



Looking for the perfect destination for a military-themed incentive programme or group visit? Cambridge is the answer!



Why not bring your next group to Cambridge, where teams can explore the corridors of time on our captivating military-themed itinerary?

To celebrate the premier of *Masters of the Air*, a new mini-series by Tom Hanks and Steven Spielberg, we've put together a military-themed itinerary for those who would like to retrace the steps of the US service men and women and other military personnel who lived, worked and made the most of their downtime in East Anglia during World War Two.

Perfect for history buffs, military enthusiasts and 'set jetter' groups, who would like to visit some of the locations mentioned in the series...

Day 1

Arrive at your accommodation and check in. Choose to see Cambridge from the inside with a stay in a College or maybe your group would prefer a city centre hotel. From 4-star properties to boutique style and apart-hotels there's something for every taste and budget.

Take a punt

Participate in a synonymous Cambridge activity; punting! Guests can take in the sights from the city's famous waterway and marvel at some of the most famous landmarks in the world along the world-renowned 'Backs'. Take in St John's College as you pass gracefully by; in March 1944, the Senior Combination Room at St John's was used to host a scale model of some of the Normandy beaches and to plan D-Day. Tip, take a chauffeured punt tour to save anyone from falling in the water!

Private dining in a historic Cambridge college

Delve deeper into Cambridge's links with the military by experiencing a private dinner in a Cambridge College! Enjoy pre-dinner drinks in a range of stunning settings with plenty of photo opportunities, followed by a sumptuous meal guaranteed to suit every diner's requirements.

With access to areas not generally open to the public, this is a unique and memorable way to entertain key clients, reward staff or simply celebrate in style. Bespoke menus are created by in-house teams and offered with fine wines from the College cellars. Guests are waited on by experienced butlers in ancient, majestic halls, some lit only by candlelight, or in historic dining rooms with warming open fires.

Looking to elevate the experience? Consider transporting guests via a chauffeured punt directly to the venue over a glass of champagne. Many of the Colleges also offer the opportunity of a tour before dinner or perhaps an expert after-dinner speaker could enlighten diners with a talk about the USAF deployment and those who flew daring missions from airbases close to the city.



Day 2

A walk through time

After a hearty breakfast at your accommodation, it's time to hit the streets with a bespoke guided walking tour to learn more about Cambridge's links with US service personnel. Hear the stories of Bull College (now part of St Catharine's College) where members of the US Army could stay and study at the University after the war; the chapel windows at King's College which were all photographed, taken down and stored for the duration of WW2 for fear of bomb damage. It took 5 years to put them all back!

Or learn more about the Leys School being turned into hospital and the school students then evacuated to Scotland.

There are a range of organisations offering the services of Blue and Green Badge accredited guides covering a wide range of topics, from US influences to espionage!

Build connections over lunch

Cambridge is a foodie destination with an enviable independent restaurant scene offering plenty of private dining spaces for your group whether you would like a quick bite or a long, relaxing lunch. Enjoy a lunch and tour at the Cambridge Union Society, itself once a victim of an enemy bombing campaign. Step inside the library to hear learn more and see the shrapnel scarred books that tell the tale. Or if the weather is favourable, enjoy a picnic on one of Cambridge's many open spaces and parklands. Cambridge institution and famed bakery, Fitzbillies, provide picnics packed with a range of luxury baked goods and local delicacies, with advance notice.

Honour and remembrance

A visit to Cambridge's American Cemetery will be a poignant experience for groups who wish to know more and pay their respects. Donated by the University of Cambridge, to the US military, the site honours those who fought and lost their lives. The Cemetery is the final resting place for 3,811 US war dead; over 5,000 names are also recorded on the Walls of the Missing. Rosettes mark the names of those that were recovered and identified.

Try a traditional English pub

On your second night in the city, why not go informal with dinner and a pint or two...Cambridge is overflowing with pubs from the traditional to the trendy. Check out the RAF Bar at the Eagle Pub where allied servicemen used candles, lighters, lipstick and soot to leave their mark on the ceiling. The Graffiti includes a signature from the pilot of the Memphis Belle! Many of Cambridge's traditional pubs offer bookable private areas for groups or if you want to keep it very exclusive you can book out the whole bar!

Day 3

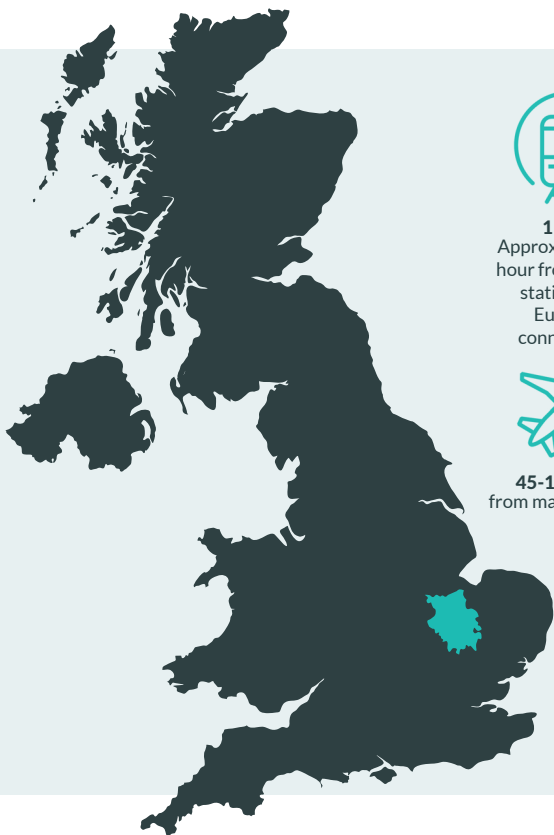
After breakfast, it's time to leave the stunning surroundings of the city and head towards the IWM Duxford which houses the American Air Museum, home to the largest collection of American military aircraft outside North America. Groups can see Spitfires take to the skies from the airfield where they first flew and walk in the footsteps of the men and women who served here. The brave can take to the skies in any one of a number of original aircraft and groups can enjoy incredible views of the airfield in private areas such as the Airside Suite. Combine your visit with a stay at Hinxton Hall, a historic mansion where many of the rooms and grounds once served as billets for the women and men serving in the war effort. Today, the estate is home to a world-leading centre of research, the Wellcome Genome Campus.

Within a 30 - 45-minute drive from Cambridge, there is a whole host of historic attractions with links to the Allied forces. Scattered throughout East Anglia you can discover numerous memorials to America's WWII Bomber Fleet.

Head to Norwich, one of the best-preserved medieval cities in the UK and home to the American Library or Bury St Edmund's where the 94th Bomb Group is commemorated in a quiet rose garden at the ancient monastery.



Get in touch for help and information about this itinerary or for ideas for other groups visits to Cambridge



1 hour
Approximately an hour from London stations and Eurostar connections.



45-120 mins
from major airports.

Getting to Cambridge

A central location, less than an hour from London...

Cambridge is situated in the East of England, 50 miles north of London and well placed for easy access by road, rail and air. Visitors travelling from central London and from the Eurostar terminus at St Pancras can be in Cambridge in approximately 60 minutes on one of the fast train services operating to and from London King's Cross.

London Stansted airport is situated 30 miles south of Cambridge and offers several routes to and from Europe and other UK destinations. For travel from the airport into the city, visitors can choose direct train or bus services, or Cambridge can be reached quickly and easily by taxi.

London Gatwick, London Heathrow and London Luton are all within 60-120 minutes drive of Cambridge and accessible by public transport via connecting bus and train services in London.

For those who prefer to drive from mainland Europe or further afield, the port of Harwich is less than two hours from Cambridge.

Meet Cambridge is the trading name of The Cambridge Venue Company Limited

The Cambridge Venue Company. A Company Limited by Guarantee.
Registered Number: 06960613. Registered in England
Registered Office: 12b King's Parade, Cambridge CB2 1SJ

