



AIRBORNE
MUSEUM
HARTENSTEIN

INDEPENDENT MUSEUM TOUR

Welcome to the Airborne Museum!

During the Battle of Arnhem, this villa was used as the headquarters of the British troops.
Traces of this battle can still be seen in and around the museum.

With the INDEPENDENT MUSEUM TOUR, you will explore the museum by yourself.
You will discover personal stories, view historical objects and experience the Battle of Arnhem
in the Airborne Experience.

INDEPENDENT MUSEUM TOUR

Once you have formed groups and have been assigned a number, you can get started with the INDEPENDENT MUSEUM TOUR. Find your number in the diagram below and follow your personal route through the museum. Read the diagram from top to bottom to find your destinations. There are tasks in every room. Use the floor plan at the back to find your way through the museum.

After you have been to all the rooms, you can fill in the general museum questions.

Read the assignments carefully and discuss them together. Good luck!

Group 1	Group 2	Group 3	Group 4	Group 5	Group 6	Group 7
Hartenstein 1728 – 1940 (0)	Experience (-3)	Remembrance (+1)	Evacuation (+1)	Chaos (+1)	Optimism (+1)	Hartenstein 1940 – 1944 (0)
Hartenstein 1940 – 1944 (0)	Hartenstein 1728 – 1940 (0)	Experience (-3)	Remembrance (+1)	Evacuation (+1)	Chaos (+1)	Optimism (+1)
Optimism (+1)	Hartenstein 1940 – 1944 (0)	Hartenstein 1728 – 1940 (0)	Experience (-3)	Remembrance (+1)	Evacuation (+1)	Chaos (+1)
Chaos (+1)	Optimism (+1)	Hartenstein 1940 – 1944 (0)	Hartenstein 1728 – 1940 (0)	Experience (-3)	Remembrance (+1)	Evacuation (+1)
Evacuation (+1)	Chaos (+1)	Optimism (+1)	Hartenstein 1940 – 1944 (0)	Hartenstein 1728 – 1940 (0)	Experience (-3)	Remembrance (+1)
Remembrance (+1)	Evacuation (+1)	Chaos (+1)	Optimism (+1)	Hartenstein 1940 – 1944 (0)	Hartenstein 1728 – 1940 (0)	Experience (-3)
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MUSEUM QUESTIONS

You do not need to be in a specific room to answer these questions.

You can answer these questions at the end of your tour.

The Airborne Museum is full of historical objects. Which object did you like best?

During your visit you have encountered many personal stories. Which one stayed with you the most?

What would you like to ask someone who had lived through the Battle of Arnhem?

HARTENSTEIN 1728 - 1940

Go to room HARTENSTEIN 1728 - 1940 on the ground floor. This room looks as it might have looked before the war. The paintings on display here show what the Oosterbeek area looked like.

Take a look at the paintings. Would Oosterbeek have looked the same after the war? Why or why not?

Walk through the open door to the REMEMBRANCE ROOM. In this room many decorations are on display. The REMEMBRANCE ROOM is a place to commemorate the Battle of Arnhem.

How do these decorations help with remembrance?

Look for the decorations of Hans Kuik (H. Kuik) in the central museum case. During the Battle of Arnhem, Hans was 17 years old. He was in the resistance for which he gathered information and helped take care of wounded soldiers. After the Battle of Arnhem was lost, Hans helped British soldiers escape. He was caught by German soldiers and executed.

Find the box with the medal cards. Which decorations were bestowed upon Hans?

In the REMEMBRANCE ROOM you will find decorations of Dutch, British and Polish people, but not of German people. Why do you think that is? Would you add German decorations?

HARTENSTEIN 1940 – 1944

Go to room HARTENSTEIN 1940 -1944 on the ground floor. In this room, you will find stories from during the occupation of Arnhem and Oosterbeek. During occupation, people often tried to carry on living as normally as possible. Some actively cooperated with the occupier (collaboration), others tried to thwart the occupier (resistance), but most people adapted (adaptation).

In the museum case, you will find many different personal stories. Find a person who fits the following reactions to occupation:

Resistance: _____

Adaptation: _____

Collaboration: _____

Whose story did you find most impressive? Describe what this person experienced during occupation.

Find the story of Alfons Lackenbrink. Alfons was German and in the *Reichsarbeitsdienst* (RAD). This was a German organisation tasked with supporting the *Wehrmacht* (the German Army) during World War II. Boys in Germany had to register with the RAD and were also sent to the front during the war, even though they were not soldiers.

What do you think about the fact that Alfons and other German boys were required to do this?

OPTIMISM

Go to the room OPTIMISM on the first floor. In this room, you will discover more about the preparations and the first day of Operation Market Garden. The Battle of Arnhem was part of this operation.

Read the text 'Optimism'.

What was the objective of Operation Market Garden?

Go to the table in the middle of the room and look at the insignia around the edge. Find the insignia of *No 10 Commando*.

No 10 Commando was a Dutch unit that fought during the Battle of Arnhem. All other emblems are from units from other countries. Which countries do you think are represented?

Why would these soldiers come to the Netherlands to fight?

The Allies landed west of Arnhem with parachutes and gliders. They were over 10 kilometres from their target: the Rhine Bridge. There was more bad news. There were many strong German troops in the area.

Go to the museum case with the video screen and find the text 'The bridge'.

How many troops eventually reached the Rhine Bridge? And who was their commanding officer?

