



# Normandy Camporee 2024

## Event Guide

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*In April 1994, the Charlemagne and Mayflower Districts hosted a 50th Anniversary Commemoration Camporee near Omaha Beach in Normandy, France. This event was for their Scout Troops and was eventually opened to the rest of the Transatlantic Council (TAC). The Normandy Camporee proved to be such a great experience for the families who attended that a decision was made to hold this camporee every five years. The early Camporees included a service project involving a beach clean-up. The French authorities have dubbed the Transatlantic Council, BSA as the “Custodians of Omaha Beach.” Due to the requests from our Scouting families, this event is now planned for every two to three years.*

*Our aim since these early years has been to provide the opportunity for a memorable experience for all Scouting families. During the Normandy Camporee 2014, a new Peace Bell was dedicated at the Bayeux Cathedral and was rung for the first time by an international delegation of Scouts. The Normandy Camporee 2019 marked the 75th Anniversary of the D-Day Landings and the 25th Anniversary of the first TAC Normandy Camporee. In 2022, the Normandy Camporee transitioned to serve more as an international event and among other Scouting groups, hosted 750 French scouts. In 2024 we will commemorate the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of D-day and again take on new experiences and create special memories! Join us and enjoy your continued adventure in Scouting!*

# Table of Contents

WELCOME .....	4
PROGRAM .....	5
Master Schedule .....	5
The TAC Normandy Passport App.....	7
Radio Station.....	7
Trading Post .....	7
Changing Lives Reception .....	8
Information Square.....	8
Partnership Celebration.....	8
Omaha Beach Campfire .....	9
Memorials.....	10
Food Truck Rally.....	11
A Scout is Reverent Service.....	11
Collectible Swapping Events .....	11
Top Achiever Scouts Gathering.....	11
Closing Ceremony – Normandy American Cemetery & Memorial.....	12
TRAVEL ADVICE .....	13
By Car .....	13
By Public Transportation.....	13
By Plane.....	13
Arriving and Departing the Campsite and Bungalows.....	14
Accessibility.....	15
Electricity.....	15
Groceries .....	15
Sustainability.....	16
Transport.....	16
Menu Design .....	17
Waste .....	17
Recycling in France.....	18
Local Tourism .....	19
Omaha Beach-Normandy Historic Trail .....	20
ACCOMMODATIONS .....	21
Campground .....	21
Campsites.....	21
Bungalows.....	21

Hotels .....	21
CHECK-IN & CHECK-OUT .....	22
Check-In Process .....	22
Check-In Schedule .....	22
Check-Out Process .....	22
Check-Out Schedule .....	22
HEALTH & SAFETY .....	23
Health Forms .....	23
Medications .....	23
First Aid & Emergencies .....	23
Youth Protection .....	24
Security .....	24
Traffic Safety .....	25
Parking .....	25
Weather .....	26
Pets .....	26
Alcoholic Beverages .....	26
Knives .....	26
Firearms .....	26
Fireworks .....	26
REGISTRATION .....	27
Fees & Costs .....	27
Refunds & Cancellations .....	28
ASSISTANCE .....	28



## WELCOME

A warm welcome to all Scouts, Scouters and families! After a successful Normandy Camporee in 2022, we have been busy behind the scenes preparing for the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of D-Day in 2024.

This will be the 11<sup>th</sup> Camporee to commemorate the landing of the Allied Forces on the beaches of Normandy, France in 1944. This landing is marked in history as D-Day and was the start of a joint offensive that ended World War II. During the Camporee we pay our respects to those who made the ultimate sacrifice.

But we will also celebrate peace and the freedom in which we can live our lives today. The ending of World War II resulted in peace for all nations involved. Peace that must be kept and maintained, as Lord Baden-Powell already pointed out in 1926:

*“Peace cannot be secured entirely by commercial interests, military alliances, general disarmament or mutual treaties, unless the spirit for peace is there in the minds and will of the peoples. This is a matter of education.”*

For those who plan to visit us in 2024: the Normandy Camporee grew from a District-level event into a TAC showcase international camporee with participants from all over Europe, the US and the world! Our promise to you is that we will do everything in our power to make your stay as easy and fulfilling as possible.

Normandy 2024 will provide those who attend with ample opportunities to get educated. The volunteer staff has worked hard to supply all “ingredients” necessary for the weekend of the 19<sup>th</sup> to the 21<sup>st</sup> of April 2024 to be a lifelong memory.

The meaningfulness of the memories you make is dependent on the experience you create along the way. So please come prepared! Not only for different kinds of weather, but also with the knowledge of what happened in Normandy, the magnitude of the event, the sacrifices made, and the lessons to be learned.

Through the ‘TAC Normandy Passport’ App we provide you with information and guidance in the preparation for and use during the camporee. During your visit, the App will be your guide to locations, events, background information and a lot more. As we get closer to the event, we will add content about the program, places to go and things to do.

What we already can tell you is that we will uphold our Normandy Camporee tradition with a Saturday afternoon campfire on Omaha Beach and a Memorial Service at the Normandy American Cemetery on Sunday morning. New to the program in 2022 was a food truck rally at the Omaha Beach campsite on Saturday evening. This was such a success that we have invited the food trucks back again in 2024.

There is a lot to see and do, but how you spend this weekend is up to you. We invite you to make the most of it.

# PROGRAM

What constitutes success at the Normandy Camporee is not the event but rather the quality and variety of personal experiences that the participants have over the course of the weekend. With contingents of Scouts from all over the world attending and taking part in the activities we are offering, everyone will be afforded the opportunity to mingle with others, forge new friendships, and strengthen the worldwide brotherhood of Scouting.

