The Association of Former Students of Texas A&M

Celtic Lands

Scotland • Wales • Ireland • France • England

and

D-Day Remembered

Featuring Guest Speakers

Dwight David Eisenhower II
accompanying you to the Normandy Beaches

and

Allen Packwood
Director of Churchill Archives Centre at Cambridge

aboard the
Exclusively Chartered Small Ship

Five-Star Le Boréal

June 7-16, 2020

SAVINGS
EARLY BOOKING
SAVE $2,000 PER COUPLE

Reserve by October 29, 2019
Howdy, Ags!

Experience the rich traditions, wild beauty and archaeological treasures of the British Isles and Northern France’s storied coastline on this unforgettable Celtic Lands voyage. During our specially designed itinerary, traverse the soul-stirring lands and seas of the influential Celts and discover first-hand their bold legacy, enshrined in Iron-Age duns, brochs and menhirs, and recalled in picturesque towns where poetry and songs date to the Bronze Age and Gaelic is widely spoken.

In commemoration of the anniversary of D-Day, visit the solemn shores of Normandy accompanied by David Eisenhower, grandson of General and President Dwight D. Eisenhower. Professor Eisenhower and Allen Packwood—an expert on British Prime Minister Winston Churchill—will join us for a portion of the cruise and share their exclusive insights on two of the most influential figures of the 20th century.

Cruise the waters of the Irish and Celtic Seas and cross the English Channel. Experience the unique camaraderie of the Traveling Aggies while enjoying the luxuries of the exclusively chartered Le Boréal—a five star ship featuring only 110 suites and staterooms. Call at ports inaccessible to larger vessels and visit the historic territories, villages, islands and breathtaking landscapes entwined with the treasures of Celtic heritage.

Discover Scotland’s seldom-visited Inner Hebridean Islands and admire the austere landscapes of the United Kingdom, steeped in local lore and natural splendor. Stroll amid the rare subtropical flora at the exquisite Tresco Abbey Gardens, the jewel of England’s unspoiled Isles of Scilly. In Dublin, Ireland, view treasures of Celtic heritage and revel in the lively delights of traditional Irish song and dance.

In North Wales, follow in the footsteps of medieval and modern-day princes and enjoy a privately arranged musical performance by the renowned Welsh Maelgwn Choir.

This extraordinary visit to the pivotal D-Day beaches of Normandy and the beautiful Celtic Lands of the British Isles is an exclusive program that will sell out quickly. Make your reservations now, as space is limited.

Gig ’em!

Jennifer Bohac ’87, Ph.D.
Director of Travel – Outreach and Engagement
The Association of Former Students

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Marisa Liles
Director of Travel – Operations and Customer Service
The Association of Former Students

No funds donated to The Association of Former Students or to Texas A&M University have been used in the production or mailing of this travel brochure; all such costs are covered by our tour supplier.

Cover photo: Admire Eilean Donan, one of the world’s most evocative castles, steeped in Jacobite history.

Photo this page: Remnants from D-Day are still visible at man-made Mulberry Harbor, including anchored “Beetle” pontoons.
The Legacy of the Celts

The ancient Celts’ immeasurable contributions to Europe are rooted in a tradition of art, science and folkloric legend. This ancestral civilization spanned two thousand years, with a diversified domain extending from the Iberian Peninsula to the Black Sea and from the Mediterranean Sea to the North Sea. Today they are most associated with the cultural identity and consciousness of Ireland, although their roots also run deep in England, Wales, Scotland and northern France—historic territories where traces of Celtic influence remain.

U.S.
Sunday, June 7
Depart the U.S.

Paris, France/Honfleur
Monday, June 8
On arrival, transfer to Honfleur and embark the Five-Star Le Boreal.

Professor David Eisenhower will share captivating personal insights about his grandfather and Operation Overlord, the Allies’ code name for the military campaign that launched the D-Day airborne and amphibious invasion at Normandy. Enjoy dinner on board the ship this evening.

Caen for Omaha Beach and Arromanches
Tuesday, June 9
Drive to Longues-sur-Mer, where the coastal German artillery battery remains intact. Continue to Omaha Beach, where Allied forces landed on June 6, 1944, and walk the historic Normandy shores. Then, in the company of Professor Eisenhower, contemplate the solemn commemorative crosses and Stars of David in the American Military Cemetery at Colleville-sur-Mer.