CHAOS

Go to the room CHAOS on the first floor. In this room, you dive into the battle. The Battle of Arnhem did not go as planned. The Rhine Bridge fell back into German hands and soon the Allies had to defend themselves against the German troops in Oosterbeek. The fighting became increasingly fierce and it looked as if the Germans were on the winning side.

Go to the smaller museum case in the corner and look for the grey beret.
Who wore grey berets during the battle?

Next to this museum case you will find the text 'The arrival of the 4th Brigade and the Poles'.
Why wouldn't the Poles have landed south of the Rhine Bridge as planned?

Go to the long museum case and find a piece of framed wallpaper.
Describe the wallpaper in detail.

This wallpaper was written on by British soldier Tony Crane. He was a sniper and had to protect the defence line in Oosterbeek. Each swastika on the wallpaper represents a person Tony shot.

In the case opposite the wallpaper, you'll find a video screen. Watch the video of Tony Crane.
How did Tony feel when he had to perform his job?

How would Tony look back on his choices during the Battle of Arnhem?

During the battle, many soldiers died and many more were wounded. They were cared for in makeshift dressing stations and emergency hospitals. These were often set up in large buildings with many beds, such as hotels, but sometimes also simply in people's homes. Civilians then helped where they could.

On the left hand side of the long museum case you will find many historical objects related to medical care. Look at the objects here and study the texts.

What can you find about the following people and places?

Gerrit van Maanen: _____

Alexander Lipmann-Kessel: _____

Kate ter Horst: _____

The St. Elisabeths Gasthuis: _____

EVACUATION

Go to the room EVACUATION on the first floor. In this room you will find out what the consequences of the Battle of Arnhem were for the soldiers, but also for the civilians in the area.

After nine days of fighting, the Allies had to surrender. In the night of 25 September, their troops were withdrawn. Seriously wounded soldiers and medical personnel remained behind in Oosterbeek.

Read the text 'Evacuation'.

How many soldiers managed to evacuate across the Rhine?

The citizens of Arnhem, Oosterbeek and the surrounding area had to evacuate after the battle. Over 150,000 people had to leave their homes. They could only take essentials with them and used bicycles and carts for their heavy belongings, like the wagon in this room.

Go to the table and watch one of the videos here. Choose the story of Joop, Piet, Thea, Wil or Wil. All of them experienced the evacuation.

Whose story did you choose? What did this person experience?

Soldiers who could not evacuate were stuck in occupied territory. Here they were helped by the Dutch resistance. Together, they planned two operations: Pegasus I and Pegasus II. Search the room for these names.

What was the goal of these operations?

REMEMBRANCE

Go to the room REMEMBRANCE on the first floor. In this room you will discover how civilians and soldiers built a strong culture of remembrance together.

The Battle of Arnhem left Arnhem and Oosterbeek completely destroyed. Yet, there is a very good bond between the locals and the British and Polish soldiers.

Why do you think that is?

The Airborne Cemetery was established immediately after the war. The first commemoration took place in September 1945. Since that year, the Battle of Arnhem has been commemorated every year. Veterans and civilians commemorate together what they experienced in September 1944.

Do you think it is important to continue commemorating? Why? When do you commemorate?

Not everyone was thanked for their efforts immediately after the war. The Battle of Arnhem was lost and British Army command put some of the blame on the Poles. And that while the Poles had fought so hard. The Netherlands was late in giving the Polish troops recognition as well. Only in 2006 did they receive Dutch decorations and honours. That was 61 years after the war.

What do you think about the Poles receiving recognition so late?

EXPERIENCE

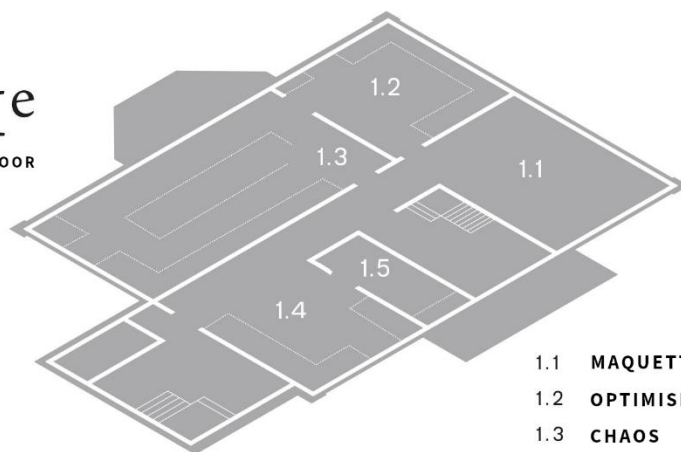
Go down the stairs to basement level -3. Here you'll find the Airborne Experience.

On this floor you will experience the Battle of Arnhem through the eyes of a soldier. You will land with a glider, experience the fighting at the bridge in Arnhem and in Oosterbeek and will evacuate over the Rhine river.

Immerse yourself in the world of a soldier and write down what you experience. Use your senses. What do you see and feel? What do you think and what is most impressive?

FLOOR PLAN

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FLOOR



- 1.1 MAQUETTE
- 1.2 OPTIMISM
- 1.3 CHAOS
- 1.4 EVACUATION
- 1.5 REMEMBRANCE

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GROUND FLOOR



- 0.1 HARTENSTEIN 1728 - 1940
- 0.2 REMEMBRANCE ROOM
- 0.3 HARTENSTEIN 1940 - 1944
- 0.4 CLASSROOM