

LIFE  
CHANGING  
WAR STORIES



BRABANT  
REMEMBERS

GEORGE & URSULA  
LEVY'S LIFE  
CHANGED HERE



## WW2 TOURS & PACKAGES IN BRABANT



[www.brabantremembers.com/trade](http://www.brabantremembers.com/trade)

# ✘ BRABANT REMEMBERS - PERSONAL LIFE CHANGING WAR STORIES

**Brabant Remembers is about the stories and recollections that changed individual lives forever. We will bring these stories to life at these locations allowing the visitor to gain an insight into what happened here. In this way we can maintain and share our wartime history ensuring that this can be commemorated by future generations. By visiting Brabant you will find many opportunities for your tour groups to understand what happened in this part of the Netherlands.**

Brabant Remembers, in conjunction with its partners and Battlefield Discovery, offers multiple WW2-tours and packages. Ranging from

military operations such as Market Garden and Battle of the Scheldt to exploring city war time experiences and stories of persecution, deportation and resistance activities. Here, in Brabant it is hoped you will find a suitable tour for your group. Our brochure contains our highlighted tours but if your requirements are for a more bespoke tour then please do not hesitate to contact us or visit our website. All prices are based on tours for 25 or more guests. If your group is below 25 guests or your requirements are bespoke please contact us to discuss pricing.

For further information please visit [www.brabantremembers.com](http://www.brabantremembers.com).

## EXPERT GUIDES BY BATTLEFIELD DISCOVERY

In cooperation with Brabant Remembers, Battlefield Discovery coordinates the network of local expert guides and provides tour packages. *Battlefield Discovery* is a company focused on World War Two research and battlefield tour guiding. Run by *Edwin Popken*, military historian and guide, Battlefield Discovery develops and offers tours for the commercial and consumer market. Battlefield Discovery is the best party to host and guide your tour in Brabant.

Edwin Popken



## WALK IN THE TRACKS OF THE LIBERATORS

The Liberation Route Brabant walking route takes you past historic locations that played an important role in the final phase of the Second World War. The route tells the story of the liberation and shows what the Second World War meant for both the ordinary people of Brabant and their liberators. As you walk you will learn all about Operation Market Garden, in which roads and bridges had to be captured to allow the Allied army to advance to Berlin. At various locations we use local specialist guides who are available to host you and your group.



## LIBERATION ROUTE EUROPE

This walking route through Brabant is part of the Liberation Route Europe, a network of 10,000 kilometres of walking routes throughout Europe. The walking routes pass by museums, monuments, cemeteries and historical sites that recall the last phase of the Second World War. With hundreds of places and stories spread across twelve European countries, the Liberation Route Europe connects the regions where the Allies made their advance in 1943-1945.

## EVENT HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2022 - 2024

### 4 MAY

National Remembrance day 2022 - 2024 Throughout the Netherlands on multiple locations people commemorate WW2.

### 5 MAY

Liberation day 2022 - 2024 Throughout the Netherlands on multiple locations people celebrate their freedom. Liberty festival in 's-Hertogenbosch with an interactive program and lots of music from national and international artists.

**14 - 15 MAY 2022 | 20 - 21 MAY 2023 | 18-19 MAY 2024**

Militracks: the greatest event worldwide on German motorcycles, passenger cars, trucks, half-tracks and armoured vehicles that were predominantly in service of the Wehrmacht.

**EVERY FIRST OR SECOND SUNDAY IN JUNE**

commemoration of the children's transports in Kamp Vught National Memorial (6 and 7 June 1943)

**14 - 22 SEPTEMBER 2024**

Operation Market Garden 2024 Re-enactment route Operation Market Garden with more than 700 vehicles.

**15 - 21 SEPTEMBER 2024**

Visit the basecamp in Meijerijstad; What was it like for the young American soldiers who landed with their parachute in Brabant to live here?

**EVERY 29TH OF OCTOBER**

Liberation of Breda by the Polish General Maczek and his men.

**Full agenda on [www.brabantremembers.com](http://www.brabantremembers.com)**

## THE NETHERLANDS

**WW2 tours & packages  
Northern Brabant,  
the Netherlands**

✘ Marked locations tell one of the personal life changing war stories.



