

THE ASSOCIATION OF FORMER STUDENTS

# European Coastal Civilizations

**D-DAY REMEMBERED**, featuring Pulitzer Prize Finalist  
and noted historian

**Dwight David Eisenhower II**



aboard the exclusively chartered small ship

**Five-Star Le Bellot**

April 24–May 3, 2023

*Normandy Beaches*

**Destinations including:**

**Lisbon**

**Oporto**

**Santiago de Compostela**

**Bilbao**

**Mont-Saint-Michel**

**Normandy Beaches**

**River Thames and London**

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## Professor David Eisenhower

Grandson of General and President Dwight D. Eisenhower, Professor 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 received a B.A. in history cum laude from Amherst College. Following graduation, he served in the United States Naval Reserve for three years as an officer on the *USS Albany*. Shortly afterward, he earned his Juris Doctor cum laude from The George Washington University Law School. Today, 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."



*President Dwight D. Eisenhower with Winston Churchill.*

*First Division U.S. Army Memorial on Omaha D-Day Beach Normandy, France*



## 10 DAY ITINERARY

- 1 Depart home city
- 2 Lisbon, Portugal/  
Embark LE BELLOT
- 3 Leixões for Oporto
- 4 A Coruña, Spain,  
for Santiago de Compostela
- 5 Santander for Bilbao
- 6 Cruising the Bay of Biscay
- 7 Saint-Malo, France,  
for Mont-Saint-Michel
- 8 Caen for Normandy Beaches
- 9 Cruising the English Channel/  
River Thames to London's  
Tower Bridge, England
- 10 London/Disembark ship/  
Return to home city

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# Traveling Aggies

A PROGRAM OF  
The Association of Former Students®



Howdy, Ags!

From the old-world sophistication of Portugal and the artistic verve of Spain's Basque country to the Celtic heritage of northwestern France and the regal majesty of London, a riveting canvas of influential seaports awaits you along Europe's Atlantic coastline. Neoclassical palaces, medieval castles and Romanesque cathedrals illuminate the enduring cultural legacies of European Coastal Civilizations that have played a pivotal role in world history. This exclusive, five-star, small ship itinerary includes an excursion to the solemn shores of Normandy to honor and remember the historic D-Day invasion. Accompanying us to the Normandy beaches is special guest speaker David Eisenhower, grandson of General and President Dwight D. Eisenhower, the supreme commander of the Allied Forces during World War II.

Cruise for eight nights aboard the exclusively chartered, five-star LE BELLOT, featuring only 92 suites and staterooms, each with a private balcony. Dock in small ports of call that are inaccessible to larger vessels and enjoy stately ocean-view accommodations, enriching excursions and attentive, personal service.

Visit three UNESCO World Heritage Sites, including the astonishing island monastery of Mont-Saint-Michel, the jewel of medieval France; the Christian world's third holiest city of Santiago de Compostela, where you will walk in the footsteps of medieval pilgrims to visit the tomb of Saint James; and spirited Oporto, the center of world-famous port wine and exemplary Moorish-influenced architecture. Cruise Spain's ruggedly beautiful Costa Verde, tour Frank Gehry's visionary Guggenheim Museum in Bilbao and cruise up the River Thames to spend one night aboard ship a mere stone's throw from Tower Bridge in the heart of London.

This popular program features an included cultural excursion in each port and is an excellent value, so we urge you to reserve now while space and early booking savings are available.

Gig 'em!

Julie Scamardo

Manager of Traveling Aggies

The Association of Former Students

Phone: 979-845-7514 or 800-633-7514

Fax: 979-845-9263

*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.*

The safety and well-being of our travelers remains our highest priority. Cruise lines and some other providers of services (including some countries) require all passengers traveling on our programs to present confirmation of a full COVID-19 vaccination, and, as well, passengers may have to produce evidence of a recent negative COVID test. All our staff are committed to adhering to all health and safety protocols from the start of your trip to the end as directed by the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, overseas health officials as well as those protocols mandated by your cruise company (if applicable) and other suppliers of services. Detailed protocol information tailored to your travel program will be mailed to you along with additional pre-departure information.

## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS



# D-Day and Normandy Beach



**In the company of Professor Eisenhower,** walk where Allied forces landed on D-Day. At Pointe du Hoc, envision the heroic U.S. Army Second Ranger Battalion scaling this cliff promontory and view the craters that remain from D-Day bombardments. Survey the serene English Channel and reflect on the commemorative crosses and Stars of David in the American Military Cemetery at Colleville-sur-Mer.

His lectures will feature:

### **Operation Overlord**

The concept, planning and personalities behind the D-Day invasion

### **Triumph and Tragedy**

Big-picture consequences of the Allied forces' Normandy landings





## DAY BY DAY ITINERARY

### Home City/ Lisbon, Portugal

#### Day 1 and Day 2

Depart your home city and arrive the next day in Lisbon, Portugal's enigmatic capital city, replete with world-class architecture, and embark the five-star LE BELLOT.

### Leixões for Oporto

#### Day 3

Dock in Leixões and transfer to Oporto, a former Roman outpost and center of port wine trade since the 13<sup>th</sup> century. The cultural legacy of the Moors finds expression in Oporto's rich architectural details.

Explore Ribeira, Oporto's historical center, declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site for its extraordinary architectural timeline and living history status. Visit the Gothic Igreja de São Francisco, hailed for its lavish gold-plated Baroque interior, and the Neoclassical Palácio da Bolsa, home to the swirling arabesques and ornate stained glass of the gilded Arabian Hall, inspired by the Alhambra in Granada.

Attend the Captain's Welcome Reception and Dinner this evening.

### A Coruña, Spain, for Santiago de Compostela

#### Day 4

Visit Santiago de Compostela, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and stroll along medieval stone streets to the Praza do Obradoiro flanked by the

glorious Romanesque cathedral. As a pilgrimage site since the Middle Ages, the cathedral enshrines the tomb of Saint James and is recognized for its intricately carved Baroque façade, original medieval portico, and glittering Churrigueresque altar.

### Bilbao

#### Day 5

The construction of Frank Gehry's titanium-clad Guggenheim Museum hailed the city's cultural renaissance as modernist marvels from Santiago Calatrava and Philippe Starck redefined the post-industrial skyline.

Enjoy a guided tour of the Guggenheim's renowned art collection, and explore the Art Nouveau and Baroque jewels of Bilbao's historical Casco Viejo with a walk along the Paseo del Arenal.

### Cruising the Bay of Biscay

#### Day 6

Exclusive lectures on board the ship while cruising the Bay of Biscay.

### Saint-Malo, France, for Mont-Saint-Michel

#### Day 7

Rising from a tidal plain that appears to be suspended above the sea, the UNESCO World Heritage-designated Mont-Saint-Michel is a sight of soaring spires isolated beyond a stretch of saltwater marsh. This fortified village

began as a humble oratory and became a renowned medieval center of learning. Cobblestone streets weave through the village, culminating in the Abbaye du Mont-Saint-Michel, a three-story Gothic masterpiece. Admire the serene cloisters, barrel-roofed *réfectoire*, and Gothic *Salle des Hôtes* of the 13<sup>th</sup>-century *La Merveille* and the magnificent *Église Abbatiale*.

### Caen for the Normandy Beaches

#### Day 8

Dock in Caen and make the solemn pilgrimage to the historic Normandy beaches, site of the largest seaborne invasion in history.

Following lunch, continue to Arromanches to see the remnants of the Mulberry "A" harbor that was taken across the English Channel to support Allied landings on the Normandy beaches.

Opt to see the 230-foot-long Bayeux Tapestry, which chronicles the Norman Conquest of 1066, or continue to explore the region at leisure.

### Cruising the English Channel/River Thames, London, England

#### Day 9

This morning, attend an insightful lecture from Professor Eisenhower on board the ship.

