

WW2 Military Vehicles meet Dakota's Event 2014 (DC-3 Flight over Normandy)



The "WW2 Military Vehicles Meet Dakotas" event 2014 is an organized tour across Normandy for WW2 military vehicle owners, with the opportunity to see the largest group of C-47 Dakota and DC-3 aircraft in Europe since the Berlin Airlift in 1948.

In addition, it offers you the chance to take a unique 1 h. Flight, in the famous Breitling DC-3, along the D-Day landing beaches (for pre-booked passengers only).

The guided tour will start on the 5th of June, at the UNIVEM Dog Green Camp at Vierville-sur-Mer (Omaha Beach), at 9.00 p.m. as part of the military vehicle convoy "on the traces of the 29th Division" across Normandy.

The tour offers 8 stopovers for those military vehicle owners that have booked in for the DC-3 flight, or who just want to see the large group of C-47 and DC-3 aircraft, that are located during the D-Day week at the Maupertus Airport (Cherbourg).

The last stopover for the "DC-3 group" as part of the military vehicle convoy is at the Normandy Tank Museum (Catz) with the opportunity to visit the museum, and to take a 45 min. break after the 40 km drive (arrival at about 1.00 p.m.).

At Catz, the "DC-3 group" will split apart from the convoy, and proceed on the N13 and D24 for the remaining 53 km to the Cherbourg Maupertus Airport (arrival at about 3.20 p.m.).

After arrival at the Airport, you will have a chance to see the fleet of C-47 Dakotas, and civilian DC-3 aircraft, which are on display for the general public that day at the Maupertus Airport.

More than 10 C-47 + 280 skydivers will take part in several parachute jumps during the D-Day week, and will have their base at the Maupertus Airport. In addition, a group of civilian DC-3s from all over Europe will be in place, presenting a unique chance for all classic aviation enthusiasts - so keep your cameras ready!

At about 4.00 p.m., the Breitling DC-3 will take off for the distance flight along the coastline and the D-Day landing beaches and will circle around the UNIVEM Dog Green Camp as well. before returning to the airport. The flying time depends a bit on the air traffic and will be approx. 1 hour or even a bit more.

The flight will be offering a great opportunity for the remaining group on the ground to take pictures of the Breitling DC-3 during take-off and landing, or just to enjoy the sound of it's twin 1200 hp Pratt & Whitney R1830-92 engines.

After the return of the Breitling DC-3 to the airport, we will finish the tour with a group photo in front of the Breitling DC-3, together with our pilot Francisco, and his crew.

The current plan is to then leave the airport at about 5.30 p.m. - depending on the timing of the flight and the photo-shooting.



The legendary "S.N.A.F.U. Special" C-47 on static display at the Merville Battery (well known since "Band of Brothers"). "SNAFU" means "situation normal - all fucked up"...

Following that, there will be two options for making your way back:

- 1.) You can drive in a group, or at your own at your own relaxed pace, directly back to the UNIVEM Dog Green Camp.
- 2.) You can choose to take part in the evening's entertainment at Utah Beach, and drive back to the Camp later, after your stopover there.

There is a lot to see and to do in the evening at Utah Beach, so it's up to you in which activities you choose to participate, and when you want to return to the Camp.

The Utah Beach evening at a glance (status: 29.04.2014):

Thursday 5th of June - Utah Beach

7.30 p.m.: Parachute drop from C-47 Dakota planes on Utah Beach.

Organization: Utah Beach Museum - 0033 233 71 53 35 or musee@utah-beach.com

8.00 - 9.30 p.m.: Official Ceremony at Utah Beach with the French army.

Legion of Honor given to John Roman, David and Gene Dewhurst. Organization: Townhall.

9.30-11 p.m.: Concert of U.S. actor Gary Sinise (Forrest Gump, CSI: NY) with his Band "The Lt. Dan Band", at the Utah Beach Museum (to be confirmed!).

10.45/11 p.m.: Lighting of the Normandy coast with 23 simultaneous fireworks along the coastline. At Utah Beach: firework and Military music.

Source:

<http://www.sainte-mere-eglise.info/en/70%20th%20%20anniversary%20dday.html>



Km 0 of the Liberty Road at Utah Beach

About the legendary DC-3



The Douglas DC-3 is with no doubt known as one of the most important airplane in the whole aviation history. It enabled American aviation to supersede trains as a mean of transport for long range travel through the United States.

During World War II, the military version of the DC-3 was named C-47 and many civil DC-3s were requisitioned and converted by the army. During this period, the factories produced the DC-3 at an unbelievable rhythm of one aircraft per hour.

After the war, many of the remaining C-47 were converted and became the standard equipment of all airlines in the world. Many manufacturers tried to find a replacement for the existing DC-3, but no airplane neared the qualities of the DC-3 (a robust aircraft, powerful, reliable and economic that could be used even on non-prepared airfield).

It is well known in the aviation world that the only replacement for a DC-3 is... another DC-3.

The maiden flight of the DC-3 took place on the 17th of December 1935. In total 16'079 DC-3 were built and this in 3 different countries :

- 10'655 were built in the USA. In Long Beach, Santa Monica and Oklahoma City, 607 of them were civil versions (DC-3) and 10'048 military versions (C-47)
- 4'937 were built in Russia under licence by Lisunov (Li-2)
- 487 were built in Japan under licence by Showa and Nakajima (L2D)

The production of the legendary DC-3 and it's military version ended in 1945.
- Today, less than 150 are still airworthy in the world (about fifteen of them in Europe).

Our Aircraft - "Romeo & Juliet"



The Breitling DC-3 HB-IRJ (a.k.a: Romeo & Juliet) was first delivered to American Airlines the 12th of March 1940 under the name "Flagship Cleveland". It was then leased to the U.S. Army between 1942 and 1944 during world war II, thereafter bought by Trans Texas the 24th of February 1949, and later by Texas Int'l in 1968.

Tradewinds did restore it in 1969 and the famous PBA (Provincetown Boston Airlines) operated it in commercial flights until 1987. It was flown by Eastern Express in 1987 then leased to Bar Harbour before being preserved for 4 years. In 1992 Champlain air buys the airplane and a complete restoration takes place in 1995.

In November 2008, Francisco Agullo and a group of friends buy the airplane with the intention to make it fly in Switzerland and Europe. Since Mai 2009, it is operated by the Super Constellation Flyers Association. Today the aircraft is certified in Switzerland. It can carry passengers and is fully IFR (Instrument Flight Rules) equipped.

The cruising speed of the aircraft is 250 km/h. it is not pressurized and the crew is composed of two pilots and one cabin crew. It is able to land on most airfields that are fitted with a grass or concrete runway of more than 1'100 meters (at Max Takeoff Weight).

- Length: 19,7 Meter
- Wingspan: 29,0 Meter
- Height: 5,2 Meter
- Empty weight: 8'840 Kilos
- Maximum Take-off weight: 11.82 Kg
- Engines: P&W R1830-92
- Horsepower: 1200 each
- Number of seats in the cabin: 23
- Crewmembers: 3
- Cruising speed: 135 knots
- Take-off speed: 85 knots
- Ceiling: 16'000 feet
- Fuel consumption: 380 liter/hour
- Oil consumption: 7 liter/hour
- Fuel capacity: 3050 liter
- Range: 8 hours (without reserve)
- Maiden flight of the Breitling DC-3: 9th of March 1940
- Number of flight hours of the Breitling DC-3: 74'300 hours

About our Pilot Francisco Agullo



Francisco is 44 years old and lives in Geneva. His passion for aviation started when he was a kid. After completing an ETS Engineering degree he decided to become a bush pilot, initially in North Canada and a few years later in Africa for the United Nations. After returning to Europe, he flies as an Airline Pilot for TEA, Swissair and Privatair.

In Switzerland, at the age of 28, he becomes the youngest Captain ever to fly an aeroplane weighing more than 100 tons. In 2000, Francisco creates the “Super Constellation Flyers Association” which operates one of the last two airworthy Lockheed Super Constellation (a.k.a.: Super Conny) in the world.

In order to improve his technical knowledge, Francisco joins in 2006 the prestigious National Test Pilots School (NTPS) in Mojave, California.

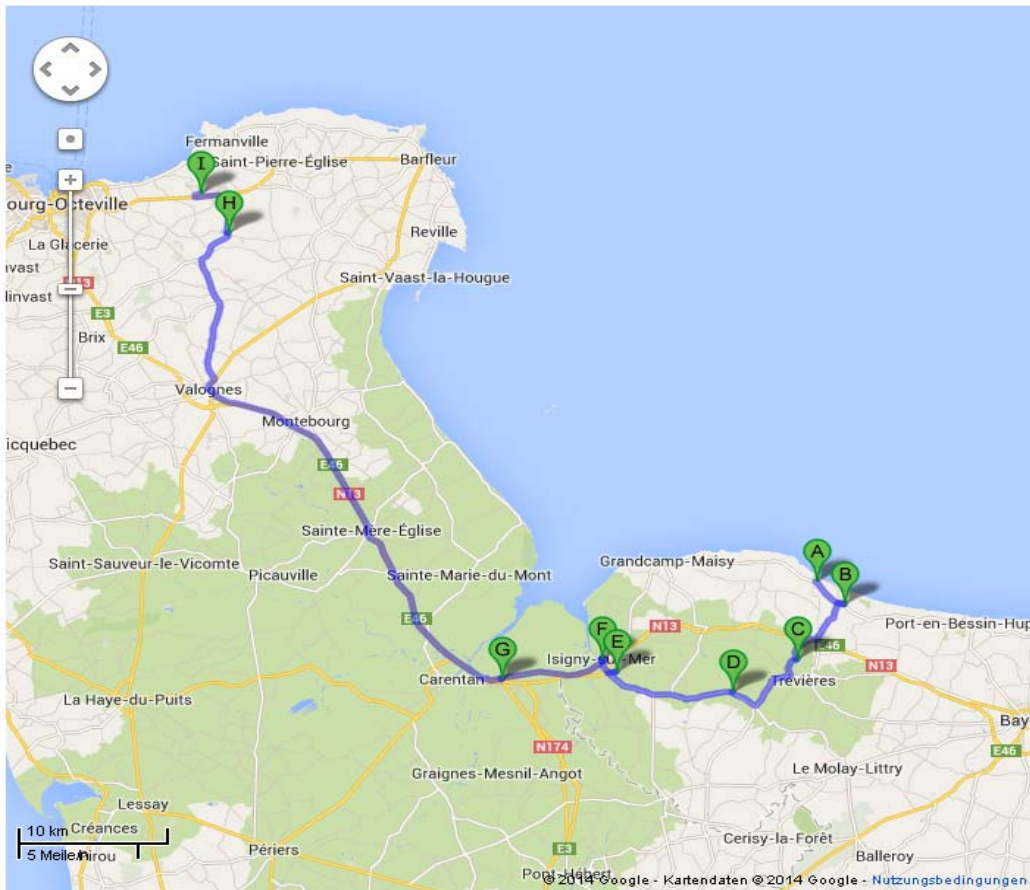
In 2008, he buys a Douglas DC-3 and flies it today as the "Breitling DC-3"

Fluently speaking 5 languages, he loves to travel and has been already 7 times around the World flying an airliner.... and once with an Ecolight!

Today, Francisco has accumulated over 11'000 flight hours in 44 different aircraft types. He is today Captain and Flight Instructor on DC-3, DC-4, DC-6, DC-7, L-1049 and B757/B767.

Roadbook

Stop no.	Location	Distance	km	Time (approx.) average speed 33 km/h
1	Vierville-sur-Mer	0	0	9:00:00
2	Monument Signal	2	2	9:18
	<i>photo break (1 h.)</i>			10:18
3	Saint Laurent	4,45	2,45	10:23
4	Formigny le Val	7,59	3,14	10:28
5	La Colombiere	18,11	10,52	10:47
	<i>coffee break (1 h.)</i>			11:47
6	Pretreville	22,34	4,23	11:55
7	Hameau Fontaine	29,3	6,96	12:08
8	Catz "Normandy Tank Museum / A10 Airfield"	40	10,7	12:27
	<i>visit and break (45 min.)</i>			13:12
9	La Filature, Le Theil	87,6		14:46
	<i>photo break (5 min.)</i>			15:01
10	Cherbourg Maupertus Airport	91		15:19
	Departure at the Airport			about 17:30



The “final mile” to the Airport

Notice: Please use for the way from Omaha Beach to the Normandy Tank Museum (Catz) the UNIVEM roadbook “on the traces of the 29th Division”.

Directions to 6 Rue Jean Mermoz, 50330 Gonneville, France

51.9 km – about **40 mins**

Avenue du Cotentin, 50500 Catz, France

1. Head **west** on **D974** toward **Rue du Rocher** go 1.7 km
About 1 min total 1.7 km
Cherbourg
Sainte-Mère-Église
2. Valognes go 400 m
At the roundabout, take the **1st** exit onto the **N13** ramp to total 2.1 km
Cherbourg/Sainte-Mère-Église/Valognes
About 57 secs
3. Merge onto **N13** go 28.6 km
About 16 mins total 30.7 km
Valognes
4. Quettehou go 600 m
Aéroport Maupertus total 31.3 km
Take the exit toward **Valognes/Quettehou/Aéroport Maupertus**
5. Merge onto **Voie de la Liberté** go 1.7 km
About 2 mins total 32.9 km
6. Turn right onto **D902** go 950 m
Go through 1 roundabout total 33.9 km
About 2 mins km
7. Turn left onto **D24** go 12.8 km
About 12 mins total 46.7 km

Total: **46.7 km** – about **35 mins**

La Filature, Le Theil, France total 0.0 km

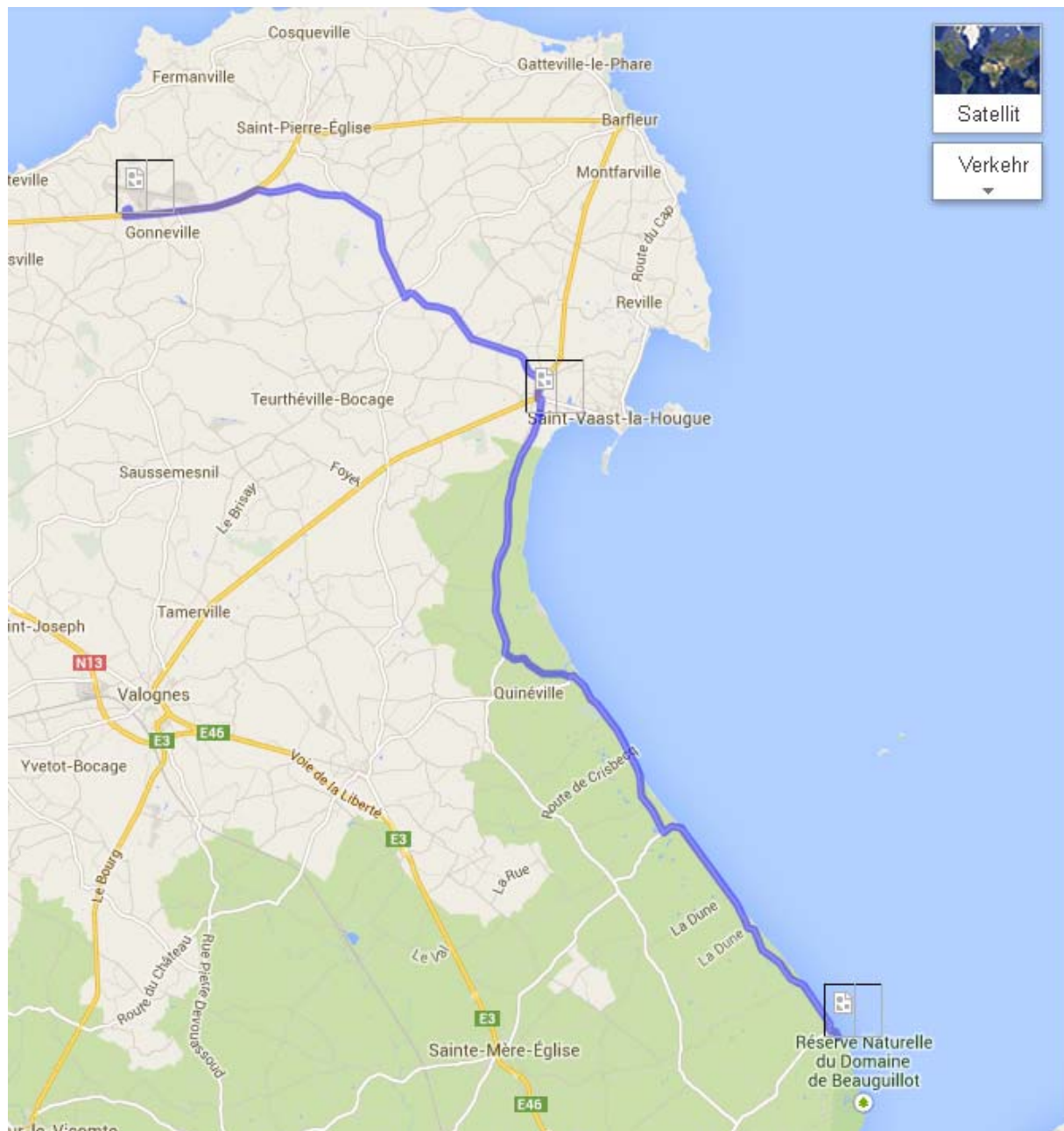
8. Head **north** on **D24** go 3.2 km
About 3 mins total 3.2 km
km
9. Turn left onto **D901** go 1.6 km
About 2 mins total 4.9 km
10. Turn right toward **Rue Jean Mermoz** go 120 m
total 5.0 km
11. At the roundabout, take the **1st** exit onto **Rue Jean Mermoz** go 140 m
total 5.1 km
12. Turn right to stay on **Rue Jean Mermoz** go 120 m
Destination will be on the left total 5.2 km

Total: **5.2 km** – about **6 mins**

6 Rue Jean Mermoz, 50330 Gonneville, France

Source: https://maps.google.com/maps?q=maps&ie=UTF-8&ei=qcRfU_PWKOwutAaFxoHwBg&sqi=2&ved=0CAgQ_AUoAQ

The way to back via Utah Beach



Directions to Musée Utah Beach
Ste Marie du Mont, 50480 Sainte-Marie-du-Mont, France
43.2 km – about **49 mins**

6 Rue Jean Mermoz, 50330 Gonneville, France

1. Head **north** on **Rue Jean Mermoz** go 120 m
total 120 m
2. Turn left to stay on **Rue Jean Mermoz** go 110 m
total 230 m
3. At the roundabout, take the **3rd** exit go 200 m
total 450 m

4. Turn left onto **D901** go 4.2 km
About 4 mins total 4.6 km
5. Slight right onto **D355** go 2.8 km
About 2 mins total 7.4 km
6. Continue onto **D26** go 3.9 km
About 3 mins total 11.4 km
7. Turn left onto **D25** go 220 m
About 56 secs total 11.6 km
8. Take the 1st right onto **D26** go 5.4 km
About 6 mins total 17.0 km
9. Turn right onto **D902** go 400 m
About 53 secs total 17.4 km

Total: **17.4 km** – about **18 mins**

D902 total 0.0 km

10. Head **south** on **D902** toward **D216** go 220 m
total 220 m
11. Turn left onto **D1** go 120 m
total 350 m
12. Take the 1st right onto **D14** go 8.3 km
About 8 mins total 8.6 km
13. Turn left onto **D421** go 2.3 km
About 4 mins total 11.0 km
14. Continue straight onto **D42** go 120 m
About 53 secs total 11.1 km
15. Turn right onto **D421** go 5.8 km
About 7 mins total 16.8 km
16. Turn left onto **D15** go 300 m
About 1 min total 17.2 km
17. Turn right onto **D421** go 8.5 km
About 9 mins total 25.6 km
18. Continue onto **Utah Beach** go 100 m
About 47 secs total 25.7 km
19. Turn left go 55 m
Destination will be on the right total 25.8 km

Total: **25.8 km** – about **31 mins**

Musée Utah Beach

Ste Marie du Mont, 50480 Sainte-Marie-du-Mont, France

Source :

https://maps.google.com/maps?f=d&source=s_d&saddr=6+Rue+Jean+Mermoz,+Gonneville,+France&daddr=D902+to:Mus%C3%A9+du+d%C3%A9barquement,+Utah+Beach,+France&hl=en&geocode=FU2E9QIdOmpv_ykd9XKXA58MSDF-ArjPQSwVxA%3BFdq89AldRzs_w%3BFTgF8gldqgz_uYH2YbPwY0_ByCn_h7_V8ncLSDH2YbPwY0_ByA&aq=&sll=49.53323,-1.320419&sspn=0.340911,0.510178&vpsrc=0&mra=dme&mrsp=1&sz=11&ie=UTF8&t=m&z=11&layer=c&ei=esZfU-n3GMryiQbcs4C4Cw&pw=2

