

Save \$2,000 per Couple & Receive Complimentary Air*
When booked by October 31, 2017

Walk on the black sands of Iwo Jima

Introducing The National WWII Museum's Inaugural Tour of the Pacific Theater



Nowhere on earth are the battles of World War II brought to such a stark reality as on the islands of the Pacific Campaign. There is no travel opportunity more immersive, emotionally moving, and thought provoking than standing on the sands where so many fought for our freedom. Islands untouched, where landing craft, artillery, gun casings and the literal Coca-Cola bottles our soldiers drank from remain, painting a picture far more vivid than any movie could ever depict.

The National WWII Museum is extremely honored to be offer the *Victory in the Pacific* tour. Led by renowned experts Richard Frank and Jonathan Parshall, along with a number of the Museum's most loved historians and curators, we will travel in the company of Hershel "Woody" Williams, Medal of Honor recipient, and other Pacific Campaign veterans whose stories will illuminate your experience and provide truly a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for our guests as we attend the 73th commemoration of the Battle of Iwo Jima together on March 24, 2018.

The Museum's Educational Travel Team has spent months of preparation traveling to these fascinating destinations ensuring your experience is unparalleled. There is truly no better a time than now to visit these hallowed battlegrounds, and never again to be accompanied by such esteemed heroes and experts.

Featured guests, historians and experts

Travel in the company of our heroes who tell their own stories from where it happened









Featured Quests

Hershel "Woody" Williams, Medal of Honor Recipient

Edgar Harrell, World War II Veteran

Jerry Yellin, World War II Veteran

Ittsei Nakagawa, Japanese-American Hiroshima Bomb Survivor

Speakers & Historians

Dr. Richard Frank, Author & Historian Jon Parshall, Author & Historian Don Farrell, Author & Historian Larry Decuers, Museum Curator James Linn, Museum Curator Seth Paridon, Museum Historian Tommy Lofton, Museum Historian

DAY 1: ARRIVALS

Upon arrival into Honolulu International Airport, transfer to the five-star Westin Moana Surfrider, where you will be welcomed by the Museum's travel team. The remainder of your day is at leisure to relax and enjoy the hotel's many resort amenities. *Accommodations: Westin Moana Surfrider*

DAY 2: PEARL HARBOR, THE USS MISSOURI, & DPAA

Begin your exploration of the War in the Pacific at the very place where a Japanese attack brought the country into the war. At the USS *Arizona* Memorial, pay tribute to the 1,177 men who were killed when the ship's forward magazine exploded causing the ship to sink in a matter of minutes. On the USS *Missouri*, stand where the formal surrender of the Japanese Empire to the Allied powers took place. After lunch at the historic Natsunoya Tea House, continue on a special visit to the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) Laboratory at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. At the laboratory, historical research and DNA technology combine in an effort to locate and identify missing service men and women throughout the world. This evening, enjoy a welcome reception and dinner with your fellow tour guests on the Diamond Lawn of the Moana Surfrider as you enjoy a lovely island sunset.

Accommodations: Moana Surfrider (B/L/R/D)

DAY 3: JOURNEY TO SAIPAN

After a relaxing morning at leisure, fly to Saipan, where a ferocious battle waged for over three weeks in June-July, 1944. Granted to Japan after World War I, the island was home to the Japanese forces that attacked on Guam on December 8, 1941. At the same time the Allies secured Rome and were fighting in Normandy, American troops had advanced within striking distance of Saipan. If captured, Saipan and the neighboring island of Tinian offered airfields from which B-29s could attack the Japanese home islands. Once ashore on Saipan, Americans faced challenges in Saipan's formidable geography, a significant civilian population, and Japan's willingness to fight to the last man. *Accommodations: The Kensington Hotel Saipan* (B)

DAY 4: SAIPAN LANDING BEACHES, PURPLE HEART RIDGE, AND THE SUICIDE CLIFFS

The Battle of Saipan moved from South to North with the invasion beaches located on the southwest coast. After American forces secured the southern third of the island along with the airfield, the Japanese continued their relentless assault. Today, guests will stand on the landing beaches, explore the bomb magazine used to supply the planes attacking Guam on December 8, 1941, and participate in an incredibly moving visit to the cliffs where thousands of Japanese civilians and soldiers committed suicide upon realizing that Saipan was lost. Along the way, oral histories from the Museum's collection will highlight the brutal aspects of the battle and the emotions felt by those who witnessed the suicides. *Accommodations: The Kensington Hotel Saipan* (B/L)

DAY 5: TINIAN AND THE ATOMIC BOMB

The island of Tinian is just minutes away from Saipan by air. After arriving at Tinian International Airport by privately chartered aircraft, embark on a tour of iconic North Field. The airfield today is a mixture of modern monuments and memorials with buildings and vehicles in varying states of preservation and decay.