**Visit our website for more detailed information: [www.brabantremembers.com/trade](http://www.brabantremembers.com/trade)**



# WW2 TOURS AND PACKAGES IN BRABANT

## #1 Battle of The Scheldt Estuary – Bergen op Zoom

Though Antwerp was liberated on 4 September 1944, the German Army retained possession of the Scheldt Estuary. It was vital to control the access to the peninsulars on the north side of the estuary. Therefore, the severe and prolonged fighting in the Bergen op Zoom - Woensdrecht area proved pivotal in this entire battle. Controlling the access to the peninsulas on the north side of the estuary, the severe and prolonged fighting in the Bergen op Zoom – Woensdrecht area proved pivotal in this entire battle.

Partners and Vectors	Heritage sites and museums	Possible tours
Brabantse Wal	Canadian War Cemetery	Battle of the Scheldt Tour
	British War Cemetery	
	Sherman tank Hoogerheide	
	German bunker Hoogerheide	
	Anti-tank obstacles Bergen Op Zoom	

## # 2 Liberation Breda and Biesbosch Line Crossers

The 1st Polish Armoured Division played an important part in the liberation of Brabant. Advancing north from Belgium, Polish General Maczek and his forces liberated Breda house by house on 29 October 1944. Advancing further north, the Poles ended up defending the south bank of the Maas river during the winter of 1944/45. Here they fought a long battle at Kapelsche Veer in January 1945, before British and Canadian troops took over. During this same winter, Dutch resistance used the Biesbosch marshes to cross and recross the frontline, bringing wounded allied soldiers back from behind enemy lines as well as providing vital intelligence to the Allies.

Partners and Vectors	Heritage sites and museums	Possible tours
Maczek Memorial Breda	Polish War Cemetery Breda	1st Polish Armoured Division and the Liberation of Brabant
	Panther Tank Breda	Battle of Kapelsche Veer
	Biesbosch Museum	Biesbosch Line Crossers
	Monument Kapelsche Veer	

## #3 Camp Vught National Memorial and Liberation Hertogenbosch

In the village of Vught adjacent to Hertogenbosch, the Germans erected the only SS Concentration Camp outside Nazi Germany. During its existence, over 32,000 people were imprisoned here, many of whom – including more than 1,800 children – were deported east. Hertogenbosch itself became a strategic city in late 1944, seeing heavy street fighting for several days before the city was finally liberated on 27 October 1944.

Partners and Vectors	Heritage sites and museums	Possible tours
National Memorial Camp Vught	Fort Crèvecoeur	City walk Occupation and Liberation of 's-Hertogenbosch
		Canadians and the Winter on the Maas

## #4 Operation Market Garden

The Market Garden was one of the most important military events in Dutch history. More than 4500 paratroopers fell from the sky in 45 minutes on Sunday afternoon, September 17th. Aiming to assist the advance of British 2nd Army to the Zuiderzee (now IJsselmeer), three airborne divisions landed in the Netherlands. The US 101st Airborne Division landed between Son and Veghel to capture the bridges between Eindhoven and Veghel. Subjected to frequent and violent German counterattacks, the route of advance in this area quickly became known as Hell's Highway. Follow in the footsteps of the heroes of the 101st Airborne Division and relive the story leading up to the liberation of the Southern Netherlands.

Partners and Vectors	Heritage sites and museums	Possible tours
Stichting 18 September	Son Bridge	Hell's Highway – US 101st Airborne Division in Brabant
LRE Vector at Koevering	Joe Mann MOH Memorial	British 2nd Army and Operation Garden in Brabant
	Robert Cole MOH Memorial	City walk Occupation and Liberation of Eindhoven
	CWGC Eindhoven, Uden and Valkenswaard War Cemetery	

## #5 Battle of Overloon and German War Cemetery

In October 1944, Montgomery ordered that the German salient west of the Maas river around Venlo had to be eliminated. The US 7th Armored Division was ordered to move from Metz, France to this area to take over the frontline and clear the area. After five days of heavy fighting and severe losses, the Americans were relieved by the British. British 12th Corps started their attack on 12 October 1944. Methodically working their way forward, Overloon quickly fell and by 18 October Venray was liberated. However, operations in this area were called to a halt due the higher priority relating to the opening of the Scheldt Estuary.

