wars (whether declared or not), hostilities and civil disturbances, acts of terrorism, strikes, riots, thefts, pilferage, epidemics, quarantine, medical or customs regulations or procedures, defaults, delays or cancellations, or changes from any causes beyond our control, or any loss or damage resulting from improperly issued passports, visas, travel documents, and that neither we nor any of our affiliates shall become liable for any additional expenses of liability sustained or incurred by a tour member as a result of the foregoing causes. The airlines concerned are not to be held responsible for any act or omission or events during the time the passenger is not aboard the aircraft or conveyance. The passenger contract in use shall constitute the sole contract between the carrier and the purchaser of the tour and/or the passenger and the carrier. The right is reserved, should the circumstances warrant it, to alter the itinerary or the sequence of places visited. The right is reserved to substitute hotels for other hotels of a similar category. The operator reserves the right at their or their agent's discretion, to decline to accept, retain or cancel any member of the tour, at any time or place, or cancel the trip if circumstances demand. If the tour operator for any reason whatsoever cancels the trip, all partial and/or full payments will be refunded in full without any further obligation on their part. The schedules used in the operation of this tour are subject to change, without notice. If any tour member does not utilize any portion of the transportation at any time or for any reason whatsoever, additional cost of substitute transportation will be borne by the passengers. Payment of the required deposit or any partial or full payment for reservations shall constitute consent to all the provisions listed in the brochure. Valor Tours Ltd. cannot guarantee or be held responsible for assigned seating aboard any aircraft used in this tour. All legal questions will be settled within the jurisdiction of the County of Marin, California.



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Questions? Call 1-800-842-4504 or Email: <u>valortours@yahoo.com</u>



## **WWI Battlefield Tour**











September 8 to 17, 2024

**Escorted by Mike Grams** 

America's Oldest and Most Experienced Military History Tour Operator



Mike Grams will be taking over for Mike Hanlon, guiding our established WW1 tours to Europe. Mr. Grams, an American citizen, was born in Verdun where his Father was based; his Mother worked as a French translator from St.Mihiel. He has lived and travelled extensively throughout France, and speaks French fluently. He returned to the U.S. in 1972. Mike and his Wife are making plans to move back to France very soon. He has escorted many groups and individuals around France since retiring from the wine business.

"Come tour France with me, a native of Verdun and St.Mihiel, and see the AEF and France from a really different perspective. We will be staying at the Historic Chateau Hattonchatel, in the very heart of the St.Mihiel Salient! We will bring to life the battlegrounds you have read and heard about: Bealleau Wood, the Meuse-Argonne, Verdun, Seichprey, and so much more. This is the land of RinTinTin, Sgt. Stubby and Rags, where General Pershing, Patton, and MacArthur all squared off against Crown Prince Willhelm and General Max von Gallwitz, where Alvin York and Billy Mitchell made history. I promise you a tour to be remembered."

Mike Grams



We will spend four nights at the Hattonchatel Chateau, outside of Verdun.

## WWI 2024 tour with Mike Grams REGISTRATION FORM

Mail to: Valor Tours, Ltd., 10 Liberty Ship Way, Sausalito, Calif. 94965 U.S.A. Questions? Call 1-800-842-4504.

Name	Name	
Address		
City	State	Zip
Telephone (days)		
Email (if any)		
I/we wish to reserve spaces on a twin share basis (two persons to a hotel room), or single basis (I am traveling alone and do not wish to share) Smoking, or Non smoking.		
Enclosed is my/our check for the deposit in the amount of \$ (\$600 per person), or please charge my credit card:  Exp		
WWI places of special interest to me/us:		
I/we need assistance with air arrangements from to Paris and returning from Paris to coincide with tour package.  I/we would like extra nights in Paris prior to tour commencement and/or extra nights in Paris post tour near the Charles de Gaulle Airport Paris where the tour begins and ends.  Next of kin (name/phone) Dietary requirements  I/we have read and understand the terms set forth in this brochure		
Signature		Date

#### **GENERAL INFORMATION, TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

#### RESERVATIONS AND PAYMENTS

Please complete the application form and return with a deposit of \$600 per person. Reservations cannot be held without a deposit. Personal check and all credit cards are accepted for payment. Make checks payable to Valor Tours, Ltd. and mail to 10 Liberty Ship Way, Sausalito, and CA 94965. Final payment is due June 8, 2024. All passengers on deposit will receive written confirmation, Travelex insurance pamphlet and a reading list. Final travel documents will be sent Priority Mail to fully paid participants two weeks prior to departure. Unused components of the tour are non-refundable. Cost based upon a minimum of 10 participants traveling together and current rates. Once deposit is received, current rates are guaranteed. Not recommended for children under the age of 12 years.