PLAN D'ACCES

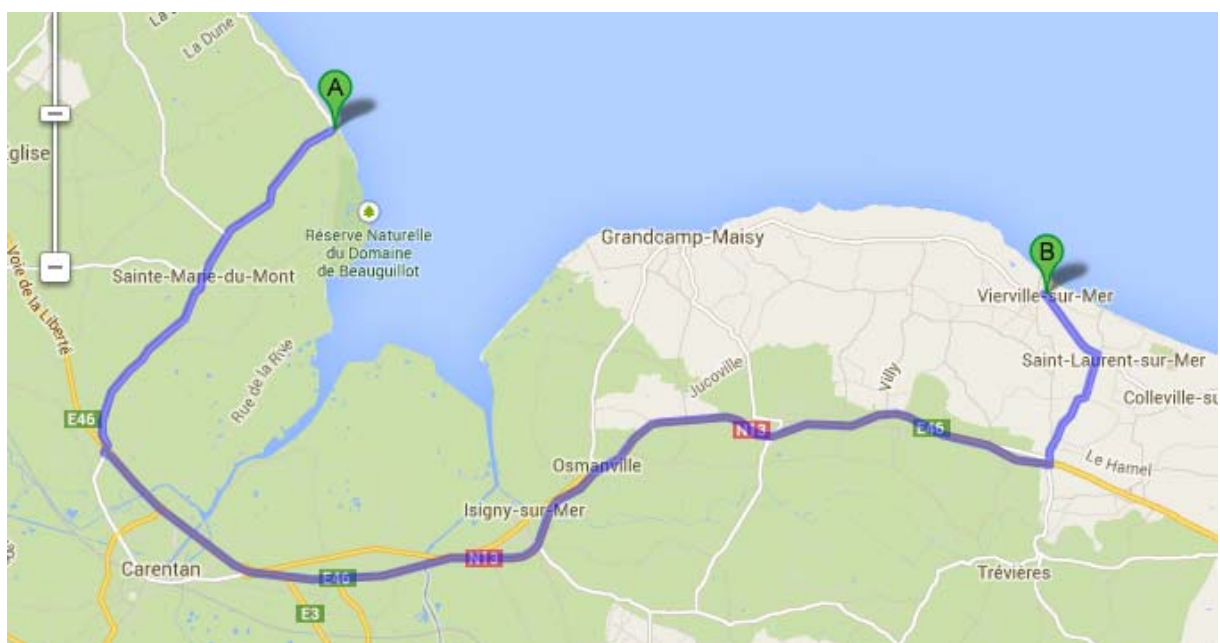
MUSÉE DU DÉBARQUEMENT
50480 SAINTE MARIE DU MONT



Afficher [Musée du Débarquement de Utah Beach](#) sur une carte plus grande

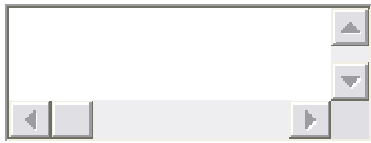
The Museum is located at the end of the D913 directly at the beachfront.

The way from Utah Beach to the Camp



Directions to Vierville-sur-Mer, France

47.6 km – about 37 mins



Musée Utah Beach

Ste Marie du Mont, 50480 Sainte-Marie-du-Mont, France

1. Head **southwest** toward **D421** go 51 m
total 51 m
 2. Continue straight onto **Voie de la Liberté/D913** go 5.5 km
Continue to follow D913 total 5.6 km
About 6 mins
 3. Turn right onto **Pl. de l'Église** go 120 m
total 5.7 km
 4. Slight right onto **Rue de la 101E Airborne/D913** go 6.0 km
Continue to follow D913 total 11.7 km
About 5 mins
 5. Caen go 200 m
Isigny-sur-Mer total 11.9 km
Turn left onto the ramp to **Caen/Isigny-sur-Mer**
 6. Merge onto **N13** go 29.6 km
About 16 mins total 41.5 km
 7. D30
Formigny
Trévières
Saint-Laurent-sur-Mer go 180 m
Colleville-sur-Mer total 41.7 km
Vierville-sur-Mer km
Take the **D30** exit toward **Formigny/Trévières/Saint-Laurent-sur-Mer/Colleville-sur-Mer/Vierville-sur-Mer**
 8. Turn left onto **D30** go 160 m
About 1 min total 41.9 km
 9. Continue onto **D517** go 3.4 km
About 4 mins total 45.3 km
 10. At the roundabout, take the **3rd** exit onto **D514** go 2.3 km
About 3 mins total 47.6 km
- Vierville-sur-Mer, France

Source: https://maps.google.com/maps?q=maps&ie=UTF-8&ei=vLdgU9DZLsbPsgbS_IHoBw&sqi=2&ved=0CAgQ_AUoAQ