
NATIONAL TIMBERWOLF PUPS ASSOCIATION



75th Anniversary Battlefield Tour Oct. 21 – Nov. 1, 2019

Dear Timberwolf Family:

It is my pleasure to announce our 75th Anniversary Battlefield Tour, Oct. 21 – Nov. 1, 2019! We will be following the footsteps of our storied 104th Infantry Division soldiers during their 1944-45 tour, starting in Belgium, traveling through Holland and across Germany, to the Elbe River. Once again, Patrick Hinchy will be our amazing tour guide and provide us with detailed history and fascinating information as we embark on our remarkable tour. Follow along in your Timberwolf Tracks (citations provided) as we go along. Join us to honor and remember our 104th Infantry Division Timberwolves on their 75th Anniversary!

Mary Jamieson, National Timberwolf Pups Association Battlefield Tour Coordinator, mejameson@aol.com

Tour price - REDUCED from what was published in the HOWL - is \$3139 (airfare on your own.)

Register at: <https://www.gate1travel.com/customgroups/CEU1678368>

Deadline to register: June 21, 2019

DAY 1 - MON OCT 21 USA - IN AIR

Book your own flights from the USA to Brussels BRU Airport in Belgium. (Or you can arrive earlier to have more time independently in Belgium.)

DAY 2 - TUE OCT 22 ARR BRUSSELS BRU

Rest and recover from your flight or take a short easy train ride from the airport station into central Brussels and explore.

HOTEL: Sheraton Airport, Belgium

DAY 3 - WED OCT 23 BRUSSELS - TIMBERWOLVES' BAPTISM OF FIRE - BREDA

Today is the 75th Anniversary of the Timberwolves' momentous 'Baptism of Fire'. Our Dutch friends from the Achtmaal, Zundert, Rijsbergen area welcome us again and take us through the 'Baptism of Fire' battlefields (Oct 23-30, 1944) from the Belgian-Dutch border up to the Breda-Roosendaal highway ('Timberwolf Tracks' IN THE LINE pages 50-75). Grand Welcome Dinner with all our dear Dutch friends as our guests.

HOTEL: Golden Tulip Keyser Breda, Netherlands (B, L, D)

DAY 4 - THU OCT 24 BREDA - BATTLE OF THE DYKES – BREDA

Our Dutch friends in Oudenbosch and Standdaarbuiten show us the Timberwolves' 'Battle of the Dykes' battlefields where they finally captured the land between the Mark River and the Maas (Oct 29-Nov 8 1944) successfully cutting off the Germans ('Timberwolf Tracks' CROSSING THE MARK pages 75-102). Some free time for shopping and sightseeing in the attractive, pedestrianized center of historic Breda. **HOTEL:** Golden Tulip Keyser Breda, Netherlands (B, L)

DAY 5 - FRI OCT 25 BREDA - COLOGNE

A fascinating drive right across typical central Holland, briefly through Belgium, to Germany. On our way, we solemnly honor in our own private wreath laying ceremony the Timberwolves in Henri-Chapelle American military cemetery. Then we continue to the historic, originally Roman military city of Cologne, with its famous medieval cathedral. It is now a dynamic, fun-loving business city. Enjoy the evening there. **HOTEL:** Courtyard by Marriot, Cologne, Germany (B, D)

DAY 6 - SAT OCT 26 COLOGNE - AACHEN - COLOGNE

An action-packed day, as we track the Timberwolves' ferocious battles between Aachen and Cologne. The Germans fought tenaciously (Nov 9-Dec 14 1944) to stop the Timberwolves breaking through the formidable Siegfried Line German border defenses and little fortified towns from Aachen up to the River Roer ('Timberwolf Tracks' AACHEN TO THE ROER, pages 104-190). This is where Peter and Marieke Wollschläger live between Frenz and Inden in their old Frenze Muehle mill, with Timberwolf names carved on a windowsill and war damage still evident. Our friend the Mayor of Merode, Albert Trostorf, a local battlefield expert, will help guide us and take us there. Then suddenly in mid December 1944 all available US forces were rushed to the Battle of the Bulge, and the Timberwolves were left holding a perilously thin defensive line (Dec 14 1944-Feb 23 1945) on the River Roer around Düren ('Timberwolf Tracks' OBJECTIVE COLOGNE, pages 191-226). Finally (Feb 23-26 1945) the Timberwolves stormed across the Roer at night

