Eighty years ago, in December 1941, the United States was pulled into the largest and most destructive war in human history. This 80th commemoration will be the last major opportunity to mingle with veterans of the Greatest Generation, especially those who are Pearl Harbor survivors (an 18-year old in December 1941 will be 98 today!). We will explore America’s entrance into WWII at Pearl Harbor, visit all relevant sites, and attend official commemorative events as available. Additionally, we will discover the unique history of the volcanic island and enjoy its immense natural beauty.

This trip features in-depth guided tours and lectures for all sites, all admission fees and transportation, all lodging and meals as detailed on the itinerary. Airfare not included. Pricing for alumni/friends: $4,950 double occupancy ($750 single supplement). This trip does not include a tax deductible donation for student programming; however, the CPH is always grateful for donations for student programming.
Thursday, December 2: Aloha & Arrival in Hawaii

◆ Arrive in Waikiki and check in to Moana Surfrider lodgings, known as the “First Lady of Waikiki.” Boasting an unbeatable beachfront location, the hotel is just steps from the immaculate shores of legendary Waikiki Beach and within walking distance of Honolulu’s most beloved shopping, dining and entertainment attractions.
◆ Sunset group dinner at the Moana Surfrider Beachhouse restaurant; introductions and overview of the week

Friday, December 3: Hawaiian History from the Local Angle

◆ Pali Heights to discuss 1790s island unification under King Kamehameha and the battle of Pali Cliffs
◆ Queen Emma’s Summer Palace, the royal family in Victorian splendor
◆ Iolani Palace, America’s only royal palace
◆ Walking tour of historic Honolulu, including Chinatown, the old port and scenes from From Here to Eternity
◆ Dinner on your own in Waikiki

Saturday, December 4: Pearl Harbor and World War II

◆ Explore Pearl Harbor Visitor’s Center at the WWII Valor in the Pacific National Monument, including:
  ➔ USS Arizona Memorial, a sublime memorial that hovers directly above the ship and her 1000 fallen men and a testament to remembrance
  ➔ USS Bowfin submarine, the “Avenger of Pearl Harbor”
  ➔ USS Missouri battleship, on her decks WWII ended in Tokyo Harbor as the Japanese surrendered to the Allied Powers
  ➔ Pacific Aviation Museum at Ford Island Airfield, an amazing collection of 100 years of aircraft on the site where Japanese bombers struck
  ➔ WWII Valor in the Pacific National Monument museum tells an incredible story through film, exhibits and more
◆ Pay respects at the National Cemetery of the Pacific in the Punchbowl
◆ Group dinner at Duke’s on Waikiki

Sunday, December 5: The Beauty of Oahu — The North Shore

◆ Driving tour of Schofield Barracks, icon of US Army from WWII to present
◆ Visit Wheeler Army Airfield, where signs of the 1941 attack remain
◆ Visit Dole Plantation to discuss the agricultural influences in Hawaii
◆ Enjoy quaint Haleiwa and the famed North Shore
◆ Dinner on your own in Waikiki

Monday, December 6: The Beauty and Enjoyment of Oahu

◆ Optional visit to Hanauma Bay to snorkel, dive or relax on the beach
◆ Afternoon on your own to enjoy the beach, golf or go whale watching
◆ Optional hike to the summit of Diamond Head Crater
◆ Group dinner at the Moana Surfrider

Tuesday, December 7: Official 80th Anniversary Ceremonies

◆ Attend National Remembrance Ceremonies at Kilo Pier with many dignitaries. This is the capstone event of the week! The backdrop of the harbor, with all the modern naval warships, is a spectacular setting
◆ Attend other commemorative events as available; we will add to the itinerary as events are announced. For the 75th anniversary commemoration, we attended the official morning ceremony, a separate ceremony on Wheeler Army Airfield, a luau, and an official gala dinner.
◆ Group dinner at Waikiki at the famed Royal Hawaiian, the “Pink Palace of the Pacific”

Wednesday, December 8: Mahalo & Aloha!

◆ Visit Fort DeRussy on Waikiki for wrap-up discussion of Hawaii in WWII & the famed 442nd Regiment “Go For Broke” Japanese-Americans. Fort DeRussy is one of the original posts on the island and commemorates the military history of some of America’s most famed soldiers. No unit of similar size received as many awards for valor in all of World War II.
◆ Our expedition will be complete by noon.

"I would not, ever, take a history-focused trip with anyone else! Brian is a walking encyclopedia, and Sheryl the most competent and caring person I know. Having worked with them for several years now on several trips, I can say without reservation that they are THE BEST and we will be happily planning and taking more trips with them in years to come!"
—Jeff Engel, Director, Center for Presidential History, SMU

*Testimonials based on SMU D-Day Normandy trip

For more information, email the Center for Presidential History at cphinfo@smu.edu or call 214.768.3210
Visit www.historyexp.com for comprehensive daily itinerary & lodging and meal information
Pricing: Alumni/friends: $4,950 per person, double occupancy; $750 single supplement
This trip does not include a tax deductible donation for student programming; however, the CPH is always grateful for donations for student programming.
Itinerary subject to minor changes as the Commemorative Committee announces events

Jeffrey A. Engel is founding director of the Center for Presidential History at Southern Methodist University and Professor in the Clements Department of History. A Senior Fellow of the Norwegian Nobel Institute and of the John Goodwin Tower Center for Political Studies, he graduated magna cum laude from Cornell University. Engel has authored or edited 12 books on American foreign policy and is a frequent media contributor on international and political affairs.

Essential History Expeditions’ president, expert historian and guide, Lt Col (Ret) Brian DeToy, PhD served as Director of the Defense & Strategic Studies program at the United States Military Academy, West Point from 2007-13. He has appeared in numerous documentaries for programming such as History, Discovery, A&E and Military channels. He is also an accomplished author and presenter at international history conferences.

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