Following lunch, travel to Arromanches and view a wraparound short film documenting the D-Day campaign at the Arromanches 360 Circular Cinema or choose to see the world’s most famous embroidery, the 230-foot-long Bayeux Tapestry, a graphic chronicle of the Norman Conquest of 1066.

This evening, attend the Captain’s Welcome Reception and Dinner.

Caen/Pointe du Hoc/Utah Beach/Sainte-Mère-Église and Cherbourg
Wednesday, June 10
Visit Pointe du Hoc to envision the heroic U.S. Army Second Ranger Battalion scaling this cliff promontory, and survey the serene English Channel.

Continue to the Church of Angoville-au-Plain, an emergency aid station on D-Day, and view its modern stained-glass rendition of the American Airborne parachute drop. Nearby, visit Utah Beach, the westernmost shore of the five landing areas of the Normandy invasion, and the Utah Beach D-Day Museum for a chronological account of the landing retold through an immersive curation of artifacts and oral histories.

In Sainte-Mère-Église, one of the first French villages to be liberated by American forces during World War II, see its famous church, where American soldier John Steele caught his parachute on the steeple and “played dead” for two hours before being taken prisoner. Reboard the ship in Cherbourg.

Tresco, Isles of Scilly, England
Thursday, June 11
Visit the family-owned island of Tresco, famed for its 19th-century Tresco Abbey Gardens, weather permitting.
Blooming with more than 6000 exotic plant species, this subtropical landscape is built around the ruins of a Benedictine Abbey. Walk among spires of indigo viper’s bugloss, broad-leafed tree ferns, flourishing aloes and bright pink South African *suikerbos*. Visit the garden’s Valhalla Museum, home to an eclectic collection of 60 shipwrecked figureheads recovered across the Isles of Scilly.

**Holyhead, Wales**
**Friday, June 12**
From Holyhead, transfer across the diminutive Isle of Anglesey and over the Menai Strait to North Wales, the cradle of Celtic culture, where Welsh remains the mother tongue.

Visit beautiful Bodnant Garden, one of the finest examples of 19th-century Victorian landscape artistry, framed by the magnificent peaks of Snowdonia. Enjoy lunch in a local restaurant followed by a private choir performance of Welsh hymns. Experience the grandeur of the UNESCO World Heritage-designated Caernarfon Castle, an impenetrable 13th-century fortress built by Edward I of England as a defense against the marauding Welsh.

**Dublin, Ireland**
**Saturday, June 13**
Built astride the River Liffey, Ireland’s historic capital has retained its rich heritage of Georgian architecture. The panoramic tour of the city highlights the landmark St. Patrick’s and Christ Church Cathedrals and grand O’Connell Street, lined with bronze and marble statues of Irish statesmen. Stroll through the stately quadrangles of Trinity College, founded in 1592, and view the ninth-century *Book of Kells*, the world’s most famous medieval manuscript. Your afternoon is at leisure.

On board the ship this evening, enjoy specially arranged, traditional Irish music and dance performed by The Merry Ploughboys.

**Isle of Iona, Scotland/Tobermory, Isle of Mull**
**Sunday, June 14**
Visit the Hebridean Isle of Iona, the birthplace of Christianity in Scotland. In A.D. 563, the Irish monk Columba founded a monastery here, where scribes would spend their lives painstakingly copying religious tracts and transcribing ancient Celtic sagas.
Stroll through the serene, restored abbey and see the churchyard’s intricate Celtic crosses.

Steeped in Viking myth and Celtic lore, the Isle of Mull is a land of extraordinary beauty, with pink granite cliffs, white-sand beaches and clear, blue waters. The island’s mysterious moors are studded with Iron-Age duns, brochs and menhirs that recall the Hebridean Island’s rich prehistory.

Go ashore at the photogenic port of Tobermory, the island’s capital, where brightly painted houses, cafés and boutiques are nestled between woodland-fringed hills and the boat-filled harbor. Enjoy time at leisure.

Later, join Allen Packwood on board the ship as he discusses the complexity of the D-Day operations and Sir Winston Churchill’s role in its undertaking.

Kyle of Lochalsh
Monday, June 15

Enjoy sweeping views of the Black and Red Cuillin mountain ranges at Sligachan and the heather-woven hills and rocky shorelines of Sleat, the “Garden of Skye.” Visit the 13th-century Eilean Donan Castle, named for a sixth-century Irish saint.