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and by early March had successfully reached the Rhine and Cologne where they paused for defensive duties and training ('Timberwolf Tracks' pages, 227-290). **HOTEL:** Courtyard by Marriot, Cologne, Germany (B, L)

DAY 7 - SUN OCT 27 MAY 8 COLOGNE - PADERBORN - DUDERSTADT

The Timberwolves crossed the River Rhine near the famous Remagen Bridge ruins, then together with 3rd Armored, they spearheaded First Army's southern pincer movement which met Ninth Army at Paderborn thus successfully encircling and capturing Germany's most important industrial area, the Ruhr Pocket, including a third of a million soldiers (March 22-April 1 1945). ('Timberwolf Tracks' ENCIRCLEMENT OF THE RUHR, pages 292-319). After Paderborn, we go to the picture postcard pretty Duderstadt, near the old Cold War Iron Curtain. **HOTEL:** Hotel zum Löwen, Duderstadt, Germany (B,D)

DAY 8 - MON OCT 28 DUDERSTADT - HALLE

A day of momentous and terrible history. First we cross the former Communist Iron Curtain which divided Europe until 1991. Afterwards we visit the terrible Nazi Mittelbau Dora complex, discovered first by the Timberwolves on April 10 1945. Forced labor from its concentration camp produced V1s, V2s and jet engines in huge subterranean works which we see ('Timberwolf Tracks', pages 329-333). Then we continue to historic Halle, Handel's birthplace. Dinner with our friends Matthias and the Count von Luckner Society. General Terry Allen and the anti-Nazi Count von Luckner of Halle agreed the peaceful surrender of the city on April 16 1945 to save the civilian population and Allied POWs ('Timberwolf Tracks' pages 333-341) **HOTEL:** Dorint Charlottenhof Halle an der Saale Germany (B,D)

DAY 9 - TUE OCT 29 HALLE

Today we sightsee in and around Halle. We track the Timberwolves' final combat movements from Halle to their official meeting with our then Soviet Allies on the River Elbe (April 20-May 4 1945). on April 26 1945 a 415th patrol made the Timberwolves' first contact with the Russians advancing from the East. It was "Mission Accomplished" for the Timberwolves in Europe ('Timberwolf Tracks' pages 341-362). It's only about 50 miles, but in between lay the Mulde River and industrial towns like Bitterfeld full of cornered German troops and Delitzsch (its chocolate factory became General Terry Allen's Divisional HQ). Matthias and the Count von Luckner Society will arrange our program including a grand festive dinner with the prestigious Halloren Salt Guild, founded in 1524. (In medieval times, Halle's immense wealth came from its production of salt.) **HOTEL:** Dorint Charlottenhof Halle an der Saale Germany (B,D)

DAY 10 - WED OCT 30 HALLE – BERLIN

We finally depart Halle and the Timberwolves' World War II battlefields to go to Berlin. It is a journey full of historical interest. We go via Frederick the Great's elegant, military city of Potsdam and then the upscale Berlin suburbs by the Wannsee Lake with the House of the Wannsee Conference in which the Holocaust was planned. **HOTEL:** Excelsior Berlin Hilton, Berlin, Germany (B)

DAY 11 - THU OCT 31 BERLIN

Today we have a full sightseeing tour around one of Europe's most brilliant cities, the new 21st century Berlin which has risen out of the ashes of divided Cold War Berlin. We see all the important sights including the famous Reichstag Parliament building with its spectacular glass dome from which we will get the best panoramic view over Berlin. There's some afternoon leisure time and then our grand Farewell Dinner. **HOTEL:** Berlin Hilton, Berlin, Germany (B,D)

DAY 12 - FRI NOV 1 BERLIN - USA (B)

But "Nothing in Hell can stop the Timberwolves" and I am sure you will all be back again sometime. (B)

TOUR PRICE: \$3139 per person (land tour, Brussels to Berlin) sharing a twin room for a group size of 20+. Single supplement will apply to single travelers. Airfare separate. For a group size of less than 20, the tour price would be higher per person. (Minimum group size: 10)

If you are interested in the tour or have more questions, please contact Mary Jamieson mejameson@aol.com