Partners and Vectors	Heritage sites and museums	Possible tours
War Museum Overloon	German War Cemetery	US 7th Armored Division and the Battle of Overloon
LRE Vector Overloon	CWGC Overloon War Cemetery	British 12th Corps and the Battle of Overloon
	CWGC Venray War Cemetery	
	1st Norfolk Monument	



Vincentre - Nuenen



City of Eindhoven



City of Den Bosch



City of Heusden

## BRABANT LEISURE HIGHLIGHTS & VISITBRABANT

Brabant is the homeland of Vincent Van Gogh, the founders of Dutch Design, and blessed with cities full of character, prize-winning theme parks and exciting events, Brabant has a lot to offer and is increasingly being discovered by international tourists. This makes perfect sense, because there is plenty of good accommodation in Brabant with favourable terms. Moreover, Brabant has quick and excellent connections to Amsterdam, Antwerp and Brussels. This makes Brabant the ideal starting point for trips out to the metropolitan areas in the Netherlands, Belgium and Germany. Come and discover Brabant! VisitBrabant is the official Marketing Organisation for the province of North-Brabant, the Netherlands. **Visit the website for more Brabantse Leisure Highlights: [trade.visitbrabant.com](http://trade.visitbrabant.com)**

# OUR STRATEGIC WW2 PARTNERS AND MUSEUMS



## CAMP VUGHT NATIONAL MEMORIAL

In 1943 Konzentrationslager Herzogenbusch was built in Vught - the only SS concentration camp outside Nazi Germany. The memorial centre tells of Camp Vught's beginnings and the national-socialist system. In just 18 months, more than 32,000 people were kept prisoner, mostly because they were Jewish or because they worked for the resistance.

[www.nmkampvught.nl](http://www.nmkampvught.nl)



## WAR MUSEUM OVERLOON

The museum is located on the middle of the battlefield of the Overloon battle of 1944. It houses a large, comprehensive exhibition about the Netherlands during WW2 with more than 150 military vehicles, a RAF Horsa glider and a complete Lancaster Aeroplane. During high season daily excursions with allied military vehicles. Overloon is the largest war museum in the Netherlands.

[www.oorlogsmuseum.nl/en](http://www.oorlogsmuseum.nl/en)



## BIESBOSCH MUSEUM ISLAND

With a tidal difference of two metres, the Biesbosch was a place where people could hide or move unnoticed during the war. From November 1944 the Biesbosch lay between the liberated south part and the still occupied rest of the Netherlands. So-called line-crossers smuggled messages, goods and even people to liberated territory at night in small boats.

[www.biesboschmuseumeiland.nl](http://www.biesboschmuseumeiland.nl)



## MACZEK MEMORIAL BREDA

On the 29th of October 1944, Breda was liberated in a man-to-man fight by a Polish division commanded by General Maczek. With effect from 2019 the story of the Poles has been told at the Maczek Memorial, located next to the Polish War Cemetery in Breda. Here, the Polish soldiers who died during World War Two are honoured.

[www.maczekmemorialbreda.nl](http://www.maczekmemorialbreda.nl)



## CANADIAN WAR CEMETERY & BRITISH WAR CEMETERY

The Battle of the Scheldt was one of the biggest military operations carried out during WW2. Under Canadian command, Canadians together with British and Polish troops received orders to capture the Western Scheldt. Most of the fallen in both cemeteries lost their lives during this operation.

[www.bevrijdingbrabantsewal.nl](http://www.bevrijdingbrabantsewal.nl)



## CITY OF EINDHOVEN (18 SEPTEMBER FOUNDATION)

Since 1945, Eindhoven has organised a number of historical, cultural and sportive events for its liberation every year. The main events take place on the 18th of September, the day Eindhoven was liberated from the German occupiers by the American 101st Airborne Division and the Second British army.

[www.stichting18september.nl](http://www.stichting18september.nl)

## MORE INFORMATION

If you have any questions about the Travel & Trade services or if you would like to know more about the Brabant Remembers locations, package deals and (group) rates, or if you would like to receive a custom quote, please do not hesitate to contact us:

**Email** [trade@brabantremembers.com](mailto:trade@brabantremembers.com) **Website** [www.brabantremembers.com/trade](http://www.brabantremembers.com/trade) **Telephone** +31 6 510 44 318

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