Magnificently sited at the entrance to Loch Dhuich, the castle was built in 1214 to defend against attack from the Danes. Today, the castle is home to a small museum that displays Jacobite relics.

This evening, attend the Captain’s Farewell Reception on board the ship.

Glasgow, Scotland/U.S.
Tuesday, June 16

Following breakfast, continue on to the Edinburgh and Glasgow Post-Cruise Option or transfer to the airport for your return flight to the U.S.

Explore Edward I’s impressive Caernarfon Castle, the mightiest link in his Iron Ring of fortresses across North Wales.

Edinburgh • Glasgow

Explore two of Scotland’s greatest cities and their histories of fascinating clans, medieval knights and royal and religious intrigue on this Post-Cruise Option.

Visit Glasgow’s 12th-century cathedral, the only medieval church in mainland Scotland to survive the reformation of 1560, and the historic Edinburgh Castle. Spend two nights in the Five-Star Waldorf Astoria Edinburgh The Caledonian.

Paris • Giverny

During this Pre-Cruise Option, experience the “City of Light,” lovely Honfleur and Monet’s cherished gardens in nearby Giverny.

Enjoy a panoramic tour of Paris, renowned for its historic and aesthetic influence, and a walking tour of fascinating Montmartre.

Enjoy a visit to Monet’s Gardens—an exquisite living canvas—in charming Giverny.

Tour the Impressionist Master’s house and admire his lily pond and iconic Japanese bridge. Spend two nights in the Five-Star InterContinental Paris Le Grand.

Pre- and Post-Cruise Options are available at additional cost. Details will be included with your reservation confirmation.
Exclusively Chartered, Five-Star ms Le Boréal

Five-Star, Small Ship
Join us aboard the exclusively chartered, Five-Star Le Boréal, where distinctive French sophistication meets innovative nautical design. The ship’s efficient electrical propulsion system and custom stabilizers provide an exceptionally smooth, quiet and comfortable voyage.

Respect for the Environment
With advanced technology and the most environmentally responsible features built into its design and operations, the ship has earned the important “Clean Ship” distinction.

With Our Compliments
Indulge in these complimentary on board amenities—alcoholic and nonalcoholic beverages available throughout the cruise and in your Suite or Stateroom minibar, Wi-Fi access (conditions permitting) and 24-hour room service.

Chic and Casual Dining
The stylish dining room and casual alfresco restaurant feature international and regional cuisine and serve continental and buffet breakfasts, buffet lunch, afternoon tea and dinner in four courses or buffet. Wine is served at your table with lunch and dinner.

Elegant Suites and Staterooms—95% Include Private Balconies
Each of the 110 ocean-view Staterooms and Suites range from 200 to 484 square feet, and most have a private balcony. All Five-Star accommodations feature individual climate control, two twin beds or one queen bed and a private bathroom with shower and luxurious hotel amenities, including flat-screen television, a safe, a full-length closet, plush robes and slippers.

Life on Board
Whether you seek educational and cultural presentations, panoramic views, nightly entertainment or quiet retreat, the ship’s spacious public areas can accommodate all passengers comfortably. Enjoy two lounges, a theater, library, Sun Deck with open-air bar, swimming pool, beauty salon, spa, Turkish bath-style steam room and fitness room. The ship has two elevators.

World-Class Service
The highly trained, English-speaking crew are personable and attentive, and the ship has a medical center staffed with a doctor and nurse.
Acclaimed Guest Speakers

- David Eisenhower — grandson of General and President Dwight D. Eisenhower, historian and professor at the University of Pennsylvania.

Included Features
On Board the Exclusively Chartered, Five-Star, Small Ship Le Boreal

