

REMEMBERING VALOR, FIDELITY, AND SACRIFICE  
THE NATIONAL D-DAY MEMORIAL  
Bedford, Virginia

Imagine a place where the lessons and legacy of D-Day are remembered and preserved, a place where veterans of all ages are welcome and honored, a place where visitors discover and recognize the worthy service of those who answered duty's call, a place where gravity and dignity are hallmarks.

Deliberately sited to rise above the community that experienced this country's severest per capita losses on D-Day, the National D-Day Memorial reminds all who enter it of the heavy price that heartland communities have paid, and still pay, for freedom. On D-Day, some 4,500 Allied servicemen, most of them citizen-soldiers, were killed. Their names are inscribed on the bronze necrology tablets that surround the Memorial's largest component, Elmon T. Gray Plaza, which also contains a sculptural tableau of Allied soldiers landing on the beaches and scaling the cliffs. On either side of the tableau, there are other memorials and monuments that recognize Allied naval and air forces.

Dedicated by the President of the United States on June 6, 2001, the National D-Day Memorial exists in tribute to the valor, fidelity and sacrifice of the Allied Forces on D-Day, June 6, 1944. Warranted by the United States Congress to do so, the National D-Day Memorial Foundation operates and maintains the Memorial. Its educational mission is to preserve the lessons and legacy of D-Day.

Located on a consecrated 88 acre site in Bedford, Virginia, the Memorial has four major components that represent the sweep of D-Day from the early planning and preparation for it, through the Channel crossing and landing in France, on to the Allied victory and consolidation on the beaches, and beyond Normandy into the landscape of postwar Europe. Within those components, visitors encounter a moving array of small memorials and tributes. Many of those are brought to life by the figurative sculpture emplaced throughout the Memorial.

It is located at the interchange of Routes 460 and 122, in the City of Bedford, between Roanoke and Lynchburg, Virginia. Access from Route 460 to both Interstate 81 and Route 29 is within 25 miles of the Memorial.

The 64<sup>th</sup> Triennial Conclave Committee has planned a tour to this memorial on Sunday, August 16, 2009, leaving Hotel Roanoke at 11:00 am and returning between 2:30 and 3:00 pm. A box lunch will be provided. The cost is \$25.00, per person, all inclusive. Check payable to the 64th Triennial Conclave Association, must be received by Eva K. Longworth, Secretary, 502 Wentworth Avenue, NE, Roanoke, VA 24012-3545, no later than August 1, 2009.