Explore a massive Japanese fuel storage facility where damaged oil drums still remain today. Stand above the bomb pits from which Little Boy and Fat Man were loaded onto the B-29's *Enola Gay* and *Bockscar*. Walk the surprisingly narrow White Beach where the US Marine Corps landed to secure the island where debris from the battle remains today. Upon departure from Tinian en route to Saipan, your plane will embark on a scenic flyover of Tinian and the places the tour visited giving you an aerial perspective of the day's touring. *Accommodations: The Kensington Hotel Saipan* (B/L)

DAY 6: JOURNEY TO GUAM

After a relaxing morning on Saipan, board a short flight this afternoon to Guam. A US territory since the end of the Spanish-American War in 1898, Guam was attacked by the Japanese on December 8, 1941—technically the same day as Pearl Harbor, due to its location on the other side of the International Date Line. The Japanese occupied Guam until August 1944, when the island was liberated by the US 3rd Marine Division and 77th Infantry Division. This evening, a festive reception welcomes the group to the Dusit Thani Resort before dinner at leisure. *Accommodations: Dusit Thani Resort* (B/R)

DAY 7: GUAM

Taking place after the liberation of Saipan, the American invasion of Guam applied some of the lessons learned during the Battle of Saipan, including a 13-day bombardment of the islands. Visit Asan and Agat Landing Beaches, where the US Marine Corps landed and faced stiff Japanese resistance.

Continue to explore the terrain of Guam, including Ga'an Point overlooking Apra Harbor, which is home to monuments dedicated to the 1,880 US servicemen who lost their lived during the 1941 defense of Guam, to the liberators of Guam who retook the island in 1944, and to the 1,170 native Chamorro soldiers and 14,721 locals that perished during this period. Visit the US National Park Service Visitors Center en route, which provides an impactful perspective on the Chomorro population's suffrage during the war. The National WWII Museum's historians traveling with our guests will explain the linkup of the assault forces and the push to conquer the island. Stories from the Museum's special exhibit, *Loyal Forces: The Animals of WWII*, will provide additional insight into today's visit to The National War Dog Memorial. This evening, an engaging panel discussion with Medal of Honor recipient Hershel "Woody" Williams, fellow World War II veterans Jerome "Jerry" Yellin and Edgar Harrell, and Museum Historians and Featured Speakers. Richard Frank and Jon Parshall will illuminate the significance of our visit tomorrow to the Island of Iwo Jima and the 73rd Commemoration Ceremony. *Accommodations: Dusit Thani Resort* (B/L/D/R)

DAY 8: 73RD ANNIVERSARY OF IWO JIMA

Early this morning, board a privately chartered flight to Iwo Jima to take part in the 73rd Anniversary commemorations on the island. The Island of Iwo Jima, now named Iwo To, is open only once per year for this very special Reunion of Honor. On arrival, guests may take the opportunity to hike to the top of Mt. Suribachi, where the iconic flag raising photo was taken, and attend a moving, joint American and Japanese Water Blessing Ceremony. With the Museum's veteran guests, explore the volcanic rock beaches, the unique rugged terrain of the island, and reflect on the extreme American loss in this battle: 24,053 casualties in 36 days of combat. Roughly one soldier for every three who landed on Iwo Jima became a casualty. This day provides a unique opportunity for each guest to honor the men who fought in this historic battle, as well as the Gold Star Families who also gave so much for the capture of this island. Time is provided to absorb as much of the atmosphere and the emotion involved in this iconic American battle before returning to Guam this evening.