- Eight-night cruise from Honfleur, France, to Glasgow, Scotland.
- Elegantly appointed, Five-Star Suite or Stateroom.
- Captain’s Welcome and Farewell Receptions and Welcome Dinner.
- Complimentary alcoholic and nonalcoholic beverages available throughout the cruise.
- All meals aboard ship.
- Complimentary Wi-Fi access (conditions permitting).
- An opportunity to watch a short film documenting the D-Day campaign at the Arromanches 360 Circular Cinema or to see the legendary Bayeux Tapestry, chronicling the Norman Conquest of 1066.
- Two full-day excursions, with lunch, to the D-Day beaches of Normandy with visits to Utah and Omaha Beaches, Sainte-Mère-Église and the American Military Cemetery.
- Visit to the lush, 19th-century Tresco Abbey Gardens, weather permitting.
- Traditional Irish music and dance entertainment aboard ship while in Dublin.
- City tour of Dublin, featuring a visit to Trinity College to see the legendary Book of Kells.
- Private performance by the renowned Welsh Maelgwn Choir and lunch in the Victorian seaside town of Llandudno.
- Visit to Caernarfon Castle, a UNESCO World Heritage site, and 19th-century Bodnant Garden, with picturesque views of the magnificent Snowdonia Mountains in Wales.
- Visit to the Isle of Iona featuring the historic Iona Abbey.
- Leisure time in the 18th-century port town of Tobermory, Isle of Mull.
- Visit to 13th-century Eilean Donan Castle and a scenic excursion across the Isle of Skye.

Always Included

- Transfers and luggage handling abroad if 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 aboard ship and on excursions.
- Hospitality desk aboard ship.
- 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.
Attend dynamic lectures and enjoy informal discussions with experts on two of the most powerful world leaders of the 20th century and World War II.

Featured Guest Speakers

Dwight David Eisenhower II

Grandson of General and President Dwight D. Eisenhower, David Eisenhower 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 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; and
◆ Triumph and Tragedy—big-picture consequences of the Allied forces’ Normandy landings.

Allen Packwood

◆ Churchill and D-Day—Churchill’s role in the high-risk complexity of the D-Day operations; and
◆ Churchill and the Two Republics: France and the U.S.—Churchill’s worldview as a leader and how it was influenced by the U.S. and France.

Scheduled guest speakers may be altered due to circumstances beyond our control. See Release of Liability, Assumption of Risk and Binding Arbitration Agreement.

On June 6, 1944, Allied forces launched the D-Day invasion, landing on the beaches of Normandy.
Le Boréal has been specially contracted for this tour, and the applicable deck plan is available on request from Gohagan & Company and reflects the only valid cabin categorization of the vessel.

**Category**

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**Deluxe Suite**

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Singles are available in category 6 at $14,995* and in category 4 at $16,195* on or before October 29, 2019. Add $1,000 for reservations made after October 29, 2019.

*Taxes are an additional $495 per person and are subject to change. Le Boréal has been specially contracted for this tour, and the applicable deck plan is available on request from Gohagan & Company and reflects the only valid cabin categorization of the vessel.

**CELTIC LANDS RESERVATION FORM**

Send to: Traveling Aggies
505 George Bush Drive
College Station, TX 77840
(979) 845-7514 or (800) 633-7514
Fax: (979) 845-9263

Title Full Name (exactly as it appears on your passport) Class Year

Title Full Name (exactly as it appears on your passport) Class Year

Street Mailing Address (no P.O. Box number please)

City State Zip Code

Telephone (Home) (Mobile)

Email Address (Business)

Preferred Name(s) or Badge(s) Tour No. 043-06/07/20-104

Program reservations require a deposit of $800 per person and $200 per person Paris • Giverny Pre-Cruise Option and/or $200 per person Edinburgh • Glasgow Post-Cruise Option. By reserving and depositing on this program, I/we agree to the Release of Liability, Assumption of Risk and Binding Arbitration Agreement as printed on the outside back cover of this brochure.

- Enclosed is my/our check(s) for $ as deposit.
- Make checks payable to 2020 Celtic Lands.
- I/We authorize you to charge my/our deposit of $ to: Visa MasterCard
- Signature as it appears on credit card

All FINAL PAYMENTS are required to be made by check or wire transfer by March 4, 2020.

Please make my/our reservation(s) in category:

1st choice 2nd choice
- Double occupancy (two twin beds).
- Double occupancy (one queen bed).
- Single accommodations.
- I am reserving as a single but prefer to share accommodations and will allow you to select my roommate (shares cannot be guaranteed).

Please make my/our reservation(s):

Paris • Giverny Pre-Cruise Option
- Double at $1,195 per person.
- Single at $1,945 per person.
- I am reserving as a single but prefer to share accommodations.

Edinburgh • Glasgow Post-Cruise Option
- Double at $1,395 per person.
- Single at $8,995 per person.
- I am reserving as a single but prefer to share accommodations.