#### CANCELLATIONS AND REFUNDS

All moneys are fully refundable for cancellations received up to June 10, 2024. Cancellations received between June 8 and August 8, 2024 subject to loss of deposit or \$600 per person. Cancellation received after August 8, 2024 or "no shows" are non refundable. Cancellation insurance coverage is available and strongly recommended. Personal deviations and extensions to tour are subject to the same penalties. Payments made by check will be refunded by check and may take up to 30 days to process. Payments made by credit card must be credited back to the credit card used and may take up to 60 days to appear on your statement.

#### **HEALTH & TRAVEL DOCUMENTATION**

A valid passport is required to travel to Europe. Visas and inoculations are not required, however we recommend getting Tetanus updated. Please check your passport to make sure it is valid at least six months beyond date of tour. Recommended reading list, description of travel cancellation insurance coverage and detailed itinerary sent to passengers on deposit only. Travel documents including ID badge, baggage tags, final instructions and maps will be sent to all fully paid passengers about two weeks prior to tour commencement. If you have any questions, call Valor Tours, Ltd. at 1-800-842-4504.

#### WHAT TO BRING

Casual and comfortable travel clothes, comfortable walking shoes, brimmed hat, suntan lotion, wash clothe, bottle of Woolite, plenty of film, camera (water proof if possible), wind breaker, back pack, flask to carry water, binoculars. Leave expensive jewelry and high-heeled shoes at home. Carry medications, airline tickets, passport, cash and travelers checks on your person – do not pack in suitcase, as there are occasional delays. Travel light – one suitcase and one carry-on bag per person, please.

#### SINGLE TRAVELERS

When a tour member asks Valor Tours to seek a suitable roommate, we will do the best we can to oblige and find a colleague with common interests and habits. Valor Tours cannot be held responsible for incompatibility or guarantee a roommate. If a roommate cannot be found, the single supplement would apply.

#### NOT INCLUDED IN TOUR PACKAGE COST

Foreign airport departure taxes, meals not indicated in itineraries, passport fees, alcoholic beverages, phone calls, laundry, items of a personal nature, airfare to Europe and cancellation/travel insurance coverage.

Valor Tours, Ltd. reserves the right to modify the itinerary should road conditions, traffic, unexpected detours or local conditions beyond our control so dictate. European coach driving laws will be observed at all times. The coach driver is limited to the amount of time he may spend at the wheel. Unused components are non-refundable. Itinerary subject to change.

#### **Itinerary** – **subject to change**

#### Sunday September 8th (D)

Independent arrivals into Paris. Hotel shuttle to Golden Tulip Hotel, CDG. Meet and greet group dinner tonight (buffet) and briefing in hotel restaurant.

#### Monday, September 9th (B)

9:00am depart hotel for WWI Museum at Meaux, about 45 minute drive. Then onto Meaux Museum, a French National WWI Museum, with lunch at the museum. Continue to Belleau Wood/Bouresches. Then onto Chateau Thierry and the ABMC monument and museum. Ending the day at Chateau Hattonchatel for dinner and overnight.

## Tuesday September 10<sup>th</sup> (B, L)

9:00am depart hotel for Montsec, then onto Apremont La Foret where the 102<sup>nd</sup> Regt. Apremont la Foret-Where the 102<sup>nd</sup> Regiment (26<sup>th</sup> Division first fought) and The Tranchee des Bavarois.

Seichprey and the 102<sup>nd</sup> Regiment Memorial and Church; box lunch enroute to "War of Mines" Battlefield and American Monument to Remenauville, the destroyed village where Erich Marie-Remarque (All Quiet on the Western Front) fought and wrote about. Musee de la Bayonettes-Much More than a Bayonet Museum! Trenches of Saint Baussant (where Rin-Tin-Tin was found) following the path of America's first tank battle past Essey et Maiserais then to Pannes (where Colonel Patton first ran out of gas)

### Wednesday, Sptember 11th (B)

Leave for Fort Douamont, The Ossuary of Verdun. Lunch at Peligrin restaurant; Memorial de Verdun, Chapel du Douamont-fort Souville; Underground Citadelle, to the top of the Monumet de la Victoirie. Dinner in Verdun on own but suggest Chez Mamie. Return to Hattonchatel.

