# D-Day: Freedom from Above

PRESS KIT



### « D-day: Freedom From Above »

The HistoPad exhibition has opened for the second time in the US since 19th of October at the US Army Airborne & Special Operations Museum



After its success in 2019 at the National Museum of the US Air Force (Ohio), the immersive and interactive exhibition "D-Day: Freedom from Above" crosses the Atlantic for the second time to promote the history of the American paratroopers' battle on D-Day thanks to the HistoPad. A new Franco-American collaboration with the US Army Airborne & Special Operations Museum and the Airborne Museum in Sainte-Mère-Église to commemorate together this common history of the D-Day.



#### The story of the first heroes of D-Day

Early in the morning on June 6, 1944, Sainte-Mère-Eglise became the first city in France to be liberated by air when nearly 15,000 soldiers parachuted into the village and surrounding areas during the Battle of Normandy.

From the D-Day preparations in England to liberation, the exhibit follows the story of the 82nd and 101st Airborne Divisions, assigned to block German counterattacks toward the beaches in Sainte-Mère-Eglise and the surrounding area.

#### An augmented exhibit for all ages

This exhibition of a new kind combines physical scenography and augmented visit with the HistoPad to bring visitors of the US Army Airborne & Special Operations Museum back to the decisive moments of the Battle of Normandy. Large photographic panels immerse visitors in the modern-day village of Sainte-Mère-Eglise. Using the HistoPad tablets available at the exhibit entrance, visitors can simply scan the "time portals" situated in front of each panel to journey back in time to 1944 and experience a 360 degree 3D recreation of the key D-Day sites.

One can thus discover Sainte-Mère-Eglise during the Occupation, the parachute drop of the pathfinders, a briefing room in England on June 4th, the fierce battle at Pont de la Fière, and even a military field hospital at La Colombière.

All content and reconstructions are based on careful historical research and have been developed by Histovery together with a team of experts.

It is the second time that the exhibition is opened in an American museum. In 2019, "D-Day: Freedom from Above" has been exhibited at the National Museum of the US Air Force, the largest military aviation museum in the world with more than one million annual visitors, located in Dayton (Ohio).



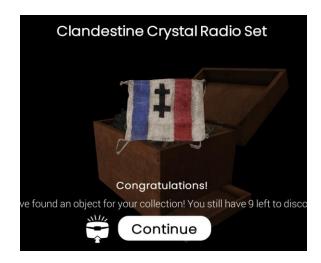


#### 3D reconstructions

8 immersive scenes have been fully reconstructed in 3D. Among them, visitors will relive John Steele's famous jump on the square in Sainte-Mere-Eglise and discover the gliders' landing zone on LZW Les Forges. Concise written information aimed at the general reader gives visitors fuller understanding of the reconstructions.







#### A treasure hunt

The fun animations that children and their parents can access in the immersive views will help them fully develop their curiosity and bring their visit to life. While exploring the immersive 3D reconstructions, visitors have to find 10 hidden items to get their relic collection diploma.



#### Selection of comments from the HistoPad's Guestbook

"Fantastic education experience. Well done and thank you." 20/10/2021

"I learned new facts about the war. I enjoyed the experience." 21/10/2021

Absolutely stunning! Would definitely visit again! 30/10/2021

Love the way the technology allows us to go back in time visually and see all the changes to current. Very interactive.

31/10/2021

"So many details that i hadn't thought about before. So fascinating."

06/11/2021

"SUCH a great exhibit. I loved the museum as a kid and I think this technology will really help draw in a new generation."

10/11/2021



## **HIST** OVERY

Histovery provides museums and monuments with the HistoPad, a new interactive experience to enhance enjoyment of historical and cultural visits. Dedicated to intuitively guide all visitors, HistoPad tablets provide immersive time travelling, entertaining interactivity and stunning 3D scientific reconstructions.

HistoPad Augmented Visits, available in several major World Heritage sites, enable visitors from all over the world, of all ages and abilities, to make the most of their journey into culture and knowledge. HistoPad is already available in 15 museums and monuments, reaching over 1 million visitors per year. Histovery has been distinguished by numerous prizes, including ICOM AVICOM Grand Prize, IFCIC « Entreprendre dans la culture » prize, the « Digital Innovation Prize» from BPI, or « Best Cultural Start up » from CFC, among others.

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#### **AWARDS**































The Airborne Museum, situated in the central square of Sainte-Mère-Eglise and facing the church where John Steele's parachute was caught, relates the heroic adventures of the paratroopers of the 82nd and 101st Airborne Divisions.

Through a spectacular museography, the Airborne Museum takes you through D-Day alongside the American paratroopers. From the invasion preparations in England through the battles for liberation, meet the Airborne troops and

accompany them on their journey to victory. Discover an exceptional collection of historic items, an authentic glider, and a C-47 plane which was deployed in the D-Day parachute drop operations.

In the « Operation Neptune » building, be prepared to parachute on the 6th of June 1944! Board a C-47 in England then land in the church square in Sainte-Mère-Eglise and take part in the following battles.







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