

# PRESS KIT

75<sup>H</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF  
D-DAY LANDINGS  
JUNE 1944-JUNE 2019



AIRBORNE  MUSEUM  
SAINTE MÈRE ÉGLISE



**2019 is the year of a great birthday, the 75th Anniversary of the D-Day landings in Normandy. This event promises to be rich in animations and emotions. Indeed, in June 2019, all Normandy will be mobilized. As every year but with an intensity worthy of the event, Sainte-Mère-Eglise will be the must-see place to celebrate the regain freedom.**

Below you will find the pre-program of festivities established in collaboration with the city of Sainte-Mère-Eglise and the Airborne Museum. This calendar will be expanded this next weeks but you will already find the highlights of this anniversary of the D-Day as well as information about the traffic in Sainte-Mère-Eglise during the festivities.

## **PREPROGRAM OF THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE D-DAY LANDINGS IN SAINTE-MÈRE-ÉGLISE**

Saturday, May 25th :

- **International Peace Walk** between Utah Beach and Sainte-Mère-Eglise
- **11th edition of Book Fair**

Saturday 1st to Sunday 9th June: **Camp "Geronimo". reconstruction of a military camp. It featuring the American airborne troops in Normandy.** Presence of 9 tanks.

Many activities on site:

- Comments around a "sand table": relief model on which the officers establish their military strategy.
- Medical evacuation station (wounded support, diagnosis, surgical operations)
- Demonstration of the equipment of the American parachutists as well as glidermen (soldiers transported by glider)
- Presentation of an air defense unit : anti-aircraft armored vehicles (M16) and searchlights
- Dynamic demonstration of American heavy vehicles of military engi neers (GMC Leroy, Broakway and Pacific)



- Mechanical workshop of vehicles
- Presentation of a Red Ball Express unit : Freight transport route to combat units
- Commented exhibition of demolition and demining equipment

Saturday, June 1st: **International Concert for Peace** in the church of Sainte-Mère-Eglise

Sunday, June 2nd, between 9:30 am and 11 am and from 4:30 pm to 6 pm : **Presentation of more than 60 military Harley Davidson dating from the 1940s** (WLA, WLC).

Monday, June 3rd, 8:30 am to 4:00 pm: **Military fair**

From Thursday 6th to Monday 10th of June: **Various musical animations** on the church square like the concert for peace on June 6th

Wednesday, June 5th:

- From 10h to 12h around the church square: **Exhibition of military vehicles** (7 tanks, 20 vehicles)
- From 10:45 pm on the site of La Fièvre: **Animated and commented demonstration of a group of 16 pathfinders** (duration about 30 minutes). (Pathfinders = paratroopers in charge of indicating the drop zones in the early hours of D-Day)

Thursday 6th to Monday, June 10th: **Inter-army village**

Thursday, June 6th:

- From 10h to 12h around the church square: **Exhibition of military vehicles** (7 tanks, 20 vehicles)
- 14h: Animated and commented demo of a group of paratroopers ready to board for Normandy



Friday, June 7th:

- 10:45 am: **Commemorative Ceremony at the Signal Monument**

• From 7 pm: **Banquet of Liberty** in the presence of veterans and military of all nationalities

Saturday, June 8th:

- From 9am to 8pm: **Parade with 3,000 musicians** (NYPD pipes and drums, sound of the rockies, Fame: all american show choir and many others)

• From 10:45 pm on the site of La Fièrè: **Animated and commented demonstration of a group of 16 pathfinders** (duration about 30 minutes). (Pathfinders = paratroopers in charge of indicating the drop zones in the early hours of D-Day)

• From 23:15 on the camp Geronimo: Use of the **lighthouses of anti-aircraft search as well as anti-aircraft protection vehicles**



Sunday, June 9th:

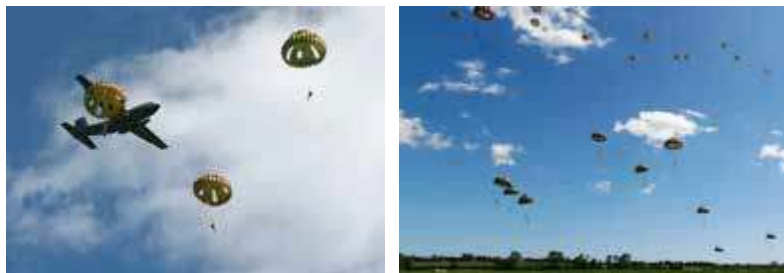
- From 10h to 12h around the church square: **Exhibition of military vehicles** (7 tanks, 20 vehicles)

• From 11am: **Great military and historic parachute drops at Sainte-Mère-Eglise, La Fièrè**. Historic parachute jumps of men in original uniform and Military parachute jumps with American, German, English paratroopers (more than 1,000 military paratroopers and 30 aircraft)

• From 18h: **Great parade for the return of troops** with parade of military vehicles in the presence of twenty veterans

- From 23:30: **Fireworks**

Monday, June 10th : Picnic on the church square with musical animations



## **CIRCULATION / PARKINGS**

**Closing around the church square from the 5th to the 10th of June morning.**

**Car parks will be created especially in Sainte-Mère-Eglise a few steps from the entertainment venues.**

## **PRESS CONTACTS**

### **•City hall of Sainte-Mère-Eglise**

Chantal Leprelle

chantal.leprelle@saintemereeglise.fr

02 33 41 31 18

### **•Airborne Museum**

Clémence Treol

communication@airborne-museum.org

02 33 41 78 03