

GOODBYE



PICCADILLY

Part of the proceeds from the tour benefit the East Anglia Air War Project



East Anglia Air War Project

6-Day/5-Night Tour Itinerary *Goodbye Piccadilly* A FAREWELL TOUR OF THE AIRFIELDS OF THE MIGHTY EIGHTH

DATE	SCHEDULE
Day 1—May 25, 2008 Sunday	<p>Everyone arrives in London on Sunday morning flights. Make your way to Cambridge. Transfers are not included in the tour price. Information on British ground transportation will be provided upon request.</p> <p>Free time in the afternoon after arrival in Cambridge at the Holiday Inn.</p> <p>Reception at 4:00 p.m.</p> <p>Dinner on your own.</p> <p>We are indeed fortunate to be in Cambridge on the eve of Memorial Day. In the morning we will attend the magnificent memorial service at Maddingly American Cemetery. It will be a moving ceremony as we begin our tour of the Eighth Air Force and the East Anglia air war campaign. In these rural villages and towns, a dramatic chapter in the wartime history played out. It will be here, in these isolated and rural places, that you will travel back in time and experience wartime England up close and personal.</p> <p>Spend the night at the Holiday Inn in Cambridge.</p>

<p>Day 2—May 26, 2008 Monday</p>	<p>Complimentary breakfast at the hotel.</p> <p>We will depart the hotel for the American Maddingly Cemetery just to the northwest of Cambridge. We will tour the chapel and cemetery grounds while we wait for the Memorial Day ceremonies to begin. The U.S. Air Force in England and the American Embassy will present a moving service and memorial with hundreds of wreaths placed in memory of those who were lost or missing during the war. Many British representatives will also participate in this moving tribute.</p> <p>Lunch on your own.</p> <p>The afternoon will be reserved for free time in Cambridge, touring or shopping on your own.</p> <p>Dinner on your own.</p> <p>Spend the night at the Holiday Inn in Cambridge.</p>
<p>Day 3—May 27, 2008 Tuesday</p>	<p>Complimentary breakfast at the hotel.</p> <p>Today we board our bus to visit the first of many airfields—Thurleigh, the home to the 306th Bomb Group during World War II. Today the site is home to the 306th BG Memorial Museum, directed by Ralph and Daphne Franklin, who were children during the war.</p> <p>We will take part in a special ceremony where Ralph and Daphne Franklin will each receive the George Bledsoe Award—presented by the East Anglia Air War Project for their single handed efforts to save and preserve the history of the 306th Bomb Group in England. You will see and be inspired at the results of their labors in the Thurleigh Museum.</p> <p>See the world premiere of the new film about the 306th Bomb Group, Thurleigh, and the British families who lived nearby—<i>Thurleigh at War</i>.</p> <p>Tour the Thurleigh Museum.</p> <p>Lunch on your own at a local wartime pub. There will be a short program following lunch. Today is the 63rd anniversary of two missions flown by the 306th Bomb Group on 27 May 1944. The missions were to Mannheim, Germany and to Fecamp on the Normandy coast. 28 aircraft sorteed in support of the coming invasion on D-Day, just days away.</p>

	<p>Depart the Thurleigh area for Molesworth, the home of the 303rd Bomb Group (the Hell’s Angels) during the war. There will be stops at selected base site ruins during the rest of the afternoon. These will be drawn from Kimbolton, Chelveston, Podington, Polebrook, Deenethorpe, and Grafton Underwood. At many of these stops, local wartime children will speak with us about their experiences.</p> <p>Dinner on your own at local restaurant in Bedford. Brief evening program on Bedfordshire at War. Dr. Williams will lead a program that will include a 10-minute video on wartime Bedford, Glen Miller, and the Americans and Bedford during the war.</p> <p>A local historian will talk about Bedford during the war and introduce some local veterans who served with the British Land Army near Bedford and the American bases just north of town. These Land Army girls, many of whom dated the Yanks and attended Glen Miller’s first concert in England (held at Thurleigh) will be available after the program for conversation and questions as tour participants mingle with the Land Army girls, the local historian, and Dr. Williams.</p> <p>Spend the night at the Holiday Inn in Cambridge.</p>
<p>Day 4—May 28, 2008 Wednesday</p>	<p>Complimentary breakfast at the hotel.</p> <p>We will travel this morning to Ridgewell, the WWII home of the 381st Bomb Group. We will visit some of the base buildings still standing and view some restoration efforts in this agricultural community. The 381st Memorial near the old hospital buildings is particularly inspiring and poignant. Nearby we will visit the 381st Memorial Museum housed in one of the hospital buildings. Dr. Williams and his students were here at this base in 2002 doing some archaeological site survey work on the very structures you will see today. One of these buildings is the gymnasium and chapel where Chaplain Brown conducted services during the war. At last check Chaplain Brown is still living and is 102 years old and still able to wear his uniform. The chapel will be a reminder of Chaplain Brown and the men who found his services so important as they prepared to fly missions into harm’s way.</p> <p>After departing Ridgewell for the short journey to the village of Shalford, we will arrive at the Shalford Church for a program dedicating a new memorial to the crew of the B-17 Dry Gulcher. The plane crashed on 4 August 1944 with much of the wreckage coming down on the church and other buildings and fields nearby. Nine crewmen safely parachuted into the village area but the tail gunner, S/SGT Harold Norris died in the crash. He was found in the wreckage not far from the</p>