- I/We want you to book my/our air, at an additional cost to be advised, 1:

(Tell us departure city)

- Economy Class
- Upgraded Economy
- Business Class
- First Class

- Note: Airfare is subject to change and availability and is nonrefundable.
- I/We will make my/our own air arrangements.
RELEASE OF LIABILITY, ASSUMPTION OF RISK AND BINDING ARBITRATION AGREEMENT

RESPONSIBILITY: Gohagan & Company, the sponsoring association, volunteers, agents, employees, shareholders, subsidiaries, affiliates, officers, directors or trustees, successors, and assigns (collectively "Gohagan"), do not own or operate any entity which is to or does provide goods or services in connection with your trip and have no control over their operation. Accordingly, Gohagan shall not be liable for any acts or omissions of any such entities. Gohagan does not control the weather, weather conditions or levels, other events of force majeure, acts of God, acts of government, acts of any person or entity, including without limitation, the Department of State, World Health Organization or other Warnings or Advisories, and shall not be responsible therefor and is not required to compensate passengers under any circumstances. Gohagan may cancel a trip (or an option) for any reason, including without limitation, United States government or state government actions, strikes, lockouts, overbooking or downgrading of accommodations, mechanical or other failure of airplanes, vessels, or other means of transportation, or for any failure of any transportation mechanism to arrive or depart timely or safely.

In addition and without limitation, Gohagan is not responsible for any injury, loss, death, inconvenience, delay, or damage to person or property in connection with the provision of any goods or services whether resulting from natural disasters or otherwise. Gohagan makes the flight arrangements or cancels the trip. Gohagan reserves the right to substitute motorcoach transportation for flights at any time and for any reason, with or without notice, and Gohagan shall not be liable for any expenses incurred as a result of such changes. Such changes may include, but not limited to, increases in the cost of fuel, fuel surcharges, any increases due to changes in supplier costs, currency fluctuations or fuel energy surcharges and all such increases are to be paid to Gohagan upon notice to the tour participant of such increases. On programs which include optional excursion cancellation fees and administrative fees may apply. Gohagan purchased interstate or international air (which originates or returns to the United States), no increased costs will be passed on after final payment except for subsequently imposed governmental tax increases.

In addition and without limitation, Gohagan is not liable for any claim, demand, loss, damage, injury, expense, or cost, direct or indirect, of any kind or the threat thereof, sickness, illness, epidemics or the threat thereof, the lack of availability of or access to medical attention or the quality thereof, or any changes, disruptions, diversions or delays or any acts or omissions or failures of any airlines, vessels, or other transportation companies, or for any failure of any transportation mechanism to arrive or depart timely or safely.

CANCELLATIONS: Cancellations for all or any part of the trip including Pre/Post Program(s) reservation(s) will not be effective until received in writing to the offices of Gohagan. Should you have to cancel, the following terms will apply: reservation cancellation(s) are subject to a $200 ($50 Pre/Post Program(s)) per person administrative fee from the time of booking through 120 days prior to departure; from 95 through 119 days prior to departure, $880 ($200 Pre/Post Program(s)) per person; from 60 through 94 days prior to departure, 70% of the published full regular tariffs; cancellations 59 days or less prior to departure, a no-show, or early return from the trip will result in forfeiture of 100% of the published full regular tariffs. In addition, any applicable airline cancellation fees, optional excursion cancellation fees and administrative fees may apply.

TRIP INSURANCE: We strongly recommend that you purchase trip cancellation insurance. In the event that you must cancel your participation in a travel program, trip cancellation insurance may be the only source of reimbursement.

RATES: Prices quoted are based on fares in effect at the time of printing and are subject to change at any time. On land and/or cruise programs, even after full payment, Gohagan reserves the right to increase the tour price in the event of cost increases due to changes in supplier costs, currency fluctuations or fuel energy surcharges and all such increases are to be paid to Gohagan upon notice to the tour participant of such increases. On programs which include optional excursion excursions, to the extent that such fees and administrative fees may apply.

ACCEPTANCE OF CONTRACT: By forwarding of deposit, the participant certifies that he/she does not have any mental, physical or other condition of disability that would create a hazard for him/herself or other participants and accepts the terms contained in this Release of Liability, Assumption of Risk and Binding Arbitration Agreement.

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Iona Abbey, Scotland's holiest place since the sixth century, is traditionally believed to be where the Kells of Books was created.

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October 29, 2019

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College Station, TX 77840

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Chicago, Illinois 60604-1446
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