### Thursday September 12th (B)

Leave from Hotel 9AM to Meuse Argonne Cemetery

Visit Cemetery; museum. Lunch and visit at 14-18 Museum. Drive to Mont Faucon ABMC Monument.

Drive to Varrennes Pensylvania Monument, Vauqois Hill; La Tranchee du Chattoncourt; Le Mort-Homme monument. Drive to Verdun and overnight Hattonchatel.

#### Friday September 13th (B)

9:00 Leave hotel for Fort Driant. Tour the only German WW1 Fortress under restoration and open to the public-if occupied by the French Army for maneuvers, we will proceed to the Hackenberg Fortress.

Box lunch on coach as we drive to St. Privat- la-Montagne. Visit the War of 1870 Battlefield and museum. Then onto Main de Messiges, Sommepy ABMC Memorial to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Division. Overnight Holiday Inn, Reims.

## Saturday September 14<sup>th</sup> (B)

Leave Hotel for the Reims Cathedral and Champagne Cellar Tour.

After lunch leave for Chemin des Dames and the Cavern des Dragons. Then onto Soissons and the Aisne-Marne Battlefield and Cemetery. Then onto Bellicourt and the ABMC Memorial. St. Quentin Canal/Riqueval Bridge.

Leave for Albert and check into hotel.

## Sunday, September 15<sup>th</sup> (B)

Depart hotel at 9:00am for Albert Museum (Musee Somme 1916); Visit neo-Byzantine Notre Dame de Brebieres Basilica, (next door); Lourdes of the North with the leaning Angel Statue; Lunch in Albert (on own); then onto Lochnager Crater and Mametz 38th Div (Red Dragon) Memorial. Drive to Thiepval memorial and Ulster Tower/trenches. Flesquires Cambrai tank Museum.

#### Monday, September 16th (B, D)

Leave hotel at 9:00am to follow the route of the Red Barons' last flight. Lunch nearby or on the bus. Vaux-sur-Somme (von Richthoffen demise site), Cantigny memorial. Drive to Compiegne and Armistice Museum dedicated to the Armistice and the famous clearing where it was signed along with its memorials. Return to the Golden Tulip Hotel at CDG for farewell dinner and overnight.

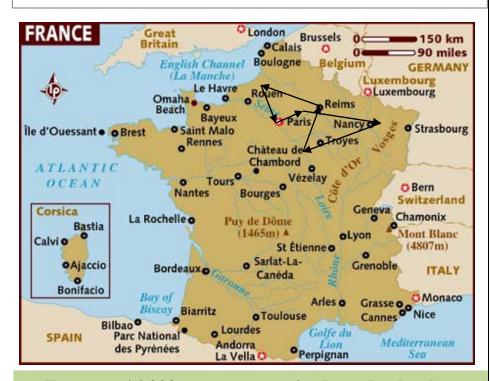
## Tuesday, September 17<sup>th</sup> (B)

Buffet breakfast in hotel before check out. Tour ends.





Due to the absence of handicap and disability laws in Europe, any tour participant with disabilities must be accompanied by a companion who is fully responsible for assisting the disabled tour member at all times throughout the tour. Our tour coach does not have wheelchair lift and staff is not permitted to offer physical assistance.



# Tour cost \$4,200 per person, twin share, land only – single supplement \$900

Includes private coach transportation with driver from/to Paris throughout itinerary; services of tour director Mike Grams; 9 nights hotel accommodations in rooms with private facilities; breakfast daily; welcome and farewell dinners, and one picnic or boxed lunch; entrance fees and donations to museums/memorials; Local guides when needed; local taxes. Based on a minimum of 10 passengers traveling together.

Airfare not included.

Unused components are non refundable. Valor Tours does not recommend that children under the age of 12 years participate on these tours. Changes, deviations, upgrades to your reservations within 45 days of departure may result in additional costs and administration charges.

Not included in tour cost: Trans-Atlantic air fare; tips to driver and guides; items of a personal nature such as alcoholic beverages, laundry, passports fees, phone calls; Meals not indicated in itinerary as included; travel/cancellation insurance coverage.