	<p>memorial site.</p> <p>After the dedication program is completed, we will load up in the bus for the short trip up the hill to the village hall. Here the people of Shalford will host us to a luncheon buffet.</p> <p>After lunch Dr. Williams will open the photographic exhibit in the Village Hall titled: “The Dry Gulcher and Shalford at War,” a series of 30 oversize, mounted photographs positioned around the village hall walls. This exhibit was produced by student interns in the East Anglia Air War Project at Abilene Christian University and is gifted to the village for use in educational programming in the future.</p> <p>A special presentation of the Williams’ World War II film library on DVD will be made to the Shalford School.</p> <p>The Shalford citizens will join the tour group in the village hall for the showing of the world premiere of the documentary: <i>Dry Gulcher Down: A B-17’s Fiery End Over Shalford Village</i>.</p> <p>After the lunch and program, we will mingle with the Shalford citizens and/or go on a walking tour of the village. Take your camera for the many picturesque scenes and Dry Gulcher crash site locations. Dr. Williams will guide us in this lovely end to a momentous day.</p> <p>At 4:30 p.m. we will board the bus for the short trip back to Cambridge.</p> <p>Dinner on your own.</p> <p>Spend the night at the Holiday Inn in Cambridge.</p>
<p>Day 5—May 29, 2008 Thursday</p>	<p>Complimentary breakfast at the hotel.</p> <p>We will be leaving Cambridge bound for Norwich with some exciting stops and activities along the way. Our first venue comes at Bury St. Edmunds. We will tour the grounds of the old Abby with Dr. Williams’ giving commentary about Sgt. John Appleby and his experiences in wartime England as he traveled on his bicycle, visiting churches in the area and his legacy to the famous Rose Garden in Bury St. Edmunds.</p> <p>We will travel out to the edge of town for an early lunch on our own at the Flying Fortress Pub.</p> <p>After lunch our bus takes us to Snetterton Heath, the home of the 96th Bomb Group during the war. We will stop first at the 96th Bomb Group Museum and meet several of the men who were young boys at Snetterton Heath during the war. Tour the exhibits. The nearby New Eccles Hall School is housed in the original base hospital buildings. A</p>

	<p>special presentation of the Williams’ World War II film library on DVD will be made to the school children at New Eccles Hall School.</p> <p>The tour continues with a stop at the nearby Quidenham Church and the extraordinary and moving stained glass windows dedicated to the air crews that flew from this place. We will conclude our time at Snetterton Heath at the breathtaking memorial near the old runways.</p> <p>We leave Snetterton Heath for the brief road trip to Deopham Green for another journey into the past. The 452nd Bomb Group flew from this pleasant place, nestled in between four small agricultural villages. We will start at the 452nd Memorial where parts of the runways are still visible. It is a quiet and reflective place now but over 60 years ago, the sound of war could be heard everywhere--day and night.</p> <p>Our tour continues to particular 452nd buildings and civilian homes that were located on the base proper. Examples include: Hill House Farm and the B-17 hardstand (the boy who lived in this house during the war will host this stop), the Red Cross buildings and the Disney art still visible on the walls, and other buildings that are part of the gradually disappearing landscape at Deopham Green.</p> <p>For dinner we move to the Little Ellingham Village Hall where the community awaits us with a buffet dinner and program.</p> <p>After dinner Dr. Williams will open the photographic exhibit in the Village Hall titled: “World War II Deopham Green,” a series of 30 oversized, mounted photographs positioned around the village hall walls. Like the exhibit at Shalford, this exhibit was produced by student interns in the East Anglia Air War Project at Abilene Christian University and is gifted to the village for use in educational programming in the future.</p> <p>A special presentation of the Williams’ World War II film library on DVD will be made to the Great Ellingham School.</p> <p>The evening will close with the showing of the world premiere of the documentary: <i>Deopham at War: the Anglo-American Experience in Wartime Norfolk, 1939-1945</i>.</p> <p>We bid our new friends at Deopham Green farewell as we board our bus for the 20-minute ride to our new hotel in Norwich.</p> <p>Spend the night at the Ramada in Norwich.</p>
<p>Day 6—May 30, 2008 Friday</p>	<p>Complimentary breakfast at the hotel.</p> <p>6-Day Tour party departs for airport. Transfers are not included in the</p>

	<p>tour price. Information on British ground transportation will be provided upon request.</p>
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Travel back to the U.S.

Last updated: 31 December 2007