Cruise the English Channel across the Strait of Dover and



*Guggenheim Museum in Bilbao, Spain*

continue up the River Thames, a memorable passage possible only by small ship. See Britain's history revealed as you pass the towering skyline and take in monumental views of Greenwich's Observation Tower, the Tower of London, Norman Foster's emerald-hued

Gherkin, and Renzo Piano's sky-piercing Shard.

Dock alongside HMS *Belfast*—whose guns fired some of the first shots on D-Day—in view of Tower Bridge. Attend the Captain's Farewell Reception this evening.

## London/Home City Day 10

Following breakfast, disembark and continue on the London's Enduring History Post-Program Option or transfer to the airport for your return flight home.



*Mont-Saint-Michel, France*

## ALWAYS INCLUDED WITH GOHAGAN & COMPANY

- ◆ 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.
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- ◆ Experienced Gohagan & Company Travel Directors at your service.
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- ◆ Automatic \$250,000 flight insurance policy for each participant ticketed on flights by Gohagan & Company.

## BOOK WITH CONFIDENCE!

No cancellation fees for new bookings until 95 days prior to trip departure.





# LE BELLOT

## Luxury Small Ship, Innovative Design

LE BELLOT represents a new generation of five-star small ships, combining revolutionary design and a new standard of luxury for unparalleled cruising. Dock in smaller ports inaccessible to larger ships, where authentic cultural experiences and majestic scenery await you. Complimentary alcoholic/nonalcoholic beverages and internet access are available throughout the cruise. All meals aboard ship are included.

## Elegant Suites and Staterooms, 100% with Private Balconies

Each of the 92 five-star staterooms and suites (up to 484 square feet) features a private balcony. Grand deluxe suites have a floor-to-ceiling panoramic window and spacious private terrace. Accommodations offer two twin beds or one queen bed, individual climate control, a private bathroom with shower, and luxury hotel-style amenities.



Category	LAND/CRUISE RATES <small>excluding taxes</small>	Early Booking Rate through Oct. 21, 2022	Rate after Oct. 21, 2022
8	Deluxe stateroom with a picture window, single door onto private, partial-wall balcony. <i>Deck 3, midship.</i> (limited availability)	\$5,995	\$6,895
7	Prestige stateroom with sliding glass door, <b>private balcony.</b> <i>Deck 4, midship.</i>	\$6,495	\$7,465
6	Prestige stateroom with sliding glass door, <b>private balcony.</b> <i>Deck 5, midship and aft.</i>	\$6,995	\$8,045
5	Prestige stateroom with sliding glass door, <b>private balcony.</b> <i>Deck 6, midship and aft.</i>	\$7,895	\$9,075
4	Deluxe suite with sliding glass door, <b>private balcony.</b> <i>Deck 3, midship.</i> (limited availability)	\$8,895	\$10,225
3	Deluxe suite with sliding glass door, <b>private balcony.</b> <i>Deck 4, midship.</i> (limited availability)	\$9,595	\$10,995
2	Deluxe suite with sliding glass door, <b>private balcony.</b> <i>Deck 5, midship.</i>	\$10,495	\$12,065
1	Deluxe suite with sliding glass door, <b>private balcony.</b> <i>Deck 6, midship.</i>	\$11,395	\$13,095
Prestige Suite II	Two-room suite, expansive sliding glass door, <b>larger private balcony,</b> two bathrooms, two closets, large sitting area with sofa. <i>Deck 5, midship.</i> (limited availability)	\$11,995	\$13,795
Prestige Suite I	Two-room suite, expansive sliding glass door, <b>larger private balcony,</b> two bathrooms, two closets, large sitting area with sofa. <i>Deck 6, midship.</i> (limited availability)	\$12,695	\$14,595
Privilege Suite	Large suite with expansive sliding glass door, <b>larger private balcony,</b> sitting area with sofa. <i>Decks 5 and 6, aft.</i> (limited availability)	\$13,295	\$15,285
Grand Deluxe Suite	Extra-large, one-bedroom suite and separate sitting room with sofa, expansive sliding glass door, <b>spacious private terrace,</b> full bathroom with tub and separate shower, additional half bath. <i>Deck 6, aft.</i> (limited availability)	\$14,295	\$16,435
Owner's Suite	Extra-large, one-bedroom suite and separate sitting room with sofa, expansive sliding glass door, <b>spacious private terrace</b> with outdoor Jacuzzi, full bathroom with tub and separate shower, additional half bath. <i>Deck 5, aft.</i> (limited availability)	\$14,995	\$17,245

Single supplements apply across all categories at 160% of the per person double price.