Accommodations: Dusit Thani Resort (B/L/D)

DAY 9: GUAM

Enjoy the day at leisure in Guam to unwind from the emotionally charged day on Iwo Jima. Take advantage of the amenities at the Dusit Thani Resort, participate in a cultural excursion, or visit the Senator Antonio M. Palomo Guam Museum & Educational Facility. In the evening, a special Farewell Reception and Dinner recaps the highlights of the tour and offers a glimpse of what is to come on the *Road to Tokyo* and *The Battle for Peleliu* optional post-tour extension programs. *Accommodations: Dusit Thani Resort* (B/R/D)

DAY 10: DEPART TO US

Guests will depart the Dusit Thani Resort this morning and transfer to the Guam International Airport for their return home, or journey onward to one of our optional extension programs (B)

\$13,999 pp (double occupancy), when booked by October 31, 2017*

Tour Inclusions

- Two nights accommodations at the historic, five-star Westin Moana Surfrider Hotel Honolulu Three nights accommodations at the five-star Kensington Hotel Saipan Four nights accommodations at the five-star Dusit Thani Resort Guam
- Roundtrip economy-class air on scheduled United Airlines flights* between: Los Angeles and Honolulu, Honolulu and Guam, and Guam and Los Angeles (via Honolulu)
- Roundtrip, private chartered air between:

 Guam and Iwo Jima, Guam and Saipan, and Saipan and Tinian
- Welcome and Farewell Receptions
- Free-flow beer, wine, spirits, coffee, water, tea, and soft drinks at all included meals and receptions
- · Personal listening devices on all including touring
- Entrance fees, to all sights, museums, and attractions included in the itinerary

- · VIP access to sites not offered on other tours
- Video oral history presentations from the Museum's Collection
- Private, air conditioned motor coach transportation, including bottled water and refreshing cloths on excursions
- All airport transportation throughout program itinerary, including arrival transfer (Honolulu) and departure transfer (Guam)
- Included gratuities to local guides, drivers, porters, and included meal service
- Expert Museum Historian-/Curator-led battlefield tours
- Informative map book, including battlefield maps and archival images to be used throughout your journey
- Document wallet, personalized luggage tags, and customized name badge

*Roundtrip, economy-class air aboard scheduled United Airlines flights, when reservations are confirmed by October 31, 2017. Guests may opt to upgrade to premium economy or business class on identified group flights, at an additional cost. \$299 taxes and fees additional per person. *Please contact us for more details.*

Hinerary Highlights



In Honolulu, admission to Valor in the Pacific, including visits to the USS *Arizona* Memorial, USS *Oklahoma* Memorial, USS *Missouri*, and Pacific Aviation Museum



In Guam, visits to Apra Harbor, Ga'an Point, 3rd Marine & 77th Infantry Divisions Landing Beaches, T. Stell Newman Visitor Center & Museum, Government House on Agana's Plaza de Espana and Naval Base Guam.



In Saipan, touring of the landing beaches, including two partially submerged Sherman tanks; Aslito Airfield with the Japanese bomb magazine, artillery and tanks, air raid shelters; Suicide Cliffs at Marpi Point the last Japanese command post and American Memorial Park.



In Tinian, see the loading pits for both Atomic bombs, have a comprehensive tour of North Field, including the Japanese fuel bunker, memorial square and the administrative building, LVT landing craft, the South Island suicide cliff and caves, and US Marine Corps landing site at White Beach.

Extend your stay with one of our two optional Post-Tour programs from March 26 - 30, 2018

The Battle for Pelelin
PELELIU & PALAU

Join the Museum on a journey of a lifetime to an island populated with so many World War II artifacts that it is a living battlefield museum in its own right. Explore the landing beaches and relics of an island visited by only handfuls of tourists each year, and walk the landscape that continues to embrace the souls of the thousands of American soldiers that perished here. A combination of local battlefield guides and expert WWII Museum historians will illuminate the sights and sounds of an island frozen in time.

Accommodations at the five-star Palau Pacific Resort.

\$3,499 per person*

The Road to Tokyo

TOKYO & HIROSHIMA

After visiting Pearl Harbor, exploring the liberation of Saipan, and standing over the atomic bomb pits on Tinian, The National WWII Museum's Road to Tokyo optional post-tour extension takes guests to the cities of Tokyo and Hiroshoma – an engaging and educational close to an emotionally moving journey. Accommodations include the five-star Westin Hotel Tokyo and the four-star Sheraton Hotel Hiroshima.

\$3,999 per person*

*\$129pp taxes and fees are additional