## Master Schedule

Date	Time	Activity
Thu 18 April 2024	1300 to 2200	Check-in Open
	1300 to 2145	Trading Post Open
	1300 to 2145	Hospitality Hut Open
	2200	Respect Noise Level at the Campground
	2400 to 0600	Campground Quiet Hours

Date	Time	Activity
Fri 19 April 2024	0800 to 2200	Check-in Open
	0800 to 2145	Trading Post Open
	0800 to 2145	Hospitality Hut Open
	0900 to 2000	Radio Station Open
	1900 to 2100	Changing Lives Reception – St. Mère Église
	1930 to 2100	Information Square
	2200	Respect Noise Level at the Campground
	2400 to 0600	Campsite Quiet Hours

Date	Time	Activity
Sat 20 April 2024	0800 to 1000	Check-in Open
	0800 to 1530	Trading Post Open
	0800 to 1530	Hospitality Hut Open
	0800 to 1530	Unit Activities and Historical Site Visits
	0800 to 1500	Flags over Normandy – Vierville-sur-Mer
	0900 to 1900	Radio Station Open
	1530 to 1600	Partnership Celebration – Vierville-sur-Mer
	<b>1600 to 1700</b>	<b>Campfire on Omaha Beach</b>
	1700 to 2145	Trading Post Open
	1730 to 2000	Food Truck Rally – Camping Omaha Beach
	1800 to 1900	Collectable Swap Events
	1800 to 1900	Meet the BSA National Leadership
	1900 to 1930	A Scout is Reverent Service
	1900 to 2000	Commissioner’s Meeting
	2000 to 2100	Top Achiever Scouts Gathering
2200	Respect Noise Level at the Campground	
2400 to 0600	Campground Quiet Hours	

Date	Time	Activity
Sun 21 April 2024	0700 to 0830	Campsite/Bungalow Check-out
	<b>0930 to 1030</b>	<b>Memorial Service / Closing Ceremony</b>
	1100 to 1300	Trading Post Open
	1130 to 1600	Campsite/Bungalow Check-out

## The TAC Normandy Passport App



Download the "[TAC Normandy Passport](#)" App!

- Available on [Apple](#) and [Android](#) stores under "TAC Normandy Passport."
- Your one-stop shop for all things Normandy Camporee 2024.
- Take your Scouts and units around Normandy and visit well-known points of interest.
- Stay up to date with the latest announcements and updates for Normandy 2024
- Get information on local points of interest and places to visit, as well as Camporee venues.

## Radio Station

*Friday, April 19 and Saturday, April 20, D-Day Omaha Museum, Route de Grandcamp, 14710 Vierville-sur-Mer*

For anyone who wishes to share their own message of peace across the globe, an amateur "ham" radio station with a special callsign for the camporee will be operating with live shortwave radio connections with other radio operators around the world. You will be able to find them near the D-Day Omaha Museum located at the crossroads to the entrance of Omaha Beach Campground. There is also a challenge for Scouts to write a short message of peace for people and/or circumstances where such a message can make a difference. Send your suggested message by e-mail to: [TAC-NormandyCamporee-802@scouting.org](mailto:TAC-NormandyCamporee-802@scouting.org)

Note: Museum entrance fee (discounted) is required for entry to the Radio Station.

The 5 most moving and/or inspiring messages will be transmitted live on Saturday, with the Scouts who wrote those messages being invited to do the actual broadcast as part of a two-way contact with another station. They will each be provided with free admission to the Museum. There will be a certificate to recognize and prove that the actual message was sent and received.

## Trading Post

*Thursday, April 18, 1300-2145; Friday, April 19, 0800-2145  
Saturday, April 20, 0800-1530 or 1700-2145; and  
Sunday, April 21, 1100-1300  
Salle des Fêtes, 12 Bd de Cauvigny, 14710 Vierville-sur-Mer*

Every great Camporee needs commemorative items such as patches, shirts, pins, etc., and the Normandy Camporee 2024 is no exception. The Normandy Camporee Trading Post will offer a special place for Scouts and Scouting volunteers, as well as

their guests and family, to physically touch, feel and review BSA and Normandy Camporee specific merchandise.

Event specific items will be available on a pre-order basis during registration. Some collector items will be available in limited quantities, so if you want them, be sure to order during the on-line registration process. Pre-ordered items will be available for pick-up when you check in at the Normandy Camporee in April. Additional quantities of many Normandy Camporee 2024 items will be available in the onsite Trading Post.

## **Changing Lives Reception**

*Friday, 19 April, 1900-2100, Airborne Museum, 50480 St. Mère Église*

As part of the Normandy Camporee, TAC will host a reception for invited donors and sponsors who support the “Unparalleled Scouting” programs offered by the council. This will be a stand-up reception featuring D-Day history and local Normandy food and beverages at the famous Airborne Museum located in the historic town of St. Mère Église. **You are invited to consider becoming a sponsor for the Changing Lives Reception.** Opportunities exist at \$250, \$500, \$1,000, and up - or you can explore sponsoring the event at different levels. For donors at higher levels, early activities are available. There are other **exclusive sponsorship opportunities** that support the programs and services of the Transatlantic Council—and this Normandy Camporee. Those programs are available for individuals, families as well as corporations. You can provide vital camporee support at different levels of giving.

For more information visit: <https://www.tac-bsa.org/normandycamporee/sponsorship/>

## **Information Square**

*Friday, April 19, 1930-2100, Camping Omaha Beach, Rue de la Hérode, 14710 Vierville-sur-Mer*

Everyone is invited to stop by this open-house style event in the green space near the entrance of the Omaha Beach Campsite to learn more about Scouting programs with the Transatlantic Council and other International Scouting Organizations. This is your chance to network and see how to get more out of your Scouting experience! Representatives of the various groups (Kandersteg International Scout Centre, Intercamp, BSA Venturing and Sea Scouting, etc.) will be presenting information and be available to answer questions. Open to Scouts and their families as well as leaders.

## **Partnership Celebration**

*Saturday, April 20, 1530-1600, National Guard Memorial at 14710 Vierville-sur-Mer*

Just prior to the Campfire there will be a short ceremony near the National Guard Memorial on Omaha Beach to recognize the 30 years of support the Transatlantic Council has received from the city of Vierville-sur-Mer. Everyone is encouraged to attend the celebration on their way to the Campfire.



## Omaha Beach Campfire

*Saturday, April 20, 1600-1700, Omaha Beach at 14710 Vierville-sur-Mer*

The Campfire, together with the Memorial Service at the Normandy American Cemetery, are the two events attended by almost everyone participating in the Camporee. The Campfire is held on the sands of Omaha Beach, where 34,000 US soldiers came ashore on D-Day and 2,500 lost their lives. A campfire on the beach, while memorable, presents some challenges, such as wind, but its timing is always governed by the sea itself. The tide schedule for this camporee has dictated that the campfire is held on Saturday afternoon – starting at 16:00 in the village of Vierville-sur-Mer.

The Normandy Camporee Campfire is different than a traditional Scout campfire – with hundreds of units and groups participating, there isn't time to ask individuals to provide a skit or a song, and with the size of the audience, and the location, there are limits to what is feasible. As in past Camporees, the Campfire will be an opportunity to recognize the historic events of 6 June 1944 and also to recognize the accomplishments of our future leaders – recognizing Webelos Scouts crossing over to Scouts BSA; and Scouts earning the Eagle Scout Award. Top Achiever Scouts from other National Scout Organizations will also be recognized. Our campfire will also include additional interactive elements to appeal across the international audience and to support the role of all participants as Messengers of Peace.

The recognition elements of the campfire are planned as follows:

- **Second-year Webelos Scouts crossing over to Scouts BSA.** This is a cross-over recognition only and will not include Arrow of Light which needs to be done at a unit level (although this could be done by the unit at the beach or one of the other locations). Units will be asked to provide the number of expected Webelos (or former Webelos) to be recognized as part of the registration process. This part of the ceremony is attached to the campfire program at an adjoining time and location.
- **Eagle Scout Award, recognizing Eagle Scouts who have had their Board of Review in the last year.** Troops and Crews will be asked to provide the names of Eagle Scouts to be recognized as part of the registration process.

Also, as part of the registration process, units and groups will be asked for the estimated number of vehicles they will be using to get to the Camporee. This is to allow us to plan for parking at the Campfire and Campground. **While on logistics please note...**

- **There will be a one-way system in operation along the road going from Saint Laurent-sur-Mer to Vierville-sur-Mer on Saturday afternoon** – this is to allow us to park hundreds of vehicles as quickly and safely as possible. Please follow the instructions of staff members directing you to parking.
- **Facilities in Vierville-sur-Mer are limited.** The camporee staff is arranging for portable toilets to be available near the campfire.
- Please consider using the time before the campfire at Omaha Beach to visit local memorials and museums – several of which are within walking distance.

## Memorials

*Note: There will not be any formal Saturday Memorial Services held this year.*

As Messengers of Peace and Custodians of Omaha Beach, we honor those who made the ultimate sacrifice for their country in 1944. We hope that everyone understands how the sacrifices made by the “Greatest Generation” have influenced the world we live in today and that our Scouts will lead into the future.

Although there are no other planned ceremonies, all participants are encouraged to visit nearby cemeteries and memorials on Saturday or throughout their visit to Normandy.

### [British Bayeux War Cemetery](#)

1945 Bd Fabian Ware, 14400 Bayeux

GPS Coordinates: N 49° 16' 26.7024" W 00° 42' 50.724"

### [Bény-sur-Mer Canadian War Cemetery](#)

D35, 14470 Reviars

GPS Coordinates: N 49°18'09" W 0°26'59"

### [French Kieffer Commandos Monument of the Flame](#)

23 Bd Aristide Briand, 14150 Ouistreham

GPS Coordinates: N 49° 17' 25.9764" W 00° 15' 44.3124"

### [German La Cambe German War Cemetery](#)

Les Noires Terres, 14230 La Cambe

GPS Coordinates: N 49° 20' 34.5444" W 01° 01' 35.8608"

## **Food Truck Rally**

*Saturday, 20 April, 1730-2000, Camping Omaha Beach, Rue de la Hérode, 14710 Vierville-sur-Mer*

With a Saturday schedule filled with activities and events, there may not be time for a traditional patrol-cooked meal. Our Campground hosts stepped up to fill this need by coordinating a Food Truck Rally. Food can be purchased on site in Euro.

## **A Scout is Reverent Service**

*Saturday, 20 April, 1900-1930. Camping Omaha Beach, Rue de la Hérode, 14710 Vierville-sur-Mer*

This interfaith service is an opportunity to be reverent to God, be faithful in your religious duties and respect the beliefs of others in a non-denominational forum.

## **Collectible Swapping Events**

*Saturday, 20 April, from 1800-1900. Camping Omaha Beach, Rue de la Hérode, 14710 Vierville-sur-Mer (Youth) and Hotel du Casino, Rue de la Percée, 14710 Vierville-sur-Mer (Adults)*

There will be separate opportunities for both Youth and Adults to meet up, discuss, and potentially swap patches, neckerchiefs, and other collectible items with fellow Scouts or Scouters. Rules and guidance for the swapping event for each group will be posted at the event and available through the Normandy App.

## **Top Achiever Scouts Gathering**

*Saturday, April 20, from 2000-2100, Camping Omaha Beach, Rue de la Hérode, 14710 Vierville-sur-Mer*

Recipients of the highest awards in their respective countries' Scouting programs (Eagle Scouts, King's Award, etc.) are invited to attend this after-dinner gathering which celebrates their achievements. This is a great opportunity for socializing and networking. Please be sure to indicate your intention to attend this event on the registration form.

## **Closing Ceremony – Normandy American Cemetery & Memorial**

*Sunday, April 21, 0930-1030, Normandy American Cemetery, 14710, Colleville-sur-Mer, GPS Coordinates: 49° 20' 55" N, 0° 51' 17" W*

On Sunday all participants in the Camporee are invited to attend the Closing Ceremony at the [Normandy American Cemetery and Memorial](#). **Arrivals are welcome from 0900. The ceremony starts promptly at 0930 with everyone already in place and will conclude at 1030.** We ask everyone to be in their full Scout Field Uniform. Please keep in mind that everyone will be going to the ceremony at relatively close to the same time so what might be a normal 15-minute trip from Camping Omaha Beach to the Normandy American Cemetery and Memorial may take a bit longer. Please plan accordingly.

We have extended invitations to several dignitaries to join us on Sunday. Their participation may result in additional security measures to be enacted and may affect the time of entrance to the cemetery. Allow plenty of travel time from the campground to the activities. The ceremony will consist of opening remarks, Guest of Honor recognition, VIP speeches, as well as individual and unit wreath laying.

When you arrive at the Cemetery, please go immediately to the walkways around the tidal basin. Every unit (not just TAC units) should have a flag bearer. The flag bearers will line the area around the Memorial Statue. **NOTE: Unit flag bearers should report to the cemetery no later than 0910 near the Memorial Statue.**

**Note: Wreaths are available to purchase through the Normandy Camporee [registration site](#).**

**Participants who have purchased and/or requested to present wreaths will meet at the reflecting pool of the cemetery by 0910.** They will be coached by staff when to move forward and what to do. Yes, you can have an adult take pictures, and if you really need two people to carry the wreath you can do that too.

The ceremony will close with each individual or small group having an opportunity to place a tulip at a grave of their choice. These will be available at the front of the reflecting pool near the memorial. After the formal ceremonies are concluded, you may continue to visit the site on your own or prepare to travel home safely. Cemetery staff may be available for private tours around the grounds over the course of the day.

The Normandy American Cemetery and Memorial is hallowed ground. We ask that all Scouts and guests act respectfully during their visits. We are all Custodians of Omaha Beach.

# TRAVEL ADVICE

## By Car

If your travel plans take you in or around Paris, please be sensitive to the timing of rush hour traffic. For those traveling on the motorways (autoroute, autobahn), some roads in France are toll roads. You should have euro cash or credit cards to pay for the tolls.

Van or bus drivers may want to consider booking a hotel for Saturday night to get a better night's sleep. It is a long drive on a busy weekend for all of us so the more rest that you get, hopefully the safer the journey home will be. For your travel day as well, in some cases it cannot be avoided but working all day and then driving Scouts to Normandy can be just too much. Drive safely and use common sense. Please be reminded of [BSA's Guide to Safe Scouting](#), which states that driving time is limited to a maximum of 10 hours in one 24-hour period, regardless of drivers available. Frequent breaks are required, including rest, food, and recreation. Do not drive when distracted or drowsy.

## By Public Transportation

The closest train station to our Camporee location is Bayeux. There are no local buses that will take you directly to the campground. [NOMAD Calvados](#) (+33 02 22 55 00 10) provides scheduled service (Bus #120) from the Bayeux train station to Grandcamp-Maisy via Saint Laurent-sur-Mer and Vierville-sur-Mer.

## By Plane

The closest international airport is the Charles de Gaulle Airport, Paris (CDG). There is a regional airport in Caen, but it only services other parts of France, not including Paris. If arriving in Paris, we recommend either renting a vehicle in Paris or taking the train to Bayeux.

## Arriving and Departing the Campsite and Bungalows

**Camping Omaha Beach** <http://www.camping-omaha-beach.fr/en/>

Rue de la Hérode

14710 Vierville-sur-Mer

Coordinates: 49.379831, -0.909674

+33 (0)2 31 22 41 73

- **Camporee Staff will be welcoming participants and directing vehicle parking at the campground** during high movement periods to ensure a focused flow of traffic for all participants' vehicles and buses. This is also to ensure that local traffic is not burdened with our larger contingents.
- **Please ensure that you place your Vehicle Information Form (available for download from the registration page) in the front window of all vehicles to ensure we can contact you in case of an emergency.**
- A limited number of *parking passes* will be issued to those staying at campsites and bungalows. **Only one vehicle per bungalow** will be allowed inside the campground. *Temporary parking passes* may be given to campsite participants to facilitate gear drop-off and pick-up, but we encourage units to hike their gear in.
- **No buses are allowed to enter the campgrounds.** All buses will off-load in designated areas and gear can be transported by TAC van to the campsite. This is a limited service provided by the Camping and Logistics Team.
- Parking will be determined by security and parking lot conditions established at the time of the event. Camporee Staff will direct everyone to their parking locations.
- The campground roads are narrow and there will be lots of youth near the roads; we plan to do all we can to keep everyone safe - even if it is inconvenient.
- Check-out is possible during the following periods:
  - Sunday, 21 April: 0700-0830, 1130-1330
- If you plan to leave directly from the Closing Ceremony on Sunday morning, please respect campground quiet hours (until 0600) during packing. Consider packing your equipment in the morning but loading it after you return from the Closing Ceremony.
- **If you are staying in a bungalow you will be provided a checklist of what needs to be completed before and during your check-out.**
- Once your campsite/bungalow is packed up, please go to the Check-in/Check-out area and the Camporee Staff will make sure that your site is ready for check-out. Only then are you permitted to leave and will you receive your farewell packet, including event patches.
- Only then should vehicles (no buses) be brought onto the site to load up. Once loaded up, you may depart the campground immediately (or proceed to the line waiting to leave).
- **Please be patient!**

## Accessibility

Many roads and buildings in France were built hundreds of years ago and did not have modern disability equipment in mind. The French authorities have made many adjustments to local infrastructure to accommodate those in need, though these are not guaranteed. Many of the sights to see in the area involve a lot of walking over uneven terrain.

Some key points are accessible-friendly: some bungalows are handicap accessible, the Normandy American Cemetery and Memorial is evenly paved with ramps where necessary, and many museums are accessible-friendly. Our signature Omaha Beach Campfire will take place in the sand, however we will be near the promenade and will use a sound system.

## Electricity

Electricity in France is **220V** and accessed with a two-prong plug. Please bring the necessary adapters and check your electronics for 220V capabilities.



Camping Omaha Beach continues to upgrade their electrical infrastructure. Electricity is available at each of the permanent campsites, but the following adapter is required.



**Bals 8614** - Bals adapter contact CEE for Belgian/French grounding system type F - 6h 16A 3P 230V IP44, screw clamp

Participants should bring adapters with them. Only a limited quantity is available on site. The adapter can be purchased from various European online distributors.

## Groceries

The nearest grocery store to to Camping Omaha Beach is the **CocciMarket** located off of the rue Pavée (D514) in Vierville-sur-Mer. It may be possible to have pre-ordered items delivered to the campground (only on Wednesday and Friday). If this is your desire, please contact them directly to coordinate. More information is available here:

[https://www.coccinelle.fr/Trouver\\_Un\\_Magasin/Details/coccimarket/vierville-sur-mer/rue-pavee%20%20](https://www.coccinelle.fr/Trouver_Un_Magasin/Details/coccimarket/vierville-sur-mer/rue-pavee%20%20)

In Bayeux, there are many stores but the largest are **Carrefour** and **E.Leclerc**. These are both excellent for camping and cooking items as well.

## Sustainability

### How Can You Help Make the Normandy Camporee Sustainable?



By following the Leave No Trace principles, even if you're not in the backcountry!

Our emissions of “greenhouse gases” – mainly carbon dioxide and methane – trap part of the sun’s heat in the atmosphere, warming the Earth. This is already causing extreme heat, droughts, rain, and floods, intensifying hurricanes, melting ice, raising sea levels, and harming the oceans – with worse to come. We all need to minimize our direct and indirect emissions, to help halt and reverse the warming.

When planning for Normandy, you can reduce your impacts in 3 key ways while still having the time of your life:

#### Transport

This is the biggest cause of emissions from camping. If you are arriving from outside western Europe, air travel will be unavoidable; consider [offsetting](#) your emissions, in programs available through the air carrier or elsewhere. While in western Europe:

- ⇒ First choice, if at all possible, is to take advantage of Europe’s extensive [public transport network](#).
- ⇒ Second choice is to organize a bus/coach. [Flixbus](#) has cheap coach travel.
- ⇒ If you must drive, share rides to fill your car, and use the most efficient cars available.

#### Normandy Main Impacts

- Transport
- Menu Design
- Waste

#### Resources

[TAC Sustainability Mission](#)

[Camping Sustainably](#)

[What is the Sustainability Challenge?](#)

[Outdoor Ethics Guide Handbook](#)

[Scouts for SDGs](#)

[Further Resources](#)



### Menu Design

This is the 2<sup>nd</sup>-biggest cause of emissions from camping. Help dramatically reduce the impact of your meals through smarter choices and more efficient planning. Beef has a much larger impact than any other food and can represent 1/2 – 2/3 of the emissions of your food consumption and preparation.

- ⇒ Increase focus on vegetables: in full plant-based meals, or as the main part of a meal that also includes meat.
- ⇒ Eat meats further down the emissions spectrum: beef >lamb >pork >chicken >fish.
- ⇒ Be creative: create great low/no meat menus, with cooking methods.

### Waste

Waste has an indirect impact on emissions, and a direct impact on animal life. A Scout is Thrifty.

- ⇒ Calculate and bring food portions properly to minimize waste.
- ⇒ Buy food in bulk, repack individually-wrapped food in reusable containers, and recycle packaging.
- ⇒ Avoid single-use gear.
  - Cooking: use gear that will last more than one campout.
  - Cleaning: bring a stack of quick-dry, reusable cloths, instead of paper towels.
  - Eating: use personal washable gear, not disposable.
  - Drinking: use personal reusable water bottles.

## Sustainability in the Transatlantic Council

TAC has a strong Sustainability Mission:

***We will set the gold standard in Scouting for efforts to improve human impacts upon the planet. We will achieve that by incorporating sustainability practices and training throughout our program, focused on impacts upon the natural world. We will be thousands of advocates for the planet in the Anthropocene Age. Our youth will change their own futures.***

Protecting our planet has always been at the core of Scouting:

- Leave No Trace
- The Outdoor Code
- Sustainability & Environmental Science Merit badges (Eagle required)
- Conservation related service projects

We support sustainability in Scouting because we care about the world we inherited. We want future generations to enjoy the same joys and privileges of the outdoors.

Our mission involves everyone in TAC – **and every Normandy Camporee participant**. Please minimize your own impact on the planet while travelling to and from, and enjoying, the event of a lifetime.

While you prepare for Normandy, **take the [TAC Sustainability Challenge](#)** and learn about our impacts on the planet, what we can do to lessen them, and how we can get others to join us. Earn and purchase the cool “TAC Sustainability Action” patch shown above!

## Recycling in France

Waste disposal in France consists of several different bins for different types of recycling. As Scouts and participants, we need to ensure that we follow the French communities’ guidelines for recycling and waste disposal.

- Yellow (Recyclables)
  - Paper, cardboard, cartons
  - Plastic bottles, containers, film
  - Metal cans, tins, lids, foil



- Green (Glass)
  - White or colored glass of any shape



- Black (Waste)
  - Hygienic items: face masks, diapers, sanitary items
  - Non-recyclables: food waste, cigarettes, bones, mixed-medium items



**These rules must be followed when depositing waste at Camping Omaha Beach.** Camporee Staff will be on hand to monitor the use of the recycling bins at Camping Omaha Beach to ensure we are adhering to the French guidelines. Thank you for your compliance.

## Local Tourism

Information related to local museums & heritage sites can be found on the Normandy tourism website: <https://en.normandie-tourisme.fr/museums-and-heritage-sites>

- **Airborne Museum:** <https://www.airborne-museum.org/en/>
  - 14 rue Eisenhower, 50480 Sainte-Mère-Eglise
- **America and Gold Beach Museum:** <http://www.goldbeachmusee.org.uk/>
  - 2 place Amiral Byrd, 14114 Ver-sur-Mer
- **Caen Memorial:** <https://normandy.memorial-caen.com/>
  - Esplanade General Eisenhower, 14050 Caen
- **Castle of Falaise (William the Conqueror):** <https://www.chateau-guillaume-leconquerant.fr/>
  - Place Guillaume le Conquerant, 14700 Falaise
- **D-Day Omaha Museum:** <https://www.dday-omaha.fr/en/>
  - Route de Grandcamp, 14710 Vierville-sur-Mer
- **Maisy Battery:** [www.maisybattery.com](http://www.maisybattery.com)
  - 7 Route des Perruques, 14450 Calvados
- **Omaha Beach Memorial Museum:** <http://www.musee-memorial-omaha.com/en/>
  - Avenue de la Libération, 14710 Saint-Laurent-sur-Mer
- **Overlord Museum:** [www.overlordmuseum.com](http://www.overlordmuseum.com)
  - Lotissement Omaha Center, 14710 Colleville-sur-Mer
- **Pegasus Bridge and Memorial Museum:** <https://musee.memorial-pegasus.com/en/pegasus-bridge/>
  - Avenue du Major Howard, 14860 Ranville
- **Pointe du Hoc:** <https://www.normandie-tourisme.fr/sites-lieux-de-visites/site-de-la-pointe-du-hoc/>
  - 14450 Cricqueville-en-Bessin

A special thank you to the Bayeux Intercom Office of Tourism (<https://bayeux-bessin-tourisme.com/en/>) for coordinating special offers and discounts for us! These will be highlighted on the TAC Normandy Passport App.

## Omaha Beach-Normandy Historic Trail

Details: <https://www.tac-bsa.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/Omaha-Beach.pdf>

The Transatlantic Council Omaha Beach-Normandy Historic Trail is a popular choice for this weekend activity. The trail stretches from the American Cemetery at Colleville-sur-Mer to the beginning of the cliffs in Vierville-sur-Mer along the beach. One may no longer hike on the bluffs overlooking the beach due to dangerous conditions. The hike, other than tide conditions, is basically flat and can be completed in 2 to 3 hours depending on the age and experience of the people on the hike. It could take all day too. Please take the time to visit and read the inscriptions on the many monuments in the area.

Please pay attention to the tide schedule when it is published. At high tide the water comes up to the road and there is no beach. The tide also comes in very fast and not in a straight line. One should not hike either 90 minutes before or after the published high tide schedule.

There is an Omaha Beach-Normandy Historic Trail Patch, available for purchase at the Trading Post, which can be presented to those who complete the trail (this is done by the unit and not at the Campfire).

### **Note about the Omaha Beach Normandy Historic Trail**

When one reads the word "trail" one of course thinks of hiking. For long periods the trail from Vierville-sur-Mer to Colleville-sur-Mer is covered by the tide. There is a sidewalk from Vierville-sur-Mer to St. Laurent-sur-Mer (not far), and towards Colleville-sur-Mer (US Cemetery), that one can walk. The trail was originally designed when one could walk the cliffs overlooking the beaches. Those have been closed since 2001 due to erosion. The Omaha Beach-Normandy Historic Trail is completed by visiting Omaha Beach, the Normandy American Cemetery & Memorial, and Pointe du Hoc. This can be done on foot where possible and by vehicle.



## ACCOMMODATIONS

### Campground

**Camping Omaha Beach** is a 3-star campground which has extensive camping areas and bungalows. This campground has walking access to Omaha Beach, the site of our Campfire and Trading Post. There are numerous facilities and amenities on site. (Note: while there is a pool on site, this will be closed for the duration of the Camporee.)

The majority of the Camping Omaha Beach facilities are reserved for Normandy Camporee participants during the dates of this event. All reservations/bookings will be made via the TAC Normandy Camporee [registration site](#) and any special requests must be coordinated through the Normandy Camporee Staff.

### Campsites

For those choosing to camp you will be assigned campsites by the Camporee Staff, but if you have a preferred campsite, you can contact the Staff and inform them of your desires. Every effort will be made to accommodate your desires, but due to the magnitude of the effort they may not be able to guarantee all requests. Families are not obligated to camp together with their unit, though many families may wish to stay near their unit. The amount of space allocated to each unit will be proportional to the number of campers registered. **We will not have a waitlist for campsites.**

### Bungalows

A certain number of bungalows have been made available for use during the Normandy Camporee at Camping Omaha Beach. Information about the various options, including pricing, photos, location, and amenities can be found in the Bungalow Catalogue found on the registration site.

### Hotels

- Mercure Omaha Beach: <https://all.accor.com/hotel/1215/index.en.shtml>
  - 10% discount with code: **JAMBO24**
- Ibis Bayeux Port en Bessin: <https://all.accor.com/hotel/6865/index.en.shtml>
  - 10% discount with code: **JAMB24**

# CHECK-IN & CHECK-OUT

## Check-In Process

For those staying at Camping Omaha Beach, check-in will be at a designated location on the campground. Please check-in with your unit or group to receive your registration packet.

If you are attending the Normandy Camporee and are staying in a location other than Camping Omaha Beach and are not part of a unit that is attending, please check in for the event at the Hotel du Casino, Rue de la Percée, 14710 Vierville-sur-Mer, which is located just across the street from the Trading Post, to receive your registration packet.

**Everyone needs to register to attend this event and the activities. Your participant lanyard, received at check-in, will act as the visual indication that you are a paid participant of this event and authorized to attend certain events. This is essential to the security of the event.**

## Check-In Schedule

Thursday	18 April 2024	1300-2200
Friday	19 April 2024	0800-2200
Saturday	20 April 2024	0800-1000

## Check-Out Process

When checking-out from the campground, please come to the Check-in/Check-out area of Camping Omaha Beach and a Staff member will assist you with the check-out of either your campsite or onsite bungalow. We will provide checklists at registration to ensure that all areas are maintained to the campground's standards. Once the departure checklist is completed and you are cleared by the Camporee Staff will you receive your event patches and be free to leave the site.

Those staying in alternate accommodations will be free to leave after appropriate check-out with their hotel, B&B, Gite, etc. They will have received their event patches upon check-in.

## Check-Out Schedule

Sunday	21 April 2024	0700-0830 & 1130-1330
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# HEALTH & SAFETY

## Health Forms

**BSA guidelines require that all BSA participants and staff at the camporee must have [BSA Annual Health and Medical Record Parts A, B1 and B2](#) completed for the weekend.** Please complete this form in case of an emergency so that Camporee Staff and First Responders can assist you safely. Since much of the participation in activities is with individual families or traveling together as a unit, the leader(s) in charge should keep the forms with them. Please provide any emergency information necessary on the required health form.

Please indicate an **on-site emergency contact** on your lanyard attachment for quick reference.

## Medications

Any medications brought to the camporee must be safely secured and stored in their original containers. A limited amount of medication may be carried by participants or staff for life-threatening conditions, including epinephrine injectors, heart medication, and inhalers, or a limited amount of medication approved for use in a first aid kit. The group leader should be aware of the medications taken by their members.

## First Aid & Emergencies

- **All injuries, regardless of where they occur during the weekend, are to be reported to the First Aid Staff.**
- First Aid Staff will be located at a designated location in the campground and near the beach during the Campfire.
- For minor cuts and bruises, treatment can be provided on site at one of the medical stations or may be handled by Scout Leaders or someone with First Aid training. As your group travels through Normandy, please make sure you have a First Aid Kit with you.
- If the situation is more serious or you are touring the area, do not delay in calling for help. The local French Emergency Management Teams have been notified of our presence and are prepared to respond appropriately.
- **The general emergency telephone number in France is **112****
- **112 is also the EU-wide emergency number that will contact emergency services, including police and medical, in any EU country or language.**
- The closest hospital with an emergency room to most of the camping and event locations is in Bayeux: Centre Hospitalier Aunay-Bayeux; 13 Rue de Nesmond, 14400 Bayeux
- Another alternative is in Caen: Centre Hospitalier Universitaire de Caen Normandie; Avenue de la Côte de Nacre, 14000 Caen

## Youth Protection

To comply with current BSA Youth Protection policies and intent, the following guidelines must be followed for the Camporee:

### Participants

- BSA-Registered Adult Leaders – Current BSA [Youth Protection Training](#) (YPT) is required. This applies to all BSA programs – Cub Scouting, Scouts BSA, etc.
- BSA-Affiliated Adults (i.e. Families/Guests of BSA Youth and Adults) – Must review [“How to Protect your Children from Child Abuse: A Parent’s Guide.”](#) **Completion of YPT is required for those staying at the campground** (in bungalows and camping), and highly recommended for all adult participants. Those without YPT must be escorted by Trained Adults when in the vicinity of Youth. This is especially important in the campground areas.
- Other National Scouting Organization (NSO) Adults – Completion of either YPT or WOSM-offered [“Safe From Harm for Volunteers or Staff”](#) training is required.

Two-Deep Leadership will be enforced at all times. As always, Scouts will follow the buddy system.

### Staff

- Current BSA YPT and BSA Hazardous Weather Training are required.

Non-BSA adults and staff volunteers can create a free [My.Scouting.Org](#) account and find the required course(s) under “My Training”.

### Training References

- BSA: <https://www.scouting.org/training/youth-protection/>
- WOSM: <https://www.scout.org/what-we-do/member-organizations/child-and-youth-safety>

## Security

Professional security guards will be onsite at Camping Omaha Beach. Normandy Camporee assigned Commissioners will roam the campground watching for people who should not be in our camping area. Units are free also to leave adults behind to watch their property, but in no case should a Scout be left unsupervised. Staff are not responsible for youth supervision.

At Camping Omaha Beach, there is a bunker that attracts youth, a cliff, and a steep path to the sea all which contain hazards.

**For security reasons, please do not bring large backpacks and other non-essential items to the Campfire or the Memorial Ceremonies. All items brought to these locations are subject to screening.**

We live in a world where we must be vigilant against terrorist threats. Your safety is our top priority. A large part of the Camporee fee is devoted to providing private security. We also work closely with the local police and security forces. In order to identify Camporee participants, lanyards are required for access to all events – **keep yours on your person at all times.**



## Traffic Safety

With the expected large number of participants, everyone should keep safety in mind with vehicles in the campground and on roads.

To ensure the safety of all participants vehicle movement will be limited inside the campground, but necessary during arrival and departure. When it is necessary to drive in the campground please drive slowly and follow all Camporee Staff directions and directional signs.

For travel to some of the program activities, please bear in mind that many participants will be traveling at relatively the same time. What might usually be a 15-minute trip from the campground to the Normandy American Cemetery may take a bit longer on Sunday morning. Allow plenty of travel time from the campground to all the activities and on your return.

For those staying at Camping Omaha Beach, to minimize risk to all participants **please do not use a vehicle to access the Campfire or Trading Post.** Please use the footpath from the campground to Omaha Beach for travel to and from the Campfire and Trading Post.

Roads in Normandy are narrow and with many blind corners. Two cars can barely pass on the road, and it has been the scene of several pedestrian and vehicle accidents with buses and cars driving too fast.

Walking on local roads is a very bad idea. **It is prohibited to walk on the road from Vierville-sur-Mer to Pointe de Hoc.**

Staff and local officials will do all they can to prepare for a worst-case traffic scenario. Be aware that local road closures will be in effect and barriers in place ahead of our Saturday afternoon Campfire. Please follow all instructions from Staff and local authorities.

## Parking

**All vehicles must display a Vehicle Information Form (available on the registration site) while parked at Camping Omaha Beach, the Campfire or the Sunday Memorial Ceremony.**

Parking cannot impede fire trucks or other emergency vehicles from reaching a campsite or activity area in the event of an emergency. All roads must be kept clear.

Follow the directions of the Camporee Staff and any posted signs. Please adhere to the rules that are given. These are designed to make it as easy and safe as possible for everyone to get to where they want to go.

## Weather

Normandy weather in April can bring sun, rain, lots of wind and cold. Please pack and dress for the forecasted weather and be prepared for it all to change quickly!

## Pets

Please be reminded that there are **no pets permitted at Boy Scouts of America activities or events, including the Normandy Camporee**. Likewise, there are no pets permitted on the campgrounds or in the bungalows (per our agreements with the campground owners). Anyone found with a pet will be asked to leave immediately. If you require a service animal, it is recommended that you secure accommodation outside Camping Omaha Beach.

## Alcoholic Beverages

Please be reminded that there is **no alcohol permitted at Boy Scouts of America events, including the Normandy Camporee**. Any adult or youth consuming alcohol during the Camporee will be asked to leave immediately.

## Knives

Sheath knives and knives with blades longer than 3½ inches are not allowed at the Camporee. If any are found, they will be held for the remainder of the Camporee by a member of the Camporee Staff.

## Firearms

For safety reasons, firearms, pellet guns, BB guns, bow and arrows or slingshots of any kind are not allowed at the Camporee without gaining specific permission from the Camporee Chair before the Camporee.

## Fireworks

Absolutely no fireworks are permitted.

# REGISTRATION

Registration for the 2024 Normandy Camporee should be accomplished at the following site: <https://www.scoutingevent.com/802-NormandyCamporee2024>

Units should only register once to ensure that all unit members are accounted for properly and streamline the process.

## Fees & Costs

2024 Normandy Camporee fees:

- Camping Participant - \$75 per person, including two nights of camping
- Bungalow Participant - \$60 per person, not including the bungalow cost(s)
- Guest Participant - \$75 (in-council) or \$100 (out-of-council)
- Per person means Scouts, siblings, parents, guests – anyone that will be a part of our program. Participants ages 4 and under are free of charge, but still need to be registered to receive a lanyard.
- These fees cover an event patch, camping reservations, security, parking, traffic control, emergency medical service, sanitation, trash removal, administrative costs, and program fees. This fee does not include food or admission to any museums.
- Arrangements may be made to arrive early and remain late on the campgrounds. Please indicate any extra nights in the registration process.
  - Camping - If you wish to stay extra nights at Camping Omaha Beach, then the cost is \$20 per person per night.
  - Bungalows – If you wish to stay extra nights, prices vary as determined by the bungalow chosen. Please book your bungalow for the two nights, then contact [TAC-NormandyCamporee-802@Scouting.org](mailto:TAC-NormandyCamporee-802@Scouting.org) with your extension request.
- All fees must be paid through the registration site. Forms of payment include all major payment cards (Visa, Mastercard, American Express, Discover). Units with a Unit Deposit Account may also pay with UDA funds.
- Some fees may be paid in installments:
  - Registration fees: 50% must be paid upon booking, with payment in full due by December 30, 2023.
  - Bungalow fees: 25% must be paid upon booking, 50% must be paid by December 2, 75% must be paid by December 30, and 100% must be paid by February 3, 2024.
  - Extra fees (Trading Post pre-orders, purchasing wreaths, etc.) must be paid in full upon booking.

## Refunds & Cancellations

- All participation cancellation notices, and refund requests must be submitted in writing. Verbal agreements are not final.
- 85% of the total amount paid can be refunded until 18 December 2023; 50% can be refunded until 31 March 2023. **From 1 April 2024, no refunds will be considered.**
- Reservations can be transferred between individuals within the same unit or group, but payments must be handled between the parties, not by the Council.
- Cancellations due to medical emergencies or other such unforeseen circumstances will be given the utmost consideration in favor of the registrant for any exceptions to this refund policy.
- Refunds will be processed within 30 days after the close of the event, with funds being returned to the original form of payment.

**NOTE: If the Normandy Camporee is cancelled by the council, the above will not apply and full refunds will be issued.**

**Registration Deadline: 31 March 2024**

Thanks to our participants for respecting this important deadline.

## ASSISTANCE

Normandy Camporee Staff will be present throughout the campgrounds and the Camporee-scheduled events. They can be identified by their **YELLOW Staff Jackets**. Please do not hesitate to ask them for assistance or guidance.

Any questions prior to the planned event should be directed to the Camporee Staff at:

[TAC-NormandyCamporee-802@Scouting.org](mailto:TAC-NormandyCamporee-802@Scouting.org)

***ALL THE BEST FOR AN  
INSPIRATIONAL AND EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE  
AT THE  
2024 NORMANDY CAMPOREE***

***&***

***A SAFE JOURNEY (BON VOYAGE)  
TO ALL!***

***From Your 2024 Normandy Camporee Team***