Taxes are an additional \$515 per person.

LE BELLOT has been specially contracted for this program and the deck plan is available online or upon request from Gohagan & Company.



## PRE-PROGRAM OPTION

### Old World Lisbon

**April 22–25, 2023**

Experience the cinematic streetscapes, medieval passageways, and timeless rituals of Lisbon — one of Europe's most visually appealing capitals. Savor stunning Portuguese art on a walking tour of the Bairro Alto District, visit the fascinating National Coach Museum and Jerónimos Monastery, and stop by the captivating five-story fortress of Belém Tower. Enjoy breathtaking views on a scenic drive to Sintra, immortalized in English poetry by Lord Byron and noted for its natural beauty and resplendent palaces. Accommodations are for two nights in the deluxe DOM PEDRO LISBOA.

*Price per person, based on double occupancy: \$745*

*Price per person, based on single occupancy: \$995*



## POST-PROGRAM OPTION

### London's Enduring History

**May 3–5, 2023**

Explore the storied history and vibrant modernity of London, a compelling city that continues to rewrite its narrative and make each visit more enjoyable than the last. Visit the legendary Tower of London and Westminster Abbey, both UNESCO World Heritage Sites, and step into Churchill's Cabinet War Room — a secret World War II bunker where the Prime Minister and his staff charted a course to victory. Spend two nights in the five-star INTERCONTINENTAL LONDON PARK LANE, ideally located near Buckingham Palace.

*Price per person, based on double occupancy: \$995*

*Price per person, based on single occupancy: \$1,495*

*Further details will be provided with your reservation confirmation.*

# 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

095-04/24/23-104

## Please make my/our reservation(s):

Category: **1<sup>st</sup> Choice** \_\_\_\_\_ **2<sup>nd</sup> Choice** \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ Double (two twin beds).  
☐ Double (one queen bed).  
☐ Single accommodations.  
☐ Single but prefer to share and will allow you to select my roommate (shares cannot be guaranteed).

## Old World Lisbon Pre-Program Option

**April 22–25, 2023**

- ☐ Double \$745 per person.  
☐ Single \$995 per person.  
☐ I am reserving as a single but prefer to share accommodations.

## London's Enduring History Post-Program Option

**May 3–5, 2023**

- ☐ Double \$995 per person.  
☐ Single \$1,495 per person.  
☐ I am reserving as a single but prefer to share accommodations.  
☐ I/We want you to book my/our air from:

\_\_\_\_\_  
(fill in departure city)

- ☐ I/We will make my/our own air arrangements.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title Full Name Class Year

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title Full Name Class Year

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
City State Zip Code

\_\_\_\_\_  
Home Telephone Cell Phone

\_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address Business Telephone

Program reservations require a deposit of \$800 per person.

- ☐ Enclosed is my/our check(s) for \$\_\_\_\_\_.  
Make check(s) payable to **2023 European Coastal Civilizations**.  
☐ I/We authorize you to charge a deposit of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to:  
☐ American Express ☐ Discover ☐ MasterCard ☐ Visa  
☐ I/We request that you contact me/us via telephone or email for payment by ACH.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Card Number Exp. Date

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Signature as it appears on credit card

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[gohagantravel.com/terms/](http://gohagantravel.com/terms/)**

\_\_\_\_\_  
First participant's signature Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Second participant's signature Date

**FINAL PAYMENT due Jan. 19, 2023; make by check, ACH or credit card. Reservations made after Jan. 19, 2023, require payment in full at time of booking. No cancellation fees until 95 days prior to April 24, 2023!**

*Rabelos in Oporto